



DEUTERONOMY 14

A PEOPLE WHO BELONG TO GOD

Main Idea

You are Mine. Therefore, live like you are Mine.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Teacher: _____

Series: The Book of Deuteronomy

Chapter Overview

- God begins with Israel's identity before He gives instruction: they are His children, His holy people, and His special treasure.
- Because they belonged to God, Israel was called to live differently from the nations around them.
- Even ordinary areas such as food and money became reminders that every part of life belonged to the Lord.
- God's holiness, provision, and compassion were to shape both their worship and the way they treated others.

KEY VERSE

"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." — Deuteronomy 14:2



I. Remember Who You Are — Deuteronomy 14:1-2

- Identity comes before instruction. God reminds Israel who they are before He tells them how to live.
- They are “the children of the LORD,” so pagan mourning practices were not to define the way they grieved.
- They are a holy people—set apart for God and called to be distinct from the nations around them.
- They are chosen by God to be His “special treasure” above the peoples of the earth.
- Their distinction was rooted in God’s choice and relationship with them, not in personal superiority.
- Holiness is not merely about protecting a reputation; it is about reflecting the God to whom we belong.

Personal Reflection

- Does my identity as one who belongs to God shape the way I respond to the world around me?
- Where am I most tempted to let culture define me instead of Scripture?
- Does my life reflect that I have been set apart for the Lord?

Notes



II. Live Differently Because You Belong to God — Deuteronomy 14:3-21

- The clean and unclean food laws placed God’s covenant boundaries into the ordinary rhythms of everyday life.
- Every meal could become a reminder that Israel belonged to the LORD and was called to obedience.
- The distinction was not simply a lesson in health; it marked Israel as a people separated from surrounding pagan practices.
- God defined what was clean and unclean. Israel’s responsibility was faithful obedience rather than inventing its own standard.
- Jesus taught that defilement comes from the heart, and the New Testament makes clear that believers are not under Israel’s ceremonial food laws.
- The covenant regulation changes, but the principle remains: God’s people are still called to holiness in every area of life.

REMEMBER: God was teaching Israel, “You are Mine. Therefore, live like you are Mine.”

OLD COVENANT	NEW COVENANT
Dietary laws marked Israel as a distinct covenant people.	Believers are not under Israel’s ceremonial food restrictions.
Clean and unclean distinctions reinforced separation and obedience.	Jesus teaches that true defilement comes from the heart.
Daily choices reminded Israel that they belonged to God.	We are still called to holiness because we belong to God.

Notes



III. Honor God with What He Provides — Deuteronomy 14:22-27

- The tithe acknowledged that the harvest, the increase, and every provision ultimately came from the LORD.
- God connected giving with worship so that Israel would “learn to fear the LORD your God always.”
- Their finances became a practical way to train the heart in dependence, gratitude, and obedience.
- When the journey to the place of worship was too far, God made provision so worship could still remain joyful and possible.
- The people were to rejoice before the LORD with the household God had blessed.
- They were not to forsake the Levite, whose service to God left him without the same tribal inheritance.

WHAT GOD PROVIDED	HOW ISRAEL RESPONDED
Harvest and increase	Tithe and worship
Everything ultimately came from the LORD.	They returned a portion in grateful obedience.
Provision for the journey	Rejoice before the LORD and remember the Levite.

SUMMARY
Giving reminds us that we are not owners but stewards. What God provides should lead us to worship, gratitude, and faithful care for His work.

Notes



IV. Remember the People God Cares About — Deuteronomy 14:28–29

- Every third year, the tithe was stored within the towns so that real needs could be met locally.
- God specifically names the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow.
- The law shows that worship was never meant to stop at religious observance; it was to produce practical compassion.
- God's concern for the vulnerable was to be reflected in the priorities of His people.
- Generosity was not separated from faithfulness. Israel's obedience included caring for those who could not repay them.
- The chapter closes with blessing connected to faithful obedience in the work of their hands.

PEOPLE	GOD'S CONCERN
Levite	Support those set apart for service to the LORD.
Stranger	Care for those without the same security or standing.
Fatherless & Widow	Provide for those especially vulnerable and in need.

CHAPTER TRUTH
Our identity shapes our conduct. Because we belong to God, we live differently, honor Him with what He provides, and care about the people He cares about.

Personal Reflection

- If someone watched the way I live, give, and care for others, would they see that I belong to God?

Notes