

III. Conclusion

The great underlying principle is that of mercy and justice. Remembering what God has done for us induces us to serve God in ministering to others. And in yieldedness to God we have our continuing strength and deliverance. Thanks for joining us again in our Deuteronomy studies.

Lesson # 30

Deuteronomy 16:1-17

THE YEARLY FEASTS

I. Introduction

Welcome to our continuing series of studies in the book of Deuteronomy. We are not rushing in our study and, hopefully, not bogging down too much or losing your interest. The Scripture is instructive and edifying in all of its parts and it is unfortunate that some books are nearly forgotten in the process of preaching. But, as with other things, we can only do so much or go so far and it is good to have you with us on this part of the journey. Chapter 16 deals chiefly with the three great yearly feasts and reminded Israel of her dependence and expected devotion to the Lord. In the press of life nothing was more important than honoring the Lord and the feasts and religious celebrations were intended to keep Israel on that track. While the mere observances could not do this or keep the heart in line, they did provide a service vehicle that should have made the relationship more meaningful. But Israel shared with us some of the complications of life, however, and the events planned and ordered by God too easily became rituals just practiced by men. Our chapter has these divisions:

- 16:1-8...Passover and Unleavened Bread
- 9-20...Feast of Weeks (Pentecosts)
- 13-15...Tabernacles
- 16-17...the Gift principle
- 18-22...practical spiritual conduct.

II. Discussion

- 16:1....."Abib"...alternate name for Nisan...Prepare to remember how God delivered His people.
- 16:2.....the worship center
- 16:3-4...the bread--bread of affliction
- 16:5-7...the appointed place and manner of eating