

# Parashat Ki Tetzei

## פרשה כי תצא

Shabbat Elul 11, 5770, August 21, 2010

32:1-32:52 MATSATI.COM / Rightly Dividing The Word of God

<http://www.matsati.com> | [matsati@matsati.com](mailto:matsati@matsati.com)

5

### Having Differing Standards?

#### השבועות הזה קוראים / This Week's Reading

תורה: Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19

הפטרה: Isaiah 54:1-54:10

הברית: Matthew 5:27-30, 1 Corinthians 5:1-5

החדשה

10

In the reading for this week, the imperative conjugation expresses a prohibition against using differing weights in commerce in **Devarim / Deuteronomy 25:13-19**. The imperative conjugation is the most frequently occurring volitional conjugation in the Hebrew bible, occurring 4,288 times. In the Qal stem it occurs 2,896 times which is 68% of all imperatives. The imperative conjugation is primarily used to express direct commands, demanding (immediate action) from the one being addressed. To produce a negative command, the prohibition is expressed with the negative particles לא and אל with the imperfect verb. The particle לא before the imperfect can express an absolute and permanent prohibition and the אל before an imperfect can express an immediate and specific prohibition.

15

20

### דברים 25:13-19

13 לֹא־יִהְיֶה לְךָ בְכִיסֶּךָ אֶבֶן וְאֶבֶן גְּדוּלָה וְקִטְמָנָה׃

14 לֹא־יִהְיֶה לְךָ בְּבֵיתְךָ אִיפָה וְאִיפָה גְּדוּלָה וְקִטְמָנָה׃ אֶבֶן

15 שְׁלֵמָה וְעֵדֶיךָ יִהְיֶה־לְךָ אִיפָה שְׁלֵמָה וְעֵדֶיךָ יִהְיֶה־לְךָ לְמַעַן יֵאָרִיכוּ יָמֶיךָ עַל הָאָדָמָה אֲשֶׁר־יִהְיֶה אֱלֹהֶיךָ נֹתֵן לְךָ׃ כִּי תֹשַׁעַת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ כָּל־עֲשֵׂה אֵלֶּה כָּל עֲשֵׂה עוֹל׃

17 זְכוֹר אֶת אֲשֶׁר־עָשָׂה לְךָ עַמְּלֶךָ בְּדַרְךָ בְּצֵאתְכֶם מִמִּצְרַיִם׃ אֲשֶׁר קָרָךְ בְּדַרְךָ וַיִּוָּנֶם בְּךָ כָּל־הַנְּחָשִׁים אַחֲרֶיךָ וְאַתָּה עֵינָה וַיִּגַּע וְלֹא יָרָא אֱלֹהִים׃ וְהָיָה בְּהֵנִיחַ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ לְךָ מִכָּל־אֵיבֶיךָ מִסָּבִיב בָּאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר יְהוָה־אֱלֹהֶיךָ נָתַן לְךָ נַחֲלָה לְרִשְׁתָּהּ תִּמְחָה אֶת־זִכְרוֹ עַמְּלֶךָ מִתַּחַת הַשָּׁמַיִם לֹא תִשְׁכַּח׃

25

Here, יהיה is a doubly weak verb written in the third masculine singular form occurring from the root היה meaning "to be, exist, happen, occur, take

#### volition

noun (often in phr. of one's own volition) the faculty or power of using one's will. (Oxford's dictionary)

#### Devarim / Deuteronomy 25:13-19

25:13 'You shall not have in your bag differing weights, a large and a small. 25:14 'You shall not have in your house differing measures, a large and a small. 25:15 'You shall have a full and just weight; you shall have a full and just measure, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the Lord your God gives you. 25:16 'For everyone who does these things, everyone who acts unjustly is an abomination to the Lord your God. 25:17 'Remember what Amalek did to you along the way when you came out from Egypt, 25:18 how he met you along the way and attacked among you all the stragglers at your rear when you were faint and weary; and he did not fear God. 25:19 'Therefore it shall come about when the Lord your God has given you rest from all your surrounding enemies, in the land which the Lord your God gives you as an inheritance to possess, you shall blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven; you must not forget. (NASB)

place.” The action of the verb occurs either at the time of the speaking or after the time of the speaking and is used to denote habitual or customary action, whether in the past, present, or future. The prohibition against using differing weights and measures during commercial transactions is to warn business people from becoming dishonest in their business practices.

