



Congregation Notes Torah Portion Shoftim
August 30, 2025; Elul 6, 5785
Deut. 16:18=21:9; Isaiah 51:12-52:32; John 14:9-20

***Deuteronomy 16:18-19** You shall appoint judges and officers in all your gates, which the LORD your God gives you, according to your tribes, and they shall judge the people with just judgment. **19** Do not deny justice or show partiality. Do not accept a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and twists the words of the righteous.

***Isaiah 30:18** For the LORD is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!

***Psalm 82:1** God stands up to open heaven's court. He pronounces judgment on the judges.

***Proverbs 11:14** Where no wise guidance is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

***Hebrews 13:17** Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they watch over your souls as those who must give an account. To this end, allow them to lead with joy and not with grief, for that would be of no advantage to you.

***Luke 12:48** But the one who unknowingly does things worthy of punishment will be beaten with few blows. From everyone who has been given much, much will be required; and from him who has been entrusted with much, even more will be demanded.

***Exodus 18:21-23** Furthermore, select capable men from among the people—God-fearing, trustworthy men who are averse to dishonest gain. Appoint them over the people as leaders of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties, and of tens. / Have these men judge the people at all times. Then they can bring you any major issue, but all minor cases they can judge on their own, so that your load may be lightened as they share it with you.

***Numbers 11:25** Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke with him and He took some of the power of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied—but did not do so again.

***Deuteronomy 17:9-10** You are to go to the Levitical priests and to the judge who presides at that time. Inquire of them, and they will give you a verdict in the case. You must abide by the verdict they give you at the place the LORD will choose. Be careful to do everything they instruct you, according to the terms of law they give and the verdict

they proclaim. Do not turn aside to the right or to the left from the decision they declare to you....

***2 Chronicles 19:5-7** He appointed judges in the land, in each of the fortified cities of Judah. / Then he said to the judges, Consider carefully what you do, for you are not judging for man, but for the LORD, who is with you when you render judgment. / And now, may the fear of the LORD be upon you. Be careful what you do, for with the LORD our God there is no injustice or partiality or bribery.

***Deuteronomy 19:15** One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin that he sins: at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established". This law ensured that a single person's testimony was not enough to convict someone, requiring the corroboration of multiple witnesses to uphold justice and prevent false accusations.

***Deuteronomy 17:11** According to the sentence of the law in which they instruct you, according to the judgment which they tell you, you shall do; you shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left from the sentence which they pronounce upon you.

***Matthew 18:16** But if he will not hear you, then take with you one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. 17 And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglects to hear the church, let him be unto you as a heathen man and a publican.

***Ezekiel 3:17-18** Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from My mouth, give them a warning from Me. / If I say to the wicked man, 'You will surely die,' but you do not warn him or speak out to warn him from his wicked way to save his life, that wicked man will die in his iniquity, and I will hold you responsible for his blood.

***John 8:4-6** The scribes and Pharisees, however, brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before them and said, Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such a woman. So what do You say? ...This they said, testing Him, that they might have something of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with His finger, as though He did not hear.

***Matthew 26:14-15** Then one of the Twelve—the one called Judas Iscariot—went to the chief priests and asked, What are you willing to give me if I hand him over to you? And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. So from then on Judas looked for an opportunity to betray Jesus....

***John 18:12** So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Yeshua and bound him.

***John 18:19-24** Meanwhile, the high priest questioned Yeshua about his disciples and his teaching.²⁰ "I have spoken openly to the world," Yeshua replied. I always taught in synagogues or at the temple, where all the Jews come together. I said nothing in secret.²¹ Why question me? Ask those who heard me. Surely they know what I said."²² When Yeshua said this, one of the officials nearby slapped him in the face. "Is this the way you answer the high priest?" he demanded.²³ "If I said something wrong," Yeshua replied, "testify as to what is wrong. But if I spoke the truth, why did you strike me?"²⁴ **Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.**

***Luke 23:3-7&24-25** So Pilate asked Him, Are You the King of the Jews? You have said so, Jesus replied. Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, I find no basis for a charge against the man **5**But they kept insisting, He stirs up the people all over Judea with His teaching. He began in Galilee and has come all the way here.... But they kept insisting, "He stirs up the people all over Judea with His teaching. He began in Galilee and has come all the way here. When Pilate heard this, he asked if the man was a Galilean **7**And learning that Jesus was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent Him to Herod, who himself was in Jerusalem at that time....²⁴ **So Pilate gave sentence that it should be as they requested.**²⁵ And he released to them the one they requested, who for rebellion and murder had been thrown into prison; but he delivered Yeshua to their will.

***John 10:17-18** The reason my Father loves me is that **I lay down my life**—only to take it up again. **No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord.** I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.

***Deuteronomy 16:20** Pursue justice, and justice alone, צֶדֶק צֶדֶק תִּרְדּוּ so that you may live, and you may possess the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

***Philippians 4:8** Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are **true**, whatsoever things are **honest**, whatsoever things are **just**, whatsoever things are **pure**, whatsoever things are **lovely**, whatsoever things are of **good report**; if there be **any virtue**, and if there be **any praise**, think on these things.

***I Corinthians 1:10** Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no [divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

***Exodus 17:8** The Amalekites came and attacked the Israelites at Rephidim.

***Deuteronomy 25:18** When you were weary and worn out, they met you on your journey and attacked all who were lagging behind; they had no fear of God.

***Deuteronomy 25:19** When the LORD your God gives you rest from the enemies around you in the land that He is giving you to possess as an inheritance, you are to blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven. Do not forget!...

***Isaiah 48:18** Oh, that you had heeded My commandments! Then your peace would have been like a river, And your righteousness like the waves of the sea.

***Amos 5:24** But let justice roll on like a river, and righteousness like a never-failing stream.

***Matthew 22: 37-39** You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind... The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

***Exodus 17:7** So he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the contention of the children of Israel, and because they tempted the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

***Ezekiel 22:30** So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one.

***Isaiah 52:4-9** For thus says the LORD GOD: My people went down at first into Egypt to dwell there; Then the Assyrian oppressed them without cause. ⁵ Now therefore, what have I here, says the LORD, That My people are taken away for nothing? Those who rule over them make them wail, says the LORD, And My name is blasphemed continually every day. ⁶ Therefore My people shall know My name; Therefore, they shall know in that day That I am He who speaks: Behold, it is I. ⁷ How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, Who proclaims peace, Who brings glad tidings of good things, Who proclaims salvation, Who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!" ⁸ Your watchmen shall lift up their voices, With their voices they shall sing together; For they shall see eye to eye When the Lord brings back Zion.