

Mattot / Massei
Numbers 30:2-36:13
Jeremiah 1:1-2:3-28,3:4; Isaiah 66:1-24
Matthew 5:33-37; James 4:1-12

The Complete Jewish Bible

Numbers 30: 2 - 16

2 when a man makes a vow to ADONAI or formally obligates himself by swearing an oath, he is not to break his word but is to do everything he said he would do.

3 "When a woman makes a vow to ADONAI, formally obligating herself, while she is a minor living in her father's house; **4** then, if her father has heard what she vowed or obligated herself to do and holds his peace, then all her vows remain binding - every obligation she has bound herself to will stand. **5** But if on the day her father hears it, he expresses his disapproval, then none of her vows or obligations she has bound herself to will stand; and ADONAI will forgive her, because her father expressed his disapproval. **6** "If, having made vows or rashly committed herself to an obligation, she gets married; **7** and her husband hears but holds his peace with her on the day he learns of it, then her vows and obligations she has bound herself to will stand. **8** But if her husband expresses his disapproval on the day he hears it, he will void the vow which is on her and the obligation to which she has bound herself; and ADONAI will forgive her. **9** "The vow of a widow, however, or of a divorcee, including everything to which she has obligated herself, will stand against her. **10** "If a woman vowed in her husband's house or obligated herself with an **11** and her husband heard it but held his peace with her and did not express disapproval, then all her vows and obligations will stand. **12** But if her husband makes them null and void on the day he hears them, then whatever she said, vows or binding obligation, will not stand; her husband has voided them; and ADONAI will forgive her. **13** Her husband may let every vow and every binding obligation stand, or he may void it. **14** But if her husband entirely holds his peace with her day after day, then he confirms all her vows and obligations; he must let them stand, because he held his peace with her on the day he heard them. **15** If he makes them null and void after he has heard them, then he will bear the consequent guilt." **16** These are the laws which ADONAI ordered Moshe between a man and his wife, and between a father and his daughter, if she is a minor living in her father's house.

Numbers 31

1 ADONAI said to Moshe, **2** "On behalf of the people of Isra'el, take vengeance on the Midyanim. After that, you will be gathered to your people." **3** Moshe said to the people, "Equip men from among yourselves for war. They are to go and fight Midyan, in order to carry out ADONAI's vengeance on Midyan. **4** You are to send to the war a thousand men from every one of Isra'el's tribes." **5** So out of the thousands of people in Isra'el, a thousand armed men from each tribe, 12,000 altogether, were mustered for war. **6** Moshe sent them, a thousand from each tribe, to the war; he sent them and Pinchas the son of El'azar the cohen to the war, with the holy utensils and the trumpets for sounding the alarm in his care.

7 They fought against Midyan, as ADONAI had ordered Moshe, and killed every male. **8** They killed the kings of Midyan along with the others who were slain - Evi, Rekem, Tzur, Hur and Reva, the five kings of Midyan. They also killed Bil'am the son of B'or with the sword. **9** The people of Isra'el took captive the women of Midyan and their little ones, and they took as booty all their cattle, flocks and other goods. **10** They set fire to all their cities in the areas where they lived and all their camps. **11** They took all the booty, all the people and animals they had captured, **12** and

brought the captives, booty and spoil to Moshe, El'azar the cohen and the community of Isra'el in the camp on the plains of Mo'av by the Yarden across from Yericho.

