

Torah Studies – Statutes #23-24

Statute Summary:

Statute #23: Build the Holy House (Sanctuary) of Yahweh so that He will dwell with you.

Statute #24: The Sanctuary that you build must be patterned after the Heavenly Pattern.

Exodus 25:8-9 “And let them **make** Me a **Sanctuary**; that I may **dwell among** them. According to all that I show thee, after the **Pattern** of the Tabernacle, and the Pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it.”

Key Word Study:

| Key Word | Strong's Number | Hebrew Word | Meaning |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| MAKE | H6213 | <i>asah</i> | “to do” or “to make” (this is an action word) |
| SANCTUARY | H4720 | <i>miqdash</i> | “a consecrated thing or place, especially a <i>palace, sanctuary</i> (of Jehovah) or <i>asylum</i> ” [<i>refuge</i>] |
| DWELL | H7931 | <i>shakan</i> | “lodging... to reside or permanently stay (figuratively or literally)...” to abide |
| AMONG | H8432 | <i>tavek</i> | “to sever, bisection, center...” |
| PATTERN | H8403 | <i>tabinyth</i> | “structure, model, resemblance...” (the root means to build and to bring in children) |

Synthesis:

Although this Statute was originally given pertaining to the building of the Wilderness Sanctuary (Tabernacle, Temple), this Statute has spiritual application for us today. This is because every believer is the Temple of the living Yah... This is the Temple / Tabernacle / Sanctuary that we are to (by His Grace) build.

- **2 Corinthians 6:14-18** “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? **For ye are the Temple of the living God; as God hath said**, I will dwell in them, and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.”

Torah Studies – Statutes #23-24 continued

The process of spiritually building the Sanctuary of the Soul-Temple is the spiritual work that makes a fit dwelling for Yahweh to reside – permanently stay – within us. In order to be a holy Temple unto Yahweh, we must be whole-hearted for Him and it involves severing unequal yokes. We are to be separate from the world (thinking, actions, relationships), and be set apart in holiness.

The literal Sanctuary was built after the Heavenly Pattern:

- **Hebrews 8:5** “Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, *that* thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.”

Our Body Temples are to be patterned after the Heavenly... Christ is the Temple... He is our Example in all things. He is the Pattern that our characters are to resemble...

Judgment: Yahweh will dwell with us.

Torah Studies – Statutes #25-26

Statute Summary:

Statute #25: Do not speak of false gods in any way that is wishful or worshipful.

Statute #26: The character, authority, and honor of false gods has no place with you.

Exodus 23:13 “And in all things that I have said unto you be **circumspect**: and make no **mention** of the **name** of other gods, neither let it be **heard** out of thy **mouth**.”

Key Word Study:

| Key Word | Strong's Number | Hebrew Word | Meaning |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------|---|
| CIRCUMSPECT | H8014 | <i>shamar</i> | “to hedge about (as with thorns), that is, guard; generally to protect, attend to” |
| MENTION | H2142 | <i>zakar</i> | “properly to mark...” “burn incense... bring to remembrance... be mindful... cause to be remembered...” |
| NAME | H8034 | <i>shem</i> | “a mark or memorial of individuality... honor... authority... character...” |
| HEARD | H8085 | <i>shema</i> | “to hear intelligently (often with implication of attention, obedience... causatively to tell, etc.)” |
| MOUTH | H6310 | <i>peh</i> | “the mouth (as a means of blowing)... (literally or figuratively) speech... portion... commandment” |

Synthesis:

Ba'al is mentioned, by name, 64 times in Scripture! Elijah says the name, Ba'al on Mount Carmel – 1 Kings 18. It does not break the Torah to say the names of false gods for the purpose of “exposing” them (Ephesians 5:11) and calling people out of idolatry. But we are to be very careful to never reverence false gods, nor speak of them or to them in any worshipful way. We will gain a deeper understanding through these additional Scripture references:

- 1 Timothy 4:16 – “Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.”
- Joshua 23:7 – “That ye come not among these nations, these that remain among you; neither make mention of the name of their gods, nor cause to swear *by them*, neither serve them, nor bow yourselves unto them.”
- Psalm 16:4 – “Their sorrows shall be multiplied *that* hasten *after* another *god*: their drink offerings of blood will I not offer, nor take up their names into my lips.”
- Zechariah 13:2 - And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD of hosts, *that* I will cut off the names of the idols out of the land, and they shall no more be remembered: and also I will cause the prophets and the unclean spirit to pass out of the land.

