

Life-Study of Leviticus Summaries - Messages 61-64

The Repentance of the People and the Remembrance of God

Leviticus 26:40–41 speak of God's people confessing their iniquity, humbling their uncircumcised heart, and accepting the punishment of their iniquity. This signifies that **the church in its captivity under the enemies repents, confesses its sins, and accepts God's punishments for its sins**. For the church in captivity, God remembers His new covenant and Christ as the rich land. Often when we repent and confess, we have the experience of God remembering the new covenant and also remembering Christ, who has been given to us as our rich land. **Despite His chastisement, God will not reject the church, nor utterly break His covenant with it.**

Devotions for a Vow

Leviticus 27 is about our making a vow to God. This vow is of four kinds of devotions: the devotion of a person, the devotion of cattle, the devotion of a house, and the devotion of a part of a field. The Christian life should be a life of a vow.

The devotion of a person to God indicates that when we devote ourselves to God, it involves our value. **How much we are valued is not according to our estimation; it is according to God and it is according to the holy scale of God's dwelling.** We are not valued according to our spiritual age but according to our spiritual ability, not according to what we should do spiritually but according to what we can do spiritually.

The devotion of a cattle to God is to **be holy, sanctified to God and thus to belong to God**. Once devoted to God, its status cannot be changed by any replacement or exchange. Whenever we consecrate ourselves to Him, we need to have a thorough consideration. Even though what we devote to God is unclean, through the valuation of our Mediator, the Lord Jesus, the motive of our devotion is still valuable to some degree before God.

The devotion of a house signifies that our devotion related to the church should be valued by the Lord Jesus. When we came into the church life, we had the desire to devote ourselves and to be for the church. We need to be careful in making such a decision. **We should not take advantage of our devotion related to the church life that we may keep the enjoyment of the church life.**

The devotion of a field signifies that **our devotion related to the enjoyment of Christ as the rich land should be valued according to the seed of the divine life required for our spiritual increase**. Although we cannot devote a part of Christ or devote our enjoyment of Christ, we can have a devotion that is related to the enjoyment of Christ. The more increase we bring in, the more grace we have a share in. The more increase our consecration affords, the more grace we enjoy.

A Concluding Word

Our situation – Our contact with others may be unclean, and our source, our origin, is uncleanness.

Christ's redemption – Christ's redemption, His propitiation, has solved our problems and has brought us back to God.

The enjoyment of the riches of the processed and consummated Triune God – Having been brought back to God and in to God by Christ's redemption, we may now enjoy all the riches of the processed and consummated Triune God.

The Jubilee – Our enjoyment of the riches of the processed and consummated Triune God brings us to the jubilee.

Three crucial items – God Himself should be our unique goal, we all need to respect God's completed work, and we must obey God.

Making a vow – We need to see that there is the need for those we are willing and able to enjoy God, to enjoy God's work, and to enjoy the result of God's work to make a vow.

(Life-Study of Leviticus – Messages 61-64).