

# Torah Studies – Statutes #131-133

## Statute Summary:

*Statute #131: Yahweh’s people are to never practice fortunetelling, nor have anything to do with magic.*

*Statute #132: We are not to observe times (keep the unholy days of the no-gods).*

*Statute #133: Yahweh’s people are to never eat anything with the blood.*

**Leviticus 19:26** “Ye shall not eat anything with the blood: neither shall ye **use enchantment**, nor **observe times**.”

## Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
ENCHANT-MENT	H5172	<i>nâchash</i>	to <i>whisper</i> a (magic) spell, to <i>prognosticate</i> (forecast the future), <i>enchantment (er)</i>
OBSERVE TIMES	H6049	<i>ʿānan</i>	to <i>cover, cloud over, act covertly</i> , that is, practice magic, bring, enchanter

## Synthesis:

First, Leviticus 19:26 tells us that it is not acceptable to eat meat with the blood in it. Many believers have thought this meant that, if one chooses to eat biblically clean meats, the meat must be boiled and completely grey (devoid of all blood) prior to eating it. But this understanding of what it means to eat meat without the blood does not stand up to the test of letting Scripture interpret Scripture.

Consider the clear case of the Passover Lamb. The Passover Lamb was slain by slitting its throat, causing it to bleed out and die. Exodus 12:6-12 tells us the process of how the lamb was killed and then roasted whole. It was then eaten by the family, or more than one family. Bleeding the lamb by slitting its throat, as Torah requires, removes a good portion of the blood. But there will still be blood in the meat of the animal when it is roasted whole, as Torah requires. The Passover lamb’s flesh would not have been grey – completely bloodless – as a result.

When we seek to understand Statute principles, all related Statutes and Scriptural concepts must be considered in order to double check and confirm our interpretation.

## Torah Studies – Statutes #131-133 continued

Some Statutes are more cryptic. But others, which overlap (like the Passover lamb’s cooking requirements overlap the prohibition against eating blood) help to more fully decode and explain. **The Passover lamb was not prepared, or cooked, in way which violated the Leviticus 19:26 prohibition: “Ye shall not eat anything with the blood...”**

Thus, by using the Torah teachings about how to prepare the Passover lamb, we can plainly see that eating the meat without the blood means “bleeding” the animal properly, upon slaughter. But the meat does still have some blood in it, after this “bleeding” is complete. It is not necessary to boil meat and only eat grey, completely bloodless meat – as we can plainly see from using the Passover lamb for clarification.

The Statutes prohibit the eating of blood (which means properly bleeding the animal when slaughtered, not completely bloodless, as explained above) in numerous places. Here are a few, which shed further insight on this Statute principle:

- **Leviticus 3:17** – We are not to eat either the fat or the blood of the clean animal.
- **Leviticus 7:26** – We are not to eat the blood of clean animals or clean birds.
- **Leviticus 17:10-11** – Yahweh will set His Face against a person who eats the blood, because the life is in the blood. The blood is set apart as a symbol of the Atonement of Yahweh. Therefore, for us to consume the blood of the animal is to lessen, and disrespect the Atoning Work of the Almighty... Life belongs to Yahweh – so the blood belongs to Yahweh. This is why this Statute about eating blood is listed in Leviticus 19:26, along with other practices of Idolatry.

Next, Leviticus 19:26 tells us that fortunetelling (including palm-reading, and other such practices) along with using magic spells and enchantments is not okay (1 Samuel 15:23). For more information on this topic, check out Shauna Manfredine’s book, ***Escaping From the Dragon’s Jaws***. And also Rebecca Brown’s book, ***Becoming a Vessel of Honor***.

Finally, Leviticus 19:26 prohibits the observance of “times”. Many well-meaning believers have read this and taken it at face-value, claiming that it means we should not keep the Feasts of Yahweh, listed in Leviticus 23. As 2 Chronicles 33:6 shows, and also Galatians 4:8-10, the worship of the no-gods has long involved keeping their unholy days of worship. Observing pagan days, or “times”, is idolatrous. It has no place in the life of a child of Yahweh.

