

# SHABBAT MESSAGE

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שְׁפִטִים וְשֹׁטְרִים, תִּתֶן-לָהֶם בְּכָל-שְׁעָרֶיהָ, אֲשֶׁר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיהָ נָתַן לָהּ, לְשִׁבְטֶיהָ;  
וְשִׁפְטוּ אֶת-הָעָם, מִשְׁפַּט-צֶדֶק.

šō-pə-tîm wə-šō-tə-rîm, tit-ten- lə-kā bə-kāl šə-‘ā-re-  
kā, ‘ă-šer Yah-weh ‘ě-lō-he-kā nō-tên lə-kā liš-bā-  
te-kā; wə-šā-pə-tū ‘et- hā-‘ām miš-pat- se-deq.

Judges and officers shalt thou make thee in all thy gates, which Yahweh thy Elohim giveth thee, tribe by tribe; and they shall judge the people with righteous judgment.

# Deuteronomy 16:18-20

## Establishment of Judges & Officers

- local system of civil governance was to be put in place in every city (i.e., tribe) of the nation.
- “**justice and only justice**” will be the judges’ guiding light

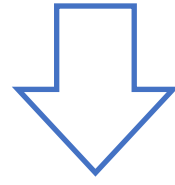
# Jethro counseled Moshe Exodus 18:21-22

Furthermore, you shall select out of all the people able men who fear Yahweh, men of truth, those who hate dishonest gain; and you shall place these over them, as **leaders of thousands**, of **hundreds**, of **fifties**, and of **tens**.<sup>22</sup> And let them judge the people at all times; and let it be that every major dispute they will bring to you, but every minor dispute they themselves will judge. So it will be easier for you, and they will bear the burden with you.

# The Seventy Elders Numbers 11:16-17

16 So Yahweh said to Moses, ‘Gather for me **seventy** of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you. <sup>17</sup>I will come down and talk with you there; and I will take some of the spirit that is on you and put it on them; and they shall bear the burden of the people along with you so that you will not bear it all by yourself.

