

# Torah Studies – Statutes #344-350

**Statute Summary:** A few words of background information: The word Covenant itself is a word which means a promise, joining and league between two parties entered into with the shedding of blood. In the Marriage Covenant, YHWH designed that the virgin's hymen would be broken so that this holy covenant is literally entered into with the shedding of blood. Some say that the shedding of blood in the covenant ended when Yahshua died. But, notably, YHWH did not end the shedding of blood in the marriage bed. Also, when Moses did not circumcise his sons, the death angel was sent (Exodus 4:24-26). Clearly, if uncircumcision was a killing offense to YHWH this is no small matter (Hebrews 13:8)!

Traditionally, Christians have set aside the command to circumcise believing that this ended at the Cross. Clearly, the Holy Spirit fell upon the circumcised and uncircumcised alike in the New Testament (Acts 10:45). Paul taught that it was profitable to be circumcised (Romans 2:25), but only if one kept the Torah. If one was circumcised, yet broke the Torah, their physical circumcision was counted before YHWH as uncircumcision.

Some misinterpret Galatians 5:2 and say that Paul taught that if you were circumcised, you were making the work of Messiah of no effect. But, the Aramaic New Testament predates the Greek (Yahshua and His followers spoke Hebrew and Aramaic), and in the English Bible translated from the Aramaic Peshitta, we find this verse to have different meaning: "If you are circumcised (marginal note: to please the status quo, or for acceptance into a peer group) then Mashiyach is a thing that has no benefit to you." This doesn't mean that CIRCUMCISION is evil and does away with Messiah, as it appears to state in KJV or Greek. It means that if we circumcise to impress people, it is of no value.

The Bible clearly teaches (as we will see in the next statutes) that circumcision was more than flesh. It was predominantly of the heart (Romans 2:28-29). If we have the body circumcised, but not the heart, the physical circumcision is meaningless (1 Corinthians 7:19). Still, does this set aside the circumcision of the body? The Bible clearly teaches that circumcision is not necessary to be called of YHWH or receive the Holy Spirit. Even Abraham himself (of whom we are spiritual seed) was called before he was circumcised (Romans 4:12).

Many have thought that Paul taught that circumcision was no longer necessary, but Paul himself said that he could not understand why the Jews were so upset with him, since he had not preached against circumcision (Galatians 5:11). In other words, just because the uncircumcised Gentiles could come to YHWH and even receive the Holy Spirit without circumcision, doesn't mean they were to stay permanently uncircumcised. Paul circumcised Timothy, as a teenager, clearly showing that Paul didn't believe it was "slapping the Saviour in the Face" (denying Calvary) by doing so (Acts 16:3) However, Titus, who was a Greek, was not compelled (forced) to be circumcised (Galatians 2:3). This verse is used by many to show that one didn't have to be circumcised. But, as is clear in the translation from the Aramaic Peshitta, it doesn't mean that Titus never became circumcised! It does mean that no one could FORCE Titus to become circumcised. Such an act, like baptism, was to be kept entirely voluntary. Whether or not he chose to do it later was not stated. Merely, the Jews who tried to pressure him into being circumcised were stopped.

Most notably of all, Yahshua, Who is our Example in all things, was circumcised (which if this were wrong, YHWH would have prevented, in order for Him to be a perfect Sacrifice - Luke 2:21). Ultimately, however, Paul (nor any New Testament writer) is not to add to nor take away from Torah (Deuteronomy 4:2). If he had added to or taken away from the Torah in any way, the Bereans would have rejected Paul's teachings (Acts 17:10-12), and his writings would not be in the Bible (Isaiah 8:20). So, let us look at what the Torah teaches about circumcision with fresh eyes, untainted by what we think happened in the New Testament (which is not allowed to undermine the Old Testament).

*(#344) YHWH commands His people (who are the seed of Abraham – Galatians 3:16 & 29) to keep His Covenant. The Covenant of YHWH involves the shedding of blood and the entering into a bonded relationship. In the Abrahamic Covenant (which all the righteous enter) both YAH (Calvary) and Abraham (circumcision) shed blood. (#345) YHWH not only commanded Abraham to keep His Covenant, He also commanded all of Abraham's seed to keep it in every generation. (#346) Every male child, who is a partaker of YHWH's Covenant, is to be circumcised. (#347) Circumcision means that we are to cut away the foreskin, or the fold of skin surrounding the male organ. (#348) Circumcision is the sign, or physical evidence, that we belong to YHWH and are partakers of His Abrahamic Covenant. (#349) Male children, born in our homes, are to be circumcised on the eighth day. (#350) Servants or people brought into the household, that are not born in the house, still were to be circumcised. Every male in the house of Abraham's seed is to be circumcised. (Judgment) Failure to circumcise as YHWH has commanded means that one has broken the Covenant and is no longer numbered among YHWH's people.*

**Genesis 17:9-14** “And God said unto Abraham, Thou shalt **keep** My **Covenant** therefore, thou, and thy **seed** after thee in their **generations**. This is My Covenant, which ye shall keep, between Me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be **circumcised**. And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your **foreskin**; and it shall be a **token** of the Covenant betwixt Me and you. And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which is not of thy seed. He that is born in thy house, and he that is bought with thy money, must needs be circumcised: and My Covenant shall be in your **flesh** for an **everlasting** covenant. And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be **cut off** from his people; he hath **broken** My Covenant.”

