

March 15 Answers

- 1) Moses' Second Sermon — Part 1b (Deut 7–8: General covenant obligations). Moses had urged Israel to be completely loyal to God, and now he warned them about several **threats** to this loyalty. First, the **nations** living in Canaan. Moses warned the people that the Canaanites would lead them into idolatry, and he commanded Israel to **devote** those nations to complete **destruction** (Deut 7:2). This teaches us that we should be **ruthless** when it comes to removing anything that can lead us into sin (e.g., relationships, entertainment, food, etc.). We can't avoid living in a sinful world, but we can keep the world from gaining a foothold in our lives. Second, their **prideful** hearts. Moses told Israel that God's decision to lead them through the desert had been deliberate, for He wanted to **humble** them and **test** them and **reveal** what was in their hearts. This teaches us that our primary concern should be complete **obedience** to God's Word (Deut 8:3). God knows our physical needs, and He will provide for us in His own time (Deut 8:16). Our job is to patiently follow Him. Third, their future **abundance**. Moses warned the people that prosperity would cause them to forget God if they didn't remember where their blessings came from: "You shall **remember** the LORD your God, for it is he who is giving you power to make wealth" (Deut 8:18). This shows us how important it is to remind ourselves each day that everything we have is a **gift** from God. God has given us the ability to work and make money, and we should use our wealth to bring glory to Him.