13 Moshe, El'azar the cohen and all the community leaders went to meet them outside the camp. **14** But Moshe was angry with the army officers, the commanders of thousands and the commanders of hundreds coming in from the battlefield. **15** Moshe asked them, "You let the women live? **16** Why, these are the ones who - because of Bil'am's advice -caused the people of Isra'el to rebel, breaking faith with ADONAI in the P'or incident, so that the plague broke out among ADONAI's community! **17** Now kill every male among the little ones, and kill every woman who has ever slept with a man. **18** But the young girls who have never slept with a man, keep alive for yourselves. **19** Pitch your tents outside the camp for seven days. Whoever has killed a person or touched the corpse of someone slain, purify yourselves on the third and seventh days, you and your captives. **20** Also purify every garment, whether of skin or goat's hair, and everything made of wood." **21** El'azar the cohen said to the soldiers who had gone to the front, "This is the regulation from the Torah which ADONAI has ordered Moshe. **22** Even though gold, silver, brass, iron, tin and lead **23** can all withstand fire, so that you are indeed to purify everything made of these materials by having them pass through fire; nevertheless they must also be purified with the water for purification. Everything that can't withstand fire you are to have go through the water. **24** On the seventh day you are to wash your clothes, and you will be clean; after that you may enter the camp."

25 ADONAI said to Moshe, **26** "Take all the booty, both people and animals, you, El'azar the cohen and the leaders of clans in the community; **27** and divide the booty into two parts: half for the experienced soldiers who went out to battle, and half for the rest of the community. **28** From the portion of the soldiers who went out to battle, levy a tax for ADONAI consisting of one-five-hundredth of the persons, cattle, donkeys and sheep; **29** take it from their half and give it to El'azar the cohen as a portion set apart for ADONAI. **30** From the half that goes to the people of Isra'el, you are to take one-fiftieth of the persons, and of the cattle, donkeys and sheep, that is, of all the livestock; and give them to the L'vi'im taking care of the tabernacle of ADONAI." **31** Moshe and El'azar the cohen did as ADONAI had ordered Moshe. **32** The booty, over and above the portion which the soldiers took, came to 675,000 sheep, **33** 72,000 cattle, **34** 61,000 donkeys, **35** and 32,000 persons in all, consisting of the women who had never slept with a man. **36** The half which was the portion of the soldiers who went out to fight, numbered 337,500 sheep, **37** of which ADONAI's tribute was 675; **38** 36,000 cattle, of which ADONAI's tribute was seventy-two; **39** 30,500 donkeys, of which ADONAI's tribute was sixty-one; **40** and 16,000 persons, of whom ADONAI's tribute was thirty-two persons. **41** Moshe gave the tribute set apart for ADONAI to El'azar the cohen, as ADONAI had ordered Moshe. **42** From the half that went to people of Isra'el, which Moshe separated from that of the men who had gone to fight - **43** now the community's half consisted of 337,500 sheep, **44** 36,000 cattle, **45** 30,500 donkeys **46** and 16,000 persons - **47** from the people of Isra'el's half, Moshe took one-fiftieth of the persons and animals and gave them to the L'vi'im taking care of the tabernacle of ADONAI, as ADONAI had ordered Moshe.

48 The officers in charge of the thousands who fought, the commanders of thousands and the commanders of hundreds, approached Moshe **49** and said to him, "Your servants have counted all the soldiers under our command, and not one of us is missing. **50** We have brought an offering for ADONAI, what every man has obtained in the way of gold jewelry -armlets, bracelets, signet rings, earrings and belts -to make atonement for ourselves before ADONAI." **51** Moshe and El'azar the cohen accepted their gold, all the jewelry. **52** All the gold in this gift which the commanders of thousands and the commanders of hundreds set apart for ADONAI weighed 420 pounds. **53** For the soldiers had taken booty, every man for himself. **54** Moshe and El'azar the cohen took the gold from the commanders of thousands and of hundreds and brought it into the tent of meeting as a reminder for the people of Isra'el before ADONAI.

