

Torah Studies – Commandment #1

Exodus 20:1-3 “And **God** spake all these words, saying, I Am the **LORD** thy God, which have **brought** thee out of the land of Egypt (*realm of darkness*), out of the **house** of **bondage**. Thou shalt have no **other gods before** Me.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
GOD	H430	ělôhîym	the supreme God, “mighty one” (angels or human magistrates)
LORD	H3068	y ^e hôvâh	(the) self-Existent or eternal One
BROUGHT	H3318	yatsa	“cause to go, cause to bring, bear out... bring forth...”
HOUSE	H1004	bayith	“family... temple... dungeon... household...”
BONDAGE	H5650	ebed	“servant, bond-servants (servant out of love)...”
OTHER	H312	acher	“hinder... other... strange”
GODS	H430	ělôhîym	“mighty one” (angels or human magistrates)
BEFORE	H6440	pâniym	“(before the) face... against... (causing) anger... to honor... impudent...”

Synthesis:

In the first Commandment, Yahweh introduces Himself as the Great **I AM** and **Yahweh** (Who is the Self-Existent, Eternal One) *the* Elohim. His great power is demonstrated in His bearing and bringing forth of His people out of Egypt (the spiritual realm of Darkness). He delivers us from the dungeon and family of the enemy, where we have been both slaves and unholy bondservants (serving out of our own ungodly affections). We are to have no other mighty ones in His place. He gets our honor (*worshipfully*) and worship, exclusively.

Torah Studies – Statutes #1-2

Statute Summary:

Statute #1: Submit to Yahweh as the One and only God.

Statute #2: Make Yahweh First in your life, thinking, and heart.

Deuteronomy 6:4 “**Hear**, O Israel: The LORD our God is **one** LORD.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
HEAR	H8085	shema	“to hear intelligently, to understand, to witness, to tell, to proclaim, to obey...”
ONE	H259	echad	“united, first, supreme, one...”

Synthesis:

All Israel (*which is those who are baptized and have put on Christ, and are Abraham's Seed – heirs according to the Promise*) is to Shema, which is to hear Yahweh intelligently and to obey His Will, to live by it, to proclaim it to others, and to thus be witnesses of the Kingdom of God. And we are to know and live in the understanding that Yahweh is solely God. He is to be first and supreme in our hearts and homes.

Torah Studies – Statute #3

Statute Summary:

Statute #3: *Love Yahweh with every fiber of your being.*

Deuteronomy 6:5 “And thou shalt **love** the LORD thy God with all thine **heart**, and with all thy **soul**, and with all thy **might**.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
LOVE	H157	ahab	“to have affection for... beloved... friendship...”
HEART	H3824	lebab	“bethink themselves, mind, awareness, understanding... courage...”
SOUL	H5315	nephesh	“the breath... body... pleasure... desire...” (delight)
MIGHT	H3966	meod	“vehemence, superlative, with all the strength... utterly (wholly), speedily, completely...”

Synthesis:

Every believer is called to love Yahweh wholeheartedly, superlatively, vehemently. It is a love that transforms how we think. Love for Yahweh is to be supreme in our understanding, giving us courage. Love for Yahweh also involves our desires. When we love Him, whatever is His delight is ours as well. And, like the warriors of valour, who served David above and beyond the call of duty, we are to love Yahweh vehemently, completely, and utterly. Such a love as this affects every aspect of our beings. This is why “Love is the fulfilling of the Law”.

Torah Studies – Statutes #4-7

Statute Summary:

Statute #4: Fear Yahweh your God.

Statute #5: Keep His Statutes and Commandments.

Statute #6: Serve Yahweh.

Statute #7: Swear by His Name.

Deuteronomy 6:1-2, 13 & 25 “Now these *are* the **Commandments**, the **Statutes**, and the **Judgments**, which the LORD your God commanded to **teach** you, that ye might do *them* in the land whither ye go to possess it: That thou mightest **fear** the LORD thy God, to keep all His Statutes and His Commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged... Thou shalt **fear** the LORD thy God, and **serve** Him, and shalt **swear** by His **Name**... And it shall be our **righteousness**, if we observe to do all these Commandments before the LORD our God, as He hath commanded us.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
COMMANDMENTS	H4687	<i>mitsvah</i>	“Command (collectively, the Law), which was commanded, law, ordinance, precept...”
STATUTES	H2706	<i>choq</i>	“an enactment, appointment (of time, space or labor), appointed, bound, custom, set time, task...”
JUDGMENTS	H4941	<i>mishpat</i>	“verdict pronounced judicially, determination, right privilege, charge, crime...”
TEACH	H3925	<i>lamad</i>	“to goad, to teach, (be) accustomed, expert, instruct, skillful...”
FEAR	H3372	<i>yare</i>	“to morally revere, cause to frighten, be dreadful, reverence”
KEEP	H8104	<i>shamar</i>	“to hedge about (as with thorns), guard, protect, take heed, observe, preserve, watchman...”
SERVE	H5647	<i>abad</i>	“to work, to serve, be bondmen, husbandman, labour, worshipper...”
SWEAR	H7650	<i>shaba</i>	“to be complete, to seven oneself, take an oath, feed to the full...”

Torah Studies – Statutes #4-7 continued

Key Word Study: (continued)

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
NAME	H8034	<i>shem</i>	“a mark, memorial of individuality, honor, authority, character, renown...”
RIGHTEOUS -NESS	H6666	<i>tsedaqah</i>	“rightness, justice, morally virtue, righteousness”

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.

The Torah (Genesis–Deuteronomy) contains the Commandments (10 Commandments), the Statutes (the 613 Statutes which give a fuller understanding of the 10 Commandments), and the Judgments (the blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience). Yahweh uses the Torah to instruct us in the Way of Life. The concept of instruction even involves a “goad” – like an ox-goad which helps to drive a wandering creature back into the right direction. What a blessing it is to have Yahweh teach us!

As we keep His Torah, we will be hedged about – as with thorns! In Africa, certain tribes demonstrated this concept well. When traveling in the bush, overnight, to protect themselves from the prowling lions who hunted at night, the travelers would break off special thorn bushes and drag them into a circle. They would then sleep inside the circle of thorn bushes, which effectively kept the lions out. Similarly, keeping the Law of Yahweh is a protection from the devour “lion” of hell.

We are to fear God, which is to reverence Him. We are to serve Him, as a bond-servant (who serves voluntarily, out of love for the Master). And we are to swear by His holy Name, in so doing, we are perfected – made complete.

Judgment:

Obedience to this Statute blesses us with prolonged life (ultimately, eternal).

Torah Studies – Statutes #8-11

Statute Summary:

Statute #8: Bind the Shema as a sign upon your hands (actions).

Statute #9: Bind the Shema as a sign upon your forehead (mind).

Statute #10: Write the Shema on the doorposts of your home.

Statute #11: Write the Shema on the gates of your property.

Deuteronomy 6:8-9 “And thou shalt **bind** them for a **sign** upon thine **hand**, and they shall be as **frontlets between** thine **eyes**. And thou shalt **write** them upon the **posts** of thy house, and on thy **gates**.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
BIND	H7194	qashar	“to tie, gird, mentally love or league, conspire, join together, knit...”
SIGN	H226	oth	“a signal, a flag, beacon, monument, omen, evidence, mark, token...”
HAND	H3027	yad	“hand, power, means, direction, (literally and figuratively) work, labor, dominion...”
FRONTLETS	H2903	tophaphah	“to go around, bind, a fillet for the forehead...”
BETWEEN	H996	bane	“a distinction, either, betwixt..”
EYES	H5869	ayin	“an eye, a fountain, favour, sight, knowledge...”
WRITE	H3789	kathab	“to grave, inscribe, record...”
POSTS	H4201	mezuzah	“door post”
GATES	H8179	sha’ar	“door, gate, port, opening (root “gatekeeper”).

Torah Studies – Statutes #8-11 continued

Synthesis:

Obedience to Yahweh is the sign that we belong to Him. This ultimately is the “sign”, also known as the “mark” which distinguishes the saved from the lost. We are never to forget the Shema (Deuteronomy 6:4-9). We are to bind it to ourselves in memorable ways. Binding involves being joined, in a spiritual sense, to be “in league with” Yahweh. When we bind the Shema to the forehead, it is foremost in our mind-heart-desires... When we bind it to our hands, it means that we do the Shema – allowing it to affect our actions. This is a huge factor in receiving the Seal of God, which is in the forehead and on the hand.

