# SCRIPTURE REVEALED SERIES **EXODUS** The JPS text modernized with its divisions marked

# **EXODUS**

The JPS text modernized with its divisions marked

#### Books by Christine Miller

#### SCRIPTURE REVEALED SERIES

Finding Messiah in Torah
The Law of Love
From Sunday to Sabbath
The Revelation of Jesus Christ Revealed
Chiastic Structure Series
Bible for Beginners Series

#### ELEMENTARY HISTORY

The Story of the Ancient World
The Story of the Pharaohs
The Story of the Greeks
The Story of the Romans
The Story of the Middle Ages
The Story of the Renaissance and Reformation
The Story of the Thirteen Colonies
The Story of the Great Republic

#### SECONDARY HISTORY

Ancient History: Creation to the Babylonian Captivity

#### HISTORY HELPS

All Through the Ages Living Books History Guide Living Books History State by State Nothing New Press History Timelines

Christine blogs daily at alittleperspective.com

# **EXODUS**

The JPS text modernized with its divisions marked

Christine Miller



**Exodus Text by Christine Miller** 

© 2022 by Christine Marie Miller

Nothing New Press 935 North Beneva Road Suite 609 Number 21 Sarasota, Florida 34232-1334

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. This eBook is protected under United States and International copyright law. No portion of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means —electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, scanning, or other—except for brief quotations in critical reviews or articles, without the prior written permission of the publisher.

The Scripture text is from the 1917 Jewish Publication Society's translation of the Hebrew Bible into English, with verbs, archaic words, and grammar modernized by the author. The Jewish Publication Society translation (JPS) is a Public Domain translation of the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) first taken up in 1892, and, through the joint work of eminent Jewish scholars in the United States and Great Britain, and the Central Conference of American Rabbis, was finalized and published in 1917.

The names of God in English translation:

"God" is used where the Hebrew text has *Elohiym* Hebrew characters;

"God *El*" is used where the Hebrew text has *El* Hebrew characters;

"YHVH" is used where the Hebrew text has the Tetragrammaton הוה:

"Yah" is used where the Hebrew text has Yah Hebrew characters;

"Lord" is used where the Hebrew text has *Adonai* Hebrew characters.

The paragraph divisions {p} and {s} are from the Hebrew Bible.

All topic summaries and themes are from the author's personal Bible study notes.

First Edition: 2022

That which has been is that which will be, And that which has been done is that which will be done. And, there is nothing new under the sun.

Ecclesiastes 1:9

# **EXODUS**

# The JPS text modernized with its divisions marked

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 TEACHING TOOLS

#### **CHAPTER ONE**

1:1-6:1 Annual Shemot "Names" Deliverer for Israel prepared and sent

1:1-2:25 Triennial Shemot God prepares deliverance for Israel

1:1-2:22 Strong Theme: Israel's increase, enemy's opposition, deliverer born {px3}

1:1-7 Paragraph: The increase of the children of Israel {p}

1:1 Now these are the names of the sons of Israel, who came into Egypt with Jacob; every man came with his household; 2 Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah; 3 Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin; 4 Dan and Naphtali, Gad and Asher. 5 And all the souls that came out of the loins of Jacob were seventy souls; and Joseph was in Egypt already. 6 And Joseph died, and all his brothers, and all that generation. 7 And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceedingly mighty; and the land was filled with them. {p}

#### 1:8-22 Pharaoh tries to stop their increase {p}

1:8 Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. 9 And he said to his people: 'Behold, the people of the children of Israel are too many and too mighty for us; 10 come, let us deal wisely with them, lest they multiply, and it come to pass, that, when there befalls us any war, they also join themselves to our enemies, and fight against us, and go up out of the land.' 11 Therefore they set over them taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens. and they built for Pharaoh store cities, Pithom and Raamses. 12 But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and the more they spread abroad. And they were in dread because of the children of Israel. 13 And the Egyptians made the children of Israel to serve with rigor. 14 And they made their lives bitter with hard service, in mortar and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field; in all their service, they made them serve with rigor. 15 And the king of egypt spoke to the Hebrew midwives, of whom the name of the one was Shiphrah, and the name of the other Puah; 16 and he said: 'When you do the office of a midwife to the Hebrew women, you shall look on the birthstool. if it be a son, then you shall kill him; but if it be a daughter, then she shall live.' 17 But the midwives feared God, and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the male children alive. 18 And the king of Egypt called for the midwives, and said to them: 'Why have you done this thing, and have saved the male children alive?' 19 And the midwives said to Pharaoh: 'Because the Hebrew women are not as the Egyptian women; for they are lively, and are delivered before the

midwife comes to them.' 20 And God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied, and waxed very mighty. 21 And it came to pass, because the midwives feared God, that He gave households to them. 22 And Pharaoh charged all his people, saying: 'Every son that is born you shall cast into the river, and every daughter you shall save alive.' {p}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER TWO**

#### 2:1-22 Moses, born to be Israel's deliverer {p}

2:1 And there went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi. 2 And the woman conceived, and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a beautiful child, she hid him three months. 3 And when she could no longer hide him, she made for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with bitumen and with pitch; and she put the child in it, and laid it in the reeds by the river's bank. 4 And his sister stood afar off, to know what would be done to him. 5 And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe in the river; and her maidens walked along by the riverside; and she saw the ark among the reeds, and sent her handmaid to fetch it. 6 And she opened it, and saw it, even the child; and behold, the baby wept; and she had compassion on him, and said: 'This is one of the Hebrews' children.' 7 Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter: 'Shall I go and call a wet nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for you?' 8 And Pharaoh's daughter said to her: 'Go.' And the maiden went and called the child's mother. 9 And Pharaoh's daughter said to her: 'Take this child away, and nurse him for me, and I will give you your wages.' And the woman took the child, and nursed him. 10 And the child grew, and she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. And she called his name Moses, and said: 'Because I drew him out of the water.' 11 And it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown up, that he went out to his people, and looked on their burdens; and he saw an Egyptian striking a Hebrew, one of his people. 12 And he looked this way and that way, and when he saw that there was no man, he killed the Egyptian, and hid him in the sand. 13 And he went out the second day; behold, two men of the Hebrews were fighting together; and he said to him that did the wrong: 'Why do you strike your companion?' 14 And he said: 'Who made you a ruler and a judge over us? Do you think to kill me, as you killed the Egyptian?' And Moses feared, and said: 'Surely the thing is known.' 15 Now when Pharaoh heard this thing, he sought to slay Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh, and dwelt in the land of Midian; and he sat down by a well. 16 Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters; and they came and drew water, and filled the troughs to water their father's flock. 17 And the shepherds came and drove them away; but Moses stood up and helped them, and watered their flock. 18 And when they came to Reuel their father, he said: 'How is it that you are come so soon today?' 19 And they said: 'An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds, and moreover he drew water for us, and watered the flock.' 20 And he said to his daughters: 'And where is he? Why is it that you have left the man? Call him, that he may eat bread.' 21 And Moses was content to dwell with the man; and he gave to Moses Zipporah his daughter. 22 And she bore a son, and he called his name Gershom; for he said: 'I have been a stranger in a strange land.' {p}

2:23-4:26 God calls Moses to return to Egypt {s+p+p} 2:23-25 God acknowledged the children of Israel {s}

2:23 And it came to pass in the course of those many days that the king of Egypt died; and the children of Israel sighed by reason of their bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up to God by reason of their bondage. 24 And God heard their groaning, and God remembered His

covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. **25** And God saw the children of Israel, and God acknowledged them. {s}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER THREE**

# 3:1-4:17 Triennial *Umoshe* "Now Moses" Call of Moses: words and signs of YHVH 3:1-4:17 Call of Moses: words and signs of YHVH {p}

3:1 Now Moses was keeping the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian; and he led the flock to the farthest end of the wilderness, and came to the mountain of God, to Horeb. 2 And the angel of YHVH appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush; and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. 3 And Moses said: 'I will turn aside now, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.' 4 And when YHVH saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the midst of the bush, and said: 'Moses, Moses.' And he said: 'Here I am.' 5 And He said: 'Do not draw near to this place; put off your shoes from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.' 6 Moreover He said: 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look on God. 7 And YHVH said: 'I have surely seen the affliction of My people that are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters; for I know their pains; 8 and I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good land and a large, to a land flowing with milk and honey; to the place of the Canaanite, and the Hittite, and the Amorite, and the Perizzite, and the Hivite, and the Jebusite. 9 And now, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me; moreover I have seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. 10 Come now therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh, that you may bring forth My people the children of Israel out of Egypt.' 11 And Moses said to God: 'Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?' 12 And He said: 'Certainly I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you; when you have brought forth the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.' 13 And Moses said to God: 'Behold, when I come to the children of Israel, and shall say to them: "The God of your fathers has sent me to you;" and they shall say to me: "What is His name?" What shall I say to them?' 14 And God said to Moses: 'I AM THAT I AM;' And He said: 'Thus shall you say to the children of Israel: "I AM has sent me to you." 15 And moreover, God said to Moses: 'Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: "YHVH, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you;" this is My name for ever, and this is My memorial to all generations. 16 Go, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say to them: "YHVH, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, has appeared to me, saying: 'I have surely remembered you, and seen that which is done to you in Egypt. 17 And I have said, that I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanite, and the Hittite, and the Amorite, and the Perizzite, and the Hivite, and the Jebusite, to a land flowing with milk and honey." 18 And they shall pay heed to your voice. And you shall come, you and the elders of Israel, to the king of Egypt, and you shall say to him: "YHVH, the God of the Hebrews, has met with us. And now let us go, we pray you, three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to YHVH our God." 19 And I know that the king of Egypt will not give you leave to go, except by a mighty hand. 20 And I will put forth My hand, and strike Egypt with all My wonders which I will do in its midst. And after that he will let you go. 21 And I will give this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians. And it shall come to pass, that, when you go, you shall not go

empty; **22** but every woman shall ask of her neighbor, and of her that sojourns in her house, jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment; and you shall put them on your sons, and on your daughters; and you shall spoil the Egyptians.'

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER FOUR**

4:1 And Moses answered and said: 'But, behold, they will not believe me, nor pay heed to my voice; for they will say: "YHVH has not appeared to you." 2 And YHVH said to him: 'What is that in your hand?' And he said: 'A rod.' 3 And He said: 'Cast it on the ground.' And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from before it. 4 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Put forth your hand, and take it by the tail.' And he put forth his hand, and laid hold of it, and it became a rod in his hand, 5 'That they may believe that YHVH, the God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you.' 6 And furthermore, YHVH said to him: 'Put now your hand into your bosom.' And he put his hand into his bosom; and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous, as white as snow. 7 And He said: 'Put your hand back into your bosom.' And he put his hand back into his bosom; and when he took it out of his bosom, behold, it was turned again as his other flesh. 8 'And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe you, nor pay heed to the voice of the first sign, that they will believe the voice of the latter sign. 9 And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe even these two signs, nor pay heed to your voice, that you shall take of the water of the river, and pour it on the dry land; and the water which you take out of the river shall become blood on the dry land.' 10 And Moses said to YHVH: 'O Lord, I am not a man of words, neither before, nor since You have spoken to Your servant; for I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue.' 11 And YHVH said to him: 'Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes a man dumb, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, YHVH? 12 Now therefore go, and I will be with your mouth, and teach you what you shall speak.' 13 And he said: 'O Lord, send, I pray You, by the hand of someone else whom You will send. 14 And the anger of YHVH was kindled against Moses; and He said: 'Is not Aaron the Levite your brother? I know that he can speak well. And also, behold, he is coming forth to meet you; and when he sees you, he will be glad in his heart. 15 And you shall speak to him, and put the words in his mouth; and I will be with your mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach you what you shall do. 16 And he shall be your spokesman to the people; and it shall come to pass, that he shall be to you a mouth, and you shall be to him in God's stead. 17 And you shall take in your hand this rod, with which you shall do the signs.' {p}

# 4:18-6:1 Triennial Vayeled Moshe "Then Moses departed" Opposition to Moses' mission 4:18-26 Return to Egypt with authority in obedience {p}

4:18 And Moses went and returned to Jethro his father-in-law, and said to him: 'Let me go, I pray you, and return to my brothers that are in Egypt, and see whether they are yet alive.' And Jethro said to Moses: 'Go in peace.' 19 And YHVH said to Moses in Midian: 'Go, return to Egypt; for all the men are dead that sought your life.' 20 And Moses took his wife and his sons, and set them on a donkey, and he returned to the land of Egypt; and Moses took the rod of God in his hand. 21 And YHVH said to Moses: 'When you go back into Egypt, see that you do before Pharaoh all the wonders which I have put in your hand; but I will harden his heart, and he will not let the people go. 22 And you shall say to Pharaoh: "Thus says YHVH: 'Israel is My son, My firstborn. 23 And I have said to you: "Let My son go, that he may serve Me;" and you have refused to let him go. Behold, I will slay your son, your firstborn."" 24 And it came to pass on the way at the lodging-place, that YHVH met him, and sought to kill him. 25 Then

Zipporah took a flint, and cut off the foreskin of her son, and cast it at his feet; and she said: 'Surely you are a bridegroom of blood to me.' **26** So he let him alone. Then she said, 'a bridegroom of blood,' in regard to the circumcision. {p}

4:27-6:9 Pharaoh does not know YHVH, plagues Israel / YHVH to reveal who He is {s+p}

#### 4:27-6:1 Pharaoh's response to Moses and the children of Israel {s}

4:27 And YHVH said to Aaron: 'Go into the wilderness to meet Moses.' And he went, and met him in the mountain of God, and kissed him. 28 And Moses told Aaron all the words of YHVH with which He had sent him, and all the signs with which He had charged him. 29 And Moses and Aaron went and gathered together all the elders of the children of Israel. 30 And Aaron spoke all the words which YHVH had spoken to Moses, and did the signs in the sight of the people. 31 And the people believed; and when they heard that YHVH had remembered the children of Israel, and that He had seen their affliction, then they bowed their heads and worshiped.

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER FIVE**

5:1 And afterward Moses and Aaron came, and said to Pharaoh: 'Thus says YHVH, the God of Israel: "Let My people go, that they may hold a feast to Me in the wilderness." 2 And Pharaoh said: 'Who is YHVH, that I should pay heed to His voice to let Israel go? I do not know YHVH, and moreover I will not let Israel go.' 3 And they said: 'The God of the Hebrews has met with us. Let us go, we pray you, three days' journey into the wilderness, and sacrifice to YHVH our God; lest He fall upon us with pestilence, or with the sword.' 4 And the king of Egypt said to them: 'Why do you, Moses and Aaron, cause the people to break loose from their work? Get to your burdens.' 5 And Pharaoh said: 'Behold, the people of the land are now many, and will you make them rest from their burdens?' 6 And the same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters of the people, and their officers, saying: 7 'You shall no more give the people straw to make brick, as before. Let them go and gather straw for themselves. 8 And the quota of the bricks, which they made before, you shall lay on them; you shall not diminish it at all; for they are idle; therefore they cry, saying: "Let us go and sacrifice to our God." 9 Let heavier work be laid on the men, that they may labor in it; and let them not regard lying words.' 10 And the taskmasters of the people went out, and their officers, and they spoke to the people, saying: 'Thus says Pharaoh: "I will not give you straw. 11 Go yourselves, get straw where you can find it; for none of your work shall be diminished." 12 So the people were scattered abroad throughout all the land of Egypt to gather stubble for straw. 13 And the taskmasters were urgent, saying: 'Fulfil your work, your daily task, as when there was straw.' 14 And the officers of the children of Israel, whom Pharaoh's taskmasters had set over them, were beaten, saying: 'Why have you not fulfilled your appointed task in making brick both yesterday and today as before?' 15 Then the officers of the children of Israel came and cried to Pharaoh, saying: 'Why do you deal thus with your servants? 16 There is no straw given to your servants, and they say to us: "Make brick;" and, behold, your servants are beaten, but the fault is in your own people.' 17 But he said: 'You are idle, you are idle; therefore you say: "Let us go and sacrifice to YHVH." 18 Go therefore now, and work; for no straw shall be given to you, yet you shall deliver the quota of bricks.' 19 And the officers of the children of Israel saw that they were set on mischief, when they said: 'You shall not diminish at all from your bricks, your daily task.' 20 And they met Moses and Aaron, who stood in the way, as they came forth from Pharaoh; 21 and they said to them: 'YHVH look on you, and judge; because you have made us abhorrent in the

eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of his servants, to put a sword in their hand to slay us.' 22 And Moses returned to YHVH, and said: 'Lord, why have You dealt ill with this people? Why is it that You have sent me? 23 For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in Your name, he has dealt ill with this people; neither have You delivered Your people at all.'

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER SIX**

6:1 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Now you shall see what I will do to Pharaoh; for by a strong hand he shall let them go, and by a strong hand he shall drive them out of his land.' {s}

6:2-9:35 Annual Va'era "And I appeared" God reveals what "I am YHVH" means through the plagues on Egypt

6:2-7:7 Triennial Va'era Moses and Aaron commanded to speak to Israel and to Pharaoh

#### 6:2-9 YHVH to reveal the meaning of His name by redeeming Israel {p}

6:2 And God spoke to Moses, and said to him; 'I am YHVH; 3 and I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God Almighty *El Shaddai*, but by My name YHVH I was not known to them. 4 And I have also established My covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land of their sojournings, where they sojourned. 5 And moreover I have heard the groaning of the children of Israel, whom the Egyptians keep in bondage; and I have remembered My covenant. 6 Therefore say to the children of Israel: "I am YHVH, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from their bondage, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm, and with great judgments; 7 and I will take you to Me for My people, and I will be to you your God and you shall know that I am YHVH your God, who brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. 8 And I will bring you into the land, concerning which I lifted up My hand to give it to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob; and I will give it you for a heritage; I am YHVH." 9 And Moses spoke thus to the children of Israel; but they did not heed him, because of impatience of spirit, and their cruel bondage. {p}

6:10-30 YHVH charged Moses to speak to Pharaoh / Moses' question, YHVH's answer {p+s+s+p}

#### 6:10-12 Speak to Pharaoh / How shall he heed me? [Moses' question] {p}

**6:10** And YHVH spoke to Moses, saying: **11** 'Go in, speak to Pharaoh king of Egypt, that he let the children of Israel go out of his land.' **12** And Moses spoke before YHVH, saying: 'Behold, the children of Israel have not listened to me; how then shall Pharaoh hear me; who am of uncircumcised lips?' {p}

#### 6:13 YHVH commanded Israel and Pharaoh, through Moses and Aaron {s}

**6:13** And YHVH spoke to Moses and to Aaron, and gave them a charge to the children of Israel, and to Pharaoh king of Egypt, to bring the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt. {s}

#### 6:14-28 Moses and Aaron, the seed of Levi {s}

6:14 These are the heads of their fathers' houses: the sons of Reuben the first-born of Israel: Hanoch, and Pallu, Hezron, and Carmi. These are the families of Reuben. 15 And the sons of Simeon: Jemuel, and Jamin, and Ohad, and Jachin, and Zohar, and Shaul the son of a Canaanitish woman. These are the families of Simeon. 16 And these are the names of the sons of Levi according to their generations; Gershon and Kohath, and Merari. And the years of the life of Levi were a hundred thirty-seven years. 17 The sons of Gershon: Libni and Shimei, according to their families. 18 And the sons of Kohath: Amram, and Izhar, and Hebron, and Uzziel. And the years of the life of Kohath were a hundred thirty-three years. 19 And the sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi. These are the families of the Levites according to their generations. 20 And

Amram took Jochebed, his father's sister, to wife; and she bore him Aaron and Moses. And the years of the life of Amram were a hundred and thirty-seven years. 21 And the sons of Izhar: Korah, and Nepheg, and Zichri. 22 And the sons of Uzziel: Mishael, and Elzaphan, and Sithri. 23 And Aaron took Elisheba, the daughter of Amminadab, the sister of Nahshon, to wife; and she bore him Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar. 24 And the sons of Korah: Assir, and Elkanah, and Abiasaph; these are the families of the Korahites. 25 And Eleazar Aaron's son took one of the daughters of Putiel to wife; and she bore him Phinehas. These are the heads of the fathers' houses of the Levites according to their families. 26 These are that Aaron and Moses, to whom YHVH said; 'Bring out the children of Israel from the land of Egypt according to their hosts.' 27 These are they that spoke to Pharaoh king of Egypt; to bring out the children of Israel from Egypt. These are that Moses and Aaron. 28 And it came to pass on the day when YHVH spoke to Moses in the land of Egypt, {s}

#### **6:29-30** I am YHVH [YHVH's answer] {p}

6:29 that YHVH spoke to Moses, saying: 'I am YHVH; speak to Pharaoh king of Egypt all that I speak to you.' 30 And Moses said before YHVH: 'Behold, I am of uncircumcised lips, and how shall Pharaoh hear me?' {p}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER SEVEN**

#### 7:1-7 Moses to tell the word of YHVH to Pharaoh but he will not heed {p}

7:1 And YHVH said to Moses: 'See, I have set you in God's stead to Pharaoh; and Aaron your brother shall be your prophet. 2 You shall speak all that I command you; and Aaron your brother shall speak to Pharaoh, that he let the children of Israel go out of his land. 3 And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and multiply My signs and My wonders in the land of Egypt. 4 But Pharaoh will not hear you; and I will lay My hand on Egypt, and bring forth My hosts, My people the children of Israel, out of the land of Egypt, by great judgments. 5 And the Egyptians shall know that I am YHVH; When I stretch forth My hand on Egypt, and bring out the children of Israel from among them.' 6 And Moses and Aaron did so; as YHVH commanded them, so they did. 7 And Moses was eighty years old, and Aaron eighty-three years old, when they spoke to Pharaoh. {p}

7:8-8:19 Triennial Ki Y'daber "When YHVH speaks" YHVH increases His glory before Pharaoh, since the magicians could not do also

7:8-25 YHVH begins to reveal who He is [Rod / River becomes blood] {s+s+p}

#### 7:8-13 Aaron's rod becomes a serpent / magicians' did also {s}

7:8 And YHVH spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying; 9 'When Pharaoh shall speak to you, saying: "Show a wonder for yourselves." Then you shall say to Aaron: "Take your rod, and cast it down before Pharaoh, that it may become a serpent." 10 And Moses and Aaron went in to Pharaoh, and they did so, as YHVH had commanded; and Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh and before his servants, and it became a serpent. 11 Then Pharaoh also called for the wise men and the sorcerers; and they also, the magicians of Egypt, did in like manner with their secret arts. 12 For they cast down every man his rod, and they became serpents; but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods. 13 And Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he did not pay heed to them; as YHVH had spoken. {s}

#### 7:14-18 Warning: The river will become blood {s}

7:14 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Pharaoh's heart is stubborn, he refuses to let the people go. 15 Go to Pharaoh in the morning; lo, he goes out to the water; and you shall stand by the riv-

er's bank to meet him; and the rod which was turned to a serpent you shall take in your hand. **16** And you shall say to him: "YHVH, the God of the Hebrews, has sent me to you, saying; 'Let My people go, that they may serve Me in the wilderness;' and, behold, until now you have not paid heed; **17** thus says YHVH: 'In this you shall know that I am YHVH'—behold, with the rod that is in my hand I will strike the waters which are in the river, and they shall be turned to blood. **18** And the fish that are in the river shall die, and the river shall become foul; and the Egyptians shall be loathe to drink water from the river."' {s}

#### 7:19-25 The river becomes blood / the magicians did also {p}

7:19 And YHVH said to Moses: Say to Aaron: 'Take your rod, and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt, over their rivers, over their streams, and over their pools, and over all their ponds of water; that they may become blood; and there shall be blood throughout all the land of Egypt, both in vessels of wood and in vessels of stone.' 20 And Moses and Aaron did so, as YHVH commanded; and he lifted up the rod, and struck the waters that were in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh, and in the sight of his servants; and all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood. 21 And the fish that were in the river died; and the river became foul, and the Egyptians could not drink water from the river; and the blood was throughout all the land of Egypt. 22 And the magicians of Egypt did in like manner with their secret arts; and Pharaoh's heart was hardened; and he did not pay heed to them; as YHVH had spoken. 23 And Pharaoh turned and went into his house, neither did he lay even this to heart. 24 And all the Egyptians dug round about the river for water to drink; for they could not drink of the water of the river. 25 And seven days were fulfilled, after YHVH had struck the river. {p}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER EIGHT**

#### 8:1-32 YHVH shows Himself great [Frogs + Lice + Flies] {s+s+p} 8:1-15 The plague of frogs / The magicians did also {s}

8:1 And YHVH spoke to Moses: 'Go in to Pharaoh, and say to him: "Thus says YHVH: 'Let My people go, that they may serve Me. 2 And if you refuse to let them go, behold, I will strike all your borders with frogs. 3 And the river shall swarm with frogs, which shall go up and come into your house, and into your bedchamber, and on your bed, and into the house of your servants, and on your people, and into your ovens, and into your kneading bowls. 4 And the frogs shall come up both on you, and on your people, and on all your servants."" 5 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Say to Aaron: "Stretch forth your hand with your rod over the rivers, over the canals, and over the pools, and cause frogs to come up on the land of Egypt." 6 And Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt; and the frogs came up, and covered the land of Egypt. 7 And the magicians did in like manner with their secret arts, and brought up frogs on the land of Egypt. 8 Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron, and said: 'Entreat YHVH, that He take away the frogs from me, and from my people; and I will let the people go, that they may sacrifice to YHVH.' 9 And Moses said to Pharaoh: 'Have this glory over me; what time shall I entreat for you, and for your servants, and for your people, that the frogs be destroyed from you and your houses, and remain in the river only?' 10 And he said: 'For tomorrow.' And he said: 'Let it be according to your word; that you may know that there is none like YHVH our God. 11 And the frogs shall depart from you, and from your houses, and from your servants, and from your people; they shall remain in the river only.' 12 And Moses and Aaron went out from Pharaoh; and Moses cried to YHVH concerning the frogs, which He had brought on Pharaoh. 13 And YHVH did according to the word of Moses; and the frogs died

out of the houses, out of the courts, and out of the fields. 14 And they gathered them together in heaps; and the land stank. 15 But when Pharaoh saw that there was a respite, he hardened his heart, and did not pay heed to them; as YHVH had spoken. {s}

#### 8:16-19 The plague of gnats / The magicians could not do also {s}

8:16 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Say to Aaron: "Stretch out your rod, and strike the dust of the earth, that it may become gnats throughout all the land of Egypt." 17 And they did so. And Aaron stretched out his hand with his rod, and struck the dust of the earth; and there were gnats on man, and on beast; all the dust of the earth became gnats throughout all the land of Egypt. 18 And the magicians did so with their secret arts to bring forth gnats, but they could not; and there were gnats on man, and on beast. 19 Then the magicians said to Pharaoh: 'This is the finger of God;' but Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he did not pay heed to them; as YHVH had spoken. {s}

8:20-9:35 Triennial Hash'kem "Rise up early" The plagues reveal by patient increments who YHVH is

#### 8:20-32 The plague of flies / No flies in Goshen {p}

8:20 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Rise up early in the morning, and stand before Pharaoh; lo, he will come forth to the water; and say to him: "Thus says YHVH: 'Let My people go, that they may serve Me. 21 Else, if you will not let My people go, behold, I will send swarms of flies on you, and on your servants, and on your people, and into your houses; and the houses of the Egyptians shall be full of swarms of flies, and also the ground on which they stand. 22 And I will set apart in that day the land of Goshen, where My people dwell, that no swarms of flies shall be there; so that you may know that I am YHVH in the midst of the earth. 23 And I will put a division between My people and your people. By tomorrow shall this sign be." 24 And YHVH did so; and there came grievous swarms of flies into the house of Pharaoh, and into his servants' houses; and in all the land of Egypt the land was ruined by reason of the swarms of flies. 25 And Pharaoh called for Moses and for Aaron, and said: 'Go, sacrifice to your God in the land.' 26 And Moses said: 'It is not seemly so to do; for we shall sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians to YHVH our God; lo, if we sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians before their eyes, will they not stone us? 27 We will go three days' journey into the wilderness, and sacrifice to YHVH our God, as He shall command us.' 28 And Pharaoh said: 'I will let you go, that you may sacrifice to YHVH your God in the wilderness; only you shall not go very far away; entreat for me.' 29 And Moses said: 'Behold, I go out from you, and I will entreat YHVH that the swarms of flies may depart from Pharaoh, from his servants, and from his people, tomorrow; only let not Pharaoh deal deceitfully any more in not letting the people go to sacrifice to YHVH.' 30 And Moses went out from Pharaoh, and entreated YHVH. 31 And YHVH did according to the word of Moses; and He removed the swarms of flies from Pharaoh, from his servants, and from his people; there remained not one. 32 And Pharaoh hardened his heart this time also, and he did not let the people go. {p}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER NINE**

#### 9:1-7 The plague of pestilence on the cattle {p}

9:1 Then YHVH said to Moses: 'Go in to Pharaoh, and tell him: "Thus says YHVH, the God of the Hebrews: 'Let My people go, that they may serve Me.' 2 For if you refuse to let them go, and will hold them still, 3 behold, the hand of YHVH is upon your cattle which are in the field, upon the horses, upon the donkeys, upon the camels, upon the herds, and upon the flocks; there shall be a very grievous pestilence. 4 And YHVH shall make a division between the cattle

of Israel and the cattle of Egypt; and nothing shall die of all that belongs to the children of Israel." 5 And YHVH appointed a set time, saying: 'Tomorrow YHVH shall do this thing in the land'. 6 And YHVH did so on the morrow, and all the cattle of Egypt died; but of the cattle of the children of Israel, not one died. 7 And Pharaoh sent, and, behold, there was not so much as one of the cattle of the Israelites dead. But the heart of Pharaoh was stubborn, and he did not let the people go. {p}

# 9:8-21 The plague of boils a warning to preserve human life {s+p} 9:8-12 The plague of boils {s}

9:8 And YHVH said to Moses and to Aaron; 'Take handfuls of soot of the furnace, and let Moses throw it heavenward in the sight of Pharaoh. 9 And it shall become small dust over all the land of Egypt, and shall be a boil breaking forth with sores on man and on beast, throughout all the land of Egypt.' 10 And they took soot of the furnace; and stood before Pharaoh; and Moses threw it up heavenward; and it became a boil breaking forth with sores on man and on beast. 11 And the magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils; for the boils were on the magicians, and on all the Egyptians. 12 And YHVH hardened the heart of Pharaoh, and he did not pay heed to them; as YHVH had spoken to Moses. {s}

#### 9:13-21 Warning: The plague of hail {p}

9:13 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Rise up early in the morning, and stand before Pharaoh, and say to him: "Thus says YHVH, the God of the Hebrews: 'Let My people go, that they may serve Me. 14 For I will this time send all My plagues on your person, and on your servants, and on your people; that you may know that there is none like Me in all the earth. 15 Surely by now, had I put forth My hand, and struck you and your people with pestilence, you would have been cut off from the earth. 16 But in very deed for this cause I have made you to stand, to show you my power, and that my name may be declared throughout all the earth. 17 As yet do you exalt yourself against My people, that you will not let them go? 18 Behold, tomorrow about this time I will cause it to rain a very grievous hail, such as has not been in Egypt since the day it was founded even until now. 19 Now therefore send, hasten to bring in your cattle and all that you have in the field; for every man and beast that shall be found in the field, and shall not be brought home, the hail shall come down on them, and they shall die."" 20 He that feared the word of YHVH among the servants of Pharaoh made his servants and his cattle flee into the houses; 21 and he that did not regard the word of YHVH left his servants and his cattle in the field. {p}

#### 9:22-35 The plague of hail {p}

9:22 Then YHVH said to Moses: 'Stretch forth your hand toward heaven, that there may be hail in all the land of Egypt, on man, and on beast, and on every herb of the field, throughout the land of Egypt.' 23 And Moses stretched forth his rod toward heaven; and YHVH sent thunder and hail, and fire ran down to the earth; and YHVH rained hail on the land of Egypt. 24 So there was hail, and fire flashing in the midst of the hail, very grievous, such as had not been in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation. 25 And the hail struck throughout all the land of Egypt, all that was in the field, both man and beast; and the hail struck every herb of the field and broke every tree of the field. 26 Only in the land of Goshen, where the children of Israel were, was there no hail. 27 And Pharaoh sent and called for Moses and Aaron, and said to them: 'I have sinned this time. YHVH is righteous, and my people and I are wicked. 28 Entreat YHVH, and let there be no more of these mighty thunderings and hail; I will let you go, and you shall stay no longe.' 29 And Moses said to him: 'As soon as I am gone out of the city, I will spread forth my hands to YHVH; the thunders shall cease, neither shall there be

any more hail; that you may know that the earth is YHVH's. **30** But as for you and your servants, I know that you do not yet fear YHVH God.' **31** And the flax and the barley were struck; for the barley was in the head, and the flax was in bloom. **32** But the wheat and the spelt were not struck; for they ripen late. **33** And Moses went out of the city from Pharaoh, and spread forth his hands to YHVH; and the thunders and hail ceased, and the rain was not poured on the earth. **34** And when Pharaoh saw that the rain and the hail and the thunders had ceased, he sinned yet more, and hardened his heart, he and his servants. **35** And the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, and he did not let the children of Israel go; as YHVH had spoken by Moses. {p}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER TEN**

10:1-13:16 Annual Bo "Go" Destruction of the firstborn / Israel's deliverance from service to Egyptians to service to God

10:1-29 Triennial Bo Despite the plagues, Pharaoh would not let Israel go

10:1-20 The plague of locusts {s+p}

10:1-11 Warning: The plague of locusts {s}

10:1 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Go in to Pharaoh; for I have hardened his heart, and the hearts of his servants, that I might show these My signs in the midst of them; 2 and that you may tell in the ears of your son, and of your son's son, what I have wrought in Egypt, and My signs which I have done among them; that you may know that I am YHVH. 3 And Moses and Aaron went in to Pharaoh, and said to him: 'Thus says YHVH, the God of the Hebrews: "How long will you refuse to humble yourself before Me? Let my people go, that they may serve me. 4 Or else, if you refuse to let My people go, behold, tomorrow I will bring locusts into your borders; 5 and they shall cover the face of the earth, so that no one will be able to see the earth; and they shall eat the residue which escaped, which remains to you from the hail, and they shall eat every tree which grows for you out of the field. 6 And your houses shall be filled, and the houses of all your servants, and the houses of all the Egyptians, as neither your fathers nor your fathers' fathers have seen, since the day that they were on the earth to this day." And he turned and went out from Pharaoh. 7 And Pharaoh's servants said to him: 'How long shall this man be a snare to us? Let the men go, that they may serve YHVH their God, do you not yet know that Egypt is destroyed?' 8 And Moses and Aaron were brought again to Pharaoh; and he said to them: 'Go, serve YHVH your God; but who are they that shall go?' 9 And Moses said: 'We will go with our young and with our old, with our sons and with our daughters, with our flocks and with our herds we will go, for we must hold a feast to YHVH.' 10 And he said to them: 'So must YHVH be with you, if I let you go with your little ones! Behold, evil is before your face. 11 Not so! now go, you who are men, and serve YHVH, for that is what you desired.' And they were driven out from Pharaoh's presence. {s}

#### 10:12-20 The plague of locusts {p}

10:12 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Stretch out your hand over the land of Egypt for the locusts, that they may come up on the land of Egypt, and eat every herb of the land, even all that the hail has left.' 13 And Moses stretched forth his rod over the land of Egypt, and YHVH brought an east wind on the land all that day, and all the night; and when it was morning, the east wind brought the locusts. 14 And the locusts went up over all the land of Egypt, and rested in all the borders of Egypt. They were very grievous; before them there had been no such locusts as they, neither after them will there be such again. 15 For they covered the face of the whole earth, so that the land was darkened; and they ate every herb of the land, and all the fruit of

the trees which the hail had left; and there remained not any green thing, either tree or herb of the field, through all the land of Egypt. 16 Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron in haste; and he said: 'I have sinned against YHVH your God, and against you. 17 Now therefore forgive, I pray you, my sin only this once, and entreat YHVH your God, that He may take away from me this death only.' 18 And he went out from Pharaoh, and entreated YHVH. 19 And YHVH turned an exceedingly strong west wind, which took up the locusts, and drove them into the Red Sea; there remained not one locust in all the borders of Egypt. 20 But YHVH hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he did not let the children of Israel go. {p}

#### 10:21-29 The plague of darkness {p}

10:21 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Stretch out your hand toward heaven, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, even darkness which may be felt.' 22 And Moses stretched forth his hand toward heaven; and there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days; 23 they did not see one another, neither did anyone rise from his place for three days; but all the children of israel had light in their dwellings. 24 And Pharaoh called to Moses, and said: 'Go, serve YHVH; only let your flocks and your herds remain; let your little ones also go with you.' 25 And Moses said: 'You must also give us sacrifices and burnt offerings, that we may sacrifice to YHVH our God. 26 Our cattle shall also go with us; there shall not be a hoof left behind; for we must take of them to serve YHVH our God; and we do not know with what we must serve YHVH, until we come there.' 27 But YHVH hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he would not let them go. 28 And Pharaoh said to him: 'Get away from me, and take heed to yourself, that you see my face no more; for in the day you see my face, you will die.' 29 And Moses said: 'You have spoken well; I will see your face again no more.' {p}

return to contents

#### CHAPTER ELEVEN

11:1-12:28 Triennial Od nega echad "One more plague" Moses gave instructions for the Passover; Israel did so

11:1-12:20 Warning for Pharaoh of the final plague / Passover and Unleavened Bread instruction for Israel {sx3+p}

#### 11:1-3 One final plague / Favor in the sight of the Egyptians {s}

11:1 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Yet one plague more I will bring on Pharaoh, and on Egypt; afterwards he will let you go from here. When he lets you go, he will surely thrust you out from here altogether. 2 Speak now in the ears of the people, and let them ask every man of his neighbor, and every woman of her neighbor, for jewels of silver, and jewels of gold.' 3 And YHVH gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians. Moreover the man Moses was very great in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh's servants, and in the sight of the people. {s}

#### 11:4-8 One final plague / Distinction between the Egyptians and Israel {s}

11:4 And Moses said: 'Thus says YHVH: "About midnight I will go out into the midst of Egypt; 5 and all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sits on his throne, even to the firstborn of the maidservant who is behind the mill; and all the firstborn of cattle. 6 And there shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as there has never been like it, nor shall any be like it again. 7 But against any of the children of Israel, a dog shall not whet his tongue, against man or beast; that you may know that YHVH makes a difference between the Egyptians and Israel. 8 And all these your servants shall come down to me, and bow down to me, saying: 'Get out, and all the people that follow you.' And after that I will go out." And he went out from Pharaoh in hot anger. {s}

#### 11:9-10 Pharaoh will / did not heed, that wonders are multiplied in Egypt {s}

11:9 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Pharaoh will not pay heed to you; that My wonders may be multiplied in the land of Egypt.' 10 And Moses and Aaron did all these wonders before Pharaoh; And YHVH hardened Pharaoh's heart; and he did not let the children of Israel go out of his land. {s}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER TWELVE**

#### 12:1-20 Passover and Unleavened Bread instruction {p}

12:1 And YHVH spoke to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying; 2 'This month shall be to you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year to you. 3 Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying; "In the tenth day of this month they shall take every man a lamb, according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household; 4 and if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his neighbor next to his house shall take one according to the number of the souls; according to every man's need you shall make your count for the lamb. 5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year; you shall take it from the sheep, or from the goats. 6 And you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month; and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at dusk. 7 And they shall take of the blood, and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel, on the houses within which they shall eat it. 8 And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roasted with fire, and unleavened bread; with bitter herbs they shall eat it. 9 They shall not eat it raw, nor boiled at all with water, but roasted with fire; its head with its legs and with its inward parts. 10 And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; but that which remains until the morning; you shall burn with fire. 11 And thus you shall eat it: with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it in haste—it is YHVH's Passover. 12 For I will pass through the land of Egypt in that night, and will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast, and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am YHVH. 13 And the blood shall be for you for a sign on the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall be on you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt. 14 And this day shall be for you for a memorial; and you shall keep it a feast to YHVH throughout your generations; you shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever. 15 Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread; on the first day you shall put away leaven out of your houses; for whoever eats leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel. 16 And in the first day there shall be for you a holy convocation, and in the seventh day a holy convocation; no manner of work shall be done in them, save that which every man must eat, that only may be done by you. 17 And you shall observe the feast of unleavened bread; for in this selfsame day have I brought your hosts out of the land of Egypt; therefore you shall observe this day throughout your generations by an ordinance for ever. 18 In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month at evening, you shall eat unleavened bread, until the twenty-first day of the month at evening. 19 Seven days no leaven shall be found in your houses; for whoever eats that which is leavened, that soul shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he is a sojourner, or one that is born in the land. 20 You shall eat nothing leavened; in all your habitations you shall eat unleavened bread." {p}

12:21-51 Annual Pesach "Passover" By the death of the firstborn, YHVH delivered Israel and brought them out of Egypt

