

Parashat Re'eh - ראה - "see"

Torah ~ *Deut. 11:26-16:17* | Haftarah ~ *Isa. 54:11-55:5; Mal. 3:8-12* | Brit Chadashah ~ *Mt. 6:1-4; Jn. 7:37-52*

Today's portion is the forty-seventh reading from the Torah and the fourth reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Pagan temples.

Deut. 12:1-4 ~ We are to destroy all places of pagan worship.

Clean and unclean foods.

Deut. 14:3-21 ~ The word "unclean" is better understood as "unfit for human consumption", "off-limits", or "not food".

The unfit animals tend to be scavengers, and their meat carry more harmful elements than the fit animals. God gave us the dietary laws to make us holy. The word "holy" means to be set apart or sanctified.

Unclean animals could not be brought inside the Temple.

1 Cor. 6:19 ~ "your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit" NKJV

Unclean animals were not acceptable for sacrifice.

Rom. 12:1 ~ "present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God" NKJV

Tithing for the Sanctuary.

Lev. 27:30-32 & Num. 18:21-28 ~ The Israelites are commanded to tithe.

Deut. 14:22-27 ~ The word Tithe means "a tenth." Prior to the giving the Torah, both Abraham and Jacob tithed. The tithe was used to support the maintenance of the Tabernacle and later the Temple.

Gen. 14:18-20 (Heb. 7:1-2) ~ Abraham takes Kiddush (picture of Communion) with Melchizedek and gives him a tithe.

Galatians 3:29 ~ "And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed" NKJV

Heb. 5:6 ~ "You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek" NKJV

Gen. 28:20-22 ~ Jacob promise's to give a tithe to the Lord.

Prov. 3:9 ~ "Honor the Lord with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase" NKJV

Malachi 3:8-12 ~ The Lord speaks on tithing through the prophet Malachi.

Matt. 6:33 ~ "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." NKJV

Luke 11:42 ~ Yeshua says that tithing is the right thing to do but don't leave out other parts of Torah.

Tithing for the poor.

Deut. 14:28-29 ~ Now an interesting curve ball is thrown into the mix; every 3 years the annual tithes that were due were NOT to be taken to the central sanctuary, the Tabernacle; instead they were to be stored in whatever town or village one belonged to. This was the core of the Hebrew welfare system. It was from these communal stores that the poor and the sick could get food to survive. The New Testament teaches very strongly that we should help the poor.

Acts 20:35 ~ We must help those in need.

Matt. 6:2 ~ "when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you" NKJV

The three pilgrimage Feasts

Deut. 16:1-17 ~ It was during these three feast (Passover, Pentecost, Tabernacles) that the Lord required all heads of the household to come to the Temple to give their tithe for that particular harvest season. For most Israelites, these three harvest seasons was the only time they received a paid day all year.

Aliyah to the Torah

Deut. 14:22-23 NKJV

22 “You shall truly tithe all the increase of your grain that the field produces year by year.

23 And you shall eat before the Lord your God, in the place where He chooses to make His name abide, the tithe of your grain and your new wine and your oil, of the firstborn of your herds and your flocks, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always.

Proverbs 3:5-10 NKJV

5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding;

6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the Lord and depart from evil.

8 It will be health to your flesh, And strength to your bones.

9 Honor the Lord with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase;

10 So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine.

Matthew 6:1-4 NKJV

1 “Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

2 Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.

3 But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,

4 that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.