

Midrash *Mishpatim* ("Judgments")

Exodus 21:1 – 24:18

Last Week's Portion Began the Covenant Requirements ... and they Continue in this Week's Portion

וְאֵלֶּה הַמִּשְׁפָּטִים אֲשֶׁר תָּשִׂים, לְפָנֶיךָ

Starts with "and", which is Connected to The "10 Words" of Chapter 20!

Human Relationships

Exodus 21:1-11

Slavery: Why would God start with this particular subject?

Israel has just come out of 100+ years of slavery, and needed the reminder!

The Year of Release שְׁמִטָּה (*shmitah*) for Slaves

Deuteronomy 15

Work 6 years / freedom (rest) in the 7th

If the servant chooses to stay – becomes a Bondservant:

Procedure is done at the door – Threshold Covenant!

Bondservants (*doulos*)

Saul of Tarsus

Romans 1:1

Yeshua

Isa 52:13; Phil 2:5-8; Luke 22:24-27

Us

Psalm 40:6

Violence to People & Animals

Exodus 21:12-36

Institution of Capital Punishment Already established with Noah

Genesis 9:6

Levitical Sacrificial System covered only Unintentional Sins

Intentional Sins were NOT Covered

Paul speaks of being "servants of sin" under Sacrificial System

Romans 6:15-18

But the New Covenant covers Intentional Sin also:

"There is therefore no condemnation to them which are in Messiah Yeshua..."

Romans 8:1

Distinction between Premeditated Murder & Manslaughter

Premeditated Murder – NO REMEDY but death

Manslaughter – **Cities of Refuge**

Numbers 35:9-34

Judicial Details concerning Murder and Death

"Eye for eye, tooth for tooth..."

Exodus 21:24

Example of *lex talionis* (Retributive Justice)

First codified in Code of Hammurabi (18th Century BC)

"Proper counter punishment for an offense"

Yeshua's "interpretation"

Matthew 5:38-42

Responsibility for Property

Exodus 22:1-15

God's Endorsement of Capitalism!

God's "Stand Your Ground Law"

verses 2-4

Only if life is threatened – NOT property

Moral Offences

Exodus 22:16-31

No Pre-marital Sex

Witchcraft, Bestiality & Idol Worship Punishable by Death

Special Protection for Foreigners, Widows & Orphans

Established No-Interest Loans to Israelites

Respect for Judges & Leaders

Reminder of the Obligation (and Ownership) of the Firstborn

Prohibition of Eating non-Kosher Meat

Truth in Justice

Exodus 23:1-9

No False Witness

Do not Engage in Mob Mentality

No Bribery

The Shabbat of the Land

The Sabbatical Cycle - Every 7th Year the Land is to Rest

Jubilee Year - Every 50th Year:

The Land is to Rest

All Slaves are set Free

All Debts Cancelled & Land Returned

Israel's Failure to Observe

Lev 26:31-35 & II Chron 36:21

The Feasts

Passover +

The *Shalosh Reg'lim*: 3 times per year – all able-bodied men appear in Jerusalem

Unleavened Bread

Including **Firstfruits** (Barley Harvest)

Shavuot (Wheat Harvest)

Sukkot (Nuts, Fruit & Oil)

} Trumpets & Atonement are Missing!

Dietary Laws Concerning Meat Sacrificed to Idols

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

Exodus 23:19b

Do not offer sacrifices that were improperly killed – note the context!

1) Form of sacrifice to pagan gods

Deut 14:21

2) Don't consume the seed along with the fruit

3) Don't kill with what God designed for life

First Only Herbs & Seeds... then (after Flood) Only Animals that eat Herbs & Seeds

God Links Israel to the Land

Exodus 23:20-26

The Angel of the LORD *"...for My Name is in Him."*

Yeshua

ישוע

Or Yehoshua

יהושע

Or should it be spelled

יהושע

?????

God's Battle Plan

Exodus 23:27-31

God will:

Send His Fear Before them (Israel's enemies)

Confuse every Nation Israel Encounters

Make Israel's Enemies Turn their Backs & Run

Send hornets ahead of them to drive out the:

Hivites Near Mt Hermon (probably descendants of Nephilim)

Canaanites Inhabitants of Promised Land

Hittites Descendants of *Heth* – Northern Canaan

God will not drive them out all at once because Israel could not control all the land.

Set Bounds:

From the Red Sea (East) to the Mediterranean Sea (West)

From the desert (South) to the River (Euphrates – North)

The Covenant Confirmed @ Sinai

Exodus 24:1-18

Moses, Aaron + *Nadab* + *Abihu* + 70 elders

Nadab & *Abihu* run into difficulties later on

Leviticus 10:1-2

"...built an altar under the hill..."

Another suggestion of a marriage under the *chupah*

**A Blood Ratified
Covenant:**

1) Reading (Ex 24:7a)

2) Agreement (Ex 24:7b)

3) Blood Shed (Ex 24:5-5)

4) Confirming Meal (Ex 24:11b)

Haftarah:

Jeremiah 34:8-22

Freedom for Hebrew Slaves

Brit Chadashah:

Luke 22:14-20

Yeshua Confirms the New Covenant