



The Evolution of Law in the Bible: Three Case Studies

Dr. Benjamin Sommer

Benjamin D. Sommer joined The Jewish Theological Seminary faculty as professor of Bible in July 2008. Previously, he served as director of the Crown Family Center for Jewish Studies at Northwestern University, where he had taught since 1994. Dr. Sommer has been a fellow at the Israel Institute for Advanced Studies at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, the Tikvah Center for Jewish Law and Civilization at the New York University School of Law, and the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem. He has served as a visiting faculty member in the Department of Bible of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and at the Brite Divinity School in Fort Worth, Texas. He has received fellowships from the American Council of Learned Societies and the Yad Hanadiv/Berakha Foundation.

Dr. Sommer's most recent book, *Revelation and Authority: Sinai in Jewish Scripture and Tradition* received the prestigious Goldstein-Goren Prize in Jewish Thought from Ben Gurion University for the years 2014-2016 and was a finalist for both for the National Jewish Book Award for 2015 and the Association for Jewish Studies' Jordan Schnitzer Prize for 2014-2016. A Hebrew edition of the book, *ובמסורת במקרא סיני: וסמכות התגלות*, was published by Carmel Publishing House in Jerusalem in 2022. An earlier book by Professor Sommer, *The Bodies of God and the World of Ancient Israel*, received the Award for Excellence in the Study of Religion in 2010 awarded by the American Academy of Religion, as well as the Jordan Schnitzer Award from the Association for Jewish Studies for the years 2006-2009. The first book Dr. Sommer published, *A Prophet Reads Scripture: Allusion in Isaiah 40-66*, was awarded the Salo Wittmayer Baron Prize by the American Academy of Jewish Research in 1998. Dr. Sommer has long been active as a lecturer and scholar-in-residence, teaching rabbis, Jewish educators, and laypeople in a variety of settings in the United States and Israel.