## Torah Studies – Statutes #134-139

### Statute Summary:

*Statute #134: Yahweh’s people are to belong to Him wholly and completely, without any divided or competing affections. This is what it means to be perfect with Yahweh.*

*Statute #135: Godly parents are never to offer their children as sacrifices to the devil. Godly parents are never to alienate their children, transitioning them in crossing over to the devil.*

*Statute #136: Yahweh’s people are to not consult sorcerers, nor practice sorcery.*

*Statute #137: Yahweh’s people are not to practice magic, nor consort with magicians.*

*Statute #138: Yahweh’s people are not to practice witchcraft, nor consult witches or wizards.*

*Statute #139: Yahweh’s people are not to try to contact the dead, nor consult with demon spirits, nor consort with those who do so.*

**Deuteronomy 18:10-13** “There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to **pass through** the fire, or that **useth divination**, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch, or a **charmer**, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an **abomination** unto Yahweh: and because of these abominations Yahweh thy God doth drive them out from before thee. Thou shalt be **perfect** with Yahweh thy God.”

### Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
PASS THROUGH	H5674	‘âbar	to cross over, transition, alienate, (make to) transgress (-or), translate, turn away
USETH	H7080	qâsam	to distribute, determine by lot or magical scroll, to divine
DIVINATION	H7081	qesem	a lot; also divination (including its fee), oracle: - (reward of) divination
CHARMER	H2266	châbar	to join, to fascinate, have fellowship with, heap up, join (self, together), league
ABOMINATION	H8441	tô`êbah	an abhorrence; especially idolatry or (concretely) an idol
PERFECT	H8549	tâmîym	Entire, integrity, truth: - without blemish, complete, full, perfect, sincerely, undefiled

## Torah Studies – Statutes #134-139 continued

### Synthesis:

If people today were found sacrificing children, as the Canaanites and others did in the Old Testament, they would be prosecuted for brutality and murder.

God states, *“They built the high places of Baal in order to burn their sons in the fire as whole burnt offerings to Baal, something that I had not commanded or spoken of and that had never even come into My Heart.”* (Jeremiah 19:5)

In essence abortion is another form of child sacrifice. But because killing children in the womb has been legalized in the US, pro-abortionists condone this brutality and murder!

Many times in Scripture, God’s people are warned not to be like the pagan peoples of other nations who sacrificed their own children. As we read of this abomination in Scripture, the so-called “civilized West” would claim that such vile behavior as child sacrifice should not be tolerated.



In Psalm 106:35–38, we read the following: *“But they mingled with the Gentiles and learned their works; they served their idols, which became a snare to them. They even sacrificed their sons and their daughters to demons, and shed innocent blood, the blood of their sons and daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan; and the land was polluted with blood.”*

Such an abomination as child sacrifice *does* occur in our Western nations, and in fact the whole world. In America alone there is so much child sacrifice that it makes what Hitler did during the Holocaust pale by comparison.

Abortion is not called child sacrifice. And the unborn are not called children. Different terms are used in an attempt to hide the reality of what is actually happening in this modern-day holocaust. Terms like *fetal tissue, abortion, pro-choice, women’s rights, women’s health care*, and other words are used to hide a reality: the killing of a human being made in the image of God! It’s murder! It’s child sacrifice.

Daily in America, thousands of children are being sacrificed—yes, a sacrifice. We all think that the Canaanites and other pagan cultures were barbaric because of their ritual child sacrifice. But the brutality and bloodshed happening in the Western nations today makes the Canaanites look mild by comparison.

## Torah Studies – Statutes #134-139 continued

Abortion is murder – and it is the “shedding of innocent blood” which “curses the ground” where it takes place.

