

Torah Studies – Commandment #2

Exodus 20:4-6 “Thou shalt not **make** unto thee any **graven image**, or any **likeness** of any thing that is in **heaven** above, or that is in the **earth** beneath, or that is in the **water** under the earth: Thou shalt not **bow down thyself** to them, nor **serve** them: for I the LORD thy God Am a **jealous** God, **visiting** the **iniquity** of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that **hate** Me; And showing mercy unto thousands of them that love Me, and **keep** My **Commandments**.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
MAKE	H6213	<i>Asah</i>	Appoint, serve, procure, sacrifice, yield
GRAVEN IMAGE	H6459	<i>Pesel</i>	Idol, carved image
LIKENESS	H8544	<i>Temunah</i>	Shape, similitude, manifestation
HEAVEN	H8064	<i>Samayim</i>	Lofty, astrology, celestial bodies
EARTH	H776	<i>Erets</i>	Ground, of the nations, world
WATER	H4325	<i>Mayim</i>	Urine, wasting, semen (seed)
BOW DOWN	H7812	<i>Shochah</i>	Worship, humbly beseech, reverence
SERVE	H5647	<i>Abad</i>	Enslave, make to work for, bondsman
JEALOUS	H7067	<i>Qanna</i>	Very zealous
VISITING	H6485	<i>Paqad</i>	Charge, reckon, punish, avenge
INIQUITY	H5771	<i>Avon</i>	Perversity, evil, moral fault
HATE	H8130	<i>Sane</i>	Personally hate, enemy, utterly odious
KEEP	H8104	<i>Shamar</i>	Guard, protect, observe, watchman, save self
COMMANDMENTS	H4687	<i>Mitzvah</i>	Law, precept

Synthesis:

Yahweh is a zealous God. Being the Almighty, the Creator of all, He rightly forbids His Creation to worship anything other than Him. We are not to bow down to any created thing, nor serve it.

Judgment:

For those who love Yahweh and keep His Commands, He shows mercy – a mercy which extends to three and four generations. Conversely, for those who partake in idolatry of any kind, this iniquity will be “visited” upon their children and descendants to three and four generations.

Torah Studies – Statutes #108-109

Statute Summary:

Statute #108: Do not trust in any power but Yahweh.

Statute #109: Do not make any molten idols.

Leviticus 19:4 “**Turn** ye not unto idols, nor **make** to yourselves molten gods: I Am the LORD your God.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
TURN	H6437	pânâh	Behold, empty, go away, lie, look, mark, pass away, prepare, regard, (have) respect (to)
MAKE	H6213	'âśâh	Make, appoint, exercise, fashion, hold a feast, govern, commit

Synthesis:

In times of need or distress, who do we turn to for help? Who we turn to for help indicates who we worship. For a believer, the answer is simple. We turn to Yahweh (Psalm 20:7; Isaiah 31:1) for we know the He Alone is God.

We are also commanded not to make, fashion, hold feasts in the honor of, or in any way allow our lives to be governed by idols.

Torah Studies – Statutes #110-111

Statute Summary:

Statute #110: Yahweh Alone is God. Do not make money to hold His Place of worship in your heart/home.

Statute #111: Yahweh Alone is God. Do not make any fair (beautiful) or shimmering thing to hold His Place of worship in your heart/home.

Exodus 20:23 “Ye shall not make with Me gods of silver, neither shall ye make unto you gods of gold.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
SILVER	H3701	keseph	<i>Money, price, silver</i>
GOLD	H2091	zâhâb	<i>to shimmer, as oil, a clear sky: - gold (-en), fair weather</i>

Synthesis:

For people that worship gods of woods and stones and metals, the fact of their idolatry is clear for all to see. But when we worship money, it's harder to detect. After all, there is no temple, sacrifice, image, or altar. However, the Scriptures are clear that idolatry can exist without all those. At its root, it is a fascination of, love for, and trust in money and wealth – to find our security in money and wealth – rather than Yahweh. This is a form of worship.

That money is an idol of many today is evident for those who can see with Scriptures-plated glasses. 2 Timothy 6:17 says: “Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.”

Yes, idols can be made of silver and gold in a literal sense. But silver and gold – money, wealth – are also a form of idolatry. We are not to find security in anything other than Yahweh.

Torah Studies – Statutes #112-115

Statute Summary:

Statute #112: Guard your soul against idolatry!