12:21-36 Israel observed Passover, and ceased their sojourn in Egypt {s+p+p}

12:21-28 Israel observed the Passover as YHVH had commanded Moses {s}

12:21 Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel, and said to them: 'Select out, and take lambs according to your families, and kill the passover lamb. 22 And you shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that is in the basin, and none of you shall go out of the door of his house until the morning. 23 For YHVH will pass through to strike the Egyptians; and when He sees the blood on the lintel, and on the two side posts, YHVH will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in to your houses to strike you. 24 And you shall observe this thing for an ordinance for you and for your sons forever. 25 And it shall come to pass, when you have come to the land which YHVH will give you, as He has promised, that you shall keep this service. 26 And it shall come to pass, when your children shall say to you: "What do you mean by this service?" 27 That you shall say: "It is the sacrifice of YHVH's Passover, for He passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when He struck the Egyptians, and delivered our houses." And the people bowed the head and worshiped. 28 And the children of Israel went and did so; as YHVH had commanded Moses and Aaron, so they did. {s}

12:29-13:16 Triennial Bachatzi "At midnight" The firstborn sanctified to YHVH through the death and redemption of the firstborn

#### 12:29-36 Final plague: The death of the firstborn {p}

12:29 And it came to pass at midnight, that YHVH struck all the first-born in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne, to the firstborn of the captive that was in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle. 30 And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt; for there was not a house where there was not one dead. 31 And he called for Moses and Aaron by night and said: 'Rise up, get you forth from among my people, both you and the children of Israel; and go, serve YHVH, as you have said. 32 Take both your flocks and your herds, as you have said, and be gone; and bless me also.' 33 And the Egyptians were urgent with the people, to send them out of the land in haste; for they said: 'We are all dead men.' 34 And the people took their dough before it was leavened, their kneading bowls being bound up in their clothes on their shoulders. 35 And the children of Israel did according to the word of Moses; and they asked of the Egyptians jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and clothing. 36 And YHVH gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they let them have what they asked. And they despoiled the Egyptians. {p}

#### 12:37-42 Israel ceased their sojourn in Egypt {p}

12:37 And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand men on foot, besides children. 38 And a mixed multitude went up also with them; and flocks, and herds, even very much cattle. 39 And they baked unleavened cakes of the dough which they brought forth out of Egypt, For it was not leavened; because they were thrust out of Egypt, and could not tarry, neither had they prepared any provision for themselves. 40 Now the sojourn of the children of Israel who dwelt in Egypt was four hundred and thirty years. 41 And it came to pass at the end of four hundred and thirty years, even the self-same day it came to pass, that all the host of YHVH went out from the land of Egypt. 42 It was a night of watching to YHVH for bringing them out from the land of Egypt; this same night is a night of watching to YHVH for all the children of Israel throughout their generations. {p}

# 12:43-51 Keep the Passover, for by it YHVH brought Israel out of Egypt {s+p} 12:43-50 The ordinance of the Passover {s}

12:43 And YHVH said to Moses and Aaron; 'This is the ordinance of the Passover: No foreigner shall eat of it, 44 but every man's servant that is bought for money, when you have circumcised him, then he shall he eat of it. 45 A stranger and a hired servant shall not eat of it. 46 In

one house it shall be eaten; you shall not carry forth any of the flesh out of the house; neither shall you break its bone. 47 All the congregation of Israel shall keep it. 48 And when a stranger shall sojourn with you, and desires to keep the Passover to YHVH, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as one that is born in the land; but no uncircumcised person shall eat of it. 49 One law shall apply to him that is native born; and to the stranger that sojourns among you.' 50 Thus all the children of Israel did; as YHVH commanded Moses and Aaron, so they did. {s}

#### 12:51 YHVH brought Israel out of Egypt {p}

12:51 And it came to pass the selfsame day that YHVH brought the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their hosts. {p}

<u>return to contents</u>

#### **CHAPTER THIRTEEN**

# 13:1-16 Ordinance of the firstborn, and Unleavened Bread a sign to future generations {p+p}

#### 13:1-10 Ordinance of the firstborn, and Unleavened Bread {p}

13:1 And YHVH spoke to Moses, saying: 2 'Sanctify to Me all the firstborn, whatever opens the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and of beast, it is Mine.' 3 And Moses said to the people: 'Remember this day, in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of bondage; for by strength of hand YHVH brought you out from this place; there shall be eaten no leavened bread. 4 This day you go forth in the month Abib. 5 And it shall be when YHVH shall bring you into the land of the Canaanite, and the Hittite, and the Amorite, and the Hivite, and the Jebusite, which He swore to your fathers to give you, a land flowing with milk and honey, that you shall keep this service in this month. 6 Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, and in the seventh day there shall be a feast to YHVH. 7 Unleavened bread shall be eaten throughout the seven days; and there shall be seen with you no leavened bread, neither shall there be leaven seen with you, in all your borders. 8 And you shall tell your son in that day, saying: "It is because of what YHVH did for me when I came forth out of Egypt." 9 And it shall be for a sign to you on your hand, and for a memorial between your eyes, that the law of YHVH be in your mouth, for with a strong hand YHVH has brought you out of Egypt. 10 You shall therefore keep this ordinance in its season from year to year. {p}

#### 13:11-16 Ordinance of the firstborn a sign to future generations {p}

13:11 And it shall be when YHVH shall bring you into the land of the Canaanite, as He swore to you and to your fathers, and shall give it to you, 12 that you shall set apart to YHVH all that opens the womb; every firstborn male of the beasts shall be YHVH's. 13 And every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb; and if you will not redeem it, then you shall break its neck; and all the firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. 14 And it shall be when your son asks you in time to come, saying: "What is this?" That you shall say to him; "By strength of hand YHVH brought us out from Egypt, from the house of bondage; 15 and it came to pass, when Pharaoh would not let us go that YHVH slew all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the first-born of man, and the firstborn of beast; therefore I sacrifice to YHVH all that opens the womb, being males; but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem." 16 And it shall be for a sign on your hand, and for frontlets between your eyes; for by strength of hand YHVH brought us forth out of Egypt.' {p}

13:17-17:16 Annual Beshalach "When he let go" Israel tested YHVH / YHVH tested Israel, to teach them to trust in Him and not in their own works (Sabbath rest)

# 13:17-15:21 Triennial *Beshalach* God delivered Israel, calling forth song and dance of praise 13:17-14:31 God led them to be hemmed in, to miraculously deliver Israel {px4} 13:17-22 God led them Himself in a pillar of cloud and fire {p}

13:17 And it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God led them not by the way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said: 'Lest perhaps the people repent when they see war, and they return to Egypt.' 18 But God led the people around by the way of the wilderness to the Red Sea; and the children of Israel went up armed out of the land of Egypt. 19 And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him; for he had made the children of Israel solemnly swear, saying: 'God will surely remember you; and you shall carry up my bones away from here with you.' 20 And they took their journey from Succoth, and encamped in Etham, on the edge of the wilderness. 21 And YHVH went before them by day in a pillar of cloud, to lead them in the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; that they might go by day and by night: 22 the pillar of cloud by day, and the pillar of fire by night did not depart from before the people. {p}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER FOURTEEN**

#### 14:1-14 Pharaoh pursued Israel, but Israel assured of YHVH's deliverance {p}

14:1 And YHVH spoke to Moses, saying: 2 'Speak to the children of Israel, that they turn back and camp before Pi-hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, before Baal-zephon, over against it you shall camp by the sea. 3 And Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel: 'They are entangled in the land, the wilderness has shut them in.' 4 And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he shall follow after them; and I will gain honor on Pharaoh, and on all his host; and the Egyptians shall know that I am YHVH.' And they did so. 5 And it was told to the king of Egypt that the people had fled; and the heart of Pharaoh and of his servants was hardened towards the people, and they said: 'What is this we have done, that we have let Israel go from serving us?' 6 And he made ready his chariots, and took his people with him. 7 And he took six hundred chosen chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt, with captains over all of them. 8 And YHVH hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued after the children of Israel. 9 And the Egyptians pursued after them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, and his horsemen, and his army; and overtook them camping by the sea, beside Pi-hahiroth, in front of Baal-zephon. 10 And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians were marching after them; and they were very afraid; and the children of Israel cried out to YHVH. 11 And they said to Moses: 'Because there were no graves in Egypt, you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you dealt so with us, to bring us forth out of Egypt? 12 Is not this the word that we spoke to you in Egypt, saying: "Let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians?" For it is better for us to serve the Egyptians, than that we should die in the wilderness.' 13 And Moses said to the people: 'Fear not; Stand still, and see the salvation of YHVH, which He will work for you today, for the Egyptians you have seen today, you shall see them again no more for ever. 14 YHVH will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.' {p}

#### 14:15-25 The Red Sea divided; Israel went through on dry ground {p}

14:15 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Why do you cry to Me? Speak to the children of Israel, that they go forward. 16 And lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea, and divide it; and the children of Israel shall go into the midst of the sea on dry ground. 17 And I, behold, I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall go in after them, and I will gain honor

on Pharaoh, and on all his host, on his chariots, and on his horsemen. 18 And the Egyptians shall know that I am YHVH, when I have gained honor on Pharaoh, on his chariots, and on his horsemen.' 19 And the angel of God, who went before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from before them, and stood behind them; 20 and it came between the camp of Egypt and the camp of Israel; and there was the cloud and the darkness here, yet it gave light by night there; and the one came not near the other all the night. 21 And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and YHVH caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all the night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. 22 And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground; and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand, and on their left. 23 And the Egyptians pursued, and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. 24 And it came to pass in the morning watch, that YHVH looked forth on the host of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and of cloud, and discomfited the host of the Egyptians. 25 And He took off their chariot wheels, and made them to drive heavily; so that the Egyptians said: 'Let us flee from the face of Israel; for YHVH fights for them against the Egyptians.' {p}

#### 14:26-31 YHVH overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea {p}

14:26 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the waters may come back on the Egyptians, on their chariots, and on their horsemen.' 27 And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its strength when the morning appeared; and the Egyptians fled against it; and YHVH overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea. 28 And the waters returned, and covered the chariots, and the horsemen, even all the host of Pharaoh that went in after them into the sea; there remained not so much as one of them. 29 But the children of Israel walked on dry land in the midst of the sea; and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand, and on their left. 30 Thus YHVH saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. 31 And Israel saw the great work which YHVH did on the Egyptians, and the people feared YHVH; and they believed in YHVH, and in His servant Moses. {p}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER FIFTEEN**

#### 15:1-19 Song of Moses and praise for what YHVH has done {sx18+p}

#### 15:1 Song of Moses: Sing to YHVH, for He has triumphed gloriously! {s}

**15:1** Then Moses and the children of Israel sang this song to YHVH, and spoke, saying: 'I will sing to YHVH, for He is highly exalted; the horse and his rider He has thrown into the sea. {s}

#### 15:2 YHVH has become my salvation {s}

**15:2** *Yah* is my strength and song, and He is become my salvation; this is my God *El*, and I will glorify Him; my father's God, and I will exalt Him. {s}

#### 15:3 YHVH is a man of war {s}

15:3 YHVH is a man of war, YHVH is His name. {s}

#### 15:4 He has cast Pharaoh's army into the sea {s}

15:4 Pharaoh's chariots and his host He has cast into the sea, and his chosen captains are sunk in the Red Sea. {s}

#### 15:5 The depths of the sea have covered them {s}

15:5 The deeps cover them—they went down into the depths like a stone. {s}

#### 15:6 YHVH's right hand dashed the enemy in pieces {s}

15:6 Your right hand, O YHVH, glorious in power; Your right hand, O YHVH, dashes the enemy in pieces. {s}

#### 15:7 YHVH overthrew His enemy by the greatness of His power {s}

15:7 And in the greatness of Your excellency You overthrew them that rose up against You; You sent forth Your wrath, it consumed them as stubble. {s}

#### 15:8 YHVH made the waters stand upright {s}

15:8 And with the blast of Your nostrils the waters were piled up—the floods stood upright as a heap; the deeps were congealed in the heart of the sea. {s}

#### 15:9 The enemy thought to pursue and destroy them {s}

**15:9** The enemy said: 'I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil; my lust shall be satisfied on them; I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.' {s}

#### 15:10 YHVH made the waters cover them {s}

**15:10** You blew with Your wind, the sea covered them; they sank as lead in the mighty waters. {s}

#### 15:11 Who is like YHVH {s}

**15:11** Who is like You, O YHVH, among the mighty? Who is like You, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders? {s}

#### 15:12 YHVH caused the earth to swallow them {s}

15:12 You stretched out Your right hand—the earth swallowed them. {s}

#### 15:13 In love YHVH has led forth His people whom He has redeemed {s}

15:13 You, in Your love, have led the people that You have redeemed; You have guided them in Your strength to Your holy habitation. {s}

#### 15:14 Philistia will be in anguish {s}

15:14 The peoples have heard, they tremble. {s}

#### 15:15 Edom, Moab and Canaan will be dismayed {s}

15:15 Then were the chiefs of Edom frightened; the mighty men of Moab, trembling takes hold of them; all the inhabitants of Canaan are melted away. {s}

#### 15:16 They will be in dread till the redeemed of Israel pass over {s}

**15:16** Terror and dread falls on them; by the greatness of Your arm they are as still as a stone; till Your people pass over, O YHVH, till the people pass over that You have gotten. {s}

#### 15:17-18 YHVH will plant Israel, and reign for ever {s}

15:17 You bring them in, and plant them in the mountain of Your inheritance, the place, O YHVH, which You have made to dwell in, the sanctuary, O Lord, which Your hands have established. 18 YHVH shall reign for ever and ever.' {s}

#### 15:19 The Egyptians drowned in the sea but Israel went in on dry land {p}

15:19 For the horses of Pharaoh went in with his chariots and with his horsemen into the sea, and YHVH brought back the waters of the sea on them; but the children of Israel walked on dry land in the midst of the sea. {p}

# 15:20-16:10 Dance of Miriam and complaints for what YHVH has not done {sx8+p} 15:20-21 Dance of Miriam: Sing to YHVH, for He has triumphed gloriously! {s}

15:20 And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances. 21 And Miriam sang to them: 'Sing to YHVH, for He is highly exalted: the horse and his rider He has thrown into the sea.' {s}

### 15:22-16:24 Triennial Yasa Moshe "Moses caused them to journey" Sabbath rest taught with manna

#### 15:22-26 Israel complained of no water / waters of Marah [bitterness] made sweet {s}

15:22 And Moses led Israel onward from the Red Sea, and they went out into the wilderness of Shur; and they went three days in the wilderness, and found no water. 23 And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter. Therefore the name of it was called Marah (bitterness). 24 And the people murmured against Moses, saying: 'What shall we drink?' 25 And he cried to YHVH; and YHVH showed him a tree, and he cast it into the waters, and the waters were made sweet. There He made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there He tested them; 26 and He said: 'If you will diligently pay heed to the voice of YHVH your God, and will do that which is right in His eyes, and will give ear to His commandments, and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases upon you, which I have put upon the Egyptians; for I am YHVH who heals you. {s}

#### 15:27-16:3 Israel complained of no bread {s}

15:27 And they came to Elim, where were twelve springs of water, and seventy palm trees; and they camped there by the waters.

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER SIXTEEN**

16:1 And they took their journey from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after their departing out of the land of Egypt. 2 And the whole congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron in the wilderness; 3 and the children of Israel said to them: 'Would that we had died by the hand of YHVH in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat, when we ate bread to the full; for you have brought us forth to this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger.' {s}

#### 16:4-10 YHVH will provide bread from heaven {p}

16:4 Then YHVH said to Moses: 'Behold, I will cause bread to rain from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in My law, or not. 5 And it shall come to pass on the sixth day that they shall prepare that which they bring in, and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily.' 6 And Moses and Aaron said to all the children of Israel: 'At evening, then you shall know that YHVH has brought you out from the land of Egypt; 7 and in the morning, then you shall see the glory of YHVH; for He has heard your murmurings against YHVH; and what are we, that you murmur against us?' 8 And Moses said: 'This shall be, when YHVH shall give you in the evening flesh to eat, and in the morning bread to the full; for that YHVH hears your murmurings which you murmur against Him; and what are we? Your murmurings are not against us, but against YHVH.' 9 And Moses said to Aaron: 'Say to all the congregation of the children of Israel: "Come near before YHVH; for He has heard your murmurings."' 10 And it came to pass, as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and, behold, the glory of YHVH appeared in the cloud. {p}

#### **16:11-36 YHVH teaches Sabbath rest with manna** [Bread from heaven] {s+p}

#### 16:11-27 YHVH provides manna, and teaches the Sabbath rest commandment {s}

16:11 And YHVH spoke to Moses, saying: 12 'I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel. Speak to them, saying: "At dusk you shall eat flesh, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread; and you shall know that I am YHVH your God.' 13 And it came to pass at

evening, that the quails came up, and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew round about the camp. 14 And when the layer of dew was gone up, behold, on the face of the wilderness a fine, scale-like thing, fine as the hoar-frost on the ground. 15 And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another: 'What is it?' -for they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them: 'It is the bread which YHVH has given you to eat. 16 This is the thing which YHVH has commanded; Gather it every man according to his household; an omer a head, according to the number of your persons, you shall take it, every man for them that are in his tent. 17 And the children of Israel did so, and gathered some more, some less. 18 And when they measured it with an omer, he that gathered much had nothing left over, and he that gathered little had no lack; they gathered every man according to his household. 19 And Moses said to them: Let no man leave it till the morning. 20 Notwithstanding they did not pay heed to Moses; but some of them left it until the morning, and it bred worms, and rotted; and Moses was angry with them. 21 And they gathered it morning by morning, every man according to his household; and as the sun grew hot, it melted. 22 And it came to pass that on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for each one; and all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses. 23 And he said to them: 'This is that which YHVH has spoken: 'Tomorrow is a solemn rest, a holy Sabbath to YHVH. Bake that which you will bake, and boil that which you will boil; and all that remains left over, lay up for yourselves to be kept until the morning.' 24 And they laid it up till the morning, as Moses commanded; and it did not rot, neither was there any worm in it.

