

Portion Ki Thetze Deuteronomy - Devarim (21.10-25.19)

On the banks of the River Jordan Moses warns the people to pursue justice and always be fair in their God-given homeland. "Listen to God's appointed king who studies the holy teachings," Moses says. "Later, in the future, a prophet shall arise. Listen closely to make sure this prophet is true to God, our God, who brought us out of the land of Egypt, out of slavery into freedom. And remember these rules.

If you find something that someone else has lost, you may keep the item until someone asks for it and then you shall return it.

Male clothing shall not be worn by a woman and women's clothing shall not be worn by a man.

You shall not tolerate incest or rape or adultery.

Keep away from every evil thing. You must not be vulgar or obscene or indecent with each other or strangers.

Keep close guard to what is unclean and what is clean.

Keep your promises.

There are laws about how a marriage may legally break up and form. A newly married man must stay home for one year with his new wife, even during war times.

Watch for leprosy and follow all the laws of cleanliness for lepers.

When collecting money or items owed to you do so in a righteous way.

Do not keep any payment from a day laborer who is poor or the stranger but rather always pay them that day.

You shall not twist justice to the orphans, widows or strangers. Leave some remains of your crops in the field for them too.

All your weights and measurements shall be truthful.

Questions: 1) What does it mean to be fair? 2) Give an example of how someone was fair and unfair to you? 3) How do you keep away from evil?

Illustration Ideas: Show a scale measuring items honestly...paying a day laborer...leaving crops in the field for the poor...staying away from evil..collecting a toy or money from someone in a nice way....