Session #25: "THE LAND BELONGS TO GOD" — *Leviticus 25:1-24*

Monday 7:30pm, H 106 (2nd floor, High School--top of stairs, behind the gym, by doughnut/vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – <u>Phil Twente, cell # 714 425 9221</u>; email - <u>philtwente@att.net</u> For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <u>http://www.missioncalvary.com/</u> Click on "Bible Studies" on the left column under "Site Map"

Note: Reference has been made in the following notes to commentaries on Leviticus by Pastor Chuck Smith, David Hocking and Jon Courson.

Questions:

- Do you think that much of the church today has forgotten "the land" of Israel?
- Do they see a difference between the church and "the land"?
- To whom does the Bible say "the land" belong to?
- Why did God require the land to have a Sabbath every seven years?
- Who needs more days of rest man or "the land"?
- See verse 10, which part is inscribed on the Liberty Bell?

The word "*land*" is used 39 times in chapters 25 & 26 of Leviticus. <u>Not only did God own the land</u> (*v.* 23), <u>He also owned the people</u> (*v.* 55) because He has redeemed them. These words were spoken on Mt. Sinai. - Cf. <u>Ex. 19:1, 40:17; Num. 1:1; 10:11-12</u> - Cf. <u>Genesis 12:2, 7; 15:18;</u>

God told the nation of Israel beforehand that: The Land was lost <u>during the Assyrian judgment</u>; The Land was lost <u>during the Babylonian judgment</u>; The Land was lost <u>during the Roman judgment</u>

The Sabbath of the Seventh Year -

The Seventh Year and the Jubilee Year - THE **PURPOSE** OF THE SABBATICAL YEAR - 1-7 *Lev 25:1 And the LORD spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai, saying,*

Lev 25:2 "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: "When you come into the land which I give you, then the land shall keep a sabbath to the LORD.

Lev 25:3 <u>Six years you shall sow</u> your field, and <u>six years you shall prune your vineyard, and gather</u> its fruit;

Lev 25:4 but <u>in the seventh year</u> there shall be a sabbath of <u>solemn rest for the land</u>, a sabbath to the LORD. You <u>shall neither sow your field nor prune</u> your vineyard.

Lev 25:5 What grows of its own accord of your harvest <u>you shall not reap, nor gather</u> the grapes of your untended vine, for it is a year of rest for the land.

To give rest to the land -1-5

Lev 25:6 And the sabbath produce of the land shall be food for you: for you, your male and female servants, your hired man, and the stranger who dwells with you,

To feed the poor and the animals - 6-7 - cf. Ex. 23:10-11

Lev 25:7 for your livestock and the beasts that are in your land--all its produce shall be for food. <u>To teach</u> people to depend on God - Cf. <u>Psa. 37:25-26; Phil. 4:19; 2 Cor. 9:10-11</u>

The Year of Jubilee (Days of Refreshing THE **PROCLAMATION** OF THE YEAR OF JUBILEE - 8-17

Lev 25:8 "And you shall <u>count seven sabbaths of years</u> for yourself, seven times seven years; and the time of the seven sabbaths of years shall be to you forty-nine years.

Lev 25:9 Then you shall <u>cause the trumpet of the Jubilee (acclimation of joy!!) to sound</u> on the tenth day of the seventh month; <u>on the Day of Atonement you shall make the trumpet to sound</u> throughout all your land.

It began with <u>**REPENTANCE**</u> – 8-9 *cf.* – <u>Acts</u> 3:19-21

Lev 25:10 And you shall <u>consecrate the fiftieth year</u>, and <u>proclaim liberty throughout all the land</u> to all *its inhabitants*. (Inscribed on the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia) It shall be a Jubilee for you; and each of <u>you shall return</u> to his possession, and each of you shall return to his family.

