



Ki Teitzei, Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19
Torah Teaching
By Moshe Schwab

<p><u>Names</u> Kefa – Peter Moshe – Moses Shaul – Paul Yeshua – Jesus (in Hebrew it means "Salvation") Yĕhōvâh – God's real name forever (Exodus 3:15) Yochanan – John</p>	<p><u>Terms</u> Haftarah – the weekly reading from the prophets Parashah – (portion) one of 54 portions of the Torah Shabbat – the 7th day of the week; we are to rest Tanakh – Old Testament portion of Bible Torah – 1st 5 books of the Bible</p>
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The Torah portion for this week is Ki Teitzei and it means, "when you go." We teach the Torah portions because it was instituted by God's holy prophets, perhaps Nehemiah. Yeshua would have taught from the portions and that is what He was doing in Luke 4:21. I would like to begin by talking about spiritual things of significance.

We need to talk about biblical issues because people are easily swayed into believing all kinds of things instead of what the Bible says. Deuteronomy 6:7 NKJV says, "You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them **when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.**" I went to a seminar years ago and the person talking said that a study had been done where they asked children if their parents had shared certain important things with them. The children responded no. When they asked the parents whether they had shared these things with their children, the parents said yes. This demonstrates the wisdom of God's word and the need to hear the scriptures over and over. We all need to hear what the Bible says over and over. If I repeat myself, it is your opportunity to work what I am teaching into your mind and heart.

Seek spiritual things that have spiritual significance.

Colossians 3:2 NKJV says, "Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth." We need to be able to assess where we are in life and what direction we need to take spiritually. Some people need to learn and grow in their commitment to keep God's commandments and understanding God's commandments. Others need to be reminded. It does not hurt us to be encouraged with what we have already heard.

We should bravely face up to how we are doing spiritually. We should honestly assess how we are doing. Perhaps make a list of things that you do that help you spiritually. Then make a list of things that you need to change in your life. Are the things you are doing making you more effective at following God? What is causing you to sin? How can we expect to keep God's commandments if we do not know them? What situations do we need to avoid to stay faithful to God?

Remember, this is a serious issue. Yeshua said that we need to keep the law, God's Old Testament commandments. Matthew 7:22-23 NKJV says, "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'" We shared last week that God will hold us accountable for not listening to Yeshua. Acts 3:22-23 NKJV says, "The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren. Him you shall hear in all things, whatever He says to you. And it shall be that every soul who will not hear that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people." Yeshua taught that we are supposed to keep God's Old Testament commandments. Do not listen to those who teach you that we do not have to keep them.

Some teach that all you need is faith or that good intentions is enough to get you into the future kingdom. They are teaching that there is a wide gate that leads to the future kingdom of God. Yeshua taught the opposite. Matthew 7:13 NKJV says, "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it."

Sometimes in the process of examining our life, we will think of things that we should do, or of sinful things that we should stop doing. Another thing to try is to pray to God to help you keep His commandments, and also ask the Holy Spirit to help reveal things you should be doing. Psalms 139:23-24 NKJV says, "Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my anxieties; and see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

Then, we need to move forward spiritually with patience and discipline. It is difficult to get anything done if we are not committed to doing it. In our era, there are a lot of distractions that can use up our time. I limit my time playing games or watching TV. We do not want to waste our days entirely on these things. Years ago, I realized I was spending a lot of time on recreational activities instead of getting things done and accomplishing tasks. So, I eliminated some activities, and I quit watching TV for a while. I used to know someone who went to Harvard and when I asked him if he watched something on TV, he told me that he did not have a TV. He used his time to accomplish things in life instead of allowing nonessential activities to waste his time. That is often what happens when we do not have priorities in life and when we do not make our spiritual life an important part of life.

Be disciplined in life so that you can enjoy life and also keep yourself holy spiritually. Do not give in to sin. We live in this world, but we need to fight spiritually to keep our minds and thoughts in the right place. It says in the Bible that we are in a spiritual battle. Do not lose the battle. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 NKJV says, "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity." We are to control our mind, our thoughts, and our actions.

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 NKJV says,

Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. But I discipline my body and bring it into

subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.

The following scripture tells us that those who do not live a holy life will not be in the future kingdom. Some say that we are saved by grace, but this scripture says that we can fall short of God's grace by living in sin. When you stand before God will you be rejected for living in sin and not inherit the blessings of the future kingdom?

