

P. Crime and Punishment

1. A Woman Taken in Adultery

- a. In John's Gospel**
- b. In Torah**

2. Capital Punishment

- a. For Murder**
- b. For Adultery**
- c. For a Rebellious Son**
- d. In the Talmud**

3. An Eye for an Eye

- a. In Torah**
- b. In Jesus' teaching**

4. Jesus and the Fence Around the Law

- a. Crimes of Passion**
- b. Oaths and Vows**
- c. Love**

5. Gehenna and Eternal Punishment

- a. Tartarus**
- b. Hades**
- c. Sheol**
- d. The Rabbis and the World-to-Come**
- e. Gehenna**

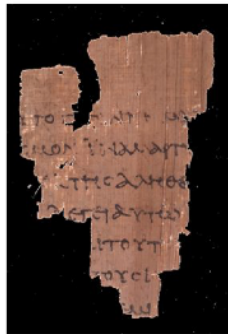
A Woman Taken in Adultery

John 7:53-8:11



Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law.” The Jews replied, “We have no right to execute anyone.” (John 18:31)

- ▣ **Oldest fragment of NT – early 2nd cent.!**
 - With part of John 18:31-33, 37-38 (Jesus' trial)




The Law on Adultery

- Deut 22:22 (NIV): If a man is found sleeping with another man’s wife, both the man who slept with her and the woman must die.
- Lev 20:10 (NIV): If a man commits adultery with another man’s wife – with the wife of his neighbour – both the adulterer and the adulteress must be put to death.

6 But never put a person to death on the testimony of only one witness. There must always be two or three witnesses. 7 The witnesses must throw the first stones, and then all the people may join in. In this way, you will purge the evil from among you.

Deut. 17:6, 7

The Redeemer of Blood



Whoever sheds human blood, by humans shall their blood be shed; for in the **image of God** has God made mankind

Genesis 9:6

Deuteronomy 19:11, Murder

- NAU Deuteronomy 19:11 "But if there is a man who hates his neighbor and lies in wait for him and rises up against him and strikes him so that he dies, and he flees to one of these cities, 12 then the elders of his city shall send and take him from there and deliver him into the hand of the avenger of blood, that he may die.



Righteous Joseph?

Because Joseph Her
Husband Was A Righteous
Man And Did Not Want
To Expose Her To Public
Disgrace, He Had In Mind
To Divorce Her Quietly.

Matthew 1:19

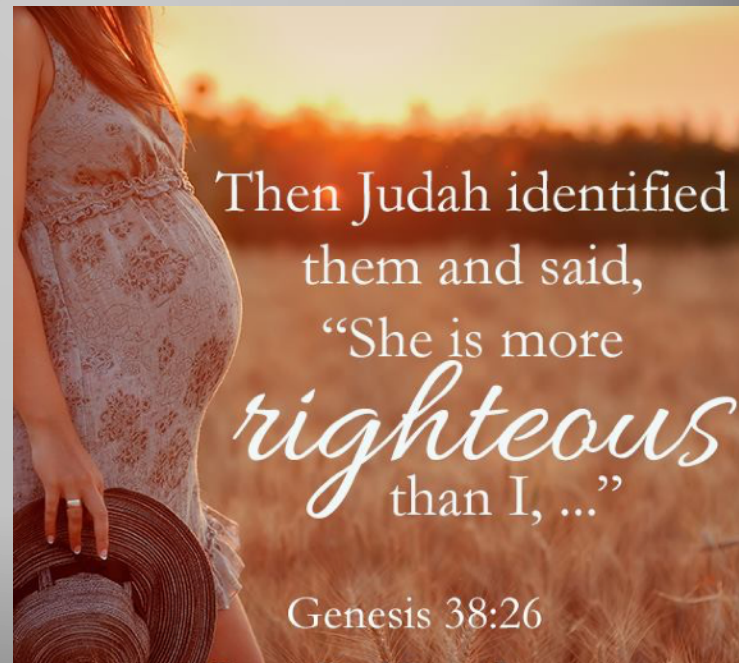
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Because Joseph her husband was
faithful to the law, and yet did not want
to expose her to public disgrace, he
had in mind to divorce her quietly.

