

3rd Quarter – Week 5

(Moses Speaks on Covenant Loyalty, Worship, and Justice)

Day 1 Deuteronomy 10	Key Thoughts: • God told Moses to cut new stone tablets to replace the ones he broke. The new tablets are placed in the wooden ark as a reminder of the covenant (10:1-5). • The tribe of Levi is mentioned as the ones responsible to transport the ark and serve as priests (10:6-11). • The Lord requires wholehearted devotion understanding that the commandments of God are for the good of the people (10:12-15). • God looks at the heart and desires His people to fear Him, serve Him, and praise Him as the One, True God (10:16-22). Jesus Christ: The New Testament teaches that true spiritual cleansing of the heart comes through Jesus (Romans 2:29).
Day 2 Deuteronomy 11	Key Thoughts: • God desires obedience driven by a love for Him. Israel is reminded of how God judged Pharaoh and Egypt along with the discipline of Dathan and Abiram (11:1-9). • The promised land is described in all of its beauty. God will not only deliver the land but He will cause it to produce to Israel's gain. However, if they turn to false gods, God will bring ruin to the land (11:10-17). • In order to remain true with God, the people will need to know and believe the Word of God. The people are given a clear choice, love and obey God and His Word, and enjoy God's blessing, or rebel and face the discipline of God (11:18-32). Jesus Christ: The church because of Jesus has God the Father to lovingly discipline us when needed (Hebrews 12:5-7).
Day 3 Deuteronomy 12	Key Thoughts: • Moses continues to address Israel switching to new topics. Israel is commanded to tear down all pagan idols and not worship God in the same way as the pagans worship their gods (12:1-4). • Israel is instructed to worship the Lord in locations where instructed, and with joy. The drinking of blood is forbidden because it represents life (12:5-28). • Pagan customs must be rejected. Any forms of worship practiced by the pagan should be avoided at all costs, including child sacrifices. Obey God and do not add to or take away from His commands (12:29-32). Jesus Christ: Believers today are called to rid themselves of all idols of the heart and look only to Jesus who is the author and finisher of our faith (Hebrews 12:1-2).

Day 4 Deuteronomy 13	Key Thoughts: • Moses discusses three agencies that are capable of leading believers into idolatry. The first potential seducers are false prophets. If they tell you to follow other gods, even if they have foretold something that comes to pass, they are to be rejected and put to death (13:1-5). • A family or close friend may also urge you to worship a false god. If they do, they must not be followed, or spared. They should be publicly identified, and the witness must cast the first stone in the execution (13:6-11). If neighbors lead people to turn away and worship false gods, even if it is an entire city, the inhabitants, livestock and city must be destroyed (13:12-18). Jesus Christ: Jesus called for loyalty over family (Luke 14:26).
Day 5 Deuteronomy 14	Key Thoughts: • Guidelines for holy living to separate Israel from the surrounding pagan nations are given. When mourning for the dead, Israel is not to cut themselves or shave the front of their heads (14:1-2). • Clean and unclean foods are identified. In addition, they are to avoid eating animals which died naturally. Instructions for preparing food properly are given (14:3-21). • Instructions on tithing and meeting the needs of the needy are shared. The festival tithe was a feast of celebration showing honor and trust in God to provide. If the travel was too long, they could sell the goods and then travel to the festival location and purchase the food (14:22-27). • The welfare tithe was every three years and was stored to meet the needs of the Levites, foreigners, orphans, and widows (14:28-29). Jesus Christ: Jesus criticized Jewish leaders who measured out minor tithes of garden herbs, while ignoring the true spirit of generosity (Matt. 23:23).
Day 6 Deuteronomy 15	Key Thoughts: • The cancellation of debts every seventh year would eliminate extreme poverty and extreme wealth (15:1-6). • Israel is commanded to be generous to the poor. They were to give out loans even if the seventh year of cancelling of debts was near. They were to give with a compassionate heart (15:7-11) • Servants were to be set free after six years of service and they were to be given provisions. It was a reminder of being set free from Egypt (15:12-18). • The dedication of the firstborn males from the herds and flocks is commanded. Instructions are given on what animals are acceptable and what animals are not acceptable (15:19-22). Jesus Christ: Jesus taught about debts maintaining the forgiveness of debts in Matthew 6. He also told His followers to lend expecting nothing in return.