Torah Studies – Statutes #301-305

Statute Summary:

(#301) YHWH's people may choose not to make a promise about something. It is not a sin to refrain from saying we'll do something. (#302) But, once we give our word that we will do something, YHWH expects us to do all we have promised to do. (#303) If we promise to give a freewill offering, we are to pay it in entirety, because we have promised to give it. (#304) We are to take great care not to forget our promises. Forgetting is not an excuse before Heaven. (#305) All verbal promises or agreements are made unto YHWH. And before Him, it is stealing time, talents, or money, to not give or render all that we have promised to give.

<u>Deuteronomy 23:22-23</u> "But if thou shalt <u>forbear</u> to <u>vow</u>, it shall be no sin in thee. That which is gone out of thy lips thou shalt <u>keep</u> and <u>perform</u>; even a <u>freewill offering</u>, according as thou hast vowed unto the LORD thy God, which thou hast promised with thy mouth."

Key Word Study:

<u>Directions:</u> 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
FORBEAR	2308	châdal	to <i>be flabby</i> , <i>desist</i> ; cease, end, fail, forbear, forsake, leave (off), let alone
vow	5087	nâdar	to <i>promise</i> (positively, to do or give something to God): - (make a) vow
KEEP	8104	shâmar	to <i>hedge</i> about (as with thorns), that is, <i>guard</i> ; generally to <i>protect</i> , <i>attend to</i> , regard
PERFORM	6213	`âśâh	to <i>do</i> or <i>make</i> , accomplish, fulfill, finish, sacrifice, surely work
FREEWILL OFFERING	5071	n°dâbâh	a spontaneous or abundant gift, voluntary

Synthesis:

<u>Directions:</u> 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 wants me to keep and do the things that says I will keep and do... This is really huge. It is so easy to say that I'll do something, and then forget... But this statute tells me to take pains NOT to forget what I promised. If I fail to do all I've promised it is stealing. Father forgive me of unpaid vows in the past... I also ask Your help to keep this in the future. As it says in James 5:12, help me to say "yes" when I really mean it. And say "no" when that is right.

Also, this statute magnifies my understanding of the power of YHWH's Promises to me. Consider the powerful Elijah message promise found in Isaiah 40:1-5. Not only does He promise to comfort His people and reveal His Glory in them, He reminds them that this promise MUST be done because "the Mouth of the LORD has spoken it!"

Torah Studies – Statutes #306-309

Statute Summary:

(#306) YHWH is merciful and has provided for travelers to enjoy what sustenance they find in fields along the journey. When we pass through another person's garden or vineyard, by Torah, it is okay to satisfy our hunger by eating the produce or grapes. (#307) But, we may not harvest, store, nor take grapes from the vineyard beyond what we rightly eat at the time. (#308) When we come by a field of grain, we may pluck some to eat and satisfy our hunger. (#309) But, we are never to harvest any of another person's grain for eating or selling later. Clearly, it is not stealing to satisfy our immediate needs for hunger. But, it is stealing to take anything beyond what is needed to fill the empty stomach.

<u>Deuteronomy 23:24-25</u> "When thou comest into thy neighbour's <u>vineyard</u>, then thou mayest eat grapes thy <u>fill</u> at thine own pleasure; but thou shalt not put any in thy vessel. When thou comest into the standing corn of thy neighbour, then thou mayest pluck the ears with thine hand; but thou shalt not move a sickle unto thy neighbour's standing corn."

Key Word Study:

<u>Directions:</u> 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
VINEYARD	3754	kerem	a garden or vineyard: - vines, (increase of the) vineyard (-s), vintage
FILL	7648	śôba`	satisfaction (of food or (figuratively) joy): - fill, full (-ness), satisfying, be satisfied

Synthesis:

<u>Directions:</u> 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 always gentle and takes good care of us. He says that if we're passing through and get hungry, we may eat our fill of the produce which grows in someone's land. However, since this statute isn't largely known, it is wise to be discerning in putting it to use. While it is okay to enjoy what is needed to eat my fill on a journey, I am not to take more than I can eat at the time. This is harvesting. And harvesting from my neighbor is nothing short of stealing.

Torah Studies - Statutes #310-314

Statute Summary:

(#310) YHWH wants His children to take great care to restore lost property to the original owner. (#311) If we find an animal that has escaped its enclosure, or an object which does not belong to us, we are never to keep it secret that we have found this item, in order to keep another's lost property as our own. (#312) If the owner of the lost property is far away, or if we are not sure who owns the lost item, we are to keep it in our home until it can be restored. (#313) But, in keeping it, we aren't to conceal that we have it. This implies that we are to advertise the lost items in our possession in hopes of alerting the owner. (#314) When the original owner is available to restore the lost items to, we are to give back all his lost property, concealing nothing of it to keep for ourselves.

<u>Deuteronomy 22:1-3</u> "Thou shalt not see thy brother's ox or his sheep go astray, and <u>hide thyself</u> from them: thou shalt in any case bring them again unto thy brother. And if thy brother be not <u>nigh</u> unto thee, or if thou know him not, then thou shalt bring it unto thine own house, and it shall be with thee until thy brother seek after it, and thou shalt <u>restore</u> it to him again. In like manner shalt thou do with his ass; and so shalt thou do with his raiment; and with all lost thing of thy brother's, which he hath lost, and thou hast found, shalt thou do likewise: thou mayest not hide thyself."

