

FEBRUARY 27

Read Deuteronomy 19–21

CHAPTER 19

WHEN the LORD thy God hath cut off the nations, whose land the LORD thy God giveth thee, and thou succeedest them, and dwellest in their cities, and in their houses;

2 Thou shalt separate three cities for thee in the midst of thy land, which the LORD thy God giveth thee to possess it.

3 Thou shalt prepare thee a way, and divide the coasts of thy land, which the LORD thy God giveth thee to inherit, into three parts, that every slayer may flee thither.

4 ¶ And this *is* the case of the slayer, which shall flee thither, that he may live: Whoso killeth his neighbour ignorantly, whom he hated not in time past;

5 As when a man goeth into the wood with his neighbour to hew wood, and his hand fetcheth a stroke with the axe to cut down the tree, and the head slippeth from the helve, and lighteth upon his neighbour, that he die; he shall flee unto one of those cities, and live:

6 Lest the avenger of the blood pursue the slayer, while his heart is hot, and overtake him, because the way is long, and slay him; whereas he *was* not worthy of death, inasmuch as he hated him not in time past.

7 Wherefore I command thee, saying, Thou shalt separate three cities for thee.

8 And if the LORD thy God enlarge thy coast, as he hath sworn unto thy fathers, and give thee all the land which he promised to give unto thy fathers;

9 If thou shalt keep all these commandments to do them, which I command thee this day, to love the LORD thy God, and to walk ever in his ways; then shalt thou add three cities more for thee, beside these three:

10 That innocent blood be not shed in thy land, which the LORD thy God giveth thee *for* an inheritance, and *so* blood be upon thee.

11 ¶ But if any man hate his neighbour, and lie in wait for him, and rise up against him, and smite

him mortally that he die, and fleeth into one of these cities:

12 Then the elders of his city shall send and fetch him thence, and deliver him into the hand of the avenger of blood, that he may die.

13 Thine eye shall not pity him, but thou shalt put away *the guilt of innocent blood* from Israel, that it may go well with thee.

14 ¶ Thou shalt not remove thy neighbour's landmark, which they of old time have set in thine inheritance, which thou shalt inherit in the land that the LORD thy God giveth thee to possess it.

15 ¶ One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any sin that he sinneth: at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established.

16 ¶ If a false witness rise up against any man to testify against him *that which is wrong*;

17 Then both the men, between whom the controversy *is*, shall stand before the LORD, before the priests and the judges, which shall be in those days;

18 And the judges shall make diligent inquisition: and, behold, *if*

the witness *be* a false witness, *and* hath testified falsely against his brother;

19 Then shall ye do unto him, as he had thought to have done unto his brother: so shalt thou put the evil away from among you.

20 And those which remain shall hear, and fear, and shall henceforth commit no more any such evil among you.

21 And thine eye shall not pity; *but life shall go for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.*

CHAPTER 20

WHEN thou goest out to battle against thine enemies, and seest horses, and chariots, *and* a people more than thou, be not afraid of them: for the LORD thy God *is* with thee, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.

2 And it shall be, when ye are come nigh unto the battle, that the priest shall approach and speak unto the people,

3 And shall say unto them, Hear, O Israel, ye approach this day unto battle against your enemies: let not your hearts faint, fear not, and do not tremble, neither be ye terrified because of them;

4 For the LORD your God *is* he

that goeth with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you.

5 ¶ And the officers shall speak unto the people, saying, What man *is there* that hath built a new house, and hath not dedicated it? let him go and return to his house, lest he die in the battle, and another man dedicate it.

6 And what man *is he* that hath planted a vineyard, and hath not *yet* eaten of it? let him *also* go and return unto his house, lest he die in the battle, and another man eat of it.

7 And what man *is there* that hath betrothed a wife, and hath not taken her? let him go and return unto his house, lest he die in the battle, and another man take her.

8 And the officers shall speak further unto the people, and they shall say, What man *is there that is* fearful and fainthearted? let him go and return unto his house, lest his brethren's heart faint as well as his heart.

9 And it shall be, when the officers have made an end of speaking unto the people, that they shall make captains of the armies to lead the people.

10 ¶ When thou comest nigh unto a city to fight against it, then proclaim peace unto it.

11 And it shall be, if it make thee answer of peace, and open unto thee, then it shall be, *that* all the people *that is* found therein shall be tributaries unto thee, and they shall serve thee.

12 And if it will make no peace with thee, but will make war against thee, then thou shalt besiege it:

13 And when the LORD thy God hath delivered it into thine hands, thou shalt smite every male thereof with the edge of the sword:

14 But the women, and the little ones, and the cattle, and all that is in the city, *even* all the spoil thereof, shalt thou take unto thyself; and thou shalt eat the spoil of thine enemies, which the LORD thy God hath given thee.

15 Thus shalt thou do unto all the cities *which are* very far off from thee, which *are* not of the cities of these nations.

16 But of the cities of these people, which the LORD thy God doth give thee *for* an inheritance, thou shalt save alive nothing that breatheth:

17 But thou shalt utterly destroy them; *namely*, the Hittites, and the Amorites, the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, the Hivites, and

the Jebusites; as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee:

18 That they teach you not to do after all their abominations, which they have done unto their gods; so should ye sin against the LORD your God.

19 ¶ When thou shalt besiege a city a long time, in making war against it to take it, thou shalt not destroy the trees thereof by forcing an axe against them: for thou mayest eat of them, and thou shalt not cut them down (for the tree of the field *is* man's *life*) to employ *them* in the siege:

20 Only the trees which thou knowest that they *be* not trees for meat, thou shalt destroy and cut them down; and thou shalt build bulwarks against the city that maketh war with thee, until it be subdued.

CHAPTER 21

IF *one* be found slain in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee to possess it, lying in the field, *and* it be not known who hath slain him:

2 Then thy elders and thy judges shall come forth, and they shall measure unto the cities which *are* round about him that is slain:

3 And it shall be, *that* the city

which is next unto the slain man, even the elders of that city shall take an heifer, which hath not been wrought with, *and* which hath not drawn in the yoke;

4 And the elders of that city shall bring down the heifer unto a rough valley, which is neither eared nor sown, and shall strike off the heifer's neck there in the valley:

5 And the priests the sons of Levi shall come near; for them the LORD thy God hath chosen to minister unto him, and to bless in the name of the LORD; and by their word shall every controversy and every stroke be *tried*:

6 And all the elders of that city, *that are* next unto the slain *man*, shall wash their hands over the heifer that is beheaded in the valley:

7 And they shall answer and say, Our hands have not shed this blood, neither have our eyes seen *it*.

8 Be merciful, O LORD, unto thy people Israel, whom thou hast redeemed, and lay not innocent blood unto thy people of Israel's charge. And the blood shall be forgiven them.

9 So shalt thou put away the *guilt of* innocent blood from among you, when thou shalt do *that which is* right in the sight of the LORD.

10. When thou goest forth to war against thine enemies, and the LORD thy God hath delivered them into thine hands, and thou hast taken them captive,

11 And seest among the captives a beautiful woman, and hast a desire unto her, that thou wouldest have her to thy wife;

12 Then thou shalt bring her home to thine house; and she shall shave her head, and pare her nails;

13 And she shall put the raiment of her captivity from off her, and shall remain in thine house, and bewail her father and her mother a full month: and after that thou shalt go in unto her, and be her husband, and she shall be thy wife.

14 And it shall be, if thou have no delight in her, then thou shalt let her go whither she will; but thou shalt not sell her at all for money, thou shalt not make merchandise of her, because thou hast humbled her.

15 ¶ If a man have two wives, one beloved, and another hated, and they have born him children, *both* the beloved and the hated; and *if* the firstborn son be hers that was hated:

16 Then it shall be, when he

maketh his sons to inherit *that* which he hath, *that* he may not make the son of the beloved firstborn before the son of the hated, *which is indeed* the firstborn:

17 But he shall acknowledge the son of the hated *for* the firstborn, by giving him a double portion of all that he hath: for he *is* the beginning of his strength; the right of the firstborn *is* his.

