

Deuteronomy Chapter 22

V: 1-3 Dealing with sins of omission as opposed to commission:

James 4:17 “Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.”

- Lost & found items, cattle, clothes, whatever we find. We are to care for our brother – even if we don’t know who he is.

Philippians 2:3-5 ³“Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than themselves. ⁴Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. ⁵Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.”

Jesus taught us:

Matthew 7:12 “Therefore, all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.”

- This means we should be our brothers keeper, and keep or take care of what is his.

V: 4 Here we move from just finding something and returning it to now there is some real effort involved.

Matthew 5:41 “And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him two.”

- As a follower of Jesus Christ go the extra mile to minister to those around us, it will please the Lord.

V: 5 Women are not to wear anything that pertains to a man, and men are not to put on a woman’s garment – this is an abomination to the Lord.

- Many of the clothing items worn in that day were similar because of the robes.
- There should be no confusion in gender, this is addressing the issue of men trying to look like women and women trying to look like men, which is a big issue today, especially in the homosexual movement.

Genesis 1:27 “So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them.”

1 Corinthians 14:33 “For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.”

V: 6-7 Instruction regarding stewardship of nature and the creatures over which we are given dominion.

Matthew 20:29 “Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? And one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father.”

Zechariah 4:10 “For who hath despised the day of small things?...”

- God is into the details – “that it may be well with thee, and that thou mayest prolong thy days.”

V: 8 Stewardship again, safety standards – God’s building code.

- We don’t want any mans blood upon our household, to take whatever precautions are needed.

V: 9-11 Repeating the admonition from **Leviticus 19**, God doesn’t want us to mix things up, combine things – to either adulterate it or be improperly yoked.

2 Corinthians 6:14 “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness?”

1 Corinthians 14:33 “For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.”

V: 12 Fringes on the 4 quarters of thy vesture:

Numbers 15:38-40 ³⁸“Speak unto the children of Israel, and bid them that they make them fringes in the borders of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a ribband of blue: ³⁹And it shall be unto you for a fringe, that ye may look upon it, and remember all the commandments of the Lord, and do them; and that ye seek not after your own heart and your own eyes, after which ye use to go a whoring: ⁴⁰That ye may remember, and do all my commandments, and be holy unto your God.”

V: 13-14 Why would a man suddenly “hate” his newly wedded wife?

There’s two ways to look at this:

1. **2 Samuel 13** story of Ammon a son of David who loved his half sister Tamar. All of this is part of the problem with multiple wives. Tamar was beautiful, and the Bible says she was a virgin. Ammon greatly desired to be with his ½ sister and eventually forced himself upon her, raping her.

2 Samuel 13:14-15 “¹⁴Howbeit he would not hearken unto her voice: but, being stronger than she, forced her, and lay with her. ¹⁵Then Ammon hated her exceedingly; so that the hatred wherewith he hated her was greater than the love wherewith he had loved her. And Ammon said unto her, arise, be gone.”

- A man driven by his passions and foolishness, then seeking to cast her aside.
 - So now in a similar way a newly wed husband begins to speak, spreading false rumors about his new wife.
2. Another possibility was that upon marrying a woman for the first time and to find out that she wasn't a virgin, meaning that she had been unfaithful or had played the harlot in some way and had betrayed their trust, possibly introducing or forcing an illegitimate heir upon the husband.
- Hating the wickedness that had been done, having now occasion now to speak against her or raising the accusation.

This is all very serious because the woman's life could be at stake.

V: 15-17 The woman's parents are then brought in to refute the false claim and present proof of her virginity.

V: 18-21 If the woman's virginity was proven by the parents, thus making the man's statements false he was to be chastised which usually meant being flogged then fined 100 shekels of silver which was to be given to the father of the woman.

- Being flogged was painful, and 100 shekels was a lot of money.
- If the parents weren't able to present proof of her virginity then she was taken to the door of her fathers house and stoned to death. The girl died, and the father bore the reproach upon his household.

V: 22 A couple caught in adultery is to be killed, they are both to be killed.

John 8:4 “They say unto Him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act.”

- When the Pharisees brought the woman to Jesus caught in adultery they were in violation of the law, they said she was caught in the very act. Where was the man?

V: 23-25 If a man rapes a married woman in the city – which in those days were densely populated – they were to both be stoned.

- Being in the city where there were other people about there was an expectation that she would do every thing she could and cry out or that she wouldn't be defenseless and that someone would come to her aid.
- Putting the evil away from among them.

V: 25-27 If a man rapes a married woman in the field where there is no help to be had then the man is to be stoned but they are to do nothing to the woman there was nothing she could do.

V: 28-29 If a man is found lying with a woman, a virgin who is not betrothed to or the wife of another man – then he just married her.

- He has to give her father a dowry of 50 shekels of silver, again a substantial amount.
- Because of the way they were married, a “shot gun” wedding he is never allowed to divorce his wife.

V: 30 A man is not allowed to lie with his father's wife, speaking of his step mother. No incestual relationships in either direction.