Torah Studies – Statutes #27-31

Statute Summary:

Statute #27: Do not teach, influence, or entice anyone to worship false gods.

Statute #28: Do not allow anyone on sacred ground (*your home, your worship center, or anywhere else that is dedicated to Yahweh*) who teaches, influences, or entices others to worship false gods.

Statute #29: If someone (in the dedicated ground/home/facility) is suspected of teaching/influencing other believers into idolatry, do not act on rumor alone. Inquire and be certain whether the story is true.

Statute #30: If the person is found to be truly teaching/influencing into the worship of false gods, cut him/her out of the Body. Without reservation, fully destroy idolatry and remove its teachings from your midst.

Statute #31: Teachers/influencers into false worship are an abomination. Abomination must be removed from among you.

Deuteronomy 13:12-15 “If thou shalt hear say in one of thy **cities**, which the LORD thy God hath given thee to dwell there, saying, Certain men, the children of **Belial**, are **gone out from among you**, and **have withdrawn** the inhabitants of their city, saying, Let us go and **serve** other gods, which ye have not **known**; Then shalt thou **inquire**, and **make search**, and **ask diligently**; and, behold, if it be truth, and the thing **certain**, that such abomination is wrought among you. Thou shalt surely **smite** the inhabitants of that city with the edge of the sword, **destroying it utterly**, and all that is therein, and the cattle thereof, with the edge of the sword.”

Key Word Study:

| Key Word | Strong's Number | Hebrew Word | Meaning |
|----------|-----------------|------------------|---|
| CITIES | H5892 | <i>lyr</i> | “a city (a place guarded by <i>waking</i> or a watch) in the widest sense (even of a mere <i>encampment</i> or <i>post</i>)” |
| BELIAL | H1100 | <i>Beliya'al</i> | “without profit, worthlessness... destruction, wickedness: - Belial, evil, naughty, ungodly (men), wicked.” |
| GONE OUT | H3318 | <i>yatsa</i> | “to go... to bring out... <i>send with commandment... departing...</i> ” |

Torah Studies – Statutes #27-31 continued

| Key Word | Strong's Number | Hebrew Word | Meaning |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|---|
| FROM AMONG YOU | H7130 | <i>qereb</i> | “center part... nearest part... <i>bowels... among... midst...</i> ” |
| HAVE WITHDRAWN | H5080 | <i>nadach</i> | “to push off (literally and figuratively) to expel, mislead, strike, inflict” |
| SERVE | H5647 | <i>abad</i> | “to work (in any sense)... to serve, till, (causatively) enslave... <i>bondman... cause to, make to serve... worshipper</i> ” |
| KNOWN | H3045 | <i>yadah</i> | “to know (literally and figuratively)... have respect... <i>familiar... kinsman...</i> ” |
| INQUIRE | H1875 | <i>darash</i> | “to follow for pursuit or search... <i>seek after... diligently inquire...</i> ” |
| MAKE SEARCH | H2713 | <i>chaqar</i> | “to penetrate... examine intimately...” |
| ASK DILIGENTLY | H7592 H3190 | <i>sha'al</i> <i>yatab</i> | “to inquire... demand” “to do well... to be well... to make right” |
| CERTAIN | H3559 | <i>kun</i> | “erect (stand up perpendicular)... establish... render sure... <i>confirm...</i> ” |
| SMITE | H5221 H5221 | <i>nakah</i> <i>nakah</i> | “to strike (literally or figuratively)... cast forth... <i>kill... punish...</i> ” |
| DESTROYING IT UTTERLY | H2763 | <i>charam</i> | “to seclude (by a ban)... <i>make accursed...</i> ” |

Synthesis:

Yahweh intends for His people to keep their affiliations and relationships in check. If someone proves to fit the Scripturally-defined characteristics of a “child of Belial”, we are not to allow them to remain in our anointed homes or fellowships. Willful children of Belial are to be “banned” from our homes and facilities – all of which are given by Yahweh into our stewardship, and which are set apart for holy use.