I) LAWS OF THE ALTAR	
Exodus 20:21-23	
<p>²¹ Make an altar of earth for me, and sacrifice your whole offerings and your sacrifices of well-being on it, your sheep and your oxen; in all the places where I cause My name to be mentioned, I shall come to you and shall bless you. ²² If you make Me an altar of stones, do not build it of hewn stones; because if you lift your tool upon them, you will profane them. ²³ Do not ascend My altar on steps, so that your nakedness is be exposed on it.</p>	<p>(כא) מִזְבֵּחַ אֲדָמָה תַעֲשֶׂה לִּי וְזָבַחְתָּ עָלָיו אֶת־עֹלֹתֶיךָ וְאֶת־שְׁלָמֶיךָ אֶת־צֹאֲנֶךָ וְאֶת־בְּקָרְךָ בְּכָל־הַמָּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר אֶזְכִּיר אֶת־שְׁמִי אָבוֹא אֵלֶיךָ וּבְרַכְתִּיךָ: (כב) וְאִם־מִזְבֵּחַ אֲבָנִים תַעֲשֶׂה לִּי לֹא־תִבְנֶנּוּ אֹתָהּן גִּזִּית כִּי חֲרָבְךָ הִנֵּפֶת עָלֶיהָ וְתַחֲלִלָהּ: (כג) וְלֹא־תַעֲלֶה בְּמַעֲלֹת עַל־מִזְבְּחִי אֲשֶׁר לֹא־תִגָּלֶה עֶרְוַתְךָ עָלָיו:</p>
Leviticus 17:13-14	
<p>¹³ If any Israelite or any stranger residing among them hunts an animal or a bird permissible for eating, he should pour out its blood and cover it with dirt. ¹⁴ For as far as the life of all flesh is concerned -- its blood <i>is</i> its life. I have said to the Israelites: You should not consume the blood of any flesh, for the life of all flesh is its blood. Anyone who consumes it shall be cut off.</p>	<p>(יג) וְאִישׁ אִישׁ מִבְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וּמִן־הַגֵּר הַגֵּר בְּתוֹכְכֶם אֲשֶׁר יִצּוֹד צִיד חַיָּה אוֹ־עוֹף אֲשֶׁר יֵאָכֵל וְשִׁפָּךְ אֶת־דָּמֹו וְכִסָּהוּ בְּעֹפָר: (יד) כִּי־נִפְשׁ כָּל־בֶּשֶׂר דָּמוֹ בְּנַפְשׁוֹ הוּא וְאָמַר לִבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל דָּם כָּל־בֶּשֶׂר לֹא תֹאכְלוּ כִּי נִפְשׁ כָּל־בֶּשֶׂר דָּמוֹ הוּא כָּל־אֲכָלְיוֹ יְכַרֵּת:</p>
Deuteronomy 12:13-27	
<p>¹³ Be careful not to sacrifice your whole offerings in any place you see. ¹⁴ Rather, in the place that Yhwh will choose in one of your tribal areas, there you shall sacrifice your whole offerings and there you shall observe all that I command you. But whenever you desire, you may slaughter and eat meat in any of your settlements, according to the blessing that Yhwh your God has granted you. The unclean and the clean alike may partake of it, as of the gazelle and the deer. ¹⁶ But you must not partake of the blood; you shall pour it out on the ground like water. ¹⁷ You may not partake in your settlements of the tithes of your new grain or wine or oil, or of the firstlings of your herds and flocks, or of any of the votive offerings that you vow, or of your</p>	<p>(יג) הַשְּׁמֹר לָךְ פֶּן־תַעֲלֶה עֲלֵיךָ בְּכָל־מָקוֹם אֲשֶׁר תִּרְאֶה: (יד) כִּי אִם־בַּמָּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר־יִבְחַר ה' בְּאַחַד שְׁבִטֶיךָ שֵׁם תַעֲלֶה עֲלֵיךָ וְשָׁם תַעֲשֶׂה כָּל אֲשֶׁר אֶנְכִי מְצַוֶּךָ: (טו) רַק בְּכָל־אֹת נִפְשֶׁךָ תִזְבַּח וְאָכַלְתָּ בֶּשֶׂר כְּבָרַפֶּת ה' אֱלֹקֶיךָ אֲשֶׁר נָתַן לָךְ בְּכָל־שְׁעָרֶיךָ הַטְּמֵא וְהַטְּהוֹר יֵאָכְלוּ כַּצְּבִי וְכַאֲיִל: (טז) רַק הַדָּם לֹא תֹאכְלוּ עַל־הָאָרֶץ תִּשְׁפְּכֶנּוּ בַּמַּיִם: (יז) לֹא־תוֹכֵל לֶאֱכֹל בְּשַׁעְרֶיךָ מִעֹשֶׂר דְּגָנְךָ וְתִירֹשֶׁךָ וְיִצְהָרְךָ וּבְכֹרֹת בְּקָרְךָ וּצְאֲנֶךָ וְכָל־נְדָרֶיךָ אֲשֶׁר תִּדָּר וּנְדַבְּתִיךָ וְתִירוֹמַת יָדֶךָ: (יח) כִּי אִם־לִפְנֵי ה' אֱלֹקֶיךָ תֹאכְלוּ בַּמָּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר יִבְחַר ה' אֱלֹקֶיךָ בּוֹ אֹתָהּ וּבִבְנֶה וּבִתְּךָ וְעַבְדְּךָ וְאִמְתְּךָ וְהִלְוִי אֲשֶׁר בְּשַׁעְרֶיךָ וְשָׁמַחְתָּ לִפְנֵי ה' אֱלֹקֶיךָ בְּכָל מְשַׁלַּח יָדֶךָ: (יט) הַשְּׁמֹר לָךְ פֶּן־תַעֲזֹב אֶת־הִלְוִי כִּלְיָמֶיךָ עַל־אֲדַמְתְּךָ: {ס} (כ) כִּי־יִרְחִיב ה' אֱלֹקֶיךָ אֶת־גְּבֻלְךָ בְּאֲשֶׁר</p>

freewill offerings, or of your contributions. ¹⁸ These you must consume before Yhwh your God in the place that Yhwh your God will choose -- you and your sons and your daughters, your male and female slaves, and the Levite in your settlements -- happy before Yhwh your God in all your undertakings. ¹⁹ For as you live in your land, watch yourselves, so that you do not forsake the Levite. ²⁰ When Yhwh enlarges your territory, as He has promised you, and you say, "I'd like to eat some meat," for you have a craving to eat meat, you may eat meat whenever you'd like. ²¹ If the place where Yhwh has chosen to establish His name is too far from you, you may slaughter any of the cattle or sheep that Yhwh gives you, as I have commanded you; and you may eat as much as you crave in your settlements. ²² But eat it as the gazelle and the deer are eaten: the unclean may eat it together with the clean. ²³ Make sure, though, that you do not eat the blood; for the blood is the life, and you must not consume the life with the flesh. ²⁴ You must not eat it; you must pour it out on the ground like water: ²⁵ you must not eat it, in order that it may go well with you and with your descendants to come, for you will be doing what is right in the sight of Yhwh. ²⁶ But holy offerings and your vow offerings that you have -- they should be taken by you to the site that Yhwh will choose. ²⁷ You should offer your whole offerings, including the meat and the blood, on the altar of Yhwh your God; and as to your other offerings -- the blood should be poured onto the altar of Yhwh your God, and you should eat the flesh.

דְּבַר־לֶךָ וְאָמַרְתָּ אֲכַלְהָ בָּשָׂר כִּי־תֵאָוֶה נִפְשֶׁךָ
 לֶאֱכֹל בָּשָׂר בְּכָל־אֵינֶת נִפְשֶׁךָ תֹאכַל בָּשָׂר: (כא)
 כִּי־יִרְחֹק מִמָּוֶה הַמָּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר יִבְחַר ה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ
 לְשׂוֹמֵם שְׁמוֹ שָׁם וְזָבַחְתָּ מִבְּקָרְךָ וּמִצֹּאֲנֶה אֲשֶׁר
 נָתַן ה' לְךָ כַּאֲשֶׁר צִוִּיתְךָ וְאָכַלְתָּ בְּשַׁעֲרֶיךָ בְּכָל
 אֵינֶת נִפְשֶׁךָ: (כב) אַךְ כַּאֲשֶׁר יֹאכַל אֶת־הַצִּבֹּי
 וְאֶת־הָאֵיל בֵּן תֹּאכְלֶנּוּ הַטֶּמְאָה וְהַטְּהוֹר יִחְדָּו
 יֹאכְלֶנּוּ: (כג) רַק חֹזֶק לְבַלְתִּי אֲכַל הַדָּם כִּי הַדָּם
 הוּא הַנֶּפֶשׁ וְלֹא־תֹאכַל הַנֶּפֶשׁ עִם־הַבָּשָׂר: (כד)
 לֹא תֹאכְלֶנּוּ עַל־הָאָרֶץ תִּשְׁפְּכֶנּוּ כַּמַּיִם: (כה) לֹא
 תֹאכְלֶנּוּ לְמַעַן יִיטֵב לְךָ וּלְבָנֶיךָ אַחֲרֶיךָ כִּי־תַעֲשֶׂה
 הַיִּשָּׂר בְּעֵינֵי ה': (כו) רַק קֹדֶשֶׁיךָ אֲשֶׁר־יְהִי לְךָ
 וּנְדָרֶיךָ תִּשָּׂא וּבָאתָ אֶל־הַמָּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר־יִבְחַר ה':
 (כז) וְעָשִׂיתָ עֲלֵיתֶיךָ הַבָּשָׂר וְהַדָּם עַל־מִזְבֵּחַ ה'
 אֱלֹהֶיךָ וְדָם־זָבַחֶיךָ יִשְׁפֹךְ עַל־מִזְבֵּחַ ה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ
 וְהַבָּשָׂר תֹּאכַל:

