

## **Emor: Vayikra/Leviticus 21:1 - 24:23**

(Lev 21:1 CJB) Adonai said to Moshe, "Speak to the cohanim, the sons of Aharon; tell them: 'No cohen is to make himself unclean for any of his people who dies,

(Lev 21:2 CJB) except for his close relatives — his mother, father, son, daughter and brother;

(Lev 21:3 CJB) he may also make himself unclean for his virgin sister who has never married and is therefore dependent on him.

(Lev 21:4 CJB) He may not make himself unclean, because he is a leader among his people; doing so would profane him.

(Lev 21:5 CJB) Cohanim are not to make bald spots on their heads, mar the edges of their beards or cut gashes in their flesh.

(Lev 21:6 CJB) Rather, they are to be holy for their God and not profane the name of their God. For they are the ones who present Adonai with offerings made by fire, the bread of their God; therefore they must be holy.

(Lev 21:7 CJB) " 'A cohen is not to marry a woman who is a prostitute, who has been profaned or who has been divorced; because he is holy for his God.

(Lev 21:8 CJB) Rather, you are to set him apart as holy, because he offers the bread of your God; he is to be holy for you, because I, Adonai, who makes you holy, am holy.

(Lev 21:9 CJB) The daughter of a cohen who profanes herself by prostitution profanes her father; she is to be put to death by fire.

(Lev 21:10 CJB) " 'The cohen who is ranked highest among his brothers, the one on whose head the anointing oil is poured and who is consecrated to put on the garments, is not to stop grooming his hair, tear his clothes,

(Lev 21:11 CJB) go in to where any dead body is or make himself unclean, even when his father or mother dies.

(Lev 21:12 CJB) He may not leave the sanctuary then or profane the sanctuary of his God, because the consecration of the anointing oil of his God is on him; I am Adonai.

(Lev 21:13 CJB) " 'He is to marry a virgin;

(Lev 21:14 CJB) he may not marry a widow, divorcee, profaned woman or prostitute; but he must marry a virgin from among his own people

(Lev 21:15 CJB) and not disqualify his descendants among his people; because I am Adonai, who makes him holy.' "

(Lev 21:16 CJB) Adonai said to Moshe,

(Lev 21:17 CJB) "Tell Aharon, 'None of your descendants who has a defect may approach to offer the bread of his God.

(Lev 21:18 CJB) No one with a defect may approach — no one blind, lame, with a mutilated face or a limb too long,

(Lev 21:19 CJB) a broken foot or a broken arm,

(Lev 21:20 CJB) a hunched back, stunted growth, a cataract in his eye, festering or running sores, or damaged testicles —

(Lev 21:21 CJB) no one descended from Aharon the cohen who has such a defect may approach to present the offerings for Adonai made by fire; he has a defect and is not to approach to offer the bread of his God.

(Lev 21:22 CJB) He may eat the bread of his God, both the especially holy and the holy;

(Lev 21:23 CJB) only he is not to go in to the curtain or approach the altar, because he has a defect — so that he will not profane my holy places, because I am Adonai, who makes them holy.' "

(Lev 21:24 CJB) Moshe said these things to Aharon, his sons and all the people of Isra'el.

(Lev 22:1 CJB) Adonai said to Moshe,

(Lev 22:2 CJB) "Tell Aharon and his sons to separate themselves from the holy things of the people of Isra'el which they set apart as holy for me, so that they will not profane my holy name; I am Adonai.

(Lev 22:3 CJB) Tell them, 'Any descendant of yours through all your generations who approaches the holy things that the people of Isra'el consecrate to Adonai and is unclean will be cut off from before me; I am Adonai.

(Lev 22:4 CJB) " 'Any descendant of Aharon with tzara`at or a discharge is not to eat the holy things until he is clean. Anyone who has touched a person made unclean by a dead body, or who has had a seminal emission,

(Lev 22:5 CJB) or who has touched a reptile or insect that can make him unclean, or a man who is unclean for any reason and who can transmit to him his uncleanness —

(Lev 22:6 CJB) the person who touches any of these will be unclean until evening and is not to eat the holy things unless he bathes his body in water.

(Lev 22:7 CJB) After sunset he will be clean; and afterwards, he may eat the holy things; because they are his food.

