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CHAP. 13 - PUNISHMENT OF APOSTATES

Protecting against those who would entice Israel to serve other gods.

- (1-3) Protecting against the <u>deceiver who comes with</u> miraculous signs.
- (4-5) The <u>penalty for the deceiver</u> who comes with miraculous signs.
- (6-11) The <u>penalty for a relative</u> who would lead an Israelite to worship other gods.

<u>Protecting the nation as a whole</u> against those who would lead them into idolatry.

- (12-14a) How to deal with reports of a city given over to idolatry.
- (14b-18) The penalty for a city given over to idolatry.

CHAP. 14 – IMPROPER MOURNING; CLEAN AND UNCLEAN MEAT; TITHING PRINCIPLES

Commands regarding separation from pagans.

- (1) The command to abstain from pagan burial customs.
- (2) The principle behind the commands for separation.
- (3-21) The command to separate in regard to foods. The command of the tithe.
- (22-23) The command to tithe.
- (24-27) "Long-distance" tithing.
- (28-29) The third-year tithe.

"You Are A Holy People"

- No Worshipping False Gods! Deu 12:31-32 "You shall not worship the LORD your God in that way; for every abomination to the LORD which He hates they have done to their gods; for they burn even their sons and daughters in the fire to their gods. [32] "Whatever I command you, be careful to observe it; you shall not add to it nor take away from it." Note Satanic perversion Only God has right to take life!
- Reject False Prophets/Dreamers Even if They Do Supernatural Miracles: Deu 13:1-2 "If there arises among you a prophet or a dreamer of dreams, and he gives you a sign or a wonder, [2] and the sign or the wonder comes to pass, of which he spoke to you, saying, 'Let us go after other gods'—which you have not known—'and let us serve them,' — Capital Punishment! Miracles never trump the importance of God's word!
- Mourning For the Dead: Deu 14:1 "You are the children of the LORD your God; you shall not cut yourselves nor shave the front of your head for the dead."
- Eating A Special Diet: Deu 14:3-21 "Deu 14:3 "You shall not eat any detestable thing.....
- <u>Tithing! Deu 14:22</u> "You <u>shall truly tithe all</u> the increase of your grain that the field produces year by year.

Deu_7:6 "For you are a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth.

Deu 14:2 For you are a holy people to the LORD your God, and the LORD has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.

Deu 14:21 "You shall not eat anything that dies of itself; you may give it to the alien who is within your gates, that he may eat it, or you may sell it to a foreigner; for you are a holy people to the LORD your God. "You shall not boil a young goat in its mother's milk

<u>Deu 26:18</u> Also today the LORD has proclaimed you to be His <u>special people</u>, just as He promised you, that you should keep all His commandments,

<u>Deu 26:19</u> and that He will set you high above all nations which He has made, in praise, in name, and in honor, and that you may be a <u>holy people</u> to the LORD your God, just as He has spoken."

<u>Deu 28:9</u> "The LORD will establish you as a <u>holy people</u> to Himself, just as He has sworn to you, if you keep the commandments of the LORD your God and walk in His ways.

HAVE THINE OWN WAY - Maranatha Music

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Thou art the Potter, I am the clay.

Mold me and make me after Thy will, While I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Search me and try me, Master, today!

Whiter than snow, Lord, wash me just now, As in Thy presence humbly I bow.

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Wounded and weary, help me, I pray!

Power, all power, surely is Thine! Touch me and heal me, Savior divine.

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Hold o'er my being absolute sway!

Fill with Thy Spirit till all shall see Christ only, always, living in me.

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PUNISHMENT OF APOSTATES:

Deu 13:1 "If there arises among you a prophet or a dreamer of dreams, and he gives you a sign or a wonder, Deu 13:2 and the sign or the wonder comes to pass, of which he spoke to you, saying, 'Let us go after other gods'—which you have not known—'and let us serve them,' Deu 13:3 you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams, for the LORD your God is testing you to know whether you love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

Deu 13:4 You shall walk after the LORD your God and fear Him, and keep His commandments and obey His voice; you shall serve Him and hold fast to Him.

Deu 13:5 But that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death, because he has spoken in order to turn you away from the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of bondage, to entice you from the way in which the LORD your God commanded you to walk. So you shall put away the evil from your midst.

Deu 13:6 "If your brother, the son of your mother, your son or your daughter, the wife of your bosom, or your friend who is as your own soul, secretly entices you, saying, 'Let us go and serve other gods,' which you have not known, neither you nor your fathers,

Deu 13:7 of the gods of the people which are all around you, near to you or far off from you, from one end of the earth to the other end of the earth,

Deu 13:8 you shall not consent to him or listen to him, nor shall your eye pity him, nor shall you spare him or conceal him:

<u>Deu 13:9 but you shall surely kill him;</u> your hand shall be first against him to put him to death, and afterward the hand of all the people.

vs. 1-4 This is pertinent for today. False prophets and false dreamers, who claim to have received a message from God when they have not received them. There are wonderful, legitimate Spiritual gifts of prophecy given to us in 1 Corinthians 12 and in the Book of Romans. A mistake, a by-product of the error of taking away the supernatural from the church today may lead to the seeking of supernatural by people. Is some feel to search for it, they will easily discover a false supernatural! We need to be

careful of that. Vs. 2 the sign or the wonder comes to pass – We need to be careful because even false prophets can cause supernatural miracles! To confirm whether a prophet is false or not: 1) Compare the testimony, the teaching of the teaching with the Scriptures-does it match the Word? 2) Does the prophecy Christ like? Is it pointing you to the Lord? Does the teaching bring you closer to God.! v. 5 Notice that any false prophet who attempted to take the people into some false cult or false religion was to be stoned to death. Does that sound extreme? Does that sound severe? Such a false prophet is like a cancer, and a cancer must be cut out as soon as possible—I know that from personal experience. God here is the Great Physician and He says the cancer must be cut out from among His people. God's heart here is for capital punishment for false prophets as it has eternal consequences. God has a zero-tolerance for this type of behavior. Deliberately false prophets whose desire is to lead people away are to be dealt with very severely. As their false supernatural leadership has eternal consequences. Very serious thing, to say I have received a message from the Lord for you! vs.6-9 So we're to kill the Mormon missionary? Of course not! But we're to put to death the relationship where we're giving time and listening to what he says. Even if he's a friend or a brother, we're not to give ear to those who would entice us by saying, "There's a god you don't know about, something you're not aware of, something more. The Bible is fine. But there's more." Put that relationship to death because there are demonic powers in false religious systems. Wise is the person who says, "I'm going to keep my eyes on Jesus Christ all the days of my life. Nothing less, nothing more, nothing else." Even those closest to you shall not be tolerated or consented to, but you shall put them to death! Today we don't stone but we need to remember God has a zero tolerance for this. We should be ruthless to be on guard against this. Oprah Winfrey types?? - Mat 18:6 "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea. Luke 14:26 "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate (by comparison!) his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple

Vs. 1-5 A true prophet of God will lead you to rely completely and totally upon Jesus Christ for your hope of salvation. If they say you've got to rely upon the church, they're a false prophet. The church can't save you. If they say you have to rely upon continued membership in the church to be saved, they're false prophets. The only thing that can save you, is a living faith in a living Lord, our Lord, Jesus Christ. If a person would lead you to trust in anything else, rituals, or church memberships, or activities, he is a false prophet. He is leading you to trust on sandy soil. It's going to fail. There's only one thing that can save you, and that is your faith in Jesus Christ. That prophet or dreamer of dreams in this time, was to be put to death.

v. 8 Gal 6:1 Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.

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Deu 13:10 <u>And you shall stone him with stones until he dies, because he sought to entice you away from the LORD</u> your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

Deu 13:11 So <u>all Israel shall hear and fear, and not again do</u> such wickedness as this among you.

Deu 13:12 "If you hear someone in one of your cities, which the LORD your God gives you to dwell in, saying, Deu 13:13 'Corrupt men have gone out from among you and enticed the inhabitants of their city, saying, "Let us go and serve other gods" '—which you have not known—Deu 13:14 then you shall inquire, search out, and ask diligently. And if it is indeed true and certain that such an abomination was committed among you,

Deu 13:15 you shall surely strike the inhabitants of that city with the edge of the sword, utterly destroying it, all that is in it and its livestock—with the edge of the sword.

Deu 13:16 And you shall gather all its plunder into the middle of the street, and completely burn with fire the city and all its plunder, for the LORD your God. It shall be a heap forever; it shall not be built again.

Deu 13:17 So none of the accursed things shall remain in your hand, that the LORD may turn from the fierceness of His anger and show you mercy, have compassion on you and multiply you, just as He swore to your fathers,

Deu 13:18 <u>because you have listened to the voice of the LORD your God, to keep all His commandments</u> which I command you today, to do what is right in the eyes of the LORD your God.

vs. 9b-11 The Israelites were to physically stone the person who tried to pull them away from God—for that is the way they would put an end not only to that person, but also to the problem. And in this, God declares that capital punishment is indeed a deterrent to crime. Notice that the first stone was to be thrown by the accuser—which would, in itself, be a deterrent to false accusation or accusation made lightly. Notice, too, that the entire community was to take part in the stoning, for one person's sin will indeed affect an entire community. In Joshua 7, Achan hid that which he stole from Jericho, and the whole nation was defeated at Ai. I wish we could understand more fully that when someone sins in our fellowship, it directly affects us all. We're one body, one community, one church, one family. Therefore, the whole community must be involved in the purging process. That is why Paul would write to Timothy, "Openly rebuke those who openly sin in order that all may hear" (see 1 Timothy 5: 20). God certainly believes in the determent of capital punishment! Deu 24:7 "If a man is found kidnapping any of his brethren of the children of Israel, and mistreats him or sells him, then that kidnapper shall die; and you shall put away the evil from among you.

Vs. 12-15 - this concerns a whole city! God's plan is given to us to inquire. If it is true, the whole city is to be wiped out. A little leaven, leavens a whole lump! Moving from city to city until a whole land is infected!

A true prophet of God will lead you to rely completely and totally upon Jesus Christ for your hope of salvation. If they say you've got to rely upon the church, they're a false prophet. The church can't save you. If they say you have to rely upon continued membership in the church to be saved, they're false prophets. The only thing that can save you, is a living faith in a living Lord, our Lord, Jesus Christ. If a person would lead you to trust in anything else, rituals, or church memberships, or activities, he is a false prophet. He is leading you to trust on sandy soil. It's going, you're going to fall. There's only one thing that can save you, and that is your faith in Jesus Christ. That prophet or dreamer of dreams in this time, was to be put to death.

<u>v. 16</u> - The whole city and it's contents shall be burned. Just obedience to God; nothing to gain from destroying them, materially!

v.17 Do this because it's good for you! God love you and only wants what is best for you!

Vs. 9-11 Ecc_8:11 Because the sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil. Saudi Arabia – cut off your hands if caught stealing! Singapore – Drug users/dealers dealt harshly on the spot! How said, the criminal seems to have more rights, than arresting officers!! If we see loved ones living in sin and we love them, we need to address that.

Chap 14 - IMPROPER MOURNING; CLEAN AND UNCLEAN MEAT; TITHING PRINCIPLES

<u>vs.1-2</u> Israel was to reject the mourning deaths that were practiced by the Caananites. You're not like the rest of the world. You're to process death differently! <u>1 Th 4:13</u> But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.

Death is unnatural! It's not in either our software or our hardware. When we see a believer and those around them go through the valley evidencing that God has enabled them to go through victoriously, it is so good and bring glory to God! IPE_2:9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; We as His people are to be a "special" people!