**YAHWEH-YAHSHUA**

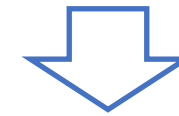


**MOSHE - Prophet**

**AHARON - Priest**



**The Seventy Elders**



**Leaders of Thousands**



**Leaders of Hundreds**



**Leaders of Fifties**

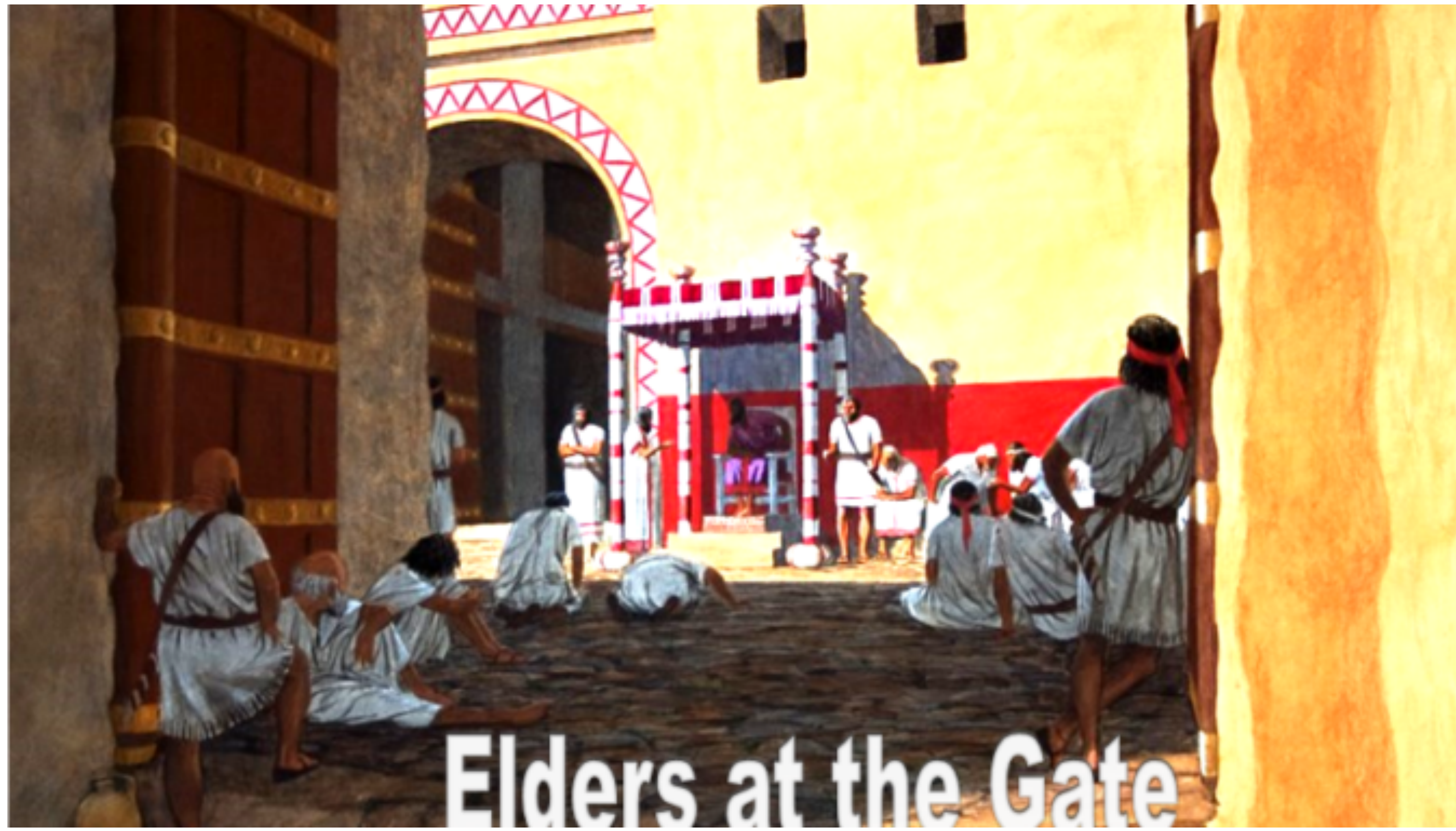


**Leaders of Tens**

- The Sanhedrin the “supreme court” in Jerusalem, numbering 71.
- Main cities of the tribes, small Sanhedrin, 23
- All towns of a minimum size (either 120 or 230 people) had to have a court of 23, which was under the jurisdiction of the tribal court

[Mishnah, tractate Sanhedrin](#) 1:1-4 and 1:6





Proverbs 31:23

Her husband is respected at the city gate, where he takes his seat among the elders of the land.



# CONCEPTS OF JUSTICE

<b>Greek concept of justice</b>	<b>Hebrew concept of justice</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• stresses the “inequalities of humanity.”</li><li>• It serves to bring harmony to society</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• stresses the “equality of humanity.”</li><li>• serves to maintain holiness in society.</li></ul>