(Lev 22:8 CJB) But he is not to eat anything that dies naturally or is torn to death by wild animals and thereby make himself unclean; I am Adonai.

(Lev 22:9 CJB) The cohanim must observe this charge of mine; otherwise, if they profane it, they will bear the consequences of their sin for doing so and die in it; I am Adonai, who makes them holy.

(Lev 22:10 CJB) " 'No one who is not a cohen may eat anything holy, nor may a tenant or employee of a cohen eat anything holy.

(Lev 22:11 CJB) But if a cohen acquires a slave, either through purchase or through his being born in his household, he may share his food.

(Lev 22:12 CJB) If the daughter of a cohen is married to a man who is not a cohen, she is not to have a share of the food set aside from the holy things.

(Lev 22:13 CJB) But if the daughter of a cohen is a widow or divorcee and has no child, and she is sent back to her father's house as when she was young, she may share in her father's food; but no one not a cohen is to share in it.

(Lev 22:14 CJB) If a person eats holy food by mistake, he must add one-fifth to it and give the holy food to the cohen.

(Lev 22:15 CJB) They are not to profane the holy things of the people of Isra'el that they have set apart for Adonai

(Lev 22:16 CJB) and thus cause them to bear guilt requiring a guilt offering, by eating their holy things; because I am Adonai, who makes them holy.' "

(Lev 22:17 CJB) Adonai said to Moshe,

(Lev 22:18 CJB) "Speak to Aharon and his sons and to the entire people of Isra'el; tell them: 'When anyone, whether a member of the house of Isra'el or a foreigner living in Isra'el, brings his offering, either in connection with a vow or as a voluntary offering, and brings it to Adonai as a burnt offering,

(Lev 22:19 CJB) in order for you to be accepted, you must bring a male without defect from the cattle, the sheep or the goats.

(Lev 22:20 CJB) You are not to bring anything with a defect, because it will not be accepted from you.

(Lev 22:21 CJB) Whoever brings a sacrifice of peace offerings to Adonai in fulfillment of a vow or as a voluntary offering, whether it come from the herd or from the flock, it must be unblemished and without defect in order to be accepted.

(Lev 22:22 CJB) If it is blind, injured, mutilated, has an abnormal growth or has festering or running sores, you are not to offer it to Adonai or make such an offering by fire on the altar to Adonai.

(Lev 22:23 CJB) If a bull or lamb has a limb which is too long or short, you may offer it as a voluntary offering; but for a vow it will not be accepted.

(Lev 22:24 CJB) An animal with bruised, crushed, torn or cut genitals you are not to offer to Adonai. You are not to do these things in your land,

(Lev 22:25 CJB) and you are not to receive any of these from a foreigner for you to offer as bread for your God, because their deformity is a defect in them — they will not be accepted from you.' "

(Lev 22:26 CJB) Adonai said to Moshe,

(Lev 22:27 CJB) "When a bull, sheep or goat is born, it is to stay with its mother for seven days; but from the eighth day on, it may be accepted for an offering made by fire to Adonai.

(Lev 22:28 CJB) However, no animal is to be slaughtered together with its young on the same day, neither cow nor ewe.

(Lev 22:29 CJB) "When you offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving to Adonai, you must do it in a way such that you will be accepted.

(Lev 22:30 CJB) It must be eaten on the same day it is offered; leave none of it till morning; I am Adonai.

(Lev 22:31 CJB) "You are to keep my mitzvot and obey them; I am Adonai.

(Lev 22:32 CJB) You are not to profane my holy name; on the contrary, I am to be regarded as holy among the people of Isra'el; I am Adonai, who makes you holy,

(Lev 22:33 CJB) who brought you out of the land of Egypt to be your God; I am Adonai."

(Lev 23:1 CJB) Adonai said to Moshe,

(Lev 23:2 CJB) "Tell the people of Isra'el: 'The designated times of Adonai which you are to proclaim as holy convocations are my designated times.

(Lev 23:3 CJB) " 'Work is to be done on six days; but the seventh day is a Shabbat of complete rest, a holy convocation; you are not to do any kind of work; it is a Shabbat for Adonai, even in your homes.

(Lev 23:4 CJB) " 'These are the designated times of Adonai, the holy convocations you are to proclaim at their designated times.

(Lev 23:5 CJB) " 'In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month, between sundown and complete darkness, comes Pesach for Adonai.

