

Parashah 18 Tidbit
Exodus 21:1 – 24:18
Mishpatim, מִשְׁפָּטִים, Judgements,
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Mishpatim מִשְׁפָּטִים, Laws, Judgements, Commandments
Exodus 21:1 – 24:18

IT IS NOT a coincidence that right after giving Yisrael the Ten Commandments, that YHVH chose to talk about the role of the Bondservant.

In *verses 1–4* we are told that there is a **planned freedom** for the Hebrew Bondservant. It is just, and gives hope to the Bondservant, that there is forgiveness of his debt at the end of his term of service, a reward, if you will, for all of his hard work. The Bondservant was to serve **six** years as a servant and in the seventh year, **he was to be set FREE**, and **ALL** of his debt was to be forgiven. The word *servant* and or *bondservant* are the same word in the Hebrew text, it is the word Eved, עֶבֶד, spelled with an Ayin, ע, a Bet, ב, and a Dalet, ד. The basic meaning of the Hebrew letter Ayin, ע, is an *eye*, the letter Bet, ב, represents a *house* and the letter Dalet, ד, represents a *door*. Together they mean **FOCUS YOUR EYES ON THE DOOR OF THE HOUSE**, and we know that Messiah **IS THE DOOR** to our heavenly Father's house, and we also know that Messiah Himself said **NO ONE COMES TO THE FATHER EXCEPT THROUGH ME**, therefore, the true Bondservant of Elohim, the True Eved, עֶבֶד, **IS** the One who willingly chooses to **FOCUS** His or Her eyes on the Door of our heavenly Father's house, Messiah, who happens to also be, the Words of the Living Torah of our heavenly Father, made flesh, and then, willingly and lovingly choose, to commit to walk in total loving surrendered obedience to **ALL** the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, as Messiah did and taught us to do.

We also know that Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, came as a suffering **servant**, an עֶבֶד, Eved, to redeem all people who would call upon His Name, and that He committed to willingly walk in total loving surrendered obedience to **ALL** the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life. However, **IF** we were to make a mistake and spell the word Bondservant with the letter Aleph א as the first letter, rather than the letter Ayin, it forms the Hebrew word, אָבָד, Avad, spelled Aleph, א, Bet, ב, Dalet, ד, which means **lost, perish, broken or destroyed**.

Therefore, I believe that this is telling us, that when we truly choose to fully surrender our hearts, minds, souls and strength to YHVH, in total loving surrendered obedience to **ALL** the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, the very same Words that our heavenly Father sent to earth, and that were manifested in the flesh, Yeshua Messiah, our Saviour, for it is only when the Words of the Father's Torah of Life are truly internalized and embedded on a person's heart, that a person's Life becomes the Life of a true Bondservant of our heavenly Father, which then, turns the Life of that surrendered heart around, and that person actually becomes a **bondservant, Eved, עֶבֶד**, of Elohim of Abraham, Yitzchaq and Ya'aqov, and **THEN**, the three Hebrew letters, that spell the word Avad,

אָבָד, the Aleph, Bet, Dalet, which means *lost and or perished* are **REVERSED**, and when we reverse the letters of this word Avad, אָבָד, we form a word Dovei, דָּבַא, which is spelled with a Dalet, a Bet, and an Aleph, דָּבַא, which in turn means, *strength and abundance*. Furthermore, in the word Eved, עֶבֶד, which, as I said, means servant or bondservant, we have the letter Bet which, as I said before, has the pictographic meaning of, a house, and that leaves the letters Ayin and Dalet, which spell the Hebrew word *Ed*, which means, witness. Therefore the word Bondservant, עֶבֶד, can also mean, that the **TRUE** bondservant, **IS a WITNESS** to the whole world, that when anyone willingly chooses to surrender their will to our heavenly Father, and commit to believe, follow and obey all the Words of His Torah of Life, they automatically become, **PART OF** His house, **PART OF** the Commonwealth of Yisrael (*Ephesians 2:12*), **PART OF** the assembly of the firstborn (*Hebrew 12:23*).

This little Hebrew lesson is telling us that the *Bondservants*, עֶבְדִים, of *Elohim*, who have willingly chosen to surrender their hearts, minds, souls and strength to the Father, in loving surrendered obedience to **ALL** the Words of His Torah of Life, **ARE THE ONES THAT WILL:**

LIVE BY YHVH's STRENGTH,

LIVE IN YHVH's provisional abundance,

LIVE IN His house (kingdom) for eternity.

Furthermore, once the Bondservant עֶבֶד, decides that he loves His Master, and tells the master that he wants to remain with Him **FOREVER**, the Master **adopts him as a SON**, which means that the Master, **NOW** becomes, the Bondservants loving Father, who provides for all of his needs, and protects him from any and all enemies from that point on, **AND**, because of this adoption, the Bondservant's status, **IS CHANGED, HE IS NO LONGER JUST A BONDSERVANT, BUT HE BECOMES A SON** of the most High Elohim; *John 8:35 And the servant abides NOT in the house for ever: BUT THE SON, HE ABIDES EVER.*

I believe that this **IS YHVH's** mandate for all believers, and that YHVH is telling us, that **IF** we willingly and lovingly choose to **SUBJECT** ourselves in total loving surrendered obedience to **ALL** the Words of His Torah of Life (*Romans 8:7*), the Words of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His **LAW**, and accept the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, as our Master and Saviour, **AND ALLOW** Him to teach us His Ways, His Directives for everlasting Life, **THEN**, YHVH will bring us to completeness, and we will be transformed (transfigured) into Sons and Daughters of the Living Elohim.

As you know, I believe that numbers in Scripture are very important, and in most cases there is a hidden message attached to the numbers that YHVH has sovereignly chosen to use. The number **seven** for example, in Scripture, represents the concept of being complete, and spiritually perfect. Therefore, I believe that YHVH is teaching us a lesson here, that the **seventh** year, the year of the servant's **release, IS a time of testing**, will the bondservant choose to **love His master**, and tell him that he wants to **stay in** the Master's house for the rest of his life, and commit to willingly continue to follow and obey the Master's Commandments, which is a metaphor, for the Words of the Torah of

the house of His Master, or **NOT**. The lesson that YHVH is teaching us here, **IS**, that He wants **ALL** of us, who are of course indebted to Him, because of His selfless sacrifice, to **TRY AND OBEY** the Words of His Torah, the Words of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, and when we willingly make that commitment, He **GUARANTEES US, THAT IF WE CHOOSE TO WILLINGLY AND LOVINGLY OBEY THE WORDS OF HIS TORAH of LIFE**, with a loving surrendered contrite obedient Heart, that after a period of time, **WE WILL LOVE WHAT IT DOES FOR US, AND WE WILL KEEP IT FOREVER**, and furthermore, YHVH promises us, that in doing so, in willingly choosing to obey the Words of His Torah of Life, that our status **WILL CHANGE** from that of a being, an עֶבֶד, Eved, a Bondservant, to becoming **SONS AND/OR DAUGHTERS** of the Living Elohim, Benai El Chai, בְּנֵי אֱלֹהִים. To love YHVH, **IS TO LOVE THE WORDS OF HIS TORAH, which were made flesh, and were manifested as our Messiah**; for YHVH said, *If you love Me, KEEP My Commandments*, keep the Words of My inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, **KEEP** the Words of My Torah, and **IF** you willingly do **THAT, IF** you willingly obey the Words of My Torah of Life, **YOU** will become like Messiah, a Son and or Daughter of the Living Elohim. The incredible thing to me, is that our omnipotent and omniscient Elohim actually gives us a **choice**; and in essence, He says, **TRY IT, YOU'LL LIKE IT!**

I hope you can see that YHVH wants **ALL of us to be FREE, FREE** to choose our path, **BUT** He loves us so much, that He wants us **TO BE** His Bondservant's for a period of time, so that we can see for ourselves, that when we willingly and lovingly **choose** to follow what Yeshua said in *Matthew 11:28-30 Come onto Me, all you that labour and are heavy burdened and learn of Me* (the Words of the Living Torah made flesh); *for I am meek and lowly in heart; and you shall find rest for you souls, for My YOKE* (the Torah) **IS EASY, AND MY BURDEN, (obedience) IS LIGHT; THEN** we will see for ourselves, that **WHAT** both our heavenly Father and His Son, our Messiah, say, **IS TRUE**, and therefore, our decision should be simple, and obeying and following the Words of the Creator of all things, as He has Commanded us to do, should become **as natural as breathing**, for both actions will sustain your life. Nevertheless, there will be many that reject His offer, and choose **NOT to obey** the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life, because they have somehow been convinced that believing, following and obeying the lies of the enemy, that the Torah of YHVH, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Directives for everlasting Life, have somehow been done away with, in whole or in part, and they have been replaced with man made doctrines, which is called the Lies of our forefathers in:

Jeremiah 16:19 O YHVH, my strength, and my fortress, and my refuge in the day of affliction (צָרָה, Tzarah, adversity, anguish, distress, tribulation, trouble), *the Gentiles* (גּוֹיִם, Goyim), *shall come unto you from the ends of the earth, and shall say, Surely our fathers have inherited LIES, vanity, and things wherein there is no profit.*

For your information, a Goy, גּוֹי, means, foreign nation, people, gentile, a troop of animals, a flight of Locusts, a heathen, anyone that rejects the Words of the Torah that YHVH gave to Mosheh at Mount Sinai. Furthermore, one of the definitions that the Rabbis give us of this word Goy, is an irreligious Jew, which means, that the state of being a Goy, has absolutely nothing to do with a person's Ethnicity, **BUT** it has everything to do with a person's heart condition. If a person's heart, **IS** indeed surrendered to our heavenly Father, in loving obedience to the Words of His Torah of Life, then and only then, is that person, part of YHVH's Yisrael, and **NOT** a Goy, the plural is Goyim)

After telling you all of this, I feel that it is absolutely necessary to ask you this question; Do you think that the Scriptures are teaching us something important by choosing to place YHVH's **teaching on forgiveness**, immediately after giving us His Ten Commandments? Listen to the sequence of events and then, **YOU** can decide for yourself.

Let's begin!

First we have the teaching on the Ten Commandments,
Then the teaching on forgiveness,
Then the teaching on spiritual perfection represented by the number seven (7),
Then the teaching on adoption as Sons and Daughters of the Living Elohim,
And then in *verse 5* it tells us about **LOVE**.

Verse 5 says that *And IF the servant shall plainly say, I LOVE my master, my wife, and my children; I WILL NOT GO OUT FREE*. In Hebrew, the words are:

אהבתי את־אדוני ואת־אשתי ואת־בני, Ahavti Et Adoni Et Ishti Ve'Et Banai; literally translated it means, I love my Adonai, my wife and my children.

What is very important for all of us to notice in this *verse*, **IS** that, there is an *Aleph Tav* before the words *my Adonai*, before the words *my wife*, and before the words *my children*, and those *Aleph Tav*s are not translated in our English Scriptures; while they are not stand-alone Aleph Tav, I believe they should be, because it represents our Messiah, our Adonai, our Master Yeshua, and it also represents the responsibility and the Commandments that Elohim **HAS PLACED ON MEN**, and that **IS**, that **ALL men are to LOVE** Elohim, **LOVE** their wives and **LOVE** their children. Therefore, **IF** and **WHEN** we Men, can learn this very important lesson, and actually put that lesson into practice in our daily lives, **THEN**, and only **THEN**, can we truly begin to be the **manifest image** of our heavenly Father here on earth, for He **IS** the ultimate picture of **LOVE** that all fathers and husbands, are to emulate.

