

Chosen to Be Distinct

Deuteronomy 14:1-29



Deuteronomy 14:1-2

You are the sons of the LORD your God.

You shall not cut yourselves or make any baldness on your foreheads for the dead. For you are a people holy to the LORD your God, and the LORD has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.

Deuteronomy 14:3-8

You shall not eat any abomination. These are the animals you may eat: the ox, the sheep, the goat, the deer, the gazelle, the roebuck, the wild goat, the ibex, the antelope, and the mountain sheep. Every animal that parts the hoof and has the hoof cloven in two and chews the cud, among the animals, you may eat. Yet of those that chew the cud or have the hoof cloven you shall not eat these: the camel, the hare, and the rock badger, because they chew the cud but do not part the hoof, are unclean for you. And the pig, because it parts the hoof but does not chew the cud, is unclean for you. Their flesh you shall not eat, and their carcasses you shall not touch.

Deuteronomy 14:9-20

Of all that are in the waters you may eat these: whatever has fins and scales you may eat. And whatever does not have fins and scales you shall not eat; it is unclean for you.

You may eat all clean birds. But these are the ones that you shall not eat: the eagle, the bearded vulture, the black vulture, the kite, the falcon of any kind; every raven of any kind; the ostrich, the nighthawk, the sea gull, the hawk of any kind; the little owl and the short-eared owl, the barn owl and the tawny owl, the carrion vulture and the cormorant, the stork, the heron of any kind; the hoopoe and the bat. And all winged insects are unclean for you; they shall not be eaten.

All clean winged things you may eat.

Deuteronomy 14:21

You shall not eat anything that has died naturally.
You may give it to the sojourner who is within your towns,
that he may eat it, or you may sell it to a foreigner.

For you are a people holy to the LORD your God.

“You shall not boil a young goat in its mother’s milk.

Deuteronomy 14:22-23

You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. And before the LORD your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the LORD your God always.

Deuteronomy 14:24-27

And if the way is too long for you, so that you are not able to carry the tithe, when the LORD your God blesses you, because the place is too far from you, which the LORD your God chooses, to set his name there, then you shall turn it into money and bind up the money in your hand and go to the place that the LORD your God chooses and spend the money for whatever you desire—oxen or sheep or wine or strong drink, whatever your appetite craves. And you shall eat there before the LORD your God and rejoice, you and your household. And you shall not neglect the Levite who is within your towns, for he has no portion or inheritance with you.

Deuteronomy 14:28-29

At the end of every three years you shall bring out all the tithe of your produce in the same year and lay it up within your towns. And the Levite, because he has no portion or inheritance with you, and the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, who are within your towns, shall come and eat and be filled, that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work of your hands that you do.

Main Idea

God has sovereignly chosen a peculiar people for Himself whom He has made to be distinct from all others in identity, in conduct, and in esteem.



**Chosen to Be
Distinct...
...in Identity**

Distinct in Identity

Chosen as *sons* of the LORD

Deuteronomy 14:1-2

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Sons How?

Not by nature.

Romans 9:8

It is **not the children of the flesh**
who are children of God,
but the children of the promise
are regarded as descendants.

Sons How?

Not by nature.

Not by righteousness.

Deuteronomy 9:6

Know, therefore, that the LORD your God is not giving you this good land to possess because of your righteousness, for you are a stubborn people.

Isaiah 1:2

Listen, O heavens, and hear, O earth;
For the LORD speaks, “Sons I have reared and brought up,
But they have revolted against Me.”

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For the LORD speaks, “Sons I have reared and brought up,
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**Clearly not based on
“foreknowledge”!**

Sons How?

Not by nature.

Not by righteousness.

But by sovereign grace!

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Grace!

Deuteronomy 14:1-2

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on your foreheads for the dead. For you are a people holy

to the LORD your God, and **the LORD has chosen you**

to be a people for his treasured possession,
out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.

Sovereign Grace!

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**out of all the peoples who are
on the face of the earth.**

There may be no place where the sovereign grace of God is more clearly expressed than this statement!

“The Lord has chosen you, apart from all others, to be His people; not due to anything in or about you, but due to His sovereign grace alone.”

What about us?

Ephesians 1:4-5

He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world,
that we should be holy and blameless before Him.