Matthew 1:19 NIV

“
IT IS BETTER FOR A PERSON
TO THROW HIMSELF INTO
A FIERY FURNACE THAN
TO EMBARRASS HIS FELLOW
HUMAN BEING.”

The Talmud,
Bava Metzia 59a



Then Judah identified
them and said,
“She is more
righteous
than I, ...”

Genesis 38:26

The Rebellious Son

Deuteronomy 21:18-21 (NKJV)

¹⁸ "If a man has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey the voice of his father or the voice of his mother, and *who*, when they have chastened him, will not heed them, ¹⁹ then his father and his mother shall take hold of him and bring him out to the elders of his city, to the gate of his city. ²⁰ And they shall say to the elders of his city, 'This son of ours is stubborn and rebellious; he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton and a drunkard.' ²¹ Then all the men of his city shall stone him to death with stones; so you shall put away the evil from among you, and all Israel shall hear and fear.



Rabbi Shimon: “There has never been such a son and there never will be one in the future. Why then was it written? So that we should study the passage and receive reward for it.” (*Sanhedrin* 71a)

R. Yose the Galilean: “Torah foresaw the ultimate destiny of the stubborn and rebellious son. Having dissipated his father’s wealth, he would seek to satisfy his wants and be unable to do so. He would then go to a crossroads and rob. Therefore the Torah ordained: Let him die innocent rather than die guilty—for the death of the wicked benefits both them and the world.” (*Sanhedrin* 71b)

The Rabbis and Capital Punishment



“A Sanhedrin that executes someone once in seven years is characterized as destructive.

Rabbi Elazar ben Azarya says: Once in seventy years.

Rabbi Tarfon and Rabbi Akiva say: If we had been in the Sanhedrin, no person would have ever been executed.

Rabban Shimon ben Gamliel says: They too increase the number of murderers in Israel.”

(m. Makkot 1.10)



"When men have a fight and hurt a pregnant woman, so that she suffers a miscarriage, but no further injury, the guilty one shall be fined as much as the woman's husband demands of him, and he shall pay in the presence of the judges. But if injury ensues, you shall give life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe."

Ex. Ex. 21:22-25

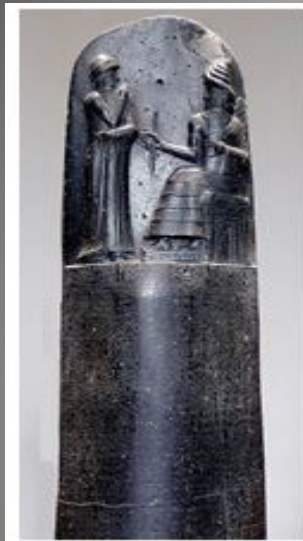
- "Whoever takes a human life shall surely be put to death. Whoever takes an animal's life shall make it good, life for life. If anyone injures his neighbor, as he has done it shall be done to him, fracture for fracture, eye for eye, tooth for tooth; whatever injury he has given a person shall be given to him" (Lev 24:17-20, ESV).

Deuteronomy 19:18-21

- "And the judges shall make careful inquiry, and indeed, **if the witness is a false witness**, who has testified falsely against his brother, **then you shall do to him as he thought to have done to his brother**; so you shall put away the evil from among you. And **those who remain shall hear and fear**, and hereafter they shall not again **commit such evil among you**. Your eye shall not pity: life shall be for life, **eye for eye, tooth for tooth**, hand for hand, foot for foot." (NKJV)

The Legal Code of Hammurabi

(ca. 1800 BC)



"If a man damages the eye of another man, then the culprit shall have his eye destroyed. And if a person breaks another man's bone, the bone of the culprit shall be broken" (Law #196)

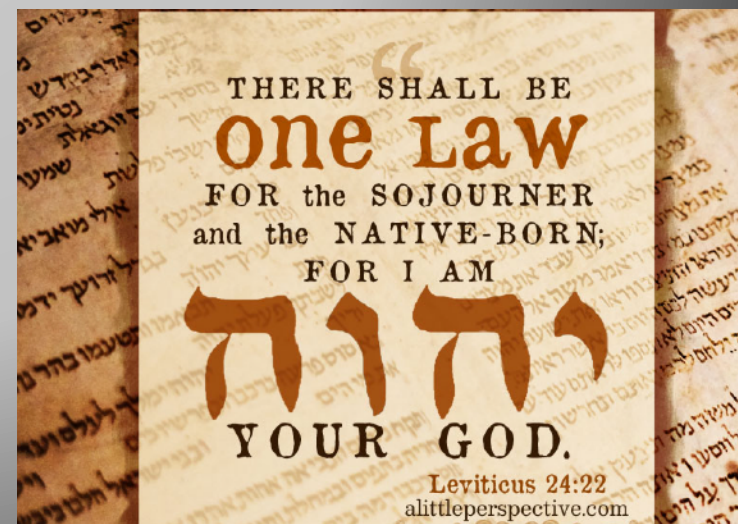


Genesis 4:23-24

²³ Lamech said to his wives,

"Adah and Zillah, listen to me;
wives of Lamech, hear my words.
I have killed a man for wounding me,
a young man for injuring me.

²⁴ If Cain is avenged seven times,
then Lamech seventy-seven times."





“One who injures another is liable to pay compensation for five things: physical injury, pain, medical costs, loss of income, and humiliation.”

(m. Bava Kamma 8.1)

“The justice of ‘an eye for an eye’ is more apparent than real: one man’s eyesight may be stronger or weaker than the other’s, and by taking one eye for the other, true equivalent justice is not being served....Also, if a blind man takes another’s eye, or a cripple without legs destroys someone else’s leg, how can justice be served? Further, when an eye or any organ is extracted from a living body it causes serious incidental injury, often endangering the individual’s life, and the Torah said ‘an eye for an eye,’ not ‘an eye and a soul for an eye.’”

(R. Moshe Shamah, Recalling the Covenant)

The Sermon on the Mount

Men Open Their Mouths
To Jeer At Me; They
Strike My Cheek In Scorn
And Unite Together
Against Me.

Job 16-10

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I gave My back to those who struck Me, And My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide My face from shame and spitting. “For the Lord GOD will help Me; Therefore I will not be disgraced; Therefore I have set My face like a flint, And I know that I will not be ashamed.
Isaiah 50:6-7

Let Him Offer His Cheek
To One Who Would
Strike Him, And Let Him
Be Filled With Disgrace.

Lamentations 3-30

BibleWordings.com

Matthew 5:38-41 ESV

³⁸ “You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ ³⁹ But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. ⁴⁰ And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. ⁴¹ And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles.

“One who slaps another’s face must give him 200 zuz, and if it is with the back of the hand he must give him 400 zuz.”
(m. Bava Kamma 8.6)

A FENCE AROUND THE TORAH



Matthew 5:17-20

"(Jesus says,) 'Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps them and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I say to you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.'"

Matthew 23:23

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others

הם אָמְרוּ שְׁלֹשָׁה דְבָרִים: הוּוּ מְתוּנִים בְּדִין, וְהִעֲמִידוּ תַלְמִידִים הַרְבֵּה, וְעָשׂוּ סִיג לַתּוֹרָה:

They [the Men of the Great Assembly] said three things:

- Be cautious in judgement.
- Establish many pupils. And
- make a fence around the Torah.

Pirkei Avot 1:1

CRIMES OF PASSION

ANGER

You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'Thou shalt not kill,' and, 'Whoever kills will be liable to judgment.' But I say to you, everyone who goes on being angry with their brother or sister will be liable to judgment; whoever calls them 'brainless' will be liable to the Sanhedrin (Jewish Supreme Court); whoever says 'moron' will be liable to fiery Gehenna.

So if you are bringing a sacrifice to the Temple and there remember that a brother or sister has something against you, leave your offering there in front of the altar and first go be reconciled to them.

