

PITWM VERSE BY VERSE
DEUTERONOMY 18:9-22



LESSON: A PROPHET LIKE MOSES —March 1, 2020

INTRODUCTION

18:1-8 — When God divided the Promised Land among the twelve tribes, the Levitical priests and the whole tribe of Levi did not receive a geographical inheritance with Israel. The Levites were set apart to serve the Lord. The Lord promised to supply everything that they needed, which meant they were to eat offering/sacrifices that was made by fire; His portion, as He promised them. The parts of the sacrifice for the priests were from the shoulder, the cheeks, and the stomach of the cattle, sheep or goats. And the firstfruits of the grain, new wine, olive oil, and the wool at shearing time was also to be given to the priests, for the Lord God chose the tribe of Levi out of all the tribes to minister in the Lord's name forever. And if a Levite moved from one of their towns; from anywhere in Israel where he had lived, and comes sincerely to a place the Lord chooses, he may minister in the name of the Lord, and will share equally in their benefits, even though he has received money from the sale of family possessions.

LESSON: I. THE ABOMINATION OF THE NATIONS DEUTERONOMY 18:9-14

18:9 When thou art come into the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations. Moses informs the Israelites that when they enter the land (Promised Land—Canaan) the Lord God had given them, they are not to learn the corruptible practices of those nations. That means trouble and many evils would be waiting around the corner for them. There will always be problems as long as the world is filled with sinful people, but we are not to imitate or operate in those sinful ways; detestable practices in our lives.

18:10 There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch. The 7 nations that were in the country had many gods. One of the gods is called Molech, which made children pass through fire. Therefore, when they enter the land, they are not to be found sacrificing (burning) their son or daughter in fire or practicing black magic or calling on evil spirits to aid them, or a fortune teller/witch. Child sacrifice, magic, and divination were strictly forbidden by God, but these things are still being practiced today.

18:11 Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. The children of Israel are not to cast spells, or function as mediums or psychics, or one who calls forth the spirits of the dead. Moses identifies all these things as to not be a part of Israel. Israel was to look to God and not false gods or prophets.

18:12 For all that do these things are an abomination unto the Lord: and because of these abominations the Lord thy God doth drive them out from before thee. Moses lets them know that all those things are an abomination (*loathsome and vile*) to God, and if they do those things, they are also an abomination



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE



unto the Lord. He assures Israel that because these abominations are apart of the heathen nation, God will drive them out.

18:13 Thou shalt be perfect with the Lord thy God. The Israelites were to walk blameless (without blemish); be moral people; of purity, integrity, and honesty; perfect (pure from idolatry) before the Lord their God. There are specifications when you come out of something—and that is: **not go back into it.** Although the Israelites had been trapped in slavery for over 400yrs, God sent a deliverer and God brought them out of Egypt. And then being trapped in the wilderness for 40yrs because of unbelief, Moses is giving his second address to the people, dealing with godly living. He is warning them and continues to warn them, that to live before their God, they are not to take up the pagan practices of the nation of Canaan, but be perfect before the Lord. These rules and commandments are to show that they are not to live any kind of way. Although God has seen the wickedness of man before, this will show forth **their** love for God. Looking back in scripture, we see that there was one— *"Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God"* Gen.6:9.

18:14 For these nations, which thou shalt possess, hearkened unto observers of times, and unto diviners: but as for thee, the Lord thy God hath not suffered thee so to do. Moses lets Israel know that the nations that they will possess has listened to and practiced sorcery and divination. But, God has not permitted the Israelites to do such things. God didn't deliver Israel so they could *"do their own thing,"* but, it was so they could be God's people at their best.

II. THE PROPHET LIKE ME DEUTERONOMY 18:15-19

18:15 The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken;—Moses speaks of future times when God will raise up in the midst of them; of their brethren, an Israelite, a Prophet like Moses, whom the people are to listen to and obey! This points to Jesus Christ whom He will raise up—part of God's plan all alone.