Statute #113: Yahweh did not reveal His Shape to His people. Nor did He show us what His Image looks like. So, we are not to physically represent Him for worship in any way.

Statute #114: We must not spiritually and morally corrupt ourselves by making a graven image of any created thing, for the purpose of worship.

Statute #115: Do not be misled or deceived into worshipping the heavenly bodies of the solar system or Mazzaroth. These things are not gods!

Deuteronomy 4:15-19 “Take ye therefore **good heed** unto yourselves; for ye **saw** no **manner** of **similitude** on the day that the LORD spake unto you in Horeb out of the midst of the fire: Lest ye **corrupt** yourselves, and make you a graven image, the similitude of any **figure**, the likeness of male or female, the likeness of any beast that is on the earth, the likeness of any winged fowl that flieth in the air, the likeness of anything that creepeth on the ground, the likeness of any fish that is in the waters beneath the earth: And lest thou lift up thine eyes unto heaven, and when thou seest the sun, and the moon, and the stars, even all the host of heaven, shouldest be **driven** to **worship** them, and **serve** them, which the LORD thy God hath divided unto all nations under the whole heaven.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
GOOD HEED	H8104	<i>shâmar</i>	to <i>hedge</i> about (as with thorns), that is, <i>guard</i> ; generally to <i>protect</i> , <i>attend to</i>
SAW	H7200	<i>râ'âh</i>	Discern, gaze, experience, see, perceive
NO MANNER	H3605	<i>kôl</i>	the <i>whole</i> , <i>all</i> , <i>any</i> or <i>every</i> , ought, whatsoever
SIMILITUDE	H8544	<i>t'âmûnâh</i>	a <i>shape</i> , <i>phantom</i> , <i>embodiment</i> , image
CORRUPT	H7843	<i>shâchath</i>	mar, perish, spill, spoiler, utterly waste
FIGURE	H5566	<i>semel</i>	<i>resemble</i> ; a <i>likeness</i> : - figure, idol, image
DRIVEN	H5080	<i>nâdach</i>	to <i>push</i> off, <i>mislead</i> , <i>compel</i> , draw away, force

Torah Studies – Statutes #112-115 continued

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
WORSHIP	H7812	<i>shâchâh</i>	humbly beseech, do (make) obeisance, do reverence, make to stoop, worship.
SERVE	H5647	<i>'âbad</i>	Enslave, become servant (-s), do (use) service, transgress

Synthesis:

Believers need to guard their hearts and homes against idolatry. It is a dangerous thing that can creep in, sometimes subtly. Because of this, we are to take active steps to prevent ourselves from even being put into a position of potential temptation into idolatry. One way to do this is to remember that when Yahweh came down on Horeb, Mount Sinai, to speak His Torah, He did not reveal any Shape or Physical Form.

If a person tries to physically represent Yahweh, then set up that representation for worship, it is idolatry. Any image, made for worship, is evil. It is an idol.

Torah Studies – Statutes #116-118

Biblical History Background:

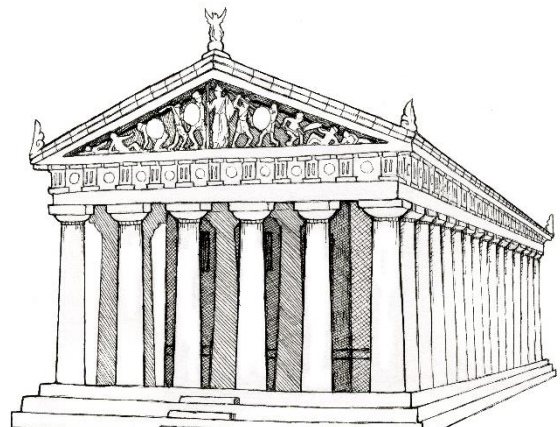
The word Asherah is translated in Greek as alse, grove, or alse, groves, or, trees; Vulgate in Latin provided lucus or nemus, a grove or a wood (thus sometimes the KJV Bible uses grove or groves to represent the worship of Asherah, also called Astarte, Estre, Easter, and Isis – depending on the culture). The association of Asherah with trees in the Hebrew Bible is very strong. For example, she is found under trees (1 Kings 14:23; 2 Kings 17:10) and her idols were often made of (1 Kings 14:15, 2 Kings 16:3-4).

