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## **Deuteronomy Chapter 12**

### **Pagan Christ-mas Trees & Pagan Festivals**

Once again, I'd just like to welcome everybody to the continuation of our study into the book of Deuteronomy as we examine Deuteronomy chapter 12 this evening. And I might add once again that this evenings study is going to be somewhat of a timely study considering that the most sought after and highly exalted pagan festival of the year is soon approaching, and will get into that highly sought after and exalted pagan festival of the year as we move forward here this evening but before we do, I'd like to just reflect for just a moment on Deuteronomy chapter 11 that we just finished studying during our last Bible study session because Deuteronomy chapter 12 has everything to do with Deuteronomy chapter 11.

And so, before we get into Deuteronomy chapter 12, I think it's imperative to mention that Deuteronomy chapter 11 was all about loving and serving our Father in heaven. And when it comes to loving and serving our Father in heaven, we must always take into consideration his "if equals then" concept.

"If equals then." If you will do this... Then I will do that.

What's important to understand is that the whole Bible is built upon the "if equals then" concept. If we will indeed obey his commandments by loving him and serving him with all of our heart and our soul, then... he will bless us and our fields and our children and complete his promise to

Abraham by leading us into the promised land. But... if we allow our hearts to be hardened and we turn aside and serve other gods and worship them and make ourselves friends of the world... the anger of our Father in heaven will be kindled against us and he will shut up the heavens so that there is no rain and that there is no bounty of the land, and we will surely perish off of the land that we have polluted through our disobedience.

The “if equals then” concept begins in the book of Genesis and runs all throughout the Bible clear to the book of Revelation. When we read the last half of the Bible, we find our Messiah preaching the exact same gospel that his Father preached in the beginning of the book. If...if... you stand for his name, then... then... he will stand for your name. If you endure to the end... then you will be saved. If you conquer over evil... then you will not be hurt by the second death. If you are the Messiahs... then you are Abraham’s offspring. If you note the kindness and the severity of God... then you will continue in his kindness... otherwise you will be cut off! If you do not take the mark of the beast... then your name will be counted in the Lamb’s book of life.

You see, it’s all about the “if equals then” concept. It’s not about being once saved always saved nor is it about how Jesus did it all for us at the cross. To whom much is given... much is expected.

Keeping all of this in mind, I know that we’ve read this before, but I would like to once again return to Deuteronomy chapter 30 before we get into Deuteronomy chapter 12 because what we are going about to get into in Deuteronomy chapter 12 has everything to do with Deuteronomy chapter 30 which I might add is nothing more than an extension of Deuteronomy chapter 11. And if that confuses you... stay with me.

Lets us begin our study this evening by turning to **Deuteronomy chapter 30 verses 11 through 20 E1**

### **The Choice of Life and Death**

Deu 30:11 "For this commandment that I command you today is not too hard for you, neither is it far off.

Deu 30:12 It is not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will ascend to heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?'

Deu 30:13 Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?'

Deu 30:14 But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it.

Deu 30:15 "See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil.

Deu 30:16 If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it.

Deu 30:17 But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them,

Deu 30:18 I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess.

Deu 30:19 I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live,

Deu 30:20 loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."

What we have just read here in Deuteronomy chapter 30 is indeed the "if equals then" concept in a nutshell. Once again, if... we obey the commandments of Yehovah our God that he commands us today by loving him and walking in his ways and keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules... then... then... we shall live and multiply and our Father in heaven will give us the land that we are about to enter into to take possession of it. And that promised land that we will be entering upon the return of our Messiah is indeed the promised land of Abraham just as it was for the house of Israel in Moses day.

