



Deuteronomy 23

(2019)

WELCOME TO BIBLE HOUSE OF GRACE

If you think items presented on this site to be in error, please let me know and I will gladly reconsider the content.

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



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 23.

(A brief overview of the main topics).

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.

DEUTERONOMY 23 (ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION)

- **Deuteronomy 23:1-25** “No one whose testicles are crushed or whose male organ is cut off shall enter the assembly of the LORD.² “No one born of a forbidden union may enter the assembly of the LORD. Even to the tenth generation, none of his descendants may enter the assembly of the LORD.³ “No Ammonite or Moabite may enter the assembly of the LORD. Even to the tenth generation, none of them may enter the assembly of the LORD forever,⁴ because they did not meet you with bread and with water on the way, when you came out of Egypt, and because they hired against you Balaam the son of Beor from Pethor of Mesopotamia, to curse you.⁵ But the LORD your God would not listen to Balaam; instead the LORD your God turned the curse into a blessing for you, because the LORD your God loved you.⁶ You shall not seek their peace or their prosperity all your days forever.⁷ “You shall not abhor an Edomite, for he is your brother. You shall not abhor an Egyptian, because you were a sojourner in his land.⁸ Children born to them in the third generation may enter the assembly of the LORD.⁹ “When you are encamped against your enemies, then you shall keep yourself from every evil thing.¹⁰ “If any man among you becomes unclean because of a nocturnal emission, then he shall go outside the camp. He shall not come inside the camp,¹¹ but when evening comes, he shall bathe himself in water, and as the sun sets, he may come inside the camp.¹² “You shall have a place outside the camp, and you shall go out to it.¹³ And you shall have a trowel with your tools, and when you sit down outside, you shall dig a hole with it and turn back and cover up your excrement.¹⁴ Because the LORD your God walks in the midst of your camp, to deliver you and to give up your enemies before you, therefore your camp must be holy, so that he may not see anything indecent among you and turn away from you.¹⁵ “You shall not give up to his master a slave who has escaped from his master to you.¹⁶ He shall dwell with you, in your midst, in the place that he shall choose within one of your towns, wherever it suits him. You shall not wrong him.¹⁷ “None of the daughters of Israel shall be a cult prostitute, and none of the sons of Israel shall be a cult prostitute.¹⁸ You shall not bring the fee of a prostitute or the wages of a dog into the house of the LORD your God in payment for any vow, for both of these are an abomination to the LORD your God.¹⁹ “You shall not charge interest on loans to your brother, interest on money, interest on food, interest on anything that is lent for interest.²⁰ You may charge a foreigner interest, but you may not charge your brother interest, that the LORD your God may bless you in all that you undertake in the land that you are entering to take possession of it.²¹ “If you make a vow to the LORD your God, you shall not delay fulfilling it, for the LORD your God will surely require it of you, and you will be guilty of sin.²² But if you refrain from vowing, you will not be guilty of sin.²³ You shall be careful to do what has passed your lips, for you have voluntarily vowed to the LORD your God what you have promised with your mouth.²⁴ “If you go into your neighbor’s vineyard, you may eat your fill of grapes, as many as you wish, but you shall not put any in your bag.²⁵ If you go into your neighbor’s standing grain, you may pluck the ears with your hand, but you shall not put a sickle to your neighbor’s standing grain.

No man with crushed testicles or whose male organ was cut off was to enter the assembly of the LORD.

Laws for a forbidden union

No one born of a forbidden union was to enter the assembly of the LORD, even, his descendants could not enter the assembly of the LORD until the tenth generation.

Laws for an Ammonite and Moabite

No Ammonite or Moabite was to enter the assembly of the LORD even to the tenth generation for the following two reasons:

1. They did not meet Israel with bread and water when Israel came out of Egypt.
2. They hired Balaam the son of Beor from Pethor of Mesopotamia, to curse Israel, but the LORD would not listen to Balaam, instead the LORD turned the curse into a blessing for Israel, because the LORD loved Israel.

Israel was not to seek the peace or prosperity of the Ammonite or Moabite all their days forever.

Laws for an Edomite

Israel was not to abhor an Edomite because he is their brother. Esau was Israel's brother and father of Edom who was the father of the Edomites (Deut. 23:7) (Gen. 36:43) (Gen. 36:9).

2

Laws for an Egyptian

Israel was not to not abhor, detest or offend an Egyptian, because they were sojourners in Egypt's land, in the third-generation children born to the Egyptian could enter the assembly of the LORD.

Laws for camping against an enemy

When Israel was camped against their enemies, they were to keep themselves from every evil thing.

Laws for nocturnal emissions

If any man among Israel became unclean because of a nocturnal emission he was then to go outside the camp and not to return to the camp until evening. He was to bathe himself in water and as the sunsets he could go inside the camp.

Laws for excrement

Israel was to have a place outside the camp for excrement, they were to go out to it with a trowel and their tools and when they sat down outside, they were to dig a hole and cover up their excrement. It was to be covered

up because the LORD their God walked in the midst of their camp, to deliver them and to give their enemies over to them. The camp had to be holy, so that the LORD would not see anything indecent among Israel and turn away from them.

Laws for an escaped slave

If a slave had escaped from his master to another Israelite, they were not to give the slave back to his master or do him any wrong, the slave was to dwell in the place that the slave chooses within one of Israel's towns, wherever it suited him.

Laws of prostitution for daughters and the sons of Israel

None of the daughters or sons of Israel was to be a cult prostitute. Some pagan faiths had temple priests and priestesses as prostitutes it was believed that by having intercourse with these priests and priestesses' devotees would receive the spirit of the god they represented.

Laws for money gained from prostitution

Israel was not to take the fee of a prostitute or the wages of a dog into the house of the LORD in payment for any vow because both of these are an abomination to the LORD (perhaps referring to profit made from betting on dog fights).

Laws for charging interest

Israel was not to charge interest on loans of money, food or anything that was lent to their own people.

Laws for charging interest to the foreigner

Israel could charge a foreigner interest on anything that was lent.

Laws for vows (promises)

If a vow (promises) was made to the LORD the person making the vow was not to delay in fulfilling it because the LORD would surely require it of that person. If they delayed from making a vow or promise to do a thing, they would not be guilty of sin, but if they did delay in fulfilling a vow, they had made they would be guilty of sin. They were to do what they said they would do because they had voluntarily made a vow to the LORD and what they have promised with their mouth they must do.

Laws for eating from the neighbour's vineyard

If a person went into their neighbour's vineyard they could eat of their neighbour's grapes until they were full, but they were not to put any in a bag.

Laws for eating from the neighbours standing grain

If a person went into their neighbour's standing grain they could pluck the ears with their hand, but were not to put a sickle to their neighbour's standing grain.

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.

Bible House of Grace