

# Torah Studies – Statutes #177-180

## Statute Summary:

*Statute #177: Do not curse or execrate (say He is evil) Yahweh, Who is the highest Ruler.*

*Statute #178: Do not despise, make light of, or bring contempt upon the Almighty God.*

*Statute #179: Do not curse or execrate magistrates, judges or the leaders in the Body of Messiah.*

*Statute #180: Do not despise, make light of, or bring contempt upon magistrates, judges or the leaders in the Body of Messiah.*

**Exodus 22:28** “Thou shalt not **revile** the **gods**, nor **curse** the **ruler** of thy **people**.”

## Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
REVILE	H7043	<i>qâlal</i>	to be (causatively make) light, easy, trifling, vile, bring into contempt, curse, despise
GODS	H430	<i>'êlôhîym</i>	gods in the ordinary sense; the supreme God, magistrates, great, judges, mighty ones
CURSE	H779	<i>'ârar</i>	to execrate (declare to be evil): bitterly curse
RULER	H5387	<i>nâšîy'</i>	an exalted one, that is, a king or sheik, governor, ruler, captain, chief
PEOPLE	H5971	<i>'am</i>	a people (as a congregated unit); specifically a tribe (as those of Israel); figuratively a flock

## Synthesis:

Key examples in Scripture help us to more fully understand this set of Statutes, as follows:

- **Exodus 21:17** – Cursing parents is so severe a crime in Yahweh’s Eyes, that it was/is punishable by death.
- **1 Samuel 24:6-10** – When a human leader is anointed by Yahweh, and then turns bad, God’s people are still not to disrespect or harm this person (David – Saul).
- **Ecclesiastes 10:20** – even speaking against human kings, in private, should be understood to be a dangerous practice.
- **Acts 23:3-5** – Paul strongly rebuked the high priest, not knowing he was the high priest. As soon as Paul was told who he was, even though the high priest’s ungodly behavior had warranted Paul’s rebuke, Paul apologized.
- **Romans 13:2-7** – Respect for human authority is part of honoring the Name of Yahweh.

# Torah Studies – Statutes #181-182

## Statute Summary:

*Statute #181: Know that Yahweh’s Mark of Authority, Honor and Character is His Name.*

*Statute #182: Know that the Name that God uses to demonstrate that He is everything we will ever need is: I AM THAT I AM (in English). This Name is His Memorial.*

**Exodus 3:13-15** “And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is His **Name**? What shall I say unto them? And God said unto Moses, **I AM THAT I AM**: and He said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you. And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The **LORD God** of your **fathers**, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is My Name **for ever**, and this is My **Memorial** unto **all generations**.”

## Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
NAME	H8034	<i>shêm</i>	a mark or memorial of individuality; <i>honor, authority, character</i> : - name, renown, report
I AM	H1961	<i>hâyâh</i>	to exist, be or become, come to pass, beacon, quit (one-) self, require, use
THAT	H834	<i>’âsher</i>	(of every gender and number); <i>who, which, what, that</i>
LORD	H3068	<i>y<sup>e</sup>hôvâh</i>	<i>self Existent</i> or eternal; <i>Jehovah</i> , Jewish national name of God: - Jehovah, the Lord
GOD	H430	<i>’êlôhîym</i>	<i>gods</i> in the ordinary sense; but specifically used of the supreme <i>God</i> ; (very) great, mighty
FATHERS	H1	<i>’âb</i>	<i>father</i> in a literal and immediate, or figurative and remote application: - chief, fore-father patrimony, principal
FOR EVER	H5769	<i>’ôlâm</i>	<i>concealed, time out of mind</i> (past or future), <i>eternity</i> ; <i>always, ancient (time), any more, continuance, eternal, world without end</i>
MEMORIAL	H2143	<i>zêker</i>	a <i>memento, commemoration</i> : - memorial, memory, remembrance, scent
ALL GENERATIONS	H1755	<i>dôr</i>	a <i>revolution</i> of time, that is, an <i>age</i> or generation; evermore, generation, posterity