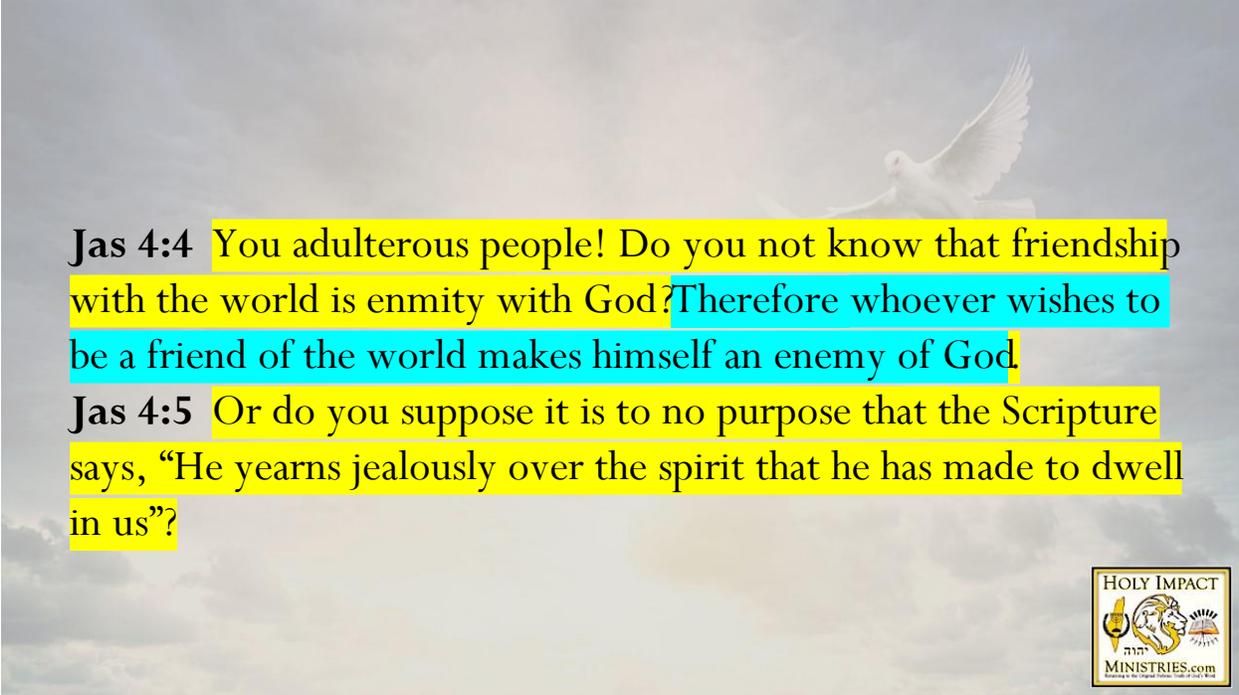
But... but... If our hearts turn away from him and we refuse to hear him and turn and make ourselves friends of the world we will surely perish.

Deuteronomy chapter 30 verse 19 tells us very clearly that our Father in heaven has already witnessed against us when he told us that he has set before us life and death, blessings and curses.

And I would also like to mention the fact that according to Deuteronomy chapter 30 verse 11 his commandments are not too hard for us.

How many of us have heard that the law is too hard to keep? How many of us have heard that no one can keep the law? The law also known as the Torah is the word of God that our Messiah became in the flesh. And if our Messiah became that law in the flesh... and if he has commanded us to pick up our crosses and to follow him and to walk as he walked and to do as he did... are we not also expected to become the word of God made flesh? Is it not written that we are the very temple of God and that the spirit of Yehovah God lives within us? And did our Father in heaven not promise us that he would write his law in our hearts and in our minds in Jeremiah chapter 31 of the Old Testament and again in Hebrews chapter 10 of the New Testament?

Once again, the decision is ours. We can either accept or reject the “if equals then” concept that has been handed down by our Father in heaven from the very beginning. But one thing for sure... if we make ourselves friends of the world, we will surely make ourselves enemies of God  
**James chapter 4 verse four (scrn 1)**



**Jas 4:4** 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

**Jas 4:5** 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”?



Now... keeping all of this in mind, and knowing and understanding that God’s love is not a one way street... but rather a two way street and that our reciprocal love for him is indeed required... we are now prepared to continue on by reading Deuteronomy chapter 12. And you will soon see why all of this ties very nicely into what we find within the context of Deuteronomy chapter 12. And therefore, let us now turn to **Deuteronomy chapter 12 E2**

### **The Lord's Chosen Place of Worship**

**Deu 12:1** “These are the statutes and rules that you shall be careful to do in the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, has given you to possess, all the days that you live on the earth.

**Deu 12:2** You shall surely destroy all the places where the nations whom you shall dispossess served their gods, on the high mountains and on the hills **and under every green tree.**

**Deu 12:3** You shall tear down their altars and dash in pieces their pillars and burn their Asherim with fire. You shall chop down the carved images of their gods and destroy their name out of that place.