The Jewish Rabbis of Yahshua’s Day, used to “obey” this command by tying a box on their foreheads and hands which contained the Shema. But this physical act did not obey this Statute. It wasn’t about wearing something on the forehead or tying something to the hand. It was about the way of thinking and acting being transformed into obedience with the Shema principles.

But while the head and hand affected thoughts and actions, there was a physical writing that we are to do, as commanded by this Statute. We are to inscribe the Shema on our doorposts and gates. This physical memorial at the entry of our homes helps keep our minds upon the Shema.

Torah Studies – Statute #12

Statute Summary:

Statute #12: Fear Yahweh as your God.

Exodus 23:25 “And ye shall serve the LORD your God, and He shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
SERVE	H5647	<i>abad</i>	“to work, to serve... to be bondmen, husbandman (keeper of the vineyard), become servant (of), worshipper”
SICKNESS	H4245	<i>machaleh</i>	“infirmity, disease (root means “weakness” or “put to pain”)
AWAY	H5493	<i>sur</i>	“to turn off, call back, cause to decline, depart, remove... be without”
MIDST	H7130	<i>qereb</i>	“the center, bowels, heart, inward part(s), within self...”

Synthesis:

We are called to serve Yahweh. This is bond-service, which is wholehearted service out of love for the Master. The disciples called themselves “bond-servants”. As such we are to faithfully tend the Father’s Vineyard, bearing Fruit for His Kingdom. Just as a faithful servant spends his time fully serving his Master, so our full-time occupation is service of the Most High.

Judgment:

Yahweh promises to bless the bread and water of His servants (which is stated in other Scriptures that our bread and water will be sure). He also promises to remove physical infirmities, deformities, pain and diseases, from the soul and (ultimately) the bodies of His people.

Torah Studies – Statutes #13-14

Statute Summary:

Statute #13: Keep everything Yahweh has Commanded.

Statute #14: Walk in His Ways.

Deuteronomy 28:9 “The LORD shall **establish** thee an **holy** people unto Himself, as He hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the Commandments of the LORD thy God, and **walk** in His **Ways**.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
ESTABLISH	H6965	<i>qum</i>	“abide, accomplish, confirm, be clear, make to stand, strengthen, uphold...”
HOLY	H6918	<i>qadosh</i>	“sacred, saint, sanctuary...”
WALK	H1980	<i>hawlak</i>	“to walk, behave self, continually, be conversant, be eased, grow, exercise self, (be the) way faring man”
WAYS	H1870	<i>dehrek</i>	“a road, a course of life, mode of action, conversation, custom, manner...”

Synthesis:

We are to abide in Yahweh, thus being strengthened and upheld by Him. In abiding, we are made holy – consecrated Sanctuaries, of the Almighty. This sacred calling and relationship with Yahweh involves keeping His Commandments and conducting ourselves, by His indwelling Grace, in His Ways and Course of Life.

Judgment:

As we abide in Yahweh and walk in obedience to His Torah, He promises to make us holy, establishing us as holy people unto Himself.

Torah Studies – Statutes #15-16

Statute Summary:

Statute #15: Do not turn to mediums or familiar spirits.

Statute #16: Do not seek after any who practice demonic arts.

Leviticus 19:31 “**Regard** not them that have **familiar spirits**, neither **seek** after **wizards**, to be **defiled** by them: I *am* the LORD your God.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
REGARD	H6437	<i>panah</i>	“to turn, to face, to look, to behold, go away...”
FAMILIAR SPIRITS	H178	<i>ob</i>	“prattling a father’s name; mumble, necromancer, ventriloquist, as from a jar, bottle, familiar spirit”
SEEK	H1245	<i>baqash</i>	“to search out (specifically in worship or prayer), to strive after, ask, beseech, desire, make request...”
WIZARDS	H3049	<i>yiddeoniy</i>	“a knowing one (Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil), conjurer, ghost, wizard...”
DEFILED	H2930	<i>tame</i>	“to be foul, morally contaminated, defile self, make self utterly unclean”

Synthesis:

Do not seek after, search out, desire, or make requests of wizards or those who commune with demons. Do not even turn your face towards them, so that you behold them (for by beholding we become changed). These prattling ones are morally defiled, being children of the serpent’s Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil (whose fruit brings death).