(Lev 23:6 CJB) On the fifteenth day of the same month is the festival of matzah; for seven days you are to eat matzah.

(Lev 23:7 CJB) On the first day you are to have a holy convocation; don't do any kind of ordinary work.

(Lev 23:8 CJB) Bring an offering made by fire to Adonai for seven days. On the seventh day is a holy convocation; do not do any kind of ordinary work.' "

(Lev 23:9 CJB) Adonai said to Moshe,

(Lev 23:10 CJB) "Tell the people of Isra'el, 'After you enter the land I am giving you and harvest its ripe crops, you are to bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest to the cohen.

(Lev 23:11 CJB) He is to wave the sheaf before Adonai, so that you will be accepted; the cohen is to wave it on the day after the Shabbat.

(Lev 23:12 CJB) On the day that you wave the sheaf, you are to offer a male lamb without defect, in its first year, as a burnt offering for Adonai.

(Lev 23:13 CJB) Its grain offering is to be one gallon of fine flour mixed with olive oil, an offering made by fire to Adonai as a fragrant aroma; its drink offering is to be of wine, one quart.

(Lev 23:14 CJB) You are not to eat bread, dried grain or fresh grain until the day you bring the offering for your God; this is a permanent regulation through all your generations, no matter where you live.

(Lev 23:15 CJB) " 'From the day after the day of rest — that is, from the day you bring the sheaf for waving — you are to count seven full weeks,

(Lev 23:16 CJB) until the day after the seventh week; you are to count fifty days; and then you are to present a new grain offering to Adonai.

(Lev 23:17 CJB) You must bring bread from your homes for waving — two loaves made with one gallon of fine flour, baked with leaven — as firstfruits for Adonai.

(Lev 23:18 CJB) Along with the bread, present seven lambs without defect one year old, one young bull and two rams; these will be a burnt offering for Adonai, with their grain and drink offerings, an offering made by fire as a fragrant aroma for Adonai.

(Lev 23:19 CJB) Offer one male goat as a sin offering and two male lambs one year old as a sacrifice of peace offerings.

(Lev 23:20 CJB) The cohen will wave them with the bread of the firstfruits as a wave offering before Adonai, with the two lambs; these will be holy for Adonai for the cohen.

(Lev 23:21 CJB) On the same day, you are to call a holy convocation; do not do any kind of ordinary work; this is a permanent regulation through all your generations, no matter where you live.

(Lev 23:22 CJB) " 'When you harvest the ripe crops produced in your land, don't harvest all the way to the corners of your field, and don't gather the ears of grain left by the harvesters; leave them for the poor and the foreigner; I am Adonai your God.' "

(Lev 23:23 CJB) Adonai said to Moshe,

(Lev 23:24 CJB) "Tell the people of Isra'el, 'In the seventh month, the first of the month is to be for you a day of complete rest for remembering, a holy convocation announced with blasts on the shofar.

(Lev 23:25 CJB) Do not do any kind of ordinary work, and bring an offering made by fire to Adonai.' "

(Lev 23:26 CJB) Adonai said to Moshe,

(Lev 23:27 CJB) "The tenth day of this seventh month is Yom-Kippur; you are to have a holy convocation, you are to deny yourselves, and you are to bring an offering made by fire to Adonai.

(Lev 23:28 CJB) You are not to do any kind of work on that day, because it is Yom-Kippur, to make atonement for you before Adonai your God.

(Lev 23:29 CJB) Anyone who does not deny himself on that day is to be cut off from his people;

(Lev 23:30 CJB) and anyone who does any kind of work on that day, I will destroy from among his people.

(Lev 23:31 CJB) You are not to do any kind of work; it is a permanent regulation through all your generations, no matter where you live.

(Lev 23:32 CJB) It will be for you a Shabbat of complete rest, and you are to deny yourselves; you are to rest on your Shabbat from evening the ninth day of the month until the following evening."

(Lev 23:33 CJB) Adonai said to Moshe,

(Lev 23:34 CJB) "Tell the people of Isra'el, 'On the fifteenth day of this seventh month is the feast of Sukkot for seven days to Adonai.

(Lev 23:35 CJB) On the first day there is to be a holy convocation; do not do any kind of ordinary work.

