

Sheepfold Gleanings

MISHPATIM - ORDINANCES

Exodus 21:1 to 24:18
Jeremiah 34:8; 33:25-26
Matthew 5: 38-42
Hebrews 9:15-22; 10:28-39

Mishpatim – A Definition

Mishpat is a Hebrew word for which there is no English equivalent. *Mishpatim*, the plural use of *mishpat*, are Yahweh's ethical and moral guidelines that establish a moral *lifestyle* for us today. They are the keys to understanding and taking hold of who Yahweh has created us to be in Yeshua. They also establish Yahweh's Delivery, Yahweh's Deliverer and Yahweh's Power and Authority in our lives

Reviewing last week, we studied the ten words called the Ten Statements or categories of Yahweh's (Mosaic) Covenant. These are the principles of the wedding vows the Bride and Groom exchange with each other. The vows summarize the *anticipated lifestyle* both look forward to in their future marriage together. With this exchange, the bride and groom say, "We will obey," or "I do" and the wedding part of the relationship can now take place, as they have already entered into a covenant relationship.

The three phases to a Hebrew marriage: the betrothal, the wedding and the celebration are realized in the relationship between the children of Israel and Yahweh. This truth serves as a perpetual illustration of how the Bride (Israel) is chosen by her Bridegroom (Yeshua), is set-apart for Him (in her departure from Egypt/the world system), and is led to her *betrothal* by the Holy Spirit/*Ruach HaKodesh*. In preparation, she removes any soiled garments (sinful dishonoring nature), bathes herself, then dresses in pure spotless robes (righteousness), and comes under the *chuppah* in agreement to the marriage covenant with her Bridegroom. There she says, "I will obey" (Exodus 19:5-6; 20:1-17).

✠ **1 Corinthians 15:53** "For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality."

✠ **Colossians 3:8-15** "But now [*believers*,] you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his [*sinful dishonoring*] deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ/*Messiah* is all and in all. Therefore, as the elect [*betrothed*] of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone

has a complaint against another; even as Christ/*Messiah* forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.”

At this stage the couple is legally married but not living together. This in scripture is called *the betrothal* stage. For the next phase, *the wedding*, Moses leads the Bride to her wedding day by instructing her about her Covenant and how to enter the marriage. Without this teaching and instruction given at Mount Sinai, how can the Bride prepare herself? The Bride approaches her wedding day in the spirit of Elijah (Malachi 4:4-6). The Bridegroom recognizes His Bride as she is the one who “shall do according to what is in My heart and in My mind” according to the precepts of Torah Moses taught her at Mount Sinai. His Bride will not only have the Torah on her heart and look like the Bride who entered into Covenant with Him at Mount Sinai, but she will have the Messiah in her heart and look like His original Bride in the Garden. As Adam looked for a mate like himself, Yeshua is looking for His destiny mate in His chosen ones. (1 Samuel 2:35).

📖 **Genesis 2:23** And Adam said: "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh”

📖 **John 5:46-47** “Yeshua said, ‘For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?’”

Moses wrote out the Marriage Covenant called the *Mosaic covenant* or *ketubah* (Exodus 19-24). It was this testimony given to him by Yahweh that showed the Bride *how* to live her life with her Bridegroom in His Kingdom. Yahweh gave it to His Bride as a wedding gift for her to keep as a remembrance of their vows together. The *ketubah* is the outline or index to His whole Word, the Torah, the five books of Moses. The Bride’s name is *Israel*. The testimony Genesis to Revelation is a witness of Yahweh’s faithfulness to the Bride. The Bride’s part is to relate to the agreements of the Mosaic Covenant that she made with Him at Mount Sinai in every aspect of her life, allowing them to shape and form her heart and lifestyle into the destiny mate that delights her Husband. In effect all generations of Israel stood and received the Betrothal Covenant at that time (Acts 3:25-26). This Betrothal Covenant still stands today as a witness and is the vow and an oath we made when Yeshua came into our hearts (Deuteronomy 29:14-15; Deuteronomy 31:19; John 12:48).

In this study Yahweh continues expanding on the Ten Statements for His Bride to fully understand her Covenant and help her come to know her Bridegroom.