Examples and characteristics of “children of Belial” are Scripturally found in the following Scriptures:

- Judges 19:22- lewd and wicked acts (rape, sodomy...)
- Judges 20:13 – they are wicked and engaging in evil
- 1 Samuel 2:12 – sons of Belial do not **know** God (not ignorance) it is marriage covenant (choice against Yahweh, in spite of knowing the Truth)...
- 1 Samuel 10:27 – God had anointed Saul as king... the children of Belial had no respect for the anointed leader.
- 1 Samuel 25:25 – narcissistic greed is a characteristic (selfishness)
- 2 Samuel 16:7 – sons of Belial often accuse the righteous of their own stuff...
 - John 8:44 – lies, lust, murder
- 2 Samuel 20:1 – Rebellion (rejection of Yahweh’s leaders)
- 1 Kings 21:10 – they bear false witness and seek the death of the righteous

Torah Studies – Statutes #32-34

Statute Summary:

Statute #32: If a dear friend, or spouse, or family member tries to entice you to serve other gods, do not listen nor fall prey to the temptation.

Statute #33: You are not to keep that person in your life, nor keep secret what he/she is doing.

Statute #34: You are not to pity this person.

Deuteronomy 13:6-8 “If thy brother, the son of thy mother, or thy son, or thy daughter, or the wife of thy bosom, or thy friend, which is as thine own soul, **entice** thee secretly, saying, **Let us go** and **serve** other gods, which thou hast not known, thou, nor thy fathers; Namely, of the gods of the people which are round about you, **nigh** unto thee, or **far off** from thee, from the one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth; Thou shalt not **consent** unto him, nor **hearken** unto him; neither shall thine eye **pity** him, neither shalt thou **spare**, neither shalt thou **conceal** him.”

Key Word Study:

| Key Word | Strong's Number | Hebrew Word | Meaning |
|-----------|-----------------|-------------|---|
| ENTICE | 5496 | sûth | to <i>prick</i> , to <i>seduce</i> , move, persuade, provoke, stir up, take away |
| LET US GO | 1980 | hâlak | to <i>walk</i> , along, apace, behave (self), come, (on) continually, be conversant, depart, be eased |
| SERVE | 5647 | ‘âbad | <i>serve, till</i> , (causatively) <i>enslave</i> , keep in bondage, be bondmen, worshipper |
| NIGH | 7138 | qârôb | <i>near</i> (in place, kindred or time), neighbour, kinsfolk |
| FAR OFF | 7350 | râchôq | <i>Remote</i> , long ago, of old, <i>precious</i> |
| CONSENT | 14 | ‘âbâh | to <i>be acquiescent</i> : - consent, rest content, will, be willing |
| HEARKEN | 8085 | shâma‘ | to <i>hear</i> intelligently, be content, declare, listen, make (a) noise, (be) obedient |
| PITY | 2347 | chûs | to <i>cover</i> , that is, (figuratively) to <i>compassionate</i> , regard, spare |

Torah Studies – Statutes #32-34 continued

| Key Word | Strong's Number | Hebrew Word | Meaning |
|----------|-----------------|-------------|---|
| SPARE | 2550 | châmal | to <i>commiserate</i> ; by implication to <i>spare</i> : - have compassion, (have) pity, spare |
| CONCEAL | 3680 | kâsâh | to <i>cover</i> (for clothing or secrecy): - clad self, close, clothe, conceal, cover (self), (flee to) hide, |

Synthesis:

In the same way that we know not to allow any close human relationship to interfere with the Marriage Covenant, so also we should not allow any relationship to interfere with our love/loyalty to Yahweh. We are to be wholly zealous for our God. Thus, if anyone (spouse, child, dearest friend) chooses idolatry and tries to entice/encourage us to go that way also, we are to cut this person out of our lives and we are not to hide this person's willful choice for false god-worship from others (preventing the idolatrous influence from spreading through deception).