18 ¶ If a man have a stubborn and rebellious son, which will not obey the voice of his father, or the voice of his mother, and *that*, when they have chastened him, will not hearken unto them:

19 Then shall his father and his mother lay hold on him, and bring him out unto the elders of his city, and unto the gate of his place;

20 And they shall say unto the elders of his city, This our son *is* stubborn and rebellious, he will not obey our voice; *he is* a glutton, and a drunkard.

21 And all the men of his city shall stone him with stones, that he die: so shalt thou put evil away from among you; and all Israel shall hear, and fear.

22 ¶ And if a man have committed a sin worthy of death, and he be to be put to death, and thou hang

him on a tree:

23 His body shall not remain all night upon the tree, but thou shalt in any wise bury him that day; (for he that is hanged is accursed of

God;) that thy land be not defiled, which the LORD thy God giveth thee *for* an inheritance.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

Chapter 19 records again the cities of refuge. We have already seen that they were protection for those who were guilty of causing accidental death, what is today called manslaughter. Moses had already set aside three such cities east of Jordan (Bezer, Ramoth, and Golan). Later, Joshua set aside three cities west of Jordan (Kedesh, Shechem, and Hebron). All six were Levitical cities, included in the Levites' 48 cities given in Numbers 35:6. Chapter 20 records the rules of warfare. Those who had built a new house, planted a new vineyard, were newly married, or faint-hearted were to be excused from military service.

Chapter 21 records various laws and instructions. In verses 1-9 the law is given in connection with an unknown murder. Bloodguiltiness of this sort had to be atoned for by killing a heifer in a deserted valley, and by the elders and Levites washing their hands over the dead animal.

Our reading today again emphasizes the fact that God is a jealous God. As His Word was explicit to the children of Israel, so it is to men today. It is His desire that His people worship Him only and follow Him explicitly. If we disobey, then we will be chastened. He is an all-loving God, but He is also a just God. He hates sin, but loves the sinner. He sent His only begotten Son to die in our place. It is His desire that every man be saved, but when one rejects the wonderful gift of His Son, he will be eternally separated from God. Also, when a child of God sins, fellowship with God is broken and the happiness and joy of Christian living departs until that child comes to a point of repentance, and allows God to restore the joy of salvation to him.

PROVERB FOR TODAY

"An angry man stirreth up strife, and a furious man aboundeth in transgression" (Proverbs 29:22).

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

ASSIGNMENT 9: For today's memory verses, follow instructions on page 9.

HYMN FOR TODAY

IT'S JUST LIKE HIS GREAT LOVE
by Edna R. Worrell, 19th century

The greatest demonstration of love is God's gift of Jesus Christ to a lost world. It is impossible to comprehend fully this divine love; it can only be learned experientially. As we grow in our love relationship with the Lord, we begin to realize in part the magnitude of His love. This love is unconditional—He loves us regardless of our failures or successes. This love is impartial—it includes everyone. This love is infinite and eternal—simply because God Himself is love! And this love is personal—He loves each of us as if we were the only one in His world to love.

Discouragement is common to each of us, especially in our moments of self-pity or as we are made aware of our shortcomings. In times like these, introspection—continually looking within—only makes us more miserable. Rather, we need to look up. We need to focus on Christ and His great love for us, to remember that we are "children of God," and to rely on His promise that our eternal destiny is heaven. Such a reflection will assuredly change any gloom to song and restore once more a walk of sweet fellowship with our Lord. Then we will have the joy of knowing that Jesus will keep us from day to day because of His great love.

*A Friend I have, called Jesus, whose love is strong and true,
and never fails how e'er tis tried, no matter what I do;
I've sinned against this love of His, but when I knelt to pray,
confessing all my guilt to Him, the sin-clouds rolled away.*

*Sometimes the clouds of trouble bedim the sky above.
I cannot see my Saviour's face; I doubt His wondrous love;
but He, from heaven's mercy seat, beholding my despair,
in pity bursts the clouds between and shows me He is there.*

*When sorrow's clouds o'ertake me and break upon my head,
when life seems worse than useless and I were better dead,
I take my grief to Jesus then, nor do I go in vain,
in pity bursts the clouds between and shows me He is there.*

*Oh, I could sing forever of Jesus' love divine,
of all His care and tenderness for this poor life of mine;
His love is in and over all, and wind and waves obey
when Jesus whispers "Peace, be still!" and rolls the clouds away.*

Chorus:

*It's just like Jesus to roll the clouds away;
it's just like Jesus to keep me day by day.
It's just like Jesus all along the way;
it's just like His great love.*

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

1773

THE CHRIST'S CHURCH IN ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA, WAS COMPLETED ON THIS DAY.

This was the church of George Washington. In fact, George Washington and his family purchased a pew for the price of \$100.00. Because of this thought, let us direct our thinking and prayers today to our spiritual heritage—to those who brought the Gospel to America and to those who have faithfully propagated the Gospel in our land. Perhaps in your own denomination you can think of some great men for whom you should praise God. These are men who laid the foundations for your denomination—for our Christian heritage. For example, Methodists can well thank God for John and Charles Wesley; Presbyterians can thank God for John Calvin; Christian and Missionary Alliance members can look with thanksgiving to the life of A.B. Simpson; Quakers, to George Fox; Baptists, to Roger Williams, Charles Haddon Spurgeon and others.

1807

THE BIRTHDAY OF HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW.

1922

VOTING BY WOMEN WAS DECLARED LEGAL.

Once again our thoughts are turned to womanhood. Have there been ladies who have influenced your life a great deal? Thank God for them today.

Spend a few moments in praise of them. How I thank God for the influence of godly women in my life! Let us pause to call them blessed today.

ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1869

JOHN W. MENARD SPOKE IN CONGRESS in defense of his claim to a contested seat in Louisiana's Second Congressional District. Congress decided against both claimants. Congressman James A. Garfield of the examining committee said "it was too early to admit a Negro to the U.S. Congress." Menard was the first black to make a speech in Congress.

1870

WYATT OUTLAW, BLACK LEADER OF THE UNION LEAGUE in Alamance County, N.C., lynched.

1872

CHARLOTTE E. RAY, FIRST BLACK WOMAN LAWYER, graduated from Howard University. She was admitted to practice on April 23.

1877

AT A CONFERENCE IN THE WORMLEY HOTEL IN WASHINGTON, REPRESENTATIVES OF RUTHERFORD B. HAYES and representatives of the South negotiated agreement which paved the way for the election of Hayes as president and the withdrawal of federal troops from the South.

1902

MARION ANDERSON, SINGER, BORN IN PHILADELPHIA.

1930

THE GREEN PASTURES OPENED at Mansfield Theater.

1946

RACE RIOT, COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE.

Two killed and ten wounded.

1965

JIMMIE LEE JACKSON, CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST, DIED of injuries reportedly inflicted by officers in Marion, Alabama.

A Christian Life:

COLUMBA

521-597

Irish missionary. Columba was born in Donegal, Ireland. Very little is known about his early life and education. He studied at Celtic schools, and in 551 was ordained a priest. Later, in 563, at the age of 42, he and 12 of his followers sailed to Scotland, where he established a center of missionary activity at Iona. His labors resulted in reaching the entire island with Christianity.

His ministry contrasted sharply with that of Augustine, who later came to Britain, in that Augustine represented the Roman church, while Columba was a product of the Celtic church of Britain. Revered by both Scotland and Ireland as a great spiritual benefactor and saint, he was found dead beside the altar of a local church where he had been engaged in midnight prayer.

Many historians consider his work and ministry of promoting Christianity in the British Isles far greater than that of the first Archbishop of Canterbury.



The Treasure Path to Soul Winning

MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR SEVEN DAYS:

GOD'S GREAT DESIRE

(Assignment 9)

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.)

That none should perish.

() 2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

That none be condemned.

() John 3:17 (John 5:24; 8:11)

For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

So He calls him.

() Genesis 3:9

And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

He seeks him.

() Luke 19:10

For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

He loves him.

() 1 John 4:10

Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.