Just weights and measures are essential for justice and the stability of commerce in any society. Having deceptive weights and measures are prohibited and in fact, the command suggests that one is not allowed to even possess differing weights. The reason is that deceitful merchants could use heavy weights when buying, and light weights when selling. Merchants implementing this form of stealing would be impossible to detect by the buyer. According to *Devarim / Deuteronomy 25:16*, such practices were an abomination before the Lord. An economy, not to mention a society, would be unable to survive if it were run by thieves. In our own economic system, the public scales used for measuring require frequent calibration to ensure that the scales are measuring correctly and that the product being purchased is equal to its advertised weight. In addition to this, God Himself maintains equal weights and measures, according to the Scriptures in *1 Peter 1:17 If you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay on earth (NASB)* and *Revelation 20:13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds. (NASB)* as He judges everyone according to their works.

As we know, just weights and measures are essential for justice and the stability of commerce in a society, but what about having the correct weight and measure in one's heart? Having differing weights and measures in our heart is like keeping two sets of standards. Do you think it is possible to live by differing standards that we have established in our hearts? How do you think this can affect the body of Messiah (Christ), the community of believers? One's conduct is the fruit which demonstrates the character of the heart therefore; it is possible to discern whether one is living by two sets of standards. Those who live righteously and repent of their transgressions have proven that they have a genuine heart of trust and faithfulness in God. Those who live in unrighteousness likewise have proven themselves to be false and not to be genuine members of the family of God. I believe that it is possible to profane the name of God in our hearts by living by two standards. Can you think of any ways that you may have done this? What you watch on television, on the internet, how you treat other people? The way we live, how we treat other people, these are ways in which it is possible to live by different weights and measures in our lives that have the capacity to profane the name of God. If we are left to ourselves, do not study the Word of God (the Bible), we do not receive spiritual food and thus will move further away from the Lord and the new heart which we obtained by the power of the Spirit of God will become more and more tarnished by the ways of this World. The message of Ezekiel indicates that Yisrael left to herself cannot make for herself a new heart nor gain a new spirit, something that is vitally necessary for living righteously. According to the prophet Ezekiel, God himself will cleanse Yisrael, giving her a new heart and placing His Spirit within her.

**Ezekiel 36:21-33**

80 36:21 'But I had concern for My holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the nations where they went. 36:22 'Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'Thus says the Lord God, 'It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for My holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you went. 36:23 'I will vindicate the holiness of My great name which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned in their midst. Then the nations will know that I am the Lord,' declares the Lord God, 'when I prove Myself holy among you in their sight. 36:24 'For I will take you from the nations, gather you from all the lands and bring you into your own land. 36:25 'Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. 36:26 'Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 36:27 'I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances. 36:28 'You will live in the land that I gave to your forefathers; so you will be My people, and I will be your God. 36:29 'Moreover, I will save you from all your uncleanness; and I will call for the grain and multiply it, and I will not bring a famine on you. 36:30 'I will multiply the fruit of the tree and the produce of the field, so that you will not receive again the disgrace of famine among the nations. 36:31 'Then you will remember your evil ways and your deeds that were not good, and you will loathe yourselves in your own sight for your iniquities and your abominations. 36:32 'I am not doing this for your sake,' declares the Lord God, 'let it be known to you. Be ashamed and confounded for your ways, O house of Israel!' 36:33 'Thus says the Lord God, 'On the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will cause the cities to be inhabited, and the waste places will be rebuilt. (NASB)

110 Ultimately the sovereign work of God in cleansing the House of Yisrael and giving her a new heart and a new spirit is that Yisrael repents and lives faithfully to God within His covenant statutes and ordinances. Do you live with a humble and repentant heart before God? This has application for us today in that we need to stop having differing weights and measures for how we live our lives for the Lord. If we begin to live by faith and by the leading of the Spirit of God; if we stop having differing standards, begin to treat people equally, seek to live in righteousness, and sanctify our bodies in holiness for the Lord, then the final result is given in the last clause of the passage of *Ezekiel 36:23* that says "... *Then the nations will know that I am the Lord,*' declares the Lord God ..." Come, let us pray:

120 Heavenly Father,

I have kept differing standards and have profaned Your name by indulging in hypocrisy in my life. The unequal weight and measures that I have used have become so deeply engraved into my character. Please forgive me of my sins and

125 the double standard that I have kept in Yeshua's name. I ask that You would help  
me to live a life that will draw me nearer to You, by the power of Your Holy  
Spirit, and that You would convict me of sin in my life. Please, change my heart  
and make me a new person so that it will be obvious to all the nations that You  
are Lord. In all things I give You all of the glory, all of the honor, and all of the  
130 praise. In Yeshua's name I pray.

Amen.

135

140

145

150

155

160

165

170

**Be Blessed in Yeshua our Messiah!**

\*\*\*\*\*

הללויה לאדוננו מורנו ורבינו ישוע מלך המשיח לעולם ועד:  
Hallelujah for our Lord, our Teacher, our Rabbi,  
"Yeshua" King Messiah forever and ever