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The Second Address: The Specific Stipulations of the Covenant 12:1 to 26:19



This chapter is a turning point in the book of **Deuteronomy**. After eleven chapters of introduction and guidance, now **Moses** begins to give further details on the statutes and ordinances (**4:1**) of **the Torah**. It is interesting to note that frequently in the Scriptures, **chapters 12** often marks an important turning point in the history of **Isra'el**. In **Genesis 12** we have the Abrahamic Covenant, the beginning of the history of the nation. **Exodus 12** marks the birth of the nation, where **God** gives **Isra'el** a new calendar with a new year. This was marked by the Passover, and the blood of the lamb, which saved **the Israelites** from judgment. In **Joshua**, the first **12** chapters recount the conquering of the Land. The remaining chapter details the distribution of the Land. The first **12** chapters of **Isaiah** deal with the sin of Isra'el. But starting with **Isaiah 13**, the prophet describes the sins of the Babylonians and all the surrounding nations. **Matthew 12** marks the final rejection of **Yeshua** by the religious authorities. **Matthew 13** begins the parables of the Kingdom of **God**. The first **12** chapters of **Acts** focus on **Peter**, but from **Acts 13** the rest of the book focuses on **Paul**, the apostle to the Gentiles. Finally, **Revelation 12** is a condensed history of **Isra'el** in the midst of the Great Tribulation. **And here in Deuteronomy 12, and the next twenty-four chapters, statutes** (Hebrew: *hachukkim*, meaning *to write into law permanently*) and **ordinances** (Hebrew: *hammishpatim*, meaning *a judgment of the court*) **are given for the training of the Israelites for their new mission in the Promised Land.**³⁰⁴