Hebrews 12:14-17 NKJV says,

Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled; lest there be any fornicator or profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright. For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears.

Be honest about how you are doing spiritually and be willing to change. Discipline yourself spiritually and in life so that you inherit God's promised future kingdom. It is a real place, and God will lavish His blessings on those who want to Him and follow His commandments and to follow truth. Revelation 21:21 NKJV says, "And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass."

Grow in Keeping and understanding God's word and His commandments.

We often talk about keeping God's commandments, but how can you keep what you do not know to keep. Then there is the problem of those who say we do not need to keep God's commandments. They say things like, "God's knows my heart," "I have good intentions," "It is all about relationship," "Just love God and your neighbor," and false teachers seem to come up with some other saying that sounds good but are lies. You love God by listening to Him and keeping His commandments. Deuteronomy 11:1 NKJV says, "Therefore you shall love the LORD your God, and keep His charge, His statutes, His judgments, and His commandments always." How do you love your neighbor? Leviticus 19:18-19 NKJV says, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD. You shall keep My statutes." It makes sense, loving others entails doing what our all-knowing and good creator tells us. We would not need to keep sharing this if the lies were not so pervasive. Get to know the 10 Commandments and God's other commandments.

I remember one person saying to me that we do not want to sound judgmental or proud by asserting ourselves. What they mean is, do not tell people what the Bible says. We should be willing to accept and do what God says. Because people are not grounded in the doctrine of the Old Testament, they will often take scriptures out of context and have a lack of understanding of the New Testament portion scriptures. For example, Colossians chapter 2 talks about those who follow philosophy and man-made ideas instead of what God says. Colossians 2:8 NKJV says, "Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world." Also, Colossians 2:22 NKJV says, "Which all concern things which perish with the using – according to the commandments and doctrines of men."

So, what is the context of Colossians chapter 2? We are not supposed to follow man-made doctrines. God's commandments are not man-made doctrine. Yeshua said in Matthew 15:9

NKJV, "And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men." We are supposed to keep the doctrine of God and God's commandments. Proverbs 4:2 NKJV says, "For I give you good doctrine: Do not forsake my law." The Old Testament law is doctrine. Some actually twist the scriptures around in Colossians chapter 2 to mean we are not to keep Shabbat and God's other feasts (It says in Leviticus 23:2 that they are God's feasts, not just Jewish feasts). Colossians chapter 2 is actually talking about not judging others on how they keep Shabbat and their man-made rituals on how to do that. Ritual is part of life, but not all ritual is commanded by God. We can enjoy ritual, but do not teach man-made ritual as a commandment of God.

Be profitable in your spiritual approach, apply yourself well.

We should want to be in relationship with God and do all that He says to do. If we do not follow His commandments, how can we say we are in relationship with Him? Deuteronomy 13:4 NKJV says, "You shall walk after the LORD your God and fear Him, and keep His commandments and obey His voice; you shall serve Him and hold fast to Him." Some think that serving God means to tell people about God, praying, or helping others, but it has more to do with keeping His commandments.

Our life can be described as a walk with God it says. In order to walk with God, we need to have a deep respect for Him, keep His commandments and obey Him, serve Him and follow hard after what He has commanded us. God would not tell us to do something that we cannot do. Some say that it is too difficult to do, but that is not true. The Bible says that it is not hard to keep God's commandments. Deuteronomy 30:11 NIV says, "Now what I am commanding you today is not too difficult for you or beyond your reach."

I sometimes cite the example of those who wish to drive an automobile. There are over 400 motor vehicle laws in the United States and most people will memorize and keep these laws because they want to pass their driver's test so they can drive. There are some 300 applicable biblical laws to keep. Some laws are for farmers, some for men or women, and others apply to special situations.

Of course, biblical laws can vary in their application, so we not only need to learn what the laws are and who they apply to but apply sensible ways to keep the laws that apply to us. Most people do not have an ox that needs to be returned, so it makes sense that we should try to find the person who has lost something of value. A person's ox could be of great value and be the means for plowing their field and therefore the source of their livelihood. The New Testament portion scriptures quote the Old Testament scriptures and also has applications of the Old Testament scriptures. We talk about this frequently because people do not understand this. Some say that only the New Testament is doctrine, and they ignore the doctrine of the Old Testament scriptures. Proverbs 4:2 NKJV says, "For I give you good doctrine: Do not forsake my law." Like we said previously, God's laws are doctrine. We need to work this into our minds.

