

Torah Studies – Statutes #181-186

Statute Summary:

(#181) Both men and women can choose to voluntarily take a Nazarite Vow. (#182) The duration of the Nazarite Vow (called the days of his separation) is determined by the individual (for Samson, it was a life-long Nazarite Vow; but for Paul, his vow lasted several days). (#183) While under the Nazarite Vow, the person is fully set apart as holy unto YHWH. (#184) While under the Nazarite Vow, the person cannot drink or eat anything made from grapes or the grape vine. (#185) Also, the person cannot cut or shave nor even comb any of his hair during the entire vow period. (#186) The person under the Nazarite Vow is not to touch or come near to a dead body, nor attend a funeral – even if it is his/her close family member who has died. (Historic reasons for taking a Nazarite Vow, as recorded by Josephus and the Jewish Encyclopedia included: seeking Divine intervention in a particularly critical prayer request; seeking Divine deliverance from some affliction – like barrenness; also, the husband of a woman suspected of adultery might choose a Nazarite Vow prior to her taking the Cup of Jealousy test. In no Scripturally or Historically recorded case was a Nazarite Vow ever entered into lightly. It was always entered into in situations of extreme need, either on the part of the Nazarite or someone else for whom he/she was interceding.)

Numbers 6:1-8 “And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When either man or woman shall **separate** themselves to **vow** a vow of a **Nazarite**, to separate themselves unto the LORD: He shall separate himself from wine and strong drink, and shall drink no vinegar of wine, or vinegar of strong drink, neither shall he drink any liquor of grapes, nor eat moist grapes, or dried. All the days of his separation shall he eat nothing that is made of the vine tree, from the **kernels** even to the **husk**. All the days of the vow of his separation there shall no **razor** come upon his head: until the days be **fulfilled**, in the which he separateth himself unto the LORD, he shall be holy, and shall let the **locks** of the hair of his head grow. All the days that he separateth himself unto the LORD he shall come at no dead body. He shall not **make himself unclean** for his father, or for his mother, for his brother, or for his sister, when they die: because the **consecration** of his God is upon his head. All the days of his separation he is **holy** unto the LORD.”

Key Word Study:

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

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
SEPARATE	5144	nâzar	to <i>hold aloof</i> , <i>abstain</i> from food and drink and impurity, to <i>set apart</i> (to sacred purposes)
VOW	5087	nâdar	to <i>promise</i> (positively, to do or give something to God), to vow
NAZARITE	5139	nâzîyr	<i>separate</i> , that is, consecrated (as <i>prince</i> , a <i>Nazirite</i>), an <i>unpruned</i> vine
KERNELS	2785	chartsan	a <i>sour</i> grape (as <i>sharp</i> in taste)
HUSK	2085	zâg	to <i>inclose</i> ; the <i>skin</i> of a grape
RAZOR	8593	ta'ar	a <i>knife</i> or <i>razor</i> (as <i>making</i> bare); also a <i>scabbard</i> (as <i>being</i> bare) shave
FULFILLED	4390	mâlê'	to <i>fill</i> , <i>be full of</i> , accomplish, be at an end, be expired
LOCKS	6545	pera'	the <i>hair</i> (as <i>dishevelled</i>)
MAKE ... UNCLEAN	2930	ṭâmê'	to <i>be foul</i> , in a moral sense (<i>contaminated</i>): - defile (self), pollute (self)
CONSECRATION	5145	nezer	something <i>set apart</i> , that is, (abstractly) <i>dedication</i> (of a priest or Nazirite)
HOLY	6918	qâdôsh	<i>Sacred</i> , a <i>saint</i> , a <i>sanctuary</i>

Synthesis:

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

Fasting is often associated with intense periods of prayer. But, the Nazarite Vow intensifies the power of the prayer even further. In the past, people have voluntarily taken this sacred vow in order to draw closer to YHWH and partake of the most intimate prayer communion with YHWH, available to mankind. Grapes and their products are avoided because the fruit of the vine is a symbol of rejoicing. Clearly, during intense times of prayer, I am to be continually praising YHWH, as at all times. But, I am also to be spiritually sober, treating the crisis with the serious consideration it deserves. Hair is our covering – 1 Corinthians 11:15. It would seem that during the Nazarite Vow, YHWH wants His children to take extra care to be fully covered. It is interesting to see the Hebrew viewpoint on This vow. Recognizing how sacred it is, and how close to YHWH the person comes to be while under this vow, the Hebrew people say, "When Messiah comes, may He find me a Nazarite." Yes! May I at least be found wholly dedicated to YHWH, and by His Grace, a holy Sanctuary to His glory!