**Israel is NOT to mimic it's neighbors' forms of government!**

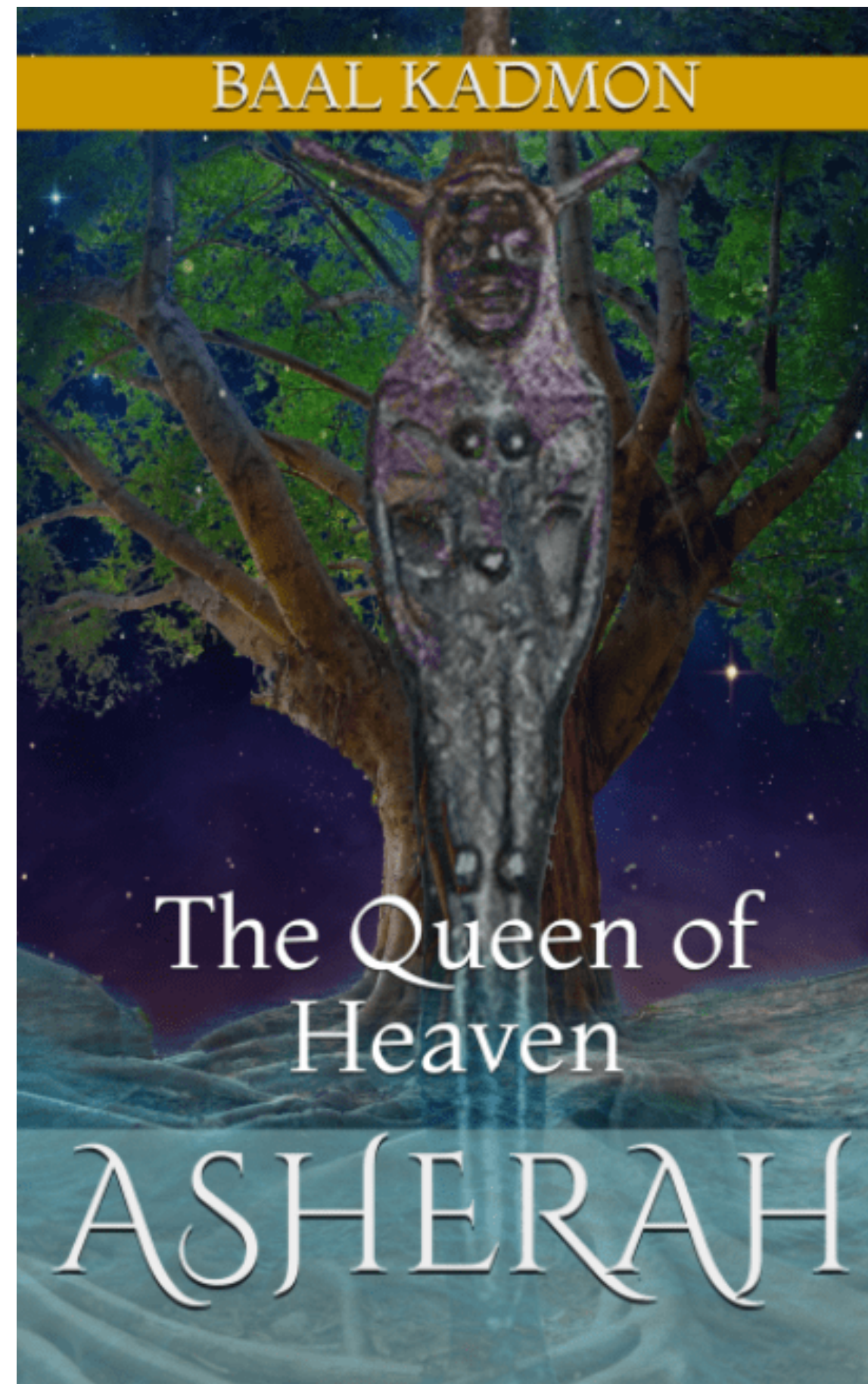


# ISRAEL TO BE GOVERNED WITH RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT

- Mishpat tzedek = righteous judgment
- Instructions to all officials:
  - Judgment must always be fair
  - No favoritism
  - No taking of bribes
- “Verse 20 “righteousness and only righteousness you should pursue”
- The basis for Yahweh’s justice system is **righteousness**



# Deuteronomy 16 & 17 Idolatrous Worship



Destroy every asherah and pillar!





## NO ASHERA

- Asherah is literally a wooden pole or a tree used to celebrate a god
- The Asherah were NOT the gods, they represented the gods
- Asherah = Ashtoreth = fertility goddess
- Wife of Ba'al



# NO STANDING STONES



Leviticus 26:1 “Do not make idols or set up an image or a sacred stone for yourselves, and do not place a carved stone in your land to bow down before it. I am Yahweh your Elohim.

- Standing stones were symbols of Ba'al
- The male god of Canaan
- No symbols used to represent the Canaanite gods are to be used by Israel



- Yahweh declares what is holy and what is evil, what is clean and what is unclean
- We risk mixing paganism when we determine to find “loopholes” to use things that the bible says is prohibited.
- The intentional sacrificing of unqualified animals (i.e., blemished or injured) was viewed by Yahweh as being a profane act. Such actions actually profaned Yah’s worship

# NO OTHER ALMIGHTY EXCEPT YAHWEH 17:2-7

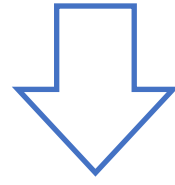
- Laws apply to men & women
- Worshipping “other gods” a direct affront to Yahweh
- Yahweh NEVER commanded heavenly bodies to be worshipped
- If a person is found guilty of idolatry, penalty is execution by stoning
- On the evidence of two witnesses or of three witnesses the one who is to die shall be put to death; a person shall not be put to death on the evidence of one witness.”



# Deuteronomy 17:8-13 – DIFFICULT CASES

- 70 Elders + 1
- At the place where Yahweh chooses
- Israel's civil/religious governments intertwined
- Upper Court is “federal”, handling matters from all the tribes

**YAHWEH-YAHSHUA**



**MOSHE - Prophet**

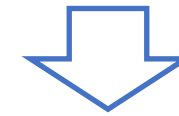
**AHARON - Priest**



**The Seventy Elders**



**Leaders of Thousands**



**Leaders of Hundreds**



**Leaders of Fifties**



**Leaders of Tens**



# Deuteronomy 17:14-20 Israel's King

- Although there is a generally negative attitude towards kings for Israel, Yahweh concedes to Israel's want of a king
- This is a prophetic statement, because Yahweh knows Israel will want a king like their neighbors have
- King **MUST** be chosen by Yahweh
- King **MUST** be an Israelite and never a foreigner

## **Yahweh instructed that Israel's kings were:**

1. Have no standing cavalry to subjugate the people with.
2. Have no harem to lead the kings' hearts astray from Torah.
3. To study and obey Torah.
4. To be selected by Yahweh.
5. Were not to seek to accumulate wealth.
6. To copy Torah for themselves to read and follow throughout the remainder of their days.