(Lev 23:36 CJB) For seven days you are to bring an offering made by fire to Adonai; on the eighth day you are to have a holy convocation and bring an offering made by fire to Adonai ; it is a day of public assembly; do not do any kind of ordinary work.

(Lev 23:37 CJB) " 'These are the designated times of Adonai that you are to proclaim as holy convocations and bring an offering made by fire to Adonai — a burnt offering, a grain offering, a sacrifice and drink offerings, each on its own day —

(Lev 23:38 CJB) besides the Shabbats of Adonai, your gifts, all your vows and all your voluntary offerings that you give to Adonai.

(Lev 23:39 CJB) " 'But on the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered the produce of the land, you are to observe the festival of Adonai seven days; the first day is to be a complete rest and the eighth day is to be a complete rest.

(Lev 23:40 CJB) On the first day you are to take choice fruit, palm fronds, thick branches and river-willows, and celebrate in the presence of Adonai your God for seven days.

(Lev 23:41 CJB) You are to observe it as a feast to Adonai seven days in the year; it is a permanent regulation, generation after generation; keep it in the seventh month.

(Lev 23:42 CJB) You are to live in sukkot for seven days; every citizen of Isra'el is to live in a sukkah,

(Lev 23:43 CJB) so that generation after generation of you will know that I made the people of Isra'el live in sukkot when I brought them out of the land of Egypt; I am Adonai your God.' "

(Lev 23:44 CJB) Thus Moshe announced to the people of Isra'el the designated times of Adonai.

(Lev 24:1 CJB) Adonai said to Moshe,

(Lev 24:2 CJB) "Order the people of Isra'el to bring you pure oil from crushed olives for the light, to keep lamps burning always.

(Lev 24:3 CJB) Outside the curtain of the testimony in the tent of meeting, Aharon is to arrange for the light to be kept burning always from evening until morning before Adonai ; this is to be a permanent regulation through all your generations.

(Lev 24:4 CJB) He is always to keep in order the lamps on the pure menorah before Adonai.

(Lev 24:5 CJB) "You are to take fine flour and use it to bake twelve loaves, one gallon per loaf.

(Lev 24:6 CJB) Arrange them in two rows, six in a row, on the pure table before Adonai.

(Lev 24:7 CJB) Put frankincense with each row to be an offering made by fire to Adonai in place of the bread and as a reminder of it.

(Lev 24:8 CJB) Regularly, every Shabbat, he is to arrange them before Adonai ; they are from the people of Isra'el, as a covenant forever.

(Lev 24:9 CJB) They will belong to Aharon and his sons; and they are to eat them in a holy place; because for him they are, of the offerings for Adonai made by fire, especially holy. This is a permanent law."

(Lev 24:10 CJB) There was a man who was the son of a woman of Isra'el and an Egyptian father. He went out among the people of Isra'el, and this son of a woman of Isra'el had a fight in the camp with a man of Isra'el,

(Lev 24:11 CJB) in the course of which the son of the woman of Isra'el uttered the Name [*Yud-Heh-Vav-Heh* ( )] in a curse. So they brought him to Moshe. (His mother's name was Shlomit the daughter of Dibri, of the tribe of Dan.)

(Lev 24:12 CJB) They put him under guard until Adonai would tell them what to do.

(Lev 24:13 CJB) Adonai said to Moshe,

(Lev 24:14 CJB) "Take the man who cursed outside the camp, have everyone who heard him lay their hands on his head, and have the entire community stone him.

(Lev 24:15 CJB) Then tell the people of Isra'el, 'Whoever curses his God will bear the consequences of his sin;

(Lev 24:16 CJB) and whoever blasphemes the name of Adonai must be put to death; the entire community must stone him. The foreigner as well as the citizen is to be put to death if he blasphemes the Name.

(Lev 24:17 CJB) " 'Anyone who strikes another person and kills him must be put to death.

(Lev 24:18 CJB) Anyone who strikes an animal and kills it is to make restitution, life for life.

(Lev 24:19 CJB) If someone injures his neighbor, what he did is to be done to him —

(Lev 24:20 CJB) break for break, eye for eye, tooth for tooth — whatever injury he has caused the other person is to be rendered to him in return.

(Lev 24:21 CJB) He who kills an animal is to make restitution, but he who kills another person is to be put to death.

(Lev 24:22 CJB) You are to apply the same standard of judgment to the foreigner as to the citizen, because I am Adonai your God."

(Lev 24:23 CJB) So Moshe spoke to the people of Isra'el, and they took the man who had cursed outside the camp and stoned him to death. Thus the people of Isra'el did as Adonai had ordered Moshe.

### **Haftarah Emor: Yechezk'el (Ezekiel) 44:15-31**

(Eze 44:15 CJB) " 'However, the cohanim, who are L'vi'im and descendants of Tzadok, who took care of my sanctuary when the people of Isra'el went astray from me — they are the ones who will approach me and serve me; it is they who will attend me and offer me the fat and the blood,' says Adonai Elohim.

(Eze 44:16 CJB) 'They will enter my sanctuary, approach my table to minister to me and perform my service.

(Eze 44:17 CJB) " 'Once they enter the gates of the inner courtyard, they are to wear linen clothing; they are not to wear any wool while serving at the gates of the inner courtyard or inside it.

(Eze 44:18 CJB) They are to wear linen turbans on their heads and linen underclothes on their bodies, and they are not to wear anything that makes them sweat.

(Eze 44:19 CJB) Before going out to the people in the outer courtyard, they are to remove the clothes in which they minister, lay them in the holy rooms, and put on other clothes; so that they won't transmit holiness to the people by means of their clothing.

(Eze 44:20 CJB) They are not to shave their heads or let their hair grow long, but must keep their hair carefully trimmed.

(Eze 44:21 CJB) No cohen is to drink wine when he enters the inner courtyard.

(Eze 44:22 CJB) They may not marry a widow or a divorcee but must marry virgins descended from the house of Isra'el or a widow whose deceased husband was a cohen.

(Eze 44:23 CJB) " 'They are to teach my people the difference between holy and common and enable them to distinguish between dean and unclean.

(Eze 44:24 CJB) They are to be judges in controversies, and they are to render decisions in keeping with my rulings. At all my designated festivals they are to keep my laws and regulations, and they are to keep my shabbats holy.

(Eze 44:25 CJB) They are not to come to any dead person, because this would make them unclean; however, for father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister who has had no husband they may make themselves unclean.

(Eze 44:26 CJB) After a cohen has been purified, he is to wait seven days.

(Eze 44:27 CJB) Then, on the day he enters the sanctuary, when he goes into the inner courtyard to minister in the sanctuary, he is to offer his sin offering,' says Adonai Elohim.

(Eze 44:28 CJB) " 'Their inheritance is to be this: I myself am their inheritance. You are not to grant them any possession in Isra'el — I myself am their possession.

(Eze 44:29 CJB) They are to eat the grain offerings, sin offerings and guilt offerings; and everything in Isra'el devoted [*to God*] will be theirs.

(Eze 44:30 CJB) The first of all the firstfruits of everything, and every voluntary contribution of everything, from all your offerings, will be for the cohanim. You are also to give the cohen the first of your dough, so that a blessing will rest on your house.

(Eze 44:31 CJB) The cohanim are not to eat anything, bird or animal, that dies naturally or is torn to death.

**B'rit Hadashah suggested readings for Parashah Emor: Mattityahu (Matthew) 5:38-42; Galatians 3:26-29 [In connection with the feasts, see readings for Parashah 41]**

(Mat 5:38 CJB) "You have heard that our fathers were told, 'Eye for eye and tooth for tooth.'

(Mat 5:39 CJB) But I tell you not to stand up against someone who does you wrong. On the contrary, if someone hits you on the right cheek, let him hit you on the left cheek too!

(Mat 5:40 CJB) If someone wants to sue you for your shirt, let him have your coat as well!

(Mat 5:41 CJB) And if a soldier forces you to carry his pack for one mile, carry it for two!

(Mat 5:42 CJB) When someone asks you for something, give it to him; when someone wants to borrow something from you, lend it to him.

(Gal 3:26 CJB) For in union with the Messiah, you are all children of God through this trusting faithfulness;

(Gal 3:27 CJB) because as many of you as were immersed into the Messiah have clothed yourselves with the Messiah, in whom

(Gal 3:28 CJB) there is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor freeman, neither male nor female; for in union with the Messiah Yeshua, you are all one.

(Gal 3:29 CJB) Also, if you belong to the Messiah, you are seed of Avraham and heirs according to the promise.