## 16:25-17:16 Triennial *Hayom kiShabbat* "Today is the Sabbath" While Israel was in the wilderness, YHVH provided rest, food, water, and victory over enemies

16:25 And Moses said: 'Eat that today; for today is a Sabbath to YHVH; today you shall not find it in the field. 26 Six days you shall gather it; but on the seventh day is the Sabbath, in it there shall be none. 27 And it came to pass on the seventh day, that there went out some of the people to gather, and they found none. {s}

#### 16:28-36 Sabbath rest is YHVH's commandment / Memorial of manna {p}

16:28 And YHVH said to Moses: 'How long will you refuse to keep My commandments and My laws?' 29 'See that YHVH has given you the Sabbath; therefore He gives you on the sixth day the bread of two days; abide every man in his place, let no man go out of his place on the seventh day.' 30 So the people rested on the seventh day. 31 And the house of Israel called the name of it Manna; and it was like coriander seed, white; and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey. 32 And Moses said: 'This is the thing which YHVH has commanded: Let an omerful of it be kept throughout your generations; that they may see the bread with which I fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you forth from the land of Egypt.' 33 And Moses said to Aaron: 'Take a jar, and put an omerful of Manna in it, and lay it up before YHVH, to be kept throughout your generations.' 34 As YHVH commanded Moses, so Aaron laid it up before the testimony, to be kept. 35 And the children of Israel ate the manna forty years, until they came to an inhabited land; they ate the manna; until they came to the borders of the land of Canaan. 36 Now an omer is the tenth part of an ephah. {p}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER SEVENTEEN**

#### 17:1-7 YHVH provides water from the rock at Massah and Meribah {p}

17:1 And all the congregation of the children of Israel journeyed from the wilderness of Sin, by their stages, according to the commandment of YHVH, and encamped in Rephidim; and there was no water for the people to drink. 2 Therefore the people strove with Moses, and

said: 'Give us water that we may drink.' And Moses said to them: 'Why do you strive with me? Why do you try YHVH?' 3 And the people thirsted there for water; and the people murmured against Moses, and said: 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?' 4 And Moses cried to YHVH, saying: 'What shall I do to this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' 5 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Pass on before the people, and take with you of the elders of Israel; and your rod, with which you struck the river, take in your hand, and go. 6 Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and there water shall come out of it, that the people may drink.' And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel. 7 And the name of the place was called Massah, and Meribah, because of the striving of the children of Israel, and because they tried YHVH, saying: 'Is YHVH among us, or not?' {p}

# 17:8-16 Amalek fought with Israel, so that YHVH will war with Amalek forever {p+p} 17:8-13 Amalek fought with Israel, but Joshua defeated Amalek {p}

17:8 Then came Amalek, and fought with Israel in Rephidim. 9 And Moses said to Joshua: 'Choose men, and go out, fight with Amalek; tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand.' 10 So Joshua did as Moses had said to him, and fought with Amalek; and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. 11 And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. 12 But Moses' hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat on it; and Aaron and Hur supported his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. 13 And Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword. {p}

#### 17:14-16 YHVH will have war with Amalek from generation to generation {p}

17:14 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Write this for a memorial in the book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua; for I will utterly blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven.' 15 And Moses built an altar, and called the name of it YHVH-Nissi, YHVH is my banner. 16 And he said: 'Because Yah has sworn, YHVH will have war with Amalek from generation to generation.' {p}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER EIGHTEEN**

18:1-20:26 Annual Yitro "Jethro" We love Him, because He first loved us /Our relationship with God balances love and grace with fear and obedience

18:1-27 Triennial Yitro YHVH is greater than all the gods

#### 18:1-27 YHVH is greater than all the gods {p}

18:1 Now Jethro, the priest of Midian, Moses' father-in-law, heard of all that God had done for Moses, and for Israel His people; how YHVH had brought Israel out of Egypt. 2 And Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, took Zipporah, Moses' wife, after he had sent her away, 3 and her two sons; of whom the name of the one was Gershom; for he said: 'I have been a stranger in a strange land;' 4 and the name of the other was Eliezer: 'For the God of my father was my help, and delivered me from the sword of Pharaoh.' 5 And Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, came with his sons and his wife to Moses, into the wilderness where he was encamped, at the mount of God; 6 and he said to Moses: 'I, your father-in-law Jethro, am coming to you, and your wife, and her two sons with her.' 7 And Moses went out to meet his father-in-law, and bowed down and kissed him; and they asked each other of their welfare; and they came into the tent. 8 And Moses told his father-in-law all that YHVH had done to Pharaoh and to the Egyptians for Isra-

el's sake, all the travail that had come upon them by the way, and how YHVH delivered them. 9 And Jethro rejoiced for all the goodness which YHVH had done to Israel, in that He had delivered them out of the hand of the Egyptians. 10 And Jethro said: 'Blessed be YHVH, who has delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of Pharaoh; who has delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians. 11 Now I know that YHVH is greater than all the gods; for in the very thing in which they behaved proudly, He was above them.' 12 And Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, took a burnt offering and sacrifices for God; and Aaron came, and all the elders of Israel, to eat bread with Moses' father-in-law before God. 13 And it came to pass on the morrow, that Moses sat to judge the people; and the people stood about Moses from the morning to the evening. 14 And when Moses' father-in-law saw all that he did for the people, he said: 'What is this thing that you do for the people? Why do you sit alone, and all the people stand about you from morning until evening?' 15 And Moses said to his father-in-law: 'Because the people come to me to inquire of God; 16 when they have a matter, it comes to me; and I judge between a man and his neighbor, and I make them know the statutes of God, and His laws. 17 And Moses' father-in-law said to him; 'The thing that you are doing is not good. 18 You will surely wear away, both you, and this people that is with you; for the thing is too heavy for you; you are not able to perform it yourself alone. 19 Pay heed now to my voice, I will give you counsel, and God be with you. 20 And you shall teach them the statutes and the laws, and shall show them the way in which they must walk, and the work that they must do. 21 Moreover you shall select out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating unjust gain; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens. 22 And let them judge the people at all seasons; and it shall be, that every great matter they shall bring to you, but every small matter they shall judge themselves; so they shall make it easier for you and bear the burden with you. 23 If you shall do this thing, and God command you so; then you shall be able to endure, and all this people also shall go to their place in peace.' 24 So Moses paid heed to the voice of his father-in-law, and did all that he had said. 25 And Moses chose able men out of all Israel, and made them heads over the people, rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens. 26 And they judged the people at all seasons; the hard cases they brought to Moses, but every small matter they judged themselves. 27 And Moses let his father-in-law depart; and he went his way into his own land. {p}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER NINETEEN**

19:1-20:7 Marriage covenant: How YHVH loves us, how we love YHVH {sx3+p} 19:1-25 Triennial Bachodesh hashlishi "In the third month" YHVH descended on Mt Sinai to enact the marriage covenant with Israel

19:1-25 YHVH descended on Mt Sinai to enact the marriage covenant with Israel {s} 19:1 In the third month after the children of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on the same day, they came to the wilderness of Sinai. 2 And when they had departed from Rephidim, and had come to the wilderness of Sinai, they encamped in the wilderness; and there Israel encamped before the mount. 3 And Moses went up to God, and YHVH called to him out of the mountain, saying: 'Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel; 4 "You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself. 5 Now therefore, if you will indeed pay heed to My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own special treasure from among all peoples; for all the earth is Mine. 6 And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words

which you shall speak to the children of Israel." 7 So Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and set before them all these words which YHVH commanded him. 8 And all the people answered together, and said; 'All that YHVH has spoken, we will do.' And Moses reported the words of the people to YHVH. 9 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Lo, I come to you in the thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and may also believe you forever.' And Moses told the words of the people to YHVH. 10 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Go to the people, and sanctify them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their garments, 11 and be ready against the third day; for on the third day YHVH will come down in the sight of all the people upon Mount Sinai. 12 And you shall set bounds for the people round about, saying: "Take heed to yourselves, that you do not go up to the mountain, or touch the border of it; whoever touches the mountain shall surely be put to death; 13 no hand shall touch him, but he shall surely be stoned, or shot through; whether it be beast or man, he shall not live;" when the ram's horn sounds long, they shall come up to the mountain.' 14 And Moses went down from the mountain to the people, and sanctified the people; and they washed their garments. 15 And he said to the people: 'Be ready against the third day; do not come near a woman.' 16 And it came to pass on the third day, when it was morning, that there were thunders and lightnings and a thick cloud on the mountain, and the voice of a trumpet horn exceedingly loud; and all the people that were in the camp trembled. 17 And Moses brought forth the people out of the camp to meet God; and they stood at the foot of the mountain. 18 Now Mount Sinai was altogether in smoke, because YHVH descended upon it in fire; and its smoke ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly. 19 And when the voice of the trumpet horn waxed louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him by voice. 20 And YHVH came down upon Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain; and YHVH called Moses to the top of the mountain; and Moses went up. 21 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Go down, charge the people, lest they break through to gaze upon YHVH, and many of them perish. 22 And let the priests also, that come near to YHVH, sanctify themselves, lest YHVH break forth upon them." 23 And Moses said to YHVH: 'The people cannot come up to Mount Sinai; for You charged us, saying: "Set bounds about the mountain, and sanctify it." 24 And YHVH said to him: 'Go, get down, and you shall come up, you, and Aaron with you; but let not the priests and the people break through to come up to YHVH, lest He break forth upon them.' 25 So Moses went down to the people, and told them. {s}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER TWENTY**

**20:1-26 Triennial** Vayedaber Elohiym "And God spoke" YHVH spoke His commandments with an audible voice from heaven

20:1 God spoke all these words {s}

 $\textbf{20:1} \ And \ God \ spoke \ all \ these \ words, \ saying: \{s\}$ 

20:2-6 Israel shall have no gods before YHVH {s}

**20:2** 'I am YHVH your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. **3** You shall have no other gods before Me; **4** you shall not make a graven image for yourselves, nor any manner of likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; **5** you shall not bow down to them, nor serve them; for I YHVH your God am, a jealous God *El*, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me; **6** and showing mercy to the thousandth generation of them that love Me and keep My commandments. {s}

20:7 Israel shall not take the name of YHVH in vain {p}

**20:7** You shall not take the name of YHVH your God in vain; for YHVH will not hold him guiltless that takes His name in vain. {p}

20:8-17 Commandments teach us how we love ourselves and others {sx7+p}

20:8-11 Remember the Sabbath day to set it apart {s}

**20**:8 Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. **9** Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, **10** but the seventh day is a Sabbath to YHVH your God; in it you shall not do any manner of work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates; **11** for in six days YHVH made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day; therefore YHVH blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it. {s}

#### 20:12 Honor your father and mother {s}

**20:12** Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long on the land which YHVH your God gives you. {s}

20:13 You shall not murder {s}

20:13 You shall not murder. {s}

20:14 You shall not commit adultery {s}

20:14 You shall not commit adultery. {s}

20:15 You shall not steal {s}

20:15 You shall not steal. {s}

20:16 You shall not bear false witness {s}

20:16 You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. {s}

20:17a You shall not covet your neighbor's house {s}

20:17a You shall not covet your neighbor's house; {s}

20:17b You shall not covet anything that is your neighbor's {p}

20:17b You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's.' {p}

20:18-26 The fear of God helps us keep His commandments {s+p}

20:18-21 The fear of God prevents us from sinning [breaking commandment] {s}

20:18 And all the people perceived the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the voice of the trumpet horn, and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw it, they trembled, and stood afar off. 19 And they said to Moses: 'You speak with us, and we will hear; but let not God speak with us, lest we die.' 20 And Moses said to the people: 'Fear not; for God is come to prove you, and that His fear may be before you, that you sin not.' 21 And the people stood afar off; but Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was. {s}

#### 20:22-26 Explanation of 'Have no gods before Me' {p}

20:22 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: "You yourelves have seen that I have talked with you from heaven. 23 You shall not make anything with Me—gods of silver, or gods of gold, you shall not make for yourselves. 24 An altar of earth you shall make for Me, and shall sacrifice on it your burnt offerings, and your peace offerings, your sheep, and your oxen; in every place where I cause My name to be mentioned, I will come to you and bless you. 25 And if you make Me an altar of stone, you shall not build it of hewn stones; for if you lift up your tool on it, you have profaned it. 26 Neither shall you go up by steps to My altar, that your nakedness may not be uncovered on it." {p}

#### **CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE**

- 21:1-24:18 Annual Mishpatim "Judgments" The Ten Commandments explained as the Law of Love
- **21:1-22:24** Triennial *Mishpatim* Do not murder, steal, or commit adultery explanation: when restitution is and is not to be made
- 21:1-27 Restitution in cases of slavery, or when a person causes injury or death ['You shall not commit murder'] {sx10+p}

#### 21:1-6 Conditions for a Hebrew male slave to go out free {s}

21:1 '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. 3 If he comes in by himself, he shall go out by himself; if he is married, then his wife shall go out with him. 4 If his master gives him a wife, and she bears him sons or daughters; the wife and her children shall be her master's, and he shall go out by himself. 5 But if the servant shall plainly say: "I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free;" 6 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; and he shall serve him for ever. {s}

#### 21:7-11 Conditions for a Hebrew female slave to go out free {s}

21:7 And if a man sells his daughter to be a maidservant, she shall not go out as the menservants do. 8 If she does not please her master, who has espoused her to himself, then he shall let her be redeemed; he shall have no power to sell her to a foreign people, as he has dealt deceitfully with her. 9 And if he espouse her to his son, he shall deal with her after the manner of daughters. 10 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; then she shall go out for nothing, without money. {s}

#### 21:12-13 Manslaughter is not murder {s}

21:12 He that strikes a man, so that he dies, shall surely be put to death. 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}

#### 21:14 Murder receives the death penalty {s}

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}

#### 21:15 Striking father or mother receives the death penalty (s)

21:15 And he who strikes his father, or his mother, shall be surely put to death. {s}

#### 21:16 Kidnapping receives the death penalty {s}

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}

#### 21:17 Cursing father or mother receives the death penalty {s}

21:17 And he who curses his father or his mother, shall surely be put to death. {s}

#### 21:18-19 Assault of a neighbor when he does not die {s}

21:18 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}

21:20-21 Assault of a male or female slave when he does or does not die {s}

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. 21 Notwithstanding if he continues a day or two, he shall not be punished; for he is his money. {s}

#### 21:22-25 Assault of a woman with child when the child does or does not die {s}

21:22 And if men strive together, and hurt a woman with child, so that her child departs, and yet no harm follows, he shall surely be fined, as the woman's husband shall lay on him; and he shall pay as the judges determine. 23 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}

#### 21:26-27 Conditions for male or female slaves to go out free {p}

21:26 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}

21:28-22:13 Restitution when a thing causes injury, death, or loss of property ['You shall not steal'] {sx7+p}

#### 21:28-32 Restitution when an ox gores a person to death {s}

21:28 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. 30 If there is laid on him a ransom, then he shall give for the redemption of his life whatever is laid on him. 31 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 bondwoman, he shall give to their master thirty shekels of silver, and the ox shall be stoned. {s}

#### 21:33-34 Restitution when a pit causes the death of an animal {s}

21:33 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}

#### 21:35-36 Restitution when an ox causes the death of an animal {s}

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. 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}

return to contents

#### CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO

#### 22:1-4 Restitution when a theft is discovered {s}

22:1 If a man steals an ox, or a sheep, and kills it, or sells it, he shall pay five oxen for an ox, and four sheep for a sheep. 2 If a thief is found breaking in, and is struck so that he dies, there shall be no bloodguilt for him. 3 If the sun has risen on him, there shall be bloodguilt for him; find he shall make restitution; if he has nothing, then he shall be sold for his theft. 4 If the theft is found alive in his hand, whether it is an ox, or donkey, or sheep, he shall pay double. {s}

#### 22:5 Restitution when an animal feeds in another man's field {s}

22:5 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}

#### 22:6 Restitution when fire destroys a harvest {s}

**22:6** 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}

#### 22:7-9 Restitution when goods are lost from a neighbor's safe- keeping {s}

22:7 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. 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}

#### 22:10-13 Restitution when goods are destroyed from a neighbor's safe- keeping {p}

22:10 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. 12 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}

22:14-24 When restitution is not to be made ['You shall not commit adultery'] {sx3+p}

#### 22:14-15 Restitution when goods are borrowed {s}

22:14 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}

#### 22:16-17 Restitution when a virgin is seduced {s}

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. 17 If her father utterly refuses to give her to him, he shall pay money according to the bride price of virgins. {s}

#### 22:18-19 Sorceress = death penalty / Lying with animals = death penalty {s}

22:18 You shall not permit a sorceress to live. 19 Whoever lies with a beast shall surely be put to death. {s}

#### 22:20-24 Idolaters and afflicters of strangers, widows, orphans = destroyed {p}

22:20 He who sacrifices to the gods, save to YHVH only, shall be utterly destroyed. 21 And a stranger you shall not wrong, neither shall you oppress him; for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. 22 You shall not afflict any widow, or fatherless child. 23 If you afflict them in any way—for if they cry at all to Me, I will surely hear their cry— 24 My wrath shall wax hot, and I will kill you with the sword; and your wives shall be widows, and your children fatherless. {p}

- **22:25-24:18** Triennial *Imkesef talveh* "If you lend" *Israel made a covenant with YHVH to walk in His ways, which His commandments explain*
- **22:25-23:19** Not injuring your neighbor, strangers, or God ['Do not covet,' 'Do not bear false witness,' 'Honor the Sabbath'] {sx5+p}

#### 22:25-27 Not coveting interest or collateral from your neighbor {s}

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. 26 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? And it shall come to pass, when he cries to Me, that I will hear; for I am gracious. {s}

#### 22:28-31 Not coveting what belongs to God (s)

**22:28** You shall not revile God, nor curse a ruler of your people. **29** 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. **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}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER TWENTY-THREE**

#### 23:1-3 Not bearing false witness {s}

23:1 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. 3 Neither shall you favor a poor man in his cause. {s}

#### 23:4 Return your enemy's ox or donkey {s}

23:4 If you meet your enemy's ox or his donkey going astray, you shall surely bring it back to him again. {s}

#### 23:5 Relieve your enemy's donkey's burden {s}

23:5 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}

# 23:6-19 Not perverting justice or oppressing strangers / Sabbath rest / Not naming other gods / Harvest feasts {p}

23:6 You shall not subvert the judgment of your poor in his cause. 7 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. 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. 10 And six years you shall sow your land, and gather in its increase; 11 but the seventh year you shall let it rest and lie fallow; that the poor of your people may eat; and what they leave the beast of the field shall eat. In like manner you shall deal with your vineyard, and with your oliveyard. 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. 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. 14 Three times you shall keep a feast to Me in the year. 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; 16 and the feast of harvest, the firstfruits of your labors, which you sow in the field; and the Feast of Ingathering, at the end of the year, when you gather in your labors out of the field. 17 Three times in the year all your males shall appear before YHVH. 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. 19 The choicest firstfruits of your land you shall bring into the house of YHVH your God. You shall not boil a kid in its mother's milk. {p}

## 23:20-33 Israel shall make no covenant with the Canaanites or their gods to learn their ways {s+p}

#### 23:20-25 The Angel of YHVH will go before them in the way to Canaan {s}

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. 21 Take heed of him, and pay heed to his voice; do not be rebellious against him; for he will not pardon your transgression; for My name is in him. 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. 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. 24 You shall not bow down to their gods, nor serve them; nor do after their doings; but you shall utterly overthrow them, and break in pieces their pillars. 25 And you shall serve YHVH your God, and He will bless your bread, and your water; and I will take sickness away from your midst. {s}

#### 23:26-33 What YHVH will do to bring them in {p}

23:26 None shall miscarry, nor be barren in your land; the number of your days I will fulfill. 27 I will send My terror before you, and will discomfit all the people to whom you shall come, and I will make all your enemies turn their backs to you. 28 And I will send the hornet before you, which shall drive out the Hivite, the Canaanite, and the Hittite, from before you. 29 I will not drive them out from before you in one year, lest the land become desolate, and the beasts of the field multiply against you. 30 By little and little I will drive them out from before you, 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; for I will deliver the inhabitants of the land into your hand; and you shall drive them out before you. 32 You shall make no covenant with them, nor with their gods. 33 They shall not dwell in your land—lest they make you sin against Me, for you will serve their gods—for they will be a snare to you.' {p}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER TWENTY-FOUR**

# 24:1-18 Israel made a covenant with YHVH to walk in His ways {s+p} 24:1-11 Moses ratified the covenant between God and His people {s}

24:1 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.' 3 And Moses came and told the people all the words of YHVH, and all the ordinances; 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, 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. 6 And Moses took half of the blood, and put it in basins; and half of the blood he dashed against the altar. 7 And he took the book of the covenant, and read in the hearing of the people; and they said: 'All that YHVH has spoken will we do, and obey.' 8 And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said; 'Behold the blood of the covenant, which YHVH has made with you in agreement with all these words.' 9 Then Moses went up, and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel; 10 and they saw the God of Israel; and there was under His feet the likeness of a paved work of sapphire stone, and the likeness

of the very heaven for clearness. 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}

#### 24:12-18 Moses went into the cloud to receive the Torah {p}

24:12 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Come up to Me into the mount and be there; and I will give you the tables of stone, and the law and the commandment, which I have written, that you may teach them.' 13 And Moses rose up, and Joshua his minister; and Moses went up into the mount of God. 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.' 15 And Moses went up into the mount; and the cloud covered the mount. 16 And the glory of YHVH abode on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days; and the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. 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. 18 And Moses entered into the midst of the cloud, and went up into the mount; and Moses was in the mount forty days and forty nights. {p}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER TWENTY-FIVE**

25:1-27:19 Annual Terumah "Offering" The tabernacle prophesies of Messiah Yeshua
25:1-26:30 Triennial Terumah The offering commanded; the pattern for the Tabernacle given that YHVH may dwell among them

25:1-22 YHVH's sacred place is the Most Holy Place {s+p}

25:1-9 The offering commanded to build the Tabernacle {s}

25:1 And YHVH spoke to Moses, saying: 2 'Speak to the children of Israel, that they take for Me an offering; of every man whose heart makes him willing you shall take My offering. 3 And this is the offering which you shall take of them: gold, and silver, and bronze; 4 and blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' hair; 5 and rams' skins dyed red, and seal skins, and acacia wood; 6 oil for the light, spices for the anointing oil, and for the sweet incense; 7 onyx stones, and stones to be set, for the ephod, and for the breastplate. 8 And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them. 9 According to all that I show you, the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all its furniture, even so you shall make it. {s}

#### 25:10-22 The pattern for the ark of the covenant {p}

25:10 And they shall make an ark of acacia wood: two cubits and a half shall be its length, and a cubit and a half its breadth, and a cubit and a half its height. 11 And you shall overlay it with pure gold, within and without you shall overlay it, and shall make on it a crown of gold round about. 12 And you shall cast four rings of gold for it, and put them on its four feet; and two rings shall be on the one side of it, and two rings on the other side of it. 13 And you shall make poles of acacia wood, and overlay them with gold. 14 And you shall put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark, with which to bear the ark. 15 The poles shall be in the rings of the ark; they shall not be taken from it. 16 And you shall put into the ark the testimony which I shall give you. 17 And you shall make a mercy seat of pure gold: two cubits and a half shall be its length, and a cubit and a half its breadth. 18 And you shall make two cherubim of gold; of beaten work you shall make them, at the two ends of the mercy seat. 19 And make one cherub at the one end, and one cherub at the other end; of one piece with the mercy seat you shall make the cherubim at its two ends. 20 And the cherubim shall spread out their wings on high, screening the mercy seat with their wings, with their faces one to another; toward the mercy seat the faces of the cherubim shall be. 21 And you shall put the mercy seat above on the ark;

and in the ark you shall put the testimony that I shall give you. **22** And there I will meet with you, and I will speak with you from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are on the ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give you in commandment to the children of Israel. {p}