Hebrew Slaves

Exodus 21:1-2

Yahweh’s heart is for His people. In scripture, Hebrew slaves are ones who have come into difficulty and have had to sell themselves in order to pay their debt. We are the Hebrew slaves; our debt was immeasurable, and yet Yeshua has paid it for us *in full*.

Hebrew slaves are also ones who have received the Marriage Covenant from Yahweh but walk in opposition to it and slander His Kingdom principles with lies as we see in the parable of the talents in Matthew 25:14-30

Hebrew Slaves: The Parable of the Talents

Matthew 25:14-30 "For the *kingdom of heaven* is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money. After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them."

"So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.' His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.' He also who had received two talents came and said, 'Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.' His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'"

"Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.'"

"But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. Therefore take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents.'"

"For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Hebrew Slaves: The Prodigal Son

Luke 15:11-32

Then He [*Yeshua*] said: "A certain man had two sons [*Judah and Ephraim*]. And the younger of them [*Ephraim*] said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood. And not many days after, the younger son [*Ephraim*] gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land and he began to be in want. Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired

servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! 'I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. *Make me like one of your hired servants.*" '

"And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, *I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son*' [*repentance*]. But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry.

"Now his older son [*Judah*] was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.'

"But he [*Judah*] was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. So he answered and said to his father, 'Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.' "(Genesis 48:13-20).


Hebrew Slaves or Son of the King?

If we trespass against the vow we said we would keep, it can result in debts (curses) against us that we can become enslaved to (Exodus 21-23). Therefore, these same principles from Exodus are repeated with an even fuller in-depth explanation in Matthew 5:1 through 7:27 and in Luke 6:20-49. The Living Word, Yeshua, expounded on the original context of the Ten Statements from Mount Sinai when He spoke them again to bless His Bride on another mountain called - the Mount of Beatitudes.

Again, we are the Hebrew slaves and bring dishonor to Yahweh and His Word (our *ketubah*) if we strike our brother with words, mannerisms and attitudes that cause hurt emotionally, physically or verbally against our neighbor or family members. We personally rob our neighbor/family if we dishonor them by not showing the patience, unconditional/*agapa* love and respect due them or do not assist when there is a need. We are the ones who bring spiritual death upon our neighbors (and our selves) if we maim innocent people with our unclean/hurtful words, motives and actions toward others. We wound them and ourselves by our own undealt with sins of dishonor, and emotionally and spiritually abandon people through our untamed tongues and behavior. If we carry a broken heart, we become offended too easily. Offended people can become defensive, shut down or sit in passive suppressed anger affecting others around them. On the other hand those with broken hearts, to protect themselves, the hurt programming in their


souls will lead them to be verbally aggressive. Why? Many of us have broken hearts reaching all the way back to our childhoods that have not yet healed or been resolved. Because a broken heart is an orphan's heart, this causes us to be separated not only from ourselves and those who love us but also from Yahweh's blessings. The abundant life that He promises us can only come when we fully surrender our heart, and repent to Yahweh (heart circumcision) for all our unforgiveness and bitterness (filthiness) toward those who have hurt or dishonored us in the past. That deep repentance opens prison doors and frees hearts. With new hearts we will desire to learn to walk more faithfully in the footsteps of Yeshua, the healer of our souls. If not, we enslave our own soul into bondage because of our own sin, which in turn will infect others. This can bring spiritual and or physical death upon ourselves as it is a universal law that what seeds we sow is what we reap. Seeds grow into a harvest not only for this generation but for generations to come. What seeds are we sowing today? Will our harvest be of the fruit that brings abundant life? May we all choose to harvest life from the Tree of Life – Yeshua.

The Seed We Sow Is the Cup We Drink

 **1 Corinthians 7:23** "You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men."

What we sow by our words and our behavior will come back to us. The Bridal Cup is the cup of redemption and the chance to walk in a redemptive *lifestyle* given us by Yeshua. What we do with our Wedding Gift (ketubah) will determine the outcome of our lives in this world and in the world to come. We sow the kingdom we will inherit (Luke 16:19-31). Yeshua drank *our* cup and offered redemption to us in return. He drank the cup of bitterness described in Numbers 5 that was the test for a wife suspected of adultery, which was a witness against *us* because of *our* unfaithfulness to Him.