# Torah Studies – Statutes #181-182 continued

## Synthesis:

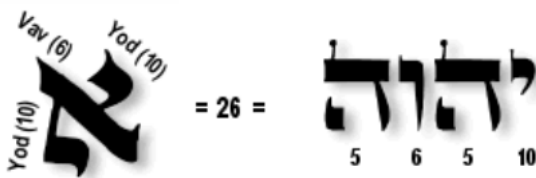
Although the Jews believe that speaking Yahweh's Name breaks the third Commandment, this Statute suggests otherwise. Yahweh instructed Moses to speak His Name to Israel and to Pharaoh. He also said that His Name is His Memorial. A memorial is something remembered and revisited. Part of this series of Statutes is knowing His Name. Here is some information to help us with that:



The letter **Aleph** is the "father" of the Aleph-Bet, whose original **pictograph** represents an ox, strength, and leader. It's numerical value is one (and also 1,000) and it is a silent letter. Aleph therefore is preeminent in its order and alludes to the ineffable mysteries of the oneness of God. Indeed, the word *aluph* (derived from the very name of this letter) means "Master" or "Lord."

In the classical Hebrew script (*ketav Ashurit*) used for writing Torah scrolls, Aleph is constructed with two Yods (one to the upper right and the other to the lower left) that are joined by a diagonal Vav. Ketav Ashurit was the script that Jesus would have read (*ketav Ivri* was an older script, similar to ancient Phoenician, but was not the script used when Moses received the Torah from the LORD on Sinai. Ketav Ivri is also sometimes called the Temple Script because samples of it are extant dated to the time of Solomon's Temple).

The basic gematria for the letter Aleph is one, indicating the One and only God who is the Master of the universe. Note, however, that the gematria for the parts of the letter Aleph add up to 26 (Yod+Yod+Vav). This is the same number as the sacred Name YHVH, also indicating a link between the Aleph and God Himself. This is also demonstrated in Exodus 3:14-15, where the LORD reveals His Name (I AM THAT I AM) אֶהְיֶה אֲשֶׁר אֶהְיֶה to Moses.



# Torah Studies – Statutes #183-184

## Statute Summary:

*Statute #183: If you claim Yahweh to be your God (you are claiming His Family Name), keep and do Yahweh’s Commandments and Statutes with all your heart and soul.*

*Statute #184: If you claim Yahweh to be your God (you are claiming His Family Name), be holy unto Yahweh your God.*

**Deuteronomy 26:16-19** “This day the LORD thy God hath commanded thee to do these Statutes and Judgments: thou shalt therefore keep and do them with all **thine heart**, and with all **thy soul**. Thou hast avouched the LORD this day to be thy God, and to walk in His Ways, and to keep His Statutes, and His Commandments, and His Judgments, and to hearken unto His Voice: And the LORD hath avouched thee this day to be His **peculiar** people, as He hath promised thee, and that thou shouldest keep all His Commandments; And to make thee high above all nations which He hath made, in praise, and in name, and in honour; and that thou mayest be an **holy** people unto the LORD thy God, as He hath spoken.”

## Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
THINE HEART	H3824	<i>lêbâb</i>	the <i>heart</i> (as the most interior organ); bethink themselves, courage, tender-hearted, mind, understanding
THY SOUL	H5315	<i>nephesh</i>	<i>Vitality</i> (bodily or mental): any appetite, body, breath, desire, pleasure
PECULIAR	H5459	<i>s<sup>e</sup>gûllâh</i>	to <i>shut up</i> ; <i>wealth</i> (as closely <i>shut up</i> ): - jewel, peculiar (treasure), proper good, special
HOLY	H6918	<i>qâdôsh</i>	<i>sacred</i> (ceremonially or morally); (as noun) <i>God</i> (by eminence), an <i>angel</i> , a <i>saint</i> , a <i>sanctuary</i> : - holy (One), saint

## Synthesis:

This set of Statutes connects honor for Yahweh’s Name with keeping the Shema. The Shema, the heart of Torah, is found in Deuteronomy 6, as follows:

“Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.” Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (NASB)

## Torah Studies – Statutes #183-184 continued

Reciting the Shema is sometimes called accepting the “yoke” of the Kingdom of Heaven. It’s referred to this way because, by saying the words of the Shema, we acknowledge that we are responsible for following them and are committed to God and His Commands, as part of claiming His Name and being a part of His Family.