It involved <u>RELEASE or RETURN</u> – 10 *cf. Is. 61:1* - What a wonderful connection this is! Jubilee is really the Lord coming to set up being free-no more sin-total complete release!) Lev 25:11 That <u>fiftieth year shall be a Jubilee to you; in it you shall neither sow nor reap what grows</u> of its own accord, nor gather the grapes of your untended vine.

Lev 25:12 For it is the Jubilee; it shall be holy to you; you shall eat its produce from the field. It involved **REST** – 11-12 – cf. *Hebrews 4:1-16* – **Do you have rest? Peace of God!**

Lev 25:13 "In this Year of Jubilee, each of you shall return to his possession.

Lev 25:14 And if you sell anything to your neighbor or buy from your neighbor's hand, <u>you shall not</u> oppress one another.

Lev 25:15 According to the number of years after the Jubilee you shall buy from your neighbor, and according to the number of years of crops he shall sell to you.

Lev 25:16 According to the multitude of years you shall increase its price, and according to the fewer number of years you shall diminish its price; for he sells to you according to the number of the years of the crops.

Lev 25:17 Therefore you shall not oppress one another, but you shall fear your God; for I am the LORD your God.

It involved <u>RESTORATION</u> - 13-17 - *Leviticus 25:23* - "*the land shall not be sold permanently*" The specific issue is in *v. 14* and *v. 17* - "<u>you shall not oppress one another</u>" *Exodus 23:9* says, <u>"Also you shall not oppress a stranger</u>"; <u>Is. 58:6;</u> *Exodus 22:21* says, "You shall not mistreat a stranger, nor oppress him"(pocketing something in the deal) - <u>cf. Psalm 10:17-18</u> and <u>Job 20:18-29</u> (words of Zophar's sermon on the wicked man to Job)

<u>Provisions for the Seventh Year -</u> THE <u>PROMISE</u> OF BLESSING FOR OBEDIENCE - 18-24 – God greatly minds how we think about the poor!

Lev 25:18 "So you shall observe My statutes and keep My judgments, and perform them; and <u>you will</u> dwell in the land in safety.

<u>"you will dwell in the land in safety</u>" - cf. Psalm 4:8 - "<u>I will both lie down in peace, and sleep; for</u> <u>You alone, O LORD, only make me dwell in safety.</u>" - cf. Prov. 1:33 - "<u>But whoever listens to me</u> will dwell safely, and will be secure, without fear of evil"

Proverbs 10:22 - <u>"The blessing of the LORD makes one rich, and he adds no sorrow with it."</u> The blessing of <u>God's PROTECTION</u> - 18

Lev 25:19 Then the land will yield its fruit, and you will eat your fill, and dwell there in safety. Lev 25:20 "And if you say, "What shall we eat in the seventh year, since we shall not sow nor gather in our produce?"

Lev 25:21 Then <u>I will command My blessing on you</u> in the sixth year, and <u>it will bring forth produce</u> enough for three years.

The blessing of God's PRODUCTIVITY - 21

"I will command my blessing on you in the sixth year, and it shall bring forth produce enough for three years"

Cf. Psalm 67:5-6 - <u>"Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the people praise You. Then the</u> earth shall yield her increase; God, even our own God, shall bless us."

Cf. *Psalm 85:12 - "Yes, the LORD will give what is good; and our land will yield its increase"* Cf. *Lev. 25:20* and *Phil. 4:6*

Lev 25:22 And you shall sow in the eighth year, and eat old produce until the ninth year; until its produce comes in, you shall eat of the old harvest.

Redemption of Property

Lev 25:23 "The land shall not be sold permanently, for the land is Mine; for you are strangers and sojourners with Me.

The blessing of God's **POSSESSION** - 23 - "for the land is mine"

Lev 25:24 And in all the land of your possession you shall grant redemption of the land.

<u>Isaiah 61:1; Acts 3:19-21; Hebrews 4:1-16; Rom. 6:17-23; Jn. 8:32-36; Is. 25:8-9; Rev.</u> <u>21:1-7!!!</u>