

"God's Treasured Possession!"

The Book of Deuteronomy-

Old Israel and New Israel = The Church

Date: 1-29-17 Study: #13 Text: Chapter 13

Lesson 13 for us: "Walk after the Lord your God and fear him and keep his commandments and obey his voice, and you shall serve him and hold fast to him"



A. THE TEXT: (1) "If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams arises among you and gives you a sign or a wonder, (2) and the sign or wonder that he tells you comes to pass, and if he says, 'Let us go after other gods,' which you have not known, 'and let us serve them,' (3) you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams. For **the Lord your God** is testing you, to know whether you love **the Lord your God** with all your heart and with all your soul. (4) You shall walk after **the Lord your God** and fear **him** and keep **his commandments** and obey **his voice**, and you shall serve him and hold fast to him.

(5) But that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death, because he has taught rebellion against **the Lord your God**, who brought you out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you out of the house of slavery, to make you leave the way in which **the Lord your God** commanded you to walk. So you shall purge the evil from your midst.

(6) "If your brother, the son of your mother, or your son or your daughter or the wife you embrace or your friend who is as your own soul entices you secretly, saying, 'Let us go and serve other gods,' which neither you nor your fathers have known, (7) some of the gods of the peoples who are around you, whether near you or far off from you, from the one end of the earth to the other, (8) you shall not yield to him or listen to him, nor shall your eye pity him, nor shall you spare him, nor shall you conceal him. (9) But you shall kill him. Your hand shall be first against him to put him to death, and afterward the hand of all the people. (10) You shall stone him to death with stones, because he sought to draw you away from **the Lord your God**, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

(11) And all Israel shall hear and fear and never again do any such wickedness as this among you. (12) "If you hear in one of your cities, which **the Lord your God** is giving you to dwell there, (13) that certain worthless fellows have gone out among you and have drawn away the inhabitants of their city, saying, 'Let us go and serve other gods,' which you have not known, (14) then you shall inquire and make search and ask diligently. And behold, if it be true and certain that such an abomination has been done among you, (15) you shall surely put the inhabitants of that city to the sword, devoting it to destruction, all who are in it and its cattle, with the edge of the sword.

(16) You shall gather all its spoil into the midst of its open square and burn the city and all its spoil with fire, as a whole burnt offering to **the Lord your God**. It shall be a heap forever. It shall not be built again. (17) None of the devoted things shall stick to your hand, that **the Lord** may turn from **the fierceness of his anger** and show you **mercy and have compassion** on you and multiply you, as he swore to your fathers, (18) if you obey the voice of **the Lord your God**, keeping all **his commandments** that I am commanding you today, and doing what is right **in the sight of the Lord your God**.

B. Study Notes:

1. A false teacher and self-proclaimed prophet should not be heeded but should be removed and purged from among them. If they do a “miracle” or sign or wonder and deceive them to go after other gods, they are to be shunned and removed (**Ex 7:11,12; Mt 24:24; Mk 13:22; 2 Th 2:9; Rev 19:20**)
2. False prophets were to be put to death (**Jerem 28:15-17; 1 Cor 5:9-13; 11:19; 2 Pet 2:1-22**)
3. Wickedness is lawlessness and will infect the whole company of Israel unless it is removed
(**1 Sam 1:16; 2:12; 10:27; 25:17; 30:22; 1 Ki 21:10-13; Prov 6:12-16; 2 Cor 6:15; 1 Tim 5:20**)
4. Serve the Lord and hold fast only to him
(**2 Ki 23:3; 2 Chr 34:31; Ps 5:7; Mt 7:15-20; Rom 12:9; 1 Cor 15:1-8; Gal 1:6-9; 1 Th 5:21; Heb 3:6; 4:14; 6:18; 2 Jn 1:6; Rev 2:13,25; 3:11**)

LUTHERS WORKS: Vol 28, pp. 64-65:

“Therefore St. Paul introduces his remarks with these words: “Now I would remind you, etc.,” as if to say: “I perceive clearly that it will be necessary always to admonish you to be mindful of what I preached to you, lest you lose sight of it or let it be supplanted in your heart by a different message and doctrine.” For wherever this is not constantly pursued and recalled, and where the heart does not occupy itself with it, there doors and windows stand wide ajar for all sorts of seduction to enter and for the extinction and removal of pure doctrine.

“But I remind you,” St. Paul says, “of the precious Gospel which I, Paul, proclaimed to you. For I behold that others, too, wish to enjoy the repute of preaching the Gospel. In that way they would suppress my doctrine, so that whatever Paul proclaims would be accounted nothing. Instead they want to be regarded as the true apostles and teachers of the Gospel, and they alone want to have the glory and the function to preach it correctly.

To counteract this, I must remind you and arouse you to recall and to behold what you received from me. For you originally received it and learned it from no other than from me. It is from me that you learned what the Gospel, what Christ, what faith, and what everything is. If you ponder this, you will, I am sure, cling to it and not be misled so easily to something different by their boasting and prating. For if you wish to heed the Gospel properly and adhere to it, you must reasonably heed what was first proclaimed to you, what was implanted by me and believed by you.

For I was, as you know, the first to bring you the message of Jesus Christ. Next to God, you are indebted to none but me for arriving at this knowledge and for being incorporated into Christendom. Therefore you must not esteem this so lightly and be turned away from it by people who boast of the Gospel at my expense, as though they would teach it to you differently or better than I did. Actually you would know of no Gospel if it had not been for me; indeed, these other people, one and all, would not know a letter of the Gospel if they had not heard and learned it from me. But now they use it against me and also divert you, under its very name, from it.”

C. Life Application:

1. Who are the false teachers and prophets both outside and inside the church today?
2. How do we respond to them and with what tools and weapons?
3. Why must we hold fast to the true Word of God and never let go of it?