Asherah poles, which were idolatrous trees or poles, are mentioned many times in the Hebrew Bible. The Asherah pole was prohibited by the Torah, in this set of Statutes.



Asherah or Easter Poles

In fact, the ancient temples built for the worship of idolatrous gods often used multiple columns, densely standing on the temple floor, simulating a grove of trees.



Ancient Greek Temple architecture purposely used many columns, simulating a grove of trees.



Asherah Idol
Asnerah-goaes iaot

Statute Summary:

Statute #116: Do not plant a grove of trees, such as is done for the worship of any false god.

Statute #117: Do not set up any images pertaining to Easter, Baal, or have anything to do with their days and ways of worship (forms of worship are part of the spiritual meaning of “altar”).

Statute #118: Do not join the “altar” of the worship of Yahweh with the worship of idols.

Deuteronomy 16:21-22 “Thou shalt not **plant** thee a **grove** of any trees **near** unto the **altar** of the LORD thy God, which thou shalt make thee. Neither shalt thou set thee up any **image**; which the LORD thy God **hateth**.”

Torah Studies – Statutes #116-118 continued

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
PLANT	H5193	<i>nâṭa`</i>	to <i>strike</i> in, that is, <i>fix, plant, fasten</i>
GROVE	H842	<i>'ăshêrâh</i>	<i>happy; asherah</i> (or Astarte or Easter) a Phoenician goddess; also an <i>image</i> of the same
NEAR	H681	<i>'êtsel</i>	in the sense of <i>joining, near (unto), with</i>
ALTAR	H4196	<i>mizbêach</i>	the altar, or place of sacrifice
IMAGE	H4676	<i>matstsêbâh</i>	a <i>column</i> or (memorial <i>stone</i>); by analogy an <i>idol</i> : - garrison, standing image, pillar
HATETH	H8130	<i>śânê'</i>	to <i>hate</i> (personally): - enemy, foe, (be) hate (-ful, -r), odious, X utterly

Synthesis:

Today we may not be tempted to plant idol groves for the worship of Asherah, but decorating for and keeping Easter is the same. Today, Easter is worshipped in Easter greeting cards, crosses with Easter lilies, hot cross buns and eating Easter dinner, after attending Easter sunrise service, and – of course – Easter egg hunts and Easter bunnies. But the underlying principle of this Statute is to have no part in the practices that worship Easter, or any other false god.

Participating in the decorations and worship practices of pagan gods is idolatry. We are to have no part in this false worship. And while it may look a bit different today than it used to, the Statute still applies.

Torah Studies – Statutes #119-121

Statute Summary:

Statute #119: Do not worship or revere any empty “gods,” nor make representations of other gods, nor set up pillars or memorials to false deities.

Statute #120: Do not bow down to any created thing, that is falsely set up to claim worship.

Statute #121: Do not set up any idolatrous thing, nor allow it to be set up on your land.

Leviticus 26:1 “Ye shall **make** you no **idols** nor **graven image**, neither rear you up a **standing image**, neither shall ye set up any **image** of **stone** in your **land**, to **bow down** unto it: for I Am the LORD your God.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
MAKE	H6213	'âśâh	to <i>do</i> or <i>make</i> - accomplish, be busy with
IDOLS	H457	'ēlîyl	good for <i>nothing</i> , by analogy <i>vain</i> or <i>vanity</i> ; specifically an <i>idol</i> : no value, thing of nought
GRAVEN IMAGE	H6459	pesel	an <i>idol</i> : - carved (graven) image.
STANDING IMAGE	H4676	matstsêbâh	something <i>stationed</i> , that is, a <i>column</i> or (<i>memorial stone</i>)
IMAGE	H4906	maśkîyth	carved on stone, the wall, or any object, picture, imagery
STONE	H68	'eben	through the meaning, to <i>build</i> ; a <i>stone</i>
LAND	H776	'erets	country, earth, field, ground, land,
BOW DOWN	H7812	shâchâh	humbly beseech, do (make) obeisance, do reverence, make to stoop, worship

Synthesis:

Yahweh wants us to have nothing to do with idols (including how we think, our traditions, and actions). Idolatry is “vanity” or empty. We cannot safely enter into emptiness. Idolatry includes memorials, columns, monuments, and images pertaining to false gods and their worship. We are not to have these things on our land, or on any property for which we are responsible.

