

Mattot - Numbers 30:2(1)-32:42

(Num 30:1 CJB) (30:2) Then Moshe spoke to the heads of the tribes of the people of Isra'el. He said, "Here is what Adonai has ordered:

(Num 30:2 CJB) (30:3) when a man makes a vow to Adonai or formally obligates himself by swearing an oath, he is not to break his word but is to do everything he said he would do.

(Num 30:3 CJB) (30:4) "When a woman makes a vow to Adonai, formally obligating herself, while she is a minor living in her father's house;

(Num 30:4 CJB) (30:5) then, if her father has heard what she vowed or obligated herself to do and holds his peace, then all her vows remain binding — every obligation she has bound herself to will stand.

(Num 30:5 CJB) (30:6) But if on the day her father hears it, he expresses his disapproval, then none of her vows or obligations she has bound herself to will stand; and Adonai will forgive her, because her father expressed his disapproval.

(Num 30:6 CJB) (30:7) "If, having made vows or rashly committed herself to an obligation, she gets married;

(Num 30:7 CJB) (30:8) and her husband hears but holds his peace with her on the day he learns of it, then her vows and obligations she has bound herself to will stand.

(Num 30:8 CJB) (30:9) But if her husband expresses his disapproval on the day he hears it, he will void the vow which is on her and the obligation to which she has bound herself; and Adonai will forgive her.

(Num 30:9 CJB) (30:10) "The vow of a widow, however, or of a divorcee, including everything to which she has obligated herself, will stand against her.

(Num 30:10 CJB) (30:11) "If a woman vowed in her husband's house or obligated herself with an oath;

(Num 30:11 CJB) (30:12) and her husband heard it but held his peace with her and did not express disapproval, then all her vows and obligations will stand.

(Num 30:12 CJB) (30:13) But if her husband makes them null and void on the day he hears them, then whatever she said, vows or binding obligation, will not stand; her husband has voided them; and Adonai will forgive her.

(Num 30:13 CJB) (30:14) Her husband may let every vow and every binding obligation stand, or he may void it.

(Num 30:14 CJB) (30:15) But if her husband entirely holds his peace with her day after day, then he confirms all her vows and obligations; he must let them stand, because he held his peace with her on the day he heard them.

(Num 30:15 CJB) (30:16) If he makes them null and void after he has heard them, then he will bear the consequent guilt."

(Num 30:16 CJB) (30:17) These are the laws which Adonai ordered Moshe between a man and his wife, and between a father and his daughter, if she is a minor living in her father's house.

(Num 31:1 CJB) Adonai said to Moshe,

(Num 31:2 CJB) "On behalf of the people of Isra'el, take vengeance on the Midyanim. After that, you will be gathered to your people."

(Num 31:3 CJB) Moshe said to the people, "Equip men from among yourselves for war. They are to go and fight Midyan, in order to carry out Adonai's vengeance on Midyan.

(Num 31:4 CJB) You are to send to the war a thousand men from every one of Isra'el's tribes."

(Num 31:5 CJB) So out of the thousands of people in Isra'el, a thousand armed men from each tribe, 12,000 altogether, were mustered for war.

(Num 31:6 CJB) Moshe sent them, a thousand from each tribe, to the war; he sent them and Pinchas the son of El`azar the cohen to the war, with the holy utensils and the trumpets for sounding the alarm in his care.

(Num 31:7 CJB) They fought against Midyan, as Adonai had ordered Moshe, and killed every male.

(Num 31:8 CJB) They killed the kings of Midyan along with the others who were slain — Evi, Rekem, Tzur, Hur and Reva, the five kings of Midyan. They also killed Bil`am the son of B`or with the sword.

(Num 31:9 CJB) The people of Isra'el took captive the women of Midyan and their little ones, and they took as booty all their cattle, flocks and other goods.

(Num 31:10 CJB) They set fire to all their cities in the areas where they lived and all their camps.

(Num 31:11 CJB) They took all the booty, all the people and animals they had captured,

(Num 31:12 CJB) and brought the captives, booty and spoil to Moshe, El`azar the cohen and the community of Isra'el in the camp on the plains of Mo'av by the Yarden across from Yericho.

(Num 31:13 CJB) Moshe, El`azar the cohen and all the community leaders went to meet them outside the camp.

(Num 31:14 CJB) But Moshe was angry with the army officers, the commanders of thousands and the commanders of hundreds coming in from the battlefield.

(Num 31:15 CJB) Moshe asked them, "You let the women live?"

(Num 31:16 CJB) Why, these are the ones who — because of Bil`am's advice — caused the people of Isra'el to rebel, breaking faith with Adonai in the P`or incident, so that the plague broke out among Adonai's community!

(Num 31:17 CJB) Now kill every male among the little ones, and kill every woman who has ever slept with a man.