Each part of the Shema is relevant to us and shows us, in the deepest sense, how to honor Yahweh’s Name.

**“Hear, O Israel!”** (In Hebrew – “Shema, Yisrael”)

This first phrase of the Shema is the most recited portion. It is a call to God’s people to acknowledge that God is our only God – and that we are His people. “Shema” literally means “hear” or “listen,” but it implies more than that. It implies that we should not only hear the following verses but also act, showing in how we live that we believe them.

When we don’t know what to do in our lives, the Shema reminds us to listen. We are to hear what God has to say with faithful ears, be prepared to do what he commands of us, and continually follow His guidance.

**“The Lord is our God”** (In Hebrew – “Adonai Eloheinu”)

Hearing Him is a vital part of being true Israel (likened to sheep)... In other words, only those who shema are actually in His Name (Family) – Psalm 95:7; John 10:27.

The command to listen is followed by the Name of God (YHVH), but Bible translators wrote God’s Name as “Adonai” instead. This phrase is said with great reverence. It should humble and forever awe us that we have the great privilege of calling the Creator of the universe “our God”! How blessed are we?!

**“The Lord is one”** (In Hebrew – “Adonai Echad”)

God is the only one deserving of our worship. No one, not political figures, other gods, our families, or even ourselves, comes close to God’s caliber of significance. He is to be our focus and our purpose.

**“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might”**  
(In Hebrew – “V’ahavta et adonai elohekha b’kohl l’vavkha oovkohl nafsh’kha, oovkohl me’odekha”)

Referred to as the v’ahavta, this phrase answers the question of purpose in our lives. With all our hearts, souls, and might, we’re to love God. It’s simply stated, but it takes a lifetime to learn – and then some! When the Bible talks about the heart, it isn’t an emotional organ but one of discernment, reason, and commitment. When we love God with our hearts, we don’t have a mushy, romantic feeling toward God; we commit. We’re all in. Our faith in Him is solid, and we love all that is from Him and reject all that is not, in our lives.

The concept of our “soul” is our innermost being. How do we love God with our souls? We are devoted to Him with everything we are. There is nothing we try to hide from him. He knows us better than we know ourselves.

## Torah Studies – Statutes #183-184 continued

The word for “might” is “me’odekha.” It is more literally translated as “very, very much” or “muchness.” Loving God with all your “muchness” is something that consumes you. It is intertwined in everything you do and is something people can see when observing your life.

**“These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart”**

(In Hebrew – “V’hayoo hadvareem ha’ayleh, ‘asher ‘anokhee m’tsavkha hayom al l’vavekha”)

Interestingly, the commands are to be on our hearts, as they were to be on the hearts of the Israelites. The common understanding is that the Law was at this time written on stone, and its being written on our hearts only occurred later, post-Yahshua, when the Holy Spirit was given to the apostles. But these Statutes teach that God’s Words was to be on the hearts of His people from day one, not only after Pentecost.

### **Judgments: (Blessings for Obedience)**

Yahweh claims His obedient children as a special treasure unto Himself. He promises to make such ones high above all other nations in praise, in name, and honor. And He will work in such ones to make them holy.

# Torah Studies – Statutes #185-191

## Statute Summary:

*Statute #185: A priest of Yahweh is not to defile or profane him or herself – and thereby profane Yahweh’s Name. (These Statutes apply to all members of the Body of Christ- see Exodus 19:4-6 and Revelation 5:10; but also, most especially to those who do the ministry of priests in the Body today)*

*Statute #186: A priest of Yahweh is not to purposely shave his head to make baldness nor shave his facial hair, in the way pagans do, which defiles us – and thereby profanes Yahweh’s Name.*

*Statute #187: A priest of Yahweh is to visually look like he belongs to Yahweh, which honors Yahweh’s Name.*

*Statute #188: A priest of Yahweh is not to cut him or herself, nor tattoo the skin.*

*Statute #189: A priest of Yahweh must not profane the Name of Yahweh, because they are to righteously lead the people in prayer and teach the Scriptures (the bread).*

*Statute #190: A priest of Yahweh must not marry a prostitute or someone who practices physical and/or spiritual whoredom, nor may we marry someone who has been “put away” (The Biblical practice of divorce, due to “uncleanness”).*