# 25:23-26:14 The patterns for the furniture and coverings for the Holy Place $\{p+s+p\}$ 25:23-30 The pattern for the table of showbread $\{p\}$

25:23 And you shall make a table of acacia wood: two cubits shall be its length, and a cubit its breadth, and a cubit and a half its height. 24 And you shall overlay it with pure gold, and make on it a crown of gold round about. 25 And you shall make for it a border of a handbreadth round about, and you shall make a golden crown for its border round about. 26 And you shall make for it four rings of gold, and put the rings in the four corners that are on its four feet. 27 Close by the border shall the rings be, for places for the poles to bear the table. 28 And you shall make the poles of acacia wood, and overlay them with gold, that the table may be borne with them. 29 And you shall make its dishes, and its pans, and its jars, and its bowls, with which to pour out; of pure gold you shall make them. 30 And you shall set on the table showbread before Me always. {p}

#### 25:31-40 The pattern for the golden lampstand (s)

25:31 And you shall make a lampstand of pure gold; of beaten work shall the lampstand be made, even its base, and its shaft; its cups, its knobs, and its flowers, shall be of one piece with it. 32 And there shall be six branches going out of its sides: three branches of the lampstand out of the one side, and three branches of the lampstand out of the other side; 33 three cups made like almond blossoms in one branch, a knob and a flower; and three cups made like almond blossoms in the other branch, a knob and a flower; so for the six branches going out of the lampstand. 34 And in the lampstand four cups made like almond blossoms, the knobs, and the flowers. 35 And a knob under two branches of one piece with it, and a knob under two branches of one piece with it, for the six branches going out of the lampstand. 36 Their knobs and their branches shall be of one piece with it; the whole of it one beaten work of pure gold. 37 And you shall make its lamps, seven; and they shall light its lamps, to give light over against it. 38 And its tongs, and its snuffdishes, shall be of pure gold. 39 Of a talent of pure gold shall it be made, with all these vessels. 40 And see that you make them after their pattern, which is being shown to you in the mount. {s}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER TWENTY-SIX**

### 26:1-14 The pattern for the curtains and coverings of the Tabernacle {p}

26:1 Moreover you shall make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine twined linen, and blue, and purple, and scarlet, with cherubim; the work of the skilful workman shall you make them. 2 The length of each curtain shall be twenty-eight cubits, and the breadth of each curtain four cubits; all the curtains shall have one measure. 3 Five curtains shall be coupled together one to another; and the other five curtains shall be coupled one to another. 4 And you shall make loops of blue on the edge of the one curtain that is outmost in the first set; and likewise you shall make in the edge of the curtain that is outmost in the second set. 5 Fifty loops you shall make in the one curtain, and fifty loops you shall make in the edge of the curtain that is in the second set; the loops shall be opposite to one another. 6 And you shall make fifty clasps of gold; and couple the curtains to one another with the clasps, that the tabernacle may be one

whole. 7 And you shall make curtains of goats' hair for a tent over the tabernacle; eleven curtains you shall make them. 8 The length of each curtain shall be thirty cubits, and the breadth of each curtain four cubits; the eleven curtains shall have one measure. 9 And you shall couple five curtains by themselves, and six curtains by themselves, and shall double over the sixth curtain in the front of the tent. 10 And you shall make fifty loops on the edge of the one curtain that is outmost in the first set, and fifty loops upon the edge of the curtain which is outmost in the second set. 11 And you shall make fifty clasps of bronze, and put the clasps into the loops, and couple the tent together, that it may be one. 12 And as for the overhanging part that remains of the curtains of the tent, the half curtain that remains over shall hang over the back of the tabernacle. 13 And the cubit on the one side, and the cubit on the other side, of that which remains over in the length of the curtains of the tent, shall hang over the sides of the tabernacle on this side and on that side, to cover it. 14 And you shall make a covering for the tent of rams' skins dyed red, and a covering of sealskins above. {p}

# 26:15-28:5 The form of the tabernacle and the function of the priesthood {sx5+p} 26:15-30 The pattern for the frame of the Tabernacle {s}

26:15 And you shall make the boards for the tabernacle of acacia wood, standing up. 16 Ten cubits shall be the length of a board, and a cubit and a half the breadth of each board. 17 Two tenons there shall be in each board, joined one to another; thus you shall make for all the boards of the tabernacle. 18 And you shall make the boards for the tabernacle, twenty boards for the south side southward; 19 And you shall make forty sockets of silver under the twenty boards: two sockets under one board for its two tenons, and two sockets under another board for its two tenons; 20 and for the second side of the tabernacle, on the north side, twenty boards. 21 And their forty sockets of silver: two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board. 22 And for the farthest part of the tabernacle westward you shall make six boards. 23 And two boards you shall make for the corners of the tabernacle in the farthest part. 24 And they shall be doubled at the bottom, and likewise they shall be doubled at the top by one ring; thus shall it be for them both; they shall be for the two corners. 25 Thus there shall be eight boards, and their sockets of silver, sixteen sockets: two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board. 26 And you shall make bars of acacia wood: five for the boards of the one side of the tabernacle, 27 and five bars for the boards of the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the boards of the side of the tabernacle, for the farthest part westward; 28 and the middle bar in the midst of the boards, which shall pass through from end to end. 29 And you shall overlay the boards with gold, and make their rings of gold for holders for the bars; and you shall overlay the bars with gold. 30 And you shall raise up the tabernacle according to the pattern which was shown you in the mount. {s}

**26:31-27:19 Triennial** *Parachet* "Partition" *Patterns for the separation of the Holy of Holies, Holy Place from the Outer Court* 

### 26:31-37 The pattern for the veil / Placement of ark, table, lampstand / Screen {s}

26:31 And you shall make a veil of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen; with cherubim, the work of the skilful workman it shall be made. 32 And you shall hang it on four pillars of acacia overlaid with gold, their hooks being of gold, on four sockets of silver. 33 And you shall hang up the veil under the clasps, and shall bring in the ark of the covenant within the veil; and the veil shall divide between the Holy Place and the most holy for you. 34 And you shall put the mercy seat on the ark of the testimony in the most holy place. 35 And you shall set the table outside the veil, and the lampstand over against the table on the side of the tabernacle toward the south; and you shall put the table on the north side. 36 And you shall make a screen for the door of the tent, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen,

the work of the weaver in colors. 37 And you shall make for the screen five pillars of acacia, and overlay them with gold; their hooks shall be of gold; and you shall cast five sockets of bronze for them. {s}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER TWENTY-SEVEN**

#### 27:1-8 The pattern for the altar {s}

27:1 And you shall make the altar of acacia wood, five cubits long, and five cubits broad; the altar shall be square; and the height of it shall be three cubits. 2 And you shall make horns on its four corners; and its horns shall be of one piece with it; and you shall overlay it with bronze. 3 And you shall make its pots to take away its ashes, and its shovels, and its basins, and its flesh-hooks, and its fire-pans; all its vessels you shall make of bronze. 4 And you shall make for it a grating of network of bronze; and on the network you shall make four brazen rings in its four corners. 5 And you shall put it under the ledge around the altar beneath, that the network may reach halfway up the altar. 6 And you shall make poles for the altar, poles of acacia wood, and overlay them with bronze. 7 And its poles shall be put into the rings, and the poles shall be on the two sides of the altar, for bearing it. 8 You shall make it hollow with planks; as it has been shown to you in the mount, so shall they make it. {s}

#### 27:9-19 The pattern for the outer court {s}

27:9 And you shall make the court of the tabernacle: for the south side southward there shall be hangings for the court of fine twined linen a hundred cubits long for one side. 10 And its pillars shall be twenty, and their sockets twenty, of bronze; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets shall be of silver. 11 And likewise for the north side in length there shall be hangings a hundred cubits long, and its pillars twenty, and their sockets twenty, of bronze; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets of silver. 12 And for the breadth of the court on the west side shall be hangings of fifty cubits: their pillars ten, and their sockets ten. 13 And the breadth of the court on the east side eastward shall be fifty cubits. 14 The hangings for the one side [of the gate] shall be fifteen cubits: their pillars three, and their sockets three. 15 And for the other side shall be hangings of fifteen cubits: their pillars three, and their sockets three. 16 And for the gate of the court shall be a screen of twenty cubits, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, the work of the weaver in colors: their pillars four, and their sockets four. 17 All the pillars of the court round about shall be filleted with silver; their hooks of silver, and their sockets of bronze. 18 The length of the court shall be a hundred cubits, and the breadth fifty every where, and the height five cubits, of fine twined linen, and their sockets of bronze. 19 All the instruments of the tabernacle in all its service, and all its pins, and all the pins of the court, shall be of bronze.' {s}

**27:20-30:10** Annual *Tetzaveh* "You shall instruct" The priesthood to tend the continual things; their coverings and consecration to YHVH

27:20-28:43 Triennial *Tetzaveh* Priesthood attends to the menorah, clothed in holy garments 27:20-21 Oil for the lampstand / Continual tending of the lampstand's light {s}

27:20 'And you shall command the children of Israel, that they bring to you pure beaten olive oil for the light, to cause the lamp to burn continually. 21 In the tent of meeting, outside the veil which is before the testimony, Aaron and his sons shall set it in order, to burn from evening to morning before YHVH; it shall be a statute forever throughout their generations on the behalf of the children of Israel. {s}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER TWENTY-EIGHT**

### 28:1-5 Aaron and his sons as priests, and their holy garments {p}

**28:1** And bring Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, near to you from among the children of Israel, that they may minister to Me in the priest's office, even Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's sons. **2** And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for splendor and for beauty. **3** And you shall speak to all who are wise of heart, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they make Aaron's garments to sanctify him, that he may minister to Me in the priest's office. **4** And these are the garments which they shall make: a breastplate, and an ephod, and a robe, and a tunic of checkered work, a turban, and a belt; and they shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, and his sons, that he may minister to Me in the priest's office. **5** And they shall take the gold, and the blue, and the purple, and the scarlet, and the fine linen. {p}

# 28:6-29:46 Priestly garments, consecration, and the continual offerings {sx6+p} 28:6-12 The pattern for the ephod {s}

28:6 And they shall make the ephod of gold, blue, purple, and scarlet thread, and finely woven linen, the work of the skillful workman. 7 It shall have two shoulder-pieces joined to its two ends, that it may be joined together. 8 And the skillfully woven band, which is on it, with which to gird it on, shall be of the same workmanship; of gold, blue, purple, and scarlet thread, and finely woven linen. 9 And you shall take two onyx stones, and engrave on them the names of the children of Israel: 10 six of their names on the one stone, and the names of the six that remain on the other stone, in the order of their birth. 11 With the work of an engraver in stone, like the engravings of a signet, you shall engrave the two stones, according to the names of the children of Israel. You shall set them in settings of gold. 12 And you shall put the two stones on the shoulder-pieces of the ephod as memorial stones for the children of Israel; and Aaron shall bear their names before YHVH on his two shoulders as a memorial. {s}

## 28:13-14 The pattern for the chain and settings of gold {s}

28:13 And you shall make settings of gold; 14 and two chains of pure gold; of plaited thread you shall make them, of entwined work; and you shall put the entwined chains on the settings. {s}

### 28:15-30 The pattern for the breastplate {s}

28:15 And you shall make a breastplate of judgment; the work of the skillful workman; like the work of the ephod you shall make it: of gold, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and finely woven linen, you shall make it. 16 Four-square it shall be and double: a span shall be its length, and a span its breadth. 17 And you shall set in it settings of stones, four rows of stones: a row of carnelian, topaz, and emerald shall be the first row; 18 and the second row a garnet, a sapphire, and a diamond; 19 and the third row a jacinth, an agate, and an amethyst; 20 and the fourth row an aquamarine, and an onyx, and a jasper; they shall be enclosed in gold in their settings. 21 And the stones shall be according to the names of the children of Israel, twelve, according to their names; like the engravings of a signet, every one according to his name, they shall be for the twelve tribes. 22 And you shall make on the breastplate plaited chains of entwined work of pure gold. 23 And you shall make on the breastplate two rings of gold, and shall put the two rings on the two ends of the breastplate. 24 And you shall put the two entwined chains of gold on the two rings at the ends of the breastplate. 25 And the other two ends of the two entwined chains you shall put on the two settings, and put them on the shoulder pieces of the ephod, in its frontpiece. 26 And you shall make two rings of gold, and you shall put them on the two ends of the breastplate, on its edge, which is toward the inner side

of the ephod. 27 And you shall make two rings of gold; and shall put them on the two shoulder pieces of the ephod underneath, in its frontpiece, close by its coupling, above the skillfully woven band of the ephod. 28 And they shall bind the breastplate by its rings to the rings of the ephod with a thread of blue, that it may be on the skillfully woven band of the ephod, and that the breastplate be not loosed from the ephod. 29 And Aaron shall bear the names of the children of Israel in the breastplate of judgment on his heart, when he goes into the Holy Place; for a memorial before YHVH continually. 30 And you shall put in the breastplate of judgment the urim and the thummim; and they shall be on Aaron's heart, when he goes in before YHVH; and Aaron shall bear the judgment of the children of Israel on his heart before YHVH continually. {s}

### 28:31-35 The pattern for the robe of blue {s}

28:31 And you shall make the robe of the ephod all of blue. 32 And it shall have a hole for the head in its midst; it shall have a binding of woven work round about its hole, as if it were the hole of a coat of mail, that it is not rent. 33 And on its skirts you shall make pomegranates of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, round about its skirts; and bells of gold between them round about: 34 a golden bell and a pomegranate, a golden bell and a pomegranate, on the skirts of the robe round about. 35 And it shall be on Aaron to minister; and its sound shall be heard when he goes in to the Holy Place before YHVH, and when he comes out, so that he does not die. {s}

#### 28:36-43 The pattern for the remaining garments (s)

28:36 And you shall make a plate of pure gold, and engrave on it, like the engravings of a signet: HOLY TO YHVH; 37 And you shall put it on a thread of blue, and it shall be on the turban; on the forefront of the turban it shall be. 38 And it shall be on Aaron's forehead, and Aaron shall bear the iniquity committed in the holy things, which the children of Israel shall hallow, even in all their holy gifts; and it shall always be on his forehead, that they may be accepted before YHVH. 39 And you shall weave the tunic in checker work of fine linen, and you shall make a turban of fine linen, and you shall make a belt, the work of the weaver in colors. 40 And for Aaron's sons you shall make tunics, and you shall make for them belts, and turbans you shall make for them, for splendor and for beauty. 41 And you shall put them on Aaron your brother, and on his sons with him; and shall anoint them, and consecrate them, and sanctify them, that they may minister to Me in the priest's office. 42 And you shall make them linen breeches to cover the flesh of their nakedness; from the loins even to the thighs they shall reach. 43 And they shall be on Aaron, and on his sons, when they go in to the tent of meeting, or when they come near to the altar to minister in the Holy Place that they bear not iniquity, and die; it shall be a statute for ever for him and for his seed after him. {s}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER TWENTY-NINE**

29:1-46 Triennial V'tzeh hadabar "This is the word" Consecrated priesthood to offer continual burnt offerings

#### 29:1-37 Instructions for the service of consecration (s)

29:1 And this is the thing that you shall do to them to hallow them, to minister to me in the priest's office; take one young bull and two rams without blemish, 2 and unleavened bread, and cakes unleavened mingled with oil, and wafers unleavened spread with oil; of fine wheat flour you shall make them. 3 And you shall put them into one basket, and bring them in the basket, with the bull and the two rams. 4 And Aaron and his sons you shall bring to the door of

the tent of meeting, and shall wash them with water. 5 And you shall take the garments, and put on Aaron the tunic, and the robe of the ephod, and the ephod, and the breastplate, and gird him with the skilfully woven band of the ephod. 6 And you shall set the turban on his head, and put the holy crown on the turban. 7 Then you shall take the anointing oil, and pour it on his head, and anoint him. 8 And you shall bring his sons, and put tunics on them. 9 And you shall gird them with belts, Aaron and his sons, and bind turbans on them; and they shall have the priesthood by a perpetual statute; and you shall consecrate Aaron and his sons. 10 And you shall bring the bull before the tent of meeting; and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on the head of the bull. 11 And you shall kill the bull before YHVH, at the door of the tent of meeting. 12 And you shall take of the blood of the bull, and put it on the horns of the altar with your finger; and you shall pour out all the remaining blood at the base of the altar. 13 And you shall take all the fat that covers the inward parts, and the lobe above the liver, and the two kidneys, and the fat that is on them, and make them smoke on the altar. 14 But the flesh of the bull, and its skin, and its dung, you shall burn with fire outside the camp; it is a sin offering. 15 You shall also take the one ram; and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands upon the head of the ram. 16 And you shall slay the ram, and you shall take its blood, and dash it round about against the altar. 17 And you shall cut the ram into its pieces, and wash its inward parts, and its legs, and put them with its pieces, and with its head. 18 And you shall make the whole ram smoke upon the altar; it is a burnt offering to YHVH; it is a sweet aroma, an offering made by fire to YHVH. 19 And you shall take the other ram; and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on the head of the ram. 20 Then you shall kill the ram, and take of its blood, and put it on the tip of the right ear of Aaron, and on the tip of the right ear of his sons, and on the thumb of their right hand, and on the great toe of their right foot, and dash the blood against the altar round about. 21 And you shall take of the blood that is on the altar, and of the anointing oil, and sprinkle it on Aaron, and on his garments, and on his sons, and on the garments of his sons with him; and he and his garments shall be hallowed, and his sons and his sons' garments with him. 22 Also you shall take of the ram the fat, and the fat tail, and the fat that covers the inward parts, and the lobe of the liver, and the two kidneys, and the fat that is upon them, and the right thigh; for it is a ram of consecration; 23 and one loaf of bread, and one cake of oiled bread, and one wafer, out of the basket of unleavened bread that is before YHVH. 24 And you shall put the whole in the hands of Aaron, and in the hands of his sons; and shall wave them for a wave offering before YHVH. 25 And you shall take them from their hands, and make them smoke on the altar on the burnt offering, for a sweet aroma before YHVH; it is an offering made by fire to YHVH. 26 And you shall take the breast of Aaron's ram of consecration, and wave it for a wave offering before YHVH; and it shall be your portion. 27 And you shall sanctify the breast of the wave offering, and the thigh of the heave offering, which is waved, and which is heaved up, of the ram of consecration, even of that which is Aaron's, and of that which is his sons'. 28 And it shall be for Aaron and his sons as a due for ever from the children of Israel; for it is a heave offering; and it shall be a heave offering from the children of Israel of their sacrifices of peace offerings, even their heave offering to YHVH. 29 And the holy garments of Aaron shall be for his sons after him, to be anointed in them, and to be consecrated in them. 30 Seven days shall the son that is priest in his stead put them on, even he who comes into the tent of meeting to minister in the Holy Place. 31 And you shall take the ram of consecration, and cook its flesh in a holy place. 32 And Aaron and his sons shall eat the flesh of the ram, and the bread that is in the basket, at the door of the tent of meeting. 33 And they shall eat those things with which atonement was made, to consecrate and to sanctify them; but a stranger shall not eat of it, because they are holy. 34 And if any of the flesh of the consecration, or of the bread, remain until the morning, then you shall burn the remainder with fire; it shall not be eaten, because it is holy. **35** And thus you shall do to Aaron, and to his sons, according to all that I have commanded you; seven days you shall consecrate them. **36** And every day you shall offer the bull of sin offering, besides the other offerings of atonement; and you shall do the purification on the altar when you make atonement for it; and you shall anoint it, to sanctify it. **37** Seven days you shall make atonement for the altar, and sanctify it; thus shall the altar be most holy; whatever touches the altar shall be holy. {s}

