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## **Deuteronomy Chapter 22**

### **The Commandment of God**

Before we get started here this evening once again I would just like to say thank you so very, very much for joining us as we continue our study into the book of Deuteronomy and the importance of the spoken word of Yehovah God that our Messiah who is our Passover lamb became in the flesh.

Today will be taking a look at a brief list of various laws that Moses was once again reminding the house of Israel about just before he passed the mantel to Joshua.

Once again just as a reminder, Moses was at the end of his life, Deuteronomy is the last book of the Torah which is the first five books of our English translated Bibles, and Moses is once again recapping and refreshing the minds of the house of Israel concerning what Yehovah God had already taught them so that they would once again be sure not to stray away from the commandment of Yehovah God.

As we read down through this list of various laws, we should be able to see the meticulous care that Yehovah God was taking over his divided and elected and separated remnant people. And as we will soon be able to see our Father in heaven leaves very little room if any for error concerning any one of these commandments.

But as we read down through this list of various laws and

commandments it's important that we keep in the back of our minds how much our Father in heaven loved his children. And it's also important for us to understand why it was that he gave us these laws and these commandments.

Each and every one of these God-given commandments keeps his children safe and sound and secure. Each one of these commandments stops the wrath of one man from hating another man. Each and every one of these commandments takes care of both man and beast both of which were created by the very hand of Yehovah God himself.

But I also want us to pay attention to one's certain phrase that you will continuously hear all throughout these commandments and that phrase is, "so shall you purge the evil from your midst".

"So you shall purge the evil from your midst" is going to be the main theme of not only the book of Deuteronomy, but the Torah as a whole. We must remember that even the Gentiles who were being grafted in and commanded to be circumcised and who were also commanded to keep the same law as the rest of the house of Israel were commanded to purge the evil from their midst.

In the eyes of Yehovah God sin is a cancer that needs to be cut out of his assembly. There is no question in the mind of Yehovah God that a little leaven leavens the whole lump.

Please chosen set apart divided and elected people that Yehovah God has chosen, he has indeed chosen to be a nation of priests, a holy nation unto him which means that this nation is a possession of Yehovah God the Creator of the heavens and the earth high-end far above any other nation.

And therefore, as we read down through these various laws and commandments let us keep in mind why many of these laws and commandments might seem to be very strict.

In the eyes of Yehovah God there was little room for error when it came to keeping his word and his word alone. And there was a good reason for this. Our Father in heaven knew full well that the devil was indeed like a prowling lion who is continuously lurking in the shadows waiting and watching to see who it is that he could drag away. And therefore, our Father in heaven like the good Shepherd was immediately ready to strike and to lead out the first sign of evil within the flock of his children.

Keeping that in mind, let's now turn to Deuteronomy chapter 22 and let's read through Deuteronomy chapter 22 so that we can know exactly what it says and just as importantly what it does not say. **Deuteronomy chapter 22 E1**

### Various Laws

Deu 22:1 "You shall not see your brother's ox or his sheep going astray and ignore them. You shall take them back to your brother.

Deu 22:2 And if he does not live near you and you do not know who he is, you shall bring it home to your house, and it shall stay with you until your brother seeks it. Then you shall restore it to him.

Deu 22:3 And you shall do the same with his donkey or with his garment, or with any lost thing of your brother's, which he loses and you find; you may not ignore it.

Deu 22:4 You shall not see your brother's donkey or his ox fallen down by the way and ignore them. You shall help him to lift them up again.

Deu 22:5 "A woman shall not wear a man's garment, nor shall a man put on a woman's cloak, for whoever does these things is an abomination to the LORD your God.

Deu 22:6 "If you come across a bird's nest in any tree or on the ground, with young ones or eggs and the mother sitting on the young or on the eggs, you shall not take the mother with the young.

Deu 22:7 You shall let the mother go, but the young you may take for yourself, that it may go well with you, and that you may live long.

Deu 22:8 "When you build a new house, you shall make a parapet for your roof, that you may not bring the guilt of blood upon your house, if anyone should fall from it.