Gaining a deeper understanding through additional Scripture references:

- Judges 10:6 – It is not possible to serve Yahweh, while also serving other gods... Idolatry involves divorcing Yah.
- 1 Kings 11:5-7 – Solomon disobeyed this Statute and married many wives who worshipped many gods... and lost his own way and Israel was polluted in the process.
- Ephesians 4:14 – Spiritual maturity involves safeguarding ourselves and others, in Truth, to prevent being blown about by winds of deception.
- Colossians 2:4 – We are not to be “beguiled”, which is what the serpent did with Eve.
- 2 Peter 2:1 – False prophets bring destruction upon themselves and all who listen to them. (For this reason, this statute tells us to remove these idolatrous people – and their influence – from our lives.)
- Revelation 13:14 – Most who will be lost, in the End, are lost because of having fallen prey to deception.

Torah Studies – Statute #35-36

Statute Summary:

Statute #35: *The priests of Yahweh bear the responsibility to be watchmen who safeguard Yahweh’s Holy Temple.*

Statute #36: *The priests of Yahweh bear the responsibility to be watchmen who lead in the worship of Yahweh and ensure His true Worship among the Body of Christ.*

Numbers 18:5 “And ye (the priests) **shall keep** the **charge** of the **sanctuary**, and the charge of the **altar**: that there be no **wrath** any more upon the children of Israel.”

Key Word Study:

| Key Word | Strong’s Number | Hebrew Word | Meaning |
|------------|-----------------|-------------|--|
| SHALL KEEP | 8104 | shâmar | to <i>hedge</i> about (as with thorns), that is, <i>guard</i> ; generally to <i>protect, attend to</i> |
| CHARGE | 4931 | mishmereth | <i>watch</i> , that is, the act (<i>custody</i>) or (concretely) the <i>sentry, the post, duty</i> |
| SANCTUARY | 6944 | qôdesh | a <i>sacred</i> place or thing; consecrated (thing), holiness, (most) holy (day, portion, thing), saint, |
| ALTAR | 4196 | mizbêach | <i>altar, do sacrifice</i> |
| WRATH | 7110 | qetseph | a <i>splinter</i> (as <i>chipped off</i>); figuratively <i>rage</i> or <i>strife, indignation, to crack off</i> |

Synthesis: Every saved child of Yahweh is called into the holy priesthood (Rev 5:10). As a result, the charge of safeguarding the House of Yahweh is a sacred trust which we are all to perform. We are to be watchful and prayerful to preserve the worship of Yahweh. At His Altar (places of worship) He and He alone, should be worshipped, in the manner He has specified.

Judgment: Obedience to this Statute protects the spiritual Body (of which we are a part) from receiving the outpouring of the Wrath of Yahweh, which is to be poured out upon the Lawless, idolators.

Torah Studies – Statutes #37-38

Statute Summary:

Statute #37: Keep the Menorah lit always, in the Sanctuary of Yahweh.

Statute #38: The fuel of the Menorah Fire is pure olive oil, only.

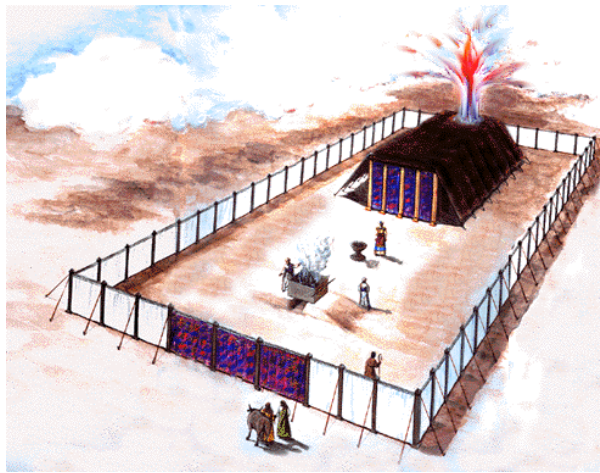
Exodus 27:20-21 “And thou shalt **command** the children of Israel, that they bring thee **pure oil olive beaten** for the **Light**, to cause the **lamp** to **burn always**. In the Tabernacle of the **Congregation** without the **veil**, which is before the **testimony**, Aaron and his sons shall order it from evening to morning before the LORD: it shall be a statute forever unto their generations on the behalf of the children of Israel.”

