



Exo 21:1-24:18 Mishpatim Expanded Chiasm

1A) 21:1-11 When **HEBREW SLAVES GO OUT FREE**; {s+s}

1a) 21:1-2 ‘Now these are the ordinances which you shall set before them. **2** If you buy a Hebrew servant, six years he shall serve; and in the seventh **he shall go out free for nothing**; [*i.e., Without having to pay for his freedom*];

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

1a) 21:3a If he comes 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, as 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**. **11** And if he does not do these three for her;

2a) 21:11b Then **she shall go out for nothing**, without money; [*i.e., Without having to pay for her freedom*]; {s}

1B) 21:12-22:20 **WHEN RESTITUTION IS and IS NOT TO BE MADE**; {sx8+p+sx7 +p+sx3}

1a) 21:12-17 **Death penalty** for crimes against persons; {sx5}

1a) 21:12-14 **Striking a man** so that he dies is a capital crime; {s+s}

1A) 21:12 He that strikes a man, so that he dies, shall surely **BE PUT TO DEATH**;

CENTRAL AXIS) 21:13 **AND IF A MAN DOES NOT LIE IN WAIT, BUT GOD CAUSES HIM TO COME INTO HIS HAND; THEN I WILL APPOINT YOU A PLACE WHERE HE MAY FLEE**; {s}

2A) 21:14 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}

2a) 21:15-17 Striking or cursing **father or mother** is a capital crime; {sx3}

1A) 21:15 And he who **STRIKES HIS FATHER, OR HIS MOTHER**, shall be surely put to death; {s}

CENTRAL AXIS) 21:16 **AND HE WHO STEALS A MAN, AND SELLS HIM, OR IF HE IS FOUND IN HIS HAND, HE SHALL SURELY BE PUT TO DEATH**; {s}

2A) 21:17 And he who **CURSES HIS FATHER OR HIS MOTHER**, shall surely be put to death; {s}

1b) 21:18-27 Restitution in cases of assault; {sx3+p}

1a) 22:18-19 And **if men contend together**, and one strikes the other with a stone, or with his fist, and he does not die, but keeps to his bed; **19** if he rises again, and walks abroad on his staff, then he that 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) 21:20-21 And **if a man strikes his bondman, or his bondwoman**, with a rod, and he dies under his hand, he shall surely be punished. **21** Notwithstanding if he continues a day or two, he shall not be punished; for he is his money; {s}

2a) 21:22-23 If men strive together, and hurt a woman with child; {s}

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 SURELY BE FINED**, as the woman's husband shall lay on him;

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

2A) 21:23-25 But **IF ANY HARM FOLLOW**, then you shall give life for life, **24** eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, **25** burning for burning, wound for wound, stripe for stripe; {s}

2b) 21:26-27 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. **27** 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}

1c.1) 21:28-32 When an ox owner is liable for death caused by his animal; {s}

1a) 21:28-29 And **if an ox gores** a man or a woman, so that they die, **the ox shall surely be stoned**, and its flesh shall not be eaten; but the owner of the ox shall be acquitted. **29** But if the ox was wont to gore in time past, and warning had been given to its owner, and he did not keep it in, but it had killed a man or a woman; the ox shall be stoned, and its owner also shall be put to death;

central axis) 21:30 **If there is laid on him a ransom, then he shall give for the redemption of his life whatever is laid on him**;

2a) 21:31-32 **Whether it had gored** a son, or had gored a daughter, according to this judgment it shall be done to him. **32** If the ox gores a bondman or a

bondswoman, he shall give to their master thirty shekels of silver, and *the ox shall be stoned*; {s}

1c.2) 21:33-22:15 Restitution for loss of animals; {s+s}

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, **34** the owner of the pit shall make it good; *he shall give money* to the owner of them, *and the dead beast shall be his*; {s}

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

2a) 21:36 Or if it is known that the ox was wont to gore in time past, and its owner had not kept it in; *he shall surely pay* ox for ox, *and the dead beast shall be his own*; {s}

2c.1) 22:1-4 When a property owner is liable for the death of the thief; {s}

1a) 22:1a If a man steals an ox, or a sheep;

1b) 22:1b And kills it, or sells it, *he shall pay* five oxen for an ox, and four sheep for a sheep;

1c) 22:2 If a thief is found breaking in, and is struck so that he dies, *there shall be no bloodguilt for him*;

2c) 22:3a If the sun has risen on him, *there shall be bloodguilt for him*;

2b) 22:3b And *he* [i.e., the thief] *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 donkey, or sheep, he shall pay double; {s}

2c.2) 22:5-15 Restitution for loss of property; {sx3+p+sx3}

2a) 22:5-6 If a man cause a field or vineyard to be eaten, and shall 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} **6** If fire break out, and catch in thorns, so that the shocks of corn, or the standing corn, or the field are consumed; he that kindled the fire *shall surely make restitution*; {s}

1b) 22:7-8 If a man deliver to his neighbor money or goods to keep, and it is stolen out of the man's house; if the thief is found, he shall pay double. **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 to his neighbor's goods*;

central axis) 22:9 For every matter of trespass, whether it be for ox, for donkey, for sheep, for raiment, or for any manner of lost thing, of which one says: 'This is it,' the cause of both parties shall come before God; *he whom God shall condemn shall pay double to his neighbor*; {s} [i.e., When both parties affirm something to be so, and their affirmations do not match];

2b) 22:10-11 If a man deliver to his neighbor a donkey, or an ox, or a sheep, or any beast, to keep, and it dies, or is hurt, or driven away, no man seeing

it; **11** the oath of YHVH shall be between them both, to see *whether or not he has put his hand to his neighbor's goods*; and its owner shall accept it, and he shall not make restitution;

2a) 22:12-15 But if it is stolen from him, *he shall make restitution* to its owner. **13** If it is torn in pieces, let him bring it for a witness; he shall not make good that which was torn. {p} **14** And if a man borrows anything from his neighbor, and it is hurt, or dies, the owner of it not being with it, *he shall surely make restitution*. **15** If the owner of it is with it, he shall not make it good; if it was hired, it came with its hire; {s}

2b) 22:16-17 **Restitution when a virgin is seduced** [*i.e., It is an assault on her innocence*]; {s}

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}

2a) 22:18-20 You shall not permit a sorceress to live. **19** Whoever lies with a beast shall surely be put to death. {s} **20** He who sacrifices to the gods, save to YHVH only, shall be utterly destroyed; [*i.e., The death penalty when there can be no restitution*];

1C.1) 22:21 And a **STRANGER YOU SHALL NOT WRONG**, neither shall you oppress him; for you were strangers in the land of Egypt;

1C.2) 22:22-27 You shall not afflict **WIDOWS**, the **FATHERLESS**, or the **POOR**; {p+s}

1a) 22:22 **You shall not afflict any widow**, or **fatherless child**;

1b) 22:23 If you afflict them in any way—for **if they cry at all to Me, I will surely hear their cry**—

1c) 22:24 My wrath shall wax hot, and I will kill you with the sword; and your wives shall be widows, and your children fatherless [*i.e., YHVH Himself becomes the covering for widows and the fatherless*]; {p}

central axis) 22:25 **If you lend money to any of My people, even to the poor with you, you shall not be to him as a creditor; neither shall you lay interest on him**;

2c) 22:26-27a If you at all take your neighbor's garment in pledge, you shall restore it to him by the going down of the sun; **27** for **that is his only covering**, it is his garment for his skin; within what shall he sleep?

2b) 22:27b And it shall come to pass, **when he cries to Me, that I will hear**;

2a) 22:27c For I am gracious; {s} [*i.e., The command to not afflict reflects YHVH's graciousness*];

1C.3) 22:28 **YOU SHALL NOT REVILE GOD**, nor curse a ruler of your people;

1C.4) 22:29-30 You shall not delay to offer of the fullness of your harvest, and of the outflow of your presses. The firstborn of your sons you shall give to Me. **30** Likewise you shall do with your oxen, and with your sheep; seven days it shall be with its

mother; on the eighth day you shall give it to Me; [*i.e.*, **THE FIRSTBORN BELONGS TO GOD**];

1C.5) 22:31 And **YOU SHALL BE HOLY MEN TO ME**; therefore you shall not eat any flesh that is torn by beasts in the field; you shall cast it to the dogs; {s}

ID) 23:1-2 You shall not utter a **FALSE REPORT**; nor put your hand with the **WICKED** to be an unrighteous witness. **2** You shall not follow a multitude to do evil; neither shall you bear witness in a cause to **TURN ASIDE** after a multitude to **PERVERT JUSTICE**;

IE) 23:3 Neither shall you favor a **POOR** man **IN HIS CAUSE**; {s}

CENTRAL AXIS) 23:4-5 **IF YOU MEET YOUR ENEMY'S OX OR HIS DONKEY GOING ASTRAY, YOU SHALL SURELY BRING IT BACK TO HIM AGAIN.** {s} **5** **IF YOU SEE THE DONKEY OF ONE WHO HATES YOU LYING UNDER ITS BURDEN, AND YOU WOULD REFRAIN FROM HELPING IT, YOU SHALL SURELY HELP HIM WITH IT;** {s}