The New Testament also says that the Old Testament is doctrine.

2 Timothy 3:14-17

But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is

profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Timothy learned the Holy Scriptures from his Jewish mother who taught him the Old Testament commandments. Acts 16:1 NKJV says, "Then he came to Derbe and Lystra. And behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a certain Jewish woman." There was no New Testament until later. The early believers kept God's Old Testament commandments because they are doctrine.

Why don't people realize this? It is because much of Christianity had developed a philosophy, a theology, which replaces God's commandments with man-made reasoning. Yeshua taught against made up man-made reasoning. This is a good scripture to remember. The text is about some who were negating God's Old Testament commandments with their man-made reasoning. Matthew 15:9 NKJV says, "And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men." Notice it says their man-made doctrine is worthless.

The reason we need to talk about this over and over is because some have been taught wrong doctrine about this. Again, in Deuteronomy it tells us to talk about the things of God frequently because we need to follow truth and not be swayed by those who teach what they believe instead of what the Bible says. Deuteronomy 6:6-7 NKJV says, "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up." We all need to be encouraged with the truths of the Bible frequently.

If a person believes in God's good commandments in the Old Testament portion, the Bible fits together better because you do not have to explain away the teachings of Yeshua and other scriptures that say we are to keep the Old Testament law. Even Shaul (Paul) said the Old Testament law is not done away. Romans 3:31 NKJV says, "Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law." The word for establish can mean "to stand" according to Strong's Dictionary.

Therefore, Shaul is saying that the Old Testament law still stands. People who say otherwise do not understand the scriptures properly. God's good people need to start standing up for truth and not religious philosophies. 1 John 3:4 NKJV says, "Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness." So, Rabbi Yochanan (the Apostle John) said not keeping the law is sin. James 2:18-20 NKJV says, "But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead." Just saying you believe is not enough, you must also keep the law. Yeshua said He will reject those who do not keep the law. Matthew 7:23 NKJV says, "I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"

The Old Testament commandments are profitable, and they are doctrine. When the Bible talks about doing what is right or good works, it is talking about God's commandments. That is the good works that it is talking about in 2 Timothy. Deuteronomy 6:17-18 NKJV says, "You shall diligently keep the commandments of the LORD your God, His testimonies, and His statutes which He has commanded you. And you shall do what is **right and good** in the sight of the

LORD, that it may be well with you." Some people believe that doing what is right or doing good is defined by what they think is right or good. When we do what our all-knowing and good God tells us to do by way of His commandments, we are doing what is right, and doing good works. Deuteronomy 12:28 NKJV says, "Observe and obey all these words which I command you, that it may go well with you and your children after you forever, when you do what is **good and right** in the sight of the LORD your God." We are following God when we keep His commandments.

Doing things God's way affects your life and is profitable.

I want to make a point about this. Again, 2 Timothy 3:16-17 NKJV says, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." God's Old Testament commandments help us to what is right (righteousness). They make us a better person because we are then equipped with the know how to do what is good. They are profitable and are doctrine.

When we work at a job, we expect to be paid for what we do. What God says is profitable for life. It said in Deuteronomy 12:28 said that keeping God's commandments will, "Go well with you and your children after you forever." That does not sound like God's good commandments are done away with, they are, "forever." Deuteronomy 30:15-16 NKJV says, "See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. For I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and **the LORD your God will bless you.**" We often read things in the context of what we already believe. If someone told you that God's goodness through His commandments has been done away, they are blinded to the truth. Not only are God's commandments good, but we just read that God will put blessing on those who, "Keep His commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the LORD your God will bless you." God can give people special blessings because He is God. Isn't that wonderful!

Also, allow the work of the Holy Spirit. In this Messianic age, the Holy Spirit is also our helper in so many ways. Yeshua gave us His commandments at Mount Sinai on Pentecost (also known as Shavuot) and the Holy Spirit some 1500 years later in Jerusalem on Pentecost.

*John 14:15-17 NKJV says, "If you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever – the Spirit of truth."