If we do not start to drink of Yeshua's wedding cup of redemption and praise but continue to drink from the cup of adultery (by continuing to walk in our own sinful ways and not in His principles), the cup we drink at His wedding *will* be the cup of jealousy. Therein lays the difference between being the Bride and being the wedding guest. In life's circumstances it could be easy to come into agreement and even feel justified with sins such as envy and bitterness. Sins like these, however, can often lead to *disease* in our bodies and even lead to death (spiritual *and* physical). Scripture says we will become sick and weak if we harbor these sins while partaking in His body. Some may even fall asleep (speaking of death) (1 Corinthians 11). Yeshua drank *our cup of jealousy* before His death, blotting out our sins forever. May we be found drinking the *cup of redemption* that gives life, and leave our old sinful ways of unforgiveness and bitterness behind us so we may enter into the marriage with our Bridegroom.

 **Proverbs 23:7** For as he thinks in his heart, so *is* he.

Yeshua paid our debt and took away our guilt of being the adulterous bride (Numbers 5:5-31). He died that He might remarry us and gave us a re-newed *ketubah*. Now that Yeshua has paid the ultimate price on our behalf, will we forgive our brother and go the extra mile? Will we love our wives as Yeshua loved His wife? Will we serve with a whole heart without grumbling, criticizing or being asked? Will we bring life to those who have no hope or love? Will we help remove the veil of doubt and despair and help others walk in a renewed hope of a Redeemer who loves

them? Or will we follow in the sinful dishonoring past of our ancestors? To walk in a renewed hope, to give and serve freely, and help others live for the sake of the Glory of the Bridegroom, Yeshua, is the lifestyle of the *redemption of all Israel*.

The Covenant that was written on stony hearts is now being written on hearts of flesh (Ezekiel 11:19-20; Ezekiel 18:31-32; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 8:8-10).

✿ **Luke 7:44-48** Yeshua said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven-- for she loved much. But he who has been forgiven little loves little.” Then Yeshua said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.”

✿ **Luke 10:30-37** “Yeshua said, ‘A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half-dead. A *priest* happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a *Levite*, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a *Samaritan*, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine.

‘Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two silver coins (redemption) and gave them to the innkeeper. “Look after him,” he said, “and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.” Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?’ The expert in the law replied, ‘The one who had mercy on him.’ Yeshua told him, ‘Go and do likewise.’ ”

Widows and Orphans – Love Your Neighbor

Exodus 22:22-23

Taking care of the widows and orphans in our midst is *key* to all societies on earth, for it is a universal law in Yahweh’s word. Blessings come as a result of walking in obedience to this directive. In the actual, physical realm, when there is a widow or orphan among us who is not properly cared for and they cry out against us, we will suffer the consequence of *our* families becoming fatherless. In the spiritual sense, if we husbands forsake our responsibilities in our own homes toward our wives and children, making them spiritual widows and orphans, and they cry out against the injustice, Yahweh’s anger will burn against us. The Word says lives will be taken for acts of injustice against widows and orphans. Acts of heartlessness committed against the poor will lead to poverty in our own lives. This is a sobering thought. How we treat our families and those around us affects our very lives. All of us are to take care of one another, just as the second greatest commandment instructs us to “Love your neighbor as yourself.” (Leviticus 19:18; Matthew 19:19; Mark 12:31; Luke 10:27; Romans 13:9; Galatians 5:14-15; James 2:8).

Sabbath Laws

Exodus 23:10-13

The Sabbath laws not only apply to the seventh day when man and beast were to rest and not work but to all Yahweh's Feast Days as well. The beginning and ending of the Levitical (priestly) Feast Days were also high holy Sabbaths (Leviticus 23). Sabbath laws extended to years also. The seventh year called *Shmita* in Hebrew is to be a Sabbath year of agricultural rest in the land of Israel, and the fiftieth Sabbath year called *Yovel* (seven Sabbath years) was a year when all debts were erased and slaves set free – called the year of liberty. These Sabbaths are pictures pointing to, and preparing the people for the return of the Bridegroom in the millennial Messianic era (the 7000 year) called *today, the Sabbath Rest and the Restoration of David's Tabernacle*. (Hebrews 4:1-16; Amos 9:11; Psalm 95:7-11; Luke 1:31).