**Deu 12:4** **You shall not worship the LORD your God in that way.**

**Deu 12:5** But you shall seek the place that the LORD your God will choose out of all your tribes to put his name and make his habitation there. There

you shall go,

Deu 12:6 and there you shall bring your burnt offerings and your sacrifices, your tithes and the contribution that you present, your vow offerings, your freewill offerings, and the firstborn of your herd and of your flock.

Deu 12:7 And there you shall eat before the LORD your God, and you shall rejoice, you and your households, in all that you undertake, in which the LORD your God has blessed you.

Deu 12:8 "You shall not do according to all that we are doing here today, everyone doing whatever is right in his own eyes,

Deu 12:9 for you have not as yet come to the rest and to the inheritance that the LORD your God is giving you.

Deu 12:10 But when you go over the Jordan and live in the land that the LORD your God is giving you to inherit, and when he gives you rest from all your enemies around, so that you live in safety,

Deu 12:11 then to the place that the LORD your God will choose, to make his name dwell there, there you shall bring all that I command you: your burnt offerings and your sacrifices, your tithes and the contribution that you present, and all your finest vow offerings that you vow to the LORD.

Deu 12:12 And you shall rejoice before the LORD your God, you and your sons and your daughters, your male servants and your female servants, and the Levite that is within your towns, since he has no portion or inheritance with you.

Deu 12:13 Take care that you do not offer your burnt offerings at any place that you see,

Deu 12:14 but at the place that the LORD will choose in one of your tribes, there you shall offer your burnt offerings, and there you shall do all that I am commanding you.

Deu 12:15 "However, you may slaughter and eat meat within any of your towns, as much as you desire, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that he has given you. The unclean and the clean may eat of it, as of the gazelle and as of the deer.

Deu 12:16 Only you shall not eat the blood; you shall pour it out on the earth like water.

Deu 12:17 You may not eat within your towns the tithe of your grain or of your wine or of your oil, or the firstborn of your herd or of your flock, or any of your vow offerings that you vow, or your freewill offerings or the contribution that you present,

Deu 12:18 but you shall eat them before the LORD your God in the place that the LORD your God will choose, you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant, and the Levite who is within your towns. And you shall rejoice before the LORD your God in all that you

undertake.

**Deu 12:19** Take care that you do not neglect the Levite as long as you live in your land.

**Deu 12:20** "When the LORD your God enlarges your territory, as he has promised you, and you say, 'I will eat meat,' because you crave meat, you may eat meat whenever you desire.

**Deu 12:21** If the place that the LORD your God will choose to put his name there is too far from you, then you may kill any of your herd or your flock, which the LORD has given you, as I have commanded you, and you may eat within your towns whenever you desire.

**Deu 12:22** Just as the gazelle or the deer is eaten, so you may eat of it. The unclean and the clean alike may eat of it.

**Deu 12:23** Only be sure that you do not eat the blood, for the blood is the life, and you shall not eat the life with the flesh.

**Deu 12:24** You shall not eat it; you shall pour it out on the earth like water.

**Deu 12:25** You shall not eat it, that all may go well with you and with your children after you, when you do what is right in the sight of the LORD.

**Deu 12:26** But the holy things that are due from you, and your vow offerings, you shall take, and you shall go to the place that the LORD will choose,

**Deu 12:27** and offer your burnt offerings, the flesh and the blood, on the altar of the LORD your God. The blood of your sacrifices shall be poured out on the altar of the LORD your God, but the flesh you may eat.

**Deu 12:28** Be careful to obey all these words that I command you, that it may go well with you and with your children after you forever, when you do what is good and right in the sight of the LORD your God.

### **Warning Against Idolatry**

**Deu 12:29** "When the LORD your God cuts off before you the nations whom you go in to dispossess, and you dispossess them and dwell in their land,

**Deu 12:30** take care that you be not ensnared to follow them, after they have been destroyed before you, and that you do not inquire about their gods, saying, 'How did these nations serve their gods?—that I also may do the same.'

**Deu 12:31** You shall not worship the LORD your God in that way, for every abominable thing that the LORD hates they have done for their gods, for they even burn their sons and their daughters in the fire to their gods.

**Deu 12:32** "Everything that I command you, you shall be careful to do. You shall not add to it or take from it.

Okay... so that's Deuteronomy chapter 12. How many here this evening are picking up on the correlation between Deuteronomy chapters 11 and 30 which are all about our love for Yehovah God... and Deuteronomy chapter 12?

