
Pearl Seeking

TREASURING HIS WORD

Let's do a quick overview of the entire Torah portion:

Monday:	Ex. 21:1-27	Right-Rulings
Tuesday:	Ex. 21:28-36	Right-Rulings
Wednesday:	Ex. 22	Right-Rulings
Thursday:	Ex. 23	Right-Rulings; Land Sabbath; Weekly Sabbath; Annual Festivals
Friday:	Ex. 24	Appearing before Yahweh; Blood Covenant; Book of the Covenant read

In this week's Parsha Pearls lesson, we will be covering some right-rulings that Yahweh gave Yisra'el. We have separated the instructions into subject headings for easy study. Because of some mature content, we have left some verses out. Parents may choose to cover these verses on their own. We have also referenced other passages to tie in similar verses as witnesses to the instruction. Now, let's read Exodus 21-23.

PARSHA POINTS

- Yahweh gave the children of Yisra'el His right-rulings (**mishpatim**) to set before them - 21:1

Right-Rulings Concerning Servants

- A Hebrew servant will serve for 6 (**shesh**) years and be set free the 7th year - 21:2; Deut. 15:12
 - If he came in alone, he goes out alone - 21:3
 - He is not to go out empty-handed but with flocks, grain and drink - Deut. 15:13-14
 - If he came in married, he goes out with his spouse - 21:3
 - If his master gave him a wife and he has children during the 6 years, the wife and children will stay with the master, but he may leave - 21:4
 - The servant may choose to stay and continue to be his servant forever, but he must pierce his ear with an awl to confirm the decision - 21:4-6; Deut. 16-17
 - If a master strikes their servant so that they die, the master shall be punished. If the servant does not die, the master is not punished - 21:20-21
 - If a master strikes the eye of his servant so that it is maimed or knocks out their tooth, he is to let the servant go out free - 21:26-27



Right-Rulings Concerning Violence

- The one who strikes a man *intentionally* (premeditated) so that he dies will be put to death - 21:12, 14
- If someone killed someone *unintentionally*, they would have a place of refuge to flee to - 21:13
- The one who strikes or curses their father or their mother shall be put to death - 21:15, 17
- If 2 (**shtayim**) people fight and one ends up injured but does not die, the one who struck the other is innocent but must pay for his loss of time from work and their medical needs - 21:18-19



Right-Rulings Concerning Animals

- If an animal owned by someone kills a human, then that animal shall be put to death. Their flesh is not eaten, and the owner is innocent - 21:28
- If an animal owned by someone kills a human and the owner was warned, then the owner and animal shall both be put to death - 21:29-31
- If an animal kills a servant of someone, then the owner is to give the master 30 (**shloshim**) sheqels of silver and the animal is stoned to death - 21:32
- If someone makes a pit and does not cover it so that someone's animals falls into it and dies the owner of the pit is to repay the owner of the animal silver and the dead animal is his - 21:33-34
- When the animal of an owner smites the animal of his neighbor so that he dies, then the live animal shall be sold and the profit from it be split between both owners as well as the dead animal - 21:35
- If the animal owned by someone kills another animal after the owner was warned, then the owner of the live animal shall repay animal for animal and keep the dead one - 21:36
- When an owner's animal is let loose and grazes in another's field or vineyard because his is bare, he will repay with the best from his field or vineyard - 22:5
- When one gives any of animals to be watched over by his neighbor and something happens to it, if the neighbor says he did his utmost to keep it safe then the owner must believe him and there is no fault - 22:10-11
- If an animal is stolen while a neighbor is watching over the owner's animals, then he will repay the owner of the animal - 22:12
- If an animal is torn to pieces while a neighbor is watching over it and he brings it for evidence, then he does NOT repay the owner - 22:13
- If an animal is borrowed and it is injured or dies while the owner is not there, the borrower has to pay for the loss - 22:14
- If an animal is borrowed or rented and it is injured or dies while the owner is there, the owner is responsible - 22:15
- Do NOT eat any flesh that was torn to pieces for you are set-apart - 22:31



