

Nosh & Learn with Mindy, Parshat Matot-Masei, TBH-BE, 7/16/2020

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ
בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ לְעֲסוֹק בְּדִבְרֵי תוֹרָה.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu laasok b'divrei Torah.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who hallows us with mitzvot, commanding us to engage with words of Torah.

Matot, Numbers 30:2 – 32:42

Ma'asei, Numbers 33:1 – 36:13

Numbers 30:2

אִישׁ כִּי-יִדַּר לְדָר לַיהוָה אִוֶּה-שָׁבַע שְׁבַעַה לְאַסֵּר אֶסֶר עַל-נַפְשׁוֹ לֹא יַחַל דְּבָרוֹ כְּכֹל-הֵיטָא מִפִּי יַעֲשֶׂה:
If a man makes a vow to the LORD or takes an oath imposing an obligation on himself, he shall not break his pledge; he must carry out all that has crossed his lips.

Oath or Vow in the Tanach?

- G and Jacob: Genesis 28:13
 - And, behold, the LORD stood beside him, and said: ‘I am the LORD, the God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac. The land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed.
- Hannah to G: 1 Samuel 1:11
 - if You will grant Your maidservant a male child, I will dedicate him to the LORD for all the days of his life; and no razor shall ever touch his head.”
- Ruth to Naomi: Ruth 1:16
 - For wherever you go, I will go; wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God.

Targum Jonathan on Numbers 30:2

A man, a son of thirteen when he shall have vowed a vow before the Lord, or have sworn an oath, saying, I will withhold from such a thing which is permitted to me, shall not be allowed to relax his word (at his own will): nevertheless, the house of judgment (beth dina) can absolve him; but if they absolve him not, whatsoever hath gone out of his mouth he shall perform.

Numbers 35:33

וְלֹא־תִחַגְּפוּ אֶת־הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם בְּהָ כִּי הַדָּם הוּא יִחַגְּפוּ אֶת־הָאָרֶץ וְלֹא־יִכָּפֵר לַדָּם אֲשֶׁר שָׁפַד־
בָּהּ כִּי־אֵם בְּדָם שִׁפְכוּ:

You shall not pollute the land in which you live; for blood pollutes the land, and the land can have no expiation for blood that is shed on it, except by the blood of him who shed it.

Ecclesiastes 5:3-4

When you make a vow to God, do not delay to fulfill it. For He has no pleasure in fools; what you vow, fulfill. It is better not to vow at all than to vow and not fulfill.