Numbers 32

1 The descendants of Re'uven and the descendants of Gad had vast quantities of livestock. When they saw that the land of Ya'zer and the land of Gil'ad were good for livestock, **2** the descendants of Gad and of Re'uven came and spoke to Moshe, El'azar the cohen and the community leaders. They said, **3** "Atarot, Divon, Ya'zer, Nimrah, Heshbon, El'aleh, S'vam, N'vo and Be'on, **4** the country that ADONAI conquered before the community of Isra'el, is livestock country; and your servants have livestock. **5** If you regard us favorably," they went on, "let this land be given to your servants as their possession; and don't have us cross the Yarden." **6** Moshe answered the descendants of Gad and of Re'uven: "Are your brothers to go to war while you stay here? **7** Besides, why are you trying to discourage the people of Isra'el from crossing into the land ADONAI gave them? **8** This is what your fathers did when I sent them from Kadesh-Barnea to see the land. **9** For when they went up to the Eshkol Valley and saw the land, they disheartened the people of Isra'el, so that they wouldn't enter the land ADONAI had given them. **10** ADONAI's anger blazed up on that day; and he swore, **11** 'None of the people aged twenty or more who came out of Egypt will see the land I swore to Avraham, Yitz'chak and Ya'akov; because they haven't followed me unreservedly - **12** except Kalev the son of Y'funeh the K'nizi and Y'hoshua the son of Nun, because they have followed ADONAI unreservedly.' **13** Thus ADONAI's anger blazed against Isra'el, so that he made them wander here and there in the desert forty years, until all the generation that had done evil in the sight of ADONAI had died out. **14** Now you, another brood of sinners, have arisen in your fathers' place to increase still more the fierce anger of ADONAI toward Isra'el! **15** For if you turn away from him, he will leave them in the desert again, and thus you will cause the destruction of all these people!"

16 But they came up to him and said, "Here we will build enclosures for our livestock and cities for our little ones, **17** but we ourselves will be armed and ready for action to march at the head of the people of Isra'el, until we have brought them to their place. Our little ones will stay in the fortified cities here because of the people now living in the land. **18** However, we will not return to our own homes until every man in Isra'el has taken possession of his land for inheritance. **19** We will not have an inheritance with them on the other side of the Yarden, westward; because our inheritance has fallen to us on this side of the Yarden, eastward." **20** Moshe said to them, "If you will do this - if you will arm yourselves to go before ADONAI to the war, **21** and if every one of your soldiers will cross the Yarden before ADONAI, until he has driven out his enemies ahead of him, **22** and if the land has been conquered before ADONAI, and only after that do you return - then you will be clear before ADONAI and before Isra'el, and this land here will be yours to possess before ADONAI. **23** But if you will not do this, then you have sinned against ADONAI, and you must understand that your sin will find you out. **24** Build cities for your little ones and enclosures for your sheep; then do what you said you would do." **25** The descendants of Gad and the descendants of Re'uven said to Moshe, "Your servants will do as my lord orders. **26** Our little ones, wives, flocks and all our livestock will be there in the cities of Gil'ad; **27** but your servants will cross over, every man armed for war, before ADONAI to do battle, as my lord says."

28 So Moshe gave orders concerning them to El'azar the cohen, Y'hoshua the son of Nun and the clan leaders of the tribes of the people of Isra'el. **29** Moshe said to them, "If the descendants of Gad and of Re'uven cross over the Yarden with you, every man armed for battle, before ADONAI; and if the land is conquered before you, then you are to give them the land of Gil'ad as theirs to possess. **30** But if they do not cross with you armed, they are to possess land along with you in Kena'an." **31** The descendants of Gad and of Re'uven answered, "We will do as ADONAI has said to your servants. **32** We will cross over into the land of Kena'an armed before ADONAI, and the land we will possess for inheritance will be on this side of the Yarden." **33** So Moshe gave the descendants of Gad and of Re'uven, and also to the half-tribe of M'nasheh the son of Yosef, the kingdom of Sichon king of the Emori and the kingdom of 'Og king of Bashan - the country and its cities within its borders, along with their surrounding towns. **34** The descendants of Gad built Divon, 'Atarot, 'Aro'er, **35** 'Atrot-Shofan, Ya'zer, Yogbehah, **36** Beit-Nimrah and Beit-Haran - fortified cities; and also enclosures for sheep. **37** The descendants of Re'uven built

