Torah Studies – Statutes #362-363

Statute Summary:

(#362) All fish or water creatures which do not have fins and scales are not to be eaten. (#363) The carcasses of all fish or water creatures which do not have fins and scales are to be an abomination. This means that YHWH's people are not to touch the carcasses of such water creatures. And if YHWH's people do come in contact with their carcasses, we are to wash thoroughly with water and be unclean until the evening (Leviticus 11:23-25).

Leviticus 11:10-12 "And all that have not fins and <u>scales</u> in the seas, and in the rivers, of all that move in the waters, and of any living thing which is in the waters, they shall be an <u>abomination</u> unto you: They shall be even an abomination unto you; ye shall not eat of their flesh, but ye shall have their carcasses in abomination. Whatsoever hath no fins nor scales in the waters, that shall be an abomination unto you."

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
SCALES	7193	qaśqeśeth	to <i>shale</i> off as bark; a <i>scale</i> (of a fish); hence a coat of <i>mail</i> (covered with jointed <i>plates</i>)
ABOMINATION	8263	sheqets	<i>filth</i> , an <i>idolatrous</i> object: - abominable (-tion)

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 doesn't want me to eat any water-dwelling creature which does not have fins and scales. YHWH also wants me to take care not to come in contact with the carcasses of unclean water creatures. Interestingly enough, science has shown that such unclean creatures are unhealthy. Notably creatures who do not have fins and scales, that live in the water, are creatures who are scavengers and eat the excrement or dead flesh of other animals. These are YHWH's clean-up crew and are needed and useful. But, if I were to eat them, when they have such a disgusting and unclean diet, I would be harming my health.

Torah Studies – Statutes #364-366

Statute Summary:

(#364) YHWH commands His people to abstain from eating all unclean birds. Not only does He list certain kinds of birds as unclean, but YHWH also mentions that all birds of THIS KIND are also unclean. (#365) The kinds of birds that are unclean are scavengers, carrion eaters, and meat eaters. (#366) Such unclean birds are an abomination. This means that their carcasses are not to be touched. Accidental contact requires that the person wash immediately and be unclean until the evening (Leviticus 11:23-25).

Leviticus 11:13-19 "And these are they which ye shall have in abomination among the fowls; they shall not be eaten, they are an abomination: the eagle, and the **ossifrage**, and the osprey, And the vulture, and the kite **after his kind**; Every raven after his kind; And the owl, and the night hawk, and the cuckoo, and the hawk after his kind, And the little owl, and the cormorant, and the great owl, And the swan, and the pelican, and the gier eagle, And the stork, the heron after her kind, and the **lapwing**, and the bat."

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
OSSIFRAGE	6538	peres	a <i>claw</i> ; also a kind of <i>eagle: -</i> claw, ossifrage
AFTER HIS KIND	432 7	mîyn	to <i>portion</i> out; a <i>sort</i> , that is, <i>species</i> : - kind
LAPWING	1744	dûkîyphath	the <i>hoopoe</i> or else the <i>grouse: -</i> lapwing.

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.

There are certain birds and flying creatures which YHWH has designated as unclean. Like the unclean fish, these birds are scavengers, carrion eaters, and consumers of flesh. Whatever eats such things is unclean for me to eat. Thus, all scavengers and birds of prey are unclean. I am not to eat them, and I am to avoid touching their carcass.

Torah Studies – Statutes #367-370

Statute Summary:

(#367) Flying creatures which swarm are unclean and must not be eaten. (#368) Flightless birds are unclean. (#369) Locusts, beetles, and grasshoppers are clean and may be eaten. (#370) All other creatures, like insects, which have multiple legs and can jump are unclean and are an abomination. (#370) Accidental contact requires that the person wash immediately and be unclean until the evening (Leviticus 11:23-25). Many believe that the statutes about unclean foods are set aside because of Peter's vision. But, Peter's vision (Acts 10:9-19 & 28) was not about foods, but people. Peter had viewed Gentiles as "unclean." The Bible itself tells that the vision was to open Peter's mind to ministering to the Gentiles. This how Peter and the Jewish Christians interpreted this vision (Acts 11:1-18).

Leviticus 11:20-23 "All fowls that **creep**, going upon all four, shall be an abomination unto you. Yet these may ye eat of every flying creeping thing that goeth upon all four, which have legs above their feet, to **leap** withal upon the earth; Even these of them ye may eat; the locust after his kind, and the bald locust after his kind, and the beetle after his kind, and the grasshopper after his kind. But all other flying creeping things, which have four feet, shall be an abomination unto you.

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
CREEP	8318	sherets	a <i>swarm</i> , that is, active mass of minute animals: - creep
LEAP	5425	nâthar	to <i>jump</i> , that is, <i>be</i> violently <i>agitated</i> , <i>leap</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 wants me to take care of my body temple. To do this, I am to take care what I eat. I need to eat only the things Heaven deems as clean. My Heavenly Father wants me to avoid eating birds which cannot fly, flying creatures that swarm, and insects which have multiple legs and leap. There are a few exceptions. I am allowed to eat locusts, grasshoppers, and beetles, although I hope I never have to! Just because it is clean, doesn't mean it's appetizing! I am thankful that just because something is clean, doesn't mean that I am commanded to eat it!

Torah Studies – Statutes #371-374

Statute Summary:

(#371) YHWH's people are not to eat anything that wriggles, crawling upon the ground on its belly (like a snake, worm, or slug) (#372) YHWH's people are not to eat anything that creeps along the ground with multiple feet (like a centipede, etc...) (#373) Eating unclean creeping things makes a person loathsome and filthy in YHWH's Sight. (#374) Accidental contact requires that the person wash immediately and be unclean until the evening (Leviticus 11:23-25).