- Genesis 4:9-12 – shedding innocent blood curses the ground. Cursed ground doesn’t yield its former “strength”
- 2 Samuel 21:2 – Saul brought curses on the land due to his unjust killing of the Gibeonites.
- Proverbs 6:16-19 – Yahweh hates the shedding of innocent blood.
- Jeremiah 22:3 – shedding innocent blood spoils the place where it occurs.
- Deuteronomy 19:10 – when innocent blood is shed in a land, the curse is visited upon all who live in the area and allow it.

Yahshua said of the devil, “He was a murderer from the beginning...when he lies he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies” (John 8:44). It is no accident that Yahshua speaks about Satan’s murders and his lies in the same breath. Lies are the wheels that turn every holocaust. To pull off his murders, Satan tells us lies. He is so eloquent, so persuasive in his lies, and without the protection of Torah, we are so gullible, that we can easily fall for his schemes (2 Corinthians 2:11). He masquerades as an angel of light (2 Corinthians 11:14), calling right wrong and wrong right, making us think—as many pro-choicers do—that they are taking the moral high ground and doing what’s right even as they defend something unspeakably immoral.

## Torah Studies – Statute #140

*Statute #140: Yahweh’s people are to dress in a way that clearly reveals their gender. Men are not to dress like women. Women are not to dress like men. Doing so makes a person abominable (a vain, wicked and idolatrous thing) in Yahweh’s Eyes.*

**Deuteronomy 22:5** “The woman shall not wear **that which pertaineth** unto a man, neither shall a man **put on** a woman's **garment**: for all that do so are **abomination** unto Yahweh thy God.”

### Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
PERTAINETH	H3627	<i>kēlîy</i>	something <i>prepared</i> , any <i>apparatus</i> (as an implement, utensil, dress, vessel or weapon)
PUT ON	H3847	<i>lâbash</i>	properly <i>wrap</i> around, that is, (by implication) to <i>put on</i> a garment or <i>clothe</i> (oneself)
GARMENT	H8071	<i>śimlâh</i>	a <i>dress</i> , especially a <i>mantle</i> : - apparel, cloth (-es, -ing), garment, raiment, to resemble, a likeness
ABOMINATION	H8441	<i>tô`êbah</i>	<i>disgusting</i> (morally), that is, an <i>abhorrence</i> ; especially <i>idolatry</i> or (concretely) an <i>idol</i>

### Synthesis:

Deuteronomy 22:5 is always given as the key verse that would prohibit a woman from wearing pants because it would be man’s apparel. But this interpretation of this Statute does not hold water, so-to-speak, since both men wore “skirts” in Biblical times (Ruth 3:9; Deuteronomy 22:30), as is shown in the image below. This Statute is



really about having men look like men (modestly) and women look like women (modestly). But the delineation of “pants” for men and “dresses” for women (while its perfectly okay) is not what this verse means. In fact, a man can wear a skirt, to this day, and still be in obedience to this Statute, because there are manly skirts, which are perfectly appropriate



attire in some cultures, as shown on the right. Even today, men in the Middle East can wear robes (skirts) which look much like they did in Biblical times. And it is easy to discern who are the men and who are the women. Deuteronomy 22:5 is about believers dressing in such a way that their correct gender identity (as given by the Creator) is easy to visually distinguish. Never should anyone wonder, by the clothing choices, if a man is a man, or a woman is a woman. That is all.

# Torah Studies – Statutes #141-142

## Statute Summary:

*Statute #141: Do not tattoo or make permanent marks on your body in any way.*

*Statute #142: Do not cut or gash your body for the dead (pertaining to spiritualism, honoring someone who has died, or participating in a Satanic ritual).*

**Leviticus 19:28** “Ye shall not make any **cuttings** in your **flesh** for the **dead**, nor **print** any **marks** upon you: I Am Yahweh.”

## Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
CUTTINGS	H8296	śeret	an <i>incision</i> : - cutting, to gash, to cut in pieces
FLESH	H1320	bâśâr	<i>body, person, nakedness, self, skin</i>
DEAD	H5315	nephesh	a <i>breathing</i> creature, breath, ghost, mortality, one, own
PRINT	H5414	nâthan	to <i>give, put, make, get, willingly, pay, perform, place, pour, print</i>
MARKS	H3793	k <sup>e</sup> thôbeth	a <i>letter</i> or other <i>mark</i> branded on the skin, to grave, scribe, write, Babylonian cutting

## Synthesis:

One of the oldest and most common satanic practices is cutting of the flesh or blood-letting. The term "blood-letting" originates from the word "let" – "to allow to pass, go or come"; hence "blood-letting" literally means to allow the blood to come, or pass.

Throughout history the cutting of the flesh and blood-letting are rituals performed to unleash demonic and supernatural powers. Because the "life of the flesh is in the blood" [Leviticus 17:11], the blood is highly valued in the occult as the "power source". And by releasing or letting the blood or the "power source" – supernatural power is unleashed.

The Word of God in 1 Kings 18:25-28 gives a detailed and perverse example of blood-letting by Satanists (aka prophets of Baal) attempting to unleash supernatural power and ignite the fire for the sacrifice. Notice how 1 Kings 18:28 describes this devil-worshipping, self-mutilation, blood-release act – “...after their manner...” In other words, this blood-letting was common practice among the worshippers of the devil (and the false gods). Blood-letting was a familiar ritual among the prophets of Baal.

# Torah Studies – Statutes #141-142 continued

It's also evident from other scriptures that cutting of the flesh or blood-letting was common practice among the pagan, wicked nations.

## Yahweh condemns such demonic practices

- Leviticus 21:5-6
- Deuteronomy 14:1

Also, blood-letting is a tell-tale sign of demonic possession, as we find in Mark 5:1-9 and Luke 8:27

## TATTOO: A TRAIL OF BLOOD-LETTING

There's no question that tattoos originated from the satanic ritual of blood-letting and cutting of the flesh as described in 1 Kings 18.

Perhaps it would be a good time to give a few brief descriptions of the tattoo procedure. Notably also, these quotes on the origins and demonic connection with tattoos are all from pro-tattoo resources:

"Early people cut open their skin and rubbed soot into the wounds to mark themselves. They punctured their skin with the bones and teeth of animals."

(Jean-Chris Miller, *The Body Art Book: A Complete, Illustrated Guide to Tattoos, Piercings, and Other Body Modifications*, p. 28)

"The tattooist guides the tattoo machine over the skin. He or she stops the needle every minute or so to wipe the blood and ink clean. The amounts of bleeding and pain in the tattoo process differ according to each person. . . After the first two hours, remove the bandage and wash away any collected or dried blood." (Bonnie B. Graves, *Tattooing and body piercing*, p. 22, 24)

"The reasons why puncturing the skin should be regarded with some degree of awe are not far to seek, for in the first place, there is the drawing of blood, which to the savage world over is full of significance as a rejuvenating and immortalizing factor. **There is in addition the opening of numerous inlets for evil to enter.**"

([Hambly Wilfrid D. 1925. *The History of Tattooing and its Significance*, p. 233] (Gilbert, Steve, *Tattoo History: A Source Book*, p. 162)

Beware – the tattoo procedure is a fashion of the satanic practice of blood-letting or cutting of one's flesh. Rubbing a little ink or pigment in it doesn't change the fact – tattooing is cutting/piercing the flesh – it is practicing blood-letting. By far, the most extensive work ever published on tattoos was Dr. W.D. Hambly's, *The History of Tattooing and Its Significance*. Author Steve Gilbert, in his popular *Tattoo History: A Source Book*, writes:

