

BIBLICAL QUOTATIONS IN HONOR OF TU B'SHEVAT

(Open a Tanakh, Bible, to cite the exact Hebrew verse)

TREES IN BIBLICAL NARRATIVE:

Gen. 1:11 "fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it."

Gen. 1:12 "and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it."

Gen. 1:29 "and every tree that has seed-bearing fruit, they shall be yours for food."

Gen. 2:17 "but as for the tree of knowledge of good and bad, you must not eat of it..."

Gen. 6:14 "Make yourself an ark of gopher wood"

Gen. 8:11 "The dove came back to him toward evening, and there in its bill was a plucked-off olive leaf."

Gen. 18:1 "The Lord appeared to him by the terebinth of Mamre."

Gen. 18:4 "and recline under the tree"

Gen. 18:8 "and he waited on them under the tree as they ate::"

Jud. 4:5 "She used to sit under the Palm of Deborah... and the Israelites would come to her for decisions."

II Sam. 18:9 "...and as the mule passed under the tangled branches of a great terebinth, his hair got caught in the terebinth, and he was held between heaven and earth..."

Trees in Analogy, Metaphor, Allegory and Parable:

Jeremiah 2:27 "They say to the tree: you are my father."

Habakkuk 2:19 "Ah, you who say to the tree: wake up."

Ezekiel 21:2-3 "O mortal, set your face toward Teman, and proclaim to Darom and prophesy against the brush land of the Negev. Say to the brushland of the Negev: Hear the word of the Lord. Thus said the Lord God: I am going to kindle a fire in you, which shall devour every tree of yours, both green and withered. Its leaping flame shall not go out..."

Isaiah: 1:29-30 "Truly you shall be ashamed because of the terebinths you desired, and you shall be confounded because of the gardens you coveted. For you shall be like a terebinth wilted of leaf and like a garden that has no water.

Zachariah 11:1, 2 "Throw open your gates, O Lebanon, and let fire consume your cedars! Howl cypresses for cedars have fallen! Howl, you oaks of Bashan, for the stately forest is laid low!"

Ezekiel 17:24 "Then shall all the trees of the field know that it is I the Lord who have abased the lofty tree and exalted the lowly tree, who have dried up the green tree and made the dry tree flourish."

Isaiah 55:12, 13 "Before you mount and hill shall shout aloud, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the brier, a cypress shall rise; instead of the nettle, a myrtle shall rise..."

Isaiah 65:21,22 "They shall build houses and dwell in them, they shall build vineyards and enjoy their fruit. They shall not build for others to dwell in, or plant for others to enjoy. For the days of my people shall be as the days of the tree..."

Micah 4:4 "But every man shall sit under his grapevine or fig tree, with no one to disturb him..."

Laws Governing Trees:

Gen. 1:29 "I give you every seed-bearing plant that is upon the earth, and every tree that has seed-bearing fruit; they shall be yours for food.

Gen. 2:15 "The Lord God took the man and placed him in the Garden of Eden to till it and tend it."

Lev. 26:4 "I will grant your rains in their season, so that the earth shall yield its produce and the trees of the field their fruit."

Lev. 26:20 "...your land shall not yield its produce, nor shall the trees of the land yield their fruit."

Lev. 19:23 "When you enter the land and plant any tree for food..."

Lev. 19:23-25 "You shall regard its fruit as forbidden. Three years it shall be forbidden for you, not to be eaten. In the fourth year all its fruit set aside for holy praise to the Lord and only in the fifth year you may eat its fruit..."

Ex. 23:10,11 "Six years you shall sow your land... in the seventh year you shall let it rest... let the needy among you eat of it, the rest of the beasts of the field will eat. You shall do the same with your vineyards and your olive groves."

Lev 25:2-7 When you enter the land that I give you, the land shall observe a Sabbath for the Lord"

Lev. 25:19-21 "...the land shall yield its fruit and you shall eat your will, and you shall live upon it in security. And should you ask, 'What are we to eat in the seventh year, if we may neither sow nor gather in our crops?' I will ordain my blessing for you in the sixth year, so that it shall yield crop sufficient for three years.

Deut. 15:1 "Every seventh year you shall practice remission of debt."

Lev. 27:30 "All the tithes from the land, whether seed from the ground or fruit from the tree, are the Lord's; they are holy to the Lord."

Deut. 14:28, 29 "Every third year you shall bring out the full tithe of your yield... Then the Levite, who has no hereditary portion as you have, and the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow in your settlements shall come and eat their fill so that the Lord your God may bless you."

Deut. 20:19,20 "When you war against a city you have to besiege it a long time... You must not destroy its trees...You may eat of them, but you must not cut them down. Are trees of the field human to

withdraw before you under siege? Only trees which you know do not yield food may be destroyed...

Deut. 16:22 "You shall not plant a grove of any tree near the altar of the Lord your God which you shall make for you."

Deut: 12:2, 3 "You must destroy all the sites at which the nations you are to dispossess worshipped their gods, whether on lofty mountains and on hills or any green tree. Tear down their altars

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