

“SERMONS IN OT LAW”

Deut 22:9-11

We need to have the ability to find revelation in OT law.

I. INCORRECT APPROACH TO THE OLD TESTAMENT

A. The OT contains the Law...Exodus/Leviticus/Numbers/Deuteronomy

1. Which contain many seemingly strange commands

a. Shall not boil a baby goat in it's mother's milk...I don't have any goats!!

B. So there are numbers of incorrect approaches to OT law

1. **To make these literal – apply them physically/literally today**

a. Jews: No milk with meat b. You have to have a beard c. You can't eat pork

2. **Ignore them altogether:** *We only use the NT...in the OT – we only use history books*

a. Then this means God doesn't know what He is doing

3. **Over-spiritualize: Make things overly spiritual/symbolic**

a. Using symbolism/numerology: You can make the scripture anything you want it to be

1. David's 5 smooth stones: 5-fold gift ministry...

C. This is not helpful

1. We don't grow in the word 2. We fail to preach the whole counsel of God 3. Can get into false doctrine

a. Acts 20:27 For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God.

II. RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH

A. We have a command

1. 2 Timothy 2:15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

a. Cut it straight – not crooked/wandering anywhere we want it to be!

B. Revelation often comes from asking questions

1. **The big-picture questions**

a. Why did God give the law to His people? (Was it actually simply to prevent mixed-material clothing? NO)

1. To show our need for outside help 2. To demonstrate the difference in His people

2. Law questions about the purpose of the law in this passage:

a. Is this to demonstrate the power of sin: Sin is disgusting to God – it makes God angry

b. Is this to demonstrate our need for a redeemer: The price must be paid by a substitute

c. Is this to demonstrate how we should treat other people: Remember you were slaves!

d. Is this simply a practical concern: Some of the law is simply sanitary – so you don't get sick

e. Is this to visibly demonstrate holiness: Differences from unbelievers

3. What is the main idea of the passage? The principle of mixture/the dangers of mixture

C. **Practical questions:** What would be the practical effects if they do have mixture?

1. Do not plant two kinds of seed in your vineyard...

a. Pollenization is harmed b. Choking the life of good plants c. Fruitfulness

2. Do not plow with an ox and a donkey yoked together...

a. Pull at different speeds b. Pull in different directions c. Unable to work – or fulfill purpose

3. Do not wear clothes of wool and linen woven together...

a. They have different shrink rates b. When washed – the garment will be damaged

I. The Problem of Mixture

The bible lays out the principle of kind: Species/type

14x in the Bible after it's kind...

Life/productivity/fruitfulness/usefulness/productivity

But in life there are sometimes mixtures

Different kinds – that don't belong together

This is not simply horticulture/animals: It has to do with God's people

They mix with people that are not good for them!

Believers with unbelievers

Love/marriage Business
Believers with other believers who have an unhealthy spirit
Carnal Non-passionate
Believers with damaging people
Backsliders Immoral Rebels

II. The Damage of Mixture

Our scrip shows us the practical results of mixture

The damage to fruitfulness: *Do not plant two kinds of seed in your vineyard...*

The damage to purpose: *Do not plow with an ox and a donkey yoked together...*

The damage to ourselves: *Do not wear clothes of wool and linen woven together...*

III. The Power of Purity

What is needed is purity in relationships

We make practical decisions in our relationships

Determine: I will protect my fruitfulness/purpose/my soul

Some ways we do this

If any man will purge himself from these...

This is where the blessing comes

God does more than we can do

Joshua/Caleb survived – and entered into their purpose

They wound up influencing others – for good!