"Hambly concluded that historically tattooing had originated in connection with ancient rites of scarification and **bloodletting which were associated with religious practices intended to put the human soul in harmony with supernatural forces** and ensure continuity between this life and the next." (Gilbert, Steve, *Tattoo History: A Source Book*, p. 158)



## Torah Studies – Statutes #143-144

### Statute Summary:

*Statute #143: Do not join yourself with, nor make alliances or Covenants with the non-Yahweh worshipping people of the world. Such joinings with the heathen make it easy to slip into idolatry.*

*Statute #144: Part of worshipping Yahweh is recognizing that He is worthy of our total worship – unshared with any other. He is righteously Jealous (zealous), requiring undivided worship.*

**Exodus 34:14-15** “For thou shalt **worship** no other god: for Yahweh, whose name is **Jealous**, is a jealous God: Lest **thou make a covenant** with the inhabitants of the **land**, and they go **a whoring** after **their gods**, and do sacrifice unto their gods, and one call thee, and thou eat of his sacrifice.”

### Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
WORSHIP	H7812	<i>shâchâh</i>	to depress, that is, prostrate in homage to royalty or God, bow yourself down to, reverence, obeisance
JEALOUS	H7067	<i>qannâ'</i>	Jealous, zealous (Lexical Aids: “Yahweh permits no rivals... ardent zeal”)
THOU MAKE	H3772	<i>kârath</i>	make an alliance or bargain, be con- [feder-] ate (meaning joined by an agreement), covenant, cut (down, off),
A COVENANT	H1285	<i>berîyth</i>	in the sense of cutting, a compact (meaning “closely put together, joined”), create league (meaning “working together” or “united”).
LAND	H776	<i>'erets</i>	to be firm; the earth, world, nations way, common
A WHORING	H2181	<i>zânâh</i>	to commit adultery, to commit idolatry, wanton (not ravished, whoring by choice)
THEIR GODS	H430	<i>'êlôhîym</i>	gods in the ordinary sense, magistrates, angels, God, gods, goddess, great, judges, mighty

### Synthesis:

Partnerships with pagans includes partnerships with their demons. Thus, Yahweh’s people are not to form leagues, unions, covenants, or partnerships

## Torah Studies – Statutes #143-144 continued

This principle is found in the New Testament also, in 1 Corinthians 10:20, which is shown in various Bible versions, for clarity:

- 1 Corinthians 10:20 — The New International Version (NIV) “No, but the sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons.”
- 1 Corinthians 10:20 — King James Version (KJV 1900) “But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils.”
- 1 Corinthians 10:20 — The New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) “No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be partners with demons.”

# Torah Studies – Statutes #145-146

## Statute Summary:

*Statute #145: When you face the nations of the earth (Deut 7:19) arrayed against you, do not be afraid of them.*

*Statute #146: Remember that Yahweh is with you. And He is greater than any foe!*

**Deuteronomy 7:21** “Thou shalt not be **affrighted** at them (the nations of the earth of whom you would be afraid – see verse 19): for Yahweh thy God is **among** you, a **mighty God** and **terrible**.”

## Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
AFFRIGHTED	H6206	<i>ʾârats</i>	to <i>awe</i> , to <i>dread</i> ; hence to <i>harass</i> : - be affrighted (afraid, dread, feared, terrified), shake terribly
AMONG	H7130	<i>qereb</i>	the <i>nearest</i> part, the <i>centre</i> , midst, within
MIGHTY	H1419	<i>gâdôl</i>	<i>great</i> , <i>older</i> , high, long, loud, mighty, more, much, noble
GOD	H410	<i>ʾêl</i>	<i>strength</i> ; as adjective <i>mighty</i> , <i>the Almighty</i> , great, idol, mighty one, power, strong.
TERRIBLE	H3372	<i>yârêʿ</i>	to <i>fear</i> ; morally to <i>revere</i> ; causatively to <i>frighten</i> , (put in) fear, see, terrible

## Synthesis:

Isaiah 41:10 “Do not fear, for I Am with you; do not be afraid, for I Am your God. I will strengthen you; I will surely help you; I will uphold you with My right hand of righteousness.”