✠ **Luke 4:16-19** “So He [*Yeshua*] came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of Yahweh is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD/YHVH." (Leviticus 25:10; Isaiah 61:1-3)

Today the *Shmita* and *Yovel* years are being restored in Israel and the ground is beginning to flourish. Coming back to Yahweh's order, His principles for life, and His lifestyle brings abundant blessings upon the land, the people of Israel, and the nations around them. As our hearts return to Yahweh, health and prosperity are restored to the land and to His people. (Leviticus 23; Luke 4:18; 2 Chronicles 36:21)

Three Annual Festivals

Exodus 23:14-17

We are to come to Yahweh in celebration and worship at His appointed times. His feasts are eternal appointments for each generation and are prophetic in nature, designed like a roadmap to bring the Bride to her wedding. Three times a year Yahweh's people are to come before Him to celebrate His feasts:

- ✠ Passover/Unleavened Bread
- ✠ Pentecost/*Shavuot*
- ✠ Tabernacles/*Sukkot*

The Passover and the seven-day celebration of Unleavened Bread reflect the calling forth of the bride of the Messiah and her consecration (as a royal priesthood). The counting of the omer (forty-nine days plus one or seven weeks) leads the Bride of the Messiah to her betrothal and the receiving of her Marriage Covenant, which was given at Mount Sinai during the Feast of Pentecost, also called Feast of Weeks or *Shavuot*. These are celebrated in the Spring. And thirdly, the Children of Israel were to come together to worship in the Fall at the Feast of

Ingathering starting with the Feast of Trumpets/*Yom Teruah*, ten days after celebrate Day of Atonement/*Yom Kippur* (the wedding day) and five days later on the Feast of Tabernacles, also called *Sukkot* or Booths, the time when the Bride and Groom come to the wedding ceremony and celebration.

Coming into these celebrations, with *Moses' writings and the Sabbath* as our guides, leads the Bride to her wedding, preparing her every step of the way to that special day. These Feasts are also called *paths of right ways or righteousness*. When the Feasts are not celebrated or honored, the Bride can be unprepared and may even miss her own wedding day. These Feasts are rehearsals until the actual day arrives. The more she rehearses them the more prepared she will be for the main event as each year deeper revelation of them is imparted to the Bride by the Holy Spirit/*Ruach HaKodesh*. The difference between those who are the Bride and those who are the wedding guests is *obedience* to Yahweh's principles in His Word. Obedience will bring the Bride *into* her wedding in holiness (Matthew 25:1-10).

The Cup

Exodus 23:18 "Do not offer the blood of a sacrifice to me along with anything containing yeast."

When we come together to remember Yeshua with the bread and wine, the bread we partake in should have no leaven (sin).

Shabbat is the sign of the Mosaic Covenant and is considered *the wedding ring* of the Bride, the sign of her devotion to the Covenant she made at Mount Sinai with her Bridegroom, Yeshua.

The Cups of Passover: The First Cup

In **Luke 22:17** Yeshua celebrated the Passover meal with His disciples. "***During*** that [*Passover*] meal He took **the cup** and gave thanks saying, 'Take this [*cup*] and divide it among you. For I tell you I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until the *kingdom of God* comes.' And he took [*unleavened*] bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.' "

The Passover meal is an *eternal feast* held once a year in the 14th day of the first month (Nisan) on the Hebrew calendar (March/April Gregorian calendar). It is this cup spoken of in Luke 22:17 that we drink during the Seder meal at Passover as a memorial of Yeshua's sacrifice as the Lamb of Yahweh who took our sins upon Himself. The term *kingdom of God* describes Yeshua's movement on the earth. It is also a reference to the Word of Yahweh in the flesh, Yeshua, the personification of Yahweh. When Yeshua said, "I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes," He was telling His disciples of His return as the Bridegroom for His Bride and the cup He would drink again with them at the wedding supper of the Lamb (Revelation 19:9).