## 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
KEEP	8104	shâmar	to <i>hedge</i> about (as with thorns), that is, <i>guard</i> ; <i>protect</i> , <i>attend to</i> , keep, mark, observe
COVENANT	1285	b <sup>e</sup> rîyth	(in the sense of <i>cutting</i> , a <i>compact</i> (because made by passing between <i>pieces</i> of flesh)
SEED	2233	zera'	<i>seed</i> ; figuratively <i>fruit</i> , <i>plant</i> , <i>sowing time</i> , <i>posterity</i> , <i>child</i>
GENERATIONS	1755	dôr	a <i>revolution</i> of time, that is, an <i>age</i> or generation; <i>dwelling</i> : - age, evermore
CIRCUMCISED	4135	mûl	to <i>cut</i> short, <i>curtail</i> specifically the prepuce (fold of skin surrounding the male organ)
FORESKIN	6190	'orlâh	the <i>prepuce</i> : - foreskin, + uncircumcised
TOKEN	226	'ôth	as a <i>flag</i> , <i>beacon</i> , <i>monument</i> , <i>omen</i> , <i>prodigy</i> , <i>evidence</i> , etc.: - mark, miracle, (en-) sign, token
FLESH	1320	bâsâr	<i>flesh</i> (from its <i>freshness</i> ); by extension <i>body</i> , <i>person</i> ; the <i>pudenda</i> of a man.
EVERLASTING	5769	'ôlâm	<i>concealed vanishing</i> point; generally time <i>out of mind</i> (past or future), <i>eternity</i> , <i>always</i>
CUT OFF	3772	kârath	to <i>destroy</i> or <i>consume</i> ; specifically to <i>covenant</i> , <i>lose</i> , <i>perish</i> , <i>utterly</i> , <i>want</i> (be lacking)
BROKEN	6565	pârar	to <i>break</i> up, <i>violate</i> , <i>frustrate</i> , <i>cast off</i> , <i>cause</i> to <i>cease</i> , <i>disannul</i> , <i>disappoint</i> , <i>make void</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 has given circumcision, both of the body and heart. This act is a sign that we belong to Him under the Abrahamic Covenant. Circumcision, in Torah, is not unimportant. If not done, a soul was cut off from the Covenant, making it and its promises null and void to that individual! While the Old Testament is strong in favor of the necessity of circumcision, the New Testament appears to differ, setting circumcision aside, as done away with at the Cross. But, these verses are misunderstood. And New Testament teachings cannot undermine or "trump" Old Testament. In fact, the Old Testament was the Bible of the New Testament Christians. Had they been preaching against Torah, or undermining it, they wouldn't be Bible writers today, but would be apostates! From this study, I believe in circumcision. <b>As for me and my house, we will do it, body and soul, by YHWH's Grace.</b> But, I recognize that circumcision, like baptism, is voluntary. I will not pressure people into it, nor demand it of them in order to attend meetings. Nor will I view them as less likely to receive the Holy Spirit, with or without it. Conviction about it must come from YHWH and His Word. It certainly isn't necessary to START a relationship with Heaven.
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# Torah Studies – Statutes #351-353

## Statute Summary:

(#351) YHWH commands His people to be circumcised in our hearts. This means that the innermost person, our thinking and understanding, out of which flows our actions and words, is to have the “old man” of sin, cut away and removed (see Colossians 2:11-13). (#352) YHWH commands us not to be hardened in sin nor dense in understanding spiritual Truth. (#353) Our motivation for having circumcised hearts is to be our awareness that YHWH is THE ALMIGHTY.

**Deuteronomy 10:16-17** “Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiffnecked. For the LORD your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible, which regardeth not persons, nor taketh reward.”

**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
CIRCUMCISE	4135	mûl	to cut short, curtail specifically the prepuce (fold of skin surrounding the male organ)
FORESKIN	6190	’orlâh	the prepuce: - foreskin, + uncircumcised
HEART	3824	lêbâb	bethink themselves, breast, comfortably, courage, midst, mind, understanding
STIFFNECKED	7185	qâshâh	be dense, that is, tough or severe, be cruel, hard, harden
MIGHTY	1368	gibbôr	Powerful, warrior, champion, chief, giant, man, mighty (one), strong (man), valiant man
TERRIBLE	3372	yârê’	To fear; to revere, to frighten, (be had in) reverence.
REWARD	7810	shachad	a donation (venal or redemptive): - bribe (-ry), gift, present, reward.