18:16 According to all that thou desiredst of the Lord thy God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, Let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God, neither let me see this great fire any more, that I die not. Moses brought back to their remembrance: words the people said to the Lord. He goes all the way back to their time in the day of the assembly in Exodus 20:18-19 at the foot of Mt. Horeb (Mt. Sinai) when the roar of thunder and lightning flashed, a thick cloud came upon the mountain because the Lord descended upon it in fire (Exo.19:18), and the noise of the trumpet blew, which made the people standing at the foot of the mountain move afar off. The whole mountain quaked greatly. They feared God's presence which led them to say, *"We will hear (obey Moses), but don't let God speak with us (directly), lest we die."* The people began to request that Moses be their spokesman; their mediator, rather than having God speak directly to them.

18:17 And the Lord said unto me, They have well spoken that which they have spoken. And the Lord said that the people had spoken the truth, that is, He would do as they requested. This was a comfort to the people because they didn't want to see God and die.

18:18 I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE



words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him. God repeats again, that He would raise up a Prophet from among their brethren, like Moses. And God will put His Words in His mouth and the Prophet will speak those Words that the Lord shall command Him. Moses serves as mediator between man and God; the messenger in the Laws of the Old Testament. And the prophetic reference here is Jesus, to serve as mediator between God and man; the fulfillment of Grace in the New Testament. God is purposely saying what He will do.

18:19 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him. God makes it known that whosoever will not listen to the prophet's Words spoken in God's name, God will personally deal with him.

III. THE PRESUMPTUOUS PROPHET DEUTERONOMY 18:20-22

18:20 But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die. And the warning for the prophet who thinks they can speak something in God's name that the Lord had not given him, or speak in the name of other gods, well, even that prophet shall die.

18:21 And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the Lord hath not spoken?— Moses lets them know that there will be false prophets to rise up. So, if the question comes into their heart about them trying to figure out if that Word was from the Lord, we receive the answer in the next verse.

18:22 When a prophet speaketh in the name of the Lord, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him. Moses lets the people know what the true prophet will be like. What he speaks will come to pass. However, if what a prophet proclaims in the name of the Lord does not take place or come true, that is a message the Lord has not spoken, and that prophet has spoken presumptuously, so do not be alarmed, it was not from God. If anything, the prophet should be alarmed. Note these facts: 1) know that he had not spoken in the name of the Lord. 2) Know that he had spoken presumptuously. 3) We are not to be afraid of him. 4) And know that that prophet shall die.

SUMMARY:

Moses informs the Israelites in his second address that when they enter the land (Promised Land—Canaan); the Lord God had given them, they are not to learn the corruptible practices of those nations. When they enter the land, they are not to be found sacrificing by burning their son or daughter in fire or practicing black magic or calling on evil spirits to aid them, or a fortune teller/witch or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer, and if they do those things, they are an abomination unto the Lord. The Israelites were to walk blameless (without blemish); be perfect (pure from idolatry) before the Lord their God, for the nations that they will possess, has listened to and practiced sorcery and divination, but, God has not permitted the Israelites to do such things. (18:9-14)



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE



God will raise up in the midst of them; of their brethren, an Israelite, a Prophet like Moses whom the people will listen to and obey! Moses brings back to the people's remembrance their words they had said to the Lord. He goes all the way back to their time in the day of the assembly in Exodus 20:18-19 at the foot of Mt. Horeb (Mt. Sinai) where they feared God's presence. The people began to request that Moses be their spokesman; their mediator, rather than having God speak directly to them. And the Lord said that the people had spoken the truth, that is, He would do as they requested. God repeats again about Him raising up a Prophet from among their brethren, like Moses. And God will put His Words in His mouth and the Prophet will speak those Words that the Lord shall command Him. This is a prophetic reference to Jesus. God makes it known that whosoever will not listen to the prophet's Words spoken in God's name, God will personally deal with him (18:15-19).

And the warning is for the prophet who thinks they can speak something in God's name that the Lord had not given him, or speak in the name of other gods, well, even that prophet shall die. Moses lets them know that there will be false prophets to rise up. So, if the question comes into their heart about them trying to figure out if that Word was from the Lord. Moses says the one the Lord will raise up; the true prophet, what he speaks will come to pass. However, if what a prophet proclaims in the name of the Lord does not take place or come true, that is a message the Lord had not spoken, and that prophet has spoken presumptuously, so do not be afraid, it was not from God. If anything, the prophet should be alarmed, for he will die (18:20-22).