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IMPROPER MOURNING; Deu 14:1 "You are the children of the LORD your God; you shall not cut yourselves nor shave the front of your head for the dead.

Deu 14:2 For you are a holy people to the LORD your God, and the LORD has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.

CLEAN AND UNCLEAN MEAT:

Deu 14:3 "You shall not eat any detestable thing.

Deu 14:4 These are the animals which you may eat: the ox, the sheep, the goat,

Deu 14:5 the deer, the gazelle, the roe deer, the wild goat, the mountain goat, the antelope, and the mountain sheep.

Deu 14:6 And you may eat every animal with cloven hooves, having the hoof split into two parts, and that chews the cud, among the animals.

Deu 14:7 Nevertheless, of those that chew the cud or have cloven hooves, you shall not eat, such as these: the camel, the hare, and the rock hyrax; for they chew the cud but do not have cloven hooves; they are unclean for you.

Deu 14:8 Also the swine is unclean for you, because it has cloven hooves, yet does not chew the cud; you shall not eat their flesh or touch their dead carcasses.

Deu 14:9 "These you may eat of all that are in the waters: you may eat all that have fins and scales.

Deu 14:10 And whatever does not have fins and scales you shall not eat; it is unclean for you.

Deu 14:11 "All clean birds vou may eat.

Deu 14:12 But these you shall not eat: the eagle, the vulture, the buzzard.

Deu 14:13 the red kite, the falcon, and the kite after their kinds:

Deu 14:14 every raven after its kind;

Deu 14:15 the ostrich, the short-eared owl, the sea gull, and the hawk after their kinds;

- <u>vs. 1-2</u> When someone died in the Canaanite culture, the mourners would mark their bodies and shave the middle of their heads. "You are not to do that," God said to His people, as if to say, "Rather than mutilate yourselves, you're to celebrate the fact that those who die in your midst are with Me." Sure, we passionately and deeply miss those who die, but we don't cut our flesh or tear ourselves apart emotionally because we know he or she is in the best place possible.
- v. 3 In In this section, Moses reiterates the dietary laws for the people of Israel—which meats were considered to be clean, which unclean. These kosher laws served the people of Israel well not only in Moses' generation, but for centuries to come... In the Middle Ages, when plagues and disease devastated the continent of Europe, the Jewish people were singularly protected from many of them. Mistakenly thinking their protection came from magic or witchcraft, the Jews were persecuted. As time has passed, however, we now know that the reason the Jewish people in Europe were protected was because of their adherence to the sanitary and dietary regulations found here in the Book of Deuteronomy. The wisdom of God's Word becomes all the more clear in light of the contemporary writings of other cultures. When we study the Scriptures, written at the same time as this papyrus, we see them proving to be medically correct and profound and healthy. They are not dated, not absurd and should the Lord tarry, I have a sneaking suspicion that as we learn more, we'll discover even more how God's dietary regulations are the best possible plan for the human condition. When Jesus came on the scene, He said, "The issue is not what you eat physically, but what goes on in your heart" (see Mark 7:15). With this in mind, we can understand that these laws are not only to be followed by the Jewish people of Moses' day, but that they're applicable for you and me spiritually—that we might be careful what we take in, what we put in our soul.
- vs. 4-21 Two characteristics would determine whether an animal was clean, kosher, or unclean: how he walked and what he ate. In other words, is there a division in the way the animal walks? And does it chew the cud, or does it simply spew out stuff half-digested? When I'm reading a book, watching a TV show, or reading a magazine, I must ask, "Is it clean or unclean?" And I can determine this by looking at those who wrote the book or directed the show. How do they walk? Is there a division? Do they know right from wrong, bad from good, dark from light? Do they understand that there is a division in life—a high way and a low way? Has he or she really chewed on the issues and produced something refined—or is it just a bunch of half-thoughts being spewed out? "Be careful," Jesus said. "It's more important what you put into your soul than what you put into your body."

