



“Accusations”

Due Process
Deuteronomy 17:2-13

Due process in handling:

I. Complaints – “you have heard, and enquired” (vs. 2-5)

A complaint that is:

- A. Pagan** – “gone and served other gods, and worshipped them”
- B. Provable** – “it be true, and the thing certain”
- C. Public** - “which committed that wicked thing, to your gates”

II. Confirmation – “at the mouth of two witnesses” (vs. 6-7)

A confirmation by:

- A. Witnesses** - “the hands of the witnesses will be first upon him”
- B. Worthiness** – “he that is worthy of death be put to death”
- C. Willingness** – “you shall put the evil away from among you”

III. Controversies– “matters of controversy” (vs. 8-13)

A controversy involving:

- A. Complications** – “there arise a matter that is too hard for thee”
- B. Compliance** – “you shall do according to the sentence”
- C. Contempt** – “the man...will not hearken to the priest”

Sentence Sermon

We should be careful not to rush to judgment, but require two or three witnesses to establish wrongdoing.

Additional Verses

- *Proverbs 18:13*
- *Deuteronomy 4:19*
- *I Timothy 5:19*
- *I Corinthians 5:1*
- *Matthew 18:15-20*
- *Romans 13:1-14*
- *Leviticus 19:16*
- *Proverbs 18:17*
- *Deuteronomy 19:15*
- *Romans 1:22-23*

Questions to Ponder

1. What are the key words or phrases in this passage?
2. Who are the central characters of the passage?
3. What are some of the “wickedness” that verse 2 is talking about?
4. How did a man or woman transgress God’s covenant?
5. What responsibility was placed on individuals hearing of wickedness?
6. What are the “safeguards” in accusing someone given in the passage?
7. What is the goal(s) of stoning someone?
8. What are the hard judgments that were to be decided by Levite priests?
9. How can we know that God takes judges and judging seriously?
10. What is the underlying attitude of those who break the law?
11. What lessons can believers today learn and apply from this passage?