Fear is a Form of Worship. In Deuteronomy 10:20, Moses tells God’s worshipping community: “You shall fear the Yahweh your God. You shall serve Him and hold fast to Him, and by His Name you shall swear.” Yahweh’s people are called to fear Yahweh and Him alone. The people are to have no other gods besides the one true and living God—He *only* deserves our fear.

The next verb in that verse is the word “serve”, which can mean work or labor, but also is translated “worship” in the Old Testament. So we are beginning to see that God makes “fear” and “worship” a parallel concept. Also notice the other words in this verse, and how they carry with them the idea of wholehearted devotion to Yahweh “hold fast to Him” and “swear by His Name”. These are worshipful and reverential concepts.

## **Torah Studies – Statutes #145-146 continued**

If we were to examine the context, this reality becomes even more apparent. Deuteronomy 10 is all about obedience to Yahweh, serving Yahweh with a whole heart, circumcising one's heart unto Yahweh, and fearing Him alone (cf. Deut 10:12-13, "what does Yahweh your God require of you, but to fear Yahweh your God, to walk in all His Ways, to love Him, to serve Yahweh your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the Commandments and Statutes of Yahweh"). Clearly, fearing Yahweh is a part of our larger devotion to God—thus, fear is a form of worship.

# Torah Studies – Statutes #147-150

## Statute Summary:

*Statute #147: If an animal is clean, but is found dead (not slaughtered in the proper manner), Yahweh’s people may not eat it.*

*Statute #148: If the meat of the clean animal, which was found dead (not properly slaughtered), is free from disease or decay, it may be given or sold to a non-Torah observant person.*

*Statute #149: Because we have entered into a holy Covenant with YAH, Yahweh’s people are held to a higher Standard, having been set apart in holiness.*

*Statute #150: Yahweh’s people are not to boil or cook a kid in its mother’s milk.*

**Deuteronomy 14:21** “Ye shall not eat of anything that **dieth of itself**: thou shalt give it unto the stranger that is in thy gates, that he may eat it; or thou mayest sell it unto an alien: for thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God. Thou shalt not **seethe** a kid in his mother’s milk.” (See also Exodus 23:19 & Exodus 34:26).

## Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
DIETH OF ITSELF	H5038	<i>n<sup>e</sup>bêlâh</i>	a carcass or carrion (dead) body, dead of itself, which died, (beast) that (which) dieth of itself
SEETHE	H1310	<i>bâshal</i>	to boil up; to be done in cooking; bake, boil, bring forth, is ripe, roast, seethe, (be sodden)

## Synthesis:

*These are not health Statutes. These are worship Statutes and breaking them pertains to idolatry. We find this by the clear injunction that we are called to holiness, as a reason for these Statutes being given.*

*Many have speculated that there is something unhealthy about cooking meat in milk. In fact, the Talmud forbids eating meat with dairy because of this Statute. But the prohibition against seething a young male goat in its mother’s milk is not a Statute about health. This is part of a cluster of Statutes that are about idolatry!*

# Torah Studies – Statutes #147-150 continued

There are three verses containing this statement:

- Exodus 23:19: “The choicest first-fruits of thy land thou shalt bring into the house of the Lord thy God. *Thou shalt not seethe a kid in its mother’s milk.*”
- Exodus 34:26: “The choicest first-fruits of thy land thou shalt bring unto the house of the Lord thy God. *Thou shalt not seethe a kid in its mother’s milk.*”
- Deuteronomy 14:21: “Ye shall not eat of any thing that dieth of itself; thou mayest give it unto the stranger that is within thy gates, that he may eat it; or thou mayest sell it unto a foreigner; for thou art a holy people unto the Lord thy God. *Thou shalt not seethe a kid in its mother’s milk.*”