Key Word Study:

<u>Directions:</u> 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
HIDE THYSELF	5956	'âlam	to <i>veil</i> from sight, <i>conceal</i> in any way, blind, dissembler, hide (self), secret (thing)
NIGH	7138	qârôb	near, nigh at hand, near (of kin), neighbour
RESTORE	7725	shûb	return to the starting point, recompense, recover, rescue, restore, retrieve, render (again)

Synthesis:

<u>Directions:</u> 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 wants me to be completely honest, never profiting from another's loss. I am to take care that if I find something which doesn't belong to me, I must not hide it nor keep it for myself. I am to do all that I can to restore it fully to its original owner. If I can't find the owner, or don't know who it is, I am to advertise that I possess the lost property, keeping it safe in my own home until the original owner can come to claim it. In other words, YHWH wants His children to be such a society that no one ever has to worry about losing anything. If a wallet gets left behind in a store, 100% of the contents are to still be in it when the owner comes back to claim it. Such a society would be a huge blessing! And it is another reason why Heaven will be Heaven!

Torah Studies – Statutes #315-319

Statute Summary:

(#315) YHWH's children are never to speak untrue words. (#316) We are not to give a false testimony, nor help the Torah-breakers by becoming a false witness to support their unjust cause. (#317) YHWH's children are never to "follow the crowd," when the majority is doing evil. (#318) YHWH's people are not give testimony in court or otherwise which causes judgment to be twisted and moral depravity to gain ground. (#319) YHWH's children are never to align themselves against a poor or weak man out of pride or prejudice.

<u>Exodus 23:1-3</u> "Thou shalt not <u>raise</u> a <u>false report</u>: <u>put</u> not <u>thine hand</u> with the <u>wicked</u> to be an <u>unrighteous witness</u>. Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil; neither <u>shalt thou speak</u> in a <u>cause</u> to decline after many to <u>wrest</u> judgment: Neither shalt thou <u>countenance</u> a <u>poor man</u> in his cause."

Key Word Study:

<u>Directions:</u> 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
RAISE	5375	nâśâ'	to <i>lift, advance,</i> bring (forth), give, go on, help, swear
FALSE REPORT	7723/ 8088	shâv' / shêma`	lying sound, rumor, idolatrous announcement;
PUT	7896	shîyth	to <i>place</i> , apply, appoint, array, bring
THINE HAND	3027	yâd	custody, debt, dominion, fellowship, force
WICKED	7563	râshâ'	wrong; bad person: - + condemned, guilty, ungodly, wicked (man), that did wrong
UNRIGHTEOUS	2555	châmâs	violence; wrong; unjust gain: - cruel, damage, false, injustice, violence
WITNESS	5707	`êd	<i>a witness</i> ; abstractly <i>testimony</i> ; specifically a recorder, that is, prince: - witness
SHALT THOU SPEAK	6030	`ânâh	to heed, that is, pay attention, testify, announce: - give account, afflict
CAUSE	7379	rîyb	a contest (personal or legal), chiding, contend, contention, strife, strive (-ing), suit

WREST	5186	nâţâh	to <i>stretch</i> or spread out, bend away, pervert
COUNTENANCE	1921	hâdar	to <i>swell</i> up, to <i>favor</i> or <i>honour</i> , <i>be high</i> or <i>proud</i> , crooked place
POOR MAN	1800	dal	weak or thin: - lean, needy, poor (man), weaker

Synthesis:

<u>Directions:</u> 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 cares about my honesty. I am to be truthful at all times. I am not to join the cause of Torah-breakers, helping their case, whether legal or personal, for doing so is unjust and dishonest. I am not to follow the crowd to do what is popular, whenever that is evil. I am to take care that my testimony or support be leant to the cause of wickedness. Never am I to help evil prosper. Also, if I can be more popular by denying help to a poor or weaker brother, if I can righteously help that brother, I am to humble myself and help him, rather than being prejudice or selfish in my response with him.

Torah Studies - Statutes #320-321

Statute Summary:

(#320) YHWH wants His children to help others, even people who choose to hate us and consider themselves a foe. (#321) If the animals or property of an enemy is lost or is being damaged, we are to intervene and help to restore the property to our enemy with all diligence. (Luke 6:27).

Exodus 23:4-5 "If thou meet thine enemy's ox or his ass going astray, thou shalt surely bring it back to him again. If thou see the ass of him that hateth thee **lying** under his burden, and wouldest **forbear** to help him, thou shalt surely help with him."

Key Word Study:

<u>Directions:</u> 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
LYING	7257	râbats	to <i>crouch</i> (on all four legs folded, like a recumbent animal), crouch (down), fall down
FORBEAR	2308	châdal	be lacking or idle, cease, end, fail, forbear

Synthesis:

<u>Directions:</u> 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 tells me to love my enemies and do good to those who despitefully use me. One way I demonstrate love to such folks is to be sure to help them in their hour of need. If I come across something they own in danger of being lost or damaged, I am to do everything in my power to alleviate the situation and help. I am to help my enemy as whole-heartedly as I would help a dear friend. It is because YHWH abides by this statute that I have a Saviour. For He paid for my salvation, while I was yet a sinner – or an enemy of Heaven.