2E) 23:6 You shall not subvert the judgment of your **POOR IN HIS CAUSE**;

2D) 23:7-8 Keep a **FALSE MATTER** far from you; and the innocent and righteous do not slay; for I will not justify the **WICKED**. **8** And you shall take no bribe; for **A BRIBE BLINDS** those who have sight, and **PERVERTS THE WORDS** of the righteous;

2C.1) 23:9 And **A STRANGER YOU SHALL NOT OPPRESS**; for you know the heart of a stranger, seeing you were strangers in the land of Egypt;

2C.2) 23:10-12 The Sabbatical year provides for the **POOR** and **DISADVANTAGED**;

1a) 23:10 And **six years you shall sow your land**, and gather in its increase;

1b) 23:11a **But the seventh year you shall let it rest** and lie fallow;

central axis) 23:11b **That the poor of your people may eat; and what they leave the beast of the field shall eat;**

2b) 23:11c **In like manner** you shall deal with your **vineyard**, and with your **oliveyard**;

2a) 23:12 **Six days you shall do your work**, but on the seventh day you shall rest; that your ox and your donkey may have rest, and the son of your handmaid, and the stranger, may be refreshed;

2C.3) 23:13 And in all things that I have said to you take heed; and make no mention of the name of other gods, neither let it be heard out of your mouth; [*i.e.*, **YOU SHALL NOT BLESS OTHER GODS**];

2C.4) 23:14-19A **THE FIRSTFRUITS BELONG TO GOD**;

1a.1) 23:14 **Three times** you shall keep a feast to Me **in the year**;

1a.2) 23:15 The Feast of Unleavened Bread you shall keep; seven days you shall eat **unleavened bread**, as I commanded you, at the time appointed in the month of

Abib—for in it you came out from Egypt; and none shall appear before Me empty;

1a.3) 23:16a And the feast of harvest, the **firstfruits of your labors**, which you sow in the field [*i.e., Shavuot, the Feast of Weeks*];

central axis) 23:16b And the Feast of Ingathering, at the end of the year, when you gather in your labors out of the field; [*i.e., Sukkot, the Feast of Tabernacles*];

2a.1) 23:17 Three times in the year all your males shall appear before YHVH;

2a.2) 23:18 You shall not offer the blood of My sacrifice with **leavened bread**; neither shall the fat of My feast remain all night until the morning;

2a.3) 23:19a The choicest **firstfruits of your land** you shall bring into the house of YHVH your God;

2C.5) 23:19B You shall not boil a kid in its mother's milk; [*i.e., YOU SHALL NOT PARTICIPATE IN IDOLATROUS PRACTICES*]; {p}

2B) 23:20-33 Israel shall not **RECEIVE RESTITUTION OR MAKE COVENANT** with Canaanites, but shall utterly drive them out; {s+p}

1a.1) 23:20-23 I will send My angel before you;

1a) 23:20 Behold, *I send an angel before you*, to keep you in the way, and **to bring you into** the place which I have prepared;

1b) 23:21a Take heed of him, and **pay heed to his voice**; do not be rebellious against him;

central axis) 23:21b *For he will not pardon your transgression; for My name is in him*;

2b) 23:22 But if you shall indeed **pay heed to his voice**, and do all that I speak; then I will be an enemy to your enemies, and an adversary to your adversaries;

2a) 23:23 For **My angel shall go before you**, and **bring you in to** the Amorite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, and the Canaanite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite; and I will cut them off;

1a.2) 23:24-25a You shall **not bow down to their gods nor serve them**;

1a) 23:24a You shall **not bow down to their gods, nor serve them**;

1b) 23:24b Nor do after **their doings**;

central axis) 23:24c *But you shall utterly overthrow them*;

2b) 23:24d And break in pieces **their pillars**;

2a) 23:25a And you shall **serve YHVH your God**;

1b) 23:25b And He will bless your bread, and your water; and I will **take sickness away** from your midst; {s}

2b) 23:26 **None shall miscarry, nor be barren** in your land; the number of your days I will fulfill;

2a.1) 23:27-31 I will send My terror and **the hornet before you**;

1a) 23:27a *I will send My terror before you*, and will discomfit all the people to whom you shall come;

central axis) 23:27b And I will make all your enemies turn their backs to you;

2a) 23:28-31 I will send the hornet before you;

1A) 23:28A And I WILL SEND THE HORNET BEFORE YOU;

1B) 23:28B WHICH SHALL DRIVE OUT;

1C) 23:28C The HIVITE, the CANAANITE, and the HITTITE, from before you;

1D) 23:29-30B LEST THE LAND BECOME DESOLATE;

