

Torah Studies – Statutes #494-495

Statute Summary:

(#494) We are to preserve and obey God’s Words, keeping them in our thoughts and understanding. (#495) We are to find pleasure in God’s Words and desire to keep them and know them, in our innermost being. (#21-22 – these statutes are already studied) We are to make sure we don’t forget YHWH’s Commandments and Statutes by keeping them foremost in our thoughts and actions. (#9-10 – these statutes are already studied) We are to teach the statutes to our children when we are traveling, preparing for bed at night, and when we wake in the morning. (#24 – this statute has already been studied) We are to write the shama – which contains all the statutes in summation – upon the entrances of our homes.

Deuteronomy 11:18-28 “Therefore shall ye lay up these My Words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thine house, and upon thy gates: **J1)** That your days may be multiplied, **J2)** and the days of your children, in the land which the LORD swore unto your fathers to give them, as the days of heaven upon the earth. For if ye shall diligently keep all these commandments which I command you, to do them, to love the LORD your God, to walk in all His Ways, and to cleave unto Him; **J3)** Then will the LORD drive out all these nations from before you, **J4)** and ye shall possess greater nations and mightier than yourselves. **J5)** Every place where on the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be. **J6)** There shall no man be able to stand before you: **J7)** for the LORD your God shall lay the fear of you and the dread of you upon all the land that ye shall tread upon, as He hath said unto you. Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse; A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you this day: And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known.”

Key Word Study: Directions: Look up each keyword (underlined in the verses above) in your Strong’s Concordance. Fill in the table below.

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
...LAY UP	H7760	śûm	to <i>put</i> , appoint, bring, call [a name], care, consider, do, mark, preserve, regard, rehearse, wholly work
MY WORDS	H1697	dâbâr	a word, commandment, decree, promise, judgment, counsel

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YOUR HEART	H3824	lêbâb	the <i>heart</i> (as the most interior organ), midst, mind, understanding
YOUR SOUL	H5315	nepshesh	properly a <i>breathing</i> creature, <i>vitality</i> ; desire, pleasure, thing she will, would have it

Judgments:

List the seven judgments (blessings) for obedience (identified as J1-7) in these Statutes:

Judgment #	Judgment	Meaning <i>(look up the keywords in Strong's to get the meaning)</i>
J1	That your days may be multiplied	Your years and seasons will be increased exceedingly – that they be more in number and well-nourished
J2	and the days of your children (will be multiplied), in the land... as the days of heaven upon the earth	Your children and grandchildren will also be blessed with more years, as the years of heavenly beings (eternal)
J3	Then will the LORD drive out all these nations from before you	YHWH Himself will impoverish, ruin and disinherit the heathen troops and pagan nations (unsaved)
J4	and ye shall possess greater nations and mightier than yourselves	YHWH will empower His people to drive out the previous tenants of the earth, seizing the land from a countless foe who is mightier than we
J5	Every place where on the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours	We may have to journey from one end of the earth to the other, during our “wilderness trial” but everywhere we tread, will become our land.
J6	There shall no man be able to stand before you	No one who takes a stand against you will be able to continue in that opposition.
J7	for the LORD your God shall lay the fear of you and the dread of you upon all the land that ye shall tread upon	YHWH will cause even the mighty men of the heathen to be terrified of His people – so great will His power and might be on their behalf.

Synthesis:

Directions: Rewrite this Scripture in your own words, using the fuller meanings you gained from the Key Word Study. Highlight the concept which most stands out to you. Pray and meditate on it today.

Place YHWH's Commandments and Statutes on your hearts, by seeking them, knowing them, and understanding them. Get them deep inside you through comprehension, appreciation, taking pleasure in them, and living by them. Do whatever it takes to make sure you remember them. Live by them in your actions and govern your thinking by them. Teach them to your children. Talk about them wherever you are, sitting at home or walking in the street; talk about them from the time you get up in the morning until you fall into bed at night. Inscribe them on the doorposts and gates of your cities so that you'll live a long time, and your children with you, on the soil that GOD promised to give your ancestors as an eternal reward.

Other verses for cross reference:

- Deuteronomy 6:6-9
- Deuteronomy 32:46
- Exodus 13:9
- Exodus 13:16
- Psalm 119:11
- Proverbs 3:1
- Proverbs 6:20-23
- Proverbs 7:2-3
- Colossians 3:16
- Hebrews 2:1
- 2Peter 1:12
- 2Peter 3:1-2

Torah Studies – Statutes #496-499

Statute Summary:

(#496) Remember and personally abide in the course of life and customs which Yahweh taught our spiritual forefathers in the Wilderness (see 1 Corinthians 10:1-13). (#497) Know that man does not live by bread only, but by every Word that proceeds out of the Mouth of Yahweh. (#498) Know that like a good parent disciplines his child, so Yahweh disciplines His people (with humbling and proving, as needed). (#499) Keep the Commandments of Yahweh and reverence Him faithfully through everything, including His discipline and proving process.

Deuteronomy 8:2-9 “And thou shalt **remember** all the **Way** which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to **humble** thee, and to **prove** thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep His Commandments, or no. And He humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that He might make thee know that man doth not **live** by **bread** only, but by every **Word that proceedeth** out of the **Mouth** of the LORD doth man live. Thy raiment waxed not old upon thee, neither did thy foot swell, these forty years. Thou shalt also **consider** in thine heart, that, as a man chasteneth his son, so the LORD thy God **chasteneth** thee. Therefore thou shalt keep the Commandments of the LORD thy God, to walk in His Ways, and to Fear Him. **J1**) For the LORD thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills; **J2**) a land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; **J3**) a land of oil olive, and honey; **J4**) a land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any thing in it; **J5**) a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass.”

Key Word Study: **Directions:** Look up each keyword (underlined in the verses above) in your Strong’s Concordance. Fill in the table below.

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
...REMEMBER	H2142	zâkar	properly to <i>mark</i> (so as to be recognized), to <i>mention</i> ; earnestly (make) mention (of)
WAY	H1870	derek	a <i>road</i> (as <i>trodden</i>); a <i>course</i> of life or <i>mode</i> of action, conversation, custom, manner
HUMBLE	H6031	‘ânâh	To abase self, afflict (self), chasten self, humble (self), submit self
PROVE	H5254	nâsâh	to <i>test</i> ; by implication to <i>attempt</i> : - adventure, assay, prove, try
LIVE	H2421	châyâh	Restore to life, to <i>revive</i> : - keep (make) alive, give (promise) life, nourish up, be saved

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
BREAD	H3899	lechem	food (for man or beast), especially bread, or grain, fruit, loaf, meat, victuals
WORD THAT PROCEEDETH	H4161	môtsâ'	a going forth, utterance, a gate, a fountain, a mine, that which (thing that) is gone out, outgoing, proceeded out, spring, vein, [water-] course [springs]
MOUTH	H6310	peh	the mouth (as the means of blowing), (particularly speech); appointment, command (-ment), wish, word
CONSIDER	H3045	yâda'	to know (ascertain by seeing); acknowledge, be aware, comprehend, teach, understand
CHASTENETH	H3256	yâsar	to chastise, literally (with blows) or figuratively (with words); hence to instruct: - correct, punish, reform, reprove, sore, teach

Judgments:

List the five judgments (blessings) for obedience (identified as J1-5) in these Statutes:

Judgment #	Judgment	Meaning <i>(look up the keywords in Strong's to get the meaning)</i>
J1	For the LORD thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills	The eternal Inheritance of the saved is a pleasant, prosperous, and joy-filled place. It is filled with life (literally and figuratively) springing forth with eternal bounty, even where once there was emptiness and death (in Scripture, valleys represent death or troubles).
J2	a land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates	<u>WHEAT & BARLEY</u> – represent saved people – the saints <u>VINES & FIGS</u> – symbolize fertility in the land, the presence of YAH's Spirit bringing fruit in the life, and great joy <u>POMEGRANATES</u> - the pomegranate represents righteousness, fruitfulness, knowledge, learning, and wisdom
J3	a land of oil olive, and honey	<u>OLIVE OIL</u> – the anointing and indwelling of the Spirit <u>HONEY</u> – delight in the Truth

J4	a land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any thing in it	We will nevermore <i>lack, fail</i> , be in <i>want</i> , be <i>lessened</i> : bereave, decrease, (cause to) fail, (have) lack, make lower, want.
J5	a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass	<u>STONES</u> – represent God’s people, those who “build up His Church” <u>IRON</u> – symbolizes great strength <u>HILLS</u> – symbolize peace and righteousness <u>BRASS</u> – symbolizes strength and eternal life

Synthesis:

Directions: Rewrite this Scripture in your own words, using the fuller meanings you gained from the Key Word Study. Highlight the concept which most stands out to you. Pray and meditate on it today.