Deu 22:9 "You shall not sow your vineyard with two kinds of seed, lest the whole yield be forfeited, the crop that you have sown and the yield of the vineyard.

Deu 22:10 You shall not plow with an ox and a donkey together.

Deu 22:11 You shall not wear cloth of wool and linen mixed together.

Deu 22:12 "You shall make yourself tassels on the four corners of the garment with which you cover yourself.

### **Laws Concerning Sexual Immorality**

Deu 22:13 "If any man takes a wife and goes in to her and then hates her

Deu 22:14 and accuses her of misconduct and brings a bad name upon her, saying, 'I took this woman, and when I came near her, I did not find in her evidence of virginity,'

Deu 22:15 then the father of the young woman and her mother shall take and bring out the evidence of her virginity to the elders of the city in the gate.

Deu 22:16 And the father of the young woman shall say to the elders, 'I gave my daughter to this man to marry, and he hates her;

Deu 22:17 and behold, he has accused her of misconduct, saying, "I did not find in your daughter evidence of virginity." And yet this is the evidence of my daughter's virginity.' And they shall spread the cloak before the elders of the city.

Deu 22:18 Then the elders of that city shall take the man and whip him,

Deu 22:19 and they shall fine him a hundred shekels of silver and give them to the father of the young woman, because he has brought a bad name upon a virgin of Israel. And she shall be his wife. He may not divorce her all his days.

Deu 22:20 But if the thing is true, that evidence of virginity was not found in the young woman,

Deu 22:21 then they shall bring out the young woman to the door of her father's house, and the men of her city shall stone her to death with stones, because she has done an outrageous thing in Israel by whoring in her father's house. So you shall purge the evil from your midst.

Deu 22:22 "If a man is found lying with the wife of another man, both of them shall die, the man who lay with the woman, and the woman. So you shall purge the evil from Israel.

Deu 22:23 "If there is a betrothed virgin, and a man meets her in the city and lies with her,

Deu 22:24 then you shall bring them both out to the gate of that city, and you shall stone them to death with stones, the young woman because she did not cry for help though she was in the city, and the man because he violated his neighbor's wife. So you shall purge the evil from your midst.

Deu 22:25 "But if in the open country a man meets a young woman who is betrothed, and the man seizes her and lies with her, then only the man who

lay with her shall die.

Deu 22:26 But you shall do nothing to the young woman; she has committed no offense punishable by death. For this case is like that of a man attacking and murdering his neighbor,

Deu 22:27 because he met her in the open country, and though the betrothed young woman cried for help there was no one to rescue her.

Deu 22:28 "If a man meets a virgin who is not betrothed, and seizes her and lies with her, and they are found,

Deu 22:29 then the man who lay with her shall give to the father of the young woman fifty shekels of silver, and she shall be his wife, because he has violated her. He may not divorce her all his days.

Deu 22:30 "A man shall not take his father's wife, so that he does not uncover his father's nakedness.

One of the very first commandments that we see in Deuteronomy chapter 22 verses one through three is an extremely interesting commandment. If you find your brother's ox wandering around where it doesn't belong, you are to gather that ox and take that ox back to your brother. But this did not only include his ox. This also included is donkey or even his garment.

How many times have we found money lying on the ground and immediately scooped it up and put it in our pockets without looking around to see who it might belong to? Have you ever done that?

If you ever found a dollar bill lying on the floor or maybe even a \$20 bill and scooped it up really quick and put it in your pocket hoping that no one saw you?

This might seem like a rather silly and even trivial thing, but once again we need to think about things like this as Yehovah God's children.

And I know what a lot of people will say, a lot of people will say that if you are offering free money to somebody they're going to take it. In other words, everybody's going to claim that the money belongs to them and therefore the best thing to do would be to keep it. But is this true?

I would submit to you that the better thing to do would be to look around and try to deduct who the money might belong to and simply ask them if the money could be theirs. Even if they lie and say that the money is there is an take the money from you... You are greatly blessed!

Do not think that you have walked away empty-handed because you have not. You can sleep well that night, and the Angels of Yehovah file will surely report what you have done back to your Father make no mistake about it.

