GREAT LOVE XXIX

CONDITIONAL BLESSINGS

DEUTERONOMY 7

 We often speak of God’s love for us as unconditional but in Deuteronomy chapter seven there are some verses that suggest that there were, at least in the Old Testament, some conditions set on his love. Deuteronomy chapter five had listed again the commandments of God that he required of his people and in chapter seven he told the new generation of Israel that **if** they would keep his commandments He would love them and bless them. *“12 Wherefore it shall come to pass, if ye hearken to these judgments, and keep, and do them, that the Lord thy God shall keep unto thee the covenant and the mercy which he sware unto thy fathers: 13 And he will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee: he will also bless the fruit of thy womb, and the fruit of thy land, thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep, in the land which he sware unto thy fathers to give thee.” Deut 7:12-13 (KJV).*

 He further said *“And the Lord will take away from thee all sickness, and will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt which thou knowest, upon thee; but will lay them upon all them hate thee.”* Deut 7:15 (KJV). I think about the fact that we have more doctors, nurses, and health care facilities than ever before and wonder if we may **not** be meeting the conditions required by God to receive that particular blessing.

 Again he requires that we should not even tempt ourselves with the gods of the other people and nations*. “And thou shalt consume all the people which the Lord thy God shall deliver thee; thine eye shall have no pity upon them: neither shalt thou serve their gods; for that will be a snare unto thee.”* Deut 7:16 (KJV). It is no wonder that we are losing many blessings today. We are integrating our enemies into our society. We are required to give their gods the same respect as our God. That has never worked for God’s people and it never will. We had best remember that we are one nation under God! When we fail to recognize that we are “under God” He will not recognize our nation.

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram