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Parashah #42. Matot – tribes



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- Num 30:1-32:42
- Jer 1:1-2:3
- Act 9:1-22

Matot means “tribes”

Bemidbar (Numbers) 30:1-32:42

Bemidbar (Numbers) Chapter 30

Laws about Vows (Matthew 5:33–37)

¹ Then Mosheh said to the heads of the tribes of Yasharal, “This is what אלהים has commanded: ² If a man makes a vow to אלהים or swears an oath to obligate himself by a pledge, he must not break his word; he must do everything he has promised.

³ And if a woman in her father’s house during her youth makes a vow to אלהים or obligates herself by a pledge, ⁴ and her father hears about her vow or pledge but says nothing to her, then all the vows or pledges by which she has bound herself shall stand. ⁵ But if her father prohibits her on the day he hears about it, then none of the vows or pledges by which she has bound herself shall stand. אלהים will absolve her because her father has prohibited her.



⁶ If a woman marries while under a vow or rash promise by which she has bound herself, ⁷ and her husband hears of it but says nothing to her on that day, then the vows or pledges by which she has bound herself shall stand. ⁸ But if her husband prohibits her when he hears of it, he nullifies the vow that binds her or the rash promise she has made, and אלהים will absolve her.

⁹ Every vow a widow or divorced woman pledges to fulfill is binding on her.

¹⁰ If a woman in her husband's house has made a vow or put herself under an obligation with an oath, ¹¹ and her husband hears of it but says nothing to her and does not prohibit her, then all the vows or pledges by which she has bound herself shall stand. ¹² But if her husband nullifies them on the day he hears of them, then nothing that came from her lips, whether her vows or pledges, shall stand. Her husband has nullified them, and אלהים will absolve her.

¹³ Her husband may confirm or nullify any vow or any sworn pledge to deny herself. ¹⁴ But if her husband says nothing to her from day to day, then he confirms all the vows and pledges that bind her. He has confirmed them, because he said nothing to her on the day he heard about them. ¹⁵ But if he nullifies them after he hears of them, then he will bear her iniquity."



¹⁶ These are the statutes that אלהים commanded Mosheh concerning the relationship between a man and his wife, and between a father and a young daughter still in his home.

Bemidbar (Numbers) Chapter 31

Vengeance on Midian

¹ And אלהים said to Mosheh, ² “Take vengeance on the Midyanites for the Yasharalites. After that, you will be gathered to your people.”

³ So Mosheh told the people, “Arm some of your men for war, that they may go against the Midyanites and execute אלהים’s vengeance on them. ⁴ Send into battle a thousand men from each tribe of Yasharal.”

⁵ So a thousand men were recruited from each tribe of Yasharal—twelve thousand armed for war. ⁶ And Mosheh sent the thousand from each tribe into battle, along with Pinehas son of Al’azar the priest, who took with him the vessels of the sanctuary and the trumpets for signaling.

⁷ Then they waged war against the Midyanites, as אלהים had commanded Mosheh, and they killed every male. ⁸ Among the slain were Ewi, and Reqem, and Tsur, and Hur, and Reba, the five sovereigns of Midyan. And they killed Bil’am son of Be’or with the sword.



⁹ The Yasharalites captured the Midyanite women and their children, and they plundered all their herds, flocks, and goods.

¹⁰ Then they burned all the cities where the Midyanites had lived, as well as all their encampments, ¹¹ and carried away all the plunder and spoils, both people and animals.

¹² They brought the captives, spoils, and plunder to Mosheh, to Al'azar the priest, and to the congregation of Yasharal at the camp on the plains of Mo'ab by the Yardēn of Yeriho. ¹³ And Mosheh, Al'azar the priest, and all the leaders of the congregation went to meet them outside the camp.

¹⁴ But Mosheh was angry with the officers of the army—the commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds—who were returning from the battle. ¹⁵ “Have you spared all the women?” he asked them. ¹⁶ “Look, these women caused the sons of Yasharal, through the counsel of Balaam, to turn unfaithfully against אֱלֹהֵינוּ at Peor, so that the plague struck the congregation of אֱלֹהֵינוּ – YAHUAH. ¹⁷ So now, kill all the boys, as well as every woman who has had relations with a man, ¹⁸ but spare for yourselves every girl who has never had relations with a man.

¹⁹ All of you who have killed a person or touched the dead are to remain outside the camp for seven days. On the third day and the seventh day you are to purify both yourselves and



your captives. ²⁰ And purify every garment and leather good, everything made of goat's hair, and every article of wood."

²¹ Then Al'azar the priest said to the soldiers who had gone into battle, "This is the statute of the law which $\aleph\imath\aleph\aleph$ has commanded Mosheh: ²² Only the gold, silver, bronze, iron, tin, and lead— ²³ everything that can withstand the fire—must be put through the fire, and it will be clean. But it must still be purified with the water of purification. And everything that cannot withstand the fire must pass through the water. ²⁴ On the seventh day you are to wash your clothes, and you will be clean. After that you may enter the camp."

Division of the Spoils

²⁵ $\aleph\imath\aleph\aleph$ said to Mosheh, ²⁶ "You and Al'azar the priest and the family heads of the congregation are to take a count of what was captured, both of man and beast. ²⁷ Then divide the captives between the troops who went out to battle and the rest of the congregation.

²⁸ Set aside a tribute for $\aleph\imath\aleph\aleph$ from what belongs to the soldiers who went into battle: one out of every five hundred, whether persons, cattle, donkeys, or sheep. ²⁹ Take it from their half and give it to Al'azar the priest as an offering to $\aleph\imath\aleph\aleph$.





⁴² From the Yasharalites' half, which Mosheh had set apart from the men who had gone to war, ⁴³ this half belonged to the congregation:

337,500 sheep,

⁴⁴ 36,000 cattle,

⁴⁵ 30,500 donkeys,

⁴⁶ and 16,000 people.

⁴⁷ From the Yasharalites' half, Mosheh took one out of every fifty persons and animals and gave them to the Levites who kept charge of the tabernacle of אֶלֹהִים, as אֶלֹהִים had commanded him.

The Voluntary Offering

⁴⁸ Then the officers who were over the units of the army—the commanders of thousands and of hundreds—approached Mosheh ⁴⁹ and said, “Your servants have counted the soldiers under our command, and not one of us is missing. ⁵⁰ So we have brought to אֶלֹהִים an offering of the gold articles each man acquired—armlets, bracelets, rings, earrings, and necklaces—to make atonement for ourselves before אֶלֹהִים.”

⁵¹ So Mosheh and Al'azar the priest received from them all the articles made out of gold. ⁵² All the gold that the commanders



of thousands and of hundreds presented as an offering to אֲלֹהֵינוּ weighed 16,750 shekels. ⁵³ Each of the soldiers had taken plunder for himself. ⁵⁴ And Mosheh and Al'azar the priest received the gold from the commanders of thousands and of hundreds and brought it into the Tent of Meeting as a memorial for the Yasharalites before אֲלֹהֵינוּ.

Bemidbar (Numbers) Chapter 32

Reuben and Gad Settle in Gilead – East of the Yardēn (Deuteronomy 3:12–22 ; Yahushua 13:8–14)

¹ Now the children of Re'ubēn and the children of Gad, who had very large herds and flocks, surveyed the lands of Ya'zēr and the land of Gil'ad, and they saw that the region was suitable for livestock. ² So the children of Gad and the children of Re'ubēn came to Mosheh, Al'azar the priest, and the leaders of the congregation, and said, ³ “Ataroth, and Dibon, and Ya'zēr, and Nimrah, and Heshbon, and El'alēh, and Sebam, and Nebo, and Be'on, ⁴ which אֲלֹהֵינוּ conquered before the congregation of Yasharal, are suitable for livestock—and your servants have livestock.”

⁵ “If we have found favor in your sight,” they said, “let this land be given to your servants as a possession. Do not make us cross the Yardēn.”



⁶ But Mosheh asked the children of Gaḏ and to the children of Re'ubēn, "Shall your brothers go to war while you sit here?

⁷ Why are you discouraging the Yasharalites from crossing into the land that אלהים has given them? ⁸ This is what your fathers did when I sent them from Qaḏēsh Barnēa to inspect the land.

⁹ For when your fathers went up to the wadi Eshkol and saw the land, they discouraged the Yasharalites from entering the land that אלהים had given them. ¹⁰ So the anger of אלהים was kindled that day, and He swore an oath, saying, ¹¹ 'Because they did not follow Me wholeheartedly, not one of the men twenty years of age or older who came out of Egypt will see the land that I swore to give Abraham, Yitshaq, and Ya'aqob—
¹² not one except Kalēb son of Yephunneh, the Qenizzite, and Yahushua son of Nun,—because they did follow אלהים wholeheartedly.' ¹³ The anger of אלהים burned against Yasharal, and He made them wander in the wilderness forty years, until the whole generation who had done evil in His sight was gone.

¹⁴ Now behold, you, a brood of sinners, have risen up in place of your fathers to further stoke the burning anger of אלהים against Yasharal. ¹⁵ For if you turn away from following Him, He will once again leave this people in the wilderness, and you will be the cause of their destruction."



¹⁶ Then they approached Mosheh and said, “We want to build sheepfolds here for our livestock and cities for our little ones.

¹⁷ But we will arm ourselves and be ready to go ahead of the Yasharalites until we have brought them into their place. Meanwhile, our little ones will remain in the fortified cities for protection from the inhabitants of the land. ¹⁸ We will not return to our homes until every Yasharalite has taken possession of his inheritance. ¹⁹ Yet we will not have an inheritance with them across the Yardĕn and beyond, because our inheritance has come to us on the east side of the Yardĕn.”

²⁰ Mosheh replied, “If you will do this—if you will arm yourselves before אֱלֹהֵינוּ for battle, ²¹ and if every one of your armed men crosses the Yardĕn before אֱלֹהֵינוּ, until He has driven His enemies out before Him, ²² then when the land is subdued before אֱלֹהֵינוּ, you may return and be free of obligation to אֱלֹהֵינוּ and to Yasharal. And this land will belong to you as a possession before אֱלֹהֵינוּ – YAHUAH. ²³ But if you do not do this, you will certainly sin against אֱלֹהֵינוּ—and be assured that your sin will find you out. ²⁴ Build cities for your little ones and folds for your flocks, but do what you have promised.”

²⁵ The children of Gaḏ and the children of Re’uḇĕn said to Mosheh, “Your servants will do just as our master commands.

²⁶ Our children, our wives, our livestock, and all our animals will remain here in the cities of Gil’aḏ. ²⁷ But your servants are



equipped for war, and every man will cross over to the battle before אֶלֶל, just as our master says.”

²⁸ So Mosheh gave orders about them to Al'azar the priest, to Yahushua son of Nun, and to the family leaders of the tribes of Yasharal. ²⁹ And Mosheh said to them, “If the children of Gaḏ and the children of Re'ubēn cross the Yardēn with you, with every man armed for battle before אֶלֶל, and the land is subdued before you, then you are to give them the land of Gil'aḏ as a possession. ³⁰ But if they do not arm themselves and go across with you, then they must accept their possession among you in the land of Kena'an.”

³¹ The children of Gaḏ and the children of Re'ubēn replied, “As אֶלֶל has spoken to your servants, so we will do. ³² We will cross over into the land of Kena'an armed before אֶלֶל, that we may have our inheritance on this side of the Yardēn.”

³³ So Mosheh gave to the children of Gaḏ, to the children of Re'ubēn, and to the half-tribe of Menashsheh son of Yosēph the kingdom of Siḥon king of the Amorites and the kingdom of Oḡ king of Bashan—the land including its cities and the territory surrounding them.

³⁴ And the children of Gaḏ built up Diḇon and Ataroth and Aro'ēr, ³⁵ Atroth, Shophan and Ya'zēr and Yoḡbehah, ³⁶ and Bēyth Nimrah and Bēyth Haran as fortified cities, and they built folds for their flocks.



³⁷ The children of Re'ubēn built up Heshbon and El'alēh and Qiryathayim, ³⁸ as well as NNebo and Ba'al Me'on – the names being changed – and Shībmah. And they renamed the cities they rebuilt.

³⁹ The descendants of Maḳir son of Menashsheh went to Gil'ad, captured it, and drove out the Amorites who were there. ⁴⁰ So Mosheh gave Gil'ad to the clan of Maḳir son of Menashsheh, and they settled there. ⁴¹ Ya'ir, a descendant of Menashsheh, went and captured their villages and called them Həwoth Ya'ir. ⁴² And Noḇaḥ went and captured Qenath and its villages and called it Noḇaḥ, after his own name.

YirmeYahu (YirmeYahu) 1:1-2:3

YirmeYahu (YirmeYahu) Chapter 1

The Call of YirmeYahu

¹ These are the words of YirmeYahu son of Hīlqiyahu, one of the priests in Anathoth in the territory of Hīlqiyahu.

² The word of אֲנִי אָמַר came to YirmeYahu in the thirteenth year of the reign of Yoshiyahu son of Amon king of Yahudāh, ³ and through the days of Yahuyaqim son of Yoshiyahu king of Yahudāh, until the fifth month of the eleventh year of



Tsidqiyahu son of Yoshiyahu king of Yahudah, when the people of Yarushalayim went into exile.

⁴ The word of אלהים came to me, saying:

⁵ “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I set you apart
and appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

⁶ “Ah, Master אלהים,” I said, “I surely do not know how to speak, for I am only a child!”

⁷ But אלהים told me:

“Do not say,

‘I am only a child.’

For to everyone I send you,

you must go,

and all that I command you,

you must speak.

⁸ Do not be afraid of them,

for I am with you to deliver you,”



declares אלהים.

⁹ Then אלהים reached out His hand, touched my mouth, and said to me:

“Behold, I have put My words
in your mouth.

