

# Texts for Scriptural Reasoning

## Market Ethics and Lending

*The Scriptural Reasoning Society*

## Hebrew Bible Texts on Market Ethics and Lending

### Exodus 22:24-26

24 If you lend money to any of my people with you who is poor, you shall not be like a moneylender to him, and you shall not exact interest from him. 25 If ever you take your neighbor's cloak in pledge, you shall return it to him before the sun goes down, 26 for that is his only covering, and it is his cloak for his body; in what else shall he sleep? And if he cries to me, I will hear, for I am compassionate.

### Deuteronomy 23:20-21

19 You shall not charge interest on loans to your brother, interest on money, interest on food, interest on anything that is lent for interest. 20 You may charge a foreigner interest, but you may not charge your brother interest, that the LORD your God may bless you in all that you undertake in the land that you are entering to take possession of it.

### Deuteronomy 15:1-11

1 At the end of every seven years you shall grant a release. 2 And this is the manner of the release: every creditor shall release what he has lent to his neighbor. He shall not exact it of his neighbor, his brother, because the LORD's release has been proclaimed. 3 Of a foreