



27. Three Basic Rules

Listen to God's Word from Deuteronomy 7:1-5, "When the Lord your God brings you into the land where you are entering to possess it, and clears away many nations before you ... and when the Lord your God delivers them before you and you defeat them, then you shall utterly destroy them. You shall make no covenant with them and show no favor to them ... But thus you shall do to them: you shall tear down their altars, and smash their sacred pillars, and hew down their Asherim, and burn their graven images with fire."

The Israelites were given three basic rules for taking the Promised Land. Rule 1: Take no prisoners. Read Leviticus 18 if you have questions about God's judgment on those evil people. Rule 2: Make no covenants

with the people ... make no compromising deals with the enemy. And rule 3: Destroy all remnants of their idolatry.

Every believer is in a war against the world, the flesh, and the Devil. You're in a war. Rule 1: Take no prisoners in your battles against the flesh. Galatians 5:24 says, "*Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.*" Rule 2: Make no compromising deals with the world. Romans 12:2 says, "*Do not be conformed to this world.*" And Rule 3: 1, Peter 5:8-9 says, "*Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. But resist him, firm in your faith.*" Are you winning your battles ... and winning the war? Ephesians 6:10 says, "*Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might.*" How do you do that? Take no prisoners! Make no deals! And destroy all idols!