Judgment:

Involve with ventriloquists, Geni’s, demons, wizards, familiar spirits or necromancers (those who communicate with the “dead”) will morally defile you.

Torah Studies – Statutes #17-18

Statute Summary:

Statute #17: Men of Israel, make a blue tzit tzit on the edges of your clothes to help you remember to be faithful and obedient unto Yahweh.

Statute #18: Look upon the tzit tzits to help you remember the Commandments of Yahweh.

Numbers 15:38-41 “Speak unto the children of Israel, and bid them that they make them **fringes** in the **borders** of their **garments** throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a **ribband** of blue: And it shall be unto you for a fringe, that ye may **look upon it**, and **remember** all the Commandments of the LORD, and do them; and that ye seek not after your own heart and your own eyes, after which ye use to go a **whoring**: That ye may remember, and do all My Commandments, and be holy unto your God. I Am the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: I Am the LORD your God.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
FRINGES	H6734	<i>tsiytsith</i>	“a floral or wing-like projection, a forelock of hair, a tassel...”
BORDERS	H3671	<i>kanaph</i>	“edge, extremity, a wing (of garment), a flap, skirt, uttermost part...”
GARMENTS	H899	<i>beqed</i>	“clothing, covering... vesture...”
RIBBAND	H6616	<i>pathiyf</i>	“twine, bound, lace, thread....”
LOOK UPON IT	H7200	<i>ra'ah</i>	“to see, advise self, discern, gaze, regard, mark, sight of others...”
REMEMBER	H2142	<i>zakar</i>	“to mark (so as to be recognized), to mention, to be male, to be mindful, make to be remembered...”
WHORING	H2181	<i>zanah</i>	“to commit adultery, to commit idolatry, to play the harlot.... Whore...”

Torah Studies – Statutes #17-18 continued

Synthesis: See also Deuteronomy 22:12, regarding tzit tzits

Yahweh commands His people – specifically the men of Israel – to wear tzit tzits.



There is a bit of confusion about tzit tzits... Some wonder if women should wear them also... But the Statute starts out as being addressed to the “children of Israel”. The Hebrew word translated as “children” is Ben, which primarily means “sons”. Of course, mankind includes women, as do many such masculine words, when referring to whole congregations. But, in ancient Israel, only the men wore them. We may know this, both from the Scripture, as will be further explained, and from archaeology. The picture on the left is of an Israelite slave in Egypt. This picture is from the Tomb of Seti and dates to 13th Cent. BC. Ancient portrayals of Hebrew women do not include

tzit tzits.

Women would receive the blessing of the tzit tzit by being under their husbands’ and fathers’ covering, but were not to wear anything that pertained to men’s clothing (Deut 22:5), which is a Statute that will be covered in detail later.

The tzit tzits in the picture were also red. There is no Statute for having a red tzit tzit, the command was for the tzit tzit to be blue. Blue is the color, from the Sanctuary, that is associated with the Law of Yahweh. But the Statutes do not forbid someone from wearing tzit tzits of additional colors, so long as the primary tzit tzit is blue, according to the Statute. Tzit tzits are to be worn on the edges or lower edge of the garment. Tzit tzits were to be visible, for the Statute requires that they be able to be “looked upon” in order to “remember” Torah. But while the tzit tzits are to worn in order to seem them and personally be reminded of one’s commitment to Torah, they were not to be worn for prideful display, for showing off someone’s “holiness” to others (Matthew 23:5)

Judgment: Obedience to this Statute is a protection against Spiritual Whoredom.

Torah Studies – Statutes #19-20

Statute Summary:

Statute #19: Kings (Revelation 5:10) must begin their service by writing out a personal copy of the Torah.
 Statute #20: Kings are then to read and study the Torah daily, all the days of their kingly service.