The Second Cup

Luke 22:20 "In the same way, after the Passover meal he [Yeshua] took *the cup*, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.' "

When Yeshua had finished the Passover meal He then shared with His disciples the *cup of the covenant*—made possible because of the His shed blood for us. As the Bride keeps the Sabbath (likened to wearing her wedding ring to show she is a faithful bride), she drinks this cup in agreement to the vows exchanged earlier at Mount Sinai at *Shavuot*. This drink was confirming her vow that she would be faithful to her betrothal when she said, "Everything Yahweh has said we will do." And that was, firstly, to *obey* Him fully, and secondly, to *keep* His covenant (Exodus 19: 5-8; 24:5-8; 24; 3-11, Jeremiah 31:31-33; Hebrews 8:8-10).

The Third Cup

Luke 22:42 "Later that evening, Yeshua went to the Mount of Olives, there He prayed, 'Father, if you are willing, take *this cup* from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.' "

This cup was the cup for the suspicion of the unfaithful bride called the law of jealousy in Numbers 5:5-31. The *cup* for the Bride, if she were *unfaithful to her Marriage Covenant*, would cause her stomach to swell and her thigh to rot, and she would die. If the Bride were *faithful*, the *cup* she drank would not harm her.

Both Houses of Israel (the House of Judah and the House of Israel) have been unfaithful to their wedding vows (Jeremiah 5:11). This cup that Yeshua grieved over in the garden of Gethsemane was the cup of the unfaithful bride that Yeshua drank at His crucifixion. Drinking *her cup* brought about his death. Yeshua drank our cup and died our death, taking our sin upon Himself that we might have life. That is how much Yeshua forgave us and how much He loves us.

📖 **John 19:28-30** "Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the scripture would be fulfilled, Yeshua said, 'I am thirsty.' A jar [*cup*] of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Yeshua's lips. When he had received the drink, Yeshua said, 'It is finished.' With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit."

The cup we drink on **Sabbath**, or *as often as we remember Him* (and His Wedding Covenant), is both the second and third cup that Yeshua drank with us. The second cup (the cup of the Renewed Covenant) lets our Bridegroom know we intend to honor our wedding vow. Drinking it confirms our intention to walk in His ways. We also drink the third cup (of the adulterous bride), which exposes us if we have not be faithful to our Covenant with Him. If we drink the cup and have no intention of keeping the Marriage Covenant we have made with Yeshua and insist on doing our own thing and going our own way, then what Paul spoke about in 1 Corinthians 11 will be evident and apparent among us (Numbers 5:5-31).

1 Corinthians 11:27-30 "Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Messiah in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Messiah. But let

a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning Yeshua's body. For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep (reference to death)." (See also Hebrews 10:29.)

Drinking the cup of the adulterous bride, also called *the cup of bitterness*, reveals what is in our heart, such as unforgiveness, which produces bitterness. Diseases can enter our lives through a diseased spirit caused by unforgiveness and bitterness in our hearts. If our heart is unchecked and not repentant, when we drink the cup of the betrothal to Yahweh, we will literally be drinking a cup of truth that exposes our hearts. That cup then becomes a *bitter cup* to us that may cause our soul/flesh to eat away within us, and could eventually cause death spiritually or physically. This is Yahweh letting us know we have been adulterous before him. (See Deuteronomy 28 and 29 for descriptions of the curses of disobedience in contrast to the blessings for obedience.) If we repent of our sinful nature before Him, He is quick to forgive. When we drink the cup of the Covenant with a pure heart we will be made new by Yeshua's blood and be free to live life fully and abundantly in Him (Genesis 12:1-3; 15:17; Exodus 19:5-8; 24:5-8; 24:3-11)

🌿 **Hebrews 12:14-15** "Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; **lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled.**"

🌿 **Isaiah 58:13-14** " *If* you turn away your foot from the *Sabbath*, from doing your pleasure on My holy day, and call the *Sabbath* a delight, the holy day of Yahweh honorable, and shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words, **then** you shall delight yourself in Yahweh; and I will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth, and feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father. The mouth of Yahweh has spoken."

What Commandments did Yeshua Keep?

Yeshua said, "If you love me *you will obey what I command*, whoever *has my commands* and *obeys them*, he is the one who loves me. If anyone loves me, *he will obey my teaching*. My father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. If you remain in me and my words remain, you will be my disciples" (John 13:34-15:17).

