

## Leviticus 27:1-34 **Property dedicated to God and its value**

### Valuation of persons dedicated to God

<sup>1</sup> Now the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>2</sup> "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'When a man consecrates by a vow certain persons to the LORD, according to your valuation, <sup>3</sup> if your valuation is of a male from twenty years old up to sixty years old, then your valuation shall be fifty shekels of silver, according to the shekel of the sanctuary. <sup>4</sup> If it is a female, then your valuation shall be thirty shekels; <sup>5</sup> and if from five years old up to twenty years old, then your valuation for a male shall be twenty shekels, and for a female ten shekels; <sup>6</sup> and if from a month old up to five years old, then your valuation for a male shall be five shekels of silver, and for a female your valuation shall be three shekels of silver; <sup>7</sup> and if from sixty years old and above, if it is a male, then your valuation shall be fifteen shekels, and for a female ten shekels. <sup>8</sup> But if he is too poor to pay your valuation, then he shall present himself before the priest, and the priest shall set a value for him; according to the ability of him who vowed, the priest shall value him.

### Valuation of animals dedicated to God

<sup>9</sup> 'If it is an animal that men may bring as an offering to the LORD, all that anyone gives to the LORD shall be holy. <sup>10</sup> He shall not substitute it or exchange it, good for bad or bad for good; and if he at all exchanges animal for animal, then both it and the one exchanged for it shall be holy. <sup>11</sup> If it is an unclean animal which they do not offer as a sacrifice to the LORD, then he shall present the animal before the priest; <sup>12</sup> and the priest shall set a value for it, whether it is good or bad; as you, the priest, value it, so it shall be. <sup>13</sup> But if he wants at all to redeem it, then he must add one-fifth to your valuation.

### Valuation of houses dedicated to God

<sup>14</sup> 'And when a man dedicates his house to be holy to the LORD, then the priest shall set a value for it, whether it is good or bad; as the priest values it, so it shall stand. <sup>15</sup> If he who dedicated it wants to redeem his house, then he shall add one-fifth of the money of your valuation to it, and it shall be his.

### Valuation of fields dedicated to God

<sup>16</sup> 'If a man dedicates to the LORD part of a field of his possession, then your valuation shall be according to the seed for it. A homer of barley seed shall be valued at fifty shekels of silver. <sup>17</sup> If he dedicates his field from the Year of Jubilee, according to your valuation it shall stand. <sup>18</sup> But if he dedicates his field after the Jubilee, then the priest shall reckon to him the money due according to the years that remain till the Year of Jubilee, and it shall be deducted from your valuation. <sup>19</sup> And if he who dedicates the field ever wishes to redeem it, then he must add one-fifth of the money of your valuation to it, and it shall belong to him. <sup>20</sup> But if he does not want to redeem the field, or if he has sold the field to another man, it shall not be redeemed anymore; <sup>21</sup> but the field, when it is released in the Jubilee, shall be holy to the LORD, as a devoted field; it shall be the possession of the priest. <sup>22</sup> And if a man dedicates to the LORD a field which he has bought, which is not the field of his possession, <sup>23</sup> then the priest shall reckon to him the worth of your valuation, up to the Year of Jubilee, and he shall give your valuation on that day as a holy offering to the LORD. <sup>24</sup> In the Year of Jubilee the field shall return to him from whom it was bought, to the one who owned the land as a possession. <sup>25</sup> And all your valuations shall be according to the shekel of the sanctuary: twenty gerahs to the shekel.

### Valuation of animal firstborn dedicated to God

26 'But the firstborn of the animals, which should be the LORD's firstborn, no man shall dedicate; whether it is an ox or sheep, it is the LORD's. 27 And if it is an unclean animal, then he shall redeem it according to your valuation, and shall add one-fifth to it; or if it is not redeemed, then it shall be sold according to your valuation.

### Valuation of clean man or animal dedicated to God

28 'Nevertheless no devoted offering that a man may devote to the LORD of all that he has, both man and beast, or the field of his possession, shall be sold or redeemed; every devoted offering is most holy to the LORD.

29 No person under the ban, who may become doomed to destruction among men, shall be redeemed, but shall surely be put to death.

### Tithes to God

30 And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD's. It is holy to the LORD. 31 If a man wants at all to redeem any of his tithes, he shall add one-fifth to it. 32 And concerning the tithe of the herd or the flock, of whatever passes under the rod, the tenth one shall be holy to the LORD. 33 He shall not inquire whether it is good or bad, nor shall he exchange it; and if he exchanges it at all, then both it and the one exchanged for it shall be holy; it shall not be redeemed.' "

34 These are the commandments which the LORD commanded Moses for the children of Israel on Mount Sinai. NKJV

### Facts Revealed:

- ✧ God has appointed a valuation for a **person** who has been dedicated to God, depending on both age and gender, with special allowance for the poor and his ability to pay.
  - ◇ Ages 20-60 = 50 Shekels for Male, 30 Shekels for Female
  - ◇ Ages 5-20 = 20 Shekels for Male, 10 Shekels for Female
  - ◇ Ages 1 month to 5 years = 5 Shekels for Male, 3 Shekels for Female
  - ◇ Ages Over 60 years = 15 Shekels for Male, 10 Shekels for Female
  - ◇ If too poor to pay, then the Priest shall set a value according to ability to pay.
- ✧ Clean animals that may be brought as an offering to Yehowah may be dedicated to Yehowah whether good or bad, and substitution and exchange is not allowed, except that one may give another in addition to the first one dedicated. Both will then be holy.
- ✧ Unclean animals that may not be offered as a sacrifice to Yehowah may be dedicated and the valuation shall be established by the priest. If the giver wants to redeem it he shall pay the valuation set by the priest, and add one fifth to it.
- ✧ Houses may be dedicated to be holy to Yehowah. The priest shall establish its value, whether good or bad. If the giver wants to redeem it, he shall pay the value established by the priest, and add one fifth to it.
- ✧ Fields, or parts of fields, may be dedicated to Yehowah. The valuation of the field is based on the seed for it and the years before Jubilee. If the giver wants to redeem it, he must pay the established valuation and add one fifth to it. If he does not want to redeem it or if he has sold the field to another man, it shall not be redeemed anymore. When it is released in the Jubilee it shall be holy to Yehowah as a devoted field, it shall be the possession of the priest.
- ✧ Fields which are bought but are not part of a man's possession, may be dedicated to Yehowah. The priest shall establish the valuation for it to the Year of Jubilee and it shall be

counted as a holy offering to Yehowah. On the Year of Jubilee it shall revert to the one who owns the land as a possession.

- ✧ All valuations are according to the shekel of the sanctuary, twenty gerahs to the shekel.
- ✧ No one may dedicate the firstborn of his animals, since they are already sanctified and belong to Yehowah. [Exodus 13:2, 11-16, 22:29-30, Leviticus 27:26]
- ✧ The firstborn of unclean beasts shall be valued by the priest and redeemed. To redeem it you must pay the price established by the priest, and add one fifth to it. [Exodus 13:13, 34:20, Leviticus 27:27] If it is not redeemed, it is to be sold for the priest's valuation
- ✧ Everything dedicated to Yehowah is most holy, whether man, beast, field, or anything that he has. It shall not be sold or redeemed.
- ✧ No person under the death penalty may be redeemed or dedicated to Yehowah, he must be put to death.

### Tithes to God

- ✧ All tithe is holy to Yehowah and belongs to Him.
  - ◇ If a man wants to redeem his tithe, he must pay the value of it and add one fifth (20%) to it.
  - ◇ When counting for the tithe, every tenth animal that passes under the counting rod belongs to Yehowah whether good or bad. If the owner wants to exchange it, he must give the one that is counted as the tenth and add another in addition to it and they shall both be holy. It may not be redeemed.
- ✧ This concludes (ends) the commandments God gave to Israel at Mount Sinai (Horeb).