Heshbon, El'aleh, Kiryatayim, **38** N'vo, Ba'al-M'on (these names have been changed) and Sivmah; they renamed the cities they built. **39** The descendants of Machir the son of M'nasheh went to Gil'ad and conquered it, dispossessing the Emori who were there. **40** Moshe gave Gil'ad to Machir the son of M'nasheh, and he lived in it. **41** Ya'ir the son of M'nasheh went and captured its villages and called them Havot-Ya'ir [villages of Ya'ir]. **42** Novach went and captured K'nat with its villages and named it Novach after himself.

Numbers 33

1 These are the stages in the journey of the people of Isra'el as they left the land of Egypt divided into groups under the leadership of Moshe and Aharon. **2** Moshe recorded each of the stages of their journey by order of ADONAI; here are the starting-points of each stage: **3** They began their journey from Ram'ses in the first month. On the fifteenth day of the first month, the morning after the Pesach, the people of Isra'el left proudly in view of all the Egyptians; **4** while the Egyptians were burying those among them whom ADONAI had killed, all their firstborn; ADONAI had also executed judgment on their gods. **5** The people of Isra'el moved on from Ram'ses and camped at Sukkot. **6** They moved on from Sukkot and camped at Etam, by the edge of the desert. **7** They moved on from Etam and turned back to Pi-Hachiroth, in front of Ba'al-Tz'fon, and camped before Migdol. **8** They moved on from P'nei-Hachiroth, passed through the sea to the desert, continued three days' journey into the Etam Desert and camped at Marah. **9** They moved on from Marah and came to Eilim; in Eilim were twelve springs and seventy palm trees, so they camped there. **10** They moved on from Eilim and camped by the Sea of Suf. **11** They moved on from the Sea of Suf and camped in the Seen Desert. **12** They moved on from the Seen Desert and camped at Dofkah. **13** They moved on from Dofkah and camped at Alush. **14** They moved on from Alush and camped at Refidim, where there was no water for the people to drink. **15** They moved on from Refidim and camped in the Sinai Desert. **16** They moved on from the Sinai Desert and camped at Kivrot-HaTa'avah. **17** They moved on from Kivrot-HaTa'avah and camped in Hazerot. **18** They moved on from Hazerot and camped at Ritmah. **19** They moved on from Ritmah and camped at Rimmon-Peretz. **20** They moved on from Rimmon-Peretz and camped at Livnah. **21** They moved on from Livnah and camped at Rissah. **22** They moved on from Rissah and camped at K'helah. **23** They moved on from K'helah and camped at Mount Shefer. **24** They moved on from Mount Shefer and camped at Haradah. **25** They moved on from Haradah and camped at Mak'helot. **26** They moved on from Mak'helot and camped at Tachat. **27** They moved on from Tachat and camped at Terach. **28** They moved on from Terach and camped at Mitkah. **29** They moved on from Mitkah and camped at HaShmonah. **30** They moved on from HaShmonah and camped at Moserot. **31** They moved on from Moserot and camped at B'nei-Ya'akan. **32** They moved on from B'nei-Ya'akan and camped at Hor-HaGidgad. **33** They moved on from Hor-HaGidgad and camped at Yotvatah. **34** They moved on from Yotvatah and camped at Avronah. **35** They moved on from Avronah and camped at 'Etzyon-Gever. **36** They moved on from 'Etzyon-Gever and camped in the Tzin Desert, that is, Kadesh. **37** They moved on from Kadesh and camped at Mount Hor, at the border of the land of Edom. **38** At ADONAI's order Aharon the cohen went up on Mount Hor, and he died there on the first day of the fifth month of the fortieth year after the people of Isra'el had left the land of Egypt. **39** Aharon was 123 years old when he died on Mount Hor. **40** The Kena'ani king of 'Arad, who lived in the Negev in the land of Kena'an, had heard that the people of Isra'el were coming; **41** so they moved on from Mount Hor and camped at Tzalmonah. **42** They moved on from Tzalmonah and camped at Punon. **43** They moved on from Punon and camped at Ovot. **44** They moved on from Ovot and camped 'Iyei-Ha'Avarim, at the border of Mo'av. **45** They moved on from 'Iyim and camped at Divon-Gad. **46** They moved on from Divon-Gad and camped at 'Almon-Divlatayim. **47** They moved on from Almon-Divlatayim and camped in the 'Avarim Range, in front of N'vo. **48** They moved on from the 'Avarim Range and camped in the plains of Mo'av by the Yarden, across from Yericho. **49** Their camp by the Yarden extended from Beit-HaYeshimot all the way to Avel-HaSheetim in the plains of Mo'av.