*Statute #191: If the daughter of a priest commits spiritual or literal fornication, she profanes the names of both her Heavenly and earthly fathers.*

**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...”

## Torah Studies – Statutes #185-191 continued

### Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
DEFILE	H2930	<i>ṭāmēʿ</i>	to be foul, especially in a moral sense (contaminated): defile (self), unclean utterly
TO PROFANE HIMSELF	H2490	<i>chālal</i>	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	<i>zānāh</i>	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

### Synthesis:

**What's the Spiritual Meaning in the Torah Commands About Beards?** It is not teaching that men cannot trim their beards. Many times the "Testimony" of Scripture gives cases of godly men who trimmed their beards. But the trimming could not cause the person to profane Yahweh's Name by appearing like an idolator.

### 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.



## Torah Studies – Statutes #185-191 continued

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 19:24.

**What does Leviticus 21:4-9 series teach about Divorce?** Divorce, here is called “putting away” a spouse. In Statute 190, we see that a man is not to marry a woman which another man has “put away” (divorced). What does this mean? Divorce, is something that, in Biblical times was only done when a wife was found to be “unclean”. That detail isn’t found in this Statute set, but Statutes must be understood by connecting them with other related Statutes... And Deuteronomy 24 does tell us why a wife might be “put away”. This understanding is echoed in Matthew 19, as follows:

- Deuteronomy 24:1 (KJV) When a man hath taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favour in his eyes, because he hath found some uncleanness in her: then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give it in her hand, and send her out of his house.
- Matthew 19:9 (NKJV) And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery.”

Because “uncleanness” was the reason for a wife to be given a bill of divorcement, once divorced, no other godly men could marry the woman, without also becoming “unclean” before Yahweh. What does sexual immorality have to do with being spiritually “unclean”?

Consider what the Bible teaches about Transferred Bondage, also known as Soul Ties (taken from our booklet *Keys to Living Like You’ve Been Saved*):

The third chain the enemy uses to bind our souls to Death is transferred bondage. Just as the name suggests, transferred bondage occurs when the demonic influences in one person’s life get the right to transfer to another person. Unlike cultivated bondage chains, which are forged over time, transferred bondage is instant.

Another term for transferred bondage is “**soul-ties**.” A soul-tie is formed when two people become bonded together on a spiritual level. Soul-ties were intended by God to be for our good. By having a godly soul-tie, which occurs when two Holy-Spirit filled people become spiritually bonded, the two individuals receive a double portion of the Holy Spirit. Because of the godly soul-tie they work for God more mightily than they could have separately. Such is the Heaven-intended fruit of a godly soul-tie.

David and Jonathan, of old, had a deep friendship that resulted in the formation of a godly soul-tie. We find the account in 1 Samuel 18:1. *“And it came to pass... that the soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.”*

What does it mean to have one soul “knit” or “soul-tied” to another soul? To answer this question, we must deal with the biblical meaning of the word “soul.” The Bible uses the word “soul” to represent three faculties of the human being: our mind, our desires (or will), and our emotions. To demonstrate this, consider the following Scriptures:

## Torah Studies – Statutes #185-191 continued

- In Psalm 139:14, the word “soul” refers to our mind or intellect. *“...Marvelous are Thy works; and that my **SOUL KNOWETH** right well”*
- In Psalm 35:9 and 42:6, the word “soul” refers to our emotions. *“And my **SOUL shall be joyful...** shall rejoice in His salvation.” “...My **SOUL is cast down** within me.”*
- Finally, in Revelation 18:14, we see an example of the word “soul” referring to our desires. *“And the fruits that thy **SOUL lusted** after are departed from thee...”*

All three applications of the word “soul” come into play in a soul-tie. Thus, when we form a soul-tie with another person, we become bonded to that person intellectually (we begin to think similarly), emotionally (we begin to feel similarly about things), and we become bonded in what we desire.