Keep and live out Yahweh’s Commandment so that you’ll live and prosper and enter and own the land that GOD promised to your ancestors. Remember every appointment, custom, and life-lesson that GOD taught the Children of Israel in the wilderness, as they apply to us living in the Last Days. Expect Yahweh to bring me into trials designed to dethrone self from my heart. He always tests His own, to prove whether we would keep His Commandments or not. Just as He did with Israel, He will put you through hard times. He will cause you to go hungry in order to teach you submission to Him. He will provide for you, as He did when He fed Israel with manna, something neither you nor your parents knew anything about. He will help you to learn that men and women don’t live by bread only; we live by every Word, Commandment, or Principle that comes from GOD’s Mouth. Rather than becoming upset with God, when He brings you into trials, take the Truth deep in your heart to know and remember that GOD disciplines you in the same ways a father disciplines his child. He does these things in love for me.

GOD is about to bring you into a good land. The eternal Inheritance of the saved is a pleasant, prosperous, and joy-filled place. It is filled with life springing forth with eternal bounty, even where once there was emptiness and death. In this land you will no longer endure betrayal or the torment of association with evil people. This land is only filled with the saints. It will always yield HEAVENLY fellowship and godly friendship for you. The land is filled with the Presence of YAH’s Spirit. Literally and figuratively, it is filled with Heavenly Fruit bringing you great joy. You will be enveloped in righteousness, ever mining more deeply into the fountains of true wisdom.

Other verses for cross reference:

- Deu_7:18; Psa_77:11, Psa_106:7; Eph_2:11-12; 2Pe_1:12-13, 2Pe_3:1-2
- Deu_1:3, Deu_1:33, Deu_2:7, Deu_29:5; Psa_136:16; Amo_2:10
- 2Ch_32:25-26, 2Ch_33:12, 2Ch_33:19; Job_33:17, Job_42:5-6; Isa_2:17; Luk_18:14; Jam_4:6, Jam_4:10; 1Pe_5:5-6

Torah Studies – Statutes #500-504

Statute Summary:

(#500) Obey Yahweh’s Voice. (#501) Keep Yahweh’s Covenant. (#502) Every saved person is called to be a peculiar treasure unto Yahweh. (#503) Serve Yahweh as both a priest and a king. (#504) Be holy.

Exodus 19:4-6 “Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles’ wings, and brought you unto Myself. Now therefore, if ye will **obey My Voice indeed**, and **keep** My Covenant, then ye shall be a **peculiar treasure** unto Me above all people: for all the earth is Mine: And ye shall be unto Me a **kingdom** of **priests**, and an **holy nation**. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.”

Key Word Study: **Directions:** Look up each keyword (underlined in the verses above) in your Strong’s Concordance. Fill in the table below.

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
...OBEY MY VOICE INDEED	H8085	shâma’	to <i>hear</i> intelligently, attentively, call (gather) together, discern, listen, (be) obedient, obey, publish, regard, report, shew (forth), witness
KEEP	H8104	shâmar	to <i>hedge</i> about (as with thorns), <i>guard</i> ; <i>protect</i> , <i>attend to</i> , observe, preserve, regard, save (self), watchman
PECULIAR TREASURE	H5459	s ^e gûllâh	to <i>shut up</i> ; <i>wealth</i> (as closely <i>shut up</i>): - jewel, peculiar (treasure), proper good, special
KINGDOM	H4467	mamlâkâh	<i>dominion</i> , <i>rule</i> or (concretely) the country (<i>realm</i>): - kingdom, king’s, reign, royal
PRIESTS	H3548	kôhên	literally one <i>officiating</i> , a <i>priest</i> ; an <i>acting priest</i> (although a layman): - chief ruler, priest, prince, principal officer
HOLY	H6918	qâdôsh	<i>sacred</i> , a <i>saint</i> , a <i>sanctuary</i> : - holy (like God)
NATION	H1471	gôy	In the sense of massing - nation, people

Understanding the Covenant:

In the Covenant, there are three main things which Yahweh promised to Abraham, and his seed, if they kept their end of the Covenant (our part is itemized in the above verses).

1. The promise of land (Genesis 12:1). God called Abraham from Ur of the Chaldees to a land that He would give him (Genesis 12:1). This promise is reiterated in Genesis 13:14–18; its dimensions are given in Genesis 15:18–21 (show that this Covenant promise is regarding the New Earth). The land aspect of

Statutes 500-504 continued

...the Abrahamic Covenant is also expanded in Deuteronomy 30:1–10.