- <u>Vs. 3-21</u> The special diet did indeed have health benefits, but most supremely they were given the diet because they were God's people, a holy people, a different people. So several times per day, in practical mundane things such as eating, they were reminded they were a different kind of people! We're not under these restrictions, but the question for us is whatever we eat, drink or do, does it bring glory to our Lord? <u>v. 7</u> Chews the cud Examples of ruminant animals include cattle, deer, camels, buffalo, goat's sheep and giraffes.

 Vs. 9-10 You may eat any fish that have fins and scales.
- *Vs. 11-21* You may eat all clean birds. Unclean birds are listed. Many of which eat carrion/dead meat. That meat of course, would mean the dead animals that are being eaten has not be bled properly.
- <u>v. 21</u> The prohibition of boiling a young goat in its mother milk probably is given because the Canaanites practiced this ritual to superstitiously improve their fertility or production increase. This command is being given for idolatry reasons. It's literally talking about a young goat. We need to be careful not to add to such instructions. The Jews today practice not serving milk with chicken meat. Of course, we know chickens don't have milk!
- <u>v. 22-23</u> The tithe, giving a tenth part, was to include everything reminding the people that everything they had and received, was from the Lord! The tithe was to be paid every year! Not intermittently!

Three things were being stated in their tithing:

- 1- Learning to fear the Lord, recognizing that everything we have and have received **is from You!**
- 2- Everything that I have belongs to You.
- 3- My security is in You.
- <u>v. 24</u> If the journey is too long to take your tithe in the form of live animals or bulk grain, they were to sell their tithe and bring the money to the place appointed by God.

The procedure of exchanging their money for temple shekels became corrupted and the people were being ripped off by the exorbitant rates and taking advantage of people instead of helping the people in their worship!

<u>Vs. 28-29</u> Every third year an additional tithe was to be given for the poor and the Levites in their area.

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Deu 14:16 the little owl, the screech owl, the white owl, Deu 14:17 the jackdaw, the carrion vulture, the fisher owl, Deu 14:18 the stork, the heron after its kind, and the hoopoe and the bat.

Deu 14:19 "Also every creeping thing that flies is unclean for you; they shall not be eaten.

Deu 14:20 "You may eat all clean birds.

Deu 14:21 "You shall not eat anything that dies of itself; you may give it to the alien who is within your gates, that he may eat it, or you may sell it to a foreigner; for you are a holy people to the LORD your God. "You shall not boil a young goat in its mother's milk.

TITHING PRINCIPLES

Deu 14:22 "You shall truly tithe all the increase of your grain that the field produces year by year.

Deu 14:23 And you shall eat before the LORD your God, in the place where He chooses to make His name abide, the tithe of your grain and your new wine and your oil, of the firstborn of your herds and your flocks, that you may learn to fear the LORD your God always.

Deu 14:24 But if the journey is too long for you, so that you are not able to carry the tithe, or if the place where the LORD your God chooses to put His name is too far from you, when the LORD your God has blessed you,

Deu 14:25 then you shall exchange it for money, take the money in your hand, and go to the place which the LORD your God chooses.

Deu 14:26 And you shall spend that money for whatever your heart desires: for oxen or sheep, for wine or similar drink, for whatever your heart desires; you shall eat there before the LORD your God, and you shall rejoice, you and your household.

Deu 14:27 You shall not forsake the Levite who is within your gates, for he has no part nor inheritance with you. Deu 14:28 "At the end of every third year you shall bring out the tithe of your produce of that year and store it up within your gates.

Deu 14:29 And the Levite, because he has no portion nor inheritance with you, and the stranger and the fatherless and the widow who are within your gates, may come and eat and be satisfied, that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work of your hand which you do.

vs. 22-23 How does a man learn to fear the Lord—to be in awe of Him, to be amazed by Him, to have respect for Him? One of the ways is by tithing because when a person tithes, they begin to see miracles take place. "Test Me," God says, "and see if I will not open up the windows of heaven and pour out a blessing so big your barns can't contain it" (see Malachi 3:10). It's the only place in all of Scripture where God says, "Test Me." More than once, people have said to me, "When you talked on tithing, I resented it—until I began to tithe. And then I began to see just how awesome God is, what He does, and the blessings He sends to us when we tithe."