II) PASSOVER LAWS

<p>Exodus 12:1-10</p>	
<p>¹Yhwh said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt: ²This month shall be the first of your months; it shall be the first of the months of the year. ³Speak to all the congregation of Israel as follows: On the tenth of this month, they shall take a lamb for each family, for each household. ⁴And if the household is too small for a lamb, then they and their next-door neighbors will take [a lamb], proportionally--each man shall contribute towards the lamb in accordance with what he eats. ⁵You shall have a lamb that is perfect, male, and a year old. You can take from the sheep or the goats. ⁶You shall keep it under guard until the fourteenth day of this month, and then all the assembly of the congregation of Israel shall slaughter it in the early evening. ⁷They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it. ⁸They shall eat the meat that night, roasted in fire; they shall eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹Don't eat it raw or boiled in water; rather, [eat it] roasted in fire, its head, its legs with its innards. ¹⁰Don't leave any of it until the morning; burn whatever is left when morning comes in the fire.</p>	<p>(א) וַיֹּאמֶר ה' אֶל־מֹשֶׁה וְאַלְעֲזָרָה בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם לֵאמֹר: (ב) הַחֹדֶשׁ הַזֶּה לָכֶם רֵאשִׁית חֳדָשִׁים רֵאשִׁוֹן הוּא לָכֶם לְחֹדְשֵׁי הַשָּׁנָה: (ג) דַּבְּרוּ אֶל־כָּל־עַדְתֵּי יִשְׂרָאֵל לֵאמֹר בַּעֲשֹׂר לַחֹדֶשׁ הַזֶּה וַיִּקְחוּ לָהֶם אִישׁ שֵׁה לְבֵית־אָבֹת שֵׁה לְבֵיתוֹ: (ד) וְאִם־יִמְעַט הַבַּיִת מִהַיּוֹת מִשֵּׁה וְלָקַח הוּא וְשִׁכְנוֹ הַקָּרֵב אֶל־בֵּיתוֹ בְּמִכְסֵת נִפְשֹׁת אִישׁ לְפִי אֲכָלוּ תִכְסֹו עַל־הַשֵּׁה: (ה) שֵׁה תְּמִים זָכָר בּוֹ־שָׁנָה יִהְיֶה לָכֶם מִן־הַכֹּבָשִׁים וּמִן־הָעִזִּים תִּקְחוּ: (ו) וְהָיָה לָכֶם לְמִשְׁמֶרֶת עַד אַרְבַּעָה עָשָׂר יוֹם לַחֹדֶשׁ הַזֶּה וְשַׁחֲטוּ אוֹתוֹ כָּל־קֶהֱלֵ עַדְתֵּי־יִשְׂרָאֵל בַּיּוֹם הָעֶרְבִי: (ז) וְלָקַחוּ מִן־הַדָּם וַנִּתְּנוּ עַל־שְׁתֵּי הַמְּזוּזוֹת וְעַל־הַמַּשְׁקוּף עַל הַבָּתִּים אֲשֶׁר־יֹאכְלוּ אוֹתוֹ בָּהֶם: (ח) וְאָכְלוּ אֶת־הַבָּשָׂר בְּלִילָה הַזֶּה צְלִי־אֵשׁ וּמִצּוֹת עַל־מַרְרִים יֹאכְלֶהוּ: (ט) אַל־תֹּאכְלוּ מִמֶּנּוּ כֹּא וּבָשָׂל מִבָּשָׂל בַּמַּיִם כִּי אִם־צְלִי־אֵשׁ רֵאשִׁוֹ עַל־כַּרְעֵיו וְעַל־קַרְבּוֹ: (י) וְלֹא־תוֹתִירוּ מִמֶּנּוּ עַד־בֹּקֶר וְהִנִּתֶּר מִמֶּנּוּ עַד־בֹּקֶר בָּאֵשׁ תִּשְׂרְפוּ:</p>
<p align="center">Deuteronomy 16: 1-7</p>	
<p>¹ Celebrate the month of the spring, and carry out the Passover sacrifice to Yhwh your God, for in the month of the spring Yhwh your God took you out of Egypt, at night. ²Slaughter the Passover offering to Yhwh your God, from the flock or from the herd, in the place where Yhwh will choose to make his name dwell. ³Do not eat leaven with it; for seven days you will eat</p>	<p>(א) נִשְׁמֹר אֶת־חֹדֶשׁ הָאָבִיב וַעֲשִׂיתָ פֶסַח לַה' אֱלֹקֶיךָ כִּי בְּחֹדֶשׁ הָאָבִיב הוֹצִיאֲךָ ה' אֱלֹקֶיךָ מִמִּצְרַיִם לַיְלָה: (ב) וַזְּבַחְתָּ פֶסַח לַה' אֱלֹקֶיךָ צֹאן וּבִקָּר בַּמָּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר־יִבְחַר ה' לְשִׁכְּנֵן שְׁמוֹ שָׁם: (ג) לֹא־תֹאכַל עָלָיו חֲמִץ שְׁבַעַת יָמִים תֹּאכַל־עָלָיו מִצּוֹת לֶחֶם עִנִּי כִּי בְּחַפְזוֹן יֵצֵאתָ מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם לִמְעַן תִּזְכֹּר אֶת־יוֹם צֵאתְךָ מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם כָּל־יְמֵי חַיֶּיךָ: (ד) וְלֹא־יֵרָאֶה לְךָ שְׂאֹר בְּכָל־גְּבֻלְךָ שְׁבַעַת יָמִים וְלֹא־יִלִּין מִן־הַבָּשָׂר אֲשֶׁר תִּזְבַּח בַּעֲרֵב בַּיּוֹם</p>

