

- 23:1-8....those entering the congregation
- 9-14...the cleanliness of the camp
- 15-25...miscellaneous matters of camp life

## II. Discussion

- 23:1.....a mutilated male is not to enter the congregation..he is non-productive and may represent religious mal-practice.
- 23:2.....an illegitimate person cannot enter unto the tenth generation...see how this is worked out in David's genealogy, ~~is by~~ tenth a literal term is understood.
- 23:3.....Moabites and Ammonites are not admitted to the tenth generation because:
  - v. 4...they did not help Israel on the journey and
  - v. 5...they sought to impede the camp with the help of Balaam..from whom God gave deliverance
  - v. 6...and you will not seek their peace.
- 23:7-8....Relationships with Edom and Egypt...their descendents cannot enter the camp until the fourth generation!
- 23:9.....holiness, practical, is needed for warfare
- 23:10-11..ceremonial defilement of men needs cleansing
- 23:12-14..removal of bodily waste in the camp and the need for personal cleanliness
- 23:15-16..care for the slaves who have fled a master and come to Israel for refuge.
- 23:17-18..sanctity of sexual relationships and God's desire for holiness
- 23:19-20..lending to a brother (no usury) and to a stranger (usury)
- 23:21-22..the importance and obligation of vows
- 23:24-25..privileges with brethren for sustaining of life with no personal gain.

## III. Conclusion

All of these have in common the desire of God for holiness and sanctity in all of Life. We miss that at times when we try to put our relationship to God in a corner of our lives without allowing Him a place of honor in all parts of life. There is no aspect in which He is not interested and no part in which we should not think of Him. The camp of Israel in the Old Testament and the church of God in the New