

THE REFUGE CITIES

I. Introduction

Welcome to another study in Deuteronomy. This is our 34th study and we come today to chapter 19 where we are given some further data on community life. The interrelation of domestic, societal and religious life in these chapters is very instructive for it shows us that one's faith should be seen in all aspects of life. The totality of our being is woven together so that the relationship with God should be apparent in all that is done. In other words, no part of life is without sanctification and commitment to God. This chapter divides in this way:

19:1-13....the cities of refuge
14-21....problems in personal relationships

II. Discussion

- 19:1....."when"..there is no doubt that the Lord will do it...Israel must be ready when He does.
- 19:2.....set apart three cities in the midst of your land..(there are also three cities over the Jordan)
- 19:3.....situated in a proportional manner so that all who may have need of them will have access
- 19:4.....the application is to the one who causes death to his neighbor through some innocent action" he did not hate him, feud with him, etc.
- 19:5.....the guiltless person may flee to a city of refuge
- 19:6.....to save him from a blood avenger..he is not worthy of death.
- 19:7.....set apart three cities
- 19:8.....if you prosper you may add three other cities (v. 9) (j)
- 19:10....to avoid the shedding of innocent blood
- 19:11....but if one is a murderer
- 19:12....he will be delivered for the penalty
- 19:13....there is no pity or overlooking
- 19:14....you will honor the Lord's appointments