In love He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus
Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will.

What about us?

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Why?

By Sovereign Grace!

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Why?

Distinct in Identity

Chosen as sons of the LORD

Chosen to be *holy* to the LORD

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Distinctly Holy

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**out of all the peoples who are
on the face of the earth.**

Distinctly Holy to the LORD

Deuteronomy 7:6

For you are a people **holy to the LORD** your God...
out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.

Deuteronomy 26:19

...you shall be a people **holy to the LORD** your God,
as he promised.

Deuteronomy 28:9

The LORD will establish you as a people **holy to himself**,
as he has sworn to you.

What about us?

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that we should be holy and blameless before Him.
In love He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus
Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will.

2 Corinthians 1:12

For our proud confidence is this, the testimony
of our conscience, that in holiness and godly sincerity,
not in fleshly wisdom but in the grace of God,
we have conducted ourselves in the world,
and especially toward you.

Distinctly Holy

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He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world,
that we should be holy and blameless before Him.
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Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will.

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not in fleshly wisdom but in the grace of God,

**we have conducted ourselves in
the world,**

and especially toward you.



**Chosen to Be
Distinct...**

...in Identity

...in Conduct

Distinct in Conduct

Distinct in the way you grieve.

Deuteronomy 14:1-2

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**You shall not cut yourselves or
make any baldness on your
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your God, and the LORD has chosen you to be a people
for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples
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Pagan Burial Rituals

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You shall not cut yourselves or make any baldness on your

foreheads **for the dead.** For you are a people holy to the LORD

your God, and the LORD has chosen you to be a people
for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples
who are on the face of the earth.

Pagan Burial Ritual

Leviticus 19:28

You shall not make any cuts on your body **for the dead** or tattoo yourselves: I am the LORD.

Jeremiah 16:6

Both great and small shall die in this land.
They shall not be buried, and no one shall lament for them or cut himself or make himself bald for them.

So, what about goats?

Deuteronomy 14:21

You shall not boil a young goat in its mother's milk.

What about us?

1 Thessalonians 4:13

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve, as do the rest who have no hope.

What about us?

1 Thessalonians 4:13

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren,

about those who are asleep, **that you may not grieve,**

as do the rest who have no hope.

Do you have hope?

1 Thessalonians 4:13

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren,
about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve,

as do the rest **who have no hope.**

Distinct in Conduct

Distinct in the way you grieve

Distinct in the way and what you eat

Deuteronomy 14:3-8

You shall not eat any abomination. These are the animals you may eat: the ox, the sheep, the goat, the deer, the gazelle, the roebuck, the wild goat, the ibex, the antelope, and the mountain sheep. Every animal that parts the hoof and has the hoof cloven in two and chews the cud, among the animals, you may eat. Yet of those that chew the cud or have the hoof cloven you shall not eat these: the camel, the hare, and the rock badger, because they chew the cud but do not part the hoof, are unclean for you. And the pig, because it parts the hoof but does not chew the cud, is unclean for you. Their flesh you shall not eat, and their carcasses you shall not touch.

Deuteronomy 14:9-20

Of all that are in the waters you may eat these: whatever has fins and scales you may eat. And whatever does not have fins and scales you shall not eat; it is unclean for you.

You may eat all clean birds. But these are the ones that you shall not eat: the eagle, the bearded vulture, the black vulture, the kite, the falcon of any kind; every raven of any kind; the ostrich, the nighthawk, the sea gull, the hawk of any kind; the little owl and the short-eared owl, the barn owl and the tawny owl, the carrion vulture and the cormorant, the stork, the heron of any kind; the hoopoe and the bat. And all winged insects are unclean for you; they shall not be eaten.

All clean winged things you may eat.

Deuteronomy 14:21

You shall not eat anything **that has died naturally**.
You may give it to the sojourner who is within your towns,
that he may eat it, or you may sell it to a foreigner.
For you are a people holy to the LORD your God.

Not inherently evil

You shall not eat anything that has died naturally.

You may give it to the sojourner who is within your towns,
that he may eat it, **or you may sell it to a foreigner.**

For you are a people holy to the LORD your God.

Because you are distinct for the Lord

You shall not eat anything that has died naturally.
You may give it to the sojourner who is within your towns,
that he may eat it, or you may sell it to a foreigner.