(Num 31:18 CJB) But the young girls who have never slept with a man, keep alive for yourselves.

(Num 31:19 CJB) Pitch your tents outside the camp for seven days. Whoever has killed a person or touched the corpse of someone slain, purify yourselves on the third and seventh days, you and your captives.

(Num 31:20 CJB) Also purify every garment, whether of skin or goat's hair, and everything made of wood."

(Num 31:21 CJB) El`azar the cohen said to the soldiers who had gone to the front, "This is the regulation from the Torah which Adonai has ordered Moshe.

(Num 31:22 CJB) Even though gold, silver, brass, iron, tin and lead

(Num 31:23 CJB) can all withstand fire, so that you are indeed to purify everything made of these materials by having them pass through fire; nevertheless they must also be purified with the water for purification. Everything that can't withstand fire you are to have go through the water.

(Num 31:24 CJB) On the seventh day you are to wash your clothes, and you will be clean; after that you may enter the camp."

(Num 31:25 CJB) Adonai said to Moshe,

(Num 31:26 CJB) "Take all the booty, both people and animals, you, El`azar the cohen and the leaders of clans in the community;

(Num 31:27 CJB) and divide the booty into two parts: half for the experienced soldiers who went out to battle, and half for the rest of the community.

(Num 31:28 CJB) From the portion of the soldiers who went out to battle, levy a tax for Adonai consisting of one-five-hundredth of the persons, cattle, donkeys and sheep;

(Num 31:29 CJB) take it from their half and give it to El`azar the cohen as a portion set apart for Adonai.

(Num 31:30 CJB) From the half that goes to the people of Isra'el, you are to take one-fiftieth of the persons, and of the cattle, donkeys and sheep, that is, of all the livestock; and give them to the L'vi'im taking care of the tabernacle of Adonai."

(Num 31:31 CJB) Moshe and El`azar the cohen did as Adonai had ordered Moshe.

(Num 31:32 CJB) The booty, over and above the portion which the soldiers took, came to 675,000 sheep,

(Num 31:33 CJB) 72,000 cattle,

(Num 31:34 CJB) 61,000 donkeys,

(Num 31:35 CJB) and 32,000 persons in all, consisting of the women who had never slept with a man.

(Num 31:36 CJB) The half which was the portion of the soldiers who went out to fight, numbered 337,500 sheep,

(Num 31:37 CJB) of which Adonai's tribute was 675;

(Num 31:38 CJB) 36,000 cattle, of which Adonai's tribute was seventy-two;

(Num 31:39 CJB) 30,500 donkeys, of which Adonai's tribute was sixty-one;

(Num 31:40 CJB) and 16,000 persons, of whom Adonai's tribute was thirty-two persons.

(Num 31:41 CJB) Moshe gave the tribute set apart for Adonai to El`azar the cohen, as Adonai had ordered Moshe.

(Num 31:42 CJB) From the half that went to people of Isra'el, which Moshe separated from that of the men who had gone to fight —

(Num 31:43 CJB) now the community's half consisted of 337,500 sheep,

(Num 31:44 CJB) 36,000 cattle,

(Num 31:45 CJB) 30,500 donkeys

(Num 31:46 CJB) and 16,000 persons —

(Num 31:47 CJB) from the people of Isra'el's half, Moshe took one-fiftieth of the persons and animals and gave them to the L'vi'im taking care of the tabernacle of Adonai, as Adonai had ordered Moshe.

(Num 31:48 CJB) The officers in charge of the thousands who fought, the commanders of thousands and the commanders of hundreds, approached Moshe

(Num 31:49 CJB) and said to him, "Your servants have counted all the soldiers under our command, and not one of us is missing.

(Num 31:50 CJB) We have brought an offering for Adonai, what every man has obtained in the way of gold jewelry — armlets, bracelets, signet rings, earrings and belts — to make atonement for ourselves before Adonai."

(Num 31:51 CJB) Moshe and El`azar the cohen accepted their gold, all the jewelry.

(Num 31:52 CJB) All the gold in this gift which the commanders of thousands and the commanders of hundreds set apart for Adonai weighed 420 pounds.

(Num 31:53 CJB) For the soldiers had taken booty, every man for himself.

(Num 31:54 CJB) Moshe and El`azar the cohen took the gold from the commanders of thousands and of hundreds and brought it into the tent of meeting as a reminder for the people of Isra'el before Adonai.

(Num 32:1 CJB) The descendants of Re'uven and the descendants of Gad had vast quantities of livestock. When they saw that the land of Ya`zer and the land of Gil`ad were good for livestock,

(Num 32:2 CJB) the descendants of Gad and of Re'uven came and spoke to Moshe, El`azar the cohen and the community leaders. They said,

(Num 32:3 CJB) " `Atarot, Divon, Ya`zer, Nimrah, Heshbon, El`aleh, S'vam, N'vo and Be`on,

(Num 32:4 CJB) the country that Adonai conquered before the community of Isra'el, is livestock country; and your servants have livestock.

