

Deuteronomy 13

Chapter 13 of 34 · 18 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Warnings Against False Prophets and Idolatry

¹ If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder,

² And the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them;

³ Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

⁴ Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him.

⁵ And that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams, shall be put to death; because he hath spoken to turn you away from the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed you out of the house of bondage, to thrust thee out of the way which the LORD thy God commanded thee to walk in. So shalt thou put the evil away from the midst of thee.

⁶ If thy brother, the son of thy mother, or thy son, or thy daughter, or the wife of thy bosom, or thy friend, which is as thine own soul, entice thee secretly, saying, Let us go and serve other gods, which thou hast not known, thou, nor thy fathers;

⁷ Namely, of the gods of the people which are round about you, nigh unto thee, or far off from thee, from the one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth;

⁸ Thou shalt not consent unto him, nor hearken unto him; neither shall thine eye pity him, neither shalt thou spare, neither shalt thou conceal him:

9 But thou shalt surely kill him; thine hand shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterwards the hand of all the people.

10 And thou shalt stone him with stones, that he die; because he hath sought to thrust thee away from the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

11 And all Israel shall hear, and fear, and shall do no more any such wickedness as this is among you.

12 If thou shalt hear say in one of thy cities, which the LORD thy God hath given thee to dwell there, saying,

13 Certain men, the children of Belial, are gone out from among you, and have withdrawn the inhabitants of their city, saying, Let us go and serve other gods, which ye have not known;

14 Then shalt thou enquire, and make search, and ask diligently; and, behold, if it be truth, and the thing certain, that such abomination is wrought among you;

15 Thou shalt surely smite the inhabitants of that city with the edge of the sword, destroying it utterly, and all that is therein, and the cattle thereof, with the edge of the sword.

16 And thou shalt gather all the spoil of it into the midst of the street thereof, and shalt burn with fire the city, and all the spoil thereof every whit, for the LORD thy God: and it shall be an heap for ever; it shall not be built again.

17 And there shall cleave nought of the cursed thing to thine hand: that the LORD may turn from the fierceness of his anger, and shew thee mercy, and have compassion upon thee, and multiply thee, as he hath sworn unto thy fathers;

18 When thou shalt hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, to keep all his commandments which I command thee this day, to do that which is right in the eyes of the LORD thy God.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

God — אֱלֹהִים (Elohim)

God (plural of majesty)

The Hebrew **Elohim** (אֱלֹהִים) is a plural form denoting majesty and fullness of deity. Though grammatically plural, it takes singular verbs when referring to the one true God, suggesting the Trinity's plurality within unity.

Mercy — רַחֲמִים (Rachamim)

Compassion, mercy

The Hebrew **rachamim** (רַחֲמִים) derives from 'womb' (rechem), suggesting tender, maternal compassion. God's mercies are 'new every morning' (Lamentations 3:23), showing His compassionate nature.

Lord — יְהוָה / אֲדֹנָי (YHWH / Adonai)

The LORD / Lord

When 'LORD' appears in small capitals, it represents the Tetragrammaton **YHWH** (יהוה), God's personal covenant name meaning 'I AM.' When 'Lord' appears normally, it's **Adonai** (אֲדֹנָי), meaning 'my Lord,' emphasizing sovereignty.

Prophet — נָבִיא (Navi)

Prophet, spokesman

The Hebrew **navi** (נָבִיא) means prophet—one who speaks God's word to the people. Prophets received divine revelation and declared God's message, often calling Israel to repentance and foretelling future events.

Truth — אֱמֶת (Emet)

Truth, faithfulness

The Hebrew **emet** (אֱמֶת) means truth or faithfulness—reliability and conformity to reality. God is true (emet), utterly faithful to His word and character.

CROSS REFERENCES

Deuteronomy 13:1 **Prophecy:** 1 Kings 13:18; Isaiah 9:15; Jeremiah 6:13; 23:11; 27:9; 29:8; Zechariah 13:4; 1 John 4:1. **Resurrection:** Mark 13:22. **Parallel theme:** Zechariah 10:2

Deuteronomy 13:2 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 18:22; Jeremiah 28:9; Matthew 24:24.

References God: Deuteronomy 13:6

Deuteronomy 13:3 **Word:** Deuteronomy 8:2; Isaiah 8:20. **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 11:19. **References God:** Psalms 66:10; 2 Thessalonians 2:11. **Love:** Deuteronomy 6:5

Deuteronomy 13:4

References God: Deuteronomy 6:13; 10:20; 30:20; Jeremiah 7:23; Micah 6:8; Romans 6:13; Colossians 1:10. **References Lord:** 1 Corinthians 6:17. **Word:** 2 Kings 23:3; 2 Chronicles 34:31

Deuteronomy 13:5 **Evil:** Deuteronomy 17:7; 19:19; 22:21; 24:7; 1 Corinthians 5:13.

Prophecy: Deuteronomy 18:20; Jeremiah 14:15. **References God:** Deuteronomy 13:10

Deuteronomy 13:6 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 28:54; 1 Samuel 18:1; 18:3; 20:17; Proverbs 18:24; Ephesians 4:14; 2 Peter 2:1; Revelation 12:9; 20:3. **References God:** Deuteronomy 29:18

Deuteronomy 13:8 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 7:16; 19:13; Proverbs 1:10

Deuteronomy 13:10 **References Lord:** Joshua 7:25

Deuteronomy 13:11 **Evil:** Deuteronomy 19:20. **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 17:13

Deuteronomy 13:13 **Parallel theme:** 1 Samuel 2:12; 25:17; 2 Samuel 20:1; John 8:44; 2 Corinthians 6:15; 1 John 2:19. **References God:** Deuteronomy 13:2; 13:6; 1 Kings 21:10; 21:13

Deuteronomy 13:14 **Truth:** Deuteronomy 17:4. **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 10:18; John 7:24; 1 Timothy 5:19

Deuteronomy 13:15 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 7:2; Exodus 22:20; Leviticus 27:28

Deuteronomy 13:16

References Lord: Joshua 6:24; Jeremiah 49:2. **Parallel theme:** Joshua 8:28; Isaiah 17:1; 25:2

Deuteronomy 13:17

Parallel theme: Genesis 26:4; 28:14. **References Lord:** Deuteronomy 30:3; Genesis 26:24; Joshua 7:26. **Curse:** Deuteronomy 7:26; Joshua 6:18

Deuteronomy 13:18 **Word:** Deuteronomy 12:28; Psalms 119:6. **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 12:32; Matthew 7:24. **References Lord:** Deuteronomy 12:25; Matthew 7:21. **References God:** Matthew 6:33