(Matt. 5:21-24)

LUST

You have heard that it was said, 'Thou shalt not commit adultery.' But I say to you that everyone looking at a woman for the purpose of coveting her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

So if your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away, for it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into Gehenna.

(Matt. 5:27-29)

What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God.

James 4:1-2

VOWS

“You have heard it was said,
‘You shall not swear falsely, but
you shall repay your vows to
the Lord’...” (Matt. 5:33)

The Nazirite Vow (Numbers 6)

- Limited time of special separation “to the Lord”
- No alcohol or any grape product
- No haircuts or shaving
- No contact with corpses
- Vow ended by offering cut hair along with sacrifices on the altar

Judges 11: 30-31

³⁰ And Jephthah made a **vow** to the LORD: “If you give the Ammonites into my hands, ³¹ whatever comes out of the door of my house to meet me when I return in triumph from the Ammonites will be the LORD’s, and I will sacrifice it as a burnt offering.”



Paul took a vow

Acts 18: 18 Paul stayed on in Corinth for some time. Then he left the brothers and sailed for Syria, accompanied by Priscilla and Aquila. **Before he sailed, he had his hair cut off at Cenchrea because of a vow he had taken.**



BETTER THAT
YOU DO NOT VOW
THAN THAT YOU
VOW AND NOT
FULFILL IT.

ECCLESIASTES 5:5

Acts 21:23-24

²³ ... We have four men who are under a vow; ²⁴ take these men and purify yourself along with them and pay their expenses, so that they may shave their heads. Thus all will know that there is nothing in what they have been told about you, but **that you yourself also live in observance of the law.**

OATHS

And Said, "I Swear By
Myself, Declares The Lord
, That Because You Have
Done This And Have Not
Withheld Your Son, Your
Only Son,

Genesis 22-16

But if you will not obey these words,
I swear by myself, declares the Lord,
that this house shall become a
desolation.

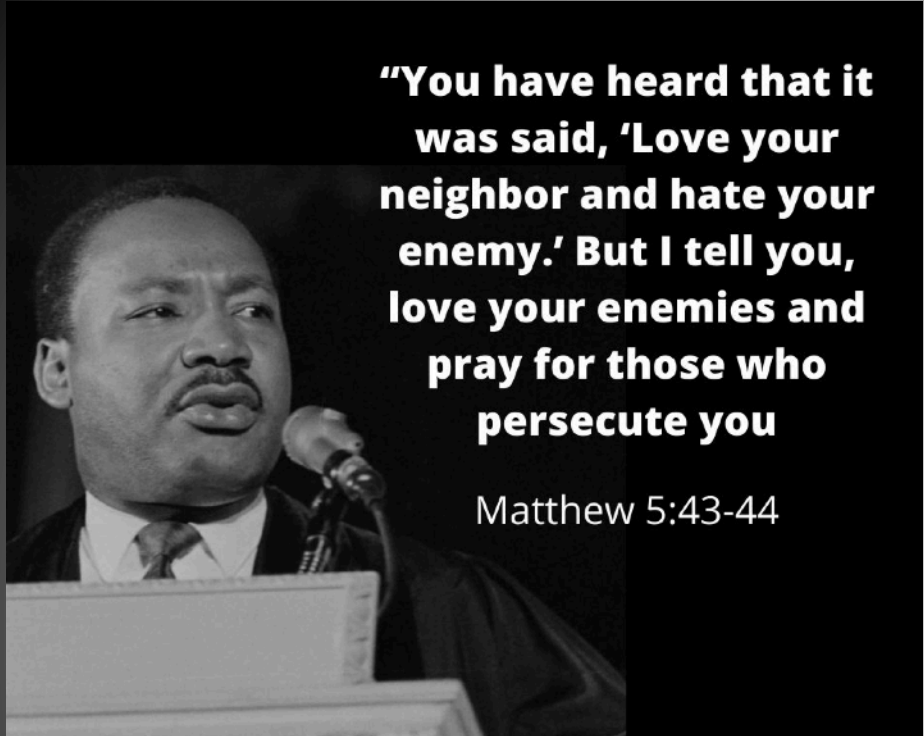
- Jeremiah 22:5

For when God made a promise to
Abraham, because He could swear by
no one greater, He swore by Himself,

