

## Sample Responses for Deuteronomy 12 | Margaret Collins and Mary Hannah

### STRUCTURE

*From Margaret:*

#### Brief Outline:

- General Command to obey in the land God is giving Israelites (vs. 1)
  - Specific Commands to obey for right worship of God: renouncing idols of Canaan and bringing offerings and sacrifices to God (vs. 2-31)
- General Command to obey in the land God is giving to Israelites (vs. 32)

#### More Detailed Outline:

- **General Command** to obey in the land God is giving the Israelites (vs. 1)
  - **Specific Commands** to obey for right worship of God in new land (vs. 2-31)
    1. Completely destroy places of worship of Canaanite's false gods (vs. 2-4)
    2. Seek place of worship of true God of Israel, where God will dwell and Israel will eat, sacrifice, and rejoice. (vs. 5-7, 17-19, 26)
    3. Regarding meat when they scatter in new land: they can eat it anywhere, but they must pour out blood (vs. 15-16, 20-25)
    4. Don't forget about the Levites! (vs. 19)
- **General Command** to obey in the land God is giving the Israelites (vs. 32)

*From Mary:*

**12:1** *Introduction:* These are the statutes you must do in the land the LORD is giving you

**12:2-4** Renounce! Right worship involves destroying C. idolatry: "*You shall not worship LORD that way*"

**12:5-7** Rejoice! Right worship focuses on sacrifice in the place the LORD will choose in Canaan

**12:8-28** Clarifying and Applying Commands: Sacrificial and non-sacrificial slaughter

*Doing what is right in everyone's eyes (8)*

- **12:8-12** | Do **not** sacrifice as in wilderness, but **do** sacrifice/rejoice at the LORD's chosen place in the land he is giving you
- **12:13-19** | Do **not** sacrifice indiscriminately, but **do** sacrifice at LORD's chosen place—though you may slaughter non-sacrificially anywhere in Canaan, provided you rightly handle the animal's blood

*Doing what is right in the LORD's eyes (28)*

- **12:20-28** | You may slaughter non-sacrificially anywhere, but do **not** eat the blood; and you **must** bring all sacrifices to the LORD's chosen place

**12:29-31** Renounce! Do not be ensnared by Can. idolatry: "*You shall not worship LORD that way*"

**12:32** *Conclusion:* Do everything I command you, without adding to or taking from it

### UNIFYING THEME

*From Margaret:* Israel is called to obey the commandments God is giving regarding the place of and practices for worshipping God, including by renouncing and destroying evidence of Canaanites worship of false gods.

*From Mary:* Believers, renounce all acts and mindsets of idolatrous worship (personal and corporate) that God hates and instead rejoice in God the way that he has chosen, including by rightly sacrificing and gathering with his covenant family in worship to enjoy his blessed presence and provision.

### AUTHOR'S AIM

*From Margaret:* In light of Israel's changing circumstances, Moses' aim is to lay out how Israel is to worship God in a new place that must include cleansing the land of false idols and instructing them on rightly offering sacrifices to God.

*From Mary:* Moses aims to show the Israelites more concretely how they must apply the LORD's commandments about worshipping the LORD exclusively and without images to their future situation of living in the land of Canaan, and Moses clarifies a few implications of such right worship, such as destroying Canaanite idolatrous worship sites and paraphernalia and provisions for non-sacrificial slaughter.