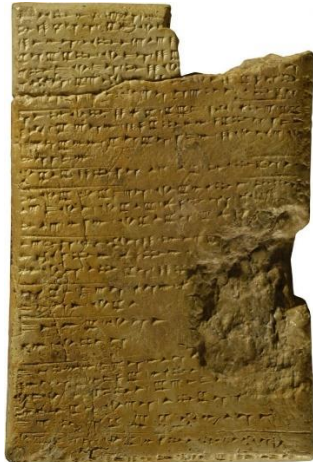
*Seething a kid in its mother’s milk was part of an idolatrous fertility ritual done in the worship of false gods. This is now known because of some Canaanite cuneiform tablets which were found.*



On May 14, 1929, a cuneiform tablet known as “KTU 1.23” was discovered during the excavations of Claude Schaeffer in the acropolis of Ras Shamra (Ugarit), in a building known as the “great priest’s house.”

The text was translated by French archaeologist Charles Virolleaud, titled “La Naissancedes Dieux Gracieux et

Beaux” (“The Birth of the Graceful and Beautiful Gods,” alternatively titled more simply, “Birth of the Gods”). The tablet, dating to the 14th century B.C. told of a Canaanite ritual which was described for the worship of the “mother goddess.” It tells of seething a kid in its mother’s milk. In the Canaanite ritual, the milk in which the kid was cooked symbolized the milk that the newly born gods were given. It was an idolatrous practice.



In light of the discovery, *Peake’s Commentary* (published 1962) relayed the following explanation for Exodus 23:19, Exodus 34:26 and Deuteronomy 14:21: “The significance of this prohibition [in these three biblical verses] has now been made clear by the Ras Shamra texts. According to the Birth of the Gods, i, 14, a kid was cooked in its mother’s milk to procure the fertility of the fields, which were sprinkled with the substance which resulted.”

God commanded the Israelites not to follow these same “magical” practices of the heathen in an attempt to incur some kind of a fertility blessing. Instead, Israel was to look to God as provider and rely on Him for the health and benefit of future harvests (or it could be said more broadly, through the spirit of the command, any venture or undertaking). Israel was to look to God, rather than to a pagan goat-and-milk custom, for His blessing!

## Torah Studies – Statutes #151-155

### Statute Summary:

*Statute #151: Trust in God is demonstrated by offering Him our best. We are never to offer our best sacrifices (which can be time, talents, money, devotion, or delight) to anything or anyone other than Yahweh.*

*Judgment: If we do offer our best sacrifices to other gods, Yahweh will not protect us in our hour of need. He tells idolators to turn to the gods they sacrificed their best to, in their hour of need.*

*Statute #152: Trust in God is demonstrated by exclusively offering Him our drink offerings. We are never to give our drink offerings to anything or anyone other than Yahweh.*

*Judgment: If we do offer drink offerings to other gods, Yahweh will not protect us in our hour of need. He tells idolators to turn to the gods they offered drink offerings to, in their hour of need.*

*Statute #153: Know and live by the understanding that Yahweh alone is God. He has no peers.*

*Statute #154: Yahweh is the One Who performs all Judgment. This means that Yahweh only One Who truly has the power to Kill (for His judgment of Death is eternal) and He is the only One Who can truly make anyone literally or figuratively alive. YHWH is the only One we should fear. Only He can destroy without remedy. And only YHWH can heal.*

*Statute #155: We are to recognize that Yahweh is so Supreme, that no one can deliver out of His Hand (or protect someone from His judgment). Failure to recognize these realities is idolatry before Yahweh.*

*Judgment: If we do these Statutes, then, in the day when our power is gone, we can turn to Yahweh. He is our Power. He is the One Who is our Deliverer and our Defense.*

**Deuteronomy 32:36-39** “For the LORD shall **judge His people**, and **repent Himself** for His servants, when He seeth that their **power** is **gone**, and there is none **shut up**, or **left**. And He shall say, Where are their **gods**, their **rock** in whom they **trusted**, Which **did eat** the **fat** of their **sacrifices**, and **drank** the **wine** of their **drink offerings**? Let them rise up and help you, and be your protection. See now that I, even I, Am He, and there is no god with Me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of My Hand.”

