

Parashah 30 Tidbit
Qedoshim, קְדוּשִׁים, Holiness
Vayikra 19:1 – 20:27
by Marc Gravelle
marc@bondservantsofyeshua.ca

Vayiqra 19:1-20:27

The book of Vayiqra, is called Leviticus, in our English Scriptures, but the true meaning of the word Vayiqra, **IS, And He called**, and what is it that Yahweh has called us to do? He has called us to be Holy as He is Holy, and the instructions on how to be holy as He is Holy, are all found in this wonderful book, called Vayikra.

This Parashah is called Qedoshim, and this word is translated as Holiness, it is from the word Qadosh, קָדוֹשׁ, which has quite a few related meanings, it means, **to be holy, be sacred, he hallowed, sanctified, consecrated, dedicated, was set apart**, was forbidden, was hallowed, he declared holy, he cleansed, purified, he devoted, assigned, he sanctified the Sabbath and or the festivals, he pronounced the benediction of the Kiddush, he made something prohibited, he betrothed, wedded, he kept himself separated, he purified himself, he became sanctified, he prepared himself, he set apart as holy, devoted as holy, he regarded as holy, he designated, appointed, holiness, sanctity, **a holy object, a holy place, the Holy Temple, set apart for a specific purpose**, a temple prostitute.

As you know, Scripture makes it very clear that we are commanded by our Most High Elohim, Yahweh, to be holy as He is Holy. Therefore, we have to ask ourselves, how do we do that? How can we, as mere mortals, be holy as our infinite Elohim, Yahweh, is Holy? Do we just do what feels good, or what we think is good? What moral compass do we use? Do we use our own moral compass, or, our parents, or, our churches religious dogma, or, the words of our religious leaders, or, their opinions or doctrines, or, the doctrines of our governments, or, of people we respect, **OR, NONE OF THE ABOVE?**

The answer of course **IS, NONE OF THE ABOVE**. The only moral compass we should be using for human behaviour **IS** found in Yahweh Elohim's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of life. In His Torah, Yahweh has given us a book on how we are to **conduct our lives**, how we are to behave, how we are to be holy as He is holy, and how we are to interact with Him and with all the peoples of the world. That book is called, the *Book of Vayikra* which means *and He called*, it is the book that we have been told, is called *Leviticus*. But as I said above, it really means, and he called. *Chapter 19*, delineates some of that behaviour that we are to emulate, **IF** we are to be **Holy** as our heavenly Father is **Holy**. To be **Holy** as our heavenly Father is **Holy IS** what we have been **called to do**, that is our **mandate as believers in the Elohim of Abraham, Yitzchaq and Ya'aqov**.

There are many, **you shall** and **you shall not** Commandments from Yahweh in this chapter. However the phrase, *I am Yahweh your Elohim*, is used seven times, and the phrase, *I am Yahweh*, is used eight times. The number **seven** in Scripture represents completion, while the number **eight** speaks of new beginnings, and if we add them together, we get the number, **fifteen**, and the number **fifteen** in Scripture, speaks of rest. Therefore not only is Yahweh

commanding us to be **Holy** as He is **Holy**, **BUT**, He is also telling us, through the use of the number of times that His Name is used, that **IF** we willingly choose to keep His Commandments, it will be a New beginning (8) for us, and it will make us whole and complete (7) in the eyes of Yahweh, and it will eventually lead us onto His eternal rest (15). Through the amount of times that He chose to use His **NAME**, Yahweh, He reminds all of us, of His great love for us, and, that it was this great love that prompted Him to send His only begotten Son, to earth, to teach us His Ways, the Words of His Torah of life, and then, have the Words of the Torah, become flesh and die on the cross in our stead, to take the **SIN** of the world upon Himself, and the Sin (singular) of the world (*John 1:29*), **IS** the Sin that Adam committed in the Garden of Eden, which caused our heavenly Father to banish him and his family from the Garden, and sever the connection that mankind had with our heavenly Father. Messiah, is considered to be the second Adam, (*1Corinthians 15:22; 15:45*) who came to earth, teaching us the Ways that Yahweh wanted Adam to walk in the Garden, and then, Messiah died on the Cross for us, to take away Adam's Sin, so that from that point on, **anyone** who chose to surrender their hearts, minds, souls and strength to our heavenly Father, would have the privilege and opportunity of reestablishing the connection with our heavenly Father, that Adam severed, in the Garden by his rebellious disobedient act, in order to redeem us, and draw us back to Him.

In *verse 2*, Yahweh tells us to be holy as He is Holy, and in the very next *verse*, He says, you shall *fear* every man his mother and his father, and keep My Shabat. So, right after telling us that we are to be holy as He is Holy, the very first things that Yahweh commands us to do, **IS TO FEAR AND OBEY OUR PARENTS**. Why is that, why would Yahweh chose to remind us that we are **TO FEAR AND OBEY** our parents?

First of all, we have to realize that Elohim loves us with a perfect unending love, and His fifth Commandment promises, that **IF** we willingly and lovingly **HONOUR AND OBEY OUR FATHER AND MOTHER, WE WILL HAVE A LONG LIFE. I BELIEVE THAT YAHWEH HAS PUT THIS COMMANDMENT IN PLACE** because of the great love that He has for each and everyone of us, and for **ALL** families, for Scripture says that it is His wish that **NOT** even one person perishes, but that they turn from their wicked ways and live.

In Elohim's perfect world, an earthly father and mother, are to teach their children the Words of the Torah of our heavenly Father, by willingly choosing to walk in total loving surrendered obedience to all the Words of His Torah of Life, and **IF** the children, then **OBEY** the Words of the Torah of Yahweh, which their parents have taught and modelled for them, in their daily lives, **THEN**, it will be **LIFE** unto them. That is Yahweh's perfect plan, first the father and mother are to obey Yahweh's Commandments, and become a model of obedience ot their children, thereby teaching their children the Ways of Yahweh diligently, **THEN** as the children grow up and become adults, they are to teach their children to do the same, and the pattern is to be repeated over and over again, and if and when mankind could learn to do that, then we would have a perfect world, we would already be in paradise.

The second thing Yahweh says is, you shall **KEEP** or **GUARD My Shabbat**, and from that point on, He tells us what else we are to do. It seems to me, that Yahweh is telling us that unless we can learn to **SUBMIT** to the authority of our Parents, and honour and obey them, **THEN** we will not be able to fully **SUBMIT** to the authority of our heavenlyFather, and keep His Shabbat

as He has Commanded all of us to do, **AND**, it also means, that we will more that likely, be unable and or unwilling, to keep and do many or all of His other Commandments, that are delineated in this chapter, to the extent that Yahweh wants us to keep them. The model that Yahweh wants all of us to follow, the pattern that we are to keep, is found **RIGHT HERE in this chapter**, and that begins with us having a loving intimate relationship with our heavenly Father. That, by necessity, has to begin with us surrendering our wills and our hearts to Him in loving surrendered obedience to the Words of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, and then, we can learn to delight in, and guard the sign that He, Yahweh has put in place to show us and the world, that we are in Covenant with Him, and that sign my friends, **IS** His Shabat. This should indicate to us, how **VERY, VERY** important **IT IS** to keep Yahweh's Shabat. It is extremely important that we all understand what Yahweh is telling us here in this chapter of the Book of Vayiqra, when He tells us to be Holy as He is Holy, for without loving surrendered obedience to Yahweh's Commandment, to honour our parents, and without keeping Yahweh's Shabbat, which **IS**, His perpetual sign that we are in Covenant with Him, **it is IMPOSSIBLE to have a complete, fulfilling and intimate relationship with our heavenly Father.**

Once Yahweh has taught us the lesson of obedience to our parents, He then tells us that the obedience that we have learned to have to our parents, **IS**, the very same kind of obedience that **IS to be directed towards Him** and **NOT** to idols or graven images made by men's hands. We are to be obedient to the Elohim of Abraham, Yitzchaq and Ya'aqov, and to Him alone; we are **NEVER** to depend on man made theologies, doctrines or man made imaginary gods.

Now, once we have done the above mentioned Commandments and come into Covenant with the Elohim of the universe, once we have come into an intimate relationship with our heavenly Father, and **realize what a privilege it is to be in Covenant with Him**, our hearts will be so filled with love for Him, that we will want to give Him thanks on a daily basis. Yahweh recognizes this, **BUT**, unlike the man made imaginary gods of this world, that men have conjured up, who demand gifts and servitude, our heavenly Father says that **IF** we offer Him anything, it must be of our own **FREE WILL**. Can you see the Grace and Mercy that He has towards His people? He is **NOT** an Elohim that demands sacrifice, He is an Elohim that wants to be in an intimate relationship with His people, with His children, He wants to be intimate with each and every one of us, **BUT**, He will only do that, He will only have an intimate relationship with us, **IF** we are willing to enter into a Covenant with Him. His Word, His Commandments are **designed to give us Life, IF and WHEN** we willingly choose to obey them, and the reverse is also true, since obeying His Commandments **IS** Life to us, **THEN** disobeying His Commandments **IS DEATH** to us, **IF and when** we turn away from His Life giving Commandments, the Words of His Torah of Life. The death that I speak of, **IS NOT** just physical death that happens to all of us, **BUT IT IS ETERNAL DEATH**, where a person's spirit is forever separated from Yahweh, who is love and everlasting life.

What follows are a few Commandments that I have pointed out found in *Vayikra 19*, that jumped off the page at me, and that I would like to mention.

YOU SHALL:

Revere your father and mother.

Honour and obey your parents and **it will teach you** to obey and honour our Father in heaven, **CHOOSE TO NOT OBEY** your parents, and you **WILL NOT** be able to fully

submit to, **NOR OBEY** our heavenly Father.

Revere my Sanctuary and keep My Shabbat.