As we have already seen; deep, loving friendships can result in the participants becoming soul-tied. Consequently, partners in a marriage share a soul-bond. They are now joined together in a deep, spiritual bond that is far more fundamental than the signing of a contract. As it says in Matthew 19:6, *“Wherefore they (the married couple) are no more twain (two), but one flesh. What therefore God hath JOINED together, let not man put asunder.”*

Perhaps one may wonder why the bonding between godly friends, or the bonding between spouses, is listed under the category of the third chain the enemy uses for enslavement. Not surprisingly, the devil has taken the soul-bond, which God intended for our good, and has used it for our destruction.

A hint of the destructive nature of a demonic soul-tie is mentioned in 1 Corinthians 6:16 *“What? Know ye not that he which is JOINED to a harlot is one body? For two, saith He, shall be one flesh.”* The word “harlot” is an old term which refers to a prostitute. Obviously, one’s involvement with a prostitute isn’t based on a deep love relationship. Rather, this is a reference to fornication.

We have probably all heard the A.I.D.S. warning, “you are sleeping with everyone he/she has ever slept with.” Yet, this warning does not only apply to us in the physical sense, it is also so on the spiritual level. Often immense soul-ties are formed by “joining” with a harlot. Not only does the unsuspecting individual become soul-bonded with the prostitute, but also with everyone who has ever been with him/her. This is a small indication of the tremendous demonic work being accomplished through the sex industry...

When a follower of God becomes soul-tied with a partner who does not have the Holy Spirit as the driving force in his/her life, the follower of God becomes instantly bonded, not only to the ungodly person, but also to all the demonic entities present in that person’s life. Thus, the demons that are influencing or controlling the ungodly person’s thoughts, feelings and desires gain instant access to the Christian, putting those same thoughts, feelings, and desires into the now-tainted Christian’s temple.

In addition, the tainted Christian becomes immediately enslaved to the degree that his/her ungodly partner is enslaved. This is the reason the devil is so busy attacking people in the area of transferred bondage. Rather than having to achieve enslavement through the time-consuming process of temptation to fantasy, to a single act, to a habit, to a compulsion, to possession; the devil can potentially achieve full possession instantaneously. (Possession may not involve manifestations...).

## Torah Studies – Statutes #185-191 continued

The fact that becoming joined to humans bonds us with the spiritual driving forces in their lives, is plainly taught in Scripture. Consider the story in Numbers Chapter 25. The men of Israel had become soul-bonded with women who worshipped idols. The result, the Bible states, is that because of the soul-bonds formed with pagan women, those men had become ***JOINED to BAAL PEOR*** (Numbers 25:5). In this Bible story, so serious was the threat to God's people through this joining, that the men involved were put to death.

Baal Peor was the name of the false god worshipped by many idolaters at that time. If Baal Peor only referred to a carved image in stone, there would be no serious threat to the camp of Israel through some of their men becoming "joined" to it. Ultimately, the recipient of this false worship was the devil himself (see 1 Corinthians 10:20). He was the entity behind Baal. Thus, the term "joined to Baal Peor" really referred to the men of Israel becoming bonded to the devil and his demons. The fact that the men of Israel had willfully created this joining made it necessary for God to cleanse the camp of this terrible threat by ending the unrepentant, satanically bonded lives.

The Bible refers to people as "pagans" who do not worship *YHWH*. This is so, whether or not they have an idol shrine on their premises. How so? Because, as we have already discussed, we are spiritual temples. There is no neutral ground. We are either being indwelt by the Holy Spirit, or by enemy spirits. There is no such thing as a human "house" "swept clean" and left empty. (See Matthew 12:43-45 and Luke 11:24-26).

The deadly intent Satan contrives through Christians becoming joined in ungodly soul-ties is that he gains instant access for the demons to move at will from the unconverted individual into the Christian soul-partner. The Bible warns us plainly that when we become bonded with "pagans," or those who do not worship *YHWH*, we become instantly bonded to the demons working in their lives. *"...What pagans sacrifice they offer to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be partners with demons"* 1 Corinthians 10:20.

There are several ways in which a soul-tie is formed:

- Through any sexual act (intercourse, petting, kissing, etc.) — This point is brought out in Scripture in 1 Corinthians 6:16.
- Through marriage — As the Bible states in Matthew 19:6.
- Through deep, emotional bonds (such as are found in very close friendships) — 1 Samuel 18:1.
- Through partnerships (which may include business partnerships) — 1 Corinthians 10:20, 2 Corinthians 6:14-18.
- Through lustful fantasy (which includes romance novels) and the pornography industry (as we will discuss in the next paragraphs) - James 1:14-15.