What commandments did Yeshua keep and what commandments did Yeshua ask us to keep? Yeshua's commandments were spoken at Mount Sinai through Moses. Yeshua's commandments are Yahweh's commandments as Yeshua is the physical voice of Yahweh (John 1:1, 14).

🌿 **John 5:46** "For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me."

When celebrating in the Passover *Seder* (dinner), four cups of wine are shared during the recitation and singing of the *haggadah* (story) of the exodus from Egypt (world systems). As previously mentioned, a Hebrew wedding comes to pass in three phases: betrothal, wedding and celebration. Each cup at the Passover Seder represents these wedding stages of the Bride to her Bridegroom.

- ☞ The first cup of the Passover is the cup of *sanctification*.
- ☞ The second cup is the cup of *deliverance*.
- ☞ The third cup is the cup of *redemption*.
- ☞ The fourth cup is the cup of *praise*.

When the Bride is betrothed she is also redeemed, or, bought with a price. In the case of Yahweh and His Bride, this all happened at Mount Sinai in the first two stages of the wedding preparations. But then we see in scripture the Bride became a harlot with the making of the golden calf (Exodus 32:8). Under biblical law the groom could not remarry his Bride. The husband had to die, leaving the bride free to remarry again. This is what Yeshua did for us. He died our death for the adulterous Bride, canceling the debt of death upon us, so that He might *rise from death to remarry us*. That was His whole focal point as he chose to die for us.

Yeshua will marry a repentant, redeemed, *virgin* Bride. Thus the third cup of the Passover is the cup of redemption as the Bride has been redeemed.

The fourth cup is the cup the Bride will drink at the third stage of her wedding at the wedding ceremony with her Bridegroom. This is the cup of *praise*. As mentioned earlier, celebrating the Passover is an eternal feast. Not only is it a meal of remembrance of our past (leaving worldly systems and ungodly life choices that ensnares the Bride's heart) and coming into the wilderness to be betrothed with our Bridegroom, but it is also about our future; Passover is all about wedding preparations for the *Wedding Supper of the Lamb*. (See Exodus 32 and the book of Ruth concerning a kinsman redeemer, as well as Hebrews 4:1-13.)

Yahweh's Angel

Exodus 23:20-31

"See, I am sending an angel ahead of you to guard you along the way and to bring you to the place I have prepared. Pay attention to him and listen to what he says. Do not rebel against him; he will not forgive your rebellion, since my Name is in him" (Exodus 23:20-21).

In the wilderness Yahweh never leaves us nor forsakes us, this is why the "angel" was and is Yeshua. "Yeshua is the same *yesterday* and *today* and *forever*" (Hebrews 13:5-8; Deuteronomy 31:6; Psalm 118:6-7).

"IF you listen carefully to what He says and do all that I say, I will be an enemy to your enemies and will oppose those who oppose you. My angel will go ahead of you and bring you into the land of the Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Canaanites, Hivites and Jebusites, and I will wipe them out. Worship Yahweh your Elohim, and his blessing will be on your food and water. I will take away sickness from among you, and none will miscarry or be barren in your land. I will give you a full life span. I will send my terror ahead of you and throw into confusion every nation you encounter. I will make all your enemies turn their backs and run. I will establish your borders from the Sea of Reeds to the Mediterranean and from the desert to the Euphrates I will hand over to you the people who live in the land and you will drive them out before you. Do not make a covenant with them or with their gods. Do not let them live in your land, or they will cause you

to sin against me, because the worship of their gods will certainly be a snare to you" (Exodus 23:32-33).

The Covenant Confirmed

Exodus 24

Yahweh now called the leaders of Israel forward and had Moses meet the people to share all he had been taught by Yahweh. The people responded, "***Everything Yahweh has said we will do.***"

With the Covenant between both parties agreed upon, the betrothal was firmly established not only for that generation in Exodus but also *for the generations to come after them through the promised seed of Abraham, our generation included!* (References for promises to Abraham's seed: Genesis 21:12; Psalms 105:6; Luke 1:55; Acts 3:25; Romans 4:13, 16; 9:7; 11:1; 2 Corinthians 11:22; Galatians. 3:16; Hebrews 2:16.)