¹⁰ See, I have appointed you today
over nations and kingdoms
to uproot and tear down,
to destroy and overthrow,
to build and plant.”

¹¹ And the word of אלהים came to me, asking, “YirmeYahu, what do you see?”

“I see a branch of an almond tree,” I replied.

¹² “You have observed correctly,” said אלהים, “for I am watching over My word to accomplish it.”

¹³ Again the word of אלהים came to me, asking, “What do you see?”



“I see a boiling pot,” I replied, “and it is tilting toward us from the north.”

¹⁴ Then אֲנִי said to me, “Disaster from the north will be poured out on all who live in the land. ¹⁵ For I am about to summon all the clans and kingdoms of the north,” declares אֲנִי.

“Their kings will come and set up their thrones
at the entrance of the gates of Yarushalayim.

They will attack all her surrounding walls
and all the other cities of Yahudah.

¹⁶ I will pronounce My judgments against them
for all their wickedness,

because they have forsaken Me,
and they have burned incense to idols
and worshiped the works of their own hands.

¹⁷ Get yourself ready. Stand up and tell them everything that I command you. Do not be intimidated by them, or I will terrify you before them. ¹⁸ Now behold, this day I have made you like a fortified city, an iron pillar, and bronze walls against the



whole land—against the kings of Yahudah, its officials, its priests, and the people of the land. ¹⁹ ***They will fight against you but will never overcome you, since I am with you to deliver you,*** declares אלהים.

YirmeYahu (YirmeYahu) Chapter 2

Yasharal Has Forsaken Alahym

¹ Now the word of אלהים came to me, saying, ² “Go and proclaim in the hearing of Yarushalayim that this is what אלהים says:

‘I remember the loving-commitment of your youth,
your love as a bride,
how you followed Me in the wilderness,
in a land not sown.

³ Yasharal was set apart to אלהים,
the firstfruits of His harvest.

All who devoured her
were found guilty;
disaster came upon them,’ ”



declares אֵלֶּיךָ.

Ma`asei (Acts) 9:1-22

Ma`asei (Acts) Chapter 9

The Conversion of Sh'aul (Acts 22:1–21 , 26:1–23)

¹ Meanwhile, Sha'ul was still breathing out murderous threats against the taught ones of the Master. He approached the high priest ² and requested letters to the synagogues in Dammeseq, so that if he found any men or women belonging to **the Way**, he could bring them as prisoners to Yarushalayim.

³ As Sha'ul drew near to Dammeseq on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Sha'ul, Sha'ul, why do you persecute Me?"

⁵ "Who are You, Master?" Sha'ul asked.

"I am אֲנִי, whom you are persecuting," He replied. ⁶ "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

⁷ The men traveling with Sha'ul stood there speechless. They heard the voice but did not see anyone. ⁸ Sha'ul got up from



the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could not see a thing. So they led him by the hand into Dammeseq. ⁹ For three days he was without sight, and he did not eat or drink anything.

Ḥananyah Immerses Sha'ul

¹⁰ In Dammeseq there was a taught one named Ḥananyah. The Master spoke to him in a vision, “Ḥananyah!”

“Here I am, Master,” he answered.

¹¹ “Get up!” the Master told him. “Go to the house of Yahudah on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Sha'ul, for he is praying. ¹² In a vision he has seen a man named Ḥananyah come and place his hands on him to restore his sight.”

¹³ But Ḥananyah answered, “Master, many people have told me about this man and all the harm he has done to Your saints in Yarushalayim. ¹⁴ And now he is here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on Your Name.”

¹⁵ “Go!” said the Master. “This man is My chosen instrument to carry My Name before the nations and their kings, and before the people of Yasharal. ¹⁶ I will show him how much he must suffer for My Name.”



¹⁷ So Ḥananyah went to the house, and when he arrived, he placed his hands on Sha’ul. “Brother Sha’ul,” he said, “the Master מָשִׁיחַ, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here, has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Set Apart Spirit.”

¹⁸ At that instant, something like scales fell from Sha’ul’s eyes, and his sight was restored. He got up and was immersed,
¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength. And he spent several days with the taught ones in Dammeseq.

Sha’ul Preaches at Dammeseq

²⁰ Sha’ul promptly began to proclaim מָשִׁיחַ in the synagogues, declaring, “He is the Son of Alahym.”

²¹ All who heard him were astounded and asked, “Isn’t this the man who wreaked havoc in Yarushalayim on those who call on this Name? And hasn’t he come here to take them as prisoners to the chief priests?”

²² But Sha’ul was empowered all the more, and he confounded the Yahudim living in Dammeseq by proving that מָשִׁיחַ is the Messiah.

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