50 ADONAI spoke to Moshe in the plains of Mo'av by the Yarden, across from Yericho. He said **51** to tell the people of Isra'el, "When you cross the Yarden into the land of Kena'an, **52** you are to expel all the people living in the land from in front of you. Destroy all their stone figures, destroy all their metal statues and demolish all their high places. **53** Drive out the inhabitants of the land, and live in it, for I have given the land to you to possess. **54** You will inherit the land by lot according to your families. You are to give more land to the larger families and less to the smaller ones. Wherever the lot falls to any particular person, that will be his property. You will inherit according to the tribes of your ancestors. **55** But if you don't drive out the inhabitants of the land from in front of you, then those you allow to remain will become like thorns in your eyes and stings in your sides - they will harass you in the land where you are living. **56** And in this event, I will do to you what I intended to do to them."

Numbers 34

1 ADONAI told Moshe **2** to give this order to the people of Isra'el: "When you enter the land of Kena'an, it will become your land to pass on as an inheritance, the land of Kena'an as defined by these borders. **3** "Your southern portion will extend from the Tzin Desert close to the border of Edom. The eastern terminus of your southern border is at the end of the Dead Sea. **4** From there your border turns, goes south of the 'Akrabbim Ascent and passes on to Tzin. From there it goes south of Kadesh-Barnea, on to Hatzar-Adar, and on to 'Atzmon. **5** Then the border turns and goes from 'Atzmon to the Vadi of Egypt and along it to the Sea. **6** "Your western border will be the Great Sea. **7** "Your northern border will be as follows: from the Great Sea mark a line to Mount Hor, **8** and from Mount Hor mark a line to the entrance of Hamat. The border goes out to Tz'dad. **9** Then the border goes to Zifron and finally to Hatzar-'Einan; this is your northern border. **10** "For the eastern border mark your line from Hatzar-'Enan to Sh'fam. **11** Then the border goes down from Sh'fam to Rivlah, on the east side of 'Ayin, then down until it hits the slope east of Lake Kinneret. **12** From there it goes down the Yarden River till it flows into the Dead Sea. These will be the borders of your land." **13** Moshe gave this order to the people of Isra'el: "This is the land in which you will receive inheritances by lot, which ADONAI has ordered to give to the nine tribes and the half-tribe. **14** The tribe of the descendants of Re'uven have already received their land for inheritance according to their clans, and so have the descendants of Gad and the half-tribe of M'nasheh. **15** These two-and-a-half tribes have received their inheritance on this side of the Yarden, across from Yericho and eastward, toward the sunrise."

16 ADONAI said to Moshe, **17** "These are the names of the men who will take possession of the land for you: El'azar the cohen and Y'hoshua the son of Nun. **18** Also appoint one leader from each tribe to take possession of the land. **19** The names of these men are: from the tribe of Y'hudah, Kalev the son of Y'funeh; **20** from the tribe of the descendants of Shim'on, Sh'mu'el the son of 'Ammihud; **21** from the tribe of Binyamin, Elidad the son of Kision; **22** from the tribe of the descendants of Dan, a leader, Buki the son of Yogli; **23** from the descendants of Yosef: from the tribe of the descendants of M'nasheh, a leader, Hani'el the son of Efod; **24** from the tribe of the descendants of Efrayim, a leader, K'mu'el the son of Shiftan; **25** from the tribe of the descendants of Z'vulun, a leader, Elitzafan the son of Parnakh; **26** from the tribe of the descendants of Yissakhar, a leader, Palti'el the son of 'Azan; **27** from the tribe of the descendants of Asher, a leader, Achihud the son of Shlomi; **28** from the tribe of the descendants of Naftali, a leader, P'dah'el the son of 'Ammihud." **29** These are the ones whom ADONAI ordered to divide the inheritance among the people of Isra'el in the land of Kena'an.

Numbers 35

1 In the plains of Mo'av by the Yarden, across from Yericho, ADONAI said to Moshe, **2** "Order the people of Isra'el to give to the L'vi'im cities to live in from the heritage they will possess, and you

are also to give the L'vi'im some of the open land surrounding the cities. **3** They are to have the cities to live in, while their open land will be for their livestock, for growing crops and for all their animals. **4** The open land around the cities you give to the L'vi'im is to commence at a line drawn around the city wall 1,500 feet outside it and is to extend outward from there. **5** Measure 3,000 feet outward from the city wall to the east, south, west and north, with the city in the center. The space between the 1,500-foot line and the 3,000-foot line will be their open land around the cities. **6** The cities you give to the L'vi'im are to be the six cities of refuge to which you permit the person who kills someone to flee to; plus an additional forty-two cities. **7** Thus you will give the L'vi'im forty-eight cities, with their surrounding open land. **8** As to the cities you will give from those the people of Isra'el possess, from the many you will take many, and from the few you will take few - each tribe will contribute from its cities to the L'vi'im in accordance with the size of its inheritance."

9 ADONAI said to Moshe, **10** "Tell the people of Isra'el, 'When you cross the Yarden into the land of Kena'an, **11** you are to designate for yourselves cities that will be cities of refuge for you, to which anyone who kills someone by mistake can flee. **12** These cities are to be a refuge for you from the dead person's next-of-kin, who might otherwise avenge his kinsman's death by slaying the killer prior to his standing trial before the community. **13** In regard to the cities you are to give, there are to be six cities of refuge for you. **14** You are to give three cities east of the Yarden and three cities in the land of Kena'an; they will be cities of refuge. **15** These six cities will serve as refuge for the people of Isra'el, as well as for the foreigner and resident alien with them; so that anyone who kills someone by mistake may flee there. **16** "However, if he hits him with an iron implement and thus causes his death, he is a murderer; the murderer must be put to death. **17** Or if he hits him with a stone in his hand big enough to kill someone, and he dies, he is a murderer; the murderer must be put to death. **18** Or if he hits him with a wood utensil in his hand capable of killing someone, and he dies, he is a murderer; the murderer must be put to death. **19** The next-of-kin avenger is to put the murderer to death himself - upon meeting him, he is to put him to death. **20** Likewise, if he shoves him out of hatred; or intentionally throws something at him, causing his death; **21** or out of hostility strikes him with his hand, so that he dies; then the one who struck him must be put to death; he is a murderer; and the next-of-kin avenger is to put the murderer to death upon meeting him. **22** "But suppose he shoves him suddenly, but without hostility; or he throws something at him unintentionally; **23** or, without seeing him, being his enemy or seeking to harm him, he throws a stone big enough to cause death; and the person dies. **24** Then the community is to judge between the one who struck him and the next-of-kin avenger in accordance with these rules; **25** and the community is to save the killer from the next-of-kin avenger. The community is to return him to the city of refuge to which he fled, and he is to live there until the cohen hagadol, who was anointed with the holy oil, dies. **26** But if the killer ever goes beyond the limits of the city of refuge he fled to, **27** and the next-of-kin avenger finds him outside the limits of his city of refuge, and the avenger kills the killer, he will not be guilty of the man's blood; **28** because he must stay in his city of refuge until the death of the cohen hagadol. But after the death of the cohen hagadol the killer may return to the land he owns. **29** These things shall constitute your standard for judgment through all your generations, wherever you live. **30** "If anyone kills someone, the murderer is to be put to death upon the testimony of witnesses; but the testimony of only one witness will not suffice to cause a person to be put to death. **31** Also, you are not to accept a ransom in lieu of the life of a murderer condemned to death; rather, he must be put to death. **32** Likewise, you are not to accept for someone who has fled to his city of refuge a ransom that would allow him to return to his land before the death of the cohen. **33** In this way you will not defile the land in which you are living. For blood defiles the land, and in this land no atonement can be made for the blood shed in it except the blood of him who shed it. **34** No, you are not to defile the land in which you live and in which I live; for I, ADONAI, live among the people of Isra'el."

