FEBRUARY 25 Read Deuteronomy 13–15

CHAPTER 13

If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder,

- 2 And the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them;
- 3 Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.
- 4 Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him.
- 5 And that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams, shall be put to death; because he hath spoken to turn *you* away from the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed you out of the house of bondage, to thrust thee out of the way which

the LORD thy God commanded thee to walk in. So shalt thou put the evil away from the midst of thee.

- 6 ¶ If thy brother, the son of thy mother, or thy son, or thy daughter, or the wife of thy bosom, or thy friend, which *is* as thine own soul, entice thee secretly, saying, Let us go and serve other gods, which thou hast not known, thou, nor thy fathers;
- 7 Namely, of the gods of the people which are round about you, nigh unto thee, or far off from thee, from the one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth;
- 8 Thou shalt not consent unto him, nor hearken unto him; neither shall thine eye pity him, neither shalt thou spare, neither shalt thou conceal him:
- 9 But thou shalt surely kill him; thine hand shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterwards the hand of all the people.
- 10 And thou shalt stone him with stones, that he die; because he hath sought to thrust thee away from the LORD thy God, which

brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

- 11 And all Israel shall hear, and fear, and shall do no more any such wickedness as this is among you.
- 12 ¶ If thou shalt hear *say* in one of thy cities, which the LORD thy God hath given thee to dwell there, saying,
- 13 *Certain* men, the children of Belial, are gone out from among you, and have withdrawn the inhabitants of their city, saying, Let us go and serve other gods, which ye have not known;
- 14 Then shalt thou enquire, and make search, and ask diligently; and, behold, *if it be* truth, *and* the thing certain, *that* such abomination is wrought among you;
- 15 Thou shalt surely smite the inhabitants of that city with the edge of the sword, destroying it utterly, and all that *is* therein, and the cattle thereof, with the edge of the sword.
- 16 And thou shalt gather all the spoil of it into the midst of the street thereof, and shalt burn with fire the city, and all the spoil thereof every whit, for the LORD thy God: and it shall be an heap for ever; it shall not be built again.
 - 17 And there shall cleave

nought of the cursed thing to thine hand: that the LORD may turn from the fierceness of his anger, and shew thee mercy, and have compassion upon thee, and multiply thee, as he hath sworn unto thy fathers;

18 When thou shalt hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, to keep all his commandments which I command thee this day, to do *that which is* right in the eyes of the LORD thy God.

CHAPTER 14

Ye are the children of the LORD your God: ye shall not cut yourselves, nor make any baldness between your eyes for the dead.

- 2 For thou *art* an holy people unto the LORD thy God, and the LORD hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto himself, above all the nations that *are* upon the earth.
- 3 ¶ Thou shalt not eat any abominable thing.
- 4 These *are* the beasts which ye shall eat: the ox, the sheep, and the goat,
- 5 The hart, and the roebuck, and the fallow deer, and the wild goat, and the pygarg, and the wild ox, and the chamois.
- 6 And every beast that parteth the hoof, and cleaveth the cleft into

two claws, *and* cheweth the cud among the beasts, that ye shall eat.

- 7 Nevertheless these ye shall not eat of them that chew the cud, or of them that divide the cloven hoof; *as* the camel, and the hare, and the coney: for they chew the cud, but divide not the hoof; *therefore* they *are* unclean unto you.
- 8 And the swine, because it divideth the hoof, yet cheweth not the cud, it *is* unclean unto you: ye shall not eat of their flesh, nor touch their dead carcase.
- 9 ¶ These ye shall eat of all that *are* in the waters: all that have fins and scales shall ye eat:
- 10 And whatsoever hath not fins and scales ye may not eat; it *is* unclean unto you.
- 11 \P *Of* all clean birds ye shall eat.
- 12 But these *are they* of which ye shall not eat: the eagle, and the ossifrage, and the ospray,
- 13 And the glede, and the kite, and the vulture after his kind,
- 14 And every raven after his kind,
- 15 And the owl, and the night hawk, and the cuckow, and the hawk after his kind,
- 16 The little owl, and the great owl, and the swan,

- 17 And the pelican, and the gier eagle, and the cormorant,
- 18 And the stork, and the heron after her kind, and the lapwing, and the bat.
- 19 And every creeping thing that flieth *is* unclean unto you: they shall not be eaten.
- 20 But of all clean fowls ye may eat.
- 21 \P Ye shall not eat *of* any thing that dieth of itself: thou shalt give it unto the stranger that *is* in thy gates, that he may eat it; or thou mayest sell it unto an alien: for thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God. Thou shalt not seethe a kid in his mother's milk.
- 22. Thou shalt truly tithe all the increase of thy seed, that the field bringeth forth year by year.
- 23 And thou shalt eat before the LORD thy God, in the place which he shall choose to place his name there, the tithe of thy corn, of thy wine, and of thine oil, and the firstlings of thy herds and of thy flocks; that thou mayest learn to fear the LORD thy God always.
- 24 And if the way be too long for thee, so that thou art not able to carry it; *or* if the place be too far from thee, which the LORD thy God shall choose to set his name there,

when the LORD thy God hath blessed thee:

