

Study Guide for Jan. 9th, 2005. Deuteronomy 12:1-14. The Place and the Person (Christ)

Introduction: Deuteronomy 12 begins a long section (through chapter 26) of instruction. In this part of Moses' address, he will explain how the people are to live as God's people in the land of Canaan. To apply this to the church, we must take a long view and see how the principles revealed here find their fulfillment in Christ and then ground them in N.T. teaching. Admittedly, this is challenging. Yet God has given Deuteronomy to the church and we will do well to work to understand its message for us today (II Tim. 3:14-17).

I. The ONE Place of Worship.

- A. What are the Israelites told to do to the places of Canaanite worship? (12:2-4)
- B. Fill in the blanks from 12:5 "But you are to seek _____ the Lord your God will _____ from among all your tribes to put his _____ there for his dwelling."
- C. What is the benefit of having only ONE place (see vs. 8)? What was God teaching?
- D. In vs. 10-11, Moses repeats the statement that the Lord will choose a place **as a dwelling for his name**. What is the significance of God's **name** for Israel?
- E. This **place** seems to have included Shiloh (I Sam. 1:3, 2:29, 3:21) and later Solomon's temple (II Chron. 7:11-12). Finally it came to be found in the person of Jesus (John 2:18-19, 4:21-24). Was this easy to grasp? (see John 2:20-22)
- F. Reflect on Paul's words in I Tim. 2:5 "For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all men—the testimony given in its proper time." How is genuine worship possible?

II. The Practice of Sacrifice and Offering.

- A. What are the people to bring and offer at **the place** God chooses? (see vs. 6, 11)
- B. Peter tells Christians that, "You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering **spiritual sacrifices** acceptable to God **through Jesus Christ**." (I Pet. 2:5) What would such offerings look like?
- C. Describe what takes place after the offering is made. (see vs. 7, 12)
- D. How is this aspect of worship further developed? (see Lk. 22:14-19, Rev. 3:20)

III. The Promise of God's Presence.

- A. What are the people commanded to do **in the presence of the Lord**? (vs. 7, 18)
- B. What has helped you become aware of God's presence as you worship?

