

Timeline of Truth - God Commands Israel to Purify their Relationships (Deuteronomy 13)

Focus	First Sermon 1:1-4:43	Second Sermon 4:44-26:19				Third Sermon 27:1-34:17		
Divisions	Review of God's Acts for Israel 1:1-4:43	The Exposition and Expansion of the Ten Commandments 4:44- 11:32	<u>Ceremonial Laws</u> 12:1- 16:17	Civil Laws 16:18- 20:20	Social Laws 21:1- 26:19	Ramification of covenant 27:1- 28:68	Palestinian Covenant 29:1- 30:20	Transition of Covenant Mediator 31:1- 34:12

Deuteronomy 13:1 "If there arises among you a prophet or a dreamer of dreams, and he gives you a sign or a wonder, ² "and the sign or the wonder comes to pass, of which he spoke to you, saying, 'Let us go after other gods' -- which you have not known -- 'and let us serve them,' ³ "you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams, for the LORD your God is testing you to know whether you love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. ⁴ "You shall walk after the LORD your God and fear Him, and keep His commandments and obey His voice, and you shall serve Him and hold fast to Him. ⁵ "But that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death, because he has spoken in order to turn *you* away from the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of bondage, to entice you from the way in which the LORD your God commanded you to walk. So you shall put away the evil from your midst.

1. God Instructs Israel How to Deal with _____

- a. The situation:
 - A prophet arises
 - He gives a sign or wonder – which comes to pass
 - He encourages the people to go after other gods.
- b. The response:
 - You shall not listen to him
 - You shall walk after the Lord, fear Him, obey Him, serve Him, and hold fast to Him
 - The prophet shall be put to death
- c. The why:
 - God is testing you
 - The prophet has spoken in order to turn you away from God.
 - You shall put away evil from your midst
Put away - בָּעָרָה - *baar* - burn, consume - piel

⁶ " If your brother, the son of your mother, your son or your daughter, the wife of your bosom, or your friend who is as your own soul, secretly entices you, saying, 'Let us go and serve other gods,' which you have not known, neither you nor your fathers, ⁷ "of the gods of the people which *are* all around you, near to you or far off from you, from *one* end of the earth to the *other* end of the earth, ⁸ "you shall not consent to him or listen to him, nor shall your eye pity him, nor shall you spare him or conceal him; ⁹ "but you shall surely kill him; your hand shall be first against him to put him to death, and afterward the hand of all the people. ¹⁰ "And you shall stone him with stones until he dies, because he sought to entice you away from the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage. ¹¹ "So all Israel shall hear and fear, and not again do such wickedness as this among you.

2. God Instructs Israel How to Deal with _____

- a. The situation:
 - A family member in secret says "let us serve other gods"
- b. The response:
 - You shall not consent or listen to them
Lit. "not be willing or not hear"
 - You shall not pity him or look on him with compassion
 - You shall not spare him or cover him
 - You shall kill him
You shall be the first to move against him
You shall stone him
- c. The why:
 - Because they tried to entice (to thrust) you away from God
 - God wants you to hear and fear Him
 - Because to follow them would be wicked

¹² " If you hear someone in one of your cities, which the LORD your God gives you to dwell in, saying, ¹³ 'Corrupt men have gone out from among you and enticed the inhabitants of their city, saying, "Let us go and serve other gods" ' -- which you have not known -- ¹⁴ "then you shall inquire, search out, and ask diligently. And *if it is* indeed true *and* certain *that* such an abomination was committed among you, ¹⁵ "you shall surely strike the inhabitants of that city with the edge of the sword -- utterly destroying it, all that is in it and its livestock, with the edge of the sword. ¹⁶ "And you shall gather all its plunder into the middle of the street, and completely burn with fire the city and all its plunder, for the LORD your God. It shall be a heap forever; it shall not be built again. ¹⁷ "So none of the accursed things shall remain in your hand,

3. God Instructs Israel How to Deal with _____

- a. The situation:
 - Someone who dwells in your cities says: Corrupt (worthless) men have gone out and enticed (thrust out) the citizens
 - Saying "let us go and serve other gods."
- b. The response:
 - You will seek them out
Inquire – resort to, seek
Search out – search
Ask diligently – inquire good
Determine if it is true
 - If it is true – strike all the inhabitants of the city.
 - You shall kill the livestock
 - Gather everything in the city and burn it
- c. The why:
 - For the Lord your God
 - So it will not be built again
 - So you will not keep the accursed things

that the LORD may turn from the fierceness of His anger and show you mercy, have compassion on you and multiply you, just as He swore to your fathers, ¹⁸ "because you have listened to the voice of the LORD your God, to keep all His commandments which I command you today, to do *what is* right in the eyes of the LORD your God.

4. God Tells _____ Israel Should Do These Things

- a. So the Lord will not be angry with you
- b. So the Lord will show mercy
- c. So the Lord will multiply you
- d. Why?
 - Because you listened to God
 - Because you kept His commandments
 - Because you did what was right

Applications:

1. We should not go around stoning people for living in sin. However, God takes our purity seriously. We should take extreme measures to remove things from our lives which take us away from worshipping God.
2. What we do affects those around us. What others around us do affects us. God wants us to encourage and build up one another, not tear each other down.
3. We need to take care who are influencing us from day to day:
 - Who are our close friends? Do they honor God or drag us down?
 - Who are we interacting with online?
 - What are we watching on TV? Movies?
 - What are we listening to on the radio?
 - What kinds of books are we reading?
4. We cannot escape from the world. We need to be sharing the truth of God’s word with all those around us. But we need to limit the amount of influence it has on us.