Key Word Study:

| Key Word | Strong's Number | Hebrew Word | Meaning |
|----------|-----------------|-------------|--|
| COMMAND | 6680 | tsâvâh | <i>constitute, enjoin</i> : - appoint, bid and forbid (give a) charge, send a messenger, put, (set) in order |
| PURE | 2134 | zak | clean, pure, transparent, clean, morally pure and clean |
| OIL | 8081 | shemen | especially liquid (as from the olive, often perfumed), richness, anointing, fruitful, oil |
| OLIVE | 2132 | zayith | an <i>olive</i> (as yielding <i>illuminating</i> oil), to be prominent, brightness |
| BEATEN | 3795 | kâthîyth | Crushed, bruised, discomfited, beaten, pure oil |
| LIGHT | 3974 | mâ'ôr | a <i>luminous</i> body or <i>luminary</i> , <i>cheerfulness</i> , <i>bright light</i> |
| LAMP | 5216 | nîyr | to <i>glisten</i> ; a <i>lamp</i> (that is, the burner) or <i>light</i> (literally or figuratively): - candle, lamp, light |
| BURN | 5927 | ʿâlâh | to <i>ascend</i> , (<i>be high</i>) or active (<i>mount</i>), arise (up). (cause to) ascend up, exalt |
| ALWAYS | 8548 | tâmîyd | the <i>regular</i> sacrifice: - always, continual daily, evermore, perpetual |

Torah Studies – Statutes #37-38 continued

| Key Word | Strong's Number | Hebrew Word | Meaning |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------|---|
| CONGREGATION | 4150 | mô'êd | an appointment, specifically a festival, an appointed time, feast, assembly |
| VEIL | 6532 | pôreketh | a separatrix (the boundary separating two modes of behavior), that is, (the sacred) screen: veil. |
| TESTIMONY | 5715 | ʿêdûth | Witness, recorder, prince |



Synthesis: Every piece, fabric, and section of the Wilderness Sanctuary bears a spiritual message to us. It is a physical portrayal of the process and steps we each take/experience in partaking of Redemption. For example, we when we first accept Yahshua, as our personal Saviour, we enter the “door” which symbolizes Christ, the Way of Life. We come apart from the world into the covering of the Righteousness of Christ, represented in the white linen wall around the Sanctuary.

In the Sanctuary Courtyard, we experience Justification (being made just-as-if-we-had-not-sinned). The first item of furniture is the Altar of Burnt Offering, representing Calvary. Here we claim Messiah’s Death on our behalf and also personally “die daily” to our old man of sin. We then partake of the experience of being cleansed and buried with Messiah (mikveh, baptism) in the laver.

The first room of the Sanctuary is the Holy Place, which represents the process of Sanctification (being and remaining set apart for holy use). This is the spiritual Bridal Chamber, where the Bride awaits her soon-coming Bride-Groom. All life-forms must eat, breathe, and reproduce to continue living. In the same way, spiritually, we must eat, breathe and reproduce to maintain spiritual Life. Spiritual Eating is represented in the Table of Shewbread – the Bread is the Word of Yahweh. Spiritual Breathing is represented in the Altar of Incense – representing prayer. And Spiritual Reproducing is represented in the Menorah – which is filled with Olive Oil (representing the indwelling of the Holy Spirit).

Torah Studies – Statutes #37-38 continued

Yahshua is the Shamash – the Center Stalk, or Vine – of the Menorah. We are to abide in Him, like the branches of the Menorah abide in the Vine of the Menorah. As we abide, we are continually filled with the Oil. The light of the Menorah represents our witness (Spiritual reproduction). Obedient, Grace-empowered works bring glory to Yahweh, shining the Light of His Truth and Torah to all the world.

Matthew 5:14-16 “Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven.”

This Statute which commands that the Menorah be always kept lit, always filled with pure Olive Oil. We spiritually obey this Statute by daily abiding in Messiah, and keeping His Spirit within. As we do, our lives will bear Fruit – shining forth as lights to the world. Never is the light to go out!



Torah Studies – Statute #39

Statute Summary:

Statute #15: *Priests are to set a show-bread table continually before Yahweh’s Presence.*

Exodus 25:30 “And thou shalt set upon the Table Showbread before Me always.”

