

Exo 21:1-22:24 Triennial Mishpatim, “Judgments” Chiasm

© Christine Miller / hebraicfaithbible.com

1A) 21:1-27 WHEN RESTITUTION IS NOT TO BE MADE: the death penalty;

1a) 21:1-11 Conditions for Hebrew male or female slaves to go out free;

1a) 21:1-2 Now these are the ordinances which you shall set before them. If you buy a Hebrew servant, six years he shall serve; and in the seventh **he shall go out free for nothing**;

1b) 21:3-4 *When his wife shall go out with him or not;*

1A) 21:3A If he come in by himself, **HE SHALL GO OUT BY HIMSELF**;

1B) 21:3B If he is married, then **HIS WIFE SHALL GO OUT** with him;

CENTRAL AXIS) 21:4A **IF HIS MASTER GIVES HIM A WIFE, AND SHE BEARS HIM SONS OR DAUGHTERS;**

2B) 21:4B **THE WIFE** and her children **SHALL BE HER MASTER’S**;

2A) 21:4C And **HE SHALL GO OUT BY HIMSELF**;

1c) 21:5 But if the servant shall plainly say: I love my master, my wife, and my children; **I will not go out free**;

central axis) 21:6a **Then his master shall bring him to God, and shall bring him to the door, or to the doorpost; and his master shall bore his ear through with an awl;**

2c) 21:6b And **he shall serve him for ever**; {s}

2b) 21:7-11a **The maidservant espoused as a wife shall not go out but shall be redeemed;**

1A) 21:7 And if a man sells his daughter to be a maidservant, **SHE SHALL NOT GO OUT** as the menservants do;

1B) 21:8A If she does not please her master, **WHO HAS ESPOUSED HER TO HIMSELF**, then he shall let her be redeemed;

CENTRAL AXIS) 21:8B **HE SHALL HAVE NO POWER TO SELL HER TO A FOREIGN PEOPLE, SEEING HE HAS DEALT DECEITFULLY WITH HER;**

2B) 21:9 And **IF HE ESPOUSE HER TO HIS SON**, he shall deal with her after the manner of daughters;

2A) 21:10-11A If he take another wife, her food, her raiment, and her conjugal rights, **HE SHALL NOT DIMINISH**. And if he does not do these three for her;

2a) 21:11b Then **she shall go out for nothing**, without money; {s}

1b) 21:12-13 He that strikes a man, so that he dies, shall surely be put to death. And if a man does not lie in wait, but God causes it to come to hand; then I will appoint you a place where he may flee (i.e. **Judgment when assault results in death**); {s}

central axis) 21:14-17 **The death penalty is not murder;**

And if a man comes presumptuously upon his neighbor, to slay him with guile; you shall take him from My altar, that he may die. {s} And he that strikes his father, or his mother, shall be surely put to death. {s} And he that steals a man, and sells him, or if he is found in his hand, he shall surely be put to death. {s} And he that curses his father or his mother, shall surely be put to death; {s}

2b) 21:18-25 **Judgment when assault does not result in death;**

1a) 21:18-19 And *if men contend*, and one strikes the other with a stone, or with his fist, and he does not die, but keeps to his bed; if he rises again, and walks abroad upon his staff, then he who struck him shall be acquitted; only he shall pay for the loss of his time, and shall cause him to be thoroughly healed; {s}

1b) 21:20 And if a man strikes his bondman, or his bondwoman, with a rod, and he dies under his hand, *he shall surely be punished*;

2b) 21:21 Nevertheless, if he continues a day or two, *he shall not be punished*; for he is his money; {s}

2a) 21:22-25 *If men strive together*;

1A) 21:22A And if men strive together, and hurt a woman with child, so that her child departs, and **YET NO HARM FOLLOWS**;

1B) 21:22B **HE SHALL BE** surely **FINED**;

CENTRAL AXIS) 21:22C **AS THE WOMAN'S HUSBAND SHALL LAY UPON HIM**;