Deuteronomy 17:18-20 “And it shall be, when he (the new king of Israel) sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy of this **Law** in a Book out of *that which is* before the priests the Levites: And it shall be with him, and he shall **read** therein all the days of his life: that he may **learn** to fear the LORD his God, to **keep** all the Words of this Law and these Statutes, to do them: **That his heart** be not **lifted up** above his brethren, and that he **turn not aside** from the Commandment, *to the right hand, or to the left:* to the end that he may prolong *his* days in his kingdom, he, and his children, in the midst of Israel.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
LAW	H8451	<i>Torah</i>	“a Precept or Statute, the Decalogue (Ten Commandments) and Pentateuch (Genesis-Deuteronomy) ...”
READ	H7121	<i>qara</i>	“to call out (address by name)... mention, name, preach, proclaim, pronounce, publish, say...”
LEARN	H3925	<i>lamad</i>	“to goad, to teach, (be) accustomed, expert, instruct, skillful...”
KEEP	H8104	<i>shamar</i>	“to hedge about (as with thorns), guard, protect, take heed, observe, preserve, watchman...”
THAT HIS HEART	H3824	<i>lebab</i>	“the heart (most interior organ), bethink themselves, mind, understanding...”
LIFTED UP	H7311	<i>rum</i>	“to be high, to raise, exalt self, haughty, presumptuously, proud, breed worms...”
TURN NOT ASIDE	H5493	<i>sur</i>	“to turn off, call back, cause to decline, depart, remove, rebel... be without”

Torah Studies – Statutes #19-20 continued

Synthesis:

When the kings of Israel first ascended to the throne, their first job was to carefully write out their own personal copy of the Torah. This was to ensure that the king knew the Torah and could live by – and lead others by – it. After writing out his own copy of the Torah, the king was next to keep his personal copy of the Torah for daily reading and reference. This he was to do every day of his life from that point onwards.

Notably, kings were not designed by Yahweh to be prideful, exalted, autocrats. Yahweh demonstrates righteous Kingship, by using His Throne and Power to bless and serve others. This is a Heavenly principle of kingship: Matthew 23:11; Matthew 18:1-4.

This Statute doesn't only apply to Israel's by-gone kings. Every believer is called to be a king and priest, in the service of Yahweh (Revelation 1:6; 5:10). We also, like the kings of old, should personally write out and daily read from the Torah. This course is one way to fulfill this Statute 😊

Judgment:

Writing our personal copy of the Torah and daily reading from it helps us learn to “fear” Yahweh, which is a vital aspect of worship. Additionally, doing so will cause us to be blessed with protection against straying from the Way of Yahweh, the Truth, or becoming prideful. Additionally, our days of “kingship” will be prolonged. Ultimately, this is an eternal reference, for Yahweh's people are being called to “reign” with Him in the glorious future.

Torah Studies – Statutes #21-22

Statute Summary:

Statute #21: Harken to Yahweh’s Voice and His Torah. There is no excuse if we do not. For He has made His Word and Will readily available to everyone.

Statutes #22: Turn to Yahweh with all your heart and soul.

Deuteronomy 30:10-14 “If **thou shalt harken** unto the Voice of the LORD thy God, to keep His Commandments and His Statutes which are written in this Book of the Law, *and* if thou **turn** unto the LORD thy God with all **thine heart**, and with all **thy soul**. For this Commandment which I command thee this day, it *is* not hidden from thee, neither *is* it far off. It *is* not in Heaven, that thou shouldst say, Who shall go up for us to Heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it? Neither *is* it beyond the sea, that thou shouldst say, Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it? But the Word *is* very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
THOU SHALT HEARKEN	H8085	<i>shema</i>	“to hear intelligently, consider, obey, perceive, proclaim, understand, publish, discern...”
TURN	H7725	<i>shub</i>	“to turn back, return to the starting point, circumcise, convert, repent, restore...”
THY HEART	H3824	<i>lebab</i>	“the heart (most interior organ), bethink themselves, mind, understanding...”
THY SOUL	H5315	<i>nephesh</i>	“a breathing creature, vitality, appetite, pleasure...”

Synthesis:

Yahweh has graciously made His Word available to everyone. No one can accuse Him of making Truth inaccessible. We are all called to shema Yahweh’s Word. We are to seek His Word and Truth. We are to study it. We are to align our lives with it. We are to love Yahweh and wholeheartedly seek Him and His Truth.