# Deuteronomy 18:1-8 No Land Inheritance

- Yahweh certified that He would be the Levites' inheritance.
- Levites instead got 48 cities within the lands of the 12 tribes
- Depended on the charity of the 12 tribes
- Levites operated the central sanctuary, were the teachers of the Law

# Deuteronomy 18:9-14 Abominable Practices

- In the eyes of Yahweh, soothsayers and wizards were an abomination.
- The proof of a false prophet is the non-fulfillment of his prophecies.
- False prophet may in fact perform signs and miracles. The signs and miracles of a prophet is not proof of his calling as a prophet of Yahweh



# TRUE PROPHET OR FALSE PROPHET?

- **Method to discern:** if what a prophet predicts doesn't happen, he is a false prophet
- If what a self-proclaimed prophet says does NOT come about, that person should NOT be listened to
- Yahweh's prophets had great troubles in their lives; jailed, beaten, killed
- All Prophets were RELUCTANT prophets
- Jonah feared retribution if Nineveh repented and Yahweh held back wrath

# “a prophet like me from among you”

Acts 7:35-38

<sup>35</sup> “This is the same Moses they had rejected with the words, ‘Who made you **ruler and judge?**’ He was sent to be their ruler and deliverer by Yahweh himself, through the angel who appeared to him in the bush. <sup>36</sup> He led them out of Egypt and performed wonders and signs in Egypt, at the Red Sea and for forty years in the wilderness.

<sup>37</sup> “This is the Moses who told the Israelites, ‘Yahweh will raise up for you a prophet like me from your own people.’ <sup>38</sup> He was in the assembly in the wilderness, with the angel who spoke to him on Mount Sinai, and with our ancestors; and he received living words to pass on to us.



## Matthew 21:10-11

<sup>10</sup> When Yahshua entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?”

<sup>11</sup> The crowds answered, “This is Yahshua, the **PROPHET** from Nazareth in Galilee.”

# **Yashua is the “Prophet Like Unto Moses”!**

## **By Isaac Heckman**

Just as there were 400 years of silence before Yahweh sent Moses to deliver Israel from her bondage to Pharaoh, so there were 400 of years of silence before Yahweh sent His own Son, Yashua the Messiah, to utterly deliver Israel from her ultimate bondage to sin and death.



# Both Moses and Yashua were sent from Yahweh

**Moses**  
**Exodus 3:1-10**

“<sup>10</sup> So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.”

**Yahshua**  
**John 8:42**

“I have not come on my own; Yahweh sent me.”

# Both were born under foreign rule

**Moses**  
**Exodus 1:8-14**

<sup>11</sup> So they put slave masters over them to oppress them with forced labor

**Yahshua**  
**Luke 2:1**

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world.



# Both were threatened by wicked kings (Exod. 1:15-16; Matt. 2:16).

## **Moses** **Exodus 1:15-16**

<sup>16</sup> “When you are helping the Hebrew women during childbirth on the delivery stool, if you see that the baby is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, let her live.”

## **Yahshua** **Matt. 2:16**

When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under

# Both knew Yahweh panim l'panim

**Moses**  
**Deut. 34:10**

Since then, no prophet has risen in Israel like Moses, whom Elohim knew face to face,

**Yahshua**  
**Luke 9:34-36**

“This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him.”

# Both revealed Yahweh's Name

**Moses**

**Exod. 3:13-14**

Yahweh also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, **YAHWEH**, the Elohim of your fathers—the Mighty One of Abraham, Isaac and of Jacob—has sent me to you.” ***This is my NAME forever***

**Yahshua**

**John 17:6,11**

“I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your Name, the Name you gave me (**Yahweh Salvation – YAHSHUA**), so that they may be one as we are one.



# Both were faithful to Yahweh

**Moses**  
**Num. 12:7**

But this is not true of my servant Moses; **he is faithful in all my house.**

**Yahshua**  
**Heb. 3:2**

<sup>2</sup> He was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses was faithful in all Yah's house.