(Num 32:5 CJB) If you regard us favorably," they went on, "let this land be given to your servants as their possession; and don't have us cross the Yarden."

(Num 32:6 CJB) Moshe answered the descendants of Gad and of Re'uven: "Are your brothers to go to war while you stay here?"

(Num 32:7 CJB) Besides, why are you trying to discourage the people of Isra'el from crossing into the land Adonai gave them?

(Num 32:8 CJB) This is what your fathers did when I sent them from Kadesh-Barnea to see the land.

(Num 32:9 CJB) For when they went up to the Eshkol Valley and saw the land, they disheartened the people of Isra'el, so that they wouldn't enter the land Adonai had given them.

(Num 32:10 CJB) Adonai's anger blazed up on that day; and he swore,

(Num 32:11 CJB) 'None of the people aged twenty or more who came out of Egypt will see the land I swore to Avraham, Yitz'chak and Ya`akov; because they haven't followed me unreservedly —

(Num 32:12 CJB) except Kalev the son of Y'funeh the K'nizi and Y'hoshua the son of Nun, because they have followed Adonai unreservedly.'

(Num 32:13 CJB) Thus Adonai's anger blazed against Isra'el, so that he made them wander here and there in the desert forty years, until all the generation that had done evil in the sight of Adonai had died out.

(Num 32:14 CJB) Now you, another brood of sinners, have arisen in your fathers' place to increase still more the fierce anger of Adonai toward Isra'el!

(Num 32:15 CJB) For if you turn away from him, he will leave them in the desert again, and thus you will cause the destruction of all these people!"

(Num 32:16 CJB) But they came up to him and said, "Here we will build enclosures for our livestock and cities for our little ones,

(Num 32:17 CJB) but we ourselves will be armed and ready for action to march at the head of the people of Isra'el, until we have brought them to their place. Our little ones will stay in the fortified cities here because of the people now living in the land.

(Num 32:18 CJB) However, we will not return to our own homes until every man in Isra'el has taken possession of his land for inheritance.

(Num 32:19 CJB) We will not have an inheritance with them on the other side of the Yarden, westward; because our inheritance has fallen to us on this side of the Yarden, eastward."

(Num 32:20 CJB) Moshe said to them, "If you will do this — if you will arm yourselves to go before Adonai to the war,

(Num 32:21 CJB) and if every one of your soldiers will cross the Yarden before Adonai, until he has driven out his enemies ahead of him,

(Num 32:22 CJB) and if the land has been conquered before Adonai, and only after that do you return — then you will be clear before Adonai and before Isra'el, and this land here will be yours to possess before Adonai.

(Num 32:23 CJB) But if you will not do this, then you have sinned against Adonai, and you must understand that your sin will find you out.

(Num 32:24 CJB) Build cities for your little ones and enclosures for your sheep; then do what you said you would do."

(Num 32:25 CJB) The descendants of Gad and the descendants of Re'uven said to Moshe, "Your servants will do as my lord orders.

(Num 32:26 CJB) Our little ones, wives, flocks and all our livestock will be there in the cities of Gil`ad;

(Num 32:27 CJB) but your servants will cross over, every man armed for war, before Adonai to do battle, as my lord says."

(Num 32:28 CJB) So Moshe gave orders concerning them to El`azar the cohen, Y'hoshua the son of Nun and the clan leaders of the tribes of the people of Isra'el.

(Num 32:29 CJB) Moshe said to them, "If the descendants of Gad and of Re'uven cross over the Yarden with you, every man armed for battle, before Adonai; and if the land is conquered before you, then you are to give them the land of Gil`ad as theirs to possess.

(Num 32:30 CJB) But if they do not cross with you armed, they are to possess land along with you in Kena`an."

(Num 32:31 CJB) The descendants of Gad and of Re'uven answered, "We will do as Adonai has said to your servants.

(Num 32:32 CJB) We will cross over into the land of Kena`an armed before Adonai, and the land we will possess for inheritance will be on this side of the Yarden."

(Num 32:33 CJB) So Moshe gave the descendants of Gad and of Re'uven, and also to the half-tribe of M'nasheh the son of Yosef, the kingdom of Sichon king of the Emori and the kingdom of `Og king of Bashan — the country and its cities within its borders, along with their surrounding towns.

(Num 32:34 CJB) The descendants of Gad built Divon, `Atarot, `Aro`er,

(Num 32:35 CJB) `Atrot-Shofan, Ya`zer, Yogbehah,

(Num 32:36 CJB) Beit-Nimrah and Beit-Haran — fortified cities; and also enclosures for sheep.

