



their diet to be holy unto the LORD their God (14:3-21). God tells them the importance of giving their firstfruits of all their produce and cattle (14:22f). This is to provide for the Levitical priesthood, but also those who are poor and oppressed: the strangers, the orphans, and the widows (14:27f). Chapter 15 teaches Israel how they are to handle debts and debtors. Chapter 16 introduces Israel to the annual celebration of the Feasts of Passover, Weeks, Unleavened Bread, and Tabernacles, ultimately to remember their Exodus from Egypt (16:1-17). God also reveals the outward and visible structure Israel is to have with authorities such as judges and officers representing God's authority in heaven over Israel (Theocracy) (16:18f). Chapter 17 reveals further God's theocratic government. God establishes the structure of the "visible Israel" with Levites, judges, and officers who are to "wield the sword" as God's representative authorities over Israel. The chapter ends with a warning of having a king over Israel. The point seems to be that Israel is a Theocracy with God as king and not a Realpolitic State such as the other pagan nations. Chapter 18 describes the authority of the Levites and their provision as priestly leaders of Israel. There is another warning of false prophets and magicians dwelling among Israel and a promise of a prophet like Moses to be raised up in the future (18:15f) - prophets are raised up by God and thus derive their authority from God to speak his words to Israel. God reveals further laws to govern Israel in the land in chapter 19; laws to protect Israel from murderers and the legal principle of "an eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot" to be meted out (19:21). Chapter 20 gives Israel laws and methods concerning war. These laws are founded upon God, the Divine Warrior (21:1-14). God gives Israel laws concerning marriage, family, specifically those concerning rebellion in the covenantal family (21:15f). Chapter 22 gives laws concerning possessions. Chapter 23 further describes Israel's holiness in worship and that no unbeliever is allowed to enter into covenantal worship (23:22f). Laws against various practices such as usury, vows, etc. are continued in chapter 23. Chapter 24 is concerned with marriage laws and the punishment of stealing in Israel. Chapter 25 and 26 contain further laws concerning death, fighting amongst brothers in Israel, and the first fruits are again emphasized—the belong to the LORD by faith. **Summary: God is setting up a government of his holy nation Israel to enforce the laws which he has delivered to Israel, and to punish wrongdoers. Christ is foreshadowed in that he came as prophet, priest and king of his people to inaugurate God's rule over his people upon the earth and to visibly reign.**

**Deuteronomy 27-28:** Moses describes the blessings for covenantal obedience in possessing and living prosperously in the land; he warns the Israelites of curses for covenantal disobedience. **Summary: "If you listen diligently to the LORD and observe all the commandments...blessings beyond imagination!" "If you will not listen to the LORD and observe all the commandments...curses beyond imagination!" Order in Israel will be turned to chaos; Eden will become like the wilderness; Israel will be punished like the Egyptians- -the enemies of God.**

**Deuteronomy 29-30:** Moses reminds the Israelites again of what they have seen and heard in Egypt. Again, Moses warns of covenantal disobedience and describes Israel's future as like Sodom and Gomorrah (29:23f). God tells Israel to obey the things revealed and remember the reasons, or the secret things belong to his Divine wisdom (29:29). In chapter 30, God tells Israel they will inevitably disobey the covenant, but if they will return and repent he will forgive them. The great promise of God is that even though Israel is unfaithful to the covenant, God will keep his promises! God will circumcise the hearts of his people so they can live obediently (30:5f). In verses 11-20, God reminds the Israelites that obedience is founded not upon their sacrifices, but ultimately their love for God. **Summary: It is love for God that causes them to desire to obey the covenant. Christ fulfilled the law and came and circumcised the hearts of his people fulfilling the promises to Abraham and his seed and taking the curses of the law upon him on the cross.**

**Deuteronomy 31-34:** Chapter 31 describes the final events in Moses' life before the Israelites cross over to possess the promise land under Joshua their mediator. God reminds the Israelites to "be strong and of good courage; to not be afraid" of the people now inhabiting the land they are to possess, for the LORD will go before them and secure their victory (31:6f). Among Moses' last words is a very sober prophecy in 31:29f: Israel will forget all that he had told them and disobey the covenant. Chapter 32 is a veritable gold mine of revelation describing God's attributes and faithfulness to Israel- - to his people. Chapter 33 changes from Moses' first person speech to that of a third person narrator. Chapter 33 describes the blessings to each of the tribes of Israel. Chapter 34 concludes the book with the death of Moses, his burial, his uniqueness as a prophet of God.