



1

Cautions and instructions concerning the land God is giving them.

- The place of central worship 12:1-28
 - Totally destroy all places and expressions of worship of the people to be dispossessed from the land. 12:1-3
 - Their places of worship were the "high places" which included mountains and high hills.
 - This also incorporated "sacred groves" depicting the female deity.

2

Cautions and instructions concerning the land God is giving them.

- The place of central worship 12:1-28
 - The Israelites are not to offer sacrifices anywhere except the one place God will choose. 12:4-14
 - Sacrifices, tithes and offerings are to be brought there
 - The feasts were to be observed there.

3

Cautions and instructions concerning the land God is giving them.

- The place of central worship 12:1-28
 - The Israelites are not to offer sacrifices anywhere except the one place God will choose. 12:4-14
 - The time in the wilderness saw a lack of diligence abiding by all the things the people would be expected to do when they had rest in the Promised Land and a central place to worship. For example, Joshua 5:2-9 relates that the ritual of circumcision was not practiced during the 40 years in the wilderness.
 - Sacrifices on the "high places" persisted until the temple was built in Jerusalem. 1 Kings 3:2-4
 - Sacrifices on the "high places" persisted but was always condemned even after the temple was built. 1 Kings 12:31-32; 14:21-24; 15:14; 22:43; 2 Kings 12:3; 14:4;15:4,35; 16:4; 17:9,11.

4

Cautions and instructions concerning the land God is giving them.

- The place of central worship 12:1-28
 - Animals may be killed and eaten in the places where people live. 12:15-28
 - Blood had to be drained from the animal
 - Tithes had to be offered at the central place of worship
 - The firstborn of animals had to be sacrificed and consumed at the central place of worship.
 - Animals vowed to Yahweh must be sacrificed and consumed at the central place of worship

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Cautions and instructions concerning the land God is giving them.

- Religious syncretism forbidden 12:29-32
 - Do not pursue your curiosity about their false gods.
 - Their worship practices are deemed abominable to God and therefore forbidden.
 - Leviticus 18:24-30 and 20:23 reveals that the abominable practices are the reason God is driving these people out of the land.
 - Child sacrifice is emphasized as especially abhorrent to God.

6

Cautions and instructions concerning the land God is giving them.

- Caution against and judgment upon those who would lead away from the worship of Yahweh 13:1-18
 - False prophets 13:1-5
 - The test of a true prophet is the alignment of his message with what God has already revealed.
 - Regardless of what signs and wonders he may work, should his message seek to lead people away from God that prophet is to be deemed false and executed.

7

Cautions and instructions concerning the land God is giving them.

- Caution against and judgment upon those who would lead away from the worship of Yahweh 13:1-18
 - Relatives 13:6-11
 - The gravity of the Israelites rejecting God and turning to false gods is seen in the call to expose and participate in the execution of even a family member who seeks to lead others to serve these false gods. (See Luke 14:26)

8

Cautions and instructions concerning the land God is giving them.

- Caution against and judgment upon those who would lead away from the worship of Yahweh 13:1-18
 - A city of Israelites who have turned from God to idolatry. 13:12-18
 - The city is to be devoted to destruction
 - Every living thing killed
 - Every material thing destroyed. The taking of spoils is explicitly forbidden.
 - This will satisfy God's wrath toward His people and His mercy and compassion will be shown on the obedient.

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