If you're not seeing it yet, let's slow down and go back and re-read **Deuteronomy chapter 12 verses one through four (scrn 2)**

**Deu 12:1** "These are the statutes and rules that you shall be careful to do in the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, has given you to possess, all the days that you live on the earth.

**Deu 12:2** You shall surely destroy all the places where the nations whom you shall dispossess served their gods, on the high mountains and on the hills and under every green tree.

**Deu 12:3** You shall tear down their altars and dash in pieces their pillars and burn their Asherim with fire. You shall chop down the carved images of their gods and destroy their name out of that place.

**Deu 12:4** You shall not worship the LORD your God in that way.



Notice here in Deuteronomy chapter 12 verse one that the house of Israel is commanded to be careful... to be careful... to do the statutes and the rules of Yehovah the Elohim of Israel. And also notice in verse two that the house of Israel was commanded to destroy these false gods that were found within these wicked nations including but not limited to the gods that they worshiped on the high mountains and on the hills and under every green tree.

And so, let's stop and think about this for just a moment. One of the major reasons that our Father in heaven commanded the house of Israel to destroy these other nations and their false gods was because they were

pagan. And what made them pagan? What made them pagan was that they believed in other gods other than the one true Elohim of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

One thing that I would like to mention is how many times we find the phrase “every green tree” within the confines of the Bible. (scrn 4)

The screenshot shows the Blue Letter Bible website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for SEARCH, STUDY, DEVOTIONALS, HELP, APPS & TOOLS, MINISTRIES, ABOUT, and DONATE. Below this is a search bar with the text "Verse or Word(s)" and a dropdown menu set to "KJV". To the right of the search bar are icons for "LINK", "CITE THIS", "RETURN TO TOP", "SHARE", "FOLLOW", and "PRINT". Below the search bar are buttons for "COPY", "COPY OPTIONS", "STRONG'S", and "RED-LETTER".

The main content area is titled "Search Results" and features a "WORD SEARCH:" section with the input "every green tree" and a "KJV" dropdown. Below this, a summary states: "every" AND "green" AND "tree" occurs 41 times in 11 verses in the KJV. The results are listed in a table with columns for "TOOLS", "Reference", and "Text".

TOOLS	Reference	Text
	Deu 12:2	Ye shall utterly destroy all the places, wherein the nations which ye shall possess served their gods, upon the high mountains, and upon the hills, and under <b>every green tree</b> :
	1Ki 14:23	For they also built them high places, and images, and groves, on <b>every</b> high hill, and under <b>every green tree</b> .
	2Ki 16:4	And he sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places, and on the hills, and under <b>every green tree</b> .
	2Ki 17:10	And they set them up images and groves in <b>every</b> high hill, and under <b>every green tree</b> :
	2Ch 28:4	He sacrificed also and burnt incense in the high places, and on the hills, and under <b>every green tree</b> :

On the right side of the page, there are sections for "Sponsors", "Search Results in Other Versions" (listing NKJV, NLT, ESV, CSB, NASB20, NASB95, LSB, NET, RSV, ASV, YLT, DBY, WEB, HNV), "Search Results by Book" (listing Deu, 1Ki, 2Ki, 2Ch, Isa, Jer, Eze), and "BLB Searches".

The phrase “every green tree” occurs 41 times in 11 different verses of the King James version of the Bible. And if we were to look those verses up, we would find that they all pertain to pagan worship. It was always the evergreen tree that stayed green all year round that was used by these wicked pagan nations to worship under. First Kings chapter 14 verse 23 says and I quote, “for they also built for themselves high places and pillars and Asherim on every high hill and under every green tree. Second Kings chapter 16 verse four says and I quote, “And he sacrificed and burned incense in the high places and on the hills and under every green tree. Second Kings chapter 17 versed 10 and 11 says and I quote, “They set up for themselves pillars and Asherim on every high hill and under every green tree,

and there they made offerings on all the high places, as the nations did whom the LORD carried away before them. And they did wicked things, provoking the LORD to anger. Second Chronicles chapter 28 verse four says and I quote, “He sacrificed also and burned incense in the high places and on the hills and under every green tree.

Do we get what’s going on here under every green tree? And it was not above the tree or beside the tree, it was always under... get that my friends... under... every green tree that these pagan rituals were carried out.