*The Holy Spirit helps us personally in life. Galatians 5:22-23 NKJV says that the Holy Spirit help us to have, "Love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control."

*Leaders and those who serve are given gifts through the Holy Spirit. Ephesians 4:11-12 NKJV says, "And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry."

*There are gifts of the Holy Spirit that are used to encourage, nurture, and deliver that are available to the believers. Some believers may have several gifts of the Holy Spirit. They are referred to as gifts Romans 12. Romans 12:6-8 NKJV says, "Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us

prophecy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness."

*Here is another list of uses of the Holy Spirit. Notice it says that it is for "each one" in this Messianic age. These are not just manifestations, but they are to be used in the body of Messiah. Manifestations means evidences. 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 NKJV says, "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues."

Seek spiritual things that have spiritual significance. Be honest with where you are spiritually, and be dedicated to learn and grow spiritually. Be profitable in your spiritual approach and apply yourself well to living in truth, keeping God's commandments, and do not forget about the Messianic gift of the Holy Spirit. Doing things God's way affects your life and is profitable and God can even give you supernatural blessings for your faithfulness.

Torah Study.

This Torah portion contains a lot of laws and begins with the law regarding a captive woman. If a soldier wants to make a captive woman his wife, he is to cut her hair and wait 30 days while she mourns. Like so many things in the Bible, the scriptures can also teach us other things. The captive woman teaches us not to marry hastily and that women should not dress in alluring nature. Allowing mourning should teach us to be caring about others' emotions. Lastly, the captive woman must agree to following the Torah; so, we should not marry someone who does not want to follow the Torah. Torah means instruction; namely, God's instruction. The word "yoke" in Jewish thought means the Torah. We should understand this when the Bible uses the word "yoke." In 2 Corinthians 6:14 NKJV it says, "Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers." So, watch out for people who say they believe in God, but do not live like they believe. The devils also believe the Bible says and they are going to the lake of fire.

A firstborn son should receive his double portion of the inheritance even if his wife is unloved. A rebellious child was to appear before the judges at the gate and to be stoned. This refers to a person who is doing things that warrant stoning. The Talmud incorrectly applies this to a child that is not doing things that warrant stoning. The Talmud is not God's word. It goes on to say in this portion that a person that is hung for a crime should not be left hung overnight. That is why Yeshua was taken off the stake and buried before nightfall. They were obeying the Torah.

Yeshua did not die on a cross. He died on a stake and then rose from the dead on the third day. He died for our sins; Isaiah 53:6 NKJV says, "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all." Yeshua fulfilled what was written in Isaiah in the Bible; Isaiah was written some 600 years before Yeshua came.

The Greek word translated "cross" was mistranslated. The Greek word that is translated "cross" is always the word for a pointed stake (σταυρός – staw-ráhs). Also, it is wrong to pray to an object like a cross; the Torah commands us to not to make anything to pray to. Exodus 20:4-5

NKJV says, "You shall not make for yourself a carved image — any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them."

Of course, not all objects made were made to be prayed to and are not idols, but the history of the cross symbol is pagan. We are not to do what the pagans do the Bible says (see Deuteronomy 12:30-31). The Egyptian cross is an ankh (that has been in use since approximately 3,000 BC). The cross was a pagan symbol in antiquity. Constantine worshiped the sun god Mithra. His vision of the sun and a pagan cross became associated with the religion of the Roman Empire which is completely devoid of the Jewish roots of the Bible. He made the day of the sun god, Sunday, the day of worship and the Roman Empire made God's feasts illegal. Leviticus 23:2 NKJV says, "The feasts of the LORD, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, **these are My feasts.**" Their version of Christianity is a false religion, and they passed down their version of Christianity into the Christian faith.

Understanding that pagan ideas and ritual has been passed down into Christianity may seem strange to some of you that have been taught that it is okay to pray before pictures, statues, candles, or crosses. Instead of using these objects to pray in front of, pray directly to God. Some believers have not been taught right. We are not to bow down before any objects. For example, the people were praying before the brazen serpent that Moshe made to heal people, so King Hezekiah had it destroyed (see 2 Kings 18:4). Isn't that great; you do not have to kneel down before any objects.

*You can pray directly to God and
that's what God wants you to do.*

Praying before objects is idolatry. The Bible says no idolater will be in the future kingdom of God. 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 NKJV says, "**Do not be deceived.** Neither fornicators, **nor idolaters**, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God."