<p>matzot, the bread of poverty, for you left the land of Egypt in a hurry. [Do this] in order that you remember the day you left the land of Egypt all the days of your life. ⁴Leaven will not be found within your borders for seven days. None of the meat which you slaughter in the evening of the first day shall remain in the morning. ⁵You may not slaughter the Passover offering in any one of the cities that Yhwh your God gives you, ⁶but rather at the place where Yhwh your God will choose to make his name dwell. You shall slaughter the Passover offering in the evening, at sunset, at the time when you left Egypt. ⁷You shall boil it, and eat it in the place where Yhwh will choose to make his name dwell. In the morning you shall turn and go back to your tents.</p>	<p>הָרִאשׁוֹן לַבֶּקֶר: (ה) לֹא תֹבֵל לְזַבַּח אֶת־הַפֶּסַח בְּאַחַד שַׁעְרֵיךָ אֲשֶׁר־ה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ נָתַן לָךְ: (ו) כִּי אִם־אֶל־הַמָּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר־יִבְחַר ה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ לְשַׁבֵּן שְׁמוֹ שָׁם תִּזְבַּח אֶת־הַפֶּסַח בְּעֶרֶב כָּבֹא הַשֶּׁמֶשׁ מוֹעֵד צִאתְךָ מִמִּצְרָיִם: (ז) וּבִשְׁלֹתָ וְאָכַלְתָּ בַמָּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר יִבְחַר ה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ בּוֹ וּפְנִיתָ בַבֶּקֶר וְהִלַכְתָּ לְאֵהְלֶיךָ:</p>
<p>2 Chronicles 35.11–13</p>	
<p>¹¹They slaughtered the Passover offering . . . ¹²according to what is written in the Book of Moses, and they did the same to the cattle. ¹³and they boiled the Passover offering in fire, in accordance with the law.</p>	<p>וַיִּשְׁחֲטוּ הַפֶּסַח. כִּכְתוּב בְּסֵפֶר מֹשֶׁה וְכֵן לַבֶּקֶר: וַיִּבְשְׁלוּ הַפֶּסַח בְּאֵשׁ בְּמִשְׁפָּט וְהִקְדָּשִׁים בְּשָׂלוֹ בְּסִירוֹת וּבִדְוָדִים וּבִצְלָחוֹת וַיְרִיצוּ לְכָל־בְּנֵי הָעָם:</p>
<p>The Layers in Exodus 12:1-11</p>	
<p>¹Yhwh said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: ²This month shall mark for you the head of the months; <i>it shall be the first of the months of the year for you.</i> ³Speak to the whole community of Israel and say that on the tenth of this month each of them shall take a lamb to a family, a lamb to a household. ⁴But if the household is too small for a lamb, let him share one with a neighbor who dwells nearby, <i>in proportion to the number of</i></p>	<p>וַיֹּאמֶר ה' אֶל־מֹשֶׁה וְאֶל־אַהֲרֹן בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרָיִם לֵאמֹר: הַחֹדֶשׁ הַזֶּה לָכֶם רֵאשִׁית חֳדָשִׁים רֵאשׁוֹן הוּא לָכֶם לְחֹדְשֵׁי הַשָּׁנָה: דַּבְּרוּ אֶל־כָּל־עַדַּת יִשְׂרָאֵל לֵאמֹר בְּעֶשֶׂר לַחֹדֶשׁ הַזֶּה וַיִּקְחוּ לָהֶם אִישׁ שֶׁה לְבֵית־אָבֹת שֶׁה לְבַיִת: וְאִם־יִמְעַט הַבַּיִת מֵהֵיּוֹת מִשֶּׁה וְלָקַח הוּא וּשְׂכֵנוֹ הַקָּרֵב אֶל־בֵּיתוֹ בְּמִכְסֵת נִפְשֹׁת אִישׁ לְפִי אֲכָלוּ תְּכַסּוּ עַל־הַשָּׂה: שֶׁה תָּמִים זָכַר בְּיוֹם־הַשָּׁנָה יִהְיֶה לָכֶם מִן־ הַפְּכָשִׁים וּמִן־הָעִזִּים תִּקְחוּ:</p>