- 25 Then shalt thou turn *it* into money, and bind up the money in thine hand, and shalt go unto the place which the LORD thy God shall choose:
- 26 And thou shalt bestow that money for whatsoever thy soul lusteth after, for oxen, or for sheep, or for wine, or for strong drink, or for whatsoever thy soul desireth: and thou shalt eat there before the LORD thy God, and thou shalt rejoice, thou, and thine household,
- 27 And the Levite that *is* within thy gates; thou shalt not forsake him; for he hath no part nor inheritance with thee.
- 28 ¶ At the end of three years thou shalt bring forth all the tithe of thine increase the same year, and shalt lay *it* up within thy gates:
- 29 And the Levite, (because he hath no part nor inheritance with thee,) and the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, which are within thy gates, shall come, and shall eat and be satisfied; that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hand which thou doest.

CHAPTER 15

At the end of *every* seven years thou shalt make a release.

- 2 And this *is* the manner of the release: Every creditor that lendeth *ought* unto his neighbour shall release *it*; he shall not exact *it* of his neighbour, or of his brother; because it is called the LORD'S release.
- 3 Of a foreigner thou mayest exact *it again*: but *that* which is thine with thy brother thine hand shall release;
- 4 Save when there shall be no poor among you; for the LORD shall greatly bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee *for* an inheritance to possess it:
- 5 Only if thou carefully hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all these commandments which I command thee this day.
- 6 For the LORD thy God blesseth thee, as he promised thee: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, but thou shalt not borrow; and thou shalt reign over many nations, but they shall not reign over thee.
- 7 ¶ If there be among you a poor man of one of thy brethren within any of thy gates in thy land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou

- shalt not harden thine heart, nor shut thine hand from thy poor brother:
- 8 But thou shalt open thine hand wide unto him, and shalt surely lend him sufficient for his need, *in that* which he wanteth.
- 9 Beware that there be not a thought in thy wicked heart, saying, The seventh year, the year of release, is at hand; and thine eye be evil against thy poor brother, and thou givest him nought; and he cry unto the LORD against thee, and it be sin unto thee.
- 10 Thou shalt surely give him, and thine heart shall not be grieved when thou givest unto him: because that for this thing the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all thy works, and in all that thou puttest thine hand unto.
- 11 For the poor shall never cease out of the land: therefore I command thee, saying, Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor, and to thy needy, in thy land.
- 12 ¶ *And* if thy brother, an Hebrew man, or an Hebrew woman, be sold unto thee, and serve thee six years; then in the seventh year thou shalt let him go free from thee.

- 13 And when thou sendest him out free from thee, thou shalt not let him go away empty:
- 14 Thou shalt furnish him liberally out of thy flock, and out of thy floor, and out of thy winepress: *of that* wherewith the LORD thy God hath blessed thee thou shalt give unto him.
- 15 And thou shalt remember that thou wast a bondman in the land of Egypt, and the LORD thy God redeemed thee: therefore I command thee this thing to day.
- 16 And it shall be, if he say unto thee, I will not go away from thee; because he loveth thee and thine house, because he is well with thee;
- 17 Then thou shalt take an aul, and thrust *it* through his ear unto the door, and he shall be thy servant for ever. And also unto thy maidservant thou shalt do likewise.
- 18 It shall not seem hard unto thee, when thou sendest him away free from thee; for he hath been worth a double hired servant *to thee*, in serving thee six years: and the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all that thou doest.
- 19 ¶ All the firstling males that come of thy herd and of thy flock thou shalt sanctify unto the LORD thy God: thou shalt do no work

with the firstling of thy bullock, nor shear the firstling of thy sheep.

- 20 Thou shalt eat *it* before the LORD thy God year by year in the place which the LORD shall choose, thou and thy household.
- 21 And if there be *any* blemish therein, *as if it be* lame, or blind, *or*

have any ill blemish, thou shalt not sacrifice it unto the LORD thy God.

- 22 Thou shalt eat it within thy gates: the unclean and the clean *person shall eat it* alike, as the roebuck, and as the hart.
- 23 Only thou shalt not eat the blood thereof; thou shalt pour it upon the ground as water.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

Apostasy is having a knowledge of the truth and yet turning away from that truth. In chapter 13 we see the doom of the false prophets. The penalty to any false prophet was death. God hated idolatry and apostasy so much that the nearest of kin to the one who was found guilty was not spared. If an entire city turned to idolatry, the city was to be wholly destroyed and burned by fire.

Apostasy is raging in the world today. People who know the truth are living a lie. True, they have a form of godliness, but they are denying the power thereof. They may, very likely, be fooling man, but they cannot fool God, for God looks on the heart. I've met with people who are living a lie. They have fooled their family and friends for years, but they cannot fool a God who looks on the heart and who knows their true standing before Him. As I talk with these people, I can see that sin and guilt have destroyed them from within. Many of them have had the chastisement and judgment of God upon them because they are not honest with Him. My friend, don't invite God's judgment and chastisement upon your life; don't gamble on His mercy. Even though He is a merciful and loving God, He must chastise sin.

