

Matthew's Gospel

Chapter 5f

Leviticus 19:12

You shall not swear by My name falsely, and so profane the name of your God: I am Adonai.

Numbers 30:2 I

If a man vows a **vow** to Adonai, or swears an **oath** to bind himself by a pledge, he shall not break his word. He shall do according to all that proceeds out of his mouth.

Vow = *neder* (נְדָר) – changes the owner's relationship with an object

Oath = *shevuah* (שְׁבֹועָה) – a promise/places an obligation on a person

Are not the prohibitions laid down in the Torah sufficient for you, that you should seek to impose upon yourselves still other prohibitions?

☞ y.Talmud Nedarim 9a

Deuteronomy 23:21-22

If you make a vow to Adonai your God, you shall not delay fulfilling it, for Adonai your God will surely require it of you, and you will be guilty of sin. But if you refrain from vowed, you will not be guilty of sin.

Ecclesiastes 5:5

It is better that you should not vow than that you should vow and not pay.

Better than both is he who does not vow at all.

☞ b.Talmud Chullin 2a

A righteous yes is a Yes; a righteous no is No.

❖ b.Talmud Bava Batra 49b

James 5:12

But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your "yes" be yes and your "no" be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

"...an eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth..."

- **Exodus 21:21-27 (v24)**

Willing restitution for personal injury

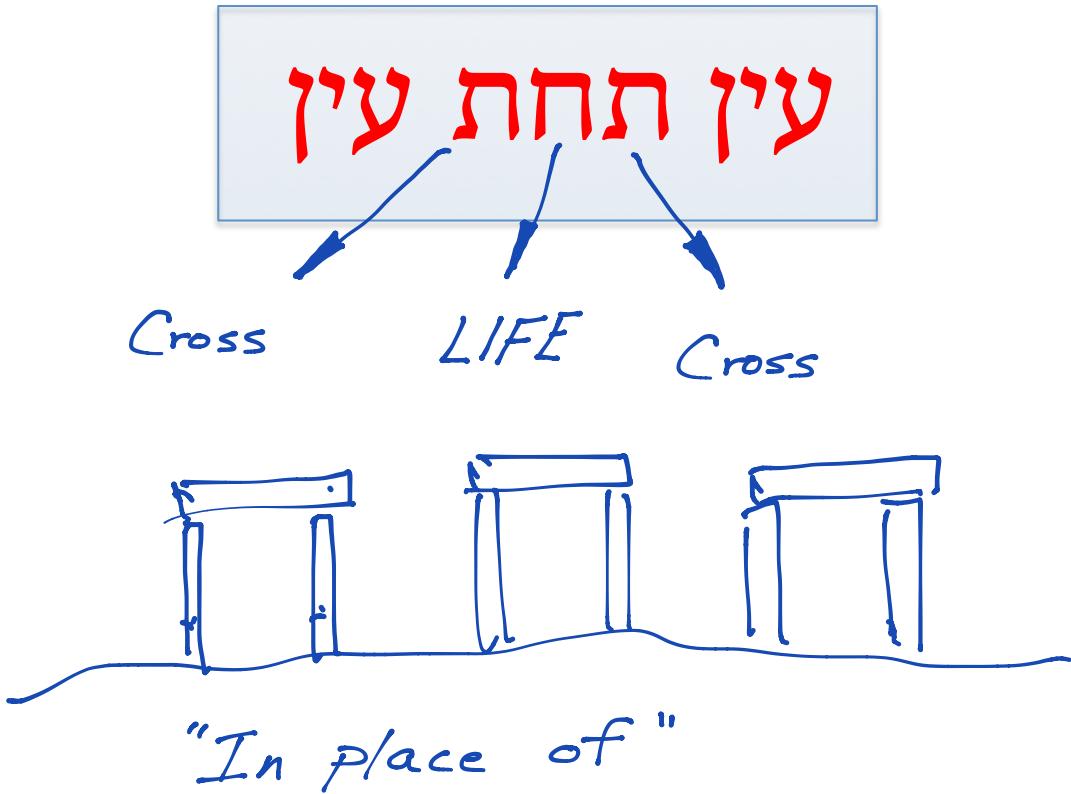
- **Leviticus 24:17-22 (v20)**

Forced restitution for injury

- **Deuteronomy 19:15-21 (v21)**

Legally enforced punishment for premeditated injury

But at no time was personal retaliation in view!



They who are insulted but insult not back; who hear themselves reproached but answer not; who serve out of love and rejoice in their affliction – of them it is written in Scripture [Judges 5:31]: “They that love God are as the going forth of the sun in its might.”

as b.Talmud Yoma 23a

Romans 12:17-21

Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men. If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men. Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says Adonai. "But if your enemy is hungry, feed him, and if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap burning coals upon his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Exodus 22:26-27

If you ever take your neighbor's cloak as a pledge, you are to return it to him before the sun sets, for that is his only covering; it is his cloak for his body. What else shall he sleep in? And it shall come about that when he cries out to Me, I will hear him, for I am gracious. **Deuteronomy 24:13** You shall restore to him the pledge as the sun sets, that he may sleep in his cloak and bless you. And it shall be righteousness for you before Adonai your God.

Deuteronomy 15:7-8

If there is a poor man with you, one of your brothers, in any of your towns in your land which Adonai your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart, nor close your hand from your poor brother; but you shall freely open your hand to him, and shall generously lend him sufficient for his need in whatever he lacks.

Didache 1:6

Woe to him who receives; for if one receives who has need, he is guiltless; but he who receives not having need shall pay the penalty ... And also concerning this, it has been said, “Let your alms sweat in your hands, until you know to whom you should give.”

Leviticus 19:18, 34

You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am Adonai ... You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am Adonai your God.

Romans 12:20

To the contrary, “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.”

God causes it to rain for the wicked as well as for the righteous.

❖ b.Talmud Taanit 7a