

47: August 23, 2025

Shabbat Message

## Re'eh / *Behold* / רֵאֵה

Deuteronomy 11:26-16:17

## My Way or Yah's Way Series

### Let My People Go

#### Introduction

**Introduction:** Deuteronomy 15 located in the heart of the Deuteronomic Code, presents a profound and compassionate vision of socio-economic relations in a covenant community. This chapter reveals the divine blueprint for a society built on principles of generosity, mercy, and justice. Remarkably, the instructions in Deuteronomy 15 are not merely guidelines, but

God-ordained laws that demand obedience.

## **Deuteronomy 15:1-6**

### **The Sabbath Year**

1. The chapter begins with the commandment of the Sabbath year, wherein every seventh year, all debts among the Israelites were cancelled. (Deuteronomy 15:1).
2. This instruction echoes the Sabbath commandment in Exodus 20:8-10, emphasizing a rhythm of work and rest not only for individuals, but also in economic relationships.
3. Here Elohim assures us his people that if we faithfully obey His commandments He will bless us abundantly. The recognition of Elohim's Providence is in Matthew 6:33, which reminds us to seek first Elohim's Kingdom and His righteousness.

## **Mandatory Generosity**

### **Deuteronomy 15:7-11**

1. The requirement to be generous, particularly to the poor and needy is a recurring theme in the Bible (Proverbs 14:31). This section of Deuteronomy extends this principle mandating that we must not harden our hearts or hands against our poor brothers. (Deuteronomy 15:7).
2. Elohim knows that poverty will always be present in the land (Deuteronomy 15:11), which

correlates with Yeshua's statement in Matthew 26:11 that the poor will always be among us.

3. This section suggests that the existence of poverty is an opportunity for Elohim's people to demonstrate their obedience and compassion not a problem to be eradicated.

## **Liberating Hebrew Slaves**

### **Deuteronomy 15:12-18**

1. The liberation of Hebrew slaves every seventh year (Deuteronomy 15:12) mirrors Elohim's liberation of the Israelites from Egypt (Exodus 20:2). This segment of Deuteronomy 15 underscores the dignity and value of every individual irrespective of socioeconomic status.
2. The commandment to provide generously for the freed slave (Deuteronomy 15:14) reinforces the importance of generosity outlined in 7-11.
3. The Pauline epistle of Philemon reiterates this principle as it calls for emancipation and kind treatment of a slave. (Phil 1:12-16).

## **Consecration of the Firstborn**

### **Deuteronomy 15:19-23**

1. The chapter ends with the commandment to consecrate all the firstborn males of the

herds and flocks to Yehovah. (Deuteronomy 15:19).

2. This act of dedication continues the theme of acknowledging Elohim's blessings and aligns with Exodus 13:2 which commands the consecration of the first man and animal.
3. This shows that all things belong to Yehovah and nothing belongs to us.

## **Yehovah Deals with Food Offerings**

### **Deuteronomy 15:20-23**

1. We are to honor our firstborn males as the best of offerings to Elohim.
2. You are to eat the sacrifice of the Firstborn year after year at the place that Yehovah chooses you and your household. Sounds like Pesach doesn't it.
3. The sacrifice was to have no blemish which is not to be sacrificed. You are also to eat it within your gates both the clean and the unclean together. However are to abstain from eating the blood but you are to pour it out on the ground like water. Acts 15:29.

## **Take Away**

1. Deuteronomy 15 showcases God's compassionate vision for a society that honors Him and cares for its members.
2. The divine instructions embodied in this chapter, from debt cancellation, mandatory generosity, slave liberation, to the consecration of the firstborn, reveal a God deeply concerned about economic justice, interpersonal relationships, and societal well-being.
3. As followers of Messiah , we are called to integrate these values into our lives, reflecting

not only our culture of being Israel but more importantly, the character of God Himself.

## **Application**

1. Today I will be mindful that I am ultimately a slave of the Messiah Yeshua and I must  
being willing to do anything He asks us to do.
2. I will continue to offer the best of my sacrifices to Yehovah no matter what the cost is.
3. I will continue to honor Yehovah with my eating as a sacrifice as well.

Beth Ohr Messianic Congregation

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