

12:31.....abstain from all things that are an abomination before the Lord.

12:32.....and be careful to observe the Lord's word correctly..do not add, do not diminish.

III. Conclusion

A number of things are being offset in this passage. Religious hypocrisy for one, self-will for another, and spiritual syncretism for a third. God is to be worshipped in integrity and as the only God of the nation. When His people honor Him..well, it is good for them..but defiance is ruinous and cannot be tolerated. The attitude of being careful with God's Word has real application to us and in this age of grace there is no excuse for dishonoring our God by mixing up His revelation and truth with false philosophies so common about us. Thanks again for your participation and we hope you will join us again for our next study.

Message # 26

Deuteronomy 13:1-18

GUARDING THE REVELATION OF TRUTH

I. Introduction

Deuteronomy 13 is our area of study for today..a very interesting chapter in helping us discern truth. This is a needed study in a world where so many claim to have the answers and multiplied ideas are advanced as being the "truth". Maybe it was harder in Old Testament times when people came out to say something was from God and there was not much material available for a basis of judgment. In light of that the Lord gave His people a basis for deciding who was true and who was not and with that, advice on how they should order things. The emphasis in this chapter, combined later with chapter 18, continues to give us a ground for determining things true or false and were we to apply it rigorously we would be better protected and advantaged. The chapter divides like this:

13:1-5.....the prophetic test
6-11....the family test
12-18....the popular test

You will remember that these are instructions for Israel as a nation...a theocracy. Our established governments today are not that but the essential principles in judgment are not limited to economies. And by judgment in this case we mean discernment.

II. Discussion

13:1....."if" a prophet or dreamer of dreams comes with a sign or wonder to authenticate the message...