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Cautions and instructions concerning the land God is giving them.

- God's plan for provision for the priests and other Levites 18:1-8
  - The tribe of Levi, which includes all the priests, would not be given an inheritance in the land like the other tribes.
  - This limited the ability of the priests and other Levites to generate income from owning land although they were given land around the cities of refuge (Numbers 35:1-8)
  - The priests could eat or use specified portions of sacrifices and offerings.

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Cautions and instructions concerning the land God is giving them.

- God's plan for provision for the priests and other Levites
  - The main focus of the priests was to minister before Yahweh on behalf of the people.
  - A Levite who left his home, sold his possessions and came to minister to the priests at the central sanctuary would be entitled to these provisions as well.

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Cautions and instructions concerning the land God is giving them.

- Practices, detestable to God and practiced by the inhabitants of the land, forbidden to the Israelites.
  - Child sacrifice
  - Divination-seeking guidance through the observation of any number of objects
    - Animal intestines/liver Ezekiel 21:21
    - Dregs in a cup
    - The position of how arrows land on the ground after being thrown into the air. Ezekiel 21:21

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Cautions and instructions concerning the land God is giving them.

- Practices, detestable to God and practiced by the inhabitants of the land, forbidden to the Israelites.
  - Fortune telling-claiming revelation about the future that has not been revealed by God.
  - Interpretation of omens-assigning messages from natural occurrences or encounters i.e. eclipses, earthquakes, sighting of different birds or animals.
  - Sorcery-using trickery or claiming magical powers with the result of misleading

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Cautions and instructions concerning the land God is giving them.

- Practices, detestable to God and practiced by the inhabitants of the land, forbidden to the Israelites.
  - Charmer-one who casts spells
  - Medium-one who claims to be an intermediary to deliver messages between the spirit world and our world.
  - Necromancer-One who claims to contact the dead.

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Lessons

- Most of these things have a dangerous intrigue to them even to this day.
- Favor of the false gods of idol worship was invoked by extreme measures such as child sacrifice since there was no clear understanding of the expectations of these gods. The favor of the one true and living God is promised over and over in His word, especially in the book of Deuteronomy to those who follow Him in obedience to His expressed will.

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Lessons

- Claims of knowledge apart from what God has revealed opens the door wide to deception. (see Genesis 3:4-5)
- As we have seen and will see to a great degree as we move through the book of Deuteronomy, blessings come from obedience and curses from disobedience, not from a person who places a blessing or curse upon another.

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Lessons

- God has given us all we need for life and godliness through his Word and His Spirit to energize that Word (2 Peter 1:2-4) seeking guidance through those who claim to contact the "spirit world" or communicate with the dead is looking for light in the darkness.

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Lessons

- Assigning meaning to natural occurrence or events of history apart from God's instruction is highly subjective and often used in a manipulative way. (Luke 21:11; Matthew 24:4-8)
- Appearing to have supernatural powers calls attention away from THE source of power. (Acts 8:9-11)

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Cautions and instructions concerning the land God is giving them.

- Prophets and The Prophet 18:15-19-22
  - God will send a prophet, like Moses, who speaks what he hears directly from God.
    - Jesus is the fulfillment of this promise (Acts 3:17-26; 7:37)
    - Jesus, Himself, stated that He spoke only what He heard from God the Father. (John 8:28-38; 12:49; 14:10-11)

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Cautions and instructions concerning the land God is giving them.

- Prophets and The Prophet 18:15-19-22
  - Instruction on how to discern a true and false prophet.
    - Anyone who speaks in the name of other gods is a false prophet
    - 100% accuracy in confirmation of the message is required.

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