

Shabbat Shoftim

Deuteronomy 20: 10-21:9

10 When you approach a town to attack it, you shall offer it terms of peace.	כִּי־תִקְרַב אֶל־עִיר לְהִלָּחֵם עָלֶיהָ וְקִרְאתָ אֵלֶיהָ לְשָׁלוֹם:
11 If it responds peaceably and lets you in, all the people present there shall serve you at forced labor.	וְהָיָה אִם־שָׁלוֹם תַּעֲנֶנּוּ וּפְתַחְהָ לְיְהוָה כָּל־ הָעָם הַנִּמְצָא־בָּהּ יִהְיוּ לָלֶמְסֻעַבְדְּךָ:
12 If it does not surrender to you, but would join battle with you, you shall lay siege to it;	וְאִם־לֹא תִשְׁלֹם עִמָּךְ וַעֲשֶׂתָהּ עִמְעָמָה מִלְחָמָה וְצִרְתָּ עָלֶיהָ:
13 and when the LORD your God delivers it into your hand, you shall put all its males to the sword.	וַיִּתְּנֶנָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְיָדְךָ וְהִכִּיתָ אֶת־כָּל־ זָכָרָהּ לְפִי־חֶרֶב:
14 You may, however, take as your booty the women, the children, the livestock, and everything in the town—all its spoil—and enjoy the use of the spoil of your enemy, which the LORD your God gives you.	כָּךְ הַנָּשִׁים וְהַטָּף וְהַבְּהֵמָה וְכָל־אֲשֶׁר יִהְיֶה בְּעִיר כָּל־שְׁלָלָהּ תִּבְזֹז לְךָ וְאָכַלְתָּ אֶת־שְׁלָל אִיְבֹי אֲשֶׁר נָתַן יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ:
15 Thus you shall deal with all towns that lie very far from you, towns that do not belong to nations hereabout.	כֵּן תַּעֲשֶׂה לְכָל־הָעָרִים הַרְחֹקֹת מִמְּמַמְּךָ מֵאֲדָם אֲשֶׁר לֹא־מֵעַרְבֵי הַגּוֹיִם־הָאֵלֶּה הַנֶּהֱבֵאתָ:
16 In the towns of the latter peoples, however, which the LORD your God is giving you as a heritage, you shall not let a soul remain alive.	רַק מֵעַרְבֵי הָעַמִּים הָאֵלֶּה אֲשֶׁר יִתֵּן יְהוָה אֵלֶיךָ נָתַן לָלֶמְסֻעַב לֹא תִחְיֶה בְּלִי־נֶשְׁמָה:
17 No, you must proscribe them—the Hittites and the Amorites, the Canaanites and the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites—as the LORD your God has commanded you,	כִּי־הִחַרְתָּם תַּחְרִימָם הַחִתִּים וְהָאֱמֹרִי הַכְּנַעֲנִים וְהַפְּרִזִּים הַחִוִּים וְהַיְבוּסִים כְּאֲשֶׁר צִוְּיָהּ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ:
18 lest they lead you into doing all the abhorrent things that they have done for their gods and you stand guilty before the LORD your God.	לְמַעַן אֲשֶׁר לֹא־יִלְמְדוּ אֶתְכֶם לַעֲשׂוֹת כְּכָל־ תּוֹעֵבוֹתֵיהֶם אֲשֶׁר עָשׂוּ לְאֱלֹהֵיהֶם וַחֲטֹאתֵיהֶם לְיְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם:

19 When in your war against a city you have to besiege it a long time in order to capture it, you must not destroy its trees, wielding the ax against them. You may eat of them, but you must not cut them down. Are trees of the field human to withdraw before you into the besieged city?

בִּי־תַצּוּר אֶל־עִיר יָמִים רַבִּים לְהִלָּחֵם עָלֶיהָ
לְתַפְּשָׁהּ לֹא־תִשְׁחֹת אֶת־עֲצֵיהָ
לְנֹדֵחַ עָלֶיךָ גֵּרָוֹן כִּי מִמֶּנּוּ תֹאכַל וְאַתָּן לֹא תִכַּרֶת
כִּי הָאָדָם עֵץ הַשָּׂדֶה לִבָּא מִפְּנֵי־בִמְצוּר:

20 Only trees that you know do not yield food may be destroyed; you may cut them down for constructing siegeworks against the city that is waging war on you, until it has been reduced.

רָק עֵץ אֲשֶׁר־תִּדְעַע כִּי־לֹא־עֵץ מֵאֲכָל הוּא אֲתָן
תִּשְׁחֹת יֵת וּכְרַת וּבְנִית מְצוּר עַל־הָעִיר אֲשֶׁר־הִיא
עֹשֶׂה עִמָּעַם מִלְחָמָה עַד־דָּדְתָהּ: {פ}

Chapter 21

כ"א

1 If, in the land that the LORD your God is assigning you to possess, someone slain is found lying in the open, the identity of the slayer not being known,

כִּי־יִמָּצָא חָלָל בְּאֲדָמָה אֲשֶׁר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ נָתַן לְךָ
לְרִשְׁתָּהּ נָפֵל בַּשָּׂדֶה לֹא נֹדַע מִי־הִכָּהוּ:

2 your elders and magistrates shall go out and measure the distances from the corpse to the nearby towns.