They were to return each other's animals or keep them until they could return them. They were also to help each other's injured animals. Women were not to wear men's clothing and men were not to wear women's clothing. This practice is often associated with sinful sexual behaviors. We just read in 1 Corinthians that these people will also not be in the future kingdom of God ("nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards"). There are also devil spirits that are associated with and promote these practices. Devil spirits influence and possess these people into engaging in these behaviors.

Shaul talks about us being in a spiritual battle. Ephesians 6:11 NKJV says, "Stand against the wiles of the devil." Ya'akov said in James 4:7-8 NKJV, "Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you." You do not have to be controlled by sin. 1 Corinthians 10:13 NKJV says, "No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape." If someone does not want to change you cannot help them. They have to want to change. Do not go to the lake of fire with them.

They could take the eggs of a mother bird, but not kill the mother bird. They were to build a

wall around the roof, so no one fell off. There are a lot of commands in this portion. For example, the command for a low wall on the roof can be reinterpreted to mean that we should provide protection such as railings, guardrails, and handrails. City ordinances in the United States often have these in their laws. Some of our laws resemble some of the commandments in the Bible. The rabbis in antiquity reinterpreted laws to provide justice in their society just as we do today. We have some 2 million laws in the United States now.

The some 1,050 commandments in the New Testament portion are interpretations of the Torah. There are only a few hundred applicable commands in the Old Testament portion, but they have been reinterpreted. The commandments in the New Testament portion are valid interpretations of the law. The rabbis though created many misapplied laws and added unneeded commands. For example, the Orthodox Jews teach to put on the right shoe first. This is micromanaging if you can even call it that. What does the man--made commandment to put on your right shoe first have to do with God? Perhaps they think putting on the right shoe first gets them off on the, "right foot."

Understanding how to apply the Old Testament portion properly is important because it is the basis for the New Testament portion. Sometimes people's eyes will begin to glaze over when I share something from the Old Testament portion because they were told not to pay attention to it, but the Old Testament portion contains the roots of our faith. Where are these liars about the Old Testament going for eternity? The Bible says the lake of fire (Revelation 21:8)

It goes on to say in this portion that they were not to sow different kinds of seed together. They were not to make clothing from both wool and linen. They were to make cords (tzitzit) for the corners of their garment. This command is still valid. There is nothing wrong with doing this and I will wear tzitzit at times to fulfill this commandment, often at congregation or around the house.

False accusations concerning virginity would be punished. If these accusations are true, then the woman is to be stoned. Adulterers are to be stoned. Rape was to be punished by death. If a man raped a single woman, he must marry her. A man is not to take his father's wife. A man with disfigured genitals may not enter the area of Temple worship nor a bastard, or an Ammonite, or a Moabite. They were not to detest an Edomite or an Egyptian. During war, a man who had a nocturnal emission was to wash himself outside the camp, they were to use a latrine, bury their excrement, not see anything indecent in the camp, and give refuge to a slave.

There was to be no male or female prostitution; what is earned by prostitution is detestable to God. There are people who say prostitution is okay since it is not mentioned in the New Testament portion. They just do not understand the Bible; they are wrong. They were not to charge interest to the Israelites, but to outsiders they could. They must perform their vows, and they do not have to take vows. They could eat in their neighbor's field, but not harvest it. A man was not to remarry their former wife after divorce. A newly married man should not serve in the army.

All the commandments of God are important for those who want to trust God and want a relationship with God.

They were not to take a person's tools that they use for business as collateral. Kidnappers were

to be stoned. They were to be careful to observe the laws regarding skin outbreaks. They were not to enter someone's house and take collateral. They were to return the collateral of a poor person before nightfall. They were not to exploit their workers, and they were to pay them.

This portion teaches us that we are to return each other's property. Sexual crimes were punishable by death; the Bible considers them serious offenses. They were to not to exploit the needy or foreigners. They were not to take a person's tools he used to provide for his family. They were to have honest weights and measures. Just removing that commandment from the Old Testament in our society about honest weights would put our society into turmoil. All the commandments of God are important for those who want to trust God and want a relationship with God. And they are "right and good."

