

Deuteronomy: God's Covenant People

[#27] *The Importance of Holiness* – Deuteronomy 7:1-16

Sermon Outline – February 4, 2018

Children's Sermon: What/Who do you Love?

- When you are hungry, what do you want to eat?
- What things do you want?
- When do you feel important?

Things that feel like “needs” to Adam's children

What is going to happen to all these things that feel so urgent to us?

1 John 2:15–17

¹⁵ *Do not love the world or the things in the world.* If anyone loves the world, **the love of the Father** is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away along with its desires, but *whoever does the will of God abides forever.*

Exposition of the First Commandment (Dt. 6–11)

Notes:

Destroy the Canaanites & their Idols! (7:1-6)

Devote to Complete Destruction!

² and when the Lord your God gives them over to you, and you defeat them, then you must **devote them to complete destruction.**

You shall make no covenant with them and **show no mercy to them.** ³ You shall not intermarry with them, giving your daughters to their sons or taking their daughters for your sons...

¹⁶ And *you shall consume* all the peoples that the Lord your God will give over to you. **Your eye shall not pity them...**

Destroy their Idols

⁵ ...you **shall** break down their altars and dash in pieces their pillars and chop down their Asherim and burn their carved images with fire.

Why Such Harsh Measures?

Negatively...

⁴ **for** they would turn away your sons from following me, **to serve other gods.**

Then *the anger of the Lord* would be kindled against you, and he would destroy you quickly.

¹⁶ ...neither *shall you serve their gods*, for that would be a snare to you.

Positively...

⁶ “For *you are a people holy to the Lord your God*. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.

God Initiated Love

⁷ **It was not** because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples,

⁸ **but it is** because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the Lord has brought you out *with a mighty hand* and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the *hand of Pharaoh* king of Egypt.

God is Faithful to the Covenant: Life & Death

⁹ **Know therefore** that the Lord your God *is God*, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with *those who love him* and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations,

¹⁰ **and repays to their face those who hate him**, by destroying them. He will not be slack with one who hates him. He will repay him to his face.

¹² “And because you listen to these rules and keep and do them, **the Lord your God** will keep with you the covenant and the steadfast love that he swore to your fathers. ¹³ He will love you, bless you, and multiply you.

Today's Clear Biblical Bullet...

The life-giving covenant with Yahweh made Israel irreconcilable, mortal enemies of the Canaanites.



The Same & Different

James 4:4–5

⁴ **You adulterous people!** Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore

whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁵ Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, “***He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us***”?

Why is the Application So Different?

1. The Spirit Inside Us (2 Cor. 6:16)
2. Our Promised Land (1 John 2:15–17, this “world”)
3. We are On the Offensive (Matt. 16:18)

How is the Application Different?

2 Corinthians 6:14–7:1

¹⁴ ***Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? ¹⁵ What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever? ¹⁶ What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For ***we are the temple of the living God***; as God said “I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ¹⁷ Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you, ¹⁸ and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty.”***

¹ Since we have these promises, beloved, ***let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.***

1. Killing Idolatry Inside Us (Egypt, Rom. 6:14ff. to Canaan, Rom. 8:13)
2. No “partnership...” Warn of the Coming Wrath (Acts 17:30–31)
3. Be Careful to Covenant with the Regenerate
 - Church Membership...
 - Marriage...
 - Owning a Business Together...

...Fired at our Life & Heart

There is no agreement between the fallen world and the living God. There is only repentance or wrath.

