



Portion:

Title:

SCRIPTURES

- Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19
- Luke 15:11-32
- Numbers 3:11-13
- Colossians 1:15-18
- Philippians 3:12-14
- Galatian 3:13
- Genesis 3:17-18
- 1 Cor. 1:2; 2 Cor. 5:17
- Romans 3:24; 6:11; 15:17;
8:1, 39

RELEASE IN ORDER TO REACH

- Female Captives
- The Right of the Firstborn
- Rebellious Children
- Sexual Relationships
- Excluded from the Assembly
- Sanitation and Rituals
- Humanitarian Precepts
- Marriage and Divorce
- Levirate Marriage
- A Man Hanged on a Tree

Have you ever pondered why there's seemingly no progress in your walk with Christ? Of course you have! You hear of all the promises the Bible makes to those who place their faith in Y'shua. But, you've yet to experience the drastic, visible and enjoyable transformation you've been promised. Have you considered what the problem is? It is your unwillingness to Release in order to Reach what is delaying the growth available to every fully redeemed believer.

THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURE(S) THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE

Rebellious Son

"If a man has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey the voice of his father or the voice of his mother, and, though they discipline him, will not listen to them, then his father and his mother shall take hold of him and bring him out to the elders of his city at the gate of the place where he lives, and they shall say to the elders of his city, 'This our son is stubborn and rebellious; he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton and a drunkard.' Then all the men of the city shall stone him to death with stones. So you shall purge the evil from your midst, and all Israel shall hear, and fear.
Deuteronomy 21:18-21

A Man Hanged on a Tree Is Cursed

"And if a man has committed a crime punishable by death and he is put to death, and you hang him on a tree, his body shall not remain all night on the tree, but you shall bury him the same day, for a hanged man is cursed by God. You shall not defile your land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance.
Deuteronomy 21:22-23

OUTCOME: MAIN TAKEAWAY(S) I AM HOPING FOR PEOPLE

And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in

reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything. "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you.

I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.'" And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate. Luke 15:11-32

Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. This week's Torah Portion is titled "When you go forth". In this section of Scripture, we read about Yahweh provisioning laws for His Children in order to provide directives as to how to live

life and deal with the circumstances that life brings . These laws are given as such in order that His Children behave as a Nation governed by a Higher Authority. These laws are in no way meant to hinder the life of His Children, on the contrary, they are given in order that they would flourish to the Covenantal Promises Yahweh made. We could study each individual law ad nauseam in order to grasp culturally how these laws were given to differentiate the Children of Israel to their neighboring nations, instead let's look at a few that should directly separate us from current societal behavior. And, how applying them will allow those who surround us also notice a difference.

CAPTURING FOREIGN WOMEN

1. **Specific Protocols to Follow**

A. **Don't Behave like the Nations**

- (1) "When you go out to war against your enemies, and the LORD your God gives them into your hand and you take them captive, and you see among the captives a beautiful woman, and you desire to take her to be your wife.

Deuteronomy 21:10

- (a) Yahweh makes a command for women to be respected in the fact that the men were not allowed to have their

way with them whenever they would conquer over another people group.

(b) They were commanded to follow a process if they desired the woman because of her beauty, this process would end in the woman becoming his wife.

(c) This process Yahweh commanded was two fold.

1. It kept the men of Israel from behaving like other nations.

2. It was customary in other cultures, women would normally be raped and killed or raped and turned into slaves if captured during a siege by the conquering army.

(2) ...and you bring her home to your house, she shall shave her head and pare her nails. Deuteronomy 21:12

(a) It is evident that Yahweh's intention was to cause the captor to look at the woman without some of the physical factors that made her appear beautiful at first glance.

(b) By having the captor go beyond the physical appearance of the woman. He would be forced to recognize if the decision is one he should follow through.

- (c) What would happen in our lives and ultimately our society, if we went beyond physical beauty as a measuring stick for how we feel about a potential spouse?
- (d) What would happen in our society if we learned what a person looks like in the “raw” before we get married?
- (e) Would it not make us have more value for the person we have an interest in if we were to go beyond superficial attributes?