2B) 21:22D And **HE SHALL PAY** as the judges determine;

2A) 21:23-25 But **IF ANY HARM FOLLOWS**, then you shall give life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burning for burning, wound for wound, stripe for stripe; {s}

2a) 21:26-27 **Conditions for male or female slaves to go out free**;

And if a man strikes the eye of his bondman, or the eye of his bondwoman, and destroys it, he shall let him go free for his eye's sake. And if he strikes out his bondman's tooth, or his bondwoman's tooth, he shall let him go free for his tooth's sake; {p}

1B.1) 21:28-29 **JUDGMENT WHEN AN OX KILLS A PERSON** [+ **1B.2)**
WHEN A LIFE IS TAKEN];

1a) 21:28 And **if an ox gore a man or a woman, so that they die, the ox shall be surely stoned**, and its flesh shall not be eaten; but **the owner of the ox shall be acquitted**;

central axis) 21:29a But **if the ox had gored previously, and warning had been given to its owner, but he had not kept it in**;

2a) 21:29b So that **it killed a man or a woman; the ox shall be stoned**, and **its owner also shall be put to death**;

1C) 21:29B **THE OX SHALL BE STONED**, and its owner also shall be put to death;

1D) 21:30 If there is imposed on him a fine, then **HE SHALL GIVE** for the redemption of his life **WHATEVER SUM** is imposed on him;

1E) 21:31A **WHETHER IT GORE A SON, OR GORE A DAUGHTER**;

CENTRAL AXIS) 21:31B **ACCORDING TO THIS JUDGMENT SHALL IT BE DONE TO HIM**;

2E) 21:32A **IF THE OX GORE A BONDMAN OR A BONDWOMAN**;

2D) 21:32B HE SHALL GIVE to their master **THIRTY SHEKELS OF SILVER;**

2C) 21:32C And **THE OX SHALL BE STONED;** {s}

2B.1) 21:33-36 JUDGMENT WHEN A PIT OR AN OX KILLS A BEAST;

1a) 21:33-34 And if a man shall open a pit, or if a man shall dig a pit and not cover it, and an ox or a donkey falls into it, **the owner of the pit** shall make it good; he **shall give money to their owner, but the dead beast shall be his;** {s}

1b) 21:35a And if **one man's ox hurts another's,** so that it dies;
central axis) 21:35b Then they shall sell the live ox, and divide the price of it; and the dead ox they shall also divide;

2b) 21:36a Or if it is known that **the ox had gored previously,** and its owner had not kept it in;

2a) 21:36b He shall surely pay ox for ox, but the dead beast shall be his own; {s}

2B.2) 22:1-13 RESTITUTION WHEN GOODS OR BEASTS ARE LOST OR TAKEN;

1a) 22:1-4 Restitution when a beast is stolen;

1a) 22:1 If a man steal an ox, or a sheep, **and kill** it, or sell it, **he shall pay** five oxen for an ox, and four sheep for a sheep;

1b) 22:2 If a thief be found breaking in, and is struck so that he dies, **there shall be no guilt for his blood;**

2b) 22:3 If the sun has risen on him, **there shall be guilt for his blood**—he shall make restitution; if he has nothing, then he shall be sold for his theft;

2a) 22:4 If the theft is found alive in his hand, whether it is an ox, or a donkey, or a sheep, **he shall pay double;** {s}

1b) 22:5 If a man cause a field or vineyard to be eaten, having let his beast loose, and it feed in another man's field; of the best of his own field, and of the best of his own vineyard, **he shall make restitution;** {s}

2b) 22:6 If fire breaks out, and catches in thorns, so that the stacks of grain, or the standing grain, or the field are consumed; **he who kindled the fire shall surely make restitution;** {s}

2a) 22:7-13 Restitution when goods or beasts are stolen or lost in the keeping of another;

1a) 22:7-9 Restitution when goods are stolen or lost in the keeping of another;

1) 22:7A IF A MAN DELIVER TO HIS NEIGHBOR MONEY OR ARTICLES TO KEEP;

2) 22:7B And **IT IS STOLEN** out of the man's house;

3) 22:7C-9 **THE GUILTY PARTY SHALL MAKE RESTITUTION** of double;

1a) 22:7c If the thief is found, **he shall pay double;**

1b) 22:8 If the thief is not found, then **the master of the house shall come near to God**, to see whether or not **he has put his hand into his neighbor's goods**;

central axis) 22:9a For every matter of trespass, whether it be for an ox, for a donkey, for a sheep, for raiment, or for any manner of lost thing which someone claims to be his;

2b) 22:9b The cause of **both parties shall come before God**;

2a) 22:9c **He whom God shall condemn shall pay double** to his neighbor; {s}

2a) 22:10-13 **Restitution when beasts are stolen or lost in the keeping of another**;

1) 22:10A **IF A MAN DELIVER TO HIS NEIGHBOR** a donkey, or an ox, or a sheep, or ANY BEAST, TO KEEP;

2) 22:10B And **IT DIES**, or **IS HURT**, or **DRIVEN AWAY**;

3) 22:10C **THE INNOCENT PARTY SHALL NOT MAKE RESTITUTION**;

1a) 22:10c **No one seeing it**;

1b) 22:11a The **oath of YHVH shall be between them** both;

central axis) 22:11b That **he has not put his hand into his neighbor's goods**;

2b) 22:11c And **the owner shall accept the oath**;

2a) 22:11d-13 Restitution **when their fate is not known**/ but if stolen;

1a) 22:11d And **he shall not make restitution** for it;

1b) 22:12a But **if it is stolen** from him;

central axis) 22:12b **He shall make restitution to the owner for it**;

2b) 22:13a **If it is torn in pieces**, let him bring it for a witness;

2a) 22:13b **He shall not make good** that which was torn. {p}

2A) 22:14-22:24 **WHEN RESTITUTION IS NOT TO BE MADE**;

1a) 22:14-15 **Restitution** when goods are borrowed;

1a) 22:14a And if a man **borrow**s anything of his neighbor, and it is hurt, or dies;

1b) 22:14b The **owner of it not being with it**;

central axis) 22:14c **He shall surely make restitution**;

2b) 22:15a If the **owner of it is with it**, he shall not make it good;

2a) 22:15b If it was **hired**, it came with its hire; {s}

1b) 22:16-17 **Restitution** when a virgin is seduced;

1a) 22:16 And **if a man entices a virgin** who is not betrothed, **and lies with her**, he shall surely **pay the bride price** for her to be his wife;

central axis) 22:17a **If her father utterly refuses to give her to him**;

2a) 22:17b He shall **pay money according to the bride price** of virgins; {s}

central axis) 22:18 **You shall not permit a sorceress to live**;

2b) 22:19 **Whoever lies with a beast** shall surely be put to death (there can be **no restitution**); {s}

2a) 22:20-24 Idolaters and oppressors shall be utterly destroyed (there can be **no restitution**);

1a) 22:20 He who sacrifices to the gods, save to YHVH only, **shall be utterly destroyed;**

1b) 22:21a And a **stranger;**

central axis) 22:21b **You shall not wrong, neither shall you oppress him;**

2b) 22:21c For **you were strangers** in the land of Egypt;

2a) 22:22-24 He who afflicts the widow or fatherless YHVH **will kill with the sword;**

1A) 22:22 You shall not afflict any **WIDOW**, or **FATHERLESS CHILD;**

1B) 22:23A **IF YOU AFFLICT THEM** in any way—

CENTRAL AXIS) 22:23B **FOR IF THEY CRY AT ALL TO ME, I WILL SURELY HEAR THEIR CRY—**

2B) 22:24A My wrath shall wax hot, and **I WILL KILL YOU WITH THE SWORD;**

2A) 22:24B And your wives shall be **WIDOWS**, and your **CHILDREN FATHERLESS.** {p}