(Num 32:37 CJB) The descendants of Re'uven built Heshbon, El`aleh, Kiryatayim,

(Num 32:38 CJB) N'vo, Ba`al-M`on (these names have been changed) and Sivmah; they renamed the cities they built.

(Num 32:39 CJB) The descendants of Machir the son of M'nasheh went to Gil`ad and conquered it, dispossessing the Emori who were there.

(Num 32:40 CJB) Moshe gave Gil`ad to Machir the son of M'nasheh, and he lived in it.

(Num 32:41 CJB) Ya'ir the son of M'nasheh went and captured its villages and called them Havot-Ya'ir [*villages of Ya'ir*].

(Num 32:42 CJB) Novach went and captured K'nat with its villages and named it Novach after himself.

Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) 1:1-2:3

(Jer 1:1 CJB) These are the words of Yirmeyahu the son of Hilkiyahu, one of the cohanim living in `Anatot, in the territory of Binyamin.

(Jer 1:2 CJB) The word of Adonai came to him during the days of Yoshiyahu the son of Amon, king of Y'hudah, in the thirteenth year of his reign.

(Jer 1:3 CJB) It also came during the days of Y'hoyakim the son of Yoshiyahu, king of Y'hudah, continuing until the eleventh year of Tzidkiyahu the son of Yoshiyahu, king of Y'hudah, right up until the time Yerushalayim was carried away captive, in the fifth month.

(Jer 1:4 CJB) Here is the word of Adonai that came to me:

(Jer 1:5 CJB) "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you; before you were born, I separated you for myself. I have appointed you to be a prophet to the nations."

(Jer 1:6 CJB) I said, "Oh, Adonai Elohim, I don't even know how to speak! I'm just a child!"

(Jer 1:7 CJB) But Adonai said to me, "Don't say, 'I'm just a child.' "For you will go to whomever I send you, and you will speak whatever I order you.

(Jer 1:8 CJB) Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you, says Adonai, to rescue you."

(Jer 1:9 CJB) Then Adonai put out his hand and touched my mouth, and Adonai said to me, "There! I have put my words in your mouth.

(Jer 1:10 CJB) Today I have placed you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and to tear down, to destroy and to demolish, to build and to plant."

(Jer 1:11 CJB) The word of Adonai came to me, asking, "Yirmeyahu, what do you see?" I answered, "I see a branch from an almond tree [*Hebrew: shaked*].

(Jer 1:12 CJB) Then Adonai said to me, "You have seen well, because I am watching [*Hebrew: shoked*] to fulfill my word."

(Jer 1:13 CJB) A second time the word of Adonai came to me, asking, "What do you see?" I answered, "I see a caldron tilted away from the north, over a fire fanned by the wind."

(Jer 1:14 CJB) Then Adonai said to me, "From the north calamity will boil over onto everyone living in the land,

(Jer 1:15 CJB) because I will summon all the families in the kingdoms of the north," says Adonai, "and they will come and sit, each one, on his throne at the entrance to the gates of Yerushalayim, opposite its walls, all the way around, and opposite all the cities of Y'hudah.

(Jer 1:16 CJB) I will pronounce my judgments against them for all their wickedness in abandoning me, offering incense to other gods and worshipping what their own hands made.

(Jer 1:17 CJB) "But you, dress for action; stand up and tell them everything I order you to say. When you confront them, don't break down; or I will break you down in front of them!

(Jer 1:18 CJB) For today, you see, I have made you into a fortified city, a pillar of iron, a wall of bronze against the whole land — against the kings of Y'hudah, against its princes, against its cohanim and the people of the land.

(Jer 1:19 CJB) They will fight against you, but they will not overcome you, for I am with you," says Adonai, "to rescue you."

(Jer 2:1 CJB) The word of Adonai came to me:

(Jer 2:2 CJB) "Go and shout in the ears of Yerushalayim that this is what Adonai says: 'I remember your devotion when you were young; how, as a bride, you loved me; how you followed me through the desert, through a land not sown.

(Jer 2:3 CJB) " 'Isra'el is set aside for Adonai, the firstfruits of his harvest; all who devour him will incur guilt; evil will befall them," says Adonai.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 5:33-37

(Mat 5:33 CJB) "Again, you have heard that our fathers were told, 'Do not break your oath,' and 'Keep your vows to Adonai.'

(Mat 5:34 CJB) But I tell you not to swear at all — not 'by heaven,' because it is God's throne;

(Mat 5:35 CJB) not 'by the earth,' because it is his footstool; and not 'by Yerushalayim,' because it is the city of the Great King.

(Mat 5:36 CJB) And don't swear by your head, because you can't make a single hair white or black.

(Mat 5:37 CJB) Just let your 'Yes' be a simple 'Yes,' and your 'No' a simple 'No'; anything more than this has its origin in evil.