persons. You shall contribute for the lamb according to what each household will eat. ⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a yearling male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶You shall keep watch over it until the fourteenth day of this month.

All the assembled congregation of the Israelites shall slaughter it at twilight.

⁷They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they are to eat it.

⁸They shall eat the flesh that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire, with unleavened bread and with bitter herbs.

⁹Do not eat any of it raw, or boiled in any way with water, but roasted - - head, legs, and entrails -- over the fire. ¹⁰You shall not leave any of it over until morning; if any of it is left until morning, you shall burn it.

¹¹This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly: it is a passover offering to the Yhwh.

וְהָיָה לָכֶם לְמִשְׁמֶרֶת עַד אֲרֻבַּעָה עָשָׂר יוֹם
לְחֹדֶשׁ הַזֶּה
וְשַׁחֲטוּ אֹתוֹ כָּל קֹהֵל עֵדֹת־יִשְׂרָאֵל בֵּין הָעֲרָבִים:
וְלָקְחוּ מִן־הַדָּם וְנָתְנוּ עַל־שְׁתֵּי הַמְּזוּזוֹת
וְעַל־הַמַּשְׁקוּף עַל הַבָּתִּים אֲשֶׁר־יֹאכְלוּ אֹתוֹ
בָּהֶם:
וְאָכְלוּ אֶת־הַבָּשָׂר בַּלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה צְלִי־אֵשׁ וּמִצּוֹת
עַל־מַרְרִים יֹאכְלֵהוּ:
אֶל־תֹּאכְלוּ מִמֶּנּוּ נָא וּבָשָׂל מִבֶּשֶׂל בְּמַיִם
כִּי אִם־צְלִי־אֵשׁ רֹאשׁוֹ עַל־כְּרָעָיו וְעַל־
קַרְבּוֹ:
וְלֹא־תוֹתִירוּ מִמֶּנּוּ עַד־בֹּקֶר וְהִנָּתַר מִמֶּנּוּ
עַד־בֹּקֶר בָּאֵשׁ תִּשְׂרְפוּ:
וְכָכָה תֹאכְלוּ אֹתוֹ מִתְּנִיכֶם חֲגָרִים נֶעְלִיכֶם
בְּרַגְלֵיכֶם וּמִקַּלְכֶם בְּיַדְכֶם וְאָכַלְתֶּם אֹתוֹ
בְּחִפְזוֹן פָּסַח הוּא לֵה':

