

Loving God With Your Whole Heart In All of Life
Deuteronomy 25-26
August 14, 2024

Levirate Marriage :: 25:5-10

A brother-in-law was expected to marry a brother's widow if she was without a son to ensure that his brother's name was continued in Israel.

But, this right could be refused, though he would publicly shamed - 8-10

This has to do with coveting most likely because the brother-in-law who refused levirate marriage most likely did so because he wanted the inheritance for himself.

Breaking Up a Fight :: 25:11-12

If two men are fighting and the wife of one comes to help, if she seizes the other man by the private parts, she shall have her hand cut off.

How does this apply to coveting? Possibly she's so worried about losing her own livelihood that she's willing to take someone else's livelihood. Treat the other man the way that you want your husband to be treated.

Dishonest Weights :: 25:13-16

Honesty in trading is demanded.

The Golden Rule - Treat others the way that you want to be treated.

Remember Amalek :: 25:17-19

This refers back to Exodus 17 when Amalek attacked Israel at Rephidim.

Possibly as they are getting ready to enter into covenant, he is reminding the nation of Israel that God keeps his word. They were not to covet the world more than him.

Presentation of the Firstfruits :: 26:1-11

The Israelites had to come individually annually before God, making confession of his grace, and bringing their gifts willingly to him.

The man bringing the offering had to declare before the priest that he had come to the land that God had sworn on oath to his forefathers to give to Israel. This was an acknowledgment that it was God, and not Baal, the fertility god, who provided.

The firstfruits reminded them of the one who really provides.

The Giving of the Tithes :: 26:12-15

The 2nd ceremony would come in the third year of the occupation of the land. Two years later than the initial firstfruits ceremony.

- The tithe was taken up for those dependent upon others for their food supply - the Levites, foreigners, orphans, and widows.

Covenant Renewal :: 26:16-19

Following the covenant requirements the people had to pledge themselves in a solemn ceremony of allegiance to their God.

As a result of them being God's chosen people, they were to be an obedient people consecrated to Him. They were to love God by obeying Him.

Application for Today

1. Love people more than you love possessions

Golden Rule from **Matthew 7:12** - *Whatever you wish that others would do for you, do also for them. For this is the Law and the Prophets.*

2. Cultivate a thankful heart, expressing gratitude to God for what you have been given

Coveting says that I don't have enough. Godliness says that I already have more than I need through Jesus. Godliness says that I have everything that I need *in* Jesus.

1 Timothy 6:6-12

3. Love God Through Obedience

Deuteronomy 6:5-6 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and might.

1 John 5:3 - *This is love for God, that you obey his commands, and his commands are not burdensome.*