32. B'HAR { בְּהַר } (On the Mount)

The Sabbatical Laws Concerning the Land

Leviticus 25:1-26:2; Jeremiah 32:6-27; Luke 4:16-21

B'har deals with the biblical laws concerning the requirement of the land to take a Sabbath rest unto YHWH, HE sanctified not only a nation of people, Israel, but also the land itself to be holy unto Him.

Most people are aware of the commandment to keep the Sabbath day holy but not many understand that YHWH also commanded a Sabbath rest for the land. Called a 'Sabbatical year' meaning "release".

Just as for six days we may work but on the seventh day are commanded to rest; for a period of six years the land may be sown and harvested, but in the seventh year, the land is to take a break and have its year of Shabbat rest.

Crops are not to be sown, planted, plowed or harvested and all agricultural activity is prohibited. Any fruits which grow of their own accord are deemed hefker (ownerless) and may be eaten by anyone (man or beast).

We see that not only the people, but even the very soil of Israel is devoted as holy to YHWH.

The Land of Israel and its people are forever connected in an intimate, covenantal holy union similar to a marriage relationship. YHWH does not deal with one (the people) without the other (the land).

33. BECHUKOTAI { בְּחֻקֹּתַי } (In My Statutes)

Leviticus 26:3-27:34; Jeremiah 16:19-17:14, Matthew 21:33-46

In this concluding portion of the book of Leviticus, YHWH gives several promises to the people of Israel: rain, fruitfulness, peace, prosperity and security (safety); as well as victory over their enemies.

These promises, however, are conditional upon the people's obedience. 'If' is a tiny word but its significance in our lives is immense. "If ye walk in My statutes, and keep My commandments, and do them; then I will give your rains in their season, and the land shall yield her produce, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit."(Lev. 26:3)

We sometimes take YAH'S promises as gospel truth and perhaps feel disappointed if we don't see them coming to pass in our lives, but have we considered the 'ifs'.....and the 'thens...' ?

Sometimes calamities comet around to point us back to YHWH and Torah!

Take heed beloved!

34. B'MIDBAR { בְּמִדְבַּר } (In the Desert)

Numbers 1:1- 4:20, Hosea 2:1- 22, Romans 9:22-33

This week begins Numbers or 'B'midbar' meaning, 'in the desert or wilderness. This term, "b'midbar Sinai" is used seven times in the Torah.

It is suggested that it is because the number seven represents ‘completion, perfection, or wholeness’.

It is in the wilderness seasons of our lives that YHWH brings us to wholeness, completing the good work He has started in us.

The desert (midbar) is a land of stinging scorpions, snakes and spiders - a dry and thirsty land where water is scarce and the scorching sun beats down mercilessly upon the endless sand and all its inhabitants. Although the desert seems (on the surface) to be a place that is hostile to life, the Hebrew language shows us that the wilderness experience can be a very valuable time of growing in our relationship with YESHUA.

The word ‘midbar’ (desert), מדבר contains the exact same letters as ‘medaber’ מדבר which is the Hebrew word for ‘speak or talk’.

It is in the wilderness times of our lives that YHWH can speak a ‘Word in due season’ to our hearts, Therefore, our seasons of wandering in the wilderness, far from being simply ‘wasted time’ can be times of great transformation where we are being prepared, molded, and shaped to fulfill our YAH-given destiny.