Leviticus 11:41-43 "And every creeping thing that <u>creepeth</u> upon the earth shall be an abomination; it shall not be eaten. Whatsoever goeth upon the belly, and whatsoever goeth upon all four, or whatsoever hath more feet among all creeping things that creep upon the earth, them ye shall not eat; for they are an abomination. Ye shall not <u>make yourselves abominable</u> with any creeping thing that creepeth, neither shall ye make yourselves unclean with them, that ye should be defiled thereby."

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
CREEPETH	8317	shârats	to wriggle, creep, abound
MAKE YOURSELVES ABOMINABLE	8262	shâqats	to <i>be filthy</i> , to <i>loathe</i> , <i>pollute: -</i> abhor, make abominable, have in abomination, detest

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.

Like Daniel made plain, eating unclean foods defiles and pollutes the person in YHWH's Eyes. Daniel and his godly friends were not willing to become defiled by eating the King's unclean foods. This issue was so important to them that they were willing to die rather than eat something YHWH said was unclean. I am not tempted to eat something which wriggles or slithers! But, I do need to take more care in what I eat. It is a subject that is obviously important to YHWH.

Torah Studies – Statutes #375-379

Statute Summary:

(#375) YHWH's people are to be sanctified and holy in diet. (#376) YHWH's people are not to defile themselves with unclean creeping creatures. (#377) Choosing to eat only clean things is one way we honor YHWH for deliverance from Egypt (a symbol of bondage to sin). (#378) YHWH wants His children to make a distinction between clean and unclean foods, severing from eating practices involving unclean meats. (#379) YHWH's people are not to eat any creature that moves about on the ground (no reptiles).

Leviticus 11:44-47 "For I am the LORD your God: ye shall therefore <u>sanctify</u> yourselves, and ye shall be <u>holy</u>; for I Am holy: neither shall ye <u>defile</u> yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. For I Am the LORD that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: ye shall therefore be holy, for I Am holy. This is <u>the law</u> of the beasts, and of the fowl, and of every living creature that moveth in the waters, and of every creature that creepeth upon the earth: <u>To make a difference</u> between the <u>unclean</u> and the <u>clean</u>, and between the beast that may be eaten and the beast that may not be eaten."

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
SANCTIFY	6942	qâdash	to <i>be clean</i> (ceremonially or morally), consecrate, dedicate, hallow, (be, keep) holy
HOLY	6918	qâdôsh	Sacred, a saint, a sanctuary: - holy
DEFILE	2930	ţâmê'	to <i>be foul</i> , especially in a ceremonial or moral sense (<i>contaminated</i>)
THE LAW	8451	tôrâh	a precept or statute
TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE	914	bâdal	to <i>divide, separate, distinguish, differ, select,</i> (make) separate, sever (out), X utterly
UNCLEAN	2931	ţâmê'	to <i>be foul</i> , especially in a ceremonial or moral sense (<i>contaminated</i>)
CLEAN	2889	ţâhôr	<i>pure</i> (in a physical, chemical, ceremonial or moral sense): - clean, fair, pure (-ness)

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 wants me to be pure and holy, following His Pattern of Purity and Holiness. I am not to allow my appetite to rule, dictating what I eat. Rather I am to follow the Torah statutes on foods. I am to carefully sever myself and my foods from spiritual and physical contamination with anything unclean. One way this applies is taking care to eat from a clean and uncontaminated dishes and grills. I am to separate myself completely from eating anything that is unclean. And I am to separate my foods completely from contact with unclean foods.

Torah Studies – Statutes #380-382

Statute Summary:

(#380) Even if an animal is normally clean, if it is found dead, YHWH's people may not eat it. If the meat of the clean animal, which was found dead, is free from disease or decay, it may be given or sold to a non-Torah observant person. (#381) Because we have entered into a holy Covenant with YAH, YHWH's people are held to a higher Standard than people in the world. (#382) YHWH's people are not to boil a kid in its mother's milk. Many have speculated that there is something unhealthy about cooking meat in milk. But, the Bible is specific not about "meat" or "flesh" in general, but a "kid" in specifically its mothers milk... Actually, this practice 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, at a site in Syria that we now call Ugarit and that the local Arabs call Ras Sharma, French archaeologist Claude Schaeffer was excavating a room that turned out to be a royal library. On that day he uncovered the first of more than a thousand cuneiform tablets from about the 14th century B.C. On one of the tablets a Canaanite ritual was described for the worship of the "mother goddess." 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.

Deuteronomy 14:21 "Ye shall not eat of anything that <u>dieth of itself</u>: 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 <u>seethe</u> a kid in his mother's milk." (See also Exodus 23:19 & Exodus 34:26).

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
DIETH OF ITSELF	5038	n [°] bêlâh	a <i>carcass</i> or <i>carrion</i> (dead) body, dead of itself, which died, (beast) that (which) dieth of itself
SEETHE	1310	bâshal	to <i>boil</i> up; to <i>be done</i> in cooking; bake, boil, bring forth, is ripe, roast, seethe, (be sodden)

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.

If I come upon an animal that is clean, yet already dead, I am not to eat it. If there is nothing wrong with the meat and it is fresh, I may give or sell it to a non-Torah keeper. But, I myself, having entered into the Abrahamic Covenant, am called to a higher Standard. Also, I am not to do rites or ceremonies (like seething a kid in its mother's milk), which come from idolatrous worship. I am not to do things pagans do in false worship.