#### 29:38-46 Continual burnt offerings for the altar {p}

29:38 Now this is that which you shall offer upon the altar two lambs of the first year day by day continually. 39 The one lamb you shall offer in the morning; and the other lamb you shall offer at dusk. 40 And with the one lamb a tenth part of an ephah of fine flour mingled with the fourth part of a hin of beaten oil; and the fourth part of a hin of wine for a drink offering. 41 And the other lamb you shall offer at dusk, and shall do to it according to the grain offering of the morning, and according to its drink offering, for a sweet aroma, an offering made by fire to YHVH. 42 It shall be a continual burnt offering throughout your generations at the door of the tent of meeting before YHVH. 43 And shall be sanctified by My glory. 44 And I will sanctify the tent of meeting, and the altar; Aaron also and his sons will I sanctify, to minister to Me in the priest's office. 45 And I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will be their God. 46 And they shall know that I am YHVH their God, that brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, that I may dwell among them. I am YHVH their God. {p}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER THIRTY**

30:1-21 Continual prayer and washing surrounds atonement {px3}

30:1-10 Triennial V'ashit mizbe'ach "You shall make an altar" The pattern for the altar of incense

### 30:1-10 The pattern for the altar of incense / Continual incense on the altar {p}

**30:1** And you shall make an altar on which to burn incense; of acacia wood you shall make it. **2** A cubit shall be its length, and a cubit its breadth; foursquare it shall be; and two cubits shall be its height; its horns shall be of one piece with it. **3** And you shall overlay it with pure gold, its top, and its sides round about, and its horns; and you shall make for it a crown of gold round about. **4** And two golden rings you shall make for it under its crown, on its two ribs, on the two sides of it you shall make them; and they shall be for places for the poles to bear it. **5** And you shall make the poles of acacia wood, and overlay them with gold. **6** And you shall put it before the veil that is by the ark of the testimony, before the mercy seat that is over the testimony, where I will meet with you. **7** And Aaron shall burn on it incense of sweet spices; every morning, when he dresses the lamps, he shall burn it. **8** And when Aaron lights the lamps at dusk, he shall burn it, a perpetual incense before YHVH throughout your generations. **9** You shall offer no strange incense on it, nor burnt offering, nor grain offering; and you shall pour no drink offering on it. **10** And Aaron shall make atonement on the horns of it once in the year; with the blood of the sin offering of atonement once in the year he shall make atonement for it throughout your generations; it is most holy to YHVH.' {p}

**30:11-34:35** Annual Ki Tisa "When you take" The gospel of grace preached by type and fore-shadow from Torah

30:11-38 Triennial Ki tisa Atonement followed by washing, anointing, prayer

### 30:11-16 The atonement money for the Tabernacle {p}

**30:11** And YHVH spoke to Moses, saying: **12** 'When you take the sum of the children of Israel, according to their number, then every man shall give a ransom for his soul to YHVH, when you number them; that there is no plague among them, when you number them. **13** This they shall give, every one who passes among them who are numbered: half a shekel after the shekel of the sanctuary (the shekel is twenty gerahs); half a shekel for an offering to YHVH. **14** Every one who passes among them who are numbered, from twenty years old and upward, shall give the offering of YHVH. **15** The rich shall not give more, and the poor shall not give less, than the half shekel, when they give the offering of YHVH, to make atonement for your souls. **16** And you shall take the atonement money from the children of Israel, and shall appoint it for the service of the tent of meeting, that it may be a memorial for the children of Israel before YHVH, to make atonement for your souls.' {p}

## 30:17-21 The pattern for the laver of bronze {p}

**30:17** And YHVH spoke to Moses, saying: **18** 'You shall also make a laver of bronze, and its base of bronze, there to wash; and you shall put it between the tent of meeting and the altar, and you shall put water in it. **19** And Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet there; **20** when they go into the tent of meeting, they shall wash with water, that they do not die; or when they come near to the altar to minister, to cause an offering made by fire to smoke to YHVH; **21** so they shall wash their hands and their feet; that they do not die, and it shall be a statute for ever for them, even for him and for his seed throughout their generations.' {p}

30:22-31:11 Continual prayer at the heart of anointing to minister, being filled with the Spirit in all wisdom {s+s+p}

#### 30:22-33 The pattern for the holy anointing oil {s}

30:22 Moreover YHVH spoke to Moses, saying: 23 'Take also to you the chief spices: of flowing myrrh five hundred shekels, and of sweet cinnamon half so much, even two hundred and fifty, and of sweet calamus two hundred and fifty, 24 and of cassia five hundred, after the shekel of the sanctuary, and of olive oil a hin. 25 And you shall make it a holy anointing oil, a perfume compounded after the art of the perfumer; it shall be a holy anointing oil. 26 And you shall anoint with it the tent of meeting, and the ark of the testimony, 27 and the table and all its vessels, and the lampstand and its vessels, and the altar of incense, 28 and the altar of burnt offering with all its vessels, and the laver and its base. 29 And you shall sanctify them, that they may be most holy; whatever touches them shall be holy. 30 And you shall anoint Aaron and his sons, and sanctify them, that they may minister unto Me in the priest's office. 31 And you shall speak to the children of Israel, saying: "This shall be a holy anointing oil to Me throughout your generations. 32 On the flesh of man it shall not be poured, neither shall you make any like it, according to its composition; it is holy, and it shall be holy to you. 33 Whoever compounds any like it, or whoever puts any of it on a stranger, he shall be cut off from his people." {s}

## 30:34-38 The pattern for the holy incense {s}

**30:34** And YHVH said to Moses: 'Take sweet spices: stacte, and onycha, and galbanum; sweet spices with pure frankincense; of each shall there be the same weight. **35** And you shall make incense of it, a perfume after the art of the perfumer, seasoned with salt, pure and holy. **36** And you shall beat some of it very small, and put it before the testimony in the tent of meeting, where I will meet with you; it shall be to you most holy. **37** And the incense which you shall make, according to its composition you shall not make it for yourselves; it shall be to

you holy for YHVH. **38** Whoever shall make any like it, to smell it, he shall be cut off from his people.' {s}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER THIRTY-ONE**

31:1-32:14 Triennial R'eh qaratiy "See, I have called" Work and rest do not release from sin, but mediation secures release from wrath

#### 31:1-11 Bezalel and Aholiab called and gifted to make the Tabernacle {p}

31:1 And YHVH spoke to Moses, saying: 2 'See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah; 3 and I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, 4 to devise skilfull works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in bronze, 5 and in cutting of stones for setting, and in carving of wood, to work in all manner of workmanship. 6 And I, behold, I have appointed with him Oholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan; and in the hearts of all that are wise of heart I have put wisdom, that they may make all that I have commanded you; 7 the tent of meeting, and the ark of the testimony, and the mercy seat that is on it, and all the furniture of the Tent; 8 and the table and its vessels, and the pure lampstand with all its vessels, and the altar of incense; 9 and the altar of burnt offering with all its vessels, and the laver and its base; 10 and the embroidered garments, and the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and the garments of his sons, to minister in the priest's office; 11 and the anointing oil, and the incense of sweet spices for the Holy Place; according to all that I have commanded you they shall do.' {p}

31:12-32:6 Sabbath reminded, however Israel set aside a feast day of their own making to worship an idol of YHVH {s+p}

#### 31:12-17 The Sabbath commandment {s}

31:12 And YHVH spoke to Moses, saying: 13 'Speak also to the children of Israel, saying: "Truly you shall keep My Sabbaths, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am YHVH who sanctifies you. 14 You shall keep the Sabbath therefore, for it is holy to you; every one that profanes it shall surely be put to death; for whoever does any work in it, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. 15 Six days shall work be done; but on the seventh day is a Sabbath of solemn rest, holy to YHVH; whoever does any work in the Sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. 16 Therefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant. 17 It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel for ever; for in six days YHVH made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day He ceased from work and rested." '{s}

## 31:18-32:6 He gave Moses the tablets / idolatry committed [Covenant broken] {p}

**31:18** And He gave to Moses, when He had made an end of speaking with him on Mount Sinai, the two tables of the testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God.

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER THIRTY-TWO**

32:1 And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mount, the people gathered themselves together to Aaron, and said to him: 'Up, make us a god who shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.' 2 And Aaron said to them: 'Break off the golden rings, which are in the ears of your wives, of your sons, and of your daughters, and bring them to me.'

3 And all the people broke off the golden rings which were in their ears, and brought them to Aaron. 4 And he received it at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, and made it a molten calf; and they said: 'This is your god, O Israel, which brought you up out of the land of Egypt.' 5 And when Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation, and said: 'Tomorrow shall be a feast to YHVH.' 6 And they rose up early on the morrow, and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to make merry. {p}

## 32:7-14 Moses interceded for the people, and YHVH relented of His wrath {p}

32:7 And YHVH spoke to Moses: 'Go, get down; for your people, that you brought up out of the land of Egypt; have dealt corruptly; 8 they have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them; they have made for themselves a molten calf, and have worshiped it, and have sacrificed to it; and said: "This is your god, O Israel, which brought you up out of the land of Egypt." 9 And YHVH said to Moses: 'I have seen this people, and, behold, they are a stiffnecked people. 10 Now therefore let Me alone, that My wrath may wax hot against them, and that I may consume them; and I will make of you a great nation.' 11 And Moses besought YHVH his God, and said: 'YHVH, why does Your wrath wax hot against Your people, that You have brought forth out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? 12 Why should the Egyptians speak, saying: "For evil did He bring them forth, to slay them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth?" Turn from Your fierce wrath, and repent of this evil against Your people. 13 Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, Your servants, to whom You did swear by Your own Self, and said to them: "I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have spoken of I will give to your seed, and they shall inherit it for ever." 14 And YHVH repented of the evil which he said he would do to his people. {p}

32:15-34:35 Triennial Vayifen vayered Moshe "Moses turned and went down" The commandments restrain our sin, and allows the mediation of Messiah to secure our forgiveness and the renewal of the covenant of grace

32:15-33:11 Consequences: 3000 fell; YHVH will fulfill His word but will not go with them; tabernacle not built {s+p}

#### 32:15-35 The aftermath / Moses' intercession and YHVH's answer {s}

32:15 And Moses turned, and went down from the mount, with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand; tablets that were written on both their sides; on the one side and on the other were they written. 16 And the tablets were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, graven on the tablets. 17 And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses: 'There is a noise of war in the camp.' 18 And he said: 'It is not the voice of them that shout for mastery, neither is it the voice of them that cry for being overcome, but the noise of them that sing I do hear.' 19 And it came to pass, as soon as he came near to the camp, that he saw the calf and the dancing; and Moses' anger waxed hot, and he cast the tablets out of his hands, and broke them at the bottom of the mount. 20 And he took the calf which they had made, and burnt it with fire, and ground it to powder, and cast it on the water, and made the children of Israel drink of it. 21 And Moses said to Aaron: 'What did this people do to you, that you have brought a great sin on them?' 22 And Aaron said: 'Let not the anger of my lord wax hot; you know the people, that they are set on evil. 23 So they said to me: "Make us a god, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we know not what is become of him." 24 And I said to them: "Whoever has any gold, let them break it off;" so they gave it me; and I cast it into the fire, and there came out this calf.' 25 And when Moses saw that the people were broken loose— for Aaron

had let them loose to become a derision among their enemies—26 Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said: 'Who is on YHVH's side, let him come to me.' And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together to him. 27 And he said to them: 'Thus says YHVH, the God of Israel: "Gird every man his sword on his thigh, and go to and fro from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbor." 28 And the sons of Levi did according to the word of Moses; and there fell of the people that day about three thousand men. 29 And Moses said: 'Consecrate yourselves today to YHVH, for every man has been against his son and against his brother; that He may also bestow on you a blessing this day.' 30 And it came to pass on the morrow, that Moses said to the people: 'You have sinned a great sin; and now I will go up to YHVH; perhaps I shall make atonement for your sin.' 31 And Moses returned to YHVH; and said: 'Oh, this people have sinned a great sin; and have made them a god of gold. 32 Yet now, if You will forgive their sin—; and if not, blot me, I pray You, out of Your book which You have written.' 33 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Whoever has sinned against Me, him will I blot out of My book. 34 And now go, lead the people to the place of which I have spoken to you; behold, My angel shall go before you; nevertheless in the day when I visit, I will visit their sin on them.' 35 And YHVH struck the people, because they made the calf, which Aaron made. {s}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER THIRTY-THREE**

# 33:1-11 YHVH's presence will not go with them / Moses pitched his tent for the tabernacle of meeting {p}

33:1 And YHVH spoke to Moses: 'Depart, go up from here, you and the people that you have brought up out of the land of Egypt, to the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying: "To your seed will I give it"—2 and I will send an angel before you; and I will drive out the Canaanite, the Amorite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite—3 to a land flowing with milk and honey; for I will not go up in the midst of you; for you are a stiffnecked people; lest I consume you in the way.' 4 And when the people heard these evil tidings, they mourned; and no man put on his ornaments. 5 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Say to the children of Israel: "You are a stiffnecked people; if I go up in the midst of you for one moment, I shall consume you; therefore now put off your ornaments from you, that I may know what to do to you." 6 And the children of Israel stripped themselves of their ornaments from Mount Horeb onward. 7 Now Moses used to take the tent and to pitch it outside the camp, afar off from the camp; and he called it the tent of meeting. And it came to pass, that every one that sought YHVH went out to the tent of meeting, which was outside the camp. 8 And it came to pass, when Moses went out to the tent, that all the people rose up, and stood, every man at his tent door, and looked after Moses, until he was gone into the tent. 9 And it came to pass, when Moses entered into the tent, the pillar of cloud descended, and stood at the door of the tent; and He spoke with Moses. 10 And when all the people saw the pillar of cloud stand at the door of the tent, all the people rose up and worshiped, every man at his tent door. 11 And YHVH spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. And he would return into the camp; but his assisstant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, did not depart out of the tent. {p}

33:12-34:26 Annual Chol hamo'ed Pesach "Week Days of Passover" God forgives our iniquity, trespass, and sin (Passover); thus, we observe His commandments, that is, we do not allow sin to find a home in us, but purge out the old leaven (Unleavened Bread)

33:12-34:26 Mediation of Moses / YHVH's glory revealed / covenant renewed {px3}

### 33:12-16 Moses intercedes for YHVH's presence also, and YHVH agrees {p}

33:12 And Moses said to YHVH: 'See, You say to me: "Bring up this people;" and You have not let me know whom You will send with me. Yet You have said: "I know you by name, and you have also found grace in My sight." 13 Now therefore, I pray You, if I have found grace in Your sight, show me now Your ways, that I may know You, to the end that I may find grace in Your sight; and consider that this nation is Your people. 14 And He said: 'My presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest.' 15 And he said to Him: 'If Your presence does not go with me, do not carry us up from here. 16 For how shall it now be known that I have found grace in Your sight, I and Your people? Is it not in that You go with us, so that we are distinguished, I and Your people, from all the people that are on the face of the earth?' {p}

### 33:17-23 Moses asks to see YHVH's glory, and YHVH agrees {p}

**33:17** And YHVH said to Moses: 'I will do this thing also that you have spoken, for you have found grace in My sight, and I know you by name.' **18** And he said: 'Show me, I pray You, Your glory.' **19** And He said: 'I will make all My goodness pass before you, and will proclaim the name of YHVH before you; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.' **20** And He said: 'You cannot see My face, for man shall not see Me and live.' **21** And YHVH said: 'Behold, there is a place by Me, and you shall stand on the rock. **22** And it shall come to pass, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand until I have passed by. **23** And I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back; but My face shall not be seen.' {p}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER THIRTY-FOUR**

# 34:1-26 Moses makes new tablets, sees YHVH's glory, and the Commandments renewed [Covenant renewed] {p}

34:1 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Cut two tablets of stone like the first; and I will write on the tablets the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke. 2 And be ready by morning, and come up in the morning to Mount Sinai, and present yourself there to Me on the top of the mount. 3 And no man shall come up with you, neither let any man be seen throughout all the mount; neither let the flocks nor herds feed before that mount.' 4 And he cut two tablets of stone like the first; and Moses rose up early in the morning, and went up to Mount Sinai, as YHVH had commanded him, and took in his hand two tablets of stone. 5 And YHVH descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of YHVH. 6 And YHVH passed by before him, and proclaimed: 'YHVH, YHVH, God El, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth; 7 keeping mercy to the thousandth generation, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin; and who will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, and on the children's children, to the third and to the fourth generation.' 8 And Moses made haste, and bowed his head toward the earth, and worshiped. 9 And he said: 'If now I have found grace in Your sight, O Lord, let the Lord, I pray You, go in the midst of us; for it is a stiffnecked people; and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for Your inheritance.' 10 And He said: 'Behold, I make a covenant; before all your people I will do marvels, such as have not been wrought in all the earth, nor in any nation; and all the people among whom you are shall see the work of YHVH; for it is an awesome thing that I do with you. 11 Observe that which I am commanding you this day; behold, I am driving out before you the Amorite, and the Canaanite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, and the Hivite, and the Jebusite. 12 Take heed to yourself, lest you make a covenant with the

inhabitants of the land where you are going, lest they become a snare in the midst of you. 13 But you shall break down their altars, and dash in pieces their pillars, and you shall cut down their Asherim. 14 For you shall bow down to no other god; for YHVH, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God El; 15 lest you make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, and they go astray after their gods, and sacrifice to their gods, and they call you, and you eat of their sacrifice; 16 and you take their daughters for your sons, and their daughters go astray after their gods, and make your sons go astray after their gods. 17 You shall make no molten gods. 18 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 Abib, for in the month Abib you came out from Egypt. 19 All that opens the womb is Mine; and of all your cattle you shall sanctify the males, the firstborn of ox and sheep. 20 And the firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb; and if you will not redeem it, then you shall break its neck. All the firstborn of your sons you shall redeem. And none shall appear before Me empty-handed. 21 Six days you shall work, but on the seventh day you shall rest; in plowing time and in harvest you shall rest. 22 And you shall observe the Feast of Weeks, even of the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the Feast of Ingathering at the turn of the year. 23 Three times in the year shall all your males appear before the Lord YHVH, the God of Israel. 24 For I will cast out nations before you, and enlarge your borders; neither shall any man covet your land, when you go up to appear before YHVH your God three times in the year. 25 You shall not offer the blood of My sacrifice with leavened bread; neither shall the sacrifice of the Feast of the Passover be left until the morning. 26 The choicest firstfruits of your land you shall bring to the house of YHVH your God. You shall not boil a kid in its mother's milk.' {p}

34:27-35:1-3 Moses reflected God's glory encompassed by obedience {s+p} 34:27-35 Write these words on the tablets / Moses' face shone {s}

34:27 And YHVH said to Moses: 'Write these words, for after the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel.' 28 And he was there with YHVH forty days and forty nights; he neither ate bread, nor drank water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the ten words. 29 And it came to pass, when Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the testimony in Moses' hand, when he came down from the mount, that Moses did not know that the skin of his face sent forth beams while He talked with him. 30 And when Aaron and all the children of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face sent forth beams; and they were afraid to come near him. 31 And Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the rulers of the congregation returned to him; and Moses spoke to them. 32 And afterward all the children of Israel came near, and he gave them in commandment all that YHVH had spoken with him in Mount Sinai. 33 And when Moses finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face. 34 But when Moses went in before YHVH that He might speak with him, he took the veil off, until he came out; and he came out; and spoke to the children of Israel that which he was commanded. 35 And the children of Israel saw the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face sent forth beams; and Moses put the veil back on his face, until he went in to speak with Him. {s}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER THIRTY-FIVE**

35:1-38:20 Annual Vayakhel "And he assembled" God calls, equips, and provides for the work of the ministry done according to the commandments

**35:1-36:38 Triennial** *Vayakhel* Even the work of the ministry must rest on Sabbath, God supplying the needs of the work

### 35:1-3 Work on six days, but the seventh is the Sabbath of rest {p}

**35:1** And Moses assembled all the congregation of the children of Israel, and said to them: 'These are the words which YHVH has commanded, that you should do them. **2** Six days work shall be done, but on the seventh day there shall be to you a holy day, a Sabbath of solemn rest to YHVH; whoever does any work on it shall be put to death. **3** You shall kindle no fire throughout your habitations on the Sabbath day. {p}

### 35:4-29 Freewill offering commanded, and children of Israel brought {p}

35:4 And Moses spoke to all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying: 'This is the thing which YHVH commanded, saying: 5 "Take from among you an offering to YHVH, whoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it, YHVH's offering: gold, and silver, and bronze; 6 and blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' hair; 7 and rams' skins dyed red, and sealskins, and acacia wood; 8 and oil for the light, and spices for the anointing oil, and for the sweet incense; 9 and onyx stones, and stones to be set, for the ephod, and for the breastplate. 10 And let every gifted artisan among you come, and make all that YHVH has commanded: 11 the tabernacle, its tent, and its covering, its clasps, and its boards, its bars, its pillars, and its sockets; 12 the ark, and its poles, the mercy seat, and the veil of the screen; 13 the table, and its poles, and all its vessels, and the showbread; 14 the lampstand also for the light, and its vessels, and its lamps, and the oil for the light; 15 and the altar of incense, and its poles, and the anointing oil, and the sweet incense, and the screen for the door, at the door of the tabernacle; 16 the altar of burnt offering, with its grating of bronze, its poles, and all its vessels, the laver and its base; 17 the hangings of the court, its pillars, and their sockets, and the screen for the gate of the court; 18 the pegs of the tabernacle, and the pegs of the court, and their cords; 19 the embroidered garments, for ministering in the Holy Place, the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and the garments of his sons, to minister in the priest's office." 20 And all the congregation of the children of Israel departed from the presence of Moses. 21 And they came, every one whose heart stirred him up, and every one whose spirit made him willing, and brought YHVH's offering, for the work of the tent of meeting, and for all its service, and for the holy garments. 22 And they came, both men and women, as many as were of a willing heart, and brought nose rings, and earrings, and signet rings, and girdles, all jewels of gold; even every man that brought an offering of gold to YHVH. 23 And every man, with whom was found blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' hair, and rams' skins dyed red, and sealskins, brought them. 24 Every one that set apart an offering of silver and bronze brought YHVH's offering; and every man, with whom was found acacia wood for any work of the service, brought it. 25 And all the women that were wise-hearted spun with their hands; and brought that which they had spun, the blue, and the purple, the scarlet, and the fine linen. 26 And all the women whose heart stirred them up in wisdom spun the goats' hair. 27 And the rulers brought the onyx stones, and the stones to be set, for the ephod, and for the breastplate; 28 and the spice, and the oil, for the light, and for the anointing oil, and for the sweet incense. 29 The children of Israel brought a freewill offering to YHVH; every man and woman, whose heart made them willing to bring for all the work, which YHVH had commanded by the hand of Moses to be made. {p}

# 35:30-36:13 Bezalel called, equipped, supplied, and began the work {s+p} 35:30-36:7 Bezalel, artisans called, received what the children of Israel brought {s}

**35:30** And Moses said to the children of Israel: 'See, YHVH has called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. **31** And He has filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship. **32** And to devise skilful works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in bronze, **33** and in cutting of stones

for setting, and in carving of wood, to work in all manner of skilful workmanship. **34** And He has put in his heart that he may teach, both he, and Oholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan. **35** He has filled them with wisdom of heart, to work all manner of workmanship, of the craftsman, and of the skilful workman, and of the weaver in colors, in blue, and in purple, in scarlet, and in fine linen, and of the weaver, even of them that do any workmanship; and of those that devise skilful works.

