

Study Guide for Jan. 16th, 2005. Deuteronomy 12: 15-28. The Blood is the Life.

Introduction: What are some of your favorite metaphors or images for life? Why?

I. Life is SACRED.

- A. What prohibition does God give regarding the eating of the meat? (vs. 16, 23-24)
- B. What are the Israelites commanded to do with the blood? (vs. 16, 24, 27)
- C. Review Gen. 9:4-6 and cite the reason given here for not eating meat with blood.
- D. Why do you think the apostles at Jerusalem (Acts 15:29) included the prohibition against eating blood and meat of strangled animals?
- E. What guidelines does the apostle Paul give on this matter? (I Cor. 10:25-31)
- F. Reflect on the following explanation, “By refraining from eating flesh with blood in it, man is honoring life. To eat blood is to despise life. One purpose of this law is the inculcation of respect for all life.” How can we inculcate the respect for life in our day?

II. Sin is SERIOUS.

- A. Lev. 17:10-14 provides a fuller explanation of the prohibition to eating the blood.
 - 1) What warning is given there for those who eat blood?
 - 2) What purpose does vs. 11 make clear for the blood?
- B. Define **atonement** (vs. 11)? What is taught if this can only occur through a death?
- C. What has helped you to grasp the seriousness of your personal sin?

III. Christ's Death is SUFFICIENT.

- A. How is the blood of Christ superior to other sacrifices? (Heb. 9:11-14, 10:19-20)
- B. What do you think Christ means when he calls his followers to **drink his blood**? (see John 6:53-58)
- C. Reflect on the symbolism of the Lord's Supper in light of this study. What do you see as the significance of Christ identifying the cup as **my blood of the covenant** (Matt. 26:27-28)