And therefore, it's important that we ask ourselves if these kinds of things are important or not. These trivial things that we think carry with them no importance at all are indeed a big deal to our Father in heaven.

That \$20 bill that you found on the ground might be the last \$20 bill that an elderly person has to feed themselves for a week. You just simply do not know where that money came from or what part it might play in someone's sustenance and the blessing that you might become by returning it to them.

If you find somebody's jacket in the cloakroom, don't be so's quick to snatch it up without first inquiring about who it might belong to. We must always remember my friends that we are not alone. When no human being is looking chances are very, very good that one of Yehovah God's angels is indeed watching.

From there we go to Deuteronomy chapter 22 verse five which tells us that a woman shall not wear a man's garment, nor shall a man put on a woman's cloak for whoever does these things is an abomination to Yehovah your God.

Once again I think it's important that we stop and hear what it is that our Father in heaven is telling us.

Our Father in heaven has given the man a very specific station and along

with that station are parameters that he is commanded to walk in. And the woman also has been given a very specific station with parameters that she also is to walk within. It is forbidden for man to take on the station of a woman and is forbidden for a woman to take upon herself the station of a man. And I don't want us to think that this just has to do with clothing because it doesn't.

These commandments are very specific, and they have very specific reasons behind them. I don't think that it is difficult for us today in our time to understand why it is that our Father in heaven commands a woman not to wear a man's garment and why he commands a man not to put on a woman's garment.

We can clearly see how the devil uses such things to entice the flesh. We today in our time should be able to recognize the utter degradation and recklessness that this kind of behavior brings not to mention the humiliation of both the man and the woman.

And make no mistake about it my friends, the devil would love to cause women to fall in love with women and men to fall in love with men and be physically attracted to one another. Why?

Because by doing so he can literally stop the human race. He can literally stop our children from being born. And some might say that medical science today would find a way to overcome that obstacle, but you must remember whether medical science devises away to overcome this obstacle or not, the natural biological mother and father would no longer be the biological mother and father of said child.

Either the mother or the father of that child would be a stepparent to start with, not to mention the fact that a child of two mothers would not have a father and the child of two fathers would not have a mother.

Yehovah God gives us all mothers and fathers because he knows that together the mother and the father will be able to raise the child within a

stable upbringing. Having a mother who thinks that she is your father creates more chaos than it does peace within the heart and the mind of that child. Not to mention the fact that the commandment concerning the firstborn goes right out the window. If a male child has no father, then whose strength shall he inherit? There is no more family line, there is no more patriarch of the family, and there is no head of the family as far as Yehovah God is concerned because his chain of command has been corrupted.

And therefore, it is clearly forbidden on Halloween for a man to dress as a woman or a woman to dress as a man. And I would submit to you that Halloween in of itself is indeed a sin because it once again honors the one who created Halloween which is also known as All Saints Day which is another study that we won't get into here today for time's sake but let me warn you very clearly, there are no excuses or exceptions to this particular commandment. So don't look for one.

Even the smallest of these commandments are a big deal to our Father in heaven. For instance, when you come across the birds nest in a tree or on the ground with young ones or eggs in the mother is sitting on the young or her eggs you shall not take the mother with the young. Why? Because the mother has the ability to re-create. The mother has the ability to continue to produce. And if you take the mother, then that is one less bird that will be able to produce that particular flock.

Even making an edge around your roof was a commandment by Yehovah God.

Think about that for just a moment. In the old West they used to have parapets around their roofs. But you don't see parapets around people's roofs today do you? I think down in Mexico and some of the lower states you might still find roofs that have parapets built around them, but the majority of roofs today have nothing to guard you from slipping and falling off the roof.



This once again may sound like a very simple thing to us, but it was not a very simple thing to Yehovah God. He knew one of his children could slip down that roof and easily fall to their death and that this would create hardship and chaos within the family.

And therefore, even the smallest of things was thought of by our Father in heaven in order to guard his children from harm. His animals were thought of, his children were thought of, married couples were thought of, the firstborn was thought of, the man was thought of, the woman was thought of, Yehovah God thought of everyone.

