

II. Discussion

12:1.....a summary statement of the law and its necessity

12:2-3...all pagan worship is to be ended

12:4.....particular care will be given to the things of our God

12:5.....there will be a central place for sacrifice that will hold your attention..the Lord will choose it. This does not necessarily mean the same place will be used for all time.

12:6.....there you will bring your offerings

12:7.....there you will have a place of rejoicing

12:8.....there you will forego your "independence"

12:10-11.The Lord will appoint you a place when this journey is over..there His name will be central, there He will dwell in representative fashion

12:13-14.Be sure to offer your burnt offerings in the right place

12:15....And you can eat what you want or need but...

12:16....observe what is proper with God as you eat it..and do not defile yourself with what is wrong.

III. Conclusion

There are a number of questions about the place of worship that I cannot address right now. The point that is apparent in these verses is that there is to be order in Israel's religious life and that it is to contrast sharply with the pagan life that had existed in the land. God's people are a unique people and they are to demonstrate that in the total process of life. We cannot make an exact parallelism but it does seem that if the worship life is right it puts down a solid foundation for the other aspects of life. But if the worship life is not right, other things are easily skewered in the wrong direction. Keep your relationship with God healthy and a lot of other things will fall in place as well. And may you delight in the word of God today and enjoy the life of obedience it describes.
