

THE BEREKHU

LEADER / OLAH

BAREKHU ET ADONAI HA'ME'VO-RAKH

BLESS THE LORD, WHO IS TO BE BLESSED

CONGREGATION / OLIM

BARUCH ADONAI HA'ME'VO-RAKH LA OLAM VA'ED

BLESSED IS ADONAI, WHO IS BLESSED FOREVER AND EVER

כִּי־תֵצֵא

Ki-Tetze – When you Go

Devarim / Deuteronomy 21:10 – 25:19

Reading Deuteronomy 24:14 – 25:19

Blessing the Reading of the Torah

ברוך אתה אדני

אלהינו מלך העולם

אשר בחר בנו מכל העמים

ונתן לנו את תורתו

ברוך אתה אדני נותן התורה

Barukh ata Adonai Eloheynu,

melekh ha-olam,

Asher bechar banu mik-kol ha-am-mim

venatan la-nu et Torato.

Baruch ata Adonai, no-tein Ha-Torah

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe

Who chose us from all the people and gave us His Torah

Blessed are you, Lord, giver of the Torah

Blessing over the reader of Torah

May He who blessed our fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob bless *Eric Lovelace* because he has come up for the honor of God, for the honor of the Torah and for the honor of the Shabbat. In this merit may the Holy One, Blessed be He, protect and deliver *Eric* from all trouble and distress, from all affliction and illness, and may He send blessing and success to all his endeavors, together with all Israel and all his brethren;
and the congregation says,
In Yeshua's Name
Amen.

Deuteronomy 24:17 - 19

17 You are not to twist justice for an immigrant or orphan, and you are not to take as collateral a widow's clothing.

18 But you are to remember that you were a slave in Egypt, and Yah your Elohim redeemed you from there. Therefore I am commanding you to do this thing.

19 "When you reap your harvest in your field and have forgotten a sheaf in the field, you are not to turn back to get it. It is for the immigrant, for the orphan and for the widow—in order that Yah your Elohim may bless you in all the work of your hands.

Deuteronomy 24:20 - 22

20 When you beat your olive tree, you are not to search through the branches afterward. It is for the immigrant, for the orphan and for the widow.

21 When you harvest your vineyard, you are not to pick over it afterward. It is for the outsider, for the orphan and for the widow.

22 You are to remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt. Therefore I am commanding you to do this thing.

Deuteronomy 25:1 - 3

1 “Suppose there is a dispute between people and they approach the court, the judges hear their case, and declare one righteous and the other guilty.

2 Now if the guilty one deserves to be flogged, the judge is to make him lie down and be flogged before him, with the number of lashes in proportion to his guilt.

3 He may strike him 40 times but no more. Otherwise he would beat him with too many a wound beyond these, and your brother would be degraded in your eyes.

Deuteronomy 25:4 - 6

4 “You are not to muzzle the ox while it is threshing.

5 “If brothers dwell together and one of them dies and has no son, the dead man’s wife is not to be married outside to a stranger. Her husband’s brother is to go to her and take her as his wife, and perform the duty of a brother-in-law.

6 Now the firstborn that she bears is to carry on the name of his dead brother, so that his name will not be blotted out of Israel.

Deuteronomy 25:7 - 9

7 But if the man does not want to take his brother's widow, his brother's widow is to go to the elders at the gate and say, 'My brother-in-law refuses to carry on his brother's name in Israel—he is unwilling to perform a brother-in-law's duty for me.'

8 Then the elders of his town are to summon him and speak to him. And if he stands firm and says, 'I do not desire to take her,'

9 then his brother's widow is to come to him in the sight of the elders, pull his sandal off his foot, spit in his face, and reply, 'So will it be done to the man who does not build up his brother's house.'

Deuteronomy 25:10 - 12

10 Then his name is to be called in Israel ‘the house of the pulled-off sandal.’

11 “Suppose people fight with one another, a man and his brother, and the wife of the one approaches to rescue her husband from the hand of the one hitting him; and she puts out her hand and grabs him by his genitals.

12 Then you are to cut off her hand—your eye will show no pity.

Deuteronomy 25:13 - 15

13 “You are not to have stones of different weights in your bag—large and small.

14 You are not to have in your house ephahs of different measures—large and small.

15 You must have a full and honest weight and a full and honest measure, so that your days may be long on the land that Yah your Elohim is giving you. 16 For all who do these things, all who do injustice, are detestable to Yah your Elohim.

Deuteronomy 25:16 - 19

16 For all who do these things, all who do injustice, are detestable to Yah your Elohim.

17 “Remember what Amalek did to you along the way as you came out from Egypt—

18 how he happened upon you along the way and attacked those among you in the rear, all the stragglers behind you, when you were tired and weary—he did not fear Yah.

19 Now when Yah your Elohim grants you rest from all the enemies surrounding you in the land Yah your Elohim is giving you as an inheritance to possess, you are to blot out the memory of Amalek from under the heavens. Do not forget!



First Century Ministries

YESHUA FLIPS

Torah Portion:
Shoftim Part 2

“Judges”

Deuteronomy 16:18-21:9

THE

SCRIPT



Types of Biblical Authority

- Judges → civil
- Priests → ritual, “religious”
- Kings → national

Qualifications for Judges & Believers!

- Judge with righteous judgment
- Don't distort justice
- Don't show partiality
- Don't accept bribes
- Pursue justice

Today's Focus: failure of
leaders and authorities

When leaders don't lead, they fail. They allow their people to fall prey to sin, distrust of the Lord, and all manner of unrighteousness.

Failure of the Spies

Who were the spies?

- Num 13:3 *“at the Lord’s command Moses sent them out from the Desert of Paran. All of them were leaders of the Israelites.”*

Report to the people

Num 13:32 “The land we explored consumes those living in it. All the people we saw there are of great size. 33 We saw the Nephilim there (the descendants of Anak come from the Nephilim). We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them.

Leaders influence the Israelites – Numbers 14

All the Israelites grumbled against Moses and Aaron, and the whole assembly said to them, “If only we had died in Egypt! Or in this wilderness! 3 Why is the Lord bringing us to this land only to let us fall by the sword? Our wives and children will be taken as plunder. Wouldn’t it be better for us to go back to Egypt?” 4 And they said to each other, “We should choose a leader and go back to Egypt.

Authorities sow issues in the people

- Just like the spies
- Fear → → → Doubt → → → Questioning God
 - Choice – own land
 - Promise – Abraham
 - Power – can He?

Sometimes the leaders AND
the people fail

Before we talk about the
judges, priests and kings...

What is the worst sin?

- Present in the “10 commandments”
- Prophets condemn constantly
- IDOLATRY
 - Demoting God
 - Worshipping creation

God is Revealed

Romans 1:20 For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

All attempt to demote Him

21 For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

All attempt to demote Him

24 Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. 25 They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator.

Failures of Judges

First success, then failure

A corrupt people

Judges 2 - Whenever the Lord raised up a judge for them, he was with the judge and saved them out of the hands of their enemies as long as the judge lived; for the Lord relented because of their groaning under those who oppressed and afflicted them. But when the judge died, the people returned to ways even more corrupt than those of their ancestors, following other gods and serving and worshiping them. They refused to give up their evil practices and stubborn ways."

Failures of Priests

First priestly
failure – at Sinai
and early



The Levitical Priests in Ezekiel 44

10 “The Levites who went far from me when Israel went astray and who wandered from me after their idols must bear the consequences of their sin. 11 They may serve in my sanctuary, having charge of the gates of the temple and serving in it; they may slaughter the burnt offerings and sacrifices for the people and stand before the people and serve them. 12 But because they served them in the presence of their idols and made the people of Israel fall into sin, therefore I have sworn with uplifted hand that they must bear the consequences of their sin, declares the Lord YHWH.

The Lord Rebukes the Priests – Malachi 1-2

6 “A son honors his father, and a slave his master. If I am a father, where is the honor due me? If I am a master, where is the respect due me?” says the Lord Almighty.

“It is you priests who show contempt for my name.

“But you ask, ‘How have we shown contempt for your name?’

7 “By offering defiled food on my altar.

“But you ask, ‘How have we defiled you?’

The Lord Rebukes the Priests – Malachi 1-2

“By saying that the Lord’s table is contemptible. 8 When you offer blind animals for sacrifice, is that not wrong? When you sacrifice lame or diseased animals, is that not wrong? Try offering them to your governor! Would he be pleased with you? Would he accept you?” says the Lord Almighty.