A little bit later on we are told that we shall not wear cloth of wool and linen mixed together.

What's interesting about this commandment that seems so strange is that almost everything gives off a frequency. Science has found that even your clothing gives off a certain frequency. And certain frequencies do not mix well together with one another. Wool has one kind of frequency and linen has another kind of frequency.

We also know that the human body runs on electricity. There is actually a node in your heart which can also be pointed to as a battery that tells your heart when to beat.

If that node within your heart runs out of electricity, their heart stops beating.

Many, many years ago there was a contest that a grocery store was doing that was giving away some kind of big prize and the challenge was that whoever could drink the most water could have this big prize. And in the end the woman that would have one wound up dying because the water had washed away all of her electrolytes in her heart simply stopped and she died.

And therefore, the electrical wiring of the human body is much more

intricate than we think that it is. It has also been proven that your brain works on electrical impulses. And therefore, for your brain to work properly, it also needs the right amount of electricity along with the right frequency.

And therefore, even the strangest of commandments that were made by our Father in heaven thousands of years ago science today is just barely catching up with nevertheless, you can rest assured that your Father in heaven knew what he was talking about when he told us not to wear wool and linen together.

And then we get down to Deuteronomy chapter 22 verse 12 which is a reminder of Numbers chapter 15.

Deuteronomy chapter 22 verse 12 tells us once again that God's children are to make tassels for themselves on the four corners of the garments with which we are covered. This once again stems directly from **Numbers chapter 15 versus 37 through 41 E2**

### **Tassels on Garments**

**Num 15:37** The LORD said to Moses,

**Num 15:38** "Speak to the people of Israel, and tell them to make tassels on the corners of their garments throughout their generations, and to put a cord of blue on the tassel of each corner.

**Num 15:39** And it shall be a tassel for you to look at and remember all the commandments of the LORD, to do them, not to follow after your own heart and your own eyes, which you are inclined to whore after.

**Num 15:40** So you shall remember and do all my commandments, and be holy to your God.

**Num 15:41** I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt to be your God: I am the LORD your God."

Once again our Father in heaven literally thought of everything. The very reason that we are to wear tassels on the corners of our hips along with a cord of blue is to remind us to do the commandments of Yehovah our Father in heaven.

Let me ask you something... How important do you think it is to be very meticulous when it comes to keeping the commandments of our Father in heaven?

Do you think it's a good idea to think things like "all he won't mind" or "it will only be for a minute" or "all the sons almost down already anyway"?

Is it a good idea to cut corners when we know that we are commanded to do something by our Father in heaven? Is it a good idea to assume that he won't care if we overstep those boundaries?

The very reason that we were commanded to put these blue cords on our hips was so that we would remember all of the commandments of Yehovah God and to do them and not to follow after our own hearts and our own eyes which are flesh is inclined to whore after.

And I want us to pay close attention to numbers chapter 15 verse 40 where we are told and I quote, "So you shall remember and do all my commandments and be holy to your God."

The very reason that our Father in heaven wanted us to wear these tassels on the corners of our hips was because he knew that our flesh would cause us to forget his commandments. He was already one step ahead of the game. He already knew without question that our wicked flesh would cause us to stray away from him.

And it's also important to understand that the word of Yehovah God is Yehovah God. Yehovah God is his word. He is what he says. What he says marks his character and his person as being Yehovah God. And when we keep his word, we also become his spoken word who is part of who he is.

And if that confuses you, don't let it. The word of Yehovah God is what

dwells within us and makes us one with him. Our Messiah became the word of Yehovah God made flesh in order to teach us how to become the word of Yehovah God made flesh. The apostle John tells us very clearly that he who knows him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked. And therefore, if our Messiah walked perfectly within the word of his Father in heaven then we also are to walk that way.

And as we move down into Deuteronomy chapter 22 verse 13 we begin to see how our Father in heaven protects a man who is betrothed to a woman who has deceived him and is not a virgin.