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER THIRTY-SIX**

36:1 And Bezalel and Oholiab shall work, and every gifted artisan, in whom YHVH has put wisdom and understanding to know how to work all the work for the service of the sanctuary, according to all that YHVH has commanded.' 2 And Moses called Bezalel and Oholiab, and every gifted artisan, in whose heart YHVH had put wisdom, even every one whose heart stirred him up to come to the work to do it. 3 And they received of Moses all the offering, which the children of Israel had brought for the work of the service of the sanctuary, with which to make it. And they continually brought to him freewill offerings every morning. 4 And all the gifted artisans, that wrought all the work of the sanctuary, came every man from his work which they wrought, 5 and they spoke to Moses, saying: 'The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work, which YHVH commanded to make.' 6 And Moses gave commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying: 'Let neither man nor woman make any more work for the offering of the sanctuary.' So the people were restrained from bringing. 7 For the stuff they had was sufficient for all the work to make it, and too much. {s}

#### 36:8-13 He made the fine linen curtains for the tabernacle {p}

36:8 And every wise-hearted man among them that wrought the work made the tabernacle with ten curtains; of fine twined linen, and blue, and purple, and scarlet, with cherubim, the work of the skillful workman he made them. 9 The length of each curtain was eight and twenty cubits, and the breadth of each curtain four cubits; all the curtains had one measure. 10 And he coupled five curtains one to another; and the other five curtains he coupled one to another. 11 And he made loops of blue on the edge of the one curtain that was outmost in the first set; likewise he made in the edge of the curtain that was outmost in the second set. 12 Fifty loops he made in the one curtain, and fifty loops he made in the edge of the curtain that was in the second set; the loops were opposite one to another. 13 And he made fifty clasps of gold, and coupled the curtains one to another with the clasps; so the tabernacle was one. {p}

# 36:14-38 He made the coverings, frame, veil, screen for the outer court {s+p} 36:14-19 He made the coverings for the tabernacle {s}

**36:14** And he made curtains of goats' hair for a tent over the tabernacle; eleven curtains he made them. **15** The length of each curtain was thirty cubits, and four cubits the breadth of each curtain; the eleven curtains had one measure. **16** And he coupled five curtains by themselves, and six curtains by themselves. **17** And he made fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that was outmost in the first set, and fifty loops he made on the edge of the curtain which was outmost in the second set. **18** And he made fifty clasps of bronze to couple the tent together, that it might be one. **19** And he made a covering for the tent of rams' skins dyed red, and a covering of sealskins above. {s}

36:20-38 He made the boards, sockets, bars / Veil / Screen for the door and its pillars {p}

36:20 And he made the boards for the tabernacle of acacia-wood, standing up. 21 Ten cubits was the length of a board, and a cubit and a half the breadth of each board. 22 Each board had two tenons, joined one to another. Thus he made for all the boards of the tabernacle. 23 And he made the boards for the tabernacle; twenty boards for the south side southward. 24 And he made forty sockets of silver under the twenty boards: two sockets under one board for its two tenons, and two sockets under another board for its two tenons. 25 And for the second side of the tabernacle, on the north side, he made twenty boards, 26 and their forty sockets of silver: two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board. 27 And for the back part of the tabernacle westward he made six boards. 28 And two boards he made for the corners of the tabernacle in the back part; 29 that they might be double beneath, and in like manner they should be complete to its top to the first ring. Thus he did to both of them in the two corners. 30 And there were eight boards, and their sockets of silver, sixteen sockets; under every board two sockets. 31 And he made bars of acacia-wood: five for the boards of the one side of the tabernacle, 32 and five bars for the boards of the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the boards of the tabernacle for the back part westward. 33 And he made the middle bar to pass through in the midst of the boards from the one end to the other. 34 And he overlaid the boards with gold, and made their rings of gold for holders for the bars, and overlaid the bars with gold. 35 And he made the veil of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen; with the cherubim, the work of the skillful workman he made it. 36 And he made for it four pillars of acacia, and overlaid them with gold, their hooks being of gold; and he cast for them four sockets of silver. 37 And he made a screen for the door of the tent, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, the work of the weaver in colors; 38 and the five pillars of it with their hooks; and he overlaid their capitals and their fillets with gold; and their five sockets were of bronze. {p}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER THIRTY-SEVEN**

37:1-38:20 Triennial Vaya'as Betzalel "Betzalel made" Betzalel made the articles commanded for the Tabernacle

37:1-24 He made the ark, table, and lampstand for the Most Holy and Holy Place {px3}

#### 37:1-9 He made the ark of the covenant and the mercy seat {p}

37:1 And Bezalel made the ark of acacia wood: two cubits and a half was the length of it, and a cubit and a half the breadth of it, and a cubit and a half the height of it. 2 And he overlaid it with pure gold within and without, and made a crown of gold for it round about. 3 And he cast for it four rings of gold, in its four feet: even two rings on the one side of it, and two rings on the other side of it. 4 And he made poles of acacia wood, and overlaid them with gold. 5 And he put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark, to bear the ark. 6 And he made a mercy seat of pure gold: two cubits and a half was its length, and a cubit and a half its breadth. 7 And he made two cherubim of gold; of beaten work he made them, at the two ends of the mercy seat; 8 one cherub at the one end, and one cherub at the other end; of one piece with the mercy seat he made the cherubim at its two ends. 9 And the cherubim spread out their wings on high, screening the mercy seat with their wings, with their faces toward one another; toward the mercy seat were the faces of the cherubim. {p}

## 37:10-16 He made the table of showbread and its utensils {p}

37:10 And he made the table of acacia wood: two cubits was its length, and a cubit its breadth, and a cubit and a half its height. 11 And he overlaid it with pure gold, and made for it a crown

of gold round about. 12 And he made for it a border of a hand-breadth round about, and made a golden crown for its border round about. 13 And he cast for it four rings of gold, and put the rings in the four corners that were on its four feet. 14 Close by the border were the rings; the holders for the poles to bear the table. 15 And he made the poles of acacia wood, and overlaid them with gold, to bear the table. 16 And he made the vessels which were on the table, its dishes, and its pans, and its bowls, and its jars, with which to pour out, of pure gold. {p}

### 37:17-24 He made the lampstand and its utensils {p}

37:17 And he made the lampstand of pure gold; of beaten work he made the lampstand, even its base, and its shaft; its cups, its knobs, and its flowers, were of one piece with it. 18 And there were six branches going out of its sides; three branches of the lampstand out of its one side, and three branches of the lampstand out of its other side; 19 three cups made like almond blossoms in one branch, a knob and a flower; and three cups made like almond blossoms in the other branch, a knob and a flower. So for the six branches going out of the lamp-stand. 20 And in the lampstand were four cups made like almond blossoms, its knobs, and its flowers; 21 And a knob under two branches of one piece with it, and a knob under two branches of one piece with it, for the six branches going out of it. 22 Their knobs and their branches were of one piece with it; the whole of it was one beaten work of pure gold. 23 And he made its lamps, seven, and its tongs, and its snuffdishes, of pure gold. 24 Of a talent of pure gold he made it, and all its vessels. {p}

37:25-39:1 With the offering, Bezalel made all that YHVH commanded Moses {sx5+p}

#### 37:25-29 He made the altar of incense, its utensils, anointing oil, incense {s}

37:25 And he made the altar of incense of acacia wood: a cubit was its length, and a cubit its breadth, four-square; and two cubits was its height; its horns were of one piece with it. 26 And he overlaid it with pure gold, its top, and its sides round about, and the horns of it; and he made for it a crown of gold round about. 27 And he made for it two golden rings under its crown, on its two ribs, on the two sides of it, for holders for poles with which to bear it. 28 And he made the poles of acacia wood, and overlaid them with gold. 29 And he made the holy anointing oil, and the pure incense of sweet spices, after the art of the perfumer. {s}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER THIRTY-EIGHT**

#### 38:1-7 He made the altar of burnt offering and its utensils {s}

**38:1** And he made the altar of burnt offering of acacia wood: five cubits was its length, and five cubits its breadth, four-square, and three cubits its height. **2** And he made its horns on the four corners of it; its horns were of one piece with it; and he overlaid it with bronze. **3** And he made all the vessels of the altar, the pots, and the shovels, and the basins, the flesh-hooks, and the fire-pans; all its vessels he made of bronze. **4** And he made for the altar a grating of network of bronze, under the ledge round it beneath, reaching halfway up. **5** And he cast four rings for the four ends of the grating of bronze, to be holders for the poles. **6** And he made the poles of acacia wood, and overlaid them with bronze. **7** And he put the poles into the rings on the sides of the altar, with which to bear it; he made it hollow with planks. {s}

#### 38:8 He made the layer of bronze and its base {s}

**38:8** And he made the laver of bronze, and its base of bronze, of the mirrors of the serving women that served at the door of the tent of meeting. {s}

38:9-20 He made the things for the outer court {s}

38:9 And he made the court; for the south side southward the hangings of the court were of fine twined linen, a hundred cubits. 10 Their pillars were twenty, and their sockets twenty, of bronze; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets were of silver. 11 And for the north side a hundred cubits, their pillars twenty, and their sockets twenty, of bronze; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets of silver. 12 And for the west side were hangings of fifty cubits, their pillars ten, and their sockets ten; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets of silver. 13 And for the east side eastward fifty cubits. 14 The hangings for the one side were fifteen cubits; their pillars three, and their sockets three. 15 And so for the other side; on this hand and that hand by the gate of the court were hangings of fifteen cubits; their pillars three, and their sockets three; 16 All the hangings of the court round about were of fine twined linen. 17 And the sockets for the pillars were of bronze; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets of silver; and the overlaying of their capitals of silver; and all the pillars of the court were filleted with silver. 18 And the screen for the gate of the court was the work of the weaver in colors, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen; and twenty cubits was the length, and the height in the breadth was five cubits, answerable to the hangings of the court. 19 And their pillars were four, and their sockets four, of bronze; their hooks of silver, and the overlaying of their capitals and their fillets of silver. 20 And all the pins of the tabernacle, and of the court round about, were of bronze. {s}

**38:21-40:38** Annual *Pekudei* "Countings" The work of the tabernacle finished, erected, then covered and filled by the glory of YHVH

**38:21-39:1 Triennial** *Pekudei* The inventory of materials used to construct all that YHVH commanded Moses

#### 38:21-23 The inventory for the tabernacle: Bezalel made all {s}

**38:21** These are the accounts of the tabernacle, even the tabernacle of the testimony, as they were rendered according to the commandment of Moses, through the service of the Levites, by the hand of Ithamar, the son of Aaron the priest. **22** And Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, made all that YHVH commanded Moses. **23** And with him was Oholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan, a craftsman, and a skillful workman, and a weaver in colors, in blue, and in purple, and in scarlet, and fine linen. {s}

### 38:24-39:1 The gold, silver, bronze; and blue, purple, scarlet thread {p}

38:24 All the gold that was used for the work in all the work of the sanctuary, even the gold of the offering, was twenty-nine talents, and seven hundred thirty shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary. 25 And the silver of them that were numbered of the congregation was a hundred talents, and a thousand seven hundred seventy-five shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary: 26 a beka a head, that is, half a shekel, after the shekel of the sanctuary, for every one that passed over to them that are numbered, from twenty years old and upward, for six hundred three thousand, five hundred fifty men. 27 And the hundred talents of silver were cast for the sockets of the sanctuary, and the sockets of the veil: a hundred sockets for the hundred talents, a talent for a socket. 28 And of the thousand seven hundred seventy-five shekels, he made hooks for the pillars, and overlaid their capitals, and made fillets for them. 29 And the bronze of the offering was seventy talents, two thousand four hundred shekels. 30 And with it he made the sockets for the door of the tent of meeting, and the bronze altar, and the bronze grating for it, and all the vessels of the altar, 31 and the sockets of the court round about, and the sockets of the gate of the court, and all the pins of the tabernacle, and all the pins of the court round about.

#### **CHAPTER THIRTY-NINE**

**39:1** And of the blue, and purple, and scarlet, they made embroidered garments, for ministering in the Holy Place, and made the holy garments for Aaron, as YHVH commanded Moses. {p}

**39:2-32 Triennial** *Vaya'as et* "And he made" *He made the holy garments, and the work of the tabernacle was finished* 

39:2-21 He made the ephod and its shoulders and breastplate {s+p+p}

### 39:2-5 He made the ephod {s}

**39:2** And he made the ephod of gold, blue, and purple, and scarlet, and finely twined linen. **3** And they beat the gold into thin plates, and cut it into threads, to work it in the blue, and in the purple, and in the scarlet, and in the fine linen, the work of the skillful workman. **4** They made shoulder pieces for it, joined together; at the two ends it was joined together. **5** And the skillfully woven band, that was on it, with which to gird it on, was of the same piece and of like work: of gold, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, as YHVH commanded Moses. {s}

### 39:6-7 He made the shoulders of the ephod {p}

**39:6** And they wrought the onyx stones, enclosed in settings of gold, engraved with the engravings of a signet, according to the names of the children of Israel. 7 And he put them on the shoulder pieces of the ephod, to be stones of memorial for the children of Israel, as YHVH commanded Moses. {p}

#### 39:8-21 He made the breastplate {p}

39:8 And he made the breastplate, the work of the skillful workman, like the work of the ephod; of gold, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen. 9 It was foursquare; they made the breastplate double; a span was its length, and a span its breadth, being double. 10 And they set in it four rows of stones: a row of carnelian, topaz, and garnet was the first row. 11 And the second row, a ruby, a sapphire, and an emerald. 12 And the third row, a jacinth, an agate, and an amethyst. 13 And the fourth row, a beryl, an onyx, and a jasper; they were enclosed in fittings of gold in their settings. 14 And the stones were according to the names of the children of Israel, twelve, according to their names, like the engravings of a signet, every one according to his name, for the twelve tribes. 15 And they made on the breastplate corded chains, of braided work of pure gold. 16 And they made two settings of gold, and two gold rings; and put the two rings on the two ends of the breastplate. 17 And they put the two braided chains of gold on the two rings at the ends of the breastplate. 18 And the other two ends of the two braided chains they put on the two settings, and put them on the shoulder pieces of the ephod, in the front of it. 19 And they made two rings of gold, and put them upon the two ends of the breastplate, upon its edge, which was toward the side of the ephod inward. 20 And they made two rings of gold, and put them on the two shoulder pieces of the ephod underneath, in the front of it, close by the its coupling, above the skillfully woven band of the ephod. 21 And they bound the breastplate by its rings to the rings of the ephod with a thread of blue, that it might be on the skillfully woven band of the ephod, and that the breastplate might not be loosed from the ephod; as YHVH commanded Moses. {p}

# 39:22-26 He made the priestly garments, and finished the work of the tabernacle {sx3+p}

#### **39:22-26** He made the robe {s}

39:22 And he made the robe of the ephod of woven work, all of blue; 23 and the hole of the robe in its midst, as the hole of a coat of mail, with a binding round about its hole, that it

should not be rent. 24 And they made on the skirts of the robe pomegranates of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and twined linen. 25 And they made bells of pure gold, and put the bells between the pomegranates on the skirts of the robe round about, between the pomegranates: 26 a bell and a pomegranate, a bell and a pomegranate, on the skirts of the robe round about to minister in; as YHVH commanded Moses. {s}

#### 39:27-29 He made the tunics, turbans, and sashes {s}

**39:27** And they made the tunics of fine linen of woven work for Aaron, and for his sons, **28** and the turban of fine linen, and the beautiful headbands of fine linen, and the linen breeches of fine twined linen, **29** and the girdle of fine twined linen, and blue, and purple, and scarlet, the work of the weaver in colors; as YHVH commanded Moses. {s}

#### 39:30-31 He made the crown {s}

**39:30** And they made the plate of the holy crown of pure gold, and wrote on it a writing, like the engravings of a signet: HOLY TO YHVH. **31** And they tied to it a thread of blue; to fasten it over the turban; as YHVH commanded Moses. {s}

#### 39:32 All the work of the tabernacle was finished {p}

**39:32** Thus was finished all the work of the tabernacle of the tent of meeting; and the children of Israel did according to all that YHVH commanded Moses, so they did. {p}

**39:33-40:38** Triennial *Vayaviyu* "They brought" Moses erected the tabernacle, and YHVH's presence and glory covered and filled it

# 39:33-43 They brought the tabernacle to Moses; he found it done according to the commandment {p}

39:33 And they brought the tabernacle to Moses, the tent, and all its furniture, its clasps, its boards, its bars, and its pillars, and its sockets; 34 and the covering of rams' skins dyed red, and the covering of sealskins, and the veil of the screen; 35 the ark of the testimony, and its poles, and the mercy seat; 36 the table, all its vessels, and the showbread; 37 the pure lampstand, its lamps, even the lamps to be set in order, and all its vessels, and the oil for the light; 38 and the golden altar, and the anointing oil, and the sweet incense, and the screen for the door of the tent; 39 the bronze altar, and its grating of bronze, its poles, and all its vessels, the laver and its base; 40 the hangings of the court, its pillars, and its sockets, and the screen for the gate of the court, its cords, and its pins, and all the instruments of the service of the tabernacle of the tent of meeting; 41 the embroidered garments for ministering in the Holy Place; the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and the garments of his sons, to minister in the priest's office. 42 According to all that YHVH commanded Moses; so the children of Israel did all the work. 43 And Moses saw all the work, and, behold, they had done it; as YHVH had commanded, even so they had done it. And Moses blessed them. {p}

return to contents

#### **CHAPTER FORTY**

# 40:1-33 Moses erected the tabernacle and finished the work {sx8+p} 40:1-16 Moses to raise up the tabernacle on the first day of the first month {s}