## Torah Studies – Statutes #151-155 continued

### Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
JUDGE	H1777	<i>dîyn</i>	to <i>rule</i> ; to <i>judge</i> , also to <i>strive</i> (as at law): - minister judgment, plead (the cause)
HIS PEOPLE	H5971	<i>'am</i>	a <i>people</i> (as a congregated <i>unit</i> ), (as those of Israel); figuratively a <i>flock</i> , people
REPENT HIMSELF	H5162	<i>nâcham</i>	to <i>sigh</i> , be <i>sorry</i> , to <i>pity</i> , <i>console</i> or (reflexively) <i>rue</i> , or (unfavorably) to <i>avenge</i> (oneself)
POWER	H3027	<i>yâd</i>	a <i>hand</i> (the <i>open</i> one (indicating <i>power</i> , <i>means</i> , <i>direction</i> , etc.), fellowship, force
GONE	H235	<i>'âzal</i>	to <i>go away</i> , <i>disappear</i> , be gone (spent)
SHUT UP	H6113	<i>'âtsar</i>	to <i>inclose</i> ; by analogy to <i>hold back</i> ; also to <i>maintain</i> , <i>rule</i> , <i>assemble</i> , keep self
LEFT	H5800	<i>'âzab</i>	to <i>loosen</i> , <i>relinquish</i> , <i>permit</i> , etc.: - commit self, fail, forsake, fortify, help
GODS	H430	<i>'êlôhîym</i>	<i>gods</i> in the ordinary sense, <i>magistrates</i> ; angels, (gods) (goddess), great, judges, mighty
ROCK	H6697	<i>tsûr</i>	figuratively a <i>refuge</i> ; (mighty) God (one), rock, stone, strength, strong
TRUSTED	H2620	<i>châsâh</i>	to <i>flee</i> for protection, figuratively to <i>confide</i> in: - have hope, make refuge, (put) trust
DID EAT	H398	<i>'âkal</i>	to <i>eat</i> (literally or figuratively), burn up, consume, devour (-er, up), wise (-deed, plenty)
FAT	H2459	<i>cheleb</i>	to <i>be fat</i> ; <i>fat</i> , whether literally or figuratively; hence the <i>richest</i> or <i>choice part</i> : best
SACRIFICES	H2077	<i>zebach</i>	by implication a <i>sacrifice</i> (the victim or the act): - offer (-ing), sacrifice
DRANK	H8354	<i>shâthâh</i>	to <i>imbibe</i> (literally or figuratively), banquet, drink (-er, -ing), drunk (X -ard)
WINE	H3196	<i>yayin</i>	to <i>effervesce</i> ; <i>wine</i> (as fermented); by implication <i>intoxication</i>
DRINK OFFERINGS	H5257	<i>n<sup>e</sup>sîyk</i>	something <i>poured out</i> , that is, a <i>libation</i> ; also a molten <i>image</i>

### Synthesis:

*The Hand of Yahweh is a Mighty, unstoppable Hand. When given against a people, in judgment, no might can withstand it (Exodus 7:5). But when Yahweh's Hand (an emblem of His Strength, Power, and Favor) is with someone no situation, no matter how daunting, is too great for*



## **Torah Studies – Statutes #151-155 continued**

*Yahweh's Deliverance from it (Exodus 13:9). When Yahweh's people forget Him, and turn to idolatry, our Power Source (the Hand of Yahweh and His directing Influence) leaves us. Thus, the implied statute is that we are never to hold anything or anyone but Yahweh as our "Rock," or Source of security, protection, and strength.*