Here’s a question for you... **(show Tree Gifts Video)**

Why is it that on Chris-tmas morning our children are instructed to bow down to an evergreen tree in order to receive their gifts? Who is it that we are teaching our children that provides for them all the desires of their hearts? Are we teaching our children that Yehovah God is the provider of all things or are we teaching them that some Roman Catholic toy god is the provider of all things? **(scrn 5)**



Is it not the Roman Catholic created “Old Nick” that we tell our children gives them their gifts? Is this Roman Catholic created “Old Nick” not a man-made pagan toy god that we have sold the souls of our children to? Is this not what Christianity teaches today in our time? Think about these things my friends. For those of you who think that the Old Testament has all been done away with... it’s important that you understand that you will find more truth in your Old Testament Bible than you will a denominational pastor, priest, Bishop, Rabbi, or Pope who is leading your children like the Pied Piper down to the river to be drowned by trading the truth for a lie and a lie for the truth. And by the way... try googling the term, “Old Nick” and see what you come up with. (scrn 6 show)

The screenshot shows the Wikipedia article for "Old Nick". On the left is the Wikipedia logo and a sidebar with navigation links like "Main page", "Contents", and "Help". The main content area has tabs for "Article" and "Talk". The title "Old Nick" is followed by the text "From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia". Below this, it says "Old Nick can mean:" followed by a bulleted list:

- A nickname for the devil in Christian tradition
- Niccolò Machiavelli
- Old Nick (beer), from Young's Brewery
- Old Nick Company, a student theatre company at the University of Tasmania, Australia
- A nickname for the Swansea Devil, a wood carving of the Devil in Swansea, Wales

There is a "See also" section with a link to "Nick (disambiguation)". A note below states: "This disambiguation page lists articles associated with the title **Old Nick**. If an internal link led you here, you may wish to change the link to point directly to the intended article." At the bottom, it lists the category "Disambiguation pages".

It has long ago been known that the term “Old Nick” is a nickname for the devil himself. And I would submit to you, that “Old Nick” AKA “St. Nick” is indeed nothing more than the devil himself who loves to dress himself up like an angel of light. And yet... how many parents to this day send their children into the arms of the devil himself to sit upon his

lap while their pictures are taken so that the devil can show Yehovah God exactly who it is that you have sold the soul of your children to?

Do you now see how Deuteronomy chapter 30 correlates to Deuteronomy chapter 12? Do you now see how important it is to understand the blessings and the curses that our Father in heaven has laid out before us and warned us about? Do you now see how relevant the beginning of the Bible is to understand so that we don't get caught up in today's churchianity which is nothing short of a fake and fraudulent man-made religion? And do you now see why it is that the devil who loves to dress himself up like an angel of light is standing in today's church proclaiming that the law which is the word of God that our Messiah became in the flesh... is nothing but a curse?

From here I'd like to go to Jeremiah chapter 10, and I would just like to read the whole chapter so that we can understand what's going to happen at the end of the age to those who are still teaching their children to worship a false Roman Catholic toy god under a green tree. **Jeremiah chapter 10 E3**

### **Idols and the Living God**

**Jer 10:1** Hear the word that the LORD speaks to you, O house of Israel.

**Jer 10:2** Thus says the LORD: "Learn not the way of the nations, nor be dismayed at the signs of the heavens because the nations are dismayed at them,

**Jer 10:3** for the customs of the peoples are vanity. A tree from the forest is cut down and worked with an axe by the hands of a craftsman.

**Jer 10:4** They decorate it with silver and gold; they fasten it with hammer and nails so that it cannot move.

**Jer 10:5** Their idols are like scarecrows in a cucumber field, and they cannot speak; they have to be carried, for they cannot walk. Do not be afraid of them, for they cannot do evil, neither is it in them to do good."

**Jer 10:6** There is none like you, O LORD; you are great, and your name is great in might.

**Jer 10:7** Who would not fear you, O King of the nations? For this is your due; for among all the wise ones of the nations and in all their kingdoms there is none like you.

Jer 10:8 They are both stupid and foolish; the instruction of idols is but wood!

Jer 10:9 Beaten silver is brought from Tarshish, and gold from Uphaz. They are the work of the craftsman and of the hands of the goldsmith; their clothing is violet and purple; they are all the work of skilled men.

Jer 10:10 But the LORD is the true God; he is the living God and the everlasting King. At his wrath the earth quakes, and the nations cannot endure his indignation.