Numbers 36

1 The leaders of the clans of the family of the descendants of Gil'ad, the son of Machir, the son of M'nasheh, of the families of the descendants of Yosef, approached and addressed Moshe and the leaders, the heads of the clans of the people of Isra'el. **2** They said, "ADONAI ordered my lord to give by lot the land to be inherited by the people of Isra'el, and my lord was ordered by ADONAI to give the inheritance of our kinsman Tz'lof'chad to his daughters. **3** But if they get married to anyone belonging to another of the tribes of the people of Isra'el, then their inheritance will be taken away from the inheritance of our ancestors and be added to the inheritance of the tribe they will then belong to; thus it will be taken away from the sum total of our inheritance. **4** And when the yovel of the people of Isra'el comes, their inheritance will be added to the land possessed by the tribe they will then belong to and be subtracted from the inheritance belonging to the tribe of our ancestors."

5 Moshe gave this order to the people of Isra'el, in keeping with the word of ADONAI : "The tribe of the descendants of Yosef is right in what it says. **6** Here is what ADONAI has ordered concerning the daughters of Tz'lof'chad: 'Let them be married to whomever they think best, but they must marry only into a family from their father's tribe. **7** In this way no inheritance of the people of Isra'el will move from one tribe to another; for each of the people of Isra'el is to hold on to the land for inheritance belonging to his father's tribe. **8** Every daughter who possesses an inheritance in any tribe of the people of Isra'el is to become the wife of someone from the family of her father's tribe, so that every one of the people of Isra'el will stay in possession of his ancestors' inheritance. **9** Thus no inheritance will move from one tribe to another, for each of the tribes of the people of Isra'el will hold on to its own inheritance." **10** The daughters of Tz'lof'chad did as ADONAI had ordered Moshe. **11** Machlah, Tirtzah, Hoglah, Milkah and No'ah all got married to sons of their father's brothers. **12** They were married into the families of the descendants of M'nasheh the son of Yosef, and their inheritance remained in the tribe of their father's family. **13** These are the mitzvot and rulings which ADONAI gave through Moshe to the people of Isra'el in the plains of Mo'av by the Yarden, across from Yericho. 4 1-2

Jeremiah 1

1 These are the words of Yirmeyahu the son of Hilkiyahu, one of the cohanim living in 'Anatot, in the territory of Binyamin. **2** The word of ADONAI came to him during the days of Yoshiyahu the son of Amon, king of Y'hudah, in the thirteenth year of his reign. **3** It also came during the days of Y'hoyakim the son of Yoshiyahu, king of Y'hudah, continuing until the eleventh year of Tzidkiyahu the son of Yoshiyahu, king of Y'hudah, right up until the time Yerushalayim was carried away captive, in the fifth month.