THE RIGHT OF THE FIRSTBORN

2. The Firstborn is the Firstborn

A. The Beginning of his Strength

- (1) If a man has two wives, one beloved and another hated, and they have borne him sons, the beloved and the hated; and if the first-born son was of her that was hated, then it shall be in the day when he makes his sons to inherit what he has, he may not cause to inherit the son of the beloved **first-born** before the son of the hated one, he who is truly the **first-born**. But he shall acknowledge the son of the hated as the first-born by giving him a double portion of all that he has. For he is the beginning of his strength. The right of the **first-born** is his. Deuteronomy 21:15-17

(a) This law goes back to a law Yahweh instituted very early on

1. “Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: “Now behold, I Myself have taken the Levites from among the children of Israel instead of every **firstborn** who opens the womb among the children of Israel. Therefore the Levites shall be Mine, because all the **firstborn** are Mine. On the day that I struck all the **firstborn** in the land of Egypt, I sanctified to Myself all the firstborn in Israel, both man and beast. They shall be Mine: I am the LORD.”” Numbers 3:11-13 NKJV.

(b) “He is the image of the invisible God, the **firstborn** over all creation.”... “And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the **firstborn** from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.” (Colossians 1:15, 18 NKJV)

1. The firstborn topic is not one we are digging into in today’s. However, it is a topic we have dealt with at length at KEM. Please click on the link for sermon notes and video on [Miracle Army](#) for an expanded teaching.

THE REBELLIOUS SON

3. One of the two focal topics in today's Torah Portion study is a law provision given to the Children of Israel in how to deal with a "*Rebellious Son*".

A. The Prodigal Son

(1) And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything. "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father.

But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate. Luke 15:11-18

- (a) If you have been a Christian for five minutes, it is highly likely this law resonates with a New Testament account.
- (b) The New Testament account is commonly referred to as the Prodigal Son story.

(2) A Rebellious Son

- (a) For there to have been a Prodigal Son, there first needed to have been a ***Rebellious Son***.
- (b) It would be foolish to assume that the son in the Prodigal account woke up one day and said to himself (event though this story is a parable), "I want to take off from the life I get to live here with my family and go become a drunkard and a glutton, hang out with prostitutes, and blow off every single penny I have"

- (c) It is more feasible however, that the son had progressively become problematic and that the father had been disciplining his son and was unwilling to obey.
- (d) The father, knowing Torah, would have to execute the law and would have to bring his son in front of the elders to let them know he'd lost control of his son's behavior.
- (e) The son would then have to be judged and ultimately be stoned to death.
- (f) Y'shua tells the parable. He also knew the Torah. Why then did He not point out the father's inability or unwillingness to bring the son to the elders?
- (g) The answer is rather obvious
 1. In the parable, the father gives the son what he does not yet deserve. He gives him his inheritance. The inheritance was really only his after the death of the father.
 2. In giving him the inheritance the father displayed an act of grace.
 3. Is that not what God has done with us? Has He not allowed all of us to live a life devoid of a relationship with Him? Allowed us to enjoy all that this world has

to offer? But prior to our rebirth, we were headed to eternal damnation. Hopefully, if you are reading or hearing this, you had the same event take place in your life that the Prodigal Son had. What event was that you say?

4. You read it earlier in the verse, “Then he came to his senses” NIV
5. Have you come to your senses? Have you yet recognized the error of your ways? If the answer is yes, how is that displayed in the life you live today? Are you still struggling to let go of the personality / identity shaped by your Prodigal living?
6. You see, everyone of us has a past, however distant the events might be, there are events that have transpired in our life that have shaped our view and behavior. They have shaped our reactions to situations today, if those events have not been yet understood by us, the what, the why, the who. They will continue to cause us to stumble along the path of life bouncing like pin-balls off everything we bump into!

7. Is it because instead of who God has said you are, you are still hanging on to your old identity? (*more on this later...*)

RELEASE IN ORDER TO REACH

4. Forgetting what is Behind and Reaching Ahead

A. Don't Look Back

- (1) Listen to the words of the Apostle Paul regarding this matter.
 - (a) Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect, but I am pressing on, if I may lay hold of that for which I also was taken hold of by Christ Jesus. My brothers, I do not count myself to have taken possession, but one thing I do, *forgetting the things behind* (**release**) and **reaching** forward to the things before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:12-14
1. Jesus was cursed for our transgressions in order that we might be freed. Not just in the life to come but in the current one as well. We get to enjoy the freedom of living under His commands so that we might enjoy life to the fullest!

