

PARASHAT
KI TETZE
פרשת כי תצא

Deuteronomy
21:10-25:19

Note to the adult teacher: It will be necessary for you to give the scriptural context and background for each of the points listed below.

Great Discoveries in This Week's Parashah (Torah Portion)


- 21:10 Laws Relating to Family Matters
- 21:19 The Death Penalty for a Wicked Son
- 22:1 Concern for Your Brother's Property
- 22:5 Male and Female Clothing to Be Different
- 22:6 Care for a Mother Bird and Her Nest
- 22:8 A Protective Fence on the Roof of Your House
- 22:9 Unlawful Mixtures
- 22:12 The Tzitzit—the Law of the Blue Fringes
- 22:13 Laws of Preserving Sexual Purity
- 23:2 Those Excluded from the Congregation of Israel
- 23:10 The Sanctity of the Camp Pertaining to Bodily Emissions
- 23:16 Justice for an Escaped Slave
- 23:18 Prostitution Forbidden
- 23:20 Interest Forbidden to Be Charged Against Israelite Brothers
- 23:22 It Is a Sin to Make a Promise to Elohim and to Not Keep It
- 23:25 A Worker's Right to Eat
- 24:1 Divorce and Remarriage
- 24:6 One's Millstone Cannot Be Taken as a Pledge for a Loan
- 24:7 Death Penalty for Kidnapping
- 24:8 Skin Infection and Slander
- 24:10 Treating With Respect One Who Owes a Debt

- 24:14 Timely Payment of Workers
- 24:16 Each Person Is Responsible for His Own Sin
- 24:17 It Is Forbidden to Take Advantage of Widows and Orphans
- 24:19 Gifts to the Poor From the Harvest—Their Right to Glean Your Fields
- 25:1 Lashes for the Wicked
- 24:4 Allow Oxen to Eat When Threshing Grain
- 25:5 Rules Pertaining to the Levirate Marriage and How to Release the Obligation
- 25:11 Penalty for Embarrassing Another During an Altercation
- 25:13 Dishonest Weights and Measures Are an Abomination
- 25:17 Destroy Amalek



Exploring This Week's Parashah:

1 Various Laws


This week's Torah portion shows us that YHVH cares about ALL areas of our lives. That is why the Bible is sometimes called "The Book of Life." In this Parashah, notice how many different aspects of our lives YHVH teaches us about.

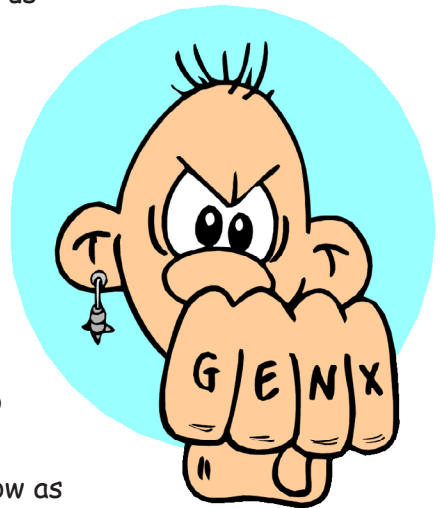
-  (a) Quickly skim this week's Torah portion and make a list of all the different areas of life the various Torah-laws touch. For example, you could write: kindness to animals, punishment for rebellious children, etc.

2 A Wicked and Rebellious Son (Deuteronomy 21:18-21)

-  (b) What kind of child does YHVH **not** want you to be? What would be the opposite of these wicked characteristics—or what **does** YHVH want his children to be like? (Read Deuteronomy 21:18.)
-  (c) If stubborn and rebellious children were punished now as in ancient Israel, what do you think would happen to the crime rate in our society? Do you think it would go down? If children learned to obey, fear and respect their parents, do you think that they would be more likely to follow the laws of the land?

We all sin and do things that we look back on and wish we had never done. The Bible teaches that sin—no matter what sin it is—brings the death penalty. (Look up Ezekiel 18:4 and Romans 6:23.)

-  (d) When we sin (act wickedly and stubbornly before our parents or YHVH who is our Heavenly Parent) what are we to do? (See 1John 1:9.) Aren't you thankful that YHVH is a forgiving Father, and that Yeshua died for your sins so that you don't have to suffer the death penalty every time you mess up?





3 Men and Women's Clothing (Deuteronomy 22:5)

Men and women's clothing have changed over history and with each culture. In Bible times, men wore robes. In Scotland, some men wear skirts called kilts. During colonial American times, men wore wigs, bows in their hairs, lace and frills and silk stockings. Most men wouldn't be caught dead in these types of dress styles today. Even though men dressed in a manner strange to us in the past, they still dressed differently than women, and vice versa. The main issue that YHVH wants us to focus on here is that the sexes (men and women, male and female) are to be unique and different. He wants men to act like and dress like men, and women to act like and dress like women regardless of the clothing styles. There is much confusion and potential for sin and perversion when men try to act and dress like women and vice versa. YHVH made male and female. This may come


as surprise to you, but YHVH Elohim has both male and female attributes in himself. Male and female are made in his image, so they both came from him. (Explore Genesis 1:26-27.) Therefore, each gender (male and female) is unique and special before YHVH and he wants to keep them separate. The clothing we wear is an



outward way of showing the world what our gender is. In times past, even just a few years ago in America, men, for example, wore pants, and most women wore dresses. At that time, there was not so much confusion between men's and women's clothing. Ever since World War II and especially since the 1960's things have changed. Many women have been trying to become more like men. They call it "women's liberation" and "equality." As a result of these movements in our society, much confusion has arisen about how men and women should act and what kinds of clothes they should wear. It used to be that only boys wore blue jeans and t-shirts. Now both boys and girls do. Not long ago, only girls and women wore earrings. Now many men do so also. At one time, only men got tattoos and smoked cigars. Now it is popular for women to have tattoos, and some women even smoke cigars. (Yuk!) Until recently, most men had short hair and women traditionally had longer hair than men. Now many women have hair that is as short or shorter than many men.


Have you ever come up behind someone thinking it was a man because the person had short hair and wore jeans and a t-shirt, only to find it was a woman? This is not how it would be in a godly society.

Additionally, our society has become very casual, less formal and less respectful of others. Dress styles have become very casual and in fact, sometimes very immodest in that clothing is often very tight on the body or very skimpy showing too much of the body outline. Nowadays, anyone can dress pretty much however they want. This is not always good, for, as a result, much sin and immorality occurs.

 (e) YHVH's Word is very clear in Deuteronomy 22:5 that men shall not wear women's clothing and women should not wear men's clothing. What are some examples of men's clothing that a women should not wear? What are some examples of women's clothing men should not wear?

Christian and Jewish Bible scholars both agree that the command to not wear that which pertains to the other sex does not just include clothing, but also includes things like perfume, women's jewelry, hair-dos, make-up, and the general primping that women do to make





themselves more beautiful. Generally, women are more refined and “done-up” in their appearance, while men are more rough-looking in their appearance. This is good, and as it should be in helping to tell the difference between the sexes.

-  (f) Now for the hard question. In our society, are there any men-type clothing (excluding under clothes) that women DO NOT wear? Are there women-type clothing that men do not wear? The point is this: it seems that women tend to dress more like men, while most men do not dress as much like women. Is this a good thing? If this is so, can we dress like the people around us and still follow YHVH’s command in the Torah that men and women are not to wear each other’s clothing styles?






4 Care for Animals (Deuteronomy 22:6-7)

When YHVH created Adam and Eve, he placed them in a garden. YHVH then gave man a job to do.




-  (g) What did YHVH tell man to do in the garden? (Read Genesis 2:15.)
-  (h) What was the second thing YHVH told man to do in Eden? (Look at Genesis 2:19.)
-  (i) What do the two job assignments YHVH gave to the first man tell us about YHVH’s love for the earth and animals?
-  (j) In Deuteronomy 22:6-7, YHVH instructs man about how to be respectful of birds and not to harm or kill a bird unnecessarily. Would this verse apply only to birds, or do you think YHVH cares equally about all animals, not just birds?





Elsewhere in the Bible, there are some other examples of the great concern that YHVH has for animals.

-  (k) What did YHVH tell Noah to do with regard to saving animals from the destruction of the flood? (See Genesis 7:2-3, 8-9.)
-  (l) Is YHVH aware of EVERY animal on earth? (Read Luke 12:6.)
-  (m) How does a righteous man treat his animals? (Note Proverbs 12:10.)
-  (n) How much does man need animals? Could man survive on earth without animal life?
-  (o) Take for example, the little honey bee. Could life survive on earth without the simple honey bee whose job it is to pollinate flowers enabling plants to reproduce? What other animals can you think of that if they went extinct, life on earth would probably cease?



5 Wearing Fringes (Tzitzit) (Deuteronomy 22:12)





-  (p) What did YHVH command the Israelites to wear on the corners of their clothes? (Explore Deuteronomy 22:12 and Numbers 15:37-41.)

-  (q) What color were these tassels or fringes to be? (See Numbers 15:38.)
-  (r) What was the purpose of these fringes? (Read Numbers 15:39-41.)
-  (s) In our lives, we have symbols that help us to remember important events so that we don't forget them. For example, a wedding ring is a reminder that we wear to help us to value our marriage. Perhaps a framed certificate of accomplishment on the wall, or a special piece of jewelry we wear, or a special photo helps remind us of something important to us. What are some other examples you can think of that we have or wear that are reminders to us of something important?
-  (t) Why was it important to YHVH that his people not forget his commandments and remember that they were his special people? (Note verse 39.) Do you ever forget important things? Do you ever forget to do the things your parents tell you to do? What is something you do to help you to remember?

6 On Bodily Emissions (Deuteronomy 23:10-14)

This is a tough subject to discuss, namely, that which comes out of our bodies, which we refer to by various terms such as waste, excrement, poop. Animal waste is called dung or manure.

In this Torah portion, we see that YHVH cares about the little details of our lives whether it has to do with birds, the clothes we wear or the waste that comes out of our bodies. He wants us to be clean, pure, righteous and holy or set-apart in all areas of our lives and at all times—not just when we go to “church” or are in public when others are watching us.

-  (u) In Deuteronomy 23:10-11, what does YHVH say about bathing and keeping our bodies clean on a regular basis?
-  (v) According to Deuteronomy 23:12-13, what are we to do with the excrement (poop) that comes from our body? In ancient times, there were no flush toilets. In many parts of the world, there are still no toilets. If you go camping, you may be at a place where there are no toilets. You may need to dig a hole in the ground (called a latrine) to use as a temporary outdoor toilet. Whether we have regular toilets or not, the principle of these verses still apply.
-  (w) Why is human waste to be buried or disposed of in some way? (Read verse 14.)
-  (x) Although these Torah verses don't mention it, is burying human waste a way to prevent disease and sickness? When we wash ourselves with soap and put garbage and waste in its proper place instead of leaving it laying around, how does this prevent sickness and disease? Does YHVH want his holy (set-apart or kadosh) people to be a clean and pure people (both physically and spiritually) or a filthy and impure people?

