

Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

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MINISTRY OF THE WORD

AND I WILL BRAKE THE PRIDE OF YOUR POWER

PASTOR HOWARD DANIEL, JR.

SUNDAY MORNING, MARCH 7, 2021

SCRIPTURE READING: **LEVITICUS 26:1-26**

*Leviticus 26:18-20, And if ye will not yet for all this hearken unto me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins. 19: **And I will break the pride of your power;** and I will make your heaven as iron, and your earth as brass: 20: And your strength shall be spent in vain: for your land shall not yield her increase, neither shall the trees of the land yield their fruits.*

1. BACKGROUND

- a. Please refer to the March 7, 2021 Evening Message for the Background.

2. INTRODUCTION

- a. Today we take our message from the book of **Leviticus Chapter 26**. We are about to begin a verse-by-verse study in the **Book of Leviticus** on Wednesday night. I thought it appropriate to preach from this Book to give you an appreciation for what we are about to study.
- b. Since there appears to be a lot of confusion in the land concerning both the wrath side and the love side of God, I think this chapter will reveal to us some essential and important truths.
- c. It is astonishing how mixed up we are. Many want to teach us that the Lord has rejected Israel, set them aside on a permanent basis; which is absolutely contrary to the Word of God.
- d. The Jews were given special promises in the Old Testament which have not yet been fulfilled. I am keenly aware that in the Chick Publications newsletter of January 11, 2011 it is stated that "the pope's long held belief that God's promise of an eternal homeland for the Jews, was cancelled when Jewish leaders rejected Jesus as the Messiah: For Christians, one can no longer talk of the land people, a chosen people: all men and women of every country have become the chosen people." **This is absolutely nonsense and is in direct conflict with the Preserved Word of God.** However as you know the pope's followers are not encouraged to search the scriptures and as a result they will never know about this precious truth.
- e. If Israel has been set aside on a permanent basis, we have problems in the Preserved Word of God which sets forth God's promises.
- f. There are some who would teach that the blessings God promised Israel have been passed on to the church. I tell you that this in direct conflict with the Word of God.

- g. He tells the church that He has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in Heavenly places in Christ Jesus. **Ephesians 1:3, Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:**
- h. Likewise, He promised Israel land. He made that covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. This has yet to be fulfilled.
- i. The chapter before us covers a prophetic history of the nation Israel. Their entire tenure in the Promised Land up until the present hour gives us a view of the future of this great nation that God has chosen.
- j. He did not choose them because they were the greatest; He chose them because He loved them. **Deuteronomy 7:7-8, The LORD did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people: 8: But because the LORD loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the LORD brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.**
- k. God tells us to examine the activities of the nation Israel from time to time because they are examples to us as members of the body of Christ. **1 Corinthians 10:11, Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. Romans 15:4, For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.**
- l. This chapter deals with Israel in its entirety, but does have application to the church.
- m. It does not speak in generalities, but we find direct instructions from Jehovah God to this nation concerning their future.
- n. One could say that this is history pre-written. God does this very often.
- o. This reveals the basis of Israel entering into the land of promise and this chapter contains a lot of "ifs." It occurs nine times.
- p. My mother used to tell me that "if" is a crooked letter. When you see "if" there is always something behind it.
- q. It speaks of conditions of their tenure in the land.
- r. We must understand God gave Israel unconditional promises; however, some promises were conditional.
- s. The ones we are looking at today are conditional promises on the basis of their occupation of the land.
- t. Having said that "if" occurs nine times, the response "I will" occurs 24 times.
- u. God's reaction to conditional promises is in accordance with how we respond and how Israel responds to the "if."
- v. Obedience is better than sacrifice and is always the basis of our blessings.
- w. I shudder to think that Christians do not want to comprehend that God expects us to be obedient. **1 Samuel 15:22, And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.**
- x. Our salvation is based on unconditional promises not conditional. Once we truly accept the Lord Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour, we are forever saved. **Romans 4:22-25, And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness. 23: Now it was not**

written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him; 24: But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; 25: Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.