Fathers are not to be executed for the child's sins and vice versa. They were not to deprive a foreigner or orphan of justice. They were to leave anything they forgot to harvest for the foreigner, orphan, or widow. They were to settle disputes in court and the wrongdoer punished with not more than 40 lashes. Our system of government also allows for punishment to be executed dependent on the crime committed.

They were not to muzzle an ox that treads the grain (see Deuteronomy 25:4). Shaul uses Deuteronomy 25:4 in 1 Timothy 5:18 to interpret that spiritual leadership should be supported. Many New Testament "churches" teach that the Old Testament portion is no longer relevant. Since Shaul uses it over and over to support what he is teaching, it cannot be true that the Old Testament is done away with.

A man should marry the widow of his brother and if he does not, he will be humiliated; her first born will inherit her dead husband's inheritance. A woman that grabs a man's genitals during a fight, her hand is to be cut off. They were to have correct and fair weights. They were to blot out the name of Amalek. Bible scribes will write the name of Amalek, scratch it out and scrape off the ink to fulfill this command. Yeshua said in Revelation 3:5 NKJV, "He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life." Stay strong so Yeshua does not blot out your name from the Book of Life. Yeshua is referring to losing your eternal life. We all have a choice, why not do choose to do what is right.

The Haftarah for Ki Teitzei is In Isaiah 54. It says have joy barren woman you will have children. You will have many descendants. Your husband is God and your redeemer. I am taking you back with grace and God's covenant of peace will not be removed.

Isaiah 54:10 NKJV says about Israel, "For the mountains shall depart and the hills be removed, but My kindness shall not depart from you, nor shall My covenant of peace be removed." We must remember that scriptures that refer to Israel still refer to Israel. We know that Isaiah 53 is about the Messiah. Isaiah 54 is about Israel. We have to be careful not to reinterpret things meant for Israel. This is a common mistake among some who read the Bible. They are misapplying the scriptures. God is not done with Israel as some say.

**Commandments, Implied Commandments, Permissions, and other Concepts.
(We can also understand commandments are being implied from other scriptures in the Bible. There are other possible concepts than what is shared here.)**

Commandments of a woman captured during war. Deuteronomy 21:11-14.

Commandment of putting to death someone who has done something worthy of death; they are not to be left hanging at night. Deuteronomy 21:22-23.

We are to return objects of value to their owner and help animals in trouble. Deuteronomy 22:1-4.

Men and women are not to wear clothes that are for the opposite sex. Deuteronomy 22:5.

We are not to take the mother bird with its young but send it away. Deuteronomy 22:6-7.

We are to put a safety railing or the like around the top of our roof. This also implies other safety measures. Deuteronomy 22:8.

We are not to sow different seeds together or eat those of mixed seeds. Deuteronomy 22:9.

We are not to work two different animal species together. Deuteronomy 22:10.

We are not to mix the threads of wool and linen together. Deuteronomy 22:11

Some marriage and sexual laws. Deuteronomy 22:13-30 NKJV.

If any man takes a wife, and goes in to her, and detests her, and charges her with shameful conduct, and brings a bad name on her, and says, 'I took this woman, and when I came to her I found she was not a virgin,' then the father and mother of the young woman shall take and bring out the evidence of the young woman's virginity to the elders of the city at the gate. And the young woman's father shall say to the elders, 'I gave my daughter to this man as wife, and he detests her. Now he has charged her with shameful conduct, saying, "I found your daughter was not a virgin," and yet these are the evidences of my daughter's virginity.' And they shall spread the cloth before the elders of the city. Then the elders of that city shall take that man and punish him; and they shall fine him one hundred shekels of silver and give them to the father of the young woman, because he has brought a bad name on a virgin of Israel. And she shall be his wife; he cannot divorce her all his days. But if the thing is true, and evidences of virginity are not found for the young woman, then they shall bring out the young woman to the door of her father's house, and the men of her city shall stone her to death with stones, because she has done a disgraceful thing in Israel, to play the harlot in her father's house. So you shall put away the evil from among you. If a man is found lying with a woman married to a husband, then both of them shall die—the man that lay with the woman, and the woman; so you shall put away the evil from Israel. If a young woman who is a virgin is betrothed to a husband, and a man finds her in the city

