**Worship in the Promised Land, Dt. 17, Part 1**

**(Dt. 12:1-28:68)**

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III. The Practices of Worship (Dt. 14-28): Family Practices

 A. Introduction: Family Practices: *“Children of the LORD”* (Dt. 14:1-2) >

B. Concerning Food (14:3-21)

C. Concerning Finances (14:22-29; 15:1-29)

 1. Release Debts (15:1-11)

 2. Release Debtors (15:12-18)

3. Respect firstlings (15:19-23)

D. Concerning Faith (16:1 ff.)

 1. Introduction about Feasts (vv. 1-17)

2. Introduction about Fairness (vv. 18-22)

 **3. Introduction about Focus (17:1 ff.)**

**Focus in Worship (17:1-7)**

**PREMISE: True worship started with right relationship with LORD; justice for believers only!**

**I. The Principle of Focus in Worship (17:1)**

 A. Prohibition of Defiling Worship of LORD (v. 1a)

1. Dt. 15:19-23

2. Dt. 16:21-22

 B. Prohibition of Deviating Worship of LORD (v. 1b)

 1. It mocks God

 2. It leads to apostasy

 C. Prohibition of Despising Worship of LORD (Mal. 1:6-8)

 1. Despised God’s Name

 2. Deviated from Lord

**II. The Procedures of Focus in Worship (17:2-7)**

 A. Avoid Any Transgression of the Covenant (v. 2)

 1. Where? Within gates of land

 2. Who? Man or woman

 3. What? Wickedness > *Ra*

 4. Why? Transgression of covenant (Dt. 5:6-21)

B. Analyze Alleged Transgression of the Covenant (vv. 3-4)

 1. The Crime (v. 3)

 a. Idols > Lev. 19:4; 26:1

 b. Host of Heaven > Dt. 4:19

 1) Sun > Job 21:6 ff.

 2) Moon > Isa. 3:18

 2. The Credibility (v. 4)

a. search out truth > I Thes. 5:21

b. satisfaction of truth > Jn. 17:17

 C. Act Upon Actual Transgression of the Covenant (vv. 5-7)

 1. Capital Punishment by stoning > Ex. 8:26 (1st reference)

2. Consentient Witnesses (2-3) > Dt. 19:15; Mt. 18:16; II Cor. 13:1; I Tim. 5:19; Heb. 10:28.

3. Community Execution > Dt. 13:6-11; Jn. 8:7

**CONCLUSION: True worship was a life or death experience!**