וַיֵּצְאוּ זְקֵנֶיךָ וְשֹׁפְטֶיךָ וּמִדְּדוּ אֶל־הָעִירִים אֲשֶׁר
סְבִיבֹת הַחָלָל:

3 The elders of the town nearest to the corpse shall then take a heifer which has never been worked, which has never pulled in a yoke;

וְהָיָה הָעִיר הַקְּרֹבָה אֶל־הַחָלָל וְלָקְחוּ זְקֵנֶיךָ
הָעִיר הַהִוא עֶגְלַת בָּקָר אֲשֶׁר־לֹא־עָבַד בָּהּ
אֲשֶׁר לֹא־מִשְׁבָּה בְּעֵל:

4 and the elders of that town shall bring the heifer down to an everflowing wadi, which is not tilled or sown. There, in the wadi, they shall break the heifer's neck.

וְהוֹרְדוּ זְקֵנֶיךָ הָעִיר הַהִוא אֶת־הָעֶגְלָה
אֶל־נַחַל אֵיתָן אֲשֶׁר לֹא־יִעֲבֹד בוֹ וְלֹא
יִזְרַעוּ וְרָפוּ־שָׁם אֶת־הָעֶגְלָה בְּנַחַל:

5 The priests, sons of Levi, shall come forward; for the LORD your God has chosen them to minister to Him and to pronounce blessing in the name of the LORD, and every lawsuit and case of assault is subject to their ruling.

וּנְגַשְׁוּ הַכֹּהֲנִים בְּנֵי לֵוִי כִּי בָם בְּחָר יְהוָה
אֱלֹהֵי־אֱלֹהֵי לְשָׁרְתוֹ וּלְבַר בְּשֵׁם יְהוָה וְעַל־פִּיהֶם
יְהִי כָל־דִּבְרֵי וְכָל־נִגְעֵי:

6 Then all the elders of the town nearest to the corpse shall wash their hands over the heifer whose neck was broken in the wadi.

וְכָל זְקֵנֵי הָעִיר הַהִוא הַקְּרֹבִים אֶל־הַחָלָל יִרְחֲצוּ
אֶת־יְדֵיהֶם עַל־הָעֶגְלָה הַעֲרוּפָה בְּנַחַל:

7 And they shall make this declaration: "Our hands did not shed this blood, nor did our eyes see it done.

וְעַנְנוּ וְאָמַרְנוּ יְדֵינוּ לֹא (שפכה) [שפכו] אֶת־
הַדָּם הַזֶּה וְעֵינֵינוּ לֹא רָאוּ:

8 Absolve, O LORD, Your people Israel whom You redeemed, and do not let guilt for the blood of the innocent remain among Your people Israel." And they will be absolved of bloodguilt.

בְּפֶרֶךְ לְעַמְּלֵעֶם יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲשֶׁר־פָּדִיתָ יְהוָה
וְאַל־תֵּתַן דָּם נָקִי בְּקֶרֶב עַמְּעַמְּ
יִשְׂרָאֵל לִּנְכַפְּר לֵהֶם הַדָּם:

9 Thus you will remove from your midst guilt for the blood of the innocent, for you will be doing what is right in the sight of the LORD

וְאַתָּה תִּבְעַר הַדָּם הַנָּקִי מִקֶּרֶב
{כִּי־תַעֲשֶׂה הַיָּשָׁר בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה: }ס

Haftarah Shabbat Shoftim, 14 August 2021

Isaiah 51: 22- 52: 12

- 22 Thus said your Master the LORD
and your God Who contends for His people:
Look, I have taken from your hand the cup of poison,
the chalice of My wrath. You shall no longer drink from it,
- 23 and I will put it in the hands of your oppressors
who said to you, "Bow, that we may walk over you."
and you made your back like the ground,
like a street for passersby.

Chapter 52

- 1 Awake, awake,
don your strength, O Zion.
Don the garments of your glory,
O Jerusalem, holy city.
For no longer shall they enter you,
the uncircumcised
and the unclean.
- 2 Shake yourself from the dust, arise,
sit on your throne, O Jerusalem.
Loose the bonds round your neck,

captive Daughter of Zion.

- 3 For thus said the LORD: For nothing were you sold and for no silver shall
- 4 you be redeemed. For thus said the Master LORD: To Egypt My people at first went down to sojourn there, and then Assyria oppressed them for no
- 5 payment. And now, what do I have here, says the LORD, for My people was taken for nothing. Those who ruled them howled, said the LORD, and constantly all day long was My name reviled. Therefore, shall my people
- 6 know My name. Therefore shall they know on that day that it is I Who speak to them.
- 7 How lovely on the mountains
the steps of the bearer of good tidings,
announcing peace, heralding good things, announcing triumph,
saying to Zion: Your God reigns.
- 8 Hark! Your watchmen raise their voice,
together they sing gladly.
For with their very eyes they shall see
when the LORD comes back to Zion.
- 9 Burst out in song, sing gladly together,
O ruins of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted His people,
He has redeemed Jerusalem.
- 10 The LORD had bared His holy arm
to the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth have seen
the triumph of our God.
- 11 Turn aside, turn aside, come out from there, no unclean thing do touch.
Come out from its midst,
bearers of the Lord's vessels.
- 12 For not in haste shall you come out, nor in flight shall you go,
for the LORD goes before you,
and your rearguard is Israel's God.