Leviticus 20:11 “And the man that lieth with his father's wife hath uncovered his father's nakedness: both of them shall surely be put to death.”

- Again these laws are being presented to the people prior to their coming into the land.
- Laws intended to help the people develop a culture and society that is pure and strong, free from the evil the dominates the cultures around them, free from the sin that would destroy them.
- The same sin that lead to the destruction of the pagan cultures.

Deuteronomy Chapter 23

1. Under the Old Testament dispensation of things the closer you came to God, the more restrictive or exclusive that group would become.
2. There was the court of the Gentiles, the outer court, but they could approach no closer upon pain of death.

3. Next was the court of the women, where if they had gone through the rituals and were ceremonially clean they could enter, but only that far.
4. Next was men, then Levites, then priests, then the high priest.

Ephesians 2:11-15 “¹¹Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called un-circumcision by that which is called the circumcision in the flesh made by hands; ¹²That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: ¹³But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For He is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; ¹⁵Having abolished in His flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in the ordinances...”

V: 1 Just as with an animal sacrifice, God does not allow certain imperfections in men, those that have been castrated or otherwise altered, to enter into the congregation. No eunichs, none that can't reproduce.

- Often times this was associated with various forms of pagan worship.
- This describes the law but I am so grateful that we live under the NT dispensation of God's grace:

Matthew 11:28 “Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”

V: 2 God does not allow a bastard to enter into the assembly.

- A bastard is a person born of unmarried parents; an illegitimate child, the fruit of sin – intended as a deterrent against such behavior.
- God doesn't have step-children, grand children, or illegitimate sons – only sons or daughters.

John 1:12 “But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name.”

V: 3-4 No Ammonites or Moabites allowed into the congregation for two reasons.

- They didn't show hospitality to the children of Israel on the way out of Egypt.
- They sought to curse Israel, finally enticing them to sin which led to the death of many.
- The 10th generation is figurative speech which mean indefinitely or forever.

V: 5 The Lord takes what would be curses and makes them into blessings; only God can do that!

The patriarch Joseph spoke to his brothers:

Genesis 50:20 “But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.”

- Why? Because the Lord thy God loves thee – and still does. He loves and cherishes each one of you tonight!
- He longs to be with you and to have fellowship with you – you are the apple of His eye!

V: 6 Seek not their peace nor their prosperity.

Romans 13:14 “But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof.

Ephesians 4:27 “Neither give place to the devil.” Ever!

V: 7-8 You shall not abhor an Edomite or an Egyptian because one is your brother and the other was your host.

- The Edomites were just as mean to the children of Israel as the Ammonites & Moabites, but they are different because of relationship. Edomites are descendants of Esau, the twin brother of Jacob who later became Israel.
- Interesting that even today both of these countries Egypt and Jordan are the only two middle eastern / Arab countries that have existing peace treaties with Israel.
- They will or could eventually be accepted into the congregation.

Paul would later teach:

Galatians 3:28 “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to promise.”

- Abrahams spiritual seed, the seed of faith that leads to righteousness as opposed to the seed of the flesh.

V: 9 When the army goes out – stay away from every wicked thing.

Joshua 7:1 “But the children of Israel committed a trespass in the accursed thing: for Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took of the accursed thing: and the anger of the Lord was kindled against the children of Israel.”

V: 10-11 God requires cleanness – if a man becomes unclean then he is to submit to the process of cleansing.

V: 12-14 Instruction regarding sanitary conditions and sanitary issues.

- If a man needs to relieve himself, he is to go outside the camp and carry a shovel to cover his refuse. Basic sanitary protocols.
- God will be in the midst of the camp so there can be no unclean thing there.

V: 15-16 God is being lenient with runaway slaves. In the Roman empire a runaway slave was branded on his forehead with a big “F” for fugitive, or if he was caught trying to run away he could be killed.

V 17-18 God’s prohibition against prostitution and homosexuality.

Leviticus 18:22 “Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.”

- The prohibition against bringing the proceeds of sinful behavior into the Tabernacle, or Temple – this is not an acceptable offering to God.
- “Dog” = male prostitute.

Romans 8:8 “So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.”

V: 19-20 We are not to charge interest on money loaned, or food, or clothing given / loaned to a brother, to a foreigner it is ok, but not to a brother.

V: 21-23 Keep your vows to the Lord – pay your vows.

- God doesn’t require vows, it is better not to swear an oath, than to make a vow and not pay it. Most people will make vows as part of a bartering process. God if you’ll do this then I’ll...

Psalms 66:13-15 ¹³“I will go into thy house with burnt offerings: I will pay thee my vows, ¹⁴which my lips have uttered, and my mouth hath spoken, when I was in trouble. ¹⁵I will offer unto thee burnt sacrifices of fatlings, with the incense of rams; I will offer bullocks with goats.”

Matthew 5:37 “But let your communication be, yea, yea; nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.”

V: 24-25 If you’re hungry and end up in your neighbors vineyard or wheat field – you can pluck and eat until your full – but you can’t harvest, can bring over the basket and fill up.

- This is part of God’s welfare system.