Key Word Study:

| Key Word | Strong’s Number | Hebrew Word | Meaning |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------|---|
| THOU SHALT SET | 5414 | nâthan | add, apply, appoint, ascribe, assign, restore, shoot forth, yield to God |
| UPON | 5921 | ‘al | <i>above, over, upon</i> |
| TABLE | 7979 | shûlchân | <i>a table (as spread out); by implication a meal, sow, spread, stretch forth</i> |
| SHOWBREAD | 3899 | lechem | <i>bread, or grain, fruit, eat, food</i> |
| ALWAYS | 8548 | tâmîyd | daily, evermore, perpetual. |

Synthesis:

Spiritual Eating is represented in the Table of Shewbread – the Bread is the Word of Yahweh.

- Deuteronomy 8:3 “...Man doth not live by **bread** only, but by every **Word** that proceedeth out of the Mouth of Yahweh doth man live.”
- John 6:51 “I Am the **living Bread** which came down from Heaven: if any man eat of this **Bread**, he shall live for ever: and the **Bread** that I will give is My Flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.”
- Jeremiah 15:16 “Thy **Words** were found, and I did **eat** them; and Thy Word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by Thy Name, O Yahweh God of hosts.”

Spiritually keeping the Table of Shewbread always set involves daily partaking of Christ, as our Saviour, and spiritually “eating” (reading/studying) the Word of Yahweh.

Torah Studies – Statute #39 continued

While physically abstaining from food is healthy, for set times of fasting, it is never good to fast from Yahweh's Word! Spiritual Life is only maintained through daily "eating" the Word of Yahweh.

It is interesting to note that the spiritual realities have useful shadows in the physical realm, however. For example, in the physical realm, if a person goes without eating for many days, he/she will eventually lose the sensation of hunger. In fact, the desire for food goes away. Similarly, when we do not partake of the Word daily, we quickly lose our desire to spend time in God's Word. Our taste for Truth also disappears... The less we spend time in God's Word, the less we want to – and the more we are spiritually starving – ultimately, spiritually dying.

To regain our "hunger" for the Word, and our spiritual health, at first we will have to make ourselves "eat"... This is like what clinics do when treating people who are afflicted with anorexia. They must eat even though they do not desire to do so... During this period, we will find the time in the Word difficult and unenjoyable, like an anorexia patient does when eating a meal.

But, as we persevere in the Word, we will be increasingly, spiritually nourished. Spiritual life and health are restored. Then, having come to optimum spiritual health, we are to maintain this spiritually-nourished walk with Yahweh, by always spending time in His Word, daily, from that point onwards.

Torah Studies – Statutes #40-41

Statute Summary:

Statute #40: When a prophet (teacher of “truth”) claims to speak in Yahweh’s Name, but does not speak the Truth from the Word of God, that presumptuous prophet will die (which for now, involves being cut off from the Body of Christ).

Statute #41: And when person claims to teach truth, yet does it in the name of a false god, that false prophet will also die (which for now, involves being cut off from the Body of Christ).

Deuteronomy 18:20 “But the **prophet**, which shall **presume** to **speak** a **word** in My **Name**, which I have not **commanded** him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of **other** gods, even that prophet shall **die**.”

Key Word Study:

| Key Word | Strong’s Number | Hebrew Word | Meaning |
|-----------|-----------------|-------------|---|
| PROPHET | 5030 | nâbîy' | <i>inspired</i> man: - prophecy, that prophesy, prophet |
| PRESUME | 2102 | zûd | to <i>seethe</i> ; figuratively to <i>be insolent</i> : - be proud, deal proudly, presume |
| SPEAK | 1696 | dâbar | declare, command, say, pronounce, teach, tell |
| WORD | 1697 | dâbâr | a <i>word</i> ; by implication a <i>matter</i> (as spoken of) of <i>thing, cause, oracle, tidings</i> |
| NAME | 8034 | shêm | as a mark or memorial of individuality; by implication <i>honor, authority, character</i> |
| COMMANDED | 6680 | tsâvâh | appoint, (for-) bid. (give a) charge, send with commandment, send a messenger |
| OTHER | 312 | 'achêr | <i>hinder</i> ; generally <i>next, other, strange</i> |
| DIE | 4191 | mûth | causatively to <i>kill</i> , slay surely and very suddenly |

Torah Studies – Statutes #40-41 continued

Synthesis: The primary role of a prophet is not to tell the future. It is to teach Truth and call people into Righteousness, in Christ. We may see this because *Yahshua* said that John the Baptist was the greatest of the prophets (Luke 7:28). John the Baptist did not foretell the future. He served in the Elijah Role (Malachi 4, Matthew 17:12), calling the people into repentance and preparing the way for Messiah's Coming.

