



# Deuteronomy 16

(2019)

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Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

## Deuteronomy 16.

(A brief overview of the main topics).

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**INTRODUCTION:** this is a continuation of the previous chapter; Israel is soon to cross over the River Jordan and enter into the Promised Land. The primary focus of all the following chapters is upon Moses re-telling to the new generation about to cross the River Jordan all the covenant laws the LORD originally gave to Israel at Mount Sinai so that the new generation would renew the covenant with the LORD before they enter the Promised Land. The final chapter finishes with the LORD burying Moses and Joshua being ready to lead Israel over the River Jordan and into the Promised Land (see also the introduction to chapter one).

**NOTE:** for information of people, places and the meaning of words see Map Locations and People of the Bible, and Bible Dictionary on Website Menu.

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### DEUTERONOMY 16 (ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION)

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- **Deuteronomy 16:** “Observe the month of Abib and keep the Passover to the LORD your God, for in the month of Abib the LORD your God brought you out of Egypt by night. <sup>2</sup> And you shall offer the Passover sacrifice to the LORD your God, from the flock or the herd, at the place that the LORD will choose, to make his name dwell there. <sup>3</sup> You shall eat no leavened bread with it. Seven days you shall eat it with unleavened bread, the bread of affliction—for you came out of the land of Egypt in haste—that all the days of your life you may remember the day when you came out of the land of Egypt. <sup>4</sup> No leaven shall be seen with you in all your territory for seven days, nor shall any of the flesh that you sacrifice on the evening of the first day remain all night until morning. <sup>5</sup> You may not offer the Passover sacrifice within any of your towns that the LORD your God is giving you, <sup>6</sup> but at the place that the LORD your God will choose, to make his name dwell in it, there you shall offer the Passover sacrifice, in the evening at sunset, at the time you came out of Egypt. <sup>7</sup> And you shall cook it and eat it at the place that the LORD your God will choose. And in the morning you shall turn and go to your tents. <sup>8</sup> For six days you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day there shall be a solemn assembly to the LORD your God. You shall do no work on it. <sup>9</sup> “You shall count seven weeks. Begin to count the seven weeks from the time the sickle is first put to the standing grain. <sup>10</sup> Then you shall keep the Feast of Weeks to the LORD your God with the tribute of a freewill offering from your hand, which you shall give as the LORD your God blesses you. <sup>11</sup> And you shall rejoice before the LORD your God, you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant, the Levite who is within your towns, the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow who are among you, at the place that the LORD your God will choose, to make his name dwell there. <sup>12</sup> You shall remember that you were a slave in Egypt; and you shall be careful to observe these statutes. <sup>13</sup> “You shall keep the Feast of Booths seven days, when you have gathered in the produce from your threshing floor and your winepress. <sup>14</sup> You shall rejoice in your feast, you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant, the Levite, the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow who are within your towns. <sup>15</sup> For seven days you shall keep the feast to the LORD your God at the place that the LORD will choose, because the LORD your God will bless you in all your produce and in all the work of your hands, so that you will be altogether joyful. <sup>16</sup> “Three times a year all your males shall appear before the LORD your God at the place that he will choose: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the Feast of Weeks, and at the Feast of Booths. They shall not appear before the LORD empty-handed. <sup>17</sup> Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that he has given you. <sup>18</sup> “You shall appoint judges and officers in all your towns that the LORD your God is giving you, according to your tribes, and they shall judge the people with righteous judgment. <sup>19</sup> You shall not pervert justice. You shall not show partiality, and you shall not accept a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and subverts the cause of the righteous. <sup>20</sup> Justice, and only justice, you shall follow, that you may live and inherit the land that the LORD your God is giving you. <sup>21</sup> “You shall not plant any tree as an Asherah beside the altar of the LORD your God that you shall make. <sup>22</sup> And you shall not set up a pillar, which the LORD your God hates.

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## The Passover

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Israel was to observe and keep the Passover in the month of Abib because on the 14<sup>th</sup> day in the month of Abib the LORD brought Israel out of Egypt by night at sunset. The Passover sacrifice was to be without blemish and from their-own flock or herd. They were not to eat leavened bread with the Passover sacrifice on the evening of the 1<sup>st</sup> day and no flesh was to remain until morning. The Passover feast was combined with the seven-day feast of Unleavened Bread. Seven days Israel was to eat the Passover with unleavened bread this is also called the seven-day feast of Unleavened Bread. On each of the seven days Israel brought various burnt offerings before the LORD at the Tent of Meeting. The first day and the last day were Sabbath Days; they were not to do any ordinary work. The Passover feast was so Israel would remember the day when they came out of the land of Egypt. It was to be offered or sacrificed and cooked and eaten at the place that the LORD would chose, it could not be offered or sacrificed in any of Israel's towns and was to be offered in the evening at sunset (the time Israel came out of Egypt). Unleavened bread was called the bread of affliction; it was to remind Israel that they came out of the land of Egypt in haste. No leaven was to be seen in all Israel's territory for seven days. in the morning after the Passover feast Israel was to go to their tents and for the next seven days Israel was to eat unleavened bread, this was called the seven day Feast of Unleavened Bread, the first and the seventh day were Sabbath Days, they were not to do any ordinary work.

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## The Feast of Weeks

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From the time the sickle is first put to the standing grain Israel was to count seven weeks. Then Israel was to keep the Feast of Weeks to the LORD, it was to include a tribute of a freewill offering from their hand and their family and servants and the Levite and all that were in their towns were to rejoice before the LORD. They were to rejoice at the place that the LORD would choose to make His name dwell and to remember that they were once a slave in Egypt.

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## The Feast of Booths

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When Israel had gathered in the produce from the threshing floor and their winepress, they were to keep the Feast of Booths seven days. Israel, their family, servants, the Levite and all that were in their towns were to rejoice before the LORD. The Feast of Booths was to be kept at the place that the LORD would choose to make His name dwell. They were to rejoice because the LORD would bless all their produce and the work of their hands so that they would be all joyful together.

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## All males were to appear before the LORD three times a year

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Three times a year all Israel's males were to appear before the LORD at the place He would choose. The men were not to appear before at the following three feasts:

1. The Feast of Unleavened Bread.
2. The Feast of Weeks.
3. The Feast of Booths.

The men were not to appear before the LORD empty-handed, every man was to give, as he was able, according to the blessing of the LORD.

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## Judges and laws

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Israel was to appoint judges and officers in all their towns.

The judges were not to:

- Pervert Justice.
- Show Partiality.
- Accept a Bribe (a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and subverts the cause of the righteous).

**The judges were to:** judge the people with honest and righteous judgment and follow justice and only justice for all people.

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## Worship laws

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Israel was not to plant any tree as an Asherah beside the altar of the LORD or set up a pillar, which the LORD hates.

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## CONCLUSION

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Moses tells Israel if they keep all these laws, they will live a long life and inherit the land that the LORD their God is giving them.

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*As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.*

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