**40:1** And YHVH spoke to Moses, saying: **2** 'On the first day of the first month you shall raise up the tabernacle of the tent of meeting. **3** And you shall put in it the ark of the testimony, and you shall screen the ark with the veil. **4** And you shall bring in the table, and set in order the bread that is on it; and you shall bring in the lampstand, and light its lamps. **5** And you shall set the golden altar for incense before the ark of the testimony, and hang the screen of the door to the tabernacle. **6** And you shall set the altar of burnt offering before the door of the

tabernacle of the tent of meeting. 7 And you shall set the laver between the tent of meeting and the altar, and shall put water in it. 8 And you shall set up the court round about, and hang up the screen of the gate of the court. 9 And you shall take the anointing oil, and anoint the tabernacle, and all that is in it, and shall hallow it, and all its furniture; and it shall be holy. 10 And you shall anoint the altar of burnt offering, and all its vessels, and sanctify the altar; and the altar shall be most holy. 11 And you shall anoint the laver and its base, and sanctify it. 12 And you shall bring Aaron and his sons to the door of the tent of meeting, and shall wash them with water. 13 And you shall put on Aaron the holy garments; and you shall anoint him, and sanctify him, that he may minister to Me in the priest's office. 14 And you shall bring his sons, and put tunics on them. 15 And you shall anoint them, as you anointed their father, that they may minister to Me in the priest's office; and their anointing shall be to them for an everlasting priesthood throughout their generations. 16 Thus Moses did; According to all that YHVH commanded him, so he did. {s}

## 40:17-19 On the first day of the first month, Moses set up the tabernacle {s}

**40:17** And it came to pass in the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, that the tabernacle was raised up. **18** And Moses raised up the tabernacle, and laid its sockets, and set up its boards, and put in its bars, and raised up its pillars. **19** And he spread the tent over the tabernacle, and put the covering of the tent above it; as YHVH commanded Moses. {s}

### 40:20-21 He put the tablets in the ark; brought the ark in and hung the veil {s}

**40:20** And he took and put the testimony into the ark, and set the poles on the ark, and put the mercy seat on the ark above. **21** And he brought the ark into the tabernacle, and set up the veil of the screen, and screened the ark of the testimony; as YHVH commanded Moses. {s}

### 40:22-23 He set up the table of showbread and put the bread in order on it {s}

**40:22** And he put the table in the tent of meeting, on the side of the tabernacle northward, outside the veil. **23** And he set a row of bread in order on it before YHVH; as YHVH commanded Moses. {s}

## 40:24-25 He set up the lampstand and lit the lamps before YHVH {s}

**40:24** And he put the lampstand in the tent of meeting, over against the table, on the side of the tabernacle southward. **25** And he lit the lamps before YHVH; as YHVH commanded Moses. {s}

## 40:26-27 He set up the altar of incense and burned incense on it {s}

**40:26** And he put the golden altar in the tent of meeting before the veil; **27** and he burnt on it incense of sweet spices; as YHVH commanded Moses. {s}

# 40:28-29 He set up the screen of the Holy Place, the altar of burnt offering, and offered {s}

**40:28** And he hung the screen of the door to the tabernacle. **29** And the altar of burnt offering he set at the door of the tabernacle of the tent of meeting, and offered on it the burnt offering and the grain offering; as YHVH commanded Moses. {s}

## 40:30-32 He set up the bronze laver and washed and Aaron and his sons {s}

**40:30** And he set the laver between the tent of meeting and the altar, and put water in it, with which to wash; **31** that Moses and Aaron and his sons might wash their hands and their feet at it; **32** when they went into the tent of meeting, and when they came near to the altar, they should wash; as YHVH commanded Moses. {s}

40:33 He raised up the outer court and hung up the screen; finishing the work {p}

**40:33** And he raised up the court round about the tabernacle and the altar, and set up the screen of the gate of the court. So Moses finished the work. {p}

# 40:34-38 The cloud and glory covered and filled the Tabernacle, directed their journey {p}

**40:34** Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of YHVH filled the tabernacle. **35** And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting, because the cloud abode on it, and the glory of YHVH filled the tabernacle. **36** And whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the children of Israel went onward, throughout all their journeys. **37** But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not journey till the day that it was taken up. **38** For the cloud of YHVH was on the tabernacle by day, and there was fire within it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys. {p}

return to contents

# The Teaching Tools of Scripture

God wants to be understood, so He has revealed truth about Himself to man. This truth is contained in the Scripture, into which He has also embedded teaching tools, which both Jewish and Christian scholars have brought to light. God wants to be understood, but He does not throw His pearls before swine (Mat 7:6). His gold and silver requires some digging, but treasure is just under the surface for those willing to look for it (Pro 2:1-6). This list of teaching tools is not comprehensive, but they have been the most help to me in unraveling the way Scripture reveals its truth.

THE PLAIN MEANING OF THE TEXT. God's Word means what it appears to mean, upon the simple reading of the text. An example is,

And God said, "Let the waters bring forth abundantly the living creature, and let that the winged creatures may fly above the earth in the open expanse of heaven." And God created the great sea creatures, and every living creature that moves, with which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged creature after its kind. And God saw that it was good. And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let winged creatures multiply in the earth." Gen 1:20-22

The plain meaning of the text is that God created sea creatures according to their kinds, which then multiplied after their kinds; and God created birds according to their kinds, which then multiplied after their kinds. Everything in the earth today, of plants, animals, and people, still multiplies after its kind. Orange trees do not produce blueberries, and cats do not bear puppies. This is as it has been from the beginning; unlike Darwinian evolution teaches.

PATTERNS AND REPETITION. The Scripture often establishes patterns in the narrative. Sometimes the repetition is enough to draw our attention to the fact that this cannot be coincidence; Scripture is trying to make a point about something. Sometimes, however, the pattern is broken, to draw attention to the break, because God is trying to teach something important.

An example of repetition is found in Gen 5:1-21. In the list of the descendants of Adam, each successive generation lived x years, begot his son, lived y years after his birth, begetting other sons and daughters, and died when he was z years old, over and over again until our eyes glaze. But then we have a break in pattern, which leaps off the page to us precisely because it is something different from the monotonous repetition preceding it.

And Enoch walked with God after Methuselah's birth for three hundred years, and became the father of sons and daughters. And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty-five years; and Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him. Gen 5:22-24

Someone didn't die! And that is the point Scripture is teaching by the teaching tool of repetition and break in pattern; walk with God and live.

COMPARISON AND CONTRAST. Scripture is loaded with real and seeming opposites, which draw our attention and invite us to make a closer examination. Examples are: Cain and Abel, Isaac and Ishmael, Jacob and Esau, Israel and Canaan. The Word and the Spirit. Grace and Law. Faith and works. The contrast between the two throws a spotlight on each, which is revealing.

**ORIGINAL HEBREW**. The Old Testament Scripture was penned (for the most part) in ancient Hebrew, God's beautiful language. In particular, God gave the *Torah* to Moses face to face on Mount Sinai—Moses wrote it in Hebrew, every word in its place as dictated by God. As one studies Hebrew, it becomes more and more apparent that not only were the themes of *Torah* God-inspired, but every word, even every letter, is in the place ordained for it by God.

Hebrew words come from verbal three-letter roots, with each letter originally a picture character, such as a house, a hand, or a sun. The three-letter roots themselves are more than just a name for a thing; each root "paints" a picture which tells a story, through its characters, which gives deeper meaning to the translated written message.

For example, the Hebrew word for "husband," as in, "For your Maker is your **husband**" (Isa 54:5) is from the Hebrew root, bet + ayin + lamed, = ba'al. Of course this word has a negative connotation because the Canaanites worshiped an idol they called *Baal*. But long before there were Canaanites, there were God's words in Hebrew, and husbands.

The *bet*  $\supseteq$  was originally the picture of the house or family. The *ayin*  $\lor$  was originally the picture of the eye. The *lamed*  $\lor$  was originally the picture of the shepherd's staff.

The husband, then, is the one who watches over (ayin) or shades his house (bet) like a shepherd (lamed) watches over or shades his flock, as God designed things from the beginning. Isn't that beautiful? Often this investigation into Hebrew will reveal God's great heart of love, which is not always readily apparent in English translation.

**PARAGRAPH DIVISIONS.** God's paragraph divisions, when He has concluded one topic and is ready to go on to the next, are included in *Torah* scrolls and Hebrew Bibles, but not in English translations. These divisions, which were given to Moses and the other authors of the Old Testament by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, have been preserved through the generations by the Hebrew and Jewish scribes who faithfully copied every letter of Scripture without alteration. They were discarded by the European and English translators.

There are two kinds of paragraph divisions, a weak division and a strong division. A weak division roughly indicates another facet of the same theme. A strong division roughly indicates a new theme or topic. God has divided His paragraphs the way He has for a reason; He is trying to teach us something! While sometimes the divisions occur in places which make sense to human logic, just as often they do not; I am sure this is one of the reasons the translators discarded them in the first place. However, where the paragraph divisions **aren't** is often just as telling as where they are, as they have revealed beautiful pictures of Messiah, salvation, the Gospel, and grace.

I mark weak divisions with an {s}, because the Hebrew for the weak division (*stumah*) begins with the "s" sound. I mark strong divisions with a {p}, because the Hebrew for the strong division (*p'tuchah*) begins with the "p" sound. Here is an example:

Deu 6:4-9 {s} Listen to YHVH's commandments

Deu 6:10-15 (s) Pay careful heed to YHVH's commandments

Deu 6:16-19 (s) Observe YHVH's commandments

Deu 6:20-25 (s) Teach YHVH's commandments to your children

Deu 7:1-11 {p} YHVH has set His love upon Israel

We can see that each weak paragraph in this series is a continuation of the same topic, that of our responsibility toward YHVH's commandments. The series concludes with a strong paragraph that at first glance does not seem to continue the topic. However, that is the teaching of this strong theme. Because YHVH has set His love upon Israel, He has given them His commandments, which, if observed, opens blessing over His people on this side of heaven (Lev 18:5, Deu 4:1, 4:40, 6:1-3, 6:24, 10:12-13, 28:1-2).

CHIASTIC STRUCTURES. The Scriptures, Old and New Testaments, contain chiastic structures from beginning to end. They are one of the thumbprints of God on His Word, that reveal a single divine author from beginning to end, as their beauty, elegance, logic, and symmetry is impossible for a human mind to create in the complexity that they are found in Scripture.

A chiastic structure is a narrative with a central point, which is the key point of the passage. The Spirit highlights that point by having the narrative around it zero in on it like an arrow. The way the narrative zeroes in on the central point is fascinating: let's say there are four elements or ideas in a passage that leads up to the central point. Following the central point, the same elements or ideas will be repeated in some way, but in reverse order. This makes pairings, as the element immediately preceding the central point is paired by common theme, to the element immediately following the central point, and so on throughout the narrative. There can be any number of elements or ideas. But that they repeat in reverse order around a central point is the key characteristic.

#### Gen 21:1-21 Chiastic Structure

1A) 21:1-3 YHVH TOOK NOTE OF SARAH, and fulfilled His promise concerning Isaac;

1B) 21:4 ABRAHAM DID UNTO ISAAC according to the Word of YHVH;

1C) 21:5-7 The son of Sarah caused the LAUGHTER OF JOY;

CENTRAL AXIS) GEN 21:8 THE CHILD GREW, AND WAS WEANED. ABRAHAM MADE A GREAT FEAST ON THE DAY THAT ISAAC WAS WEANED;" (I.E., ISAAC OFFICIALLY BECAME ABRAHAM'S HEIR);

2C) 21:9 The son of Hagar LAUGHED IN MOCKERY of Isaac;

**2B) 21:10-14 ABRAHAM DID UNTO ISHMAEL** according to the word of YHVH, and sent them away;

2A) 21:15-21 YHVH TOOK NOTE OF HAGAR, and fulfilled His promise concerning Ishmael.

There are complete structures that are one paragraph long, even one sentence long, and others which were five, ten, or twenty chapters long, with smaller structures embedded within them. There are elegant and complex structures overlapping other completely different elegant and complex structures, meaning that they share portions of a narrative for their ele-

ments, without once disturbing the flow of the narrative, or the symmetry of the greater and lesser structures around them. There are single structures that encompass an entire book of the Bible, from beginning to end. The *Torah* from Gen 1:1-Deu 34:12 makes a single structure. I believe the Old Testament makes a single structure, as well as the New, as well as the entire Bible from Gen 1:1-Rev 22:21 (I am working on mapping it). The events of the life of Yeshua form a chiastic structure. Well, that would make sense if He is the Word of God made flesh, and the chiastic structure is a thumbprint of the Holy Spirit on the text of the Word of God.

The thing that is amazing is that the central point often isn't what you might expect it to be, and sometimes, the matching pairs aren't what you would expect them to be a first glance either. But God has a reason for making His central points and His matching pairs as He has. Often He is revealing something beautiful and amazing about Himself, about Messiah, or the Gospel of salvation by grace through faith. Sometimes He reveals prophetic pictures. At any rate, He is trying to help us understand Him.

HISTORY THAT PROPHESIES. The history of Israel, recorded in *Torah* and the Old Testament history books, is not merely simple history, but it is a history which prophesies of spiritual truths and things to come. Most Christians are very aware of one example of history that prophesies: Israel's deliverance from slavery in Egypt, on the night the Passover lambs were slain and their blood was applied to the doorposts of their houses. This history actually happened, but this history also prophesies of our deliverance from slavery in the kingdom of darkness, when the blood of the Passover Lamb, Yeshua Messiah, is applied to the doorposts of our hearts. It is history that foretells the Gospel. However, this is not an isolated incident, but all the history of Israel recorded in Scripture likewise prophesies. Yeshua Messiah is the Word of God made flesh; He is the substance which casts the shadow of the written Word, so that the written Word points to and reveals Him.

NATURAL PICTURES. A similar tool to history that prophesies is the tool of natural pictures. Yeshua made heavy use of this teaching tool by teaching us many things about spiritual truths using parables. He often began a parable by saying, "The kingdom of heaven is like..." and then proceeded to tell a story about seeds, crops, harvests, landowners, fathers and sons, or some other aspect of normal human existence or the natural world with which His audience was well aware. That picture in the natural world was meant to teach us something about the spiritual world, or God, or the kingdom of heaven that we might not otherwise understand. Prophecy and the prophetic Scriptures also often employ this tool.

**TYPES.** Throughout the Old Testament, we find not only history that prophesies of Messiah, but persons whose lives strangely contain amazing elements that mirror Messiah's life and ministry. We find these "types" particularly in the *Torah*, which makes sense, since the purpose of *Torah* was to proclaim Messiah (Joh 5:46). We say that Isaac is a type of Messiah, since he was bound to be sacrificed by His father Abraham, but then he was restored to life, seemingly miraculously. This event in Isaac's life coincides with the same event in Messiah's life. Isaac is not the only type of Messiah in *Torah* or the Old Testament; and in fact, the Old Testament contains types of antichrist also.

SIGNS OF MESSIAH. God has placed signs, markers, and identifying guideposts in His Word to help us recognize when a person or passage is prophetic of Messiah. These signs of Messiah are consistently used, especially throughout the *Torah*. The first is the number three. Threes appear with overwhelming frequency in passages which prophesy of Messiah in some way, shape, or form. Another sign is resurrection life: someone's death seems certain or is certain, but miraculously, they escape death or are restored to life.

The life of Joseph beginning in Gen 37 is full of signs of Messiah. Three times he was brought low, where he experienced a death and resurrection metaphor: when his brothers put him in a dry well intending to kill him, but he was raised out of the pit to life; when he was sold as a slave in Egypt, so that the life he had known was ended, but he was raised up to the position of overseer over all that Potipher owned; and when he was cast into prison, so that the life he had known was again ended, but then was raised up to the position of overseer of all Egypt. There are other signs of Messiah in Scripture also.

COMMON THEMES. This is one of the most powerful teaching tools God has placed in Scripture. When multiple passages reveal the same theme or topic, even if they seem dissimilar at first glance, a comparison of those passages often reveals amazing insight, instruction, and wisdom. One simple example is the theme of the tree of life. This tree appears overtly in Gen 2:9, Gen 3:22-24, Rev 2:7, and Rev 22. But also the tree of life appears, perhaps not so covertly, in Psa 1. It is not mentioned by name, but it becomes clear upon consideration of the passage in its entirety, that its theme or topic is a life- giving tree. Comparison, then, of Gen 2:9, Gen 3:22-24, Psa 1, Rev 2:7, and Rev 22 (and any other passages in which the theme is the tree of life) will be instructive.

return to contents

# Titles by Christine Miller

SCRIPTURE REVEALED SERIES

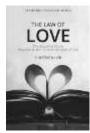
# The Revelation of Jesus Christ Revealed

Using the teaching tools embedded in Scripture, discover keys to unlock the prophecy with clarity and understanding. As the puzzle pieces fall into place, fear will vanish, replaced with joy. Tomorrow's headlines will not surprise you when you are forearmed with confidence in God's good plan for His people, and with wisdom to prevent foolish decisions in critical times.



## The Law of Love

If Yeshua is God incarnate (Joh 1:1,14) and the same yesterday, today, and forever (Heb 13:8) then the God of the Old Testament must be the same God of love as the God of the New Testament. But many describe e the God of the Old Testament as vengeful, wrathful, angry, and judgmental. We have misunder-stood the unique way Moses "writes about Messiah" (Joh 5:46) misunderstanding the Law, and the nature of the God whose Law it is. It is the Law of Love.



# Finding Messiah in Torah

If God has declared the end from the beginning (Isa 46:9-10a), then He has declared Messiah, the Gospel of grace, the new birth, and the free gift of eternal life from the very first chapter of the Bible. In fact, all of the Law declares Messiah and points to Him. "For had you believed Moses, you would have believed Me, for he wrote of Me." – Jesus, in Joh 5:46



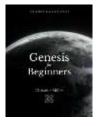
# From Sunday to Sabbath

The story of one Christian's journey from Sunday keeping, being raised in the American Church, to Saturday Sabbath keeping, and the subsequent investigation into all the objections concerned family and friends brought up because of doing something that was commanded in the Law.



# Bible for Beginners Series

If you are new to the Bible, but daunted trying to read it for yourself, this series is designed to help. Taking it one chapter at a time, each commentary highlights the common Teaching Tools of Scripture, history and culture, understanding the "hard" sayings, and the prophecies of Messiah Yeshua and the gospel of grace.



## The Chiastic Structure Series

The text of each book of the Bible forms a continuous string of chiastic structures from beginning to end. The structures illuminate the "hard" places of Scripture, elegantly revealing the Gospel of grace, and the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, as well as providing amazing insight into the message of Scripture.

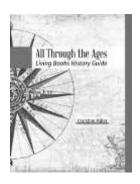


For more information and sample chapters, visit nothingnewpress.com

# Homeschooling Helps

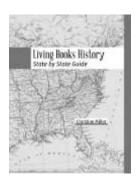
# All Through the Ages

Teach and learn history using "living books:" narrative histories, historical fiction, compelling non-fiction, biography and literature. History is full of excitement,, adventure, and heart-wrenching drama, which is almost always lost in textbooks. Bring the "story" back into "history," armed with a library card and this exhaustive guide for every reading level from pre-readers through college-bound adults, divided by chronological era and geographical region.



# State by State History Guide

In the same format as All Through the Ages above, but the focus is exclusively on United States history, state by state. Most homeschools are required to teach state history, and with this guide, you can, teaching and learning using "living books:" narrative histories, historical fiction, compelling non-fiction, biography and literature. Bring the "story" back into "history," with a library card and this exhaustive guide for every reading level from pre-readers through college-bound adults.



## Timelines from Creation to 1901

This eBook contains just the timelines from Nothing New Press' editions of Guerber's Histories: The Ancient World, The Greeks, The Romans, The Middle Ages, The Renaissance and Reformation, The Thirteen Colonies, and The Great Republic. The timelines cover Creation in 4004 BC, exactly as they appear in the newest editions of Guerber's Histories, all in one place, for your convenience.



# Narrative Histories, Reprinted & Expanded

# Story of the Ancient World

From Creation through the end of the Persian Empire in 331 BC, Old Testament history is interwoven with the history of the ancient civilizations.



# Story of the Pharaohs

The great men and women of Ancient Egypt, from the earliest records through its incorporation as a province of the Roman Empire. The chronology has been aligned with Biblical chronology.



# Story of the Greeks

From the first inhabitants of Greece through its incorporation as a province of the Roman Empire in 196 BC, told through the lives of its great men and ideas.



# Story of the Romans

From the first settlers of Italy through the end of the Empire of the West in AD 476, told through the lives of its famous leaders and citizens.



# Story of the Middle Ages

From the first inhabitants of Europe through the end of the War of the Roses in 1485, told through Europe's famous kings, knights, and saints.



# Story of the Renaissance and Reformation

The stories of the pivotal people and events of 15th and 16th century Europe are interwoven into a single harmonious and engaging narrative.



# Story of the Thirteen Colonies

Fascinating stories from the first inhabitants of North America and the Age of Exploration, through the end of the American War of Independence in 1783.



## Story of the Great Republic

From the end of the War of Independence through the opening of the 20th century, the story of the United States, her growth, milestones, and struggles.

