**Worship in the Promised Land, Dt. 27, Part 23**

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

**Dr. Thomas M. Strouse**

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

**Family Practices**

**Ratification of Covenant**

**PREMISE: The LORD gave commands for visible and dramatic ratification of covenant.**

**I. The Command for the Altar (vv. 1-8)**

A. The Prelude to the Altar (vv. 1-4) > Dt. 11:29 >Josh. 8:30-35

1. The Construction of the Stones (vv. 1-2)

a. They must be Great

b. They must be Plaistered > white-washing stones

c. They must be Located at Ebal

2. The Content of the Stones (vv. 3-4)

a. They must have Pertinent Words (curses and blessings)

b. They must have Particular Words (that day)

B. The Placement of the Altar (vv. 5-8)

1. The Requirements for the Altar (vv. 5-6a)

a. Not hewn > Ex. 20:25

b. Whole stones > natural from God

2. The Reasons for the Altar (6b-8)

a. For Burnt Offerings (v. 6b) > for thanksgiving to Jehovah

b. For Peace Offerings (v. 7-8) > for joy of relationship with Jehovah

**II. The Command for the Announcement (vv. 9-13)**

A. The Authority (vv. 9-11))

1. Moses, Priests, and Levites

2. The LORD

B. The Arrangement (vv. 12-13)

1. The Places > Mt. Gerizim > South; Mt. Ebal > North

2. The People (Two wives preferred over two handmaids) > Gen. 29:32-30:24

a. Sons of **Leah**: Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar; and **Rachel**: Joseph, Benjamin

b. **Leah**: Reuben and Zebulun; **Bilhah**: Dan and Naphtali; **Zilpah**: Gad and Asher

**III. The Command for the Attestation (vv. 14-26)**

A. The Reciters > the Levites (v. 14)

B. The Responders > the people say *“Amen”* (v. 15b)

C. The Rules (v. 15-26) > do-decalog (12 laws)

1. Do not worship idols (v. 15) > Ex. 20:3-4

2. Do not dishonor parents (v. 16) > Ex. 20:12; Eph. 6:2

3. Do not remove landmarks (v. 17) > Dt. 19:14

4. Do not harm disadvantaged (v. 18) > Lev. 19:14

5. Do not pervert judgment (v. 19) > Dt. 24:17

6. Do not commit incest (v. 20) > Lev. 18:8

7. Do not commit bestiality (v. 21) > Ex. 22:19

8. Do not commit incest with sister (v. 22) > Lev. 18:9

9. Do not commit incest with mother-in-law (v. 23) > Lev. 18:17

10. Do not murder neighbor (v. 24) > Ex. 20:13

11. Do not murder for hire (v. 25) > Ex. 21:12

12. Do not omit any of the Law (v. 26) > Jam. 2:10

**CONCLUSION: This is the Second Effort of the LORD’s Covenant with His people (see Ex. 24:1 ff.).**