- y. Our salvation is plus nothing minus nothing. However, when we come to the abundant life and our blessing that God provides for us, it is conditional and is based on our obedience, being in the center of God's will, and doing what He has called us to do. What a marvelous passage of Scripture. I would label this chapter as one of the high water marks in the Word of God.
- z. With that Introduction, let's see what we can glean from God's Word today.

3. TWELVE POINTS TO THE MESSAGE

a. **Ye shall make you no idols nor graven image.**

1. **Leviticus 26:1-2, Ye shall make you no idols nor graven image, neither rear you up a standing image, neither shall ye set up any image of stone in your land, to bow down unto it: for I am the LORD your God. 2: Ye shall keep my sabbaths, and reverence my sanctuary: I am the LORD.**
2. When we analyze the Ten Commandments they are based on two things; man's relationship with God and God's relationship with man.
3. The first part of the Ten Commandments deal with man's relationship with God. These set forth the conditions for Israel's continuous tenure in the land.
4. God told them emphatically that their occupation, enjoyment and tenure in the land will depend on their obedience.
5. He speaks of idols in these verses. He tells them to not make graven images in any form. **Deuteronomy 5:8 Thou shalt not make thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters beneath the earth:**
6. We know they violated that. We also know we, as members of the church, are to have no idols.
7. There are three things mentioned in this verse: no idols are to be made, they are to keep the Sabbath and they were to reverence the sanctuary.
8. This speaks of the worship of God. He intends for us to worship Him. He ends these verses by saying ***I am the LORD.***
9. He is the Lord. There is no question about it. We must run this life with our focus on the Lord Jesus Christ. **Philippians 3:13-14, Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14: I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.**
10. If we are to receive God's blessings we **MUST be obedient** to His will.
11. Today, we find that no one wants to be accountable. **We say the sinner's prayer then sit back and relax. This is not what God intended.**

b. **If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments.**

1. **Leviticus 26:3-6, If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them; 4: Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit. 5: And your threshing shall reach unto the vintage, and the vintage shall reach unto the sowing time: and ye shall eat your bread to the full, and dwell in your land**

safely. 6: And I will give peace in the land, and ye shall lie down, and none shall make you afraid: and I will rid evil beasts out of the land, neither shall the sword go through your land.

2. God is promising Israel some great things.
3. Notice "if." **If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments,** - He responds and tells them what He will do for them. - **Then I will give you**
4. The primary evidence of God's blessing of Israel was rainfall to increase the fruit.
5. **Ezekiel 34:26-27, And I will make them and the places round about my hill a blessing; and I will cause the shower to come down in his season; there shall be showers of blessing. 27: And the tree of the field shall yield her fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase, and they shall be safe in their land, and shall know that I am the LORD, when I have broken the bands of their yoke, and delivered them out of the hand of those that served themselves of them.**
6. All of the prophets look forward to that great day when God will accomplish all of this with Israel.
7. Today the land is desolate for the most part; they are back there in unbelief. **Amos 9:13, Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt. Joel 2:23-24, Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month. 24: And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the fats shall overflow with wine and oil.**
8. God promised them, as they occupied the land, that showers, fruitfulness, and peace would be there for them in every respect.
9. Of course we know they got into the land and they did not obey the Lord God and as a result of their disobedience, their tenure was short.

c. And ye shall chase your enemies.

1. **Leviticus 26:7-8, And ye shall chase your enemies, and they shall fall before you by the sword. 8: And five of you shall chase an hundred, and an hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight: and your enemies shall fall before you by the sword.**
2. When we are in the will of God, we are protected by God. I believe God has a hedge around believers. **Jeremiah 1:8, Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD. Job 1:10, Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.**
3. As long as we are in God's will, He will protect us. Now, that does not mean that we will not have trials and tribulations, setbacks and persecutions. We understand that God is God, but when we turn to God and get in His perfect will He will raise up people in our lives to give us encouragement.
4. He raised up Samuel, David, Deborah, Gideon and Elijah – all were raised up because God was fulfilling His promises.