Torah Studies – Statutes #122-124

Statute Summary:

Statute #122: Destroy molten or carved idols, and all such things which pertain to the worship of false gods, with fire. All cursed and abominable things are to be destroyed with fire.

Statute #123: Do not desire or keep any valuable parts of the idol that is being destroyed. Parts of an idol and substances of which it is made are just as abominable as the whole idol itself.

Statute #124: Do not bring any idolatrous and abominable objects into your home. Abhor all abominations and cursed objects.

Deuteronomy 7:25-26 “The graven images of their gods shall ye burn with fire: thou shalt not **desire** the **silver** or **gold** that is on them, **nor take** it unto thee, lest thou be **snared** therein: for it is an **abomination** to the LORD thy God. Neither shalt thou bring an abomination into thine house, lest thou be a **cursed thing** like it: but thou shalt **utterly detest** it, and thou shalt **utterly abhor** it; for it is a cursed thing.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
DESIRE	H2530	<i>châmad</i>	to <i>delight</i> in, greatly beloved, covet, delectable thing, precious thing
SILVER	H3701	<i>keseph</i>	<i>money</i> : - money, price, silver (-ling)
GOLD	H2091	<i>zâhâb</i>	to <i>shimmer</i> ; <i>gold</i> ; something <i>gold colored</i> , as <i>oil</i> , a <i>clear sky</i> : - gold (-en), fair weather
NOR TAKE	H3947	<i>lâqach</i>	accept, bring, buy, carry away, drawn, fetch, get
SNARED	H3369	<i>yâqôsh</i>	fowler (lay a) snare
ABOMINATION	H8441	<i>tô`êbah</i>	<i>Disgusting</i> , an <i>abhorrence</i> ; especially <i>idolatry</i> or an <i>idol</i> : - abominable (custom, thing)
CURSED THING	H2764	<i>chêrem</i>	physically (as <i>shutting in</i>) a <i>net</i> , a <i>doomed</i> object, <i>extermination</i> , utter destruction, devoted (thing),
UTTERLY DETEST	H8262	<i>shâqats</i>	to <i>be filthy</i> , that is, (intensively) to <i>loathe</i> , abhor
UTTERLY ABHOR	H8581	<i>tâ`ab</i>	to <i>loathe</i> , that is, (morally) <i>detest</i> : - (make to be) abhor (-red), (be, commit more, do) abominable

Torah Studies – Statutes #122-124 continued

Synthesis:

Inanimate objects can become vehicles for satanic power. Yes, there is such a thing as demonic attachments or focalization in certain objects. One example is pagan idols, which are not merely artistic pieces of deadwood or stone. They can have a power behind them, as idol worshipers know only too well. Indeed, many objects used in occult practices have spiritual potency. For example, Ouija boards, tarot cards, I Ching, rune dice, crystals and gems, astrology charts, talismans, dowsing rods, and many other physical implements used in occult, idolatrous practices become channels for demonic power, into the life of believers, if brought into the home. This is why God commanded His people to burn pagan items and not have them in their home (Deuteronomy 7:26).

Be very careful about what you buy for your house and garden. Gnomes (which represent an underground magical spirit), sun gods (a sun with a human face), female angels (which are Babylonian representations of Ishtar), fairies (who are fallen angels that casts spells/predict future), dream catchers (intended to manipulate the spirit world), dragons (the devil), gargoyles (demons, wards off evil spirits, superstition), statues of mother Mary (idolatry), statues of the Catholic Jesus (which is Tammuz idolatry), etc. These types of things are demonic entryways for spiritual attack and more than that, these are violations of Torah that invite judgment in creating a spiritual breach over the believer's home. If such cursed objects are in a believer's home, he/she must destroy them, repent, and renounce any ground given to the enemy in Yahshua's Name.

“Destroy all occult objects like amulets, talismans, fetishes, mascots, letters from heaven, lucky charms, threatening letters, figures of gods and cultic objects belonging to non-christian religions are crystallization points for demonic powers.” – Occult ABC A comprehensive examination of 71 forms of occult activity, their effect, and deliverance from them. Kurt E. Koch

“How often missionary wives have told me that **from the moment that their husbands hung up a devil's mask in their living room**, there was strife and discord in the family. It is extremely foolish and shows a great lack of experience for missionaries in their collectors zeal to bring home devil's masks and other cultic objects and to keep them in their homes.” Occult ABC A comprehensive examination of 71 forms of occult activity, their effect, and deliverance from them. – Kurt E. Koch