Next we see that once the Master is made aware of the bondservant's desire, he **IS** to take the bondservant, and present him before the elders, the judges, and then bring the bondservant to the door post of the his house, and **IN FRONT OF WITNESSES**, the Master **IS** to bore the servant's ear through, with an awl. In other words, the master will put His **MARK** on the Bondservant, to indicate to the whole world that this Bondservant, **NOW** belongs to Him, He has become the Master's adopted Son, and, from that day onward, the Bondservant, who has now become a son, **IS FOREVER ATTACHED TO THE MASTER'S HOUSE**, and the Master will take care of **ALL** his needs, **FOREVER**.

The act of boring the ear through with an awl is a metaphor, for **OPENING** the ear, **OPENING** the bondservant's **UNDERSTANDING TO THE VASTNESS OF YHVH'S WISDOM, KNOWLEDGE AND TRUTH, that are found in the Words of His Torah of Life, and as you know, YHVH has said you shall KNOW THE TRUTH and the TRUTH will set you FREE**.

This is telling **US**, that **IF** we choose to willingly and lovingly **SUBMIT** to the Father, and walk in **ALL** of His Ways, as He has Commanded us to do, then our understanding **about life, about the Words of His Torah of Life, about His Love, WILL GROW PROPORTIONATELY TO THE LEVEL THAT WE ARE WILLING TO SURRENDER OURSELVES TO HIM**. Let us always

remember that *We can DO ALL things through Yeshua Messiah* (the Words of the Living Torah, made flesh) *who strengthens us. Amen*

I found that there is a curious rule in *verse 4*. In *verse 3*, it says that **IF** the servant was married when he became a servant, then, when he leaves he shall take his wife with him, **BUT IF** the master **GAVE** him a wife while he was His servant, and his wife has borne him children, **THEN** the wife and children **ARE TO STAY BEHIND** and the servant who has paid his debt, has to leave on his own. What lesson, do you think YHVH is teaching us here, by putting this ordinance as one of the conditions, on the freedom of the bondservant? **Proverbs 18:22** gives us a hint *Whosoever finds a wife, finds a good thing and obtains favour from YHVH. Psalm 127:3-5* *Lo children are a heritage from YHVH and the fruit of the womb is YHVH's REWARD. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that has his quiver full of them.*

I believe that YHVH wants all of us to know, that **IF** a man decides to walk away from the Master, **after six years of being with Him, learning from him, and being provided for, by Him**, then he just walks away. That my friends is a picture of disobedience and rebellion, which leads to eternal damnation, and since, according to Scripture, the Sins of the father, **ARE** indeed visited onto his sons and daughters, YHVH says **NO**, you are **NOT** going to take My blessings (*your wife and children that I gave you*) and trample all over them. **IF** you leave, you leave with what you came with, and your wife and children **STAY WITH ME**, for they are **MINE**, I gave them to you, and I will continue to provide for them and protect them for eternity.

The Scripture says in **Hebrews 6:4** *For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gifts (deliverance from Sin) and were made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good Word of YHVH (the Words of His Torah of Life), and the powers of the world to come (resurrection into the kingdom of Elohim), IF THEY SHALL FALL AWAY, TO RENEW THEM AGAIN UNTO REPENTANCE; seeing, they crucify to themselves the Son of Elohim afresh, and put Him to open shame.*

Hebrews 6 is telling us that the Bondservant, who willingly walks away from his Master, **IS** doomed to eternal damnation, and YHVH loves us so much, that He will **NOT** allow that man, to take the Gift that He, YHVH, so graciously gave him, the gift of a wife and his children, onto everlasting damnation with him. By not allowing the wife and the children of the Bondservant to leave with the Bondservant, **IF** he indeed chooses to leave, YHVH **IS NOT punishing** the man for leaving; He is **protecting** the wife and children from **being exposed to the sinful life of the Bondservant** and the more than likely scenario, that the wife and children will **DIE and BE LOST FOREVER**. That, my friends, **IS THE GRACE** of our loving Elohim and Father in action.