Right-Rulings Concerning Theft

- The one who kidnaps a person and sells them will be put to death - 21:16
- The one who steals an ox or a sheep and kills it or sells it shall repay the owner 5 (**chamesh**) cattle for an ox and 4 (**arba**) sheep for a sheep - 22:1
- If someone breaks into a home and is killed by the owner, there is no guilt - 22:2
- If someone breaks into a home and is hurt by the owner and does not die, he will repay the owner - 22:2
- If someone breaks into a home and is hurt by the owner and does not die, and he cannot repay the owner he must be sold for his theft - 22:2
- If a thief is found with the animal he stole, he will repay double - 22:4
- If a man gives his silver or gold (valuables) to his neighbor to guard and it is stolen in his care, if the thief is found he repays double - 22:7
- If a man gives his silver or gold (valuables) to his neighbor to guard and it is stolen under his care, if the thief is NOT found then the owner will come before leadership for the verdict - 22:8
- For any cause involving theft between an owner and another, they both shall come before leadership and the one at fault will repay double - 22:9



Right-Rulings Concerning Causes for Termination of Life

- The one who practices witchcraft will be put to death - 22:18
- The one who offers a sacrifice to another elohim will be put to death - 22:20

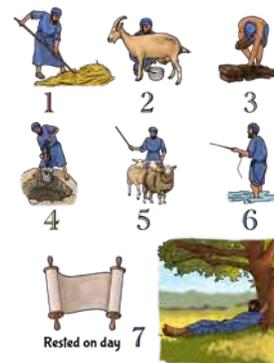
Right-Rulings Concerning Your Neighbor

- If one causes a fire that spreads to another's property, the one who kindled the fire shall repay - 22:6
- Treat a sojourner with kindness; Do NOT oppress them - 22:21; 23:9
- Do not take advantage of a widow or an orphan for Yahweh will repay those that do this - 22:22-24
- Do not give money to those in need with interest - 22:25
- If you take your neighbor's garment as collateral, you are to return it to him before sundown for Yahweh will hear and take care of them - 22:26-27
- Do NOT give a false report or be a malicious witness - 23:1
- Do NOT follow a crowd to do evil including bearing witness that is NOT correct so as to follow after the many - 23:2
- Do NOT show favoritism to the poor in a strife - 23:3
- Be kind to your enemy's animal regardless of how you feel about them - 23:4-5
- Do NOT turn aside correct right-ruling against one who is poor - 23:6
- Do NOT give a false testimony that results in the death of an innocent person - 23:7
- Do NOT take a bribe for favoritism in court - 23:8



Right-Rulings Concerning Rest

- Sow seed for 6 years but the 7th year you let it rest - 23:10-11; Leviticus 25:1-7
- The 7th year land rest is to provide food for the poor and the beasts of the field - 23:11
- Work 6 days but on the 7th day you rest, including your animals, servants and sojourners - 23:12



Right-Rulings Concerning Festivals and Offerings to Yahweh

• Festivals

- Three (**shalosh**) times in a year all males are to celebrate a festival to Yahweh - 23:14-17; Leviticus 23
 - The Festival of Unleavened Bread
 - 7 (**sheva**) days you eat unleavened bread (**matzot**) in the month of **Abib** / Aviv (barley harvest)
 - Do NOT appear before Me empty-handed
 - The Festival of the Harvest
 - Bring the first-fruits (**bikkurim**) of your labors from your field (wheat harvest)
 - The Festival of the Ingathering (**ha'asiph**)
 - You do this after you have gathered the fruit from the field (the end of the agricultural year)



Offerings

- Give of your first-fruits and first-born to Elohim; First-born are to be given to Yahweh the 8th (**shmoneh**) day - 22:29-30
- Do NOT bring leavened bread with your blood (animal) offerings - 23:18
- Do NOT leave the fat from the sacrifice until morning - 23:18
- Bring the first-fruits of the land to Yahweh - 23:19
- Do NOT boil a young goat in its mother's milk - 23:19

Right-Rulings Concerning Authority

- Give proper respect to those in authority - 22:28
- Obey the voice of the Messenger that I sent before/with you to receive the blessings and protection from Yahweh - 23:20-23

Right-Rulings Concerning Elohim

- Serve only Yahweh your Elohim so that you receive the blessings He promised to you - 23:25-33; Lev. 26

DIGGING DEEPER

Parents/Teachers may choose to use these prompts for further discussion of the Torah portion.

- Notice that most of these right-rulings are timely even for our day. Discuss how you can fulfill these in your own life. For example, how can you not be a party to repeating false rumors?
- Explain how the turning away from these very rules are the root of our declining societies all over the world.
- What does it mean when Yahweh tells us NOT to show favor to the poor? Is He favoring the wealthy or is this a caution against giving a wrong verdict just because you feel sorry for the poor? What does it mean when Yahweh tells us not to turn aside a correct verdict when one is poor? Again, is He telling us that everyone deserves a fair trial regardless of their status?