📖 **Deuteronomy 29:14-15** "I make this covenant and this oath, *not with you alone*, but with him who stands here with us today before Yahweh our God, *as well as with him who is not here with us today.*"

📖 **Hebrews 4:1-2** "Therefore, *since a promise [to Abraham's seed] remains* of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it [*the Covenant*]. *For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them*; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it."

"Moses then wrote down everything Yahweh said to the Israelites" (Exodus 24:4). This written declaration is called the *ketubah*, the Torah, the Bridal Covenant and belongs to the bride.

After writing the Covenant out, the next morning, Moses built an altar and "set up twelve stone pillars representing the twelve tribes of Israel." He sent young Israelite men to sacrifice the burnt offerings and fellowship offerings to Yahweh as a Covenant was always sealed with blood. Moses took half of the blood and put it in bowls and the other half he sprinkled on the altar (Exodus 24:5-6).

Then he took the newly written Book of the Covenant, the *ketubah*, and read it to the people. They responded again, "***We will do everything Yahweh has said; we will obey***" (Exodus 24:7).

Moses took the rest of the blood and *sprinkled it [the blood] on the people* saying, "This is the blood of the [*Marriage*] Covenant that Yahweh has made with you in accordance with all these words" (Exodus 24:8; Luke 22:20).

📖 **Matthew 27:24-25** "All the people answered, 'Let his blood be on us and on our children!' "

Yeshua laid His own life down for us. The ones who shouted they would take His blood upon them were the believers in a mixed crowd who knew His blood *had* to be on them, just as their ancestors had the blood sprinkled on *them* at Mount Sinai by Moses, the representative of

Yeshua. Yeshua's blood covering was the renewal of the Marriage Covenant to redeem the adulterous Bride. You want His blood to be upon you! This is a blessing not a curse.

The Apostle Peter, in his first letter, addressed the *Twelve Tribes of Israel* as those "elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and *sprinkling of the blood* of Jesus Christ [*the Messiah/Yeshua Ha Mashiach*]: Grace to you and peace be multiplied." In saying this, Peter was letting the recipients of the letter along with all believers know that they were all part of Israel, as only the twelve tribes of Israel were sprinkled by the blood at Mount Sinai (1 Peter 1:1-2).

Sealing the Covenant

Exodus 24:9-11

The ceremony for the Covenant was sealed when Moses, Aaron, Nadab and Abihu along with seventy elders of Israel "went up and **SAW** the God of Israel. Under His feet was something like a pavement made of sapphire, clear as the sky itself." There they entered into Covenant with Him by eating and drinking, completing the sealing of this union between the bride and the Bridegroom.

Leaving the leaders, Moses continued up the mountain. The cloud, the witness of Yahweh, enveloped him. Here he was given the stone tablets with the statements on them for their instruction. He stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights (Exodus 24:12-18).

📖 **Hebrews 9:15-22** "For this reason Yeshua is the mediator of a new [*renewed Marriage*] Covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance-- now that he [*Yeshua*] has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first [*Marriage*] Covenant. In the case of a will, [*same Greek word as Covenant*]; it is necessary to prove the death of the one who made it, because a will [*Covenant*] is in force only when somebody has died; it never takes effect while the one who made it is living." (Hebrews 8:8-10)

📖 **Hebrews 10:12-16** "When this priest [*Yeshua*] had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God."

📖 **Jeremiah 31:33** "This is the Covenant I will make with them after that time, says Yahweh. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds."



Shabbat Shalom
Julie Parker

Since its inception in 2003, *Sheepfold Gleanings* has been written under the pen name of *Carl and Julie Parker*. It will now be published under the author's name *Julie Parker*, with her husband Carl's continued support and covering.

Note: We are in the process of publishing the studies in soft spiral study format and soft bond format for prison ministry (an eBook format is coming!). **Exodus** is the second book in a five part series: **Genesis Exodus Leviticus Numbers and Deuteronomy**. Each book is part of the yearly Torah

cycle starting in Genesis and is designed to be used each year for study purposes. To pre order please contact the information below.

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