Jer 10:11 Thus shall you say to them: "The gods who did not make the heavens and the earth shall perish from the earth and from under the heavens."

Jer 10:12 It is he who made the earth by his power, who established the world by his wisdom, and by his understanding stretched out the heavens.

Jer 10:13 When he utters his voice, there is a tumult of waters in the heavens, and he makes the mist rise from the ends of the earth. He makes lightning for the rain, and he brings forth the wind from his storehouses.

Jer 10:14 Every man is stupid and without knowledge; every goldsmith is put to shame by his idols, for his images are false, and there is no breath in them.

Jer 10:15 They are worthless, a work of delusion; at the time of their punishment they shall perish.

Jer 10:16 Not like these is he who is the portion of Jacob, for he is the one who formed all things, and Israel is the tribe of his inheritance; the LORD of hosts is his name.

Jer 10:17 Gather up your bundle from the ground, O you who dwell under siege!

Jer 10:18 For thus says the LORD: "Behold, I am slinging out the inhabitants of the land at this time, and I will bring distress on them, that they may feel it."

Jer 10:19 Woe is me because of my hurt! My wound is grievous. But I said, "Truly this is an affliction, and I must bear it."

Jer 10:20 My tent is destroyed, and all my cords are broken; my children have gone from me, and they are not; there is no one to spread my tent again and to set up my curtains.

Jer 10:21 For the shepherds are stupid and do not inquire of the LORD; therefore they have not prospered, and all their flock is scattered.

Jer 10:22 A voice, a rumor! Behold, it comes!— a great commotion out of the north country to make the cities of Judah a desolation, a lair of jackals.

Jer 10:23 I know, O LORD, that the way of man is not in himself, that it is not in man who walks to direct his steps.

Jer 10:24 Correct me, O LORD, but in justice; not in your anger, lest you

bring me to nothing.

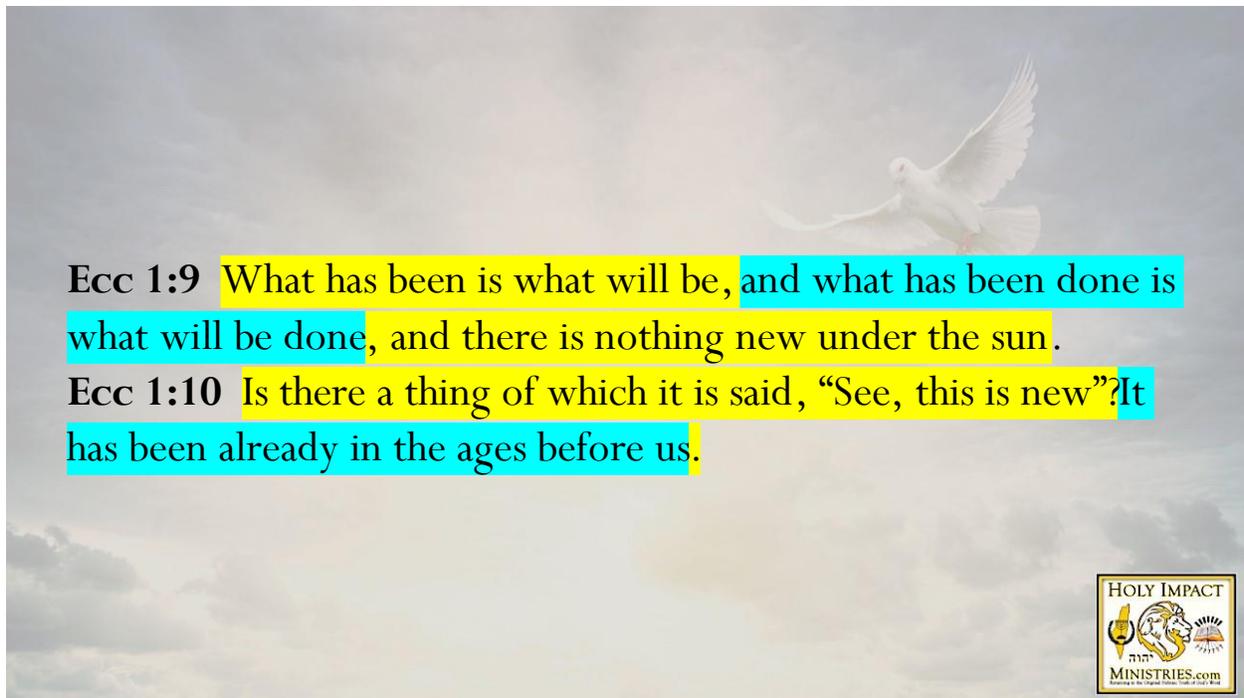
Jer 10:25 Pour out your wrath on the nations that know you not, and on the peoples that call not on your name, for they have devoured Jacob; they have devoured him and consumed him, and have laid waste his habitation.