“A ministers wife on Prince Edward Island had **collected a whole table-full of figures of gods and cultic objects from the mission field**. Today she is in a mental institution” Occult ABC -Page 228- A comprehensive examination of 71 forms of occult activity, their effect, and deliverance from them. – Kurt E. Koch

Torah Studies – Statutes #122-124 continued

*“I have often been asked if it is advisable to take figures carved in wood home from the mission field as souvenirs. **Objects carved from new wood and those which were not consecrated to any deity are not dangerous. Unfortunately, it is the custom in some areas, like the island of Bali, to consecrate even the newly carved figures to gods to some demon.**”* Page 290- A comprehensive examination of 71 forms of occult activity, their effect, and deliverance from them. – Kurt E. Koch

*“In South Africa there are about 1.1 million Indian Immigrants. **These immigrants brought their Hindu gods with them.** I have visited a number of communities where they live. An evangelist who works among them told me the following story. A certain Hindu family had a daughter who had been dumb for years. **Since the Hindu gods were unable to help, the parents came one day to the missionary asking for his help and prayers.** Brother N. visited the family and prayer with them.*

*The first day there was no reaction to be seen in the girl. She only uttered an inarticulate cry. Brother N. went the next day and the day after. On the third day, the girl suddenly asked a question. Everyone was filled with joy. The events of the next days, however showed that the girl was not completely free. One evening she started to writhe around on the ground like a snake. The father sent her to bed. The next morning he called in the missionary again. Brother N visited the family once more and asked them to bring out all their gods. **The family had some sacred Hindu nails, used to ward off the spirits. The nails were handed over.***

*Then the missionary prayed again for the girl. She still didn't have complete deliverance. **“Have you brought out everything?”** the missionary asked the parents” The parents said they had. The daughter however interrupted and said: **“Mother, what have you hidden in the bath?”** **It was a beautiful idol which the mother was very loath to part with.** Nevertheless she resolved to give up this idol, too. Then, the girl was freed. The child's dumbness was not organic, but the effect of a ban resulting from sorcery”* Occult ABC: A comprehensive examination of 71 forms of occult activity, their effect, and deliverance from them. – Kurt E. Koch

“Again and again, as I sought to help those needing deliverance, I observed the close association between occult involvement and serious problems of depression. It became clear to me that this had probably contributed to my own struggles against depression when I was a young pastor.

*One day in 1970 I was meditating on Deuteronomy 7:26: ‘Nor shall you bring an abomination into your house, lest you be doomed to destruction like it; but you shall utterly detest it and utterly abhor it, for it is an accursed thing.’ I walked around my home and realized I had a number of ‘abominations.’ So I made a decision that I believe had an important bearing on the future course of my life and ministry: **I determined not to keep in my possession anything that in any way dishonored Jesus Christ or that opened the door to demonic influence.***

Torah Studies – Statutes #122-124 continued

I rid myself of a succession of items I had inherited from my family: four antique, beautifully embroidered Chinese imperial dragons and a whole assortment of Chinese antiques, all carrying the emblem of the dragon. I also disposed of items containing elegant Arabic calligraphy, some of which undoubtedly gave glory to Mohammed and the Muslim god, Allah. I also cleared out my library, especially Plato's books, and everything that in any way glorified the occult. Then I threw away a series of poems I had written in the days when I was still enamored of India.

This dramatically changed the spiritual atmosphere around me. It was like passing out of twilight into the clear light of day.

I have real concern for the many Christians slow to recognize God's intense hatred of every form of the occult. Tolerating any kind of continuing occult influence in our lives exposes us to forces that threaten our own spiritual well-being." – They Shall Expel Demons – Derek Prince

Torah Studies – Statutes #125-127

Statute Summary:

Statute #125: Cleanse your “hands” before coming to worship Yahweh. In Scripture, sin is equated with the worship of a false god – satan... See 1 John 3:4-8. Because sin is part of our idolatrous affair with the enemy, we must be cleansed before coming before Yahweh for worship. To be cleansed for worship, we must cleanse our hands – representing our actions – Job 17:9; Psalm 24:4. Coming before Yahweh for worship involves seeking His forgiveness and cleansing from every previously unconfessed area of Torah-breaking (sin) which we may have committed knowingly, or unknowingly.

