

7:26....and allow nothing of the evil abominations to be brought into the domestic scene of the Lord's settlement.

III. Conclusion

The challenge of belief is to allow God to bless us by His Word. If you want to see how Israel failed in this, read Psalm 81. If you want to see how failure has come in our age, look at the spiritual status of churches that no longer believe the Bible or proclaim a personal salvation. Our economy is not that of the Old Testament Israel but the ideology is the same. Obedience is the key to blessing. Some think that the Old Testament blessing was only material. It certainly had a material side to the extent that a landed kingdom was the developed economy. But blessing is both physical and spiritual in that obedience in every age leads to a richer and fuller life. The challenge of belief is to trust God enough to do what He says. And ..once again..thanks for listening to our program today.

Lesson # 19

Deuteronomy 8:1-20

THE BLESSING OF GOD AND THE CHALLENGE OF THANKFULNESS

I. Introduction

Hello. and welcome to another study in Deuteronomy. This is a long book and we are moving slowly as we come to our 19th study and find ourselves in chapter 8. Chapters 5-11, as you may recall, give us the basis for Israel's faith: the law and the love of God. Chapter 8 challenges Israel to be thankful and appreciative of all God has done...and especially not to allow the temporal blessings to lure them into spiritual forgetfulness. This is a regular problem we might say, for when things are going really well we are tempted to just, well, take it for granted. And there are times when we even take the credit! Moses, therefore, calls on the people to remember and live appreciatively for God. It is a lesson that is very practical today...one we cannot do without! Our chapter may be sub-divided on these lines:

8:1-10....remember the way of God
11-17...guard your heart against conceit
18-20...be careful in your devotion

II. Discussion

8:1.....Observe all the commandments..do not pick and choose or pretend to be selective.

8:2.....Remember the way and what God taught: humility and honesty

8:3.....Remember the lessons: the manna