2. The promise of descendants (Genesis 12:2). God promised Abraham that He would make a great nation out of him. Abraham, who was 75 years old and childless (Genesis 12:4), was promised many descendants. This promise is amplified in Genesis 17:6 where God promised that nations and kings would descend from the aged patriarch. This promise pointed to Messiah reigning in the line of David.

3. The promise of blessing and redemption (Genesis 12:3). God promised to bless Abraham and the families of the earth through him. This promise is amplified in the New Covenant (Jeremiah 31:31–34; cf. Hebrews 8:6–13) and has to do with “Israel’s spiritual blessing and redemption.” Jeremiah 31:34 anticipates the forgiveness of sin. The covenant is reaffirmed to Isaac (Genesis 21:12; 26:3–4). The “I will” is a powerful promise. The covenant is further confirmed to Jacob (Genesis 28:14–15).

Synthesis:

Directions: Rewrite this Scripture in your own words, using the fuller meanings you gained from the Key Word Study. Highlight the concept which most stands out to you. Pray and meditate on it today.

As Moses went up to meet God, God called down to him from the mountain: “Speak to the House of Jacob, tell the People of Israel: ‘You have seen what I did to Egypt and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to me. If you will listen obediently to what I say and keep my covenant, out of all peoples you’ll be my special treasure. The whole Earth is mine to choose from, but you’re special: a kingdom of priests, a holy nation.’

“This is what I want you to tell the People of Israel.”

Other verses for cross reference:

- Deu_33:2-4; Isa_61:6; Rom_12:1; 1Pe_2:5, 1Pe_2:9; Rev_1:6, Rev_5:10, Rev_20:6
- Deu_5:2; Psa_25:10, Psa_103:17-18; Isa_56:4; Jer_31:31-33
- Deu_4:20, Deu_7:6, Deu_14:2, Deu_14:21, Deu_26:18, Deu_32:8-9; 1Ki_8:53; Psa_135:4; Son_8:12; Isa_41:8, Isa_43:1; Jer_10:16; Mal_3:17; Tit_2:14

1st Commandment

Torah Studies – Statute #505

Statute Summary:

(#47-48 – already studied) The Menorah is to be fueled only with pure olive oil and is to burn continually. (#505) Dress and renew the Menorah light every morning and evening without fail. [Note: The Menorah symbolizes Christ, the Vine, and us, the branches – abiding in Him and thereby bearing fruit – John 15:5. The olive oil symbolizes the Holy Spirit, which is to continually indwell in Yahweh’s people. The Light is the Truth (Psalm 119:105) and a pure witness, shining out from our lives (Matthew 5:14-16). And we spiritually renew our Lights every morning and evening by having those set times to worship Yahweh, pray and feed from His Word (Psalm 92:1-2, 2 Corinthians 4:16.)]

Leviticus 24:2-3 “Command the children of Israel, that they bring unto thee pure oil olive beaten for the light, to cause the lamps to burn continually. Without the veil of the testimony, in the tabernacle of the congregation, shall Aaron **order** it from the **evening** unto the **morning** before the LORD continually: it shall be a statute forever in your generations.”

Key Word Study: Directions: Look up each keyword (underlined in the verses above) in your Strong’s Concordance. Fill in the table below.

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
ORDER	H6186	‘arak	to set in a <i>row</i> , <i>arrange</i> , put in <i>order</i> , furnish, ordain, prepare, value.
EVENING	H6153	‘ereb	<i>Dusk</i> , even, evening tide, night (from the root meaning: “to grow dusky at sundown”)
MORNING	H1242	bôqer	properly <i>dawn</i> (as the <i>break</i> of day); generally <i>morning</i> : day, early, morning, morrow

Synthesis:

The statutes about keeping the Menorah lit and renewing the light every morning and evening apply to me, spiritually. Every morning (early) and evening (at sundown), I am to take time to renew my spiritual Light by spending time with Yahweh in prayer and in His Word. I am to abide in Him, seeking His Spirit to indwell in my life. This I am to carefully do every day, so that the Light of Truth and my godly witness will not go out.

Torah Studies – Statutes #506-513

Statute Summary:

(#506) A priest (which we all are- see Exodus 19:4-6 and Revelation 5:10) is not to defile or profane him or herself. (#507) A priest is not to purposely shave his head to make baldness. (#508) A priest is not to shave his facial hair in the way pagans do, but is to visually look like he belongs to Yahweh. (#509) A priest is not to cut him or herself, nor tattoo their skin. (#510) A priest must not profane the Name of Yahweh, because they lead the people in prayer and teach the Scriptures (the bread). (#511) A priest can never marry a spiritual or physical whore. (#512) A priest can never marry someone who has been divorced. (#513) If the daughter of a priest commits spiritual or literal fornication, she profanes her father.