So, to summarize, we have the Commandments, forgiveness, spiritual perfection, completeness, full surrender, adoption as sons and daughters of the Master, and a promise of safe keeping; we also have a **mark** on the servant who has willingly chosen to stay with his Master, in order to show the world, that he has **NOW** become **a Son of the Master** and that **NO ONE** can take him away from his Master, for the Master has promised through the Judges (which is a metaphor for the Words of His Torah) that He, the Master, will take care of his adopted son's and daughter's needs forever. To me, **THAT IS THE GOSPEL, THE GOOD NEWS IN A NUTSHELL. IF** anyone willingly chooses to surrender to the Master **OUT OF LOVE, THEN THEY CAN CAST ALL OF THEIR CARES UPON HIM.**

In *Romans 8:14-22* we read *For as many as are LED by the Spirit of Elohim, THEY are the Sons of Elohim.*

At this point we have to read what is written in *Ezekiel 36:26-27* *A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I WILL PUT MY HOLY SPIRIT within you, and I WILL CAUSE YOU TO WALK IN MY STATUTES, AND YOU SHALL KEEP MY JUDGMENTS, AND DO THEM.*

The Holy Spirit of Elohim **IS** given to us for a very specific purpose, **AND THAT PURPOSE MY FRIENDS, IS TO CAUSE EVERY SURRENDERED, CONTRITE, WILLING HEART, THAT WILL ALLOW THE HOLY SPIRIT, TO WALK OUT AND OBEY ALL THE WORDS OF OUR HEAVENLY FATHER'S TORAH OF LIFE**, the Words of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Directives for everlasting Life.

Now let us go to *Romans 8:15* *For you have NOT received the spirit of bondage again to fear; BUT YOU HAVE RECEIVED THE SPIRIT OF ADOPTION, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. 16 The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit, that we ARE THE CHILDREN OF ELOHIM: 17 And IF children, THEN heirs; heirs of Elohim, and joint-heirs with Messiah; IF WE CHOOSE to suffer with Him, THAT WE MAY BE ALSO GLORIFIED TOGETHER WITH HIM. 18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time ARE NOT WORTHY to be compared WITH THE GLORY which shall be revealed IN US. 19 For the earnest expectation of the creation, waits for the manifestation of the Sons of Elohim. 20 For the creation was made SUBJECT to vanity, NOT willingly, BUT by reason of Him who has subjected the same in hope, 21 Because the creation itself, also SHALL be delivered from the bondage of corruption INTO THE GLORIOUS LIBERTY OF THE CHILDREN OF ELOHIM. 22 For we know that the whole creation groans and travails in pain together until now.*

Do you think that after reading through this sequence of events, that you can answer the question that I posed you, on page 2, where I asked you: Do you think that the Scriptures are teaching us something important by choosing to place YHVH's teaching on forgiveness, immediately after giving us His Ten Commandments? And if so, what **IS** the lesson that you learned?

Let's go, from *verse 7* on, YHVH starts expanding on the Commandments that He has just given Mosheh and Yisrael on Mount Sinai.

Exodus 21:2 – 22:16, deals with civil, legal and criminal laws.

Exodus 22:17 – 23:19, deals with humanitarian considerations and various discreet topics.

Exodus 23:20-33, YHVH reiterates His promise that Israel shall inherit the land and warns them against paganism and worshipping the gods of others.

Exodus 24, deals with ritual ratification of the Covenants and the receiving of the stone tablets.

What I believe Elohim **IS** pointing out to us, throughout the Scriptures, **IS** His Holy character. Adam was created in the image of Elohim so that he could actually **BE THE MANIFEST IMAGE OR THE REPRESENTATION OF ELOHIM HERE ON EARTH**, in order that the entire world would eventually see the righteousness, holiness, goodness and justice of Elohim.

Unfortunately, Adam failed in this task. Then Messiah, as the second Adam, came and taught us how the role of being *the manifest image of Elohim* here on earth, that Adam failed to show us, **IS TO BE LIVED OUT**; and **NOW** that Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, has taught us the Words and the Ways of our heavenly Father, Elohim wants us, *His Bondservants*, to take that role of being the manifest image of Elohim, very seriously, and make it our own. That means that once we are regenerated, described as *born again* in our English Scriptures, **THEN** we too are in the process of becoming the *manifest image and presence* of YHVH our Elohim here on Earth, through willing surrendered obedience to the Words of YHVH's Torah, the Words of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Directives for everlasting Life.