5. In this passage, He emphasizes victory over our enemies will be one of the things that is part of His promises.
6. We want to protect ourselves. I remind you of **Romans 12:19**, *Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.*
7. In **Joshua 23:10**, this passage is repeated somewhat. *One man of you shall chase a thousand: for the LORD your God, he it is that fighteth for you, as he hath promised you.*
8. God will protect His own.

d. For I will have respect unto you.

1. **Leviticus 26:9-10**, *For I will have respect unto you, and make you fruitful, and multiply you, and establish my covenant with you. 10: And ye shall eat old store, and bring forth the old because of the new.*
2. I cannot help but to fear that we have set aside the ancient landmarks that our fathers have set. **Proverbs 22:28**, *Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set.* Abortion is rampant.
3. Here, God tells Israel that their population will explode when they are in God's will.
4. I am reminded of **Psalms 127:5**, *Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.*
5. It amazes me how our kids are such a blessing. Many times there were heart aches, but if we will train them as God has instructed us, it is amazing what we are able to accomplish with our offspring. **Proverbs 22:6**, *Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.*
6. Here, God says to not remove the old to bring forth the new.
7. As a matter of fact, in **Ecclesiastes 1:9**, *The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.*

e. And I will set my tabernacle among you.

1. **Leviticus 26:11**, *And I will set my tabernacle among you: and my soul shall not abhor you.*
2. God does not wink at sin. **Acts 17:30**, *And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:*
3. God will punish sin in the life of the believer in the form of chastisement. If we will not judge ourselves we will be chastised.
4. God holds the unbeliever to the message of the cross.
5. Great hope in the future for this nation is that they finally come to God.
6. Not every single Jew, but there will be a remnant. **Revelation 21:3**, *And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.*

f. And I will walk among you, and will be your God.

1. **Leviticus 26:12**, *And I will walk among you, and will be your God, and ye shall be my people.*
2. There are two words we must keep firmly in mind: **relationship**, which God established through the Lord Jesus Christ, God the Father and the Holy Spirit. We cannot change that relationship – it is there forever – this is what our salvation is based on and is **UNCONDITIONAL**.
3. Those who teach we can lose our salvation do not understand this particular verse. They fail to comprehend God's covenant.
4. The other word is **fellowship**. We are to maintain **fellowship** with the Lord Jesus Christ. **1 John 1:7**, *But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.*
5. God want us to have **fellowship**; He wanted **fellowship** with man as He walked with Adam in the cool of the day. God **expects fellowship** with us after having received His Son as personal Saviour. **2 Corinthians 6:16**, *And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.*
6. We cannot even fathom what God has set forth for this nation or for you and I as believers. **1 Corinthians 2:9**, *But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.*

g. I am the LORD your God.

1. **Leviticus 26:13**, *I am the LORD your God, which brought you forth out of the land of Egypt, that ye should not be their bondmen; and I have broken the bands of your yoke, and made you go upright.*
2. God promises a bright future for Israel. We know in the past He lead them out of Egypt.
3. We know He fed them with manna and we also know the church has not usurped the place of Israel
4. God has a purpose for them. The message several Sundays ago from Romans re-enforces that issue as well. **Philippians 1:6**, *Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:*
5. You can bank on God's promises.
6. He has given us exceeding great and precious promises. **2 Peter 1:4**, *Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.*

h. But if ye will not hearken unto me.

1. **Leviticus 26:14-15**, *But if ye will not hearken unto me, and will not do all these commandments; 15: And if ye shall despise my statutes, or if your soul abhor my judgments, so that ye will not do all my commandments, but that ye break my covenant:*

2. You will notice there are three “ifs” in this verse: a breach in the covenant, a refusal to hear and a refusal to do, despising and abhorring God’s statutes and judgments.
3. God has laid down a conditional promise – if, if, if.
4. Notice what He says if Israel fails to obey. This also applies to the church.

i. I also will do this unto you.

1. **Leviticus 26:16-17, *I also will do this unto you; I will even appoint over you terror, consumption, and the burning ague, that shall consume the eyes, and cause sorrow of heart: and ye shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it. 17: And I will set my face against you, and ye shall be slain before your enemies: they that hate you shall reign over you; and ye shall flee when none pursueth you.***
2. God is now beginning to bring forth His wrath. He has already told them some of the things He will do.
3. Now He is getting specific in this passage. He talks about the enemy.
4. We must understand that Israel has a tremendous amount of enemies.
5. We read that the Lord’s anger is hot. **Judges 2:14, *And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he delivered them into the hands of spoilers that spoiled them, and he sold them into the hands of their enemies round about, so that they could not any longer stand before their enemies. Judges 3:8, *Therefore the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he sold them into the hand of Chushanrathaim king of Mesopotamia: and the children of Israel served Chushanrathaim eight years. Judges 4:2, *And the LORD sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, that reigned in Hazor; the captain of whose host was Sisera, which dwelt in Harosheth of the Gentiles.*****
6. In their message, the prophets called attention to the fact that if we do not obey the Lord’s wrath will be brought forth. **Jeremiah 5:17, *And they shall eat up thine harvest, and thy bread, which thy sons and thy daughters should eat: they shall eat up thy flocks and thine herds: they shall eat up thy vines and thy fig trees: they shall impoverish thy fenced cities, wherein thou trustedst, with the sword. Micah 6:15, *Thou shalt sow, but thou shalt not reap; thou shalt tread the olives, but thou shalt not anoint thee with oil; and sweet wine, but shalt not drink wine.****

j. And I will break the pride of your power.

1. **Leviticus 26:18-20, *And if ye will not yet for all this hearken unto me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins. 19: *And I will break the pride of your power; and I will make your heaven as iron, and your earth as brass: 20: *And your strength shall be spent in vain: for your land shall not yield her increase, neither shall the trees of the land yield their fruits.*****
2. God is intensifying His judgment upon Israel because of their disobedience.
3. God says ***I will punish you seven times more for your sins.*** We have spoken of the number seven meaning complete.
4. Their pride will be broken. This day in time men and women are filled with pride. **Proverbs 16:18, *Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.***

5. There will be no rain and a continual crop failure.
6. This reminds me of the time of the boll weevil. They would destroy the cotton crop.

k. And if ye walk contrary unto me.

1. **Leviticus 26:21-22, And if ye walk contrary unto me, and will not hearken unto me; I will bring seven times more plagues upon you according to your sins. 22: I will also send wild beasts among you, which shall rob you of your children, and destroy your cattle, and make you few in number; and your high ways shall be desolate.**
2. God says He will bring in plagues and wild beasts to decimate the population.
3. We read about this in history and we know that this nation has in fact gone through an awful lot.
4. They will also go through some things in the future as they pass through the Great Tribulation Period.
5. Man has lost his domination over nature, even though God gave it to him. Adam sold it all to the devil.

l. And if ye will not be reformed by me by these things.

1. **Leviticus 26:23-26, And if ye will not be reformed by me by these things, but will walk contrary unto me; 24: Then will I also walk contrary unto you, and will punish you yet seven times for your sins. 25: And I will bring a sword upon you, that shall avenge the quarrel of my covenant: and when ye are gathered together within your cities, I will send the pestilence among you; and ye shall be delivered into the hand of the enemy. 26: And when I have broken the staff of your bread, ten women shall bake your bread in one oven, and they shall deliver you your bread again by weight: and ye shall eat, and not be satisfied.**
2. God is pronouncing complete and total judgment upon this nation because of disobedience.
3. The question comes to mind; does He have the authority to do so and is He right? Emphatically YES.
4. The captivity period went into effect. Ezekiel warned that a third part would fall by the sword, a third part would be scattered. **Ezekiel 5:12, A third part of thee shall die with the pestilence, and with famine shall they be consumed in the midst of thee: and a third part shall fall by the sword round about thee; and I will scatter a third part into all the winds, and I will draw out a sword after them.**
5. Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel all warned this nation of a famine that would take over.
6. It has happened in the past and will take over again during the Tribulation Period as spoken of in **Revelation chapter 6.**

4. CONCLUSION

- a. My Friend, do you know the Saviour? If you do not know Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour, today needs to be your day of salvation.
- b. **Romans 3:23, For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;**

- c. **Romans 3:10**, *As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:*
- d. **Romans 10:9-10**, *That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10: For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*
- e. Would you please stand?

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