

Deuteronomy 7

Moses's Second Sermon (4:44– 29:1)	4:44–49	Introduction		
	5–11	Covenant Obligations: General Exhortation	5:1	“Hear, O Israel!”
			6:4	“Hear, O Israel!”
			9:1	“Hear, O Israel!”
	12–26	Covenant Obligations: Specific Laws		
	27:1– 29:1	Covenant Blessings and Curses		

6:4–25 Hear! Call to Whole-Hearted Loyal Love

7:1–20 Immediate Test of Whole-Hearted Loyal Love

8:1–20 Future Test of Whole-Hearted Loyal Love

- **7:1–6** **Command to Destroy Canaanite Idolaters/Idolatry** | When in Canaan, you must destroy Canaanite idolaters and idolatry because you are a people holy to the LORD your God, who chose you above all peoples.
- **7:7–24** **Assurances and Corresponding Warnings**
 - 7:7–11 **First Assurance, with Corresponding Warning**
 - 7–9a, Assurance
 - 9b–11, Warning
 - 7:12–16 **Second Assurance, with Corresponding Warning**
 - 12–15, Assurance
 - 16, Warning
 - 7:17–26 **Third Assurance, with Corresponding Warning**
 - 17–24, Assurance
 - 25–26, Warning

Church, as God's holy people whom he has chosen in love, **unreservedly renounce** every enticement that would seduce you to devote yourself to *anyone* or *anything* other than your loving Lord, lest that enticement ensnare you. *(Compare Eph 1:3–5; Col 3:5)*

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Believers in Christ have no need to fear God's ultimate wrath against our

unrighteousness. The reason we don't have to fear Christ's second coming isn't because God somehow decided to "skip" or "gloss over" the judgment we deserve. By no means! God doesn't ignore our sin, he paid for it. God the Father poured out the full judgment we believers deserve on his Son, our Savior. In this sense, the Lord Jesus was "devoted to destruction" in our place, as our substitute, that we might be spared God's righteous judgment against us and enjoy the blessings Christ secured for us.

And **why** did the Lord Jesus voluntarily submit himself to bear God's judgment in our place, for our sake? Because we're so great? Because he looked down the corridor of time and saw that we would be really studious Christians? No. On our own merits (apart from Christ), we're just like the unrighteous Canaanites. The reason Jesus died for believers is simply because God set his love on us. That's it. That's all we got. To use the categories of Deut 7, it's because God our Father chose us in love to be his holy people, in faithfulness to his ancient promises (Eph 1:4–5). He chose us because he loves us, and he loves us because he loves us.

In view of Christ's great love for us—including his love to bear God's righteous judgment against our sin, in our place, as our substitute—let's put Deut 7 into practice in our lives this week:

Let's **unreservedly renounce** every ensnaring enticement that would seduce us away from devotion to our Savior, and let's **publish** to our neighbors the good news that in Christ, God has provided redemption and flourishing to *anyone* who would simply believe.

Opportunities for Canaanites to hear of **the LORD** | Select Passages

- Deuteronomy 4:6–8—Israel's faith-full obedience to the LORD's righteous instructions would show the world what he is like
- Joshua 2—The LORD performs his wonders and mighty works in public, amid human history

Rahab's speech to the Israelite spies at Jericho: Joshua 2:9–13

"I know that the LORD has given you the land, and that the fear of you has fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land melt away before you. ¹⁰ For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you devoted to destruction. ¹¹ And as soon as we heard it, our hearts melted, and there was no spirit left in any man because of you, for the LORD your God, he is God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath. ¹² Now then, please swear to me by the LORD that, as I have dealt kindly with you, you also will deal kindly with my father's house, and give me a sure sign ¹³ that you will save alive my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them, and deliver our lives from death."