Torah Studies – Statutes #187-188

Statute Summary:

Vows are made unto YHWH. (#187) When we make a vow, YHWH Himself requires us to pay or perform the thing we have vowed to do. It is a sin to not pay our vows. (#188) For this reason, we should not make promises unless we intend to keep them.

Deuteronomy 23:21-23 “When thou shalt vow a vow unto the LORD thy God, thou shalt not slack to pay it: for the LORD thy God will surely require it of thee; and it would be sin in thee. But if thou shalt forbear to vow, it shall be no sin in thee. That which is gone out of thy lips thou shalt keep and perform; even a freewill offering, according as thou hast vowed unto the LORD thy God, which thou hast promised with thy mouth.”

Key Word Study:

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

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
VOW	5087	nâdar	to <i>promise</i> (positively, to do or give something to God): - (make a) vow
SLACK	309	’âchar	to <i>loiter</i> (that is, <i>be behind</i>), <i>procrastinate</i> , hinder, be late
PAY IT	7999	shâlam	to <i>be safe</i> (in mind, body or estate), <i>completed</i> , make good, make to be at peace
SIN	2399	chêt’	a <i>crime</i> or its <i>penalty</i> , <i>offence</i> , <i>sin</i>
FORBEAR	2308	châdal	to <i>be flabby</i> , that is, (by implication) <i>desist</i>
KEEP	8104	shâmar	properly to <i>hedge</i> about (as with thorns), that is, <i>guard</i> ; generally to <i>protect</i>
PERFORM	6213	’âsâh	to <i>do</i> or <i>make</i> , accomplish

Synthesis:

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

YHWH is very serious about my vows. Clearly, the things I say matter to God. He wants me to be careful what I
promise to do. It is better, in His Eyes, if I don't make promises at all, than it is to make them and break them. I am
also to be aware that all my vows or promises or statements of what I will do are ultimately made to YHWH. If I
promise something to a person, fundamentally that is a promise or vow made to God. I cannot be spiritually safe
while I have unpaid vows. Also, YHWH wants me to take care to pay my vows speedily and without procrastination
Clearly, the words that I speak are considered seriously by YHWH! Perhaps this is why the Saviour warned His
people to be men and women of few words (Matthew 5:34-37). Dear Heavenly Father, please help me to watch
my words. May I take care not to promise things I shouldn't. May I also be strengthened by You to pay all my
vows!

Torah Studies – Statute #189

Statute Summary:

If a man vows something, or makes a promise, his soul is bound by the oath. He may not break his word. Whatever he promised to do, must be completely carried out.

Numbers 30:2 “If a man vow a vow unto the LORD, or swear an oath to bind his soul with a bond; he shall not break his word, he shall do according to all that proceedeth out of his mouth.”

Key Word Study:

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

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
VOW	5087	nâdar	to <i>promise</i> (positively, to do or give something to God): - (make a) vow
SWEAR	7650	shâba‘	to <i>be complete</i> , to <i>seven</i> oneself, that is, <i>swear</i> , adjure, charge (by an oath, with an oath)
OATH	7621	sh ^e bû‘âh	something <i>sworn</i> , that is, an <i>oath</i> : - curse
BIND	631	’âsar	to <i>yoke</i> or <i>hitch</i> ; by analogy to <i>fasten</i> in any sense, put in bonds, set in array, tie
SOUL	5315	nephesh	a <i>breathing</i> creature, that is, <i>animal</i> or (abstractly) <i>vitality</i>
BOND	632	’ěsâr	<i>obligation</i> or <i>vow</i> (of abstinence): - binding, bond
BREAK	2490	châlal	to <i>bore</i> , that is, (by implication) to <i>wound</i> , to <i>dissolve</i> , to <i>break</i> (one’s word)

Synthesis:

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

It is no wonder YHWH instructs His people to take their vows seriously, and to not enter vows without thought and prayer! A vow is a soul bond, which seems to last as long as the vow is unfulfilled. Once fulfilled, the vower is released from his bond – but not before. The vows that we make, even when they are promises made to humans are before YHWH – He expects fulfillment of them. For a man, there is no release from a bond, or vow, other than To fulfill what was promised. A man must always come through and never break his word, as YHWH does -Ps. 15:4