Statute #126: Cleanse your “feet” before coming to worship Yahweh. Feet represent our spiritual walk. A righteous spiritual walk involves walking in the “Old Paths” (Jeremiah 6:16; Psalm 37:23). When we stray from the “Ways” of Yahweh, it is sin – spiritual uncleanness (Romans 3:12). Coming before Yahweh for worship involves seeking His forgiveness and cleansing from every previously unconfessed deviation from His Will, which we may have committed knowingly, or unknowingly.

Statute #127: We are all called to priests and kings in the service of the Most High. Before carrying out this daily, priestly service to witness to and intercede for souls, we must spiritually wash our hands and feet.

Exodus 30:18-21 “Thou shalt also make a laver of **brass**, and his foot also of brass, to wash withal: and thou shalt put it between the tabernacle of the congregation and the altar, and thou shalt put water therein. For Aaron and his sons shall wash their **hands** and their **feet** thereat: When they go into the Tabernacle of the Congregation, they shall **wash** with water, that they **die** not; or when they come near to the altar to **minister**, to burn offering made by fire unto Yahweh: So they shall wash their hands and their feet, that they die not: and it shall be a statute for ever to them, even to him and to his seed throughout their generations.”

Torah Studies – Statutes #125-127 continued

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
BRASS	H5178	<i>n^echôsheth</i>	<i>copper</i> ; hence, something made of that metal, that is, <i>coin, a fetter, base, filthiness</i>
HANDS	H3027	<i>yâd</i>	<i>power, means, direction, debt, dominion, ministry, work, + yield, your-selves</i>
FEET	H7272	<i>regel</i>	a <i>foot</i> (as used in <i>walking</i>); by implication a <i>step</i> ; the <i>puenda (genitals)</i> , haunt
WASH	H7364	<i>râchats</i>	to <i>lave</i> (the whole or a part of the thing): - bathe (self), wash (self)
DIE	H4191	<i>mûth</i>	causatively to <i>kill</i> , slay surely and very suddenly
MINISTER	H8334	<i>shârath</i>	to <i>attend</i> as a menial or worshipper; figuratively to <i>contribute</i> to: - minister (unto), (do) service

Synthesis:

Exodus 30:17–21, A laver of brass. The large bronze basin that was located in the courtyard of the Tabernacle of Moses just in front of the door of the Tent of Meeting was fabricated from the mirrors the Israelite women donated (Exod 38:8).

James, the apostle, suggested this service when he speaks of being a doer of the Word of Elohim, not just a hearer, for a hearer and not a doer is like one who sees himself in the spiritual mirror of Yahweh's Word and forgetting what he looks like does not allow the Word to transform him (Jas 1:22–25). We know that water is a symbol for Yahweh's Word (Eph 5:26; Tit 3:5; Heb 10:22; Deut 32:2).

In the laver, the Levites were to wash their hands and feet before going into the tabernacle, so that they would not die. The hands and feet represent the entire body since they are the highest and lowest parts of the body. They also represent our direction and our action—everywhere we go and all that we do—must be pure before ministering before Yahweh.

Constructed of the mirrors of the Israelite women, the bronze laver represents a believer looking into the Torah (Yahweh's Instructions in righteousness) as a mirror, seeing himself for who he really is (an unrighteous sinner) in light of the high standards of righteousness presented to us by the Word of Elohim. When we see the contrast between the two, this should challenge us to conform our life to who the Word says we should be (Jas 1:22–25).

Torah Studies – Statutes #125-127 continued



The laver was where the priests washed themselves before performing the service of the Tabernacle. The laver represents immersion or baptism for the remission of sins (Rom 6:3–6), and the washing of the water of the Word of Elohim (Eph 5:26), which are the next steps a believer must take after being “washed” in the blood of Yahshua and having one’s past sins atoned for after having been first saved.

The second high Sabbath of the Feast of Unleavened Bread is a picture of this washing or immersion. It was most likely on this day that the children of Israel crossed through the Red Sea and were “baptized” by Moses (1 Cor 10:12).

Yahweh instructed the priests to wash their hands and feet before ministering in the Tabernacle or else they would die (Exod 30:19–21). Hands and feet represent our actions and our ways. Similarly, Yahshua washed the feet of the disciples at the Last Supper (John 13:4–11), thus signifying His Work of cleansing them for spiritual ministry. In the believer’s life, one must be immersed (baptized) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16; John 13:8–10 and 1 Cor 6:11), thereby identifying with the death, burial and resurrection of Yahshua resulting in the newness of spiritual life that comes to the believer as a result thereof (Rom 6:3–14).