Leviticus 21:4-9 “But he (a priest) shall not **defile** himself, being a chief man among his people, **to profane himself**. They shall not make baldness upon their head, neither shall they shave off the corner of their beard, nor make any cuttings in their flesh. They shall be holy unto their God, and not profane the Name of their God: for the offerings of the LORD made by fire, and the bread of their God, they do offer: therefore they shall be holy. They shall not take a wife that is a whore, or profane; neither shall they take a woman put away from her husband: for he is holy unto his God. Thou shalt sanctify him therefore; for he offereth the bread of thy God: he shall be holy unto thee: for I the LORD, which sanctify you, am holy. And the daughter of any priest, if she profane herself by playing the whore, she profaneth her father...”

Key Word Study: Directions: Look up each keyword (underlined in the verses above) in your Strong’s Concordance. Fill in the table below.

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
DEFILE	H2930	ṭâmê'	to be foul, especially in a moral sense (contaminated): defile (self), unclean utterly
TO PROFANE HIMSELF	H2490	châlal	to wound, to dissolve; to profane (a person, place or thing), to break (one’s word), to begin pollute, profane (self), prostitute, sorrow, stain, wound
PLAYING THE WHORE	H2181	zânâh	to commit adultery (usually of the female, and less often of simple fornication, rarely of involuntary ravishment); figuratively to commit idolatry (the Jewish people being regarded as the spouse of Jehovah): - (cause to) commit fornication, (play the) harlot

What's the Spiritual Meaning in the Torah Commands About Beards?

Manners and Customs of the Bible, James M Freeman -

Page 149, regarding II Samuel 20:9 - "To touch the beard of another was an insult, unless it was done as an act of friendship and a token of respect. Joab therefore showed the base treachery of his heart by coming to Amasa in the manner of a friend, thus entirely concealing his murderous intent. He inquired after his health, gently touched his beard as if to give a kiss, and then suddenly grasped it with his right hand and quickly stabbed the unsuspecting Amasa with the unnoticed sword which he held in his left."

Page 93-94, regarding Leviticus 19:27 - "Among the ancients the hair was often used in divinations. The worshipers of the stars and planets cut their hair evenly around, trimming the extremities. According to Herodotus the Arabs were accustomed to shave the hair around the head, and let a tuft stand up on the crown in honor of Bacchus. He says the same thing concerning the Macians, a people of North Africa. "By the idolaters the beard was also carefully trimmed round and even. This was forbidden to the Jews. Yahweh's people were not to look like the heathen. At a glance, someone should be able to tell that Israelites belonged to Yahweh. The same is true today."

Some wrongly assume that obeying this Statute meant that it was forbidden to even trim the beard. This is not correct, clearly, as we see from the story of David and Mephibosheth. In the time of Israel, when the Statutes were kept and understood more purely than now, by far, letting beard grow long and straggly was a sign of mourning. Trimming the beard, and keeping it neat was a normal, Torah observant behavior. See 2 Samuel 19 (for the full context of the following verse):

2 Samuel 19:24 "And Mephibosheth the son of Saul came down to meet the king, and had neither dressed his feet, nor trimmed his beard, nor washed his clothes, from the day the king departed until the day he came again in peace."

Synthesis:

Yahweh's people are to be priests unto Him. We are not to morally contaminate ourselves with physical or spiritual prostitution or profanity. In the life of Christ, the priests thought this meant that they weren't to touch or affiliate with certain people. Yahshua showed them that they had completely misunderstood the Torah in His parable of the Good Samaritan. The defilement Yahweh wants us to guard against is predominantly spiritual. We can minister to anyone, without becoming defiled. But if we partake of their wicked lawlessness in any way, we are spiritually "touching" their death – and its decay gets upon us.

Men should have a beard, but the idea that the beard cannot be trimmed is not an accurate interpretation of this Statute. Yahweh wanted His people to honor His Name (as we claim to be in His Family) by making sure our appearance doesn't give another god honor. We should look, at a glance, like we belong to Heaven – without question. Other verses for cross reference:

- Lev_21:8, Lev_10:3; Exo_28:36, Exo_29:44; Ezz_8:28; 1Pe_2:9