Torah Studies – Statutes #190-193

Statute Summary:

If a young woman, still living in her father's house, makes a promise without her father's approval or permission, when he hears of it, he has the right of "veto," in YHWH's Eyes. This means that ultimately her father determines if the vow may stand or not. (#190) If he is quiet and does not command otherwise, the young woman's vow becomes as firm, before God, as a man's vow. She must not fail to do as she's promised. (#191) If her father, who is her authority figure, does not allow the vow, the young woman is freed from the bond and God does not require her to do what she's promised, because her father did not agree. (#192) And if a woman who is married, vows a vow, her husband has the same "veto" right over the vow, for he is her human covering. So, if her husband is silent and agrees, the wife's vow stands. (#193) But, if her husband does not agree, the wife's vow is annulled before YHWH and is not to be fulfilled. Thus, we see that YHWH works through the chain of command in our human authorities, as established by Him.

Numbers 30:3-8 "If a woman also vow a vow unto the LORD, and bind herself by a bond, being in her father's house in her youth; And her father hear her vow, and her bond wherewith she hath bound her soul, and her father shall hold his peace at her: then all her vows shall stand, and every bond wherewith she hath bound her soul shall stand. But if her father disallow her in the day that he heareth; not any of her vows, or of her bonds wherewith she hath bound her soul, shall stand: and the LORD shall forgive her, because her father disallowed her. And if she had at all an husband, when she vowed, or uttered ought out of her lips, wherewith she bound her soul; And her husband heard it, and held his peace at her in the day that he heard it: then her vows shall stand, and her bonds wherewith she bound her soul shall stand. But if her husband disallowed her on the day that he heard it; then he shall make her vow which she vowed, and that which she uttered with her lips, wherewith she bound her soul, of none effect: and the LORD shall forgive her."

Key Word Study:

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

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
VOW	5087	nâdar	to <i>promise</i> (positively, to do or give something to God): - (make a) vow
HEAR	8085	shâma'	to <i>hear</i> intelligently, consent, consider, be content
BOND	632	'ěsâr	<i>obligation</i> or <i>vow</i> (of abstinence): - binding, bond
HOLD HIS PEACE	2790	chârash	to <i>scratch, engrave</i> , to be <i>silent</i> , to <i>let alone</i> be quiet, rest
SHALL STAND	6965	qûm	to rise, abide, accomplish, confirm, continue, decree, make good, perform, remain
DISALLOW	5106	nû'	to <i>refuse, forbid, dissuade</i> , or <i>neutralize</i> : - break, disallow, discourage, make of none effect
NONE EFFECT	6565	pârar	to <i>break up</i> , break (asunder), cast off, cause to cease, make void

Synthesis:

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

Vows are very serious things!! But, for a woman, under godly authority of either her husband or father, there is an extra measure of protection for vows which buffers them for her. This is a very neat concept. For in a multitude of counselors there is wisdom. Yet a man may rashly make vows, from which he has no exit, other than to "pay" or fulfill them. However, for a young woman, her father's agreement establishes her vow and for a wife, her husband's agreement. Thus, under this godly authority, a woman cannot be bound without the agreement of her own wishes (of course) AND the agreement of her father or husband (two heads are better than one). Praise for His great wisdom in establishing an extra measure of protection for His daughters!

Torah Studies – Statutes #194-195

Statute Summary:

YHWH is very concerned about the physical health and well-being of His people. He has allowed us to eat of certain clean meats. But, (#194) if a clean animal dies before it can be slaughtered, it is no longer clean. Anyone who touches its carcass, or eats it (not knowing it wasn't slaughtered, but died of some other cause) is made unclean until the beginning of the next day (the next evening). One purpose of this statute is prevention of the spread of germs and disease. (#195) When one has to carry the carcass (or touch it) of a clean animal which dies of old age or unnatural causes, the person who touched the carcass is to wash and launder his clothes.

Leviticus 11:39-40 “And if any beast, of which ye may eat, die; he that toucheth the carcase thereof shall be unclean until the even. And he that eateth of the carcase of it shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even: he also that beareth the carcase of it shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even..”