The words *Born again* are Strong's Number G1080 γεννάω gennáō, ghen-nah'-o, from a variation of 1085; which means, to procreate, properly, of the father, but by extension of the mother, figuratively, it means **to regenerate**, bear, beget, be born, bring forth, conceive, be delivered of, gender, make, spring.

What I believe YHVH is telling us, **IS** that, as we surrender more aspects of our lives to YHVH, in total loving surrendered obedience to the Words of His Torah of Life, which **IS** the Path that He has wanted **ALL** of His children to walk on from the beginning of time, the picture that we portray or that we are to portray, when we choose this Life path, **IS** the essence or the character of YHVH Elohim, and through that surrendered obedience to the Words of His Torah of Life, the picture, of us being the manifest image of YHVH Elohim unto the peoples of the world, will become clearer and clearer, and then, other people will begin to see it, **and glorify Elohim because of it**. That is our **ROLE** my friends; **THIS IS OUR MANDATE AS BELIEVERS IN THE ELOHIM OF ABRAHAM, YITZCHAQ AND YA'AQOV**.

As we move on through these *verses*, I am not about to comment on every judgement found in this chapter, **BUT** in *verse 21:15* it says: *And he that smites his father, or his mother, shall surely put to death*. It says that **IF** you strike your father or mother **you will be put to death**. In *verse 16* it says **IF** you kidnap someone **you will be put to death**, and in *verse 17* it says, **IF** you curse your father or mother **you will be put to death**.

Why is **verbal abuse** of your parents put on the same plane as **physical abuse**? It is because verbal abuse is sometimes, **IF** not always, much more hurtful and long-lasting than physical abuse. Broken bones may heal, **BUT** when the spirit is injured, it may never heal.

The two *verses* regarding parents are divided by the *verse* on kidnapping. By this division, I believe that the Torah is teaching us about the importance of family, and the sovereignty of the family. The fact that **all three offences are punishable by death, teaches us** that YHVH clearly **respects and protects the family unit**. Kidnapping, physical abuse and verbal abuse **break up the family unit** and therefore **DISTORT** the picture of our Elohim, as a caring, loving compassionate Father, that He wants the whole world to see. Amein.

Also, in this chapter, the word **IF**, is used *twenty six* times. That is important because the Gematria of the name YHVH, the numerical value of the letters of YHVH's name, is *twenty six*, therefore I believe that YHVH is telling us through the use of the word **IF**, that these **ARE** His Commandments and that He wants **US TO OBEY THEM**, and that **IF** we choose to do so, **IF** we willingly and lovingly choose to keep and obey the Words of YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and

instructions, the Words of His Torah of Life, His Commandments, we will be blessed, for YHVH's blessings are embedded in **ALL** of His Commandments, and they are **activated** by surrendered loving obedience, therefore, when we learn to **KEEP AND DO** what YHVH Commands us to do, YHVH pours His blessings upon us, and in turn, we become a blessing to all the people around us, **because** of our obedience.

There are no stand alone Aleph Tav's in this chapter, however there are **sixteen** Aleph Tav's that are attached to words with a Maqef, and there are **nine** words that contain both the Aleph and Tav letters within them. The number **sixteen** in Scripture speaks of **Love** and the number **nine** speaks of **the fruit of the Spirit**. Therefore I believe that YHVH is telling us through the use of these Aleph Tav's that **IF WE TRULY LOVE HIM, WE WILL KEEP** His Commandments, the Words of His Torah of Life, the Words of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, and when we willingly and lovingly choose to **KEEP and DO** His Commandments, we will produce the **fruit of His Holy Spirit**, which is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, belief, Meekness and, temperance: against such there is no Law. Amein.

Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.

*Have a great Elohim blessed week and may YHVH bless your every thought,
and your every deed. Shalom Alechem. Amein*