Soul-ties are serious. Once formed, they don't just dissolve because the relationships have ended... Nor do they disappear merely because we've decided to put them "out-of-mind." Through soul-ties, we become bonded with each soul partner in thoughts (mind), desires (will), and emotions (feeling).

Additionally, we are bonded to each soul partner's driving spiritual force(s), which in ungodly soul-ties is always demonic.

## Torah Studies – Statutes #185-191 continued

Consider the illustration below:



In the illustration, a Christian couple, whom we'll call Kevin and Cathy, have decided to marry. Both Kevin and Cathy have had an ungodly past. But, having been baptized, they believe their past is totally behind them. Unfortunately, for the unaware Kevin and Cathy, soul-ties do not dissolve in the baptismal water. Each of them has already become soul-tied to a number of other individuals. Prior to his relationship with Cathy, Kevin was involved with three other women. These women had been sexually involved with other men prior to Kevin. Cathy also had a past. Before Kevin, she had affairs with two other men, both of which had been with women before becoming involved with Cathy. If Kevin and Cathy get married with all of this soul-tie bondage, they will be joining eighteen instead of two.

Even spiritually unaware couples, in the world, can sense the soul-ties in their relationship. One way this awareness manifests is in feelings of insecurity about how one "measures-up" to the sexual exploits of his or her partner's past. Left in such a situation, the marriage bed can never truly be "sacred and undefiled," as *Yahweh* intended.

Additionally, if the priest of *Yahweh* were to disobey this Statute and marry the "put away" women, now knowing what that means, he would lose the full indwelling of the Holy Spirit. He would not (in such a union) receive the intended double portion of the Holy Spirit. And instead of being spiritually strengthened and his spiritual potency increased by his marriage, by marrying a woman who had an ungodly past, the priest would lessen his own spiritual anointing and potency! This is why *Yahweh* says not to do it.

# Torah Studies – Statutes #192-197

## Statute Summary:

*Statute #192: The priests of Yahweh are specially separated out for His special Calling. Serving Him in this Calling, blesses Yahweh’s Name.*

*Statute #193: Priests (which every child of Yahweh is called to be – Rev. 5:10) are called to advance the cause of Yahweh’s Throne – emblemized in the Ark. Ministry for the purpose of advancing the Kingdom of Heaven, blesses Yahweh’s Name.*

*Statute #194: Priests are specially called to stand before Yahweh (always conducting themselves with the awareness that they are always in His Sight) and lead in the worship of Him. Always seeking the Favor of Yahweh and leading in His Worship blesses Yahweh’s Name.*

*Statute #195: Priests are to stand always at the ready to minister at Yahweh’s Command.*

*Statute #196: Yahweh’s priests are to live, converse and operate in such a way as to bless Him and His Name.*

*Statute #197: Yahweh’s priests are not to seek an earthly inheritance, as Yahweh is our Inheritance.*

**Deuteronomy 10:8-9** “At that time the LORD **separated** the tribe of Levi, to **bear** the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD, to **stand before** the LORD to **minister** unto Him, and to **bless** in His Name, unto this day. Wherefore Levi hath no part nor **inheritance** with his brethren; the LORD is his inheritance, according as the LORD thy God promised him.”

## Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
SEPARATED	H914	<i>bâdal</i>	to divide (literally or figuratively) separate, distinguish, differ, select, - (make, put) difference, (make) separate
BEAR	H5375	<i>nâśâ’</i>	to lift, advance, arise, (able to, [armour], suffer to) bear), bring (forth), extol, hold up, honourable, marry, magnify
STAND	H5975	<i>âmad</i>	to stand, - abide (behind), appoint, arise, confirm, continue, dwell, be employed, endure, establish, leave, make, ordain
BEFORE	H6440	<i>pâniym</i>	employ, endure, enquire, face, favour, fear of, for, forefront, mouth, please, presence, regard, right forth, + serve, shewbread, sight