9 “Now plead with God to be gracious to us. With such offerings from your hands, will he accept you?”—says the Lord Almighty.

The Lord Rebukes the Priests – Malachi 1-2

10 “Oh, that one of you would shut the temple doors, so that you would not light useless fires on my altar! I am not pleased with you,” says the Lord Almighty, “and I will accept no offering from your hands. 11 My name will be great among the nations, from where the sun rises to where it sets. In every place incense and pure offerings will be brought to me, because my name will be great among the nations,” says the Lord Almighty.

The Lord Rebukes the Priests – Malachi 1-2

12 “But you profane it by saying, ‘The Lord’s table is defiled,’ and, ‘Its food is contemptible.’ 13 And you say, ‘What a burden!’ and you sniff at it contemptuously,” says the Lord Almighty.

“When you bring injured, lame or diseased animals and offer them as sacrifices, should I accept them from your hands?” says the Lord. 14 “Cursed is the cheat who has an acceptable male in his flock and vows to give it, but then sacrifices a blemished animal to the Lord. For I am a great king,” says the Lord Almighty, “and my name is to be feared among the nations.

The Lord Rebukes the Priests – Malachi 1-2

“And now, you priests, this warning is for you. 2 If you do not listen, and if you do not resolve to honor my name,” says the Lord Almighty, “I will send a curse on you, and I will curse your blessings. Yes, I have already cursed them, because you have not resolved to honor me.

“Because of you I will rebuke your descendants; I will smear on your faces the dung from your festival sacrifices, and you will be carried off with it. 4 And you will know that I have sent you this warning so that my covenant with Levi may continue,” says the Lord Almighty.

The Lord Rebukes the Priests – Malachi 1-2

My covenant was with him, a covenant of life and peace, and I gave them to him; this called for reverence and he revered me and stood in awe of my name. 6 True instruction was in his mouth and nothing false was found on his lips. He walked with me in peace and uprightness, and turned many from sin.

7 “For the lips of a priest ought to preserve knowledge, because he is the messenger of the Lord Almighty and people seek instruction from his mouth. 8 But you have turned from the way and by your teaching have caused many to stumble; you have violated the covenant with Levi,” says the Lord Almighty.

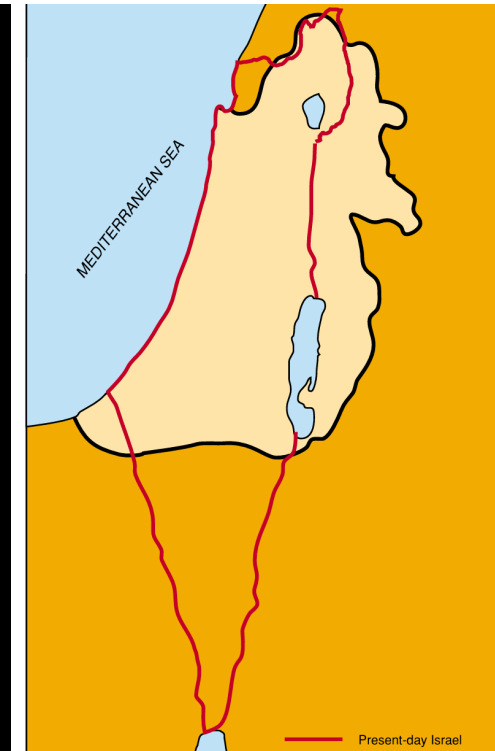
The Lord Rebukes the Priests – Malachi 1-2

So I have caused you to be despised and humiliated before all the people, because you have not followed my ways but have shown partiality in matters of the Torah.”

Malachi 3 - “I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the Lord Almighty.