4 Here is the word of ADONAI that came to me: **5** "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you; before you were born, I separated you for myself. I have appointed you to be a prophet to the nations." **6** I said, "Oh, Adonai ELOHIM, I don't even know how to speak! I'm just a child!" **7** But ADONAI said to me, "Don't say, 'I'm just a child.'" "For you will go to whomever I send you, and you will speak whatever I order you. **8** Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you, says ADONAI, to rescue you." **9** Then ADONAI put out his hand and touched my mouth, and ADONAI said to me, "There! I have put my words in your mouth. **10** Today I have placed you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and to tear down, to destroy and to demolish, to build and to plant."

11 The word of ADONAI came to me, asking, "Yirmeyahu, what do you see?" I answered, "I see a branch from an almond tree [Hebrew: shaken]. **12** Then ADONAI said to me, "You have seen well, because I am watching [Hebrew: shoked] to fulfill my word." **13** A second time the word of ADONAI came to me, asking, "What do you see?" I answered, "I see a caldron tilted away from the north, over a fire fanned by the wind." **14** Then ADONAI said to me, "From the north calamity will boil over onto everyone living in the land, **15** because I will summon all the families in the kingdoms of the north," says ADONAI, "and they will come and sit, each one, on his throne at the

entrance to the gates of Yerushalayim, opposite its walls, all the way around, and opposite all the cities of Y'hudah. **16** I will pronounce my judgments against them for all their wickedness in abandoning me, offering incense to other gods and worshipping what their own hands made. **17** "But you, dress for action; stand up and tell them everything I order you to say. When you confront them, don't break down; or I will break you down in front of them! **18** For today, you see, I have made you into a fortified city, a pillar of iron, a wall of bronze against the whole land - against the kings of Y'hudah, against its princes, against its cohanim and the people of the land. **19** They will fight against you, but they will not overcome you, for I am with you," says ADONAI, "to rescue you."

Jeremiah 2: 1 – 3

1 The word of ADONAI came to me: **2** "Go and shout in the ears of Yerushalayim that this is what ADONAI says: 'I remember your devotion when you were young; how, as a bride, you loved me; how you followed me through the desert, through a land not sown. **3** "'Isra'el is set aside for ADONAI, the firstfruits of his harvest; all who devour him will incur guilt; evil will befall them,'" says ADONAI.

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Matthew 5: 33 – 37

33 "Again, you have heard that our fathers were told, 'Do not break your oath,' and 'Keep your vows to ADONAI.' **34** But I tell you not to swear at all -- not 'by heaven,' because it is God's throne; **35** not 'by the earth,' because it is his footstool; and not 'by Yerushalayim,' because it is the city of the Great King. **36** And don't swear by your head, because you can't make a single hair white or black. **37** Just let your 'Yes' be a simple 'Yes,' and your 'No' a simple 'No'; anything more than this has its origin in evil.

James 4: 1 – 12

1 What is causing all the quarrels and fights among you? Isn't it your desires battling inside you? **2** You desire things and don't have them. You kill, and you are jealous, and you still can't get them. So you fight and quarrel. The reason you don't have is that you don't pray! **3** Or you pray and don't receive, because you pray with the wrong motive, that of wanting to indulge your own desires. **4** You unfaithful wives! Don't you know that loving the world is hating God? Whoever chooses to be the world's friend makes himself God's enemy! **5** Or do you suppose the Scripture speaks in vain when it says that there is a spirit in us which longs to envy? **6** But the grace he gives is greater, which is why it says, "God opposes the arrogant, but to the humble he gives grace." **7** Therefore, submit to God. Moreover, take a stand against the Adversary, and he will flee from you. **8** Come close to God, and he will come close to you. Clean your hands, sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded people! **9** Wail, mourn, sob! Let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy into gloom! **10** Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

11 Brothers, stop speaking against each other! Whoever speaks against a brother or judges a brother is speaking against Torah and judging Torah. And if you judge Torah, you are not a doer of what Torah says, but a judge. **12** There is but one Giver of Torah; he is also the Judge, with the power to deliver and to destroy. Who do you think you are, judging your fellow human being?