III.) SABBATH LAWS	
Exodus 20: 8-11 (The Ten Commandments)	
<p>⁸Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. ⁹Six days you will work and do all your labor. ¹⁰But the seventh day is Yhwh your God's Sabbath. You shall not do any labor: you, your son, your daughter, your male and female slaves, your cattle, nor the foreigner among you: ¹¹for in six days Yhwh made the heaven and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and he rested on the seventh day. Therefore Yhwh blessed the seventh day and sanctified it.</p>	<p>(ח) זָכוֹר אֶת־יּוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת לְקַדְּשׁוֹ: (ט) שֵׁשֶׁת יָמִים תַּעֲבֹד וְעָשִׂיתָ כָּל־מְלֶאכֶתֶךָ: (י) וַיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי שָׁבַת אֲלֵה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ לֹא־תַעֲשֶׂה כָל־מְלֶאכֶה אַתָּה וּבִנְךָ־וּבִתֶּךָ עַבְדְּךָ וְאִמָּתֶךָ וּבְהֵמָתֶךָ וְגֵרְךָ אֲשֶׁר בְּשַׁעְרֶיךָ: (יא) כִּי שֵׁשֶׁת־יָמִים עָשָׂה ה' אֶת־הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת־הָאָרֶץ אֶת־הַיָּם וְאֶת־כָּל־אֲשֶׁר־בָּם וַיִּנַּח בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי עַל־כֵּן בֵּרַךְ ה' אֶת־יּוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת וַיְקַדְּשֵׁהוּ:</p>
Deuteronomy 5: 12-15 (The Ten Commandments)	
<p>¹²Observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy as Yhwh your God commanded you. ¹³Six days you will work and do all your labor. ¹⁴But the seventh day is Yhwh your God's Sabbath. You shall not do any labor: you, your son, your daughter, your male and female slaves, your ox, your ass, your cattle, nor the foreigner among you: so that your male and female slaves will rest as you do. ¹⁵Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and Yhwh your God took you out of there with a strong hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore Yhwh your God commanded you to do the Sabbath day.</p>	<p>(יב) שָׁמֹר אֶת־יּוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת לְקַדְּשׁוֹ כַּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּה ה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ: (יג) שֵׁשֶׁת יָמִים תַּעֲבֹד וְעָשִׂיתָ כָּל־מְלֶאכֶתֶךָ: (יד) וַיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי שָׁבַת אֲלֵה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ לֹא תַעֲשֶׂה כָל־מְלֶאכֶה אַתָּה וּבִנְךָ־וּבִתֶּךָ וְעַבְדְּךָ־וְאִמָּתֶךָ וְשׂוֹרְךָ וְחֹמְרֶךָ וְכָל־בְּהֵמָתֶךָ וְגֵרְךָ אֲשֶׁר בְּשַׁעְרֶיךָ לְמַעַן יָנוּחַ עַבְדְּךָ וְאִמָּתֶךָ כַּמֹּרֶ: (טו) וּזְכַרְתָּ כִּי־עַבְדְּ הָיִיתָ בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם וַיֹּצִיאֲךָ ה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ מִשָּׁם בְּיַד חֲזָקָה וּבְזֵרַע נְטוּיָה עַל־כֵּן צִוָּה ה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ לַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת־יּוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת:</p>
Exodus 35: 2-3	
<p>²Six days, labor shall be done, and on the seventh day, you will have a holy event, the Sabbath of complete rest for Yhwh. Anyone who does labor on it shall be killed. ³You shall not light any fire in any of your settlements on the Sabbath day.</p>	<p>(ב) שֵׁשֶׁת יָמִים תַּעֲשֶׂה מְלֶאכֶה וּבַיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי ה' לָכֶם קֹדֶשׁ שָׁבַת שַׁבְּתוֹן לֵה' כָּל־הַעֲשִׂיה בּוֹ מְלֶאכֶה יוּמָת: (ג) לֹא־תִבְעֲרוּ אֵשׁ בְּכָל מִשְׁבְּתֵיכֶם בַּיּוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת:</p>

Jeremiah 17: 21-22	
<p>²¹Thus says Yhwh: Be observant with your lives, and do not bear any burden on the Sabbath day, nor bring [anything] into the gates of Jerusalem. ²²And do not take any burden out of your houses on the Sabbath day, and do not do any labor. Make the Sabbath holy, as Yhwh has commanded your ancestors.</p>	<p>(כא) זֶה אָמַר ה' הַשְׁמְרוּ בְּנִפְשׁוֹתֵיכֶם וְאַל־תִּשְׂאוּ מִשָּׂא בְיָוֶם הַשַּׁבָּת וְהִבֵּאתֶם בְּשַׁעֲרֵי יְרוּשָׁלַם: (כב) וְלֹא־תוֹצִיאוּ מִשָּׂא מִבֵּיתֵיכֶם בְּיָוֶם הַשַּׁבָּת וְכָל־מְלָאכָה לֹא תַעֲשׂוּ וְקִדְשְׁתֶּם אֶת־יָוֶם הַשַּׁבָּת כַּאֲשֶׁר צִוִּיתִי אֶת־אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם:</p>