

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 sware 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			
MY WORDS			

Statutes 494-495 continued

YOUR HEART			
YOUR SOUL			

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		
J2		
J3		
J4		
J5		
J6		
J7		

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.



1st Commandment

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			
WAY			
HUMBLE			
PROVE			
LIVE			

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
BREAD			
WORD THAT PROCEEDETH			
MOUTH			
CONSIDER			
CHASTENETH			

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		
J2		
J3		
J4		
J5		

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.



1st Commandment

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			
KEEP			
PECULIAR TREASURE			
KINGDOM			
PRIESTS			
HOLY			
NATION			

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

...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.

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			
EVENING			
MORNING			

Synthesis:

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			
TO PROFANE HIMSELF			
PLAYING THE WHORE			

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: