

# Deuteronomy 14:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And if the way be too long for thee, so that thou art not able to carry it; or if the place be too far from thee, which the LORD thy God shall choose to set his name there, when the LORD thy God hath blessed thee:

## Analysis

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**And if the way be too long for thee, so that thou art not able to carry it—** God's law accommodates human limitations. Families living far from Jerusalem couldn't transport perishable tithes hundreds of miles. This provision demonstrates **He knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust** (Psalm 103:14).

Legalism makes no such allowance—it demands performance regardless of circumstance. Jesus condemned Pharisees who **bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne** (Matthew 23:4). God's law, by contrast, is **not grievous** (1 John 5:3). The monetary conversion (next verse) shows God values heart worship over mechanical compliance. He seeks **truth in the inward parts** (Psalm 51:6), not impossible logistics.

## Historical Context

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After Solomon's Temple centralized worship in Jerusalem, families from northern Galilee or southern Negev traveled 70-100+ miles for festivals. This provision prevented the tithe from becoming an impossible burden, ensuring continued participation across all regions.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. Where have you experienced God's 'accommodation' of your limitations in spiritual disciplines?
2. How do you distinguish between God's holy standards (unchanging) and His merciful accommodations (flexible)?
3. What 'heavy burdens' have religious traditions placed on you that God's Word does not require?

## Interlinear Text

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כִּי	יִרְבֶּה ה	מִמֶּךָ	הֲדַרְךָ	כִּי	לֹא
for thee so that	be too long	H4480	And if the way	for thee so that	H3808
H3588	H7235		H1870	H3588	
תוֹכֵל	שָׂאתוֹ	כִּי	יִרְחֹק	מִמֶּךָ	הַמָּקוֹם
thou art not able	to carry	for thee so that	be too far	H4480	it or if the place
H3201	H5375	H3588	H7368		H4725
אֲשֶׁר	יִבְחַר	יְהוָה	אֱלֹהֶיךָ:	לֵשׁ וּ	שְׁמוֹ
H834	shall choose	from thee which the LORD	thy God	to set	his name
	H977	H3068	H430	H7760	H8034
שָׁמַיִם	כִּי	יְבָרְכֶךָ	יְהוָה	אֱלֹהֶיךָ:	
H8033	for thee so that	hath blessed	from thee which the LORD	thy God	
	H3588	H1288	H3068	H430	

## Additional Cross-References

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**Deuteronomy 12:21** (References God): If the place which the LORD thy God hath chosen to put his name there be too far from thee, then thou shalt kill of thy herd and of thy flock, which the LORD hath given thee, as I have commanded thee, and thou shalt eat in thy gates whatsoever thy soul lusteth after.

**Deuteronomy 12:5** (References God): But unto the place which the LORD your God shall choose out of all your tribes to put his name there, even unto his habitation shall ye seek, and thither thou shalt come:

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