Every believer is called to do this work of preparing the Way for the Coming of Yahweh. We are all called to be "Elijah" in the Last Days – Malachi 4:4-6. We can correctly read this Scripture two ways (for it has two levels of application, both of which are true):

- **Application #1 – Receiving Elijah** – In this application of the prophecy, Elijah is being sent by Heaven as a Messenger before Yah's Return... In this understanding, we are not personally doing the Work of Elijah, we are receiving Elijah and heading the Message... "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful Day of Yahweh..."
- **Application #2 – Being Elijah** – In this application of the prophecy, every believer, in the spirit of Elijah, is being sent by Heaven to prepare others for Yah's Return... "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful Day of Yahweh..."

Because we are all called to bear the Message of Elijah, calling people back into Torah in preparation for our King's Return, we may apply this Statute, personally. Thus, we are to take care to never speak a word to anyone, saying "God has told me..." when God did not speak. We should never take speaking for Yahweh lightly. We are only to speak, on His behalf, what He has truly spoken – according to His Word, only.

Judgment: death is the judgment for a false prophet.

Torah Studies – Statutes #42-43

Statute Summary:

Statute #42: *If a false prophet (teacher of “truth”) encourages people to do or believe things which honor false gods, you are not to listen to him/her.*

Statute #43: *Even if the false-god-serving teacher “proves” his false teachings with miracles, or gives prophecies which come true, you are not to listen to or allow yourself to in any way be influenced by him or her.*

Deuteronomy 13:1-3 “If there arise **among you** a **prophet**, or a **dreamer** of dreams, and giveth thee a **sign** or a **wonder**, And the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, Let us **go after other** gods, which thou hast not known, and let us **serve** them; Thou shalt not **hearken** unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God **proveth** you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.”

Key Word Study:

| Key Word | Strong's Number | Hebrew Word | Meaning |
|-----------|-----------------|--------------|--|
| AMONG YOU | 7130 | qereb | the <i>nearest</i> part, that is, the <i>centre</i> , within self, midst |
| PROPHET | 5030 | nâbîy' | <i>inspired</i> man: - prophecy, that prophesy, prophet |
| DREAMER | 2492 | châlam | (through the figurative sense of <i>dumbness</i>) to <i>dream</i> : - (cause to) dream (-er), be in good liking |
| SIGN | 226 | ôth | <i>omen, evidence, miracle</i> , (en-) sign, token (more personal and quiet in nature) |
| WONDER | 4159 | môphêth | in the sense of <i>conspicuousness</i> ; a <i>miracle</i> (<i>not private- obvious to everyone</i>) |
| GO AFTER | 1980 / 310 | hâlak 'achar | depart, enter, grow greater / follow after pursuing |
| OTHER | 312 | 'achêr | <i>hinder</i> ; generally <i>next, other</i> , etc.: - (an-) other (man), following, next, strange |

Torah Studies – Statutes #42-43 continued

| Key Word | Strong's Number | Hebrew Word | Meaning |
|----------|-----------------|-------------|---|
| SERVE | 5647 | ʿâbad | to <i>serve, till</i> , (causatively) <i>enslave, keep in bondage</i> , worshipper |
| HEARKEN | 8085 | shâmaʿ | to <i>hear</i> intelligently, (often with implication of attention), obey, to tell, listen to |
| PROVETH | 5254 | nâsâh | to <i>test</i> ; by implication to <i>attempt</i> : - adventure, assay, prove, tempt, try |

Synthesis:

We must be personally rooted and grounded in the Truth of Torah, so that, (Isaiah 8:20) we can always measure the doctrines and teachings of prophets/teachers by Torah. “Where is that found in Torah?” should be our constant question, when doctrines are presented. If a teacher/prophet teaches something which sounds great, but honors a false god, we are not to believe the teaching, or listen to it further. (False gods may include: self... baal... a god of the past... money... Remember, the list of false gods may be more encompassing than just the names of idols) Even if the prophet/teacher “proves” his point with miracles, if it is idolatrous, we are not to heed the teaching, nor give it further air time.

