**Worship in the Promised Land, Dt. 26, Part 21**

**(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. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. Concerning Faithfulness (22:1-12)

J. Concerning Foreigners (23:1-8)

K. Concerning Forbidden Things

L. Concerning Fitness: 1. Divorce 2. Newly-weds 3. Pledges 4. Kidnapping 5. Leprosy 6. Injustice 7. Justice 8. Generosity

M. Concerning Feeling (for others) > Criminals, Cows, Widows

N. Concerning Finances

**Concerning Finances (26:1-11)**

**PREMISE: The LORD owned the Promised Land and “rented” it out to Israel, expecting tithes coming from the heart for His blessings. The “rent” money went to others as directed by the Lord to show love for the Lord!**

**>** How much does God charge for air, water, & sunshine on the “rented” facility called earth? Christians are to show love by giving tithe as directed by Lord!

**\*Tithe Principle** > Gen. 14:26 > Mt. 23:23 & I Cor. 9:13-14 > Tithing for OT Israel and NT churches!

**\*Tithe system** = seven year cycle: (3, 6, 7 [no tithe])

**\*Tithe #1** > Levites (Num. 18:21:26) > tithe to Priests (Neh. 10:37-38) + meat and wine regularly to Priests and Levites (Dt. 18:1; Neh. 13:5)

**\*Tithe #2** > Festival (Dt. 14:22-27)

**\*Tithe #3** > Poor (Dt. 14:28-29)

**Background**: Two ceremonies at different times in different places: 1) first offering of firstfruits at sanctuary (vv. 1-11); 2) third year offering in settlements (vv. 12-15 > the triennial tithe). Cf. also Lev. 23:1 ff. (f. firstfruits = 2nd day Nisan 16)

**I. The Distribution (v. 12)**

A. What? tithing = 10%

B. When? third year (during seven year cycle) > but failure brought 70 year captivity (II Chr. 36:21)!

C. Who?

1. The Levite = tribe of Levi (all priests Levites but not all Levites priests)

2. The Stranger = foreigner > *ger* (92x)

3. The Fatherless = orphans (42x) > *orphanos* (2x) > Jn. 14:18 & Jam. 1:27

4. The Widow = *‘almanah* (55x) > *chera* (27x) > I Tim. 5:5-9

**II. The Declaration (vv. 13-15)**

A. The Assertion #1 (v. 13) = Positive

1. The Statement about the Command (v. 13a) > *“hallowed”* > *qodesh* = tithe (**Lev. 27:30**)

2. The Submission to the Command (v. 13b) > not transgressed and not forgotten to tithe!

B. The Assertion #2 (v. 14) = Negative

1. The Statement about the Command (v. 14a)

a. Not eaten during time of mourning

b. Not taken holy for unclean use (i.e., use tithe for secular use!)

c. Not offered to the dead > cf. Dt. 14:1; 18:9-12

2. The Submission to the Command (v. 14:b) > heard and obeyed

C. The Asking (26:15)

1. Acknowledgement (v. 15a) Jehovah is sovereign over all > Isa. 63:15

2. Answer (v. 15b)

a. Blessing: Ps. 67:1-7

b. Promise: Dt. 1:8; 6:3

**CONCLUSION: Church members should be able to say to Pastor “I tithe regularly”!**