For you are a people holy to the LORD your God.

What about us?

Romans 14:6

He who eats, does so for the Lord,
for he gives thanks to God;
and he who eats not, for the Lord he does not eat,
and gives thanks to God.

What about us?

Romans 14:6

He who eats, does so **for the Lord,**
for he gives thanks to God;
and he who eats not, for the Lord he does not eat,
and gives thanks to God.

ALL for the Lord!

Romans 14:6

He who eats, does so **for the Lord**,
for he gives thanks to God;

and he who eats not, **for the Lord** he does not eat,
and gives thanks to God.

Distinct in Conduct

Distinct in the way you grieve

Distinct in how and what you eat

Distinct in the way you give

Deuteronomy 14:22-23

You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. And before the LORD your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the LORD your God always.

Deuteronomy 14:24-26

And if the way is too long for you, so that you are not able to carry the tithe, when the LORD your God blesses you, because the place is too far from you, which the LORD your God chooses, to set his name there, then you shall turn it into money and bind up the money in your hand and go to the place that the LORD your God chooses and spend the money for whatever you desire—oxen or sheep or wine or strong drink, whatever your appetite craves. And you shall eat there before the LORD your God and rejoice, you and your household.

Deuteronomy 14:27-29

And you shall not neglect the Levite who is within your towns,
for he has no portion or inheritance with you.

At the end of every three years you shall bring out all the tithe
of your produce in the same year and lay it up within
your towns. And the Levite, because he has no portion
or inheritance with you, and the sojourner, the fatherless,
and the widow, who are within your towns, shall come
and eat and be filled, that the LORD your God may bless you
in all the work of your hands that you do.

What about us?

1 Corinthians 16:2

On the first day of every week let each one of you put aside and save, **as he may prosper...**

2 Corinthians 9:7

Let each one do just **as he has purposed in his heart;**
not grudgingly or under compulsion;
for God loves a cheerful giver.



Chosen to Be Distinct...

...in Identity

...in Conduct

...in Esteem

Distinct in Esteem

Distinctly treasured

Deuteronomy 14:2

For you are a people holy to the LORD your God,
and the LORD has chosen you to be a people for his
treasured possession, out of all the peoples
who are on the face of the earth.

Deuteronomy 14:2

For you are a people holy to the LORD your God,

and the LORD has chosen you to be **a people for his**

treasured possession, out of all the peoples

who are on the face of the earth.

Leviticus 20:26

Thus you are to be holy to Me, for I the LORD am holy;
and I have set you apart from the peoples **to be Mine.**

What a glorious gift to be God's!

Jeremiah 32:41

And I will rejoice over them to do them good,
and I will faithfully plant them in this land
with all My heart and with all My soul.

What about us?

1 Peter 2:9

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, **a people for God's own possession**, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Titus 2:14

...who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself **a people for His own possession**, zealous for good deeds.

**What a glory and a gift to be
able to say that you are His!**

Distinct in Esteem

Distinctly treasured

Distinctly blessed

Deuteronomy 14:24

And if the way is too long for you,
so that you are not able to carry the tithe,
when the LORD your God blesses you,
because the place is too far from you,
which the LORD your God chooses,
to set his name there...

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And if the way is too long for you,
so that you are not able to carry the tithe,

when the LORD your God blesses you,

because the place is too far from you,
which the LORD your God chooses,
to set his name there...

The LORD promised to bless

Deuteronomy 7:13-14

He will love you, bless you, and multiply you.

He will also bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, your grain and your wine and your oil, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock, in the land that he swore to your fathers to give you.

You shall be blessed above all peoples.

By Sovereign Grace!

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He will also bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, your grain and your wine and your oil, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock, in the land that he swore to your fathers to give you.

**You shall be blessed above all
peoples.**

What about us?

Galatians 3:26

For you are all **sons** of God **through faith** in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 3:9

So then **those who are of faith** are blessed
with Abraham, the believer.

What about us?

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So then those who are of faith **are blessed**
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Concluding Considerations:

Are you a child of God? On what basis?

Do you think of yourself as holy
and distinct from the world,
and do you live accordingly?

Do you see yourself as a treasured
possession of God, richly blessed
“above all peoples”?