

Deuteronomy 16:1–17 The People of God Worship

Deuteronomy describes the three, central festivals of Judaism when all the males would appear at the Tabernacle for worship with the Community of Faith.

Passover recalls their deliverance out of Egypt.

The Feast of Weeks celebrates God's provision and recalls their former status as Slaves.

The Feast of Tabernacles celebrates God's blessing the work of one's hands.

A. The People of God worship because God rescues them from oppression, 1–8

- A. Everyone comes together because everyone was rescued
- B. Everyone takes actions that recall God's instructions to an earlier generation (16:2–3)
- C. Everyone engages because God rescues communities of people not just individuals

B. The People of God worship freely because they have been set free, 9–12

- A. Anticipation and preparation enhance our worship (16:9)
- B. When we remember God set us free we celebrate with our family (16:11a)
- C. When we remember God set us free we celebrate with the less fortunate in our community (16:11b)

C. The People of God worship because God has provided blessings, 13–15

- A. We share our blessings with our family and others in the community (16:14)
- B. We celebrate with great joy to remember God will provide us a blessing (16:15)

D. Worship includes returning to God as He has given to us, 16–17

- A. We take time to gather with others to recall how God has blessed the community
- B. We bring back to God from God's blessing to us
- C. Worship is difficult unless we first recognize the blessings from God

Worship does not consist of our appeal for God to work something new in our life.

Worship consists of recognizing God provided us a new identity for our life.

Worship is not restricted to inside four walls, it pours forth to affect those around us.

The People of God worship because God has worked (and continues to work) in Our Lives.