<u>vs. 24-25</u> If the temple was too far for the people to take their tithe—their corn or ox—they could convert it to money and bring the money to the temple, the place God chose to place His name—in Jerusalem. The two times Jesus cleansed the temple were connected to this as the practice had become corrupted. (<u>John 2:18</u>); (<u>Matthew 21:17–23</u>).

<u>v. 26</u> When the children of Israel brought their tithe, it was to be with rejoicing. "The Lord loves a cheerful giver," Paul would write to the Corinthians (2 Corinthians 9:7). The Greek word translated "cheerful" is hilaros—from which we get the word "hilarious." God loves a person who gives hilariously, cheerfully, gladly. Therefore, I think it's a mistake to feel obligated to give. It's a privilege to be able to say, "Lord, I'm honoring You in the way You've asked me." If it's not a privilege for you, don't do it. You'll find, however, that things don't work for you in your budgeting and your own financial situation. Over and over I've watched people miss out on blessings all because of a failure to understand that they couldn't possibly out give God

 \underline{v} . 27 Separated for service, unlike the other tribes, the Levites had no land. Thus, they were to be cared for by the other tribes.

vs. 28-29 Every third year a second tithe was taken to take care of people who were poor—the fatherless, the widow, the stranger. And that money was to be used for their well being and welfare. If you add together the tithes of Deuteronomy 14, Deuteronomy 16, and Numbers 18, they come to an average of twenty-three percent annually. While it may be that even in our Godless society we are contributing a portion of this through taxes, this we do know for certain: God's ways are right. His heart is for us. Therefore, when He asks us to give to Him, it's not only for His glory, but for our good.

<u>v. 22-23</u> The tithe, giving a tenth part, was to include everything reminding the people that everything they had and received, was from the Lord! The tithe was to be paid every year! Not intermittently!

Three things were being stated in their tithing:

- 1- Learning to fear the Lord, recognizing that everything we have and have received **is from THE LORD!**
- 2- Everything that I have **belongs to THE LORD!**
- 3- My security is in THE LORD!

OUR GOD IS A LOVING, A BLESSING GOD, A GIVING GOD! - We can never out give Him! He will not be a debtor to anyone!

A. A Cheerful, Willing Giver - DO NOT ROB GOD Mal 3:8-12
"Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings. [9] You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, Even this whole nation. [10] Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this,"!!! Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it.

B. Tithing – Personal observations/experience)

- i. God is a giver (John 3:16) I tend to be selfish, small and greedy. Tithing helps me to be more giving. God doesn't need the money, but I have a need to give!
- ii. The tithe under the Mosaic Law was about 23%. However, Abraham, Jacob tithed before the Law was ever given. Although not legalistic, Tithing helps me to remember that all that I have is the Lord's, not mine.
- iii. Tithing sanctifies or sets apart the non-tithe portion or the remaining part that is not tithed.
- iv. **Tithes to the storehouse** the **place where you get fed.** The latest statistic for those in America who call themselves "Born Again" Christians in the USA **who title is 3%** What an issue of lordship! Is He the Lord of my life?
- v. Tithing has been a blessing in the latter 2/3 part of my life.
- vi. God can do more with 80-90% than we with 100%.
- vii. What does the New Testament say about tithing? Cf. Mt. 23:23; Luke 11:42 (tithing you ought to have done); 12:33 (sell what you have); 18:22 (sell all); 21:4 (widow's mite); 2 Cor. 9:6-7 (sow bountifully, reap bountifully; cheerful giver)
- viii. WE GET TO, We have the privilege to give TO HIM, NOT WE HAVE TO! We can never "out give" Him! Our God is a blessing God!