and lies with her, then you shall bring them both out to the gate of that city, and you shall stone them to death with stones, the young woman because she did not cry out in the city, and the man because he humbled his neighbor's wife; so you shall put away the evil from among you. But if a man finds a betrothed young woman in the countryside, and the man forces her and lies with her, then only the man who lay with her shall die. But you shall do nothing to the young woman; there is in the young woman no sin deserving of death, for just as when a man rises against his neighbor and kills him, even so is this matter. For he found her in the countryside, and the betrothed young woman cried out, but there was no one to save her. If a man finds a young woman who is a virgin, who is not betrothed, and he seizes her and lies with her, and they are found out, then the man who lay with her shall give to the young woman's father fifty shekels of silver, and she shall be his wife because he has humbled her; he shall not be permitted to divorce her all his days. A man shall not take his father's wife, nor uncover his father's bed.

Those who have their private parts removed, children from adultery, and those of certain ethnicity cannot become part of Israel. The third generation of those of Esau may become part of Israel. Deuteronomy 23:1-8.

No ritually unclean person can enter the camp of the Levites. Deuteronomy 23:11.

Warfare camp cleanliness and other camp laws. Deuteronomy 23:10-17.

No prostitution is allowed. Deuteronomy 23:20.

No interest is to be charged a believer for a loan. Only non-believers are to be charged interest. Deuteronomy 23:21.

We are to keep our vows on time. Deuteronomy 23:22-24.

We may eat from our neighbor's land but not harvest it. Deuteronomy 23:25-26.

The reason for divorce must be written out and the man cannot remarry his ex-wife. Deuteronomy 24:1-4.

A man is not to go out to war the 1st year of marriage. Deuteronomy 24:5.

Nothing should be taken as a pledge that one uses to sustain their life. Pledges are not to be taken by force and things of need are not to be withheld. Deuteronomy 24:6, 10, 12.

Signs of disease (like leprosy) are not to be covered up. This could apply to other things. Deuteronomy 24:8.

A hired person is to be given his wages expediently. Deuteronomy 24:15.

Relations are not required to give testimony to convict their relative. Deuteronomy 24:16.

Food that was forgotten to harvest is not to be harvested but is for the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow. Deuteronomy 24:19.

A wicked person can be whipped according to their crime. Deuteronomy 25:2.

An animal is not to be muzzled while it is working. Deuteronomy 25:4.

The duty of the deceased husband's brother. Deuteronomy 25:5-10.

We are not to defraud anyone with differing weights and measures. Deuteronomy 25:13-14.

We are to blot out the name of Amalek. Deuteronomy 25:17.

In closing, let us say the Aaronic Blessing from Numbers 6:24-26:

We need to explain why we use God's real name in the Aaronic blessing. Some believe we are not supposed to use God's name, but they are mistaken. ADONAI or LORD in all caps in our Bibles is the name for God which is pronounced Yě-hō-váh. Yě-hō-váh is used over 6,000 times in the Old Testament portion. Since God's name is used that many times, it is evident that we should be using His real name.

According to Exodus 3:15, Yě-hō-váh is God's true name forever. Of course, we should use His name with respect. Yě-hō-váh is an acronym formed from the Hebrew verb hayah. Yě-hō-váh means, He existed, He exists, and He will exist. I want to honor God's name. Won't you also honor God's and use His true name with respect at times. The ancient rabbis say that Yě-hō-váh (יהוה) is God's name. 2,363 different manuscripts of the Bible point God's name as Yě-hō-váh, once as Yě-hō-věh, never as Yahweh. The church Fathers said God's name is Yě-hō-váh.

Yeshua said in Matthew 23:39 NKJV, "You shall see Me no more till you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!'" Yeshua is quoting Psalm 118:26; the word "LORD" in that verse in Psalms is Yě-hō-váh (יהוה). Numbers 6:27 says we are to put God's name on His people.

Let's say the Aaronic Blessing from Numbers 6:24-26:

יְבָרֶכֶךָ יְהוָה, וַיִּשְׁמְרֶכָּ
יְאָר יְהוָה פְּנֵי אֶלְיָךְ, וַיַּחֲנֶנֶךָ
יֵשׂא יְהוָה פְּנֵי אֶלְיָךְ, וַיִּשֶׂם לְךָ שְׁלוֹם

Yě-hō-váh bless you and keep you.

Yě-hō-váh make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

Yě-hō-váh lift up His face upon you, and give to you peace. Amen.

Thank you for being with us today.