Guard the Place where I have decided to place My Name there forever, and guard My Shabbat with your life, for **IT IS A SIGN** between Me and You, that we are in Covenant together. **IF** however, you **DO NOT REVERE AND KEEP** My Shabbat, then you have chosen to set aside the **SIGN** of our Covenant, you have taken off your wedding ring, which means that you have chosen to set aside our marriage Covenant

Do no unrighteousness.

Righteousness **IS** obeying the Words of the Torah, as we see in *Deuteronomy 6:25*, therefore when Yahweh says do NO unrighteousness, He is telling us to **OBEY AND DO** His Torah (Law).

Love your neighbour as yourself.

This is not a New Testament teaching, **IT IS A TEACHING** found in *Vayiqra 19:18* You **SHALL** observe My Statutes and **ALL** My Judgments **TO DO THEM, WHEN** you **DO THEM**, it will be Life onto you, eternal life. There is no need to explain these words, the **TRUTH** of them is self evident

You **SHALL NOT**:

- You **SHALL NOT** swear **Falsely** by My name.
- You **SHALL NOT Defraud** your neighbour, nor rob him.
- You **SHALL NOT Slander** (gossip).
- You **SHALL NOT Allow any Mixture**. (Don't mix man made doctrine with YHVH's perfect Truth, His Torah).
- You **SHALL NOT Make any cuttings in your flesh**.
- You **SHALL NOT Tattoo** yourself (print any marks on yourself).
- You **SHALL NOT eat of the fruit of the tree** that you planted until the fifth year. The fruit of the forth year is holy unto YHVH, the fruit shall be uncircumcised for three years. (*Verses 23-25*)

In the *verses* commanding us **NOT** to eat the fruit of the tree for a certain period of time, there are three time periods mentioned:

Vayiqra 19:23-25 And when you shall come into the land, and shall have planted all manner of trees for food, then you shall count the fruit thereof as **UNCIRCUMCISED: three** years shall it be as **uncircumcised** unto you: it shall **NOT be eaten of**. 24 But in the **fourth** year **all the fruit thereof shall be holy** to praise Yahweh withal. 25 And in the **fifth** year **shall you eat** of the fruit thereof, that it may yield unto you the increase thereof: I am Yahweh your Elohim.

As you can see, the time periods are, the third year, the fourth year and the fifth year. These numbers are very important, and they explain the meaning of what Yahweh is actually Commanding us to do here, when it comes to fruit trees that we plant. The number **Five** in Scripture, represents the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah and His Grace, the number four, represents our Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, for it was in the forth millennium that Messiah came into the world, and the number three represents His redemptive sacrifice, and His resurrection from the dead. In these numbers regarding which year we are to eat of the fruit of the tress that we have planted, and that Yahweh has made to grow, is the plan

of redemption onto salvation. By Yahweh's Grace (5) and mercy, our Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah of our heavenly Father, made flesh, came into the world (4), and sacrificed Himself for us, He died on the cross for our Sin, for our transgressions of the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, and was resurrected unto everlasting Life (3) to lead us into our Father's eternal Kingdom, where we will be at the Father's side, as the Bride of Messiah, for eternity. So now every time you eat any kind of fruit or fruit pie, I hope that it reminds you of Elohim's redemption onto Salvation Plan, and his marvellous Grace toward us, His created beings.

The emphasis of this whole chapter is captured in *verse 37 You **SHALL OBSERVE** (shamar; guard) **ALL My Statutes and ALL My Judgments.***

The word *observe* used here in *verse 37* is the Hebrew word *Shamar*, שָׁמַר, which not only means *keep* or *observe*, but it also means *to guard*. We are to *safeguard* the Word of Elohim, and **REVERE IT**, as if our very lives depended upon it, because, truly, our lives *do indeed depend on it*. Amein.

There is One stand-alone Aleph Tav in this chapter.

*Verse 27 You shall **NOT** round the corners of your heads, neither shall you mar **Aleph Tav** the corners of your beard.*

There are *seventeen* Aleph Tavs that are attached to words with a Maqef and *twenty eight* words that contain both the Aleph and Tav letters within them. The number *seventeen* in Scripture, represents victory and resurrection, for our Messiah rose from the grave on the *seventeenth* of Aviv. The number *twenty eight* is broken down to the numbers *twenty* and *eight*. Where the number *twenty* speaks of redemption, for it is in the twentieth year that the sons of Yisrael were redeemed with half a shekel of silver (*Sh'mot 30:12-14*), and the number *eight* speaks of new beginnings. Therefore I believe that Yahweh is telling us through the use of these Aleph Tavs that **IF** we willingly and lovingly surrender our hearts, minds, souls and strength to Him in total loving surrendered obedience, to the Words of His Torah of Life, then He will redeem us, and like Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, we too will be resurrected onto eternal life at His side. In other words we will experience a **New Beginning** at Messiah's side that will last for eternity. Amein

Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.

*Have a great Elohim blessed week and may Yahweh bless your every thought,
and your every deed. Shalom Alechem. Amein*

