Parashah 33-2 B'khukkotai / בְּחָלֵית



Torah: Vayikra (Leviticus) 25:1 – 27:34

Haftarah: Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) 16:19-17:14

B'rit Hadashah: Luke 4: 14-22

	yr. 1 25:1-38	Yr. 2 26:3-27:15	Yr. 3 27:1-34
1	25:1 - 3	26:3-5	27:1-4
2	25:4 - 7	26:6-9	27:5-8
3	25:8 - 13	26:10-46	27:9-15
4	25:14 - 18	27:1-4	27:16-21
5	25:19 - 24	27:5-8	27:22-25
6	25:25 - 28	27:9-11	27:26-28
7	25:29 - 38	27:12-15	27:29-34

if in my statutes you walk and my commands you keep	im-b'khuqotáy teléku ve'et-mitz'votáy tish'meru	אָם־בְּחֻקֹּתִי תֵּלְכוּ
and you do them	va'asiytem otam	ָןאֶת־מִצְוֹתַי תִּשְׁמְרוּ וַעֲשִׂיתֶם אֹתָם:

B'khukkotai ("In My Laws") is the final Torah portion in the Book of Leviticus. It begins describing blessings that follow obedience to God's laws and curses that come with desecration of them – free will on one hand, reward and punishment on the other. It ends with laws of vows and consecration of people and property.

The Haftarah speaks of a once vibrant and productive land that becomes destitute because of the people's sins, just as the Torah portion promises.

Year 1 Aliyah Highlights

- 1. Le. 26:3-5 Literally, "if you walk in my regulations..." portraying God's laws as 1) the proper path of life, and 2) an active and interactive process observe and do. Rain is seasonal and foundational. Plentiful food and security go hand in hand (Le. 25:18-19).
- **2.** Le. 26:6-9 Promise of peace in the land (Eze. 34:25-28), though enemies will be a given. When HaShem turns toward his people, they prosper (De. 31:17-18, Is. 8:17, Jer. 18:17, Eze. 39:24, 29)
- 3. Le. 26:10-46 Productive years support sabbatical. HaShem's "tabernacle" is more than a place, but an active presence in covenant relationship. HaShem will never reject obedience it is Israel who can reject favor. Failure to respond to the disciple of HaShem results in increasingly harsher situations (v. 14, 18, 21, 23, 27). The land will get its Shabbats (v. 34). HaShem will not allow Israel to perish no matter how disloyal remembering his covenant (Ge. 9:15, Ex. 6:5, Eze. 16:60). The entire "holiness code" that began in Ch. 17 ends authoritatively with v.46.
- **4. Le. 27:1-4** This chapter was likely appended. It establishes and insures funding for the Tabernacle and priesthood. These vows represent dedication to the Temple service based on productive capacity.
- 5. Le. 27:5-8 Continuation of valuation.
- 6. Le. 27:9-11 Animals could be donated and redeemed.
- 7. Le. 27:12-15 The assessment of the priest is authoritative

Food for thought...

Walking with HaShem: Our reading infers that walking ($halakh - \overline{\Pi}$) in the statutes of HaShem (26:3) will result in HaShem walking in our midst (26:12). There are strong parallels between this opportunity and another time when HaShem desired to walk with his people – in the Garden of Eden (compare Ge.

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1:28-29 with Le. 26:5-9). When <u>you</u> invite <u>me</u> to meet together as two individuals, a third entity can appear: <u>us</u>. Is it possible that when we take up HaShem's invitation to walk in his laws, he also walks with us, recreating a version of The Garden of Eden? Might this be what is described in our reading (Le. 26:4-7)?

Daily Devotional questions for reflection and application

- 1. (25:1) Yeshua fulfills all of Torah. Is he the authority of your life? (1Sa 2:35-36, Mat 7:28-29, Mat 25:14-23, Heb 3:3-6)
- 2. (25:14) Who is your neighbor? (Luk 10:25-37)
- 3. (25:29) Laws and lines on a map have replaced "walls" around cities today. Has your "house" been annexed by the world, or by the Kingdom of God? (Mat 16:18, 2Co 10:4, Eph 6:10-18, Isa 12:6)
- 4. (25:31) Yeshua is our kinsman redeemer has he redeemed you and set you free? (Lev 25:23, Psa 49:7-8, Joel 2:18-20)
- 5. (25:39) Has God shown you mercy and compassion? Do you show mercy and compassion to others? How? (Lev 25:25, 35, 39, 47; Rom 12:9-13, Isa 58:6-7, 1Ti 5:8)
- 6. (26:6) Who makes peace? Do you know peace with God? Do you share peace with others? How? (Isa 9:5, Isa 45:7, Mat 5:9, Eph 2:15-16, Heb 12:14, Rom 12:8, 2Co 5:18,20)
- 7. (27:16) Yeshua paid the price for our redemption: more than we could ever afford, but free for the asking. Have you asked Him? (Exo 30:13,15, Lev 5:7, 1Ti 1:15, Rom 10:12-13, 1Co 15:9-10, Eph 3:7-8)
- 8. (27:25) Do you struggle with your value in the Kingdom of God? (Pro 16:11, Job 38:41, Rom 8:3-4, Luk 12:6-7, Mat 10:29, 2Pe 3:9, Joh 3:16, Tit 2:14, 2Co 5:21)
- 9. (27:29) God's never changes, and His plans in Yeshua are sure. Although you might not know the details, are you sure about His plans for you? (Mat 16:21:23, 1Pe 1:20, Rev 13:8, Isa 53:2-3, Act 2:23, Mat 13:34-35, Jer 29:11, Isa 42:8-9, Mat 24:36-37, Eph 1:11-12)