## Torah Studies – Statutes #192-197 continued

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
MINISTER	H8334	<i>shârath</i>	to attend as a menial (a servant) or worshipper; minister (unto), serve, wait on
BLESS	H1288	<i>bârak</i>	to kneel; to bless God (as an act of adoration), and man (as a benefit), kneel (down), praise, salute, still, thank.
INHERITANCE	H5159	<i>nachalâh</i>	something inherited, that is, (abstractly) occupancy, or (concretely) an heirloom; generally an estate, patrimony or portion: - heritage, to inherit, inheritance, possession

### **Synthesis:**

Yahweh has set apart His people, who are His Called Priests (which includes every saved person – Rev 5:10) to bear the ark of the Covenant of Yahweh. Spiritually this means that we are called to hold up and advance the Throne of God – His Government on Earth. This earthly Throne also included the Law of Yahweh and the tokens of His mighty Power (Aaron’s rod which budded and the pot of manna). This is the work mentioned in the prophets, where it states that we should magnify the Law and make it honorable. We are also to wait before Yahweh to minister to Him and to bless in His Name.

Levi had no part or inheritance with his brethren. In the same way, we – Yahweh’s priests – have no earthly inheritance. For Yahweh is our inheritance.

**Cross References:** Numbers 18:20-24, Ezekiel 44:27-30, Deuteronomy 21:5; Leviticus 9:22; Numbers 6:23-26; 2 Chronicles 30:27; 2 Chronicles 29:11; Psalms 134:2, Psalms 135:2; Jeremiah 15:19; Romans 12:1-7

# Torah Studies – Statutes #198-202

## Statute Summary:

*Statute #198:* Teach and rehearse the meaning of the sacrifices with all the people of Yahweh, so that their sacrificing will honor Yahweh’s Name.

*Statute #199:* In order to honor Yahweh’s Name, offerings, or sacrificial presents must be undefiled and without spot.

*Statute #200:* *To honor Yahweh’s Name with our offerings,* offerings must be given in integrity and truth.

*Statute #201:* We are to only present offerings with the right attitude – that of pleasure in presenting it before Yahweh.

*Statute #202:* Offerings are to be presented at the Heaven-appointed assembly place and on the fixed Appointment Times with Yahweh. Such obedient sacrifices (offered spiritually, in post-Calvary times) are accepted by Heaven, reconciling us and satisfying our debts with Yahweh.

**Leviticus 1:2-4** “**Speak** unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, If any man of you bring an offering unto the LORD, ye shall bring your **offering** of the cattle, even of the herd, and of the flock. If his offering be a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male **without blemish**: he shall offer it of his own **voluntary will** at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD. And he shall put his hand upon the head of the burnt offering; and **it shall be accepted** for him to make **Atonement** for him.”

## Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
SPEAK	H1696	da bar	to speak; to subdue: - answer, appoint, bid, command, commune, declare, rehearse, teach, tell, think, use [entreaties]
OFFERING	H7133	qorba n	something brought near the altar, that is, a sacrificial present: - oblation, that is offered, offering
WITHOUT BLEMISH	H8549	ta m ym	entire (literally, figuratively or morally); integrity, truth: - without blemish, complete, full, perfect, sincerely (-ity), sound, without spot, undefiled, upright (-ly), whole
VOLUNTARY WILL	H7522	ra tso n	delight: - (be) acceptable (-ance, -ed), delight, desire, favour, (good) pleasure, (own, self, voluntary) will

## Torah Studies – Statutes #198-202 continued

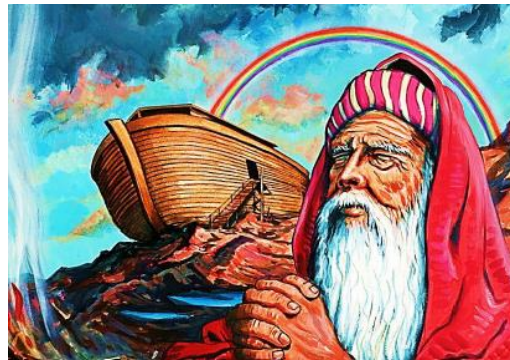
Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
CONGREGATION	H4150	<i>mo'ed</i>	an appointment, a fixed time or season; a festival; a year; an assembly; technically the congregation; the place of meeting; also a signal (as appointed beforehand): (sign, time)
IT SHALL BE ACCEPTED	H7521	<i>ra tsa h</i>	to be pleased with; to satisfy a debt: - (be) accept (-able), pardon, (be, have, take) please (-ure), reconcile self.
ATONEMENT	H3722	<i>ka phar</i>	to cover with bitumen, to expiate or condone, to placate or cancel: - appease, make (an) atonement

