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1 **1. Leviticus 24**

2
3 There came out among the Israelites one whose mother was Israelite and whose father was
4 Egyptian. And a fight broke out in the camp between that half-Israelite and a certain Israelite.
5 The son of the Israelite woman pronounced the Name in blasphemy, and he was brought to
6 Moses—now his mother's name was Shelomith daughter of Dibri of the tribe of Dan—and he was
7 placed in custody, until the decision of the LORD should be made clear to them.
8

9 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: Take the blasphemer outside the camp; and let all who
10 were within hearing lay their hands upon his head, and let the whole community stone him. And
11 to the Israelite people speak thus: Anyone who blasphemes his G-d shall bear his guilt; if he also
12 pronounces the name LORD, he shall be put to death. The whole community shall stone him;
13 stranger or citizen, if he has thus pronounced the Name, he shall be put to death.

14 If anyone kills any human being, he shall be put to death. One who kills a beast shall make
15 restitution for it: life for life. If anyone maims his fellow, as he has done so shall it be done to him:
16 fracture for fracture, eye for eye, tooth for tooth. The injury he inflicted on another shall be
17 inflicted on him. One who kills a beast shall make restitution for it; but one who kills a human
18 being shall be put to death. You shall have one standard for stranger and citizen alike: for I the
19 LORD am your G-d.

20 Moses spoke thus to the Israelites. And they took the blasphemer outside the camp and pelted
21 him with stones. The Israelites did as the LORD had commanded Moses.

22 **2. Exodus 2**

23 (11) "And it was, during those many days, that Moshe grew up AND WENT OUT to his brethren, and
24 he saw their suffering, and he saw AN EGYPTIAN MAN striking a Hebrew man, one of his brethren.
25 (12) He turned this way and that and saw that there was no-one, and he struck the Egyptian, and buried
26 him in the sand. (13) He went out on the second day and behold, two Hebrew men WERE
27 QUARRELING. He said to the guilty party, "Why are you striking your neighbor?" (14) He answered:

28 Who made you a prince and judge over us? Do you mean to kill me, as you killed the Egyptian? So
29 Moshe feared and said, Indeed – the matter is known."
30

31 **3. Rashi to Vayikra 24**

32 Whence did he go out? Surely not from the camp, since Scripture states “and they strove in the
33 camp”! Rabbi Levi said, “He went out from (by his blasphemous utterance he lost) his eternal life.
34 R. Berachya said, “He set forth (started his argument) from the above section. He said sneeringly:
35 “Every Sabbath he shall set it in order!?! Surely it is the way of a king to eat fresh (lit., warm) bread
36 every day; is it perhaps his way to eat bread nine days old (lit., cold bread of nine days)?!
37 (Tanchuma). A Baraitha states that “he went out” means, he came out of the judicial court of
38 Moses where he had been pronounced to be in the wrong in the following matter: although his
39 father was an Egyptian he had gone to pitch his tent in the camp of the tribe of Dan to whom his
40 mother belonged (cf. v. 11). They (the men of Dan) said to him, “What have you to do here” (lit.,
41 what is your character that gives you the right to come here?). He replied. “I am one of the children
42 of the tribe of Dan”. Thereupon they said to him, “Scripture states: (Numbers 2:2) “Every man [of
43 the children of Israel shall encamp] by his own standard, that bears the signs of their father’s
44 house”! He thereupon went in to the judicial court of Moses to have the matter decided and came
45 forth (אצ'') declared to be in the wrong. He then stood up and blasphemed (Sifra; Leviticus Rabbah
46 32).
47

48 THE SON OF AN EGYPTIAN MAN – It was the Egyptian whom Moses had killed

49 AMONG THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL – This teaches us that he had become a proselyte (Sifra).

50 THEY QUARRELLED IN [or CONCERNING] THE CAMP, about matters connected with the
51 camp .

52 THE ISRAELITISH MAN – this was his opponent who had prevented him from pitching his tent
53 in the camp of Daniel

54 **4. Vayikra Rabbah**

55 ...“The son of of an Israelite woman went out...” This is like what is written (in Ecclesiastes 4:1) So
56 I returned, and considered all the oppressions done under the sun, and behold the tears of the
57 oppressed, and they had no comforter. On the side of their oppressors there was power, but they
58 had no comforter. (Eccl. 4:1) Daniel the Tailor said, “Behold, the tears of the oppressed,” refers to
59 "mamzerim" (bastards). Their fathers sinned, but what the insult have to do with them? The father
60 of this one went to a woman forbidden to him, but how did the child sin, and how does it concern
61 him? They “had no comforter” but “on the side of their oppressors there was power.” That refers
62 to the hands of the Great Sanhedrin, that move against them with the authority of the Torah and
63 remove them from the community, because it is written, “A mamzer shall not enter into the
64 congregation of the Lord.” Therefore, says the Holy One, it is upon me to comfort them. In this
65 world, they are impure, but in the days of the Messiah, Zechariah prophesied, “Behold, I see them
66 all as pure gold.”