A MAN HANGED ON A TREE IS CURSED

5. Cursed for Our Sake!

A. Sin Made it Necessary

- (1) And if a man has committed a sin worthy of death, and if he is put to death and you hang him on a tree, his body shall not remain all night on the tree. But you shall surely bury him that day (for he that is hanged is accursed of God), so that your land may not be defiled, which Jehovah your God gives you for an inheritance. Deuteronomy 21:22-23
 - (a) We could not take a reading of this week's Torah Portion and not point out the New Testament parallel to this verse.
 - (b) Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, being made a curse for us (for it is written, "***Cursed is everyone having been hanged on a tree***") Galatian 3:13
 - (c) What was one of the indicators of Y'shua (Jesus) being cursed before He was hung on the Cross?
 - (d) Then Jesus came out wearing the ***crown of thorns*** and the purple robe. And Pilate said to them, Behold the man! John 19:5
- (2) In the book of Genesis, when God cursed the ground due to the sin committed by Adam and Eve, He said... And to

Adam He said, Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree, of which I commanded you, saying, You shall not eat of it! The ground is ***cursed for your sake***. In pain shall you eat of it all the days of your life. It shall also bring forth ***thorns*** and thistles to you, and you shall eat the herb of the field.

Genesis 3:17-18

- (a) The **cursed** ground was to bring forth thorns and eventually would find its way on the head of our Savior for the sin of the world in order that He would materially display ***the curse being placed on the Cross!***
- (b) In keeping with the law, after the Crucifixion, Jesus was removed from the Cross before sun down (It was also Passover as well).
- (c) Even after His death on the Cross our Savior was able to keep Torah.

CLOSING

6. All For Nothing if You Don't Know Your New Identity

A. Yahweh's Principles Always Apply

(1) Release In Order to Reach?

- (a) It is important to recognize that all of the topics handled in this study will have zero impact on our lives if we do

not realize the identity we received when Christ took over our lives. None of us will be going into battle with neighboring nations and end up taking beautiful women captive . However, you might be in a place right now where you are looking for a mate. Is your search mostly based on her / his external beauty? The principle established by Yahweh still applies. If that person were to remove some of the external beautification attributes, would that person still hold your attention? Further and beyond, are you considering marriage as the end result of your courtship? In light of God's revelations, as it relates to a past that has forged an identity miles apart from who He says you are, are you willing to ***Release In Order to Reach?***

- (2) Here are a few verses to consider and to memorize if possible as they relate to your Identity in Christ:
- (a) Being ***justified freely*** by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus; Romans 3:24
 - (b) Likewise count yourselves also to be ***truly dead to sin,*** but alive to God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 6:11

- (c) ...nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able ***to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*** Romans 8:39
 - (d) Therefore I have ***boasting*** in Christ Jesus as to the things pertaining to God. Romans 15:17
 - (e) ...to the church of God which is in Corinth, to those who are ***sanctified*** in Christ Jesus, called out with all those in every place who call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours. 1 Corinthians 1:2
 - (f) So that if anyone is in Christ, that one is a ***new creature; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.*** 2 Corinthians 5:17
 - (g) There is therefore now ***no condemnation*** to those who are in Christ Jesus, who walk ***not according to the flesh*** but according to ***the Spirit.*** Romans 8:1
- (3) Grab a tight hold of these verses, make them your own, recite them to yourself each and every time the enemy attempts to creep in with something from your past causing you to behave in a way inconsistent with who God says you are.

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

- 1. When reading about the law of the captive woman, what is the first thought that comes to mind?**
- 2. When reading about the law of the rebellious son, what is the first thought that comes to mind? Be honest...**
- 3. How could we apply some of the principles found in both of these laws today?**
- 4. In light of what Yahweh has revealed today in this Torah Portion, what changes will you be making to move closer to where He desires you to be?**
- 5. What area of your past is most troubling you?**
 - A. Are you ready today to do what the Apostle Paul exhorts the believer to do?
 - B. If not, what is stopping you?
 - C. Is not living in the freedom Christ provides worth letting go of the past?