## 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 an amazing thought brought out in this statute. When I am rebellious, keeping my old man of sin alive and unsundered, I am spiritually blind. If I can truly see YHWH for Who He is, and am not tending to minimize Him, I will not be tempted to remain spiritually uncircumcised! Seeing the Truth about YHWH is a vital motivation in seeking Spiritual circumcision. Heavenly Father, please give me Your Heavenly Eye Salve. May I be able to see You as You really are. Lest at any time, I become satisfied with my own level of “purity” thinking greys are white.
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# Torah Studies – Statutes #354-355

## Statute Summary:

(#354) YHWH not only commands His people to be circumcised, He promises to perform this spiritual surgery, if we seek it of Him (James 4:2). Not only does YHWH promise to circumcise our hearts, but also the hearts of our children. (#355) YHWH's people are to love Him with our whole hearts, vitality, and breath. We are to love Him in choosing Him over appetite. His pleasure is to be our own. When we love YHWH and are fully given to Him, we are fully alive and made strong.

**Deuteronomy 30:6** “The LORD thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live.”

**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
CIRCUMCISE	4135	mûl	to cut short, curtail specifically the prepuce (fold of skin surrounding the male organ)
HEART	3824	lêbâb	bethink themselves, breast, comfortably, courage, midst, mind, understanding
SEED	2233	zera'	seed, posterity: child, fruitful, seed (-time), sowing-time
WITH ALL	3605	kôl	the whole; hence all, altogether
SOUL	5315	nephesh	a breathing creature, vitality, appetite, body, breath, pleasure, mind,
LIVE	2416	chay	alive; fresh (plant, water, year), strong, lively creature, springing troop

## 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.

This is one of the most powerful promises in the Bible! If I will just seek YHWH's full deliverance from my sins and areas of idolatry, if I will ask His help to love Him so fully that my appetites and pleasure is under His Will He will help me to have such a circumcised heart. He will give me such a love for Him! And He will not only bless me with this, but will also give this heart and love to my children! Father, please do as You have promised! I DO ASK You to circumcise my heart and cause me to love You fully – and circumcise my children also, I pray!
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# Torah Studies – Statutes #356-361

## Statute Summary:

(#356) YHWH commands His people to take care in choosing foods to eat. We are never to eat any flesh He has deemed “abominable.” (#357) We may only eat meats of animals which chew the cud and have a divided hoof. (#358) An animal which chews the cud but doesn’t have a divided hoof is unclean. (#359) An animal which has a divided hoof, but doesn’t chew the cud is unclean. (#360) YHWH’s people are not to eat the flesh of any unclean animal. (#361) YHWH’s people are not to touch the dead carcass of any unclean animal.

**Deuteronomy 14:3-8** “Thou shalt not eat any **abominable thing**. These are the beasts which **ye shall eat**: the ox, the sheep, and the goat, the **hart**, and the roebuck, and the fallow deer, and the wild goat, and the **pygarg**, and the wild ox, and the **chamois**. And every beast that parteth the hoof, and cleaveth the cleft into two claws, and cheweth the cud among the beasts, that ye shall eat. Nevertheless these ye shall not eat of them that chew the cud, or of them that divide the cloven hoof; as the camel, and the hare, and the **coney**: for they chew the cud, but divide not the hoof; therefore they are unclean unto you. And the swine, because it divideth the hoof, yet cheweth not the cud, it is unclean unto you: ye shall not eat of their flesh, nor touch their dead carcass.”

**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
ABOMINABLE THING	8441	tô’êbah	something <i>disgusting</i> (morally), an <i>abhorrence</i> ; <i>idolatry</i> or (concretely) an <i>idol</i>
YE SHALL EAT	398	'âkal	to <i>eat</i> at all, consume, devour, dine, eat, food, eat freely, dine freely, consume freely
HART	354	'ayâl	(in the sense of <i>ram</i> ); a <i>stag</i> or male deer: - hart
PYGARG	1788	dîyshôn	the <i>leaper</i> , that is, an <i>antelope</i> : - pygarg
CHAMOIS	2169	zemer	a <i>gazelle</i> (from its lightly <i>touching</i> the ground): - chamois
CONEY	8227	shâphân	a species of <i>rock rabbit</i> (from its <i>hiding</i> ), that is, probably the <i>hyrax</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.

Some have told me that I am commanded to eat meat in this statute, because it is translated to say, "These are
are the beasts which you shall eat..." But, I have found, in studying the phrase, "you shall eat" that it really means
which you may freely eat, as in, you may choose to eat. To freely eat, also implies, to freely not eat. Just so I don't
ever choose to eat something which is an abomination. To be a clean meat, the animal must have a cloven hoof
AND chew its cud. However, in today's food industry, there is more to it than that. Animals fed drugs and
hormones are not really clean, even though they are of a "clean" species. The fundamental principle is that YHWH
wants me to take care of my body temple. I am to eat things that are good for me, not something that harms.