What nations are right now as we speak teaching their children to call on a Roman Catholic created “Old Nick” instead of Yehvoah God? How many nations are lifting up and exalting “Old Nick” instead of Yehvoah on a day that they lie to the world by telling them that it’s the birthday of the Son of God? How many lies do you have to tell to keep this wicked tradition? How blasphemous, how treacherous... how utterly vanity filled can we be? Talk about a Judas!.....!!! Who are we kissing on the cheek all the while betraying him while turning to another Roman Catholic created god that is no god at all?

I would submit to you my friends that this is equal to burning our children in the fire to Moloch! We are literally selling our children down the river right into the devils den right in front of our Father in heaven and the Lamb of God who gave his life to save them!

And therefore, the question then becomes... how are we any better than the house of Israel who did these things long before we did them? Are we not seven-fold worse? Do we not have these examples to learn from in our Bibles? Do we not have examples that the house of Israel did not have?

**(scrn 7 show)**



**Ecc 1:9** What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun.

**Ecc 1:10** Is there a thing of which it is said, “See, this is new”? It has been already in the ages before us.

King Solomon one of the wisest men on earth once wrote and I quote, “What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun. Is there a thing of which it is said, “see this is new”? It has been already in the ages before us.

And so you see, there is nothing new about God’s children bowing down before a pagan evergreen tree in order to receive their gifts from a pagan toy god. And even though most Christians don’t know this... the devil does. And that’s why he loves to have a picture of your child sitting upon his lap to keep as a trophy. And what’s worse... is that that, that picture is often times taken in the very sanctuary of the church. Listen closely once again to what our Father in heaven tells us in **Deuteronomy chapter 12 verses 29 through 32 E4**

#### **Warning Against Idolatry**

**Deu 12:29** “When the LORD your God cuts off before you the nations whom you go in to dispossess, and you dispossess them and dwell in their land,

**Deu 12:30** take care that you be not ensnared to follow them, after they have been destroyed before you, and that you do not inquire about their gods, saying, ‘How did these nations serve their gods?—that I also may do

the same.'

Deu 12:31 You shall not worship the LORD your God in that way, for every abominable thing that the LORD hates they have done for their gods, for they even burn their sons and their daughters in the fire to their gods.

Deu 12:32 "Everything that I command you, you shall be careful to do. You shall not add to it or take from it.

Our Father in heaven commands us not to inquire about any other god let alone make for ourselves a golden calf for our children called "Old Nick". These pagan people who have come before us have done every abominable thing that Yehovah God hates. They even burned their children and their daughters in the fire to their pagan gods. And this is exactly what the devil is reminding our Father in heaven of when he sees our children worshipping a Roman Catholic created toy god that is nothing more than the devil himself dressed up as an angel of light, and often times... right in his own sanctuary!

And once again what do we see in Deuteronomy chapter 12 verse 32? "Everything that I command you, you shall be careful to do. You shall not add to it or take from it.

How many times do you have to add to God's word or take away from God's word in order to keep Christ-mas? You have to lie about the birthday of his Son which is found nowhere in Scripture, you have to lie about dragging ever green trees in the house and decorating them with silver and gold which God says not to do. You have to lie about "Old Nick" which is the creation of another false god. You have to lie about the divination and magic of his flying reindeer which is forbidden according to Scripture. You have to lie about his Krampus elves who are nothing short of demonic, and the list goes on and on and on and on.

By lying to our children and telling them that December 25th is the birthday of the son of God... are we not adding to the word of God and taking away from the word of God?

Who is it that they are serving? Who is it that they are exalting? Who is

it that they kiss on the cheek while betraying his commandments and mocking his very birth?

You see, this is what happens when we make ourselves friends of the world. We wind up making ourselves enemies of God. And this is why James tells us that he who makes himself a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. And this wretched abomination is just one brick of many bricks within a monumental wall of deceptions that has been taught for generations.