As already noted, immersion speaks of the washing of the water of the Word of Elohim (Ps 119:9; Eph 5:26). Water in Scripture represents the Torah instructions and teachings of YAHWEH (Deut 32:1–2). Through Yahshua living in us our actions (hands) and our ways (feet) will be righteous.

In our time, to be spiritually cleansed, in obedience with these Statutes, we are all called to be baptized. Following that, on a daily basis, we need to claim the cleansing Blood of Yahshua over us for our sins and we need to partake of the Word. Thus, we experience the daily “washing of the Water of the Word”, most especially in Torah.

Judgment: All who are unclean, in the Presence of Yahweh will die. Death is also the Judgment for carrying out the priestly ministry, in unconfessed sin.

Torah Studies – Statutes #128-130

Statute Summary:

Statute #128: *When a foul and idolatrous building or city is judged and destroyed, it is to be burned with fire and completely consumed.*

Statute #129: *The judged place or city is then to remain a ruin forever. It must never be rebuilt.*

Statute #130: *Also, no items or gain from the judged place may be taken or used. All items from the judged place must be destroyed and burned by fire.*

Deuteronomy 13:16-17 “And thou shalt **gather** all the **spoil** of it into the midst of the street thereof, and shalt burn with fire the city, and all the spoil thereof **every whit**, for Yahweh thy God: and it shall be an **heap** forever; it shall not be **built again**. And there shall **cleave** nought of the **cursed thing** to **thine hand**: that Yahweh may turn from the **fierceness** of His anger, and show thee **mercy**, and have **compassion** upon thee, and **multiply** thee, as He hath sworn unto thy fathers.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
GATHER	H6908	<i>qâbats</i>	<i>collect: - assemble, gather, bring together, heap</i>
SPOIL	H7998	<i>shâlâl</i>	<i>booty: - prey, spoil, plunder</i>
EVERY WHIT	H3632	<i>kâfîyl</i>	<i>the whole, entirely consumed, fully, whole burnt offering (sacrifice)</i>
HEAP	H8510	<i>têl</i>	<i>a mound, heap, strength, to pile up</i>
BUILT AGAIN	H1129 / H5750	<i>bânâh `ôd</i>	<i>repair, set (up) / again, repeatedly, still, more, all life long, at all</i>
CLEAVE	H1692	<i>dâbaq</i>	<i>to impinge, that is, cling or adhere; figuratively to catch by pursuit, stick, join together, keep fast</i>
CURSED THING	H2764	<i>chêrem</i>	<i>(as shutting in) a net, doomed object, things which should have been utterly destroyed</i>

Torah Studies – Statutes #128-130 continued

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
THINE HAND	H3027	<i>yâd</i>	charge, coast, custody, debt, dominion, fellowship, work
FIERCENESS	H2740	<i>chârôn</i>	sore displeasure, wrath, kindled, grieve, hot anger
MERCY	H7356	<i>racham</i>	<i>Compassion, the womb (as cherishing the foetus), tender love</i>
COMPASSION	H7355	<i>râcham</i>	<i>to love, to have compassion on, Ruhamah (to have pity on)</i>
MULTIPLY	H7235	<i>râbâh</i>	<i>to increase (in whatever respect), bring in abundance, make greater, be in authority</i>

Synthesis:

When a city or place is judged by the Almighty for having been wicked and idolatrous, it is to be completely consumed with fire. Nothing is kept or saved out of it. This Statute makes the final Judgment of the cities of Earth very clear. It is also depicting what will be the ultimate fate of earthly Jerusalem, which is something many Torah-keepers do not understand.

Jerusalem, which will be the headquarters of the Beast, will be the most idolatrous and wicked city on earth in the Last Days. It is the place of the Abomination of Desolation. Thus, Jerusalem will be judged by fire – Fire! And it will be completely consumed, not saved out of it. The “Jerusalem” that is saved from the burning – a brand plucked from the Fire – Zechariah 3:2, is not the literal city of Jerusalem. In Bible prophecy, “Jerusalem” and “Zion” are terms for Israel – the saved people of Yahweh. People are plucked from the Fire (saved) but not cities (Amos 4:11; Romans 11:4-5; Jude 1:23).