Hebrews 6:13

- *Matthew 5:34-37 NIV But I tell you, Do not swear at all: either by heaven, for it is God's throne; (35) or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. (36) And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. (37) Simply let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.*

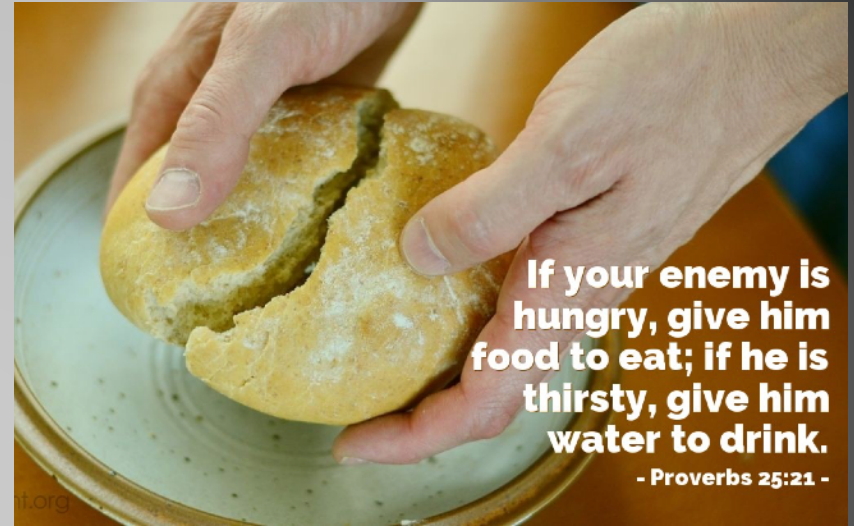
Above all, my brothers, do not swear
by heaven or by the earth or use any
oaths at all. If you mean 'yes', you
must say 'yes'; if you mean 'no', say
'no'. Otherwise you make yourselves
liable to judgement. -James 5:12



“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you

Matthew 5:43-44

“Hate Your Enemy?”

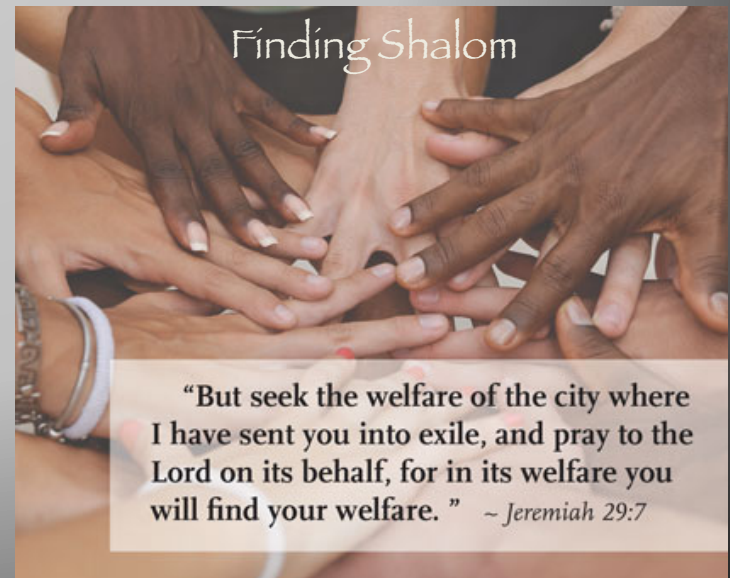


If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink.

- Proverbs 25:21 -

Exodus 23:4-5

⁴ If you come upon your enemy’s ox or donkey that has strayed away, take it back to its owner. ⁵ If you see that the donkey of someone who hates you has collapsed under its load, do not walk by. Instead, stop and help.



Finding Shalom

“But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.” ~ Jeremiah 29:7

Gospel of Matthew

5:43-48

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you salute only your brethren, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? You, therefore, must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

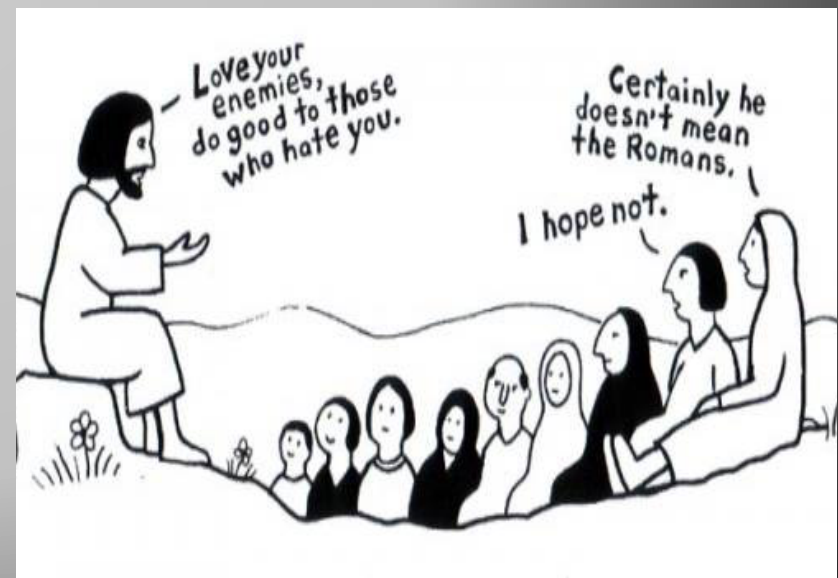
'You shall not hate your brother in your heart. You shall surely rebuke your neighbor, and not bear sin because of him. You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF:

I am YHVH. [Leviticus 19:17-18](#)

NOT A **NEW** CONCEPT

"And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 'Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to them: "You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy."'"

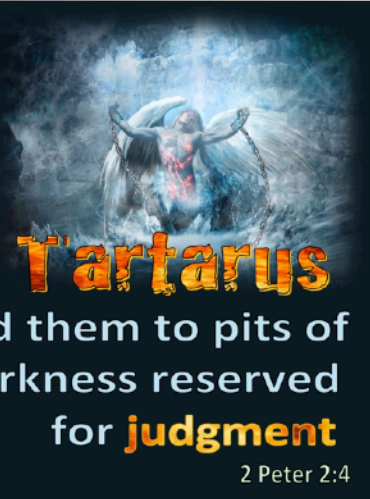
(Leviticus 19:1-2)



“Hell” in the KJV

God did not spare angels when they **sinned**, but cast them into **Tartarus** and committed them to pits of darkness reserved for **judgment**

2 Peter 2:4



And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

Matthew 16:18

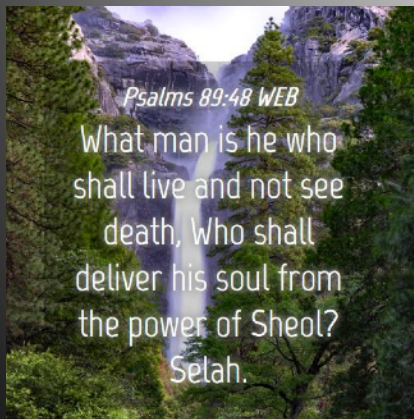


Symbolic Lake of Fire

“And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death” (Revelation 20:14)

The cords of Sheol surrounded me; The snares of death confronted me.

— Psalm 18:5 (NASB®)

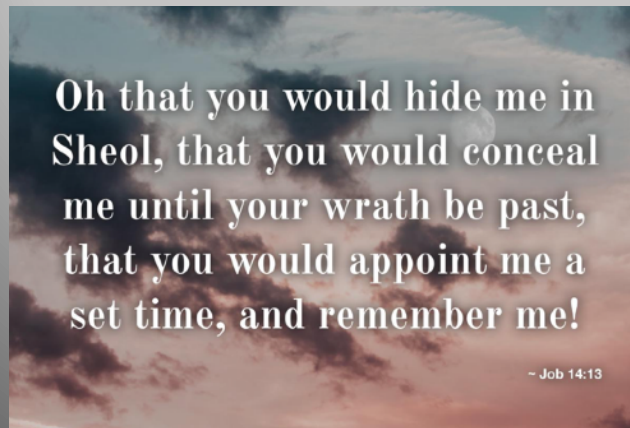


Psalms 89:48 WEB

What man is he who shall live and not see death, Who shall deliver his soul from the power of Sheol? Selah.

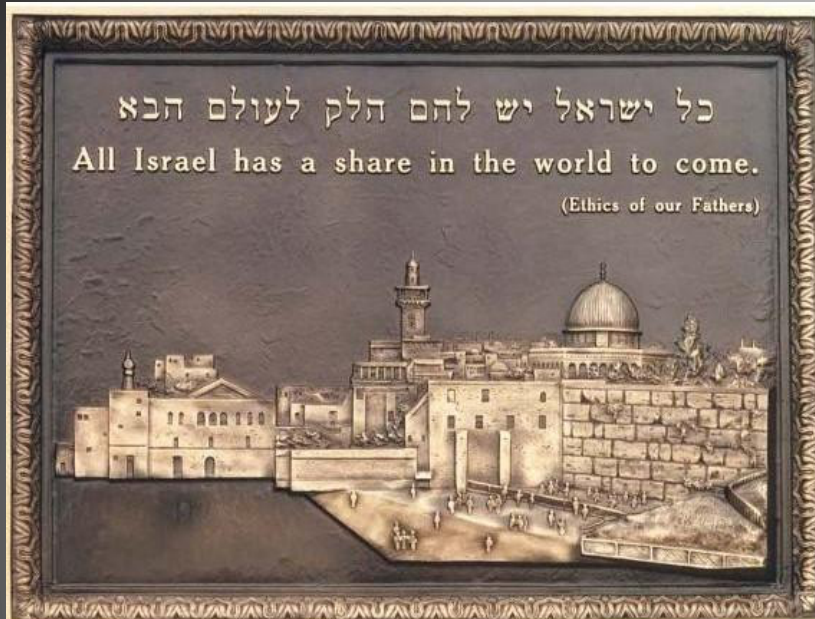
Oh that you would hide me in Sheol, that you would conceal me until your wrath be past, that you would appoint me a set time, and remember me!

— Job 14:13



“Humans and animals share the same fate. They both die, they both have the same life-breath/spirit. All go to one place; all are of the dust and to the dust return. Who knows if the human life-breath/spirit rises upward and the life-breath/spirit of the animal goes down into the earth?” (Eccl. 3:19-21, my translation)

The Rabbis and the World-to-Come



Except for:

- Those who say there is no resurrection of the dead in Torah
- Those who say Torah is not from Heaven
- One who pronounces the name of God
- Three kings: Jereboam, Ahab, and Manasseh
- The generation of the flood
- The people of Sodom
- The 10 spies
- Korach's assembly

(m. Sanhedrin 10)

“One who engages in intercourse with a married woman and is executed for it still has a place in the world-to-come, but one who humiliates another in public has no share in the world-to-come”

(Bava Metzia 59a)

DEMYTHOLOGIZING GEHENNA



They Have Built The High Places Of Topheth In The Valley Of Ben Hinnom To Burn Their Sons And Daughters In The Fire-something I Did Not Command, Nor Did It Enter My Mind.

Jeremiah 7-31

“Therefore, behold, days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when it will no more be called Topheth, or the valley of the son of Hinnom, but the valley of the Slaughter; for they will bury in Topheth because there is no other place. ³³ And the dead bodies of this people will be food for the birds of the sky, and for the beasts of the earth; and no one will frighten them away.” (Jeremiah 7:32-33).

Everyone who goes on being angry with their brother or sister will be liable to judgment
Whoever says ‘brainless’ to a brother or sister will be liable to the Sanhedrin
Whoever says ‘moron’ will be liable to fiery Gehenna (Matt. 5:22)