The Hasmoneans

- Maccabean victory
- Hasmonean dynasty (110-63 BC)
 - priest-kings
 - Lost the ideals of Maccabees
- Alexander Jannaeus (103 -76 BC)
 - Killed 800+ Pharisees for protesting his political policies



Priests in the 1st century BC

- Power struggle between Hyrcanus II & Aristobulus II
- Both asked Rome for help
- 63 BC Pompey invaded Jerusalem, entered Holy of Holies
- Pompey installed Hyrcanus II as priest
- Client “kingship” given to Antipater



Priests in the 1st century AD

- Appointed by the Romans
- Servants of Roman authorities, paid homage
- Ex: Annas appointed in 6 AD, deposed in 15 AD
- 18 AD - Caiphas by prefect of Judea Gratus, removed by Vitellius
- 37 AD – Herod Antipas appoints Theophilus, member of one of the wealthiest and most influential families

Hebrews 8

5 The priests offer worship in a sanctuary that is a sketch and shadow of the heavenly one, just as Moses was warned when he was about to erect the tent. For, God said, “See that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown you on the mountain.” 6 But Yeshua has now obtained a more excellent ministry, and to that degree he is the mediator of a better covenant, which has been enacted on the basis of better promises. 7 For if that first ministry had been faultless, there would have been no need to look for a second one.

Hebrews 8

8 for he finds fault with them [the priests]...

13 In speaking of a new [ministry], he has made the first one obsolete, and what is obsolete and growing old will soon disappear.

Failures of Kings

God was supposed to be their king!

- 1 Samuel 8 7 And the Lord said to Samuel, “Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. 8 According to all the deeds that they have done, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt even to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are also doing to you.

God foresaw Israel's heart...

Deuteronomy 17 - 14 When you enter the land the Lord your God is giving you and have taken possession of it and settled in it, and you say, "Let us set a king over us like all the nations around us," 15 be sure to appoint over you a king the Lord your God chooses. He must be from among your fellow Israelites. Do not place a foreigner over you, one who is not an Israelite.

God foresaw Israel's heart...

Deuteronomy 17 - 16 The king, moreover, must not acquire great numbers of horses for himself or make the people return to Egypt to get more of them, for the Lord has told you, "You are not to go back that way again." 17 He must not take many wives, or his heart will be led astray. He must not accumulate large amounts of silver and gold.

Solomon's Horses – 2 Chronicles 1

14 Solomon brought together many chariots and horses for his soldiers to ride. He had 1,400 chariots and 12,000 horses. He kept some of them in Jerusalem where he lived as king.

16 Solomon brought his horses from Egypt and from Kue [Cicilia]. He sent traders to Kue to buy them for him.

Solomon's Wealth – 1 Chronicles 9

- Received 25 tons of gold yearly
- All cups made of gold
- Fleet of ships
- 1 Chronicles 9:22 – “King Solomon was richer and wiser than any other king in the world.”

Solomon's Kingdom – 1 Chronicles 9

v. 26 – “He was supreme ruler of all the kings in the territory from the Euphrates River to Philistia and the Egyptian border.”



Solomon's Empire

- The territory of Israel before David became king
- Area conquered by David and inherited by Solomon
- Area under strong economic influence of Solomon

The tragedy of King Solomon 1 Kings 11

King Solomon loved many foreign women along with the daughter of Pharaoh: Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian, and Hittite women, 2 from the nations concerning which the Lord had said to the Israelites, “You shall not enter into marriage with them, neither shall they with you, for they will surely incline your heart to follow their gods.” Solomon clung to these in love. 3 Among his wives were seven hundred princesses and three hundred concubines, and his wives turned away his heart.

The tragedy of King Solomon 1 Kings 11

4 For when Solomon was old, his wives turned away his heart after other gods, and his heart was not true to the Lord his God, as was the heart of his father David. 5 For Solomon followed Astarte the goddess of the Sidonians and Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. 6 So Solomon did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and did not completely follow the Lord, as his father David had done. 7 Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the abomination of Moab and for Molech the abomination of the Ammonites on the mountain east of Jerusalem. 8 He did the same for all his foreign wives who offered incense and sacrificed to their gods.

How many wives did David
have?

David – 7 known wives

Some Kings after Solomon

- Jeroboam – created golden calves
- Ahab – Jezebel – Baal worship
- Jehoram – more Baal worship
- Joash – restored temple, fell into idolatry
- Ahaz – sacrificed his son by fire to a god

Some Kings after Solomon

- Hezekiah – restored the temple, Passover celebrated
- Josiah – national revival; high places destroyed
- kings afterward...

King Jehoiakim – Jeremiah 36

this word came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying: 2 “Take a scroll of a book and write on it all the words that I have spoken to you against Israel, against Judah, and against all the nations, from the day I spoke to you, from the days of Josiah even to this day. 3 It may be that the house of Judah will hear all the adversities which I purpose to bring upon them, that everyone may turn from his evil way, that I may forgive their iniquity and their sin.”