Chapter 14 gives instructions concerning the separation of God's people. The basis of separation was that the children of the Lord were holy people, chosen to be a peculiar people above all the nations that are upon the earth. God wanted them to be completely separated from the sinful customs of the heathen. He gave separation and distinctions in food (verses 3-21) and separation concerning pure religion (verses 22-29).

In chapter 15 the Sabbatic Year is again covered. This was every seventh year, which brought rest to the land and release from debts and obligations.

Notice also an enlargement of the previous Law given in Exodus 23:10,11 and Leviticus 25:2-7.

PROVERB FOR TODAY

"Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth; a stranger, and not thine own lips" (Proverbs 27:2).

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

ASSIGNMENT 8: For today's memory verses, follow instructions on page 8.

HYMN FOR TODAY

BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS by John Fawcett, 1740-1817

"We just cannot break the ties of affection that bind us to you dear friends." As Mary Fawcett assured the little congregation at Wainsgate, England, of the bond of love that she and her husband felt for their poor peasant parishioners, Pastor John decided to express his feelings in a poem about the value of Christian fellowship.

The following Sunday, John Fawcett preached from Luke 12:15: "A man's life consists not in the abundance of the things he possesses." He closed his sermon by reading his new poem, "Brotherly Love."

At the age of 26, John Fawcett and his new bride, Mary, began their ministry at an impoverished Baptist church in Wainsgate. After seven years of devoted service in meager circumstances, they received a call to the large and influential Carter's Lane Baptist Church in London. After the wagons were loaded for the move, the Fawcetts met their tearful parishioners for a final farewell. "John, I cannot bear to leave. I know not how to go!" "Nor can I either," said the sad-

dened pastor. "We shall remain here with our people." The order was then given to unload the wagons.

John and Mary Fawcett carried on their faithful ministry in the little village of Wainsgate for a total of 54 years. Their salary was estimated to be never more than the equivalent of \$200.00 a year, despite Fawcett's growing reputation as an outstanding evangelical preacher, scholar, and writer. Among his noted writings was an essay, "Anger," which became a particular favorite of King George III. It is reported that the monarch promised Pastor Fawcett any benefit that could be conferred. But the offer was declined with this statement: "I have lived among my own people, enjoying their love; God has blessed my labors among them, and I need nothing which even a king could supply." Such was the man who gave us these loving words:

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love! The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers; our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear; and often for each other flows the sympathizing ear.

When we asunder part it gives us inward pain; but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY 1836

THE FIRST REVOLVER WAS PATENTED.

THE FIRST UNITED STATES NEGRO SENATOR WAS ELECTED.

This should cause us to pause and pray for our black friends. Pray for the racial strife in our world. Pray that God will help us to love each other as brothers and find the Scriptural answer to our racial differences and prejudices.

Pray for faithful black preachers everywhere. I have long had a burden for black people. As a young person, my call to preach was aided by a dear black brother. While I was in seminary I would drive to

Berkeley, California, and preach in a black church on Sunday mornings. Some of my most precious memories revolve around these experiences. Pray for missionaries in Africa. Pray for the African Christians. Pray for black Christians everywhere.

TODAY IS THE BIRTHDAY OF DOROTHY LYONS.

Dorothy is the wife of Evangelist Jim Lyons, who served with Jack Hyles for many years. Dorothy was pianist for churches that Brother Hyles pastored for approximately twelve years. Pray for the work of Evangelist Jim Lyons and faithful evangelists everywhere today.

ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1839

SEMINOLES AND THEIR BLACK ALLIES SHIPPED from Tampa Bay, Florida, to the West.

1870

HIRAM R. REVELS OF MISSISSPPI SWORN IN AS FIRST BLACK U.S. SENATOR and first black representative in Congress.

1964

MUHAMMAD ALI DEFEATED SONNY LISTON for world heavyweight boxing championship. He was then known as Cassius Clay.

1971

PRESIDENT NIXON MET WITH MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS and appointed a White House panel to study a list of recommendations made by the group.

1975

DEATH OF ELIJAH MUHAMMAD (77), leader of the Nation of Islam, in Chicago. He was succeeded by his son, Wallace D. Muhammad.

1978

DEATH OF DANIEL ("CHAPPIE") JAMES JR. (58), retired Air Force general and the first black promoted to four-star rank, at the Air Force Academy, Colorado.

The Treasure Path to Soul Winning

MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR SEVEN DAYS: CONSEQUENCES OF SIN

(Assignment 8)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five times each evening, for seven days. The three components of each verse are: Subject, Scripture Reference, and Scripture Text. (For more details, see "The Treasure Path to Soul Winning" link back on the DailyKJV page.)
Both physical and spiritual death. () Romans 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:
A place of eternal death. () Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
A place of no mercy. () Luke 16:24 And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.
A place of torment. () Revelation 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.
A place of everlasting punishment. () Matthew 25:46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.