Key Word Study:

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

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
BEAST	929	b ^e hêmâh	any large quadruped or <i>animal</i> (often collectively): - beast, cattle
CARCASE	5038	n ^e bêlâh	a <i>carcase</i> or <i>carrion</i> , <i>dead of itself</i>
UNCLEAN	2930	ṭâmê'	to <i>be foul</i> , especially in a ceremonial or moral sense (<i>contaminated</i>)
EVEN	6153	ʿereb	<i>dusk</i> : - + day, even (-ing, tide), night

Synthesis:

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

It is amazing to serve such a loving God that He thinks of everything! He is concerned about every aspect of my life and desires my wellbeing, not only spiritually but physically, and in every way. I am to be conscious of disease and germs and work to prevent their being spread. One way is to not eat (knowingly) nor touch the carcass of a clean animal which did not make it to being slaughtered properly. If I cannot avoid touching it, I am to wash and stay away from others until the next evening, to prevent the spread of germs and disease to them.

Torah Studies – Statutes #196-198

Statute Summary:

(#196) YHWH's people are never to eat the flesh of any unclean animal. (#197) We are also not to touch the carcass of any unclean animal. (#198) If we accidentally touch the carcass, or absolutely must carry the carcass in order to remove or bury it, we are to wash and launder our clothing and be unclean until the start of the next day (evening).

Leviticus 11:8, 24-25 "Of their flesh shall ye not eat, and their carcase shall ye not touch; they are unclean to you... And for these ye shall be unclean: whosoever toucheth the carcase of them shall be unclean until the even. And whosoever beareth ought of the carcase of them shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even."

Key Word Study:

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

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
UNCLEAN	2930	ṭâmê'	to be foul, especially in a ceremonial or moral sense (<i>contaminated</i>)
EVEN	6153	ʿereb	dusk: - + day, even (-ing, tide), night

Synthesis:

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

As a child of YHWH, I am never to eat any flesh of a creature YHWH has declared unclean. Not only am I never to eat such creatures, I am also not to touch the carcass of them. This is especially challenging, for pig. Pig is unclean, yet the parts or extracts from pigs, appear in many unexpected places: jello, marshmallows, some varieties of skin cream and shampoos, etc... It is necessary to make the effort to know which products contain extracts of pig, or any other unclean animal (like mice dna being put into tomatoes). This is important to YHWH, therefore it must be important to me also.
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Torah Studies – Statutes #199-202

Statute Summary:

(#199) If the carcass of a dead animal, which is an unclean animal, falls upon skin, clothes, containers of wood or sack material; the item on which the carcass fell must be cleansed with water. (#200) Such contaminated objects are unclean and cannot be used until the start of the next day (evening). (#201) If an unclean animal, such as a mouse, falls into an earthen vessel (pottery), the vessel must be destroyed. For (#202) anything that touches a container or item polluted in this manner is also contaminated by the contact.

Leviticus 11:32-34 “And upon whatsoever any of them (unclean animals), when they are dead, doth fall, it shall be unclean; whether it be any **vessel** of wood, or **raiment**, or **skin**, or **sack**, whatsoever vessel it be, wherein any work is done, it must be put into water, and it shall be unclean until the even; so it shall be cleansed. And every earthen vessel, whereinto any of them falleth, whatsoever is in it shall be unclean; and ye shall break it. Of all meat which may be eaten, that on which such water cometh shall be unclean: and all drink that may be drunk in every such vessel shall be unclean.”

Key Word Study:

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

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
VESSEL	3627	k ^e lîy	<i>apparatus</i> (implement, utensil, dress, vessel or weapon) bag, furniture, instrument, jewel
RAINMENT	899	beġed	a <i>covering</i> , that is, clothing; also <i>treachery</i> or <i>pillage</i> , garment, lap, rag
SKIN	5785	‘ôr	<i>skin</i> (as <i>naked</i>); by implication <i>hide</i> , <i>leather</i>
SACK	8242	śaq	a <i>mesh</i> (as allowing a liquid to <i>run</i> through), that is, coarse loose cloth or <i>sacking</i>

Synthesis:

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

YHWH is quite interested in preventing the contamination which comes from contact with the carcasses of
unclean animals. I am to be very conscious of the potential spread of germs and disease which can come from
such carcasses. Anything washable, which touches these carcasses is to be washed and remain unclean for use
until the start of the next day (at evening). Anything not washable, such as unfired and unglazed pottery objects
must be broken and destroyed –f or they are permanently contaminated. YHWH wants me to be spiritually and
physically pure.