1a) 23:29a I will not drive them out from before you;

1b) 23:29b In one year;

central axis) 23:29c Lest the land become desolate, and the beasts of the field multiply against you;

2b) 23:30a By little and little;

2a) 23:30b I will drive them out from before you;

2D) 23:30C-31A Until YOU ARE INCREASED AND INHERIT THE LAND. 31 And I will set your border from the Red Sea even to the sea of the Philistines, and from the wilderness to the River;

2C) 23:31B For I will deliver THE INHABITANTS OF THE LAND into your hand;

2B) 23:31C And YOU SHALL DRIVE THEM OUT;

2A) 23:31D BEFORE YOU;

2a.2) 23:32-33 You shall make no covenant with them, nor with their gods; {p}

1a) 23:32 You shall make no covenant with them, nor with their gods;

central axis) 23:33a They shall not dwell in your land—lest they make you sin against Me;

2a) 23:33b For you will serve their gods—for they will be a snare to you; {p}

2A) 24:1-18 ISRAEL MADE A COVENANT WITH YHVH to walk in His ways; [*i.e., The children of Israel were Hebrew slaves who went out of Egypt free; as a result entered into covenant with YHVH at Mt. Sinai. They became His bondmen for righteousness' sake.*] {s+p}

1a) 24:1-9 **Moses went up** with Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and the seventy elders of Israel;

1a) 24:1-2 And to Moses He said: '**Come up to YHVH**, you, and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel; and worship afar off; 2 and Moses alone shall come near to YHVH; but they shall not come near; neither shall the people go up with him;'

1b) 24:3a And Moses came and told the people **all the words of YHVH**, and all the ordinances;

1c) 24:3b-4a And all the people answered with one voice, and said: '**All the words which YHVH has spoken will we do.**' 4 And **Moses wrote all the words of YHVH**;

central axis) 24:4b-5 And rose up early in the morning, and built an altar under the mount, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. 5 And he sent the young men of the children of Israel, who offered burnt offerings, and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to YHVH;

2c) 24:6-8b *Moses read all the words of YHVH*; and the people said: ‘*All that YHVH has spoken we will do*;

1A.1) 24:6 And **MOSES TOOK HALF OF THE BLOOD**, and put it in basins; and half of the blood he dashed against the altar;

1A.2) 24:7A And he took the **BOOK OF THE COVENANT**;

CENTRAL AXIS) 24:7B **AND READ IN THE HEARING OF THE PEOPLE; AND THEY SAID:**

‘**ALL THAT YHVH HAS SPOKEN WILL WE DO, AND OBEY;**’

2A.1) 24:8A And **MOSES TOOK THE BLOOD**, and sprinkled it on the people, and said;

2A.2) 24:8B ‘Behold the **BLOOD OF THE COVENANT**, which YHVH has made with you;

2b) 24:8c In agreement with *all these words*;

2a) 24:9 Then *Moses went up*, and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel;

1b) 24:10a And *they saw the God of Israel*;

central axis) 24:10b And there was under His feet the likeness of a paved work of sapphire stone, and the likeness of the very heaven for clearness;

2b) 24:11 And on the nobles of the children of Israel He did not lay His hand; and *they beheld God*, and ate and drank; {s}

2a) 24:12-18 *Moses went up* with Joshua;

1a) 24:12-15a Moses called to *come up into the mount* to God;

1A) 24:12-13 **COME UP TO ME INTO THE MOUNT / MOSES WENT UP;**

1a) 24:12a And YHVH said to Moses: ‘**Come up to Me into the mount** and be there;

central axis) 24:12b And I will give you the tables of stone, and the law and the commandment, which I have written, that you may teach them;’

2a) 24:13 And Moses rose up, and Joshua his minister; and **Moses went up into the mount** of God;

CENTRAL AXIS) 24:14 **AND TO THE ELDERS HE SAID: ‘WAIT HERE FOR US, UNTIL WE COME BACK TO YOU; AND, BEHOLD, AARON AND HUR ARE WITH YOU; WHOEVER HAS A CAUSE, LET HIM COME NEAR TO THEM;’**

2A) 24:15A And **MOSES WENT UP INTO THE MOUNT;**

1b) 24:15b And *the cloud* covered the mount;

1c) 24:16a And the *glory of YHVH* abode on Mount Sinai;

central axis) 24:16b *And the cloud covered it six days, and the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud;*

2c) 24:17 And the appearance of the *glory of YHVH* was like devouring fire on the top of the mount in the eyes of the children of Israel;

2b) 24:18a And Moses entered into the midst of *the cloud*;

2a) 24:18b And *went up into the mount*; and Moses was in the mount forty days and forty nights. {p}