I guess Joseph Goebbels Hitler's minister of propaganda was right when he said that all you have to do is to tell a lie over and over and over again long enough... and people will believe it. If the Roman Catholic created Christ-mas is not the perfect example of this... then I don't know what is.

And we won't even get into the pagan practices of fertility goddesses and rabbits that lay eggs and chocolate that tastes sweet in the mouth.

What's important to grasp here in Deuteronomy chapter 12 is that everything that we are reading here in the Torah is being done today in our time. There is nothing new under the sun. And what's even worse is that the devil doesn't even have to change his tactics or set up new traps. All he has to do is use the same tactics and the same traps that he used for the house of Israel clear back in the days of Moses.

I would submit to you that Jeremiah was right... the shepherds are stupid and do not inquire of Yehvoah. There is no question!

Here we are today with an abundance of historical information concerning how God's people fell in the wilderness, and what are we doing today? Are we not an exact mirror image of the house of Israel back in Moses' day? Because I would submit to you that we are the spitting image of the stiff-necked people of the house of Israel back in Moses' day.

And so, my hope and my prayer is that we might have the eyes to see and ears to hear the spiritual implications of this law that we are reading. There is indeed a message within this text that should be reaching the hearts and the minds of those who have his law is written across their hearts and in their minds.

But... this is not all that we see in Deuteronomy chapter 12.

A beloved sister of ours contacted me a couple of weeks ago about these next few verses and I would like to expound upon this as well in order to make sure that no one is confused about the context of these next few verses. And those verses are from **Deuteronomy chapter 12 verses 13 through 16 E5**

**Deu 12:13** Take care that you do not offer your burnt offerings at any place that you see,

**Deu 12:14** but at the place that the LORD will choose in one of your tribes, there you shall offer your burnt offerings, and there you shall do all that I am commanding you.

**Deu 12:15** "However, you may slaughter and eat meat within any of your towns, as much as you desire, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that he has given you. The unclean and the clean may eat of it, as of the gazelle and as of the deer.

**Deu 12:16** Only you shall not eat the blood; you shall pour it out on the earth like water.

It can be easy to get confused if we read through this too quickly. And therefore, I would like to point out that there is nothing in these verses about eating unclean animals. Deuteronomy chapter 12 verse 15 says that it's okay to slaughter and eat meat within our town as much as we desire. The unclean and the clean may eat of it.

Now, I want to stop right here for just a moment and make sure that we understand that Yehovah God is talking about the unclean and the clean people... not unclean and clean animals.

He is simply telling us that we can slaughter and eat meat within our towns is much as we desire whether we are in an unclean state or a clean state we may eat the meat that we slaughter at our houses. And I want us to notice that he says, and I quote, “as of the gazelle and as of the deer”, both of which are clean animals. The only thing that we’re not allowed to do is to eat the blood. That’s forbidden.

Another point that I would like to make is that any animal that is going to be offered to Yehovah God as a gift or a sacrifice to Yehvoah God... must be slaughtered at the temple or at the tabernacle. It is forbidden to slaughter animals at any other place if they are to be a gift to Yehovah God. And this is very important to understand. In other words... You could not slaughter a lamb or goat or a bull in your backyard as a sin offering. That is forbidden, that would be seen as a sin. An animal that was to be a gift to Yehvoah God had to be taken to the temple or the tabernacle where God was in order to be slaughtered so that it could be done upon the brazen altar and in the proper manner as instructed by Yehovah God.

And so, I just wanted to make sure that we all understand what it says here and just as importantly what it does not say.

And so, once again, the book of Deuteronomy does not disappoint. The book of Deuteronomy is a major blessing not just for those who read it... but for those who understand it. And my hope and my prayer is that you have received a spiritual blessing by understanding the spiritual message that this very spiritual book delivers to those who have the eyes to see and the ears to hear.

Next week were going to get into Deuteronomy chapter 13 which talks about false prophets. And once again we are going to see a spiritual message being delivered that absolutely cannot be overlooked and therefore my hope and my prayer is that you will join us next Wednesday evening at 7 PM Eastern standard Time as we continue our study into Deuteronomy chapter 13 and the testing of the prophets.

But as for now, I will do as I always do, and I will ask that everyone within the sound of my voice would please take what you have heard here today to your own prayer closet. 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 this evening be true or not.

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