### What is Bitumen? And why does Atonement mean to “Cover with Bitumen?”

Bitumen is a mixture of Organic Liquids that are highly Viscous, Black, Sticky, Entirely Soluble in Carbon Disulfide, and composed primarily of highly condensed Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons. Naturally occurring or crude bitumen is a sticky, tar-like form of petroleum which is so thick and heavy that it must be heated or diluted before it will flow. At room temperature, it is much like cold molasses. Refined Bitumen is the residual (bottom) fraction obtained by fractional distillation of crude oil. It is the heaviest fraction and the one with the highest boiling point, boiling at 525 °C (977 °F).

Bitumen was the “pitch” used to COVER and SEAL Noah’s Ark! And in this, is a picture of what it means to experience Atonement:

**Genesis 6:12-14** “And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth. And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before Me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth. Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch.”



PITCH	H3722	<i>ka phar</i>	to cover with bitumen, to expiate or condone, to placate or cancel: - appease, make (an) atonement
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Next, let’s consider the significance of the sacrifices themselves, all of which (all blood sacrifices) pointed to *Yahshua’s* Death – revealing different aspects of His Offering on our behalf. God instructs Moses on the five different kinds of sacrifices that were to be offered in the Sanctuary:

- The *olah* or "burnt offering" was a voluntary sacrifice that had a high degree of sanctity and was regarded as the "standard" offering. The entire animal, except for its hide, was burned on the altar. (1:1-17)



## Torah Studies – Statutes #198-202 continued

- The *minchah* or "meal offering" was a sacrifice made of flour, oil, salt, and frankincense that was partly burned on the altar and partly given to the priests to eat. (2:1-16)
- The *zevach sh'lamim* or "sacrifice of well-being" was a voluntary animal offering from one's herd, sometimes brought to fulfill a vow. (3:1-17)
- The *chatat* or "sin offering" was an obligatory sacrifice that was offered to expiate unintentional sins. This offering differs from the others in the special treatment of the blood of the animal. (4:1-5:13)
- The *asham* or "penalty offering" was an obligatory sacrifice of a ram that was required chiefly of one who had misappropriated property. (5:1-26)

The opening words of Leviticus state: "The Eternal One called to Moses and spoke to him from the Tent of Meeting, saying: Speak to the Israelite people, and say to them . . ." (1:1-2). What follows are all of the explanations of the sacrifices we have been discussing.

The question that begs to be answered here is, why in the world did God tell Moses to explain all of this minute detail to the whole population? After all, these are really just instructions to the kohanim, the priests. Why didn't God simply command Moses just to teach them how to conduct this ritual? If only the priests knew what happened during the rituals, not only would the general population be behind a screen of smoke, but they also would be in total darkness regarding what Yahshua's Death, as our antitypical Sacrifice, really signifies. In other words, this information was given not just to the priests, but to all Israel. Why did all of Israel need to understand, since only the priests would be doing these steps? Because we all need to understand the spiritual significance and message behind every detail.

When any one spiritually brings an offering to Yahweh, by claiming the precious Blood of Yahshua as Atonement for our sins, we are to claim and recognize the Roles of Salvation our Saviour imputes upon us, through the significance of the sacrifices. We spiritually bring this Sacrifice to Yahweh, by claiming it in our personal and corporate worship of Him. In so doing, we will be accepted before Yahweh. Pressing the terrible crown of thorns into the Saviour's Brow, was foreshadowed by laying hands on the head of the burnt offering. It is only through *Yahshua's* Offering that we can be accepted before Yahweh, having made Atonement.

Atonement is powerful. It is to be covered with the sealing of Yahweh so completely as to protect from Yahweh's Wrath – just as the ark was sealed with pitch to keep out the Flood waters.

**Cross References:** 1 Chronicles 16:29, Romans 12:1 & 6, Ephesians 5:2