We must remember that it is written that a man and a woman become one flesh. And this is exactly why it is written in Deuteronomy chapter 22 verse 30 that a man shall not take his father's wife so that he uncovers his father's nakedness.

How does a man who sleeps with his father's wife uncover his father's nakedness? He uncovers his father's nakedness by looking upon his wife who he is one flesh with. You cannot see the nakedness of a woman without seeing the nakedness of her husband because they are indeed one flesh and this once again humiliates not only her, but her husband also.

And therefore there were laws against pretending to be a virgin when you are not a virgin. But... By the same token there were also laws against taking a woman's virginity and then claiming that she was not a virgin. And therefore, the door swung both ways.

If either the woman or the man was lying, this was indeed a transgression against Yehovah God because someone was lying which is forbidden according to the word of Yehovah God and once again we can see here that the commandment to purge the evil from your midst was taken very seriously. Those who did such things were to be put to death as an example to the rest of the house of Israel to fear Yehovah God and to keep his commandments.

Once again my friends I ask you plainly... Should we not take care to obey the commandments of Yehovah God to the very best of our ability?

Deuteronomy chapter 22 verse 25 tells us that if a man meets a woman who is betrothed to another man to be married and that man seizes her and lies with her then only the man who did this thing shall die. No question about it. Deuteronomy chapter 22 verse 26 says that this is like a man attacking and murdering his neighbor. When you rape a woman, in God's eyes this is the same as murdering your neighbor.

But Deuteronomy chapter 22 verse 28 gets into a little different story. It says that if a man meets a virgin who was not betrothed, and he seizes her and lies with her and they are found then the man that did this thing shall give to the father of the young woman 50 shekels of silver and... And... she shall be his wife because he has violated her and... and... he may not divorce her all the days of his life.

Once again my friends, when a man and a woman joined together they become one flesh in the eyes of Yehovah God. This is no small matter and this man by law is required to take care of this woman for the rest of his life whether he likes it or not. And let me tell you something brothers... you do not want to be married to a woman who does not love you back. That my friends can literally be... hell on earth.

And that's all I'm saying about that.

But once again, it's important for us to understand to the very best of our ability why it was that our Father in heaven commanded things to be the way that he did. It's important for us to know and to understand that our Father in heaven literally hates sin. He cannot be around sin. Sin in his eyes must be destroyed because he knows that a little sin expands and grows within the whole community. And we can literally see that by watching the story of the house of Israel and its journey throughout the wilderness and beyond.

The house of Israel was most certainly not paying attention to the tassels that they were wearing on their hips. And therefore, we as Christians today should also remember that those tassels on our hips only work if we truly have a heart for our Father in heaven. Those tassels do not have a magical potion within them. If you don't remember that you have them on and what they stand for... they will literally do you no good.

Next week as we dive into Deuteronomy chapter 23 we were going to take a close look at those who were excluded from the assembly and once again, I think that we will find these commandments very interesting as well when we stop and think why it was that our Father in heaven commanded that certain individuals were indeed to be excluded from the assembly.

We will also get into uncleanness within the camp along with some other miscellaneous laws as we dive into Deuteronomy chapter 23 next week.

But as for now, we will close the books and although our session this evening has been a rather short one because of the end of Passover week, I think we still have plenty to think about and to pray about and to test through the fire of prayer.

And my hope and my prayer is that you will do just that. And remember, as you are contemplating these laws and commandments ask yourself why Yehovah God himself put these commandments into play in the first place. Ask him why, ponder why, think about why, and you will indeed gain a greater knowledge than most.

With that being said I hope and I pray that this study has been a blessing to you and to your family and I will once again ask everyone within the sound of my voice to please take what you have heard here tonight to your own prayer closet and bow your head and bend your knee and face the holy promised land of Jerusalem and ask in the name of Yeshua Hamashiach if what you have heard here tonight be true or not.

Ask, seek, and knock on his door and on his door alone so that the proper door can be opened unto you. And if you will do that, and if you will stay the course to the end, you and I will surely walk through the gates of his soon coming kingdom together.