# Both were shepherds

## **Moses** **Exod. 3:1**

Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb,

## **Yahshua** **John 10:11**

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

**As Moses sent twelve spies to explore Canaan (Num. 13), so Yeshua sent twelve apostles to reach the world (Matt. 10:1); Moses appointed seventy rulers over Israel (Num. 11:16-7), so Yashua anointed seventy disciples to teach the nations (Luke 10:1).**

<b>Moses</b>	<b>Yahshua</b>
Num. 13 Num. 11:16-7	Matt. 10:1 Luke 10:1



**Just as the Torah was given to Israel fifty days after the Exodus from Egypt (on Pentecost or Shavuot), so Yashua sent the Ruach HaKodesh to His disciples fifty days after His resurrection.**

**As Moses conquered the great enemy of Israel, the Amalekites with his upraised arms (Exod. 17:11), so Yashua conquered our ultimate enemy of sin and death by His upraised arms on the tree (John 19:18).**

**Moses**  
**Exod. 17:11**

As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning

**Yahshua**  
**John 19:18**

There they impaled him,

# Deuteronomy 19:1-13 Cities of Refuge

Skip



# Deuteronomy 19:14 Altering Boundaries

- Boundary stones marked the boundary lines of real property
- Moving the stones illegally took land from a neighbor
- Keeping land in the family and tribe was key in Yah's laws
- Considered acts of thievery by Torah.

Even King Solomon had to tell his sons

Prov. 22:28 Do not move the ancient boundary which your fathers have set. In an agrarian society, it really was the height of dishonesty to move a boundary marker.

Yahweh said through Hosea the prophet,  
Hos. 5:10 The princes of Judah have become like those who move a boundary...The moral of the story? Be satisfied with what you have.

# Deuteronomy 19:15-20 Concerning Witnesses

- False witness knowingly makes false charges or gives false testimony
- If a person is found to be a false witness they must bear the punishment for the crime for which they falsely accused!!
- The false witness could be EXECUTED in a capital case
- Yahweh says this harsh consequence will rid the community of this evil



## WITNESSES:

- brought charges
- testified
- prime executioners

# LEX TALIONIS

- ***Lex Talionis*** = principle of “an eye for an eye”
- this applies to the false witness
- This was NOT to be taken literally, it is an idiom
- It indicates proportionality for punishment vs. the crime
- This was ONLY to be applied to civil and criminal cases
- NOT to be applied to inter-personal relationships!!

# Deuteronomy 20:1-9 Civility even in war times

- Priests at the center of all that will happen
- Priests blow trumpets during battle
- ***Shema = Hear, O Israel***
- 1) don't let heart be faint
- 2) don't be afraid of battle
- 3) don't panic
- 4) don't be in dread of the Canaanites
- Yahweh will lead them to victory!



- Yahweh established a prohibition against the wanton destruction of that which may be of use to the Hebrew nation such as trees.

## **DEFERRMENT**

- Home not yet dedicated
- Hasn't eaten his vineyard
- Engaged but not married

- Offering a town “peace” means offering them to surrender to you before attacking them
- Part of the understanding is that the leaders and residents will become part of Israel to one degree or another
- Residents become “vassals” to Israel
- Yahweh demanded humane treatment for resident aliens, and servants had rights
- Towns who refuse to surrender have all adult males executed, and women and “little ones” taken as spoils of war

# Deuteronomy 21:1-9 Unsolved Murder

- The issue is NOT about finding the killer, rather, it is about what to do about the bloodguilt that now exists and how to absolve it
- Closest town is assigned the bloodguilt AND the duty to absolve it
- The elders and judges of the city where the murder occurred were required to kill a heifer (not red heifer).



- With a priest present, the elders and judges were to wash their hands over the carcass of the heifer. These were to disavow having any role in the murder and ask Yah to forgive and expiate the sin. This act would serve to put away the shedding of innocent blood from that city's midst.

THE CAUSE  
GUILT



THE REMEDY  
ATONEMENT



BLOOD

*“...and they will be forgiven of bloodguilt..”*

- The OT sacrificial rituals DID fully forgive!
- These various English terms all translate the same Hebrew word ***kipper*** or ***kaphar***
- Cover, forgive, absolve, expiate, all mean exactly the same thing and translate the same Hebrew word!!



## Isaiah 51:15

וְאֲנֹכִי, יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ, רֹגַע הַיָּם, וַיִּהְמוּ גַלָּיו; יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת, שְׁמוֹ

We-anoki Yahweh eloheka ro-ga hay-yam way-ye-  
hemu gal-law Yahweh se-ba-owt se-mow

For I am Yahweh thy Elohim, who stirreth up the sea,  
that the waves thereof roar; Yahweh of hosts is His  
Name.