Miracles do not prove a teaching is Truth. For further information on this – and evidence, check out the Torah blog posting from January 9, 2018, at the following link: <https://shaunamanfredine.blogspot.com/2018/01/daily-bible-reading-january-9-2018.html>.

Torah Studies – Statutes #44-46

Statute Summary:

Statute #44: Priests of Yahweh (we are all priests and kings, Revelation 5:10) are to burn incense before Him (which represents prayer – Revelation 8:3-4) every morning and evening.

Statute #45: The lamps of the Menorah are to be dressed/tended every morning & evening (representing being filled with the oil of the Spirit and shining forth the light of witness in the set-apart life, that day, Matthew 5:14).

Statute #46: This morning and evening tending of the menorah and burning of incense is to continue perpetually throughout our generations.

Exodus 30:7-8 “And Aaron **shall burn** thereon sweet **incense every morning**: when he **dresseth** the lamps, he shall burn incense upon it. And when Aaron **lighteth** the lamps at **even**, he shall burn incense upon it, a **perpetual** incense before the LORD throughout your generations.

Key Word Study:

| Key Word | Strong's Number | Hebrew Word | Meaning |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------|--|
| SHALL BURN | 6999 | qâṭar | to <i>smoke</i> , that is, turn into fragrance by fire (especially as an act of worship), offer sacrifice |
| INCENSE | 7004 | q̄ṭôreth | a <i>fumigation (cleansing, disinfection)</i> - (sweet) incense, perfume |
| EVERY MORNING | 1242 | bôqer | properly <i>dawn</i> (as the <i>break</i> of day); generally <i>morning</i> : - (+) day, early, morning, morrow |
| DRESSETH | 3190 | yâṭab | to <i>be</i> (causatively) <i>make well</i> , or figuratively (<i>happy, successful, right</i>): - be accepted |
| LIGHTETH | 5927 | ʿâlâh | to <i>ascend, be high, to mount up, raise, restore, perfect, offer</i> |
| EVEN | 6153 | ʿereb | <i>dusk</i> : - + day, even (-ing, tide), night (grow dusky at sundown) |
| PERPETUAL | 8548 | tâmîyd | to <i>stretch, continuance, constantly</i> , alway (-s), continual (employment), daily, ever (-more) |

Torah Studies – Statutes #44-46 continued

Synthesis: See the “Synthesis” in Statutes 37-38 for a full explanation of the Sanctuary and its personal meaning, especially the spiritual significance of the Menorah, and how we keep it “lit”.



Many of the furnishings of the tabernacle had a functional purpose. The lampstand gave light in an otherwise dark enclosure, while the table provided a place on which to put the showbread. Meanwhile, the incense altar served the practical purpose of pleasantly scenting the air. These items were in many respects ordinary pieces of furniture, albeit made out of pure gold and richly ornamented as befitted the furniture of a king.

All of the senses were ministered to by the daily priestly ritual: sight, smell, and taste were addressed through the lampstand, the incense altar, and the table of showbread, while hearing was ministered to by the bells on the high priest's garments. The whole affair was designed as a rich multisensory experience for God—not because He has senses like ours, but as an acknowledgment of His Goodness on every level. Only the very best of everything could possibly be good enough to offer to the Creator of the universe.

In addition to their practical usefulness and sensory attractiveness, the Tabernacle furniture also served a symbolic role for God's people. Incense represents prayer, as David said, in Psalm 141:2, “Let my prayer be set before You as incense.”

If reading from the Word of Yahweh is spiritually eating, praying is spiritually *beathing*. We can go hours between eating, but we cannot stop breathing for very long at all. Prayer is a continual state in which we must be, in order to be inhaling the Atmosphere of Heaven and spiritually alive!

Prayer is not always on one's knees, of course... Prayer involves, praise of Yahweh... Singing is a form of prayer... It is communing with Heaven, intercession, spiritual warfare, seeking the Father's Will, rejoicing in Him and enjoying the beautiful scenery which He has made, being constantly in the Moment with Him... and much more...

Prayer is bigger, more encompassing and richer than most believers realize. And it is through prayer, in Messiah, that we commune with Yahweh and remain connected with Him. Thus, we pray all the time – in one form or another. Never are we to disconnect and go it alone. Prayer... is... spiritual... breathing. Breathe!