King Jehoiakim – Jeremiah 36

So the king sent Jehudi to bring the scroll, and he took it from Elishama the scribe's chamber. And Jehudi read it in the hearing of the king and in the hearing of all the princes who stood beside the king. 22 Now the king was sitting in the winter house in the ninth month, with a fire burning on the hearth before him. 23 And it happened, when Jehudi had read three or four columns, that the king cut it with the scribe's knife and cast it into the fire that was on the hearth, until all the scroll was consumed in the fire that was on the hearth.

King Jehoiakim – Jeremiah 36

Therefore thus says the Lord concerning Jehoiakim king of Judah: “He shall have no one to sit on the throne of David, and his dead body shall be cast out to the heat of the day and the frost of the night. 31 I will punish him, his family, and his servants for their iniquity; and I will bring on them, on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and on the men of Judah all the doom that I have pronounced against them; but they did not heed.” ’ ”

The King's Torah

18 When he takes the throne of his kingdom, he is to write for himself on a scroll a copy of this Torah, taken from that of the Levitical priests. 19 It is to be with him, and he is to read it all the days of his life so that he may learn to revere the Lord his God and follow carefully all the words of this Torah and these decrees 20 and not consider himself better than his fellow Israelites and turn from the Torah to the right or to the left. Then he and his descendants will reign a long time over his kingdom in Israel.

How many kings are said to have written a Torah for themselves?

King Josiah – 2 Kings 23

The king went up to the house of the Lord, and with him went all the people of Judah, all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the priests, the prophets, and all the people, both small and great; he read in their hearing all the words of the book of the covenant that had been found in the house of the Lord. 3 The king stood by the pillar and made a covenant before the Lord, to follow the Lord, keeping his commandments, his decrees, and his statutes, with all his heart and all his soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. All the people joined in the covenant.

2 Kings 23 – so much renewal!

- burned vessels for Baal and Asherah
- got rid of idolatrous priests
- destroyed temple male prostitutes
- destroyed Topheth in the Gehenna valley
(used to sacrifice children to Molek)
- Destroyed Jeroboam's golden calf altar

King Josiah – closest to the mark!

2 Kings 23:25 - Neither before nor after Josiah was there a king like him who turned to the Lord as he did—with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his strength, in accordance with all the Torah of Moses.

Kings in the 2nd temple period

- Alexander Janneus: had hundreds of Pharisees killed
- Herod – killed 46 Sanhedrin members, wife, children, and rest of Hasmoneans
- Also Herod –killed children in Bethlehem

Yeshua:
the embodiment of perfection
Judge, Priest, and King

YESHUA FLIPS THE SCRIPT



Yeshua as Judge – John 5

23 that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent him.

24 “Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life. 25 Very truly I tell you, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. 26 For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. 27 And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man.

Yeshua as Judge – Peter Declares

Acts 10:40 - God raised Yeshua from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. 41 He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42 He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead.

Yeshua as Judge – Paul Declares

1 Corinthians 5:10 - we must all appear before the judgment seat of Messiah, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

2 Timothy 4:1 - In the presence of God and of Messiah Yeshua, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom,

Yeshua as Priest – Hebrews 4

14 since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Yeshua the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. 15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. 16 Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.



Source: BibleProject

Yeshua – as King

- Different than all kings who preceded him
- Philippians 2:
 - Every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess Yeshua the Messiah is Lord
 - A king who emptied himself
 - Became a servant for us
 - Died for us

Parashah Ki Tavo Aliyah or Reading

כִּי-תָבוֹא – When you come

Deuteronomy 26:1 – 29:8

- 1st Day Deuteronomy 26:1 – 11 Haftarah
- 2nd Day Deuteronomy 26:12 – 15 Isaiah 60:1 - 22
- 3rd Day Deuteronomy 26:16 - 19
- 4th Day Deuteronomy 27:1 - 10
- 5th Day Deuteronomy 27:11 – 28:6 Gospels
- 6th Day Deuteronomy 28:7 - 69 Matthew 4:13 - 24
- 7th Day Deuteronomy 29:1 - 8



First Century Ministries

Blessings and Shalom