

Torah Studies – Statutes #412-415

Statute Summary:

Statute 412: Keep the Statutes of Yahweh.

Statute 413: Do not let animals breed with animals that are not of the same kind.

Statute 414: Do not plant your fields or gardens with seed that is hybridized or GMO.

Statute 415: Do not wear a garment made from fabric that mixes linen and wool.

Leviticus 19:19 “Ye shall **keep** My **Statutes**. Thou shalt not **let thy cattle** gender with a **diverse kind**: thou shalt not sow thy field with **mingled seed**: neither shall a garment mingled of linen and woolen come upon thee.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
KEEP	8104	shâmar	to <i>hedge</i> about (as with thorns), guard, to <i>protect, attend to</i>
STATUTES	2708	chûqqâh	appointed, custom, manner, ordinance, site, statute
LET THY CATTLE	929	b ^e hêmâh	a <i>dumb</i> beast, especially any large quadruped or <i>animal</i> (often collectively): - beast, cattle
DIVERSE KIND	3610	kil'ayim	<i>two heterogeneities</i> (diverse and not comparable in kind): divers seeds (kinds), mingled (seed)
MINGLED SEED	3610	kil'ayim	<i>two heterogeneities</i> (diverse and not comparable in kind): divers seeds (kinds), mingled (seed)

Keep the Statutes for Life:

Leviticus 18:5 - “So you shall keep My Statutes and My Judgments, by which, if a person keeps them, he shall live; I Am Yahweh”.

Torah Studies – Statutes #412-415 (continued)

Mingled Seed/Animals:

Mingling the seed weakens creation.

In seeds, heirloom plants are those that have been passed down from generation to generation. The seeds are saved from the crops and replanted year after year. The nutritional value of fruits and vegetables grown from heirloom seeds is much higher.

Today food is being genetically modified. GMO foods are more likely to cause an allergic reaction. They cause slower mental development and lower IQ scores in young children. And they have also been shown to contribute to cancer and hormone problems.

What has disobeying the Statutes and messing with the seeds done to the nutritional value of our food today? The nutritional values of some popular vegetables, from asparagus to spinach, have dropped significantly since 1950. A 2004 US study found important nutrients in some garden crops are up to 38% lower than there were at the middle of the 20th Century. On average, across the 43 vegetables analyzed, calcium content declined 16%, iron by 15% and phosphorus by 9%. The vitamins riboflavin and ascorbic acid both dropped significantly, while there were slight declines in protein levels. Similar decreases have been observed in the nutrients present in wheat.

Doing what we can to restore our diets to heirloom foods/seeds is a powerful way to impact our health:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4bIZYsIDMBI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YZEwgbPTT9E>

Mixing Wool and Linen:

Fabric frequency refers to the vibrational signature of a fabric, which can be measured in megaHertz (mHz). According to a 2003 study by Dr. Heidi Yellen, fabrics with higher frequencies can energize the wearer, while fabrics with lower frequencies can drain energy:

- Linen and wool: Both have a frequency of 5,000 mHz, which is 50 times the frequency of the human body. This is very healing! But when you wear the two fibers mixed together in a fabric, since they are opposites, they cancel each other out, bringing the mHz of a mixed linen-wool fabric to zero... This drains the energy of the wearer, and over time can cause a negative effect on a person's health.
- Organic cotton: Has a frequency of 100 mHz, which is the same as the human body. So cotton is a healthy fabric to wear, but not as healthy as linen.
- Notably, polyester, acrylic, and nylon: Have a frequency of zero... So the health effect is the same as wearing a linen-wool mix.
- A diseased person: Has a frequency of about 15 mHz.

Torah Studies – Statute #416

Statute Summary:

Statute 416: Do not allow unequal yokings, putting an ox and a donkey into a harness to work together.

Deuteronomy 22:10 “Thou shalt not **plow** with an ox and an ass **together**.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
PLOW	2790	chârash	to scratch, plough, devise, worker
TOGETHER	3162	yachad	a unit, unitedly, alike, at all (once), both, likewise, only, (al-) together

The Dangers of an Unequal Yoking:

Yahweh commands that we never yoke both an ox and ass together to plow. This physical command is similar to the spiritual command in 2 Corinthians 6:14-18. In both cases, Yahweh has commanded that two dissimilar creatures or people not be yoked together. Such yokes are injurious, either spiritually (as is the case in the spiritual yoke between a believer and a non-believer) or physically (as is the case in the physical yoke between the ox and donkey).

An ox and a donkey are of substantially unequal strengths. If they are yoked together, they will draw at different paces. They will be able to work for different amounts of time. One might be dragged along, exhausted. The unbalanced yoke might cut them. It isn't humane to form a partnership of two such mismatched animals.

While Torah does allow for the eating of meat, Torah never allows for the inhumane treatment of animals. The animals who serve us are not to be viewed only as meaningless and unimportant "beasts," they are creatures (created by our Yahweh). Even as they toil for us, we are to be responsible to care for their welfare.

Torah Studies – Statute #417

Statute Summary:

Statute 417: In a loan agreement, the loaner must never take a payment pledge that will jeopardize the loanee's ability to earn a living. For a miller, this means that the loanee cannot take either of the miller's millstones for a payment pledge on the loan.

Deuteronomy 24:6 “No man shall take the **nether** or the **upper** millstone to pledge: for he taketh a **man's life** to pledge.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
NETHER	7347	rêchêh	to pulverize; a mill stone: - mill (stone)
UPPER	7393	rekeb	a vehicle, a team; cavalry; a rider, upper millstone: - chariot, multitude, wagon
MAN'S LIFE	5315	nephesh	a breathing creature, jeopardy of life, mind, mortality, one, own, person, pleasure

Thou Shalt Not Kill Includes Safeguarding another's Livelihood in a Loan:

In a loan agreement, the loaner may never take a pledge (hold an item until the loan is repaid) from a poor man which keeps him from earning a livelihood.

Items needed for earning a living are ineligible to be used for loan pledges, even if there is no other item to hold for a pledge. In such cases, the loanee should have no pledge, or surety of loan repayment, rather than take away the poor man's ability to make an income.

In the Eye of Yahweh, taking away a man's ability to earn an income in this way is jeopardizing his life.

Torah Studies – Statutes #418-420

Statute Summary:

Statute 418: If a servant (this term includes employees and slaves) escapes (cruelty) from his/her master (or employer) and seeks sanctuary in your home, you are to provide him/her with shelter and protection from his/her former master within your home/property/gates.

Statute 419: If a servant escapes (cruelty) from his/her master and finds shelter under your roof, you are not to lose your temper with the former servant, nor treat him/her with any violence or mistreatment of any kind.

Statute 420: One form of “oppression” which God’s people are forbidden to do against a slave-refugee is that we cannot thrust the person out of our homes or evict them from our property (which implies doing so against their will) while it would preserve his/her life to remain with us. [Note: this Statute does not allow for a wounded lamb to become a lion and then the believer’s family cannot be relieved of the infiltration! Rather, if someone is seeking sanctuary, we cannot evict them to avoid conflict with their former oppressive master.]

Deuteronomy 23:15-16 “Thou shalt not **deliver** unto his **master** the **servant** which is **escaped** from his master unto thee: He shall dwell with thee, even among you, in that place which he shall choose in one of thy gates, where it liketh him best: thou shalt not **oppress** him.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
DELIVER	5462	sâgar	to <i>shut</i> up, to <i>surrender</i> : close up, deliver (up), give over (up), enclose, shut in, shut out, stop
MASTER	113	'âdôn	to <i>rule</i> , <i>sovereign</i> , that is, <i>controller</i> (human or divine): - lord, master, owner
SERVANT	5650	'ebed	a <i>servant</i> : bondage, bondman, bondservant, manservant
ESCAPED	5337	nâtsal	to <i>snatch</i> away, defend, deliver (self), escape, preserve, recover, rescue, rid, save, spoil, strip
OPPRESS	3238	yânâh	to <i>rage</i> or <i>be violent</i> ; to <i>suppress</i> , to <i>maltreat</i> : - destroy, thrust out by oppress, proud, vex

Torah Studies – Statutes #418-420 (*continued*)

Thou Shalt Not Kill includes taking in oppressed refugee-slaves:

We cannot suppose that this law required the Israelites to entertain slaves who had robbed their masters, or left their service without cause; but such only as were cruelly treated, and fled to them for protection, especially from the neighboring nations. To such they were commanded to afford shelter, and shew great kindness.

Cross References: 1 Samuel 30:15; Obadiah 1:14; Philemon 1:10-19

Torah Studies – Statutes #421-423

Statute Summary:

Statute 421: Do not mistreat or become enraged or violent with a stranger.

Statute 422: We are to be kind towards widows or orphans, never brow-beating or abusing them.

Statute 423: One form of “oppression” which God’s people are forbidden to do against a slave-refugee is that we cannot thrust the person out of our homes or evict them from our property (which implies doing so against their will) while it would preserve his/her life to remain with us. This Statute does not allow for a wounded lamb to become a lion and then the believer’s family cannot be relieved of the infiltration! Rather, if someone is seeking sanctuary, we cannot evict them to avoid conflict with their former oppressive master.

Exodus 22:21-24 “Thou shalt neither **vex** a stranger, nor **oppress** him: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt. Ye shall not **afflict** any **widow**, or **fatherless child**. If thou afflict them in any wise, and they cry at all unto Me, I will surely hear their cry; And My Wrath shall wax hot, and I will kill you with the sword; and your wives shall be widows, and your children fatherless.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
VEX	3238	yânâh	to <i>rage</i> or <i>be violent</i> ; by implication to <i>suppress</i> , to <i>maltreat</i> : - destroy
OPPRESS	3905	lâchats	properly to <i>press</i> , (figuratively) to <i>distress</i> : - afflict, crush, force, hold fast, oppress
AFFLICT	6031	’ânâh	<i>looking down</i> or <i>browbeating</i> , chasten self, deal hardly with, defile, exercise, force, weaken
WIDOW	490	'almânâh	a <i>widow</i> ; also a desolate <i>place</i> : - desolate house (palace), widow, bereaved, divorced, forsaken
FATHERLESS CHILD	3490	yâthôm	to <i>be lonely</i> ; a <i>bereaved</i> person: - fatherless (child), orphan

Synthesis:

Yahweh wants His children to be careful not to fly into a rage or act or speak in a violent manner towards anyone. We are also not to press, or force, or in any way...

Torah Studies – Statutes #421-423 (Continued)

...distress anyone. We are not to browbeat or look down upon widows, those who have been divorced or forsaken, the lonely and bereaved, or orphans. We are not to weaken, force or defile, nor deal in a hard manner with widows, those who have been divorced or forsaken, the lonely and bereaved, or orphans. Doing so comes with a terrible curse from our kind and merciful Yahweh.

Cross References: Exodus 23:9; Leviticus 19:33, Leviticus 25:35; Deuteronomy 10:19; Jeremiah 7:6, Jeremiah 22:3; Zechariah 7:10; Malachi 3:5

Torah Studies – Statutes #424-427

Statute Summary:

Statute 424: Towards your servants and employees, demonstrate the understanding that they, first and foremost, belong to Yahweh.

Statute 425: You may not – for any reason – sell your servant or employee as a bondman (a bondman in the Bible refers to someone who is bound to service without wages) to someone else.

Statute 426: You may not rule harshly or cruelly over your servant(s) or employee(s). You also may not subjugate them in any manner.

Statute 427: This Statute is not only meant for bosses and employers, it is also meant for servants-employees. Servants-employees are to serve their employers/bosses in a faithful manner, recognizing that the service they render is actually rendered unto Yahweh.

Leviticus 25:42-43 “For they (your servants or employees, see verses 40-41) are My servants, which I brought forth out of the land of Egypt: they shall not be sold as bondmen. Thou shalt not **rule** over him with **rigour**; but shalt fear thy God.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong's Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
RULE	7287	râdâh	to tread down, subjugate; crumble off, have dominion, prevail against, reign, rule over, take
RIGOUR	6531	perek	o break apart; fracture, that is, severity: -cruelty, rigour

Synthesis:

Yahweh is the supreme Ruler of all. Thus, it makes perfect sense that if I am an employer, my employees are really predominantly HIS people. I am only to be a gentle leader, remembering that YHWH is the true Leader of all under my authority. Also, if I am a servant, I am to remember that I am primarily rendering service unto Yahweh, not my earthly employer.

Joseph worked like this, in Potipher's house. And it is the calling to each believer who is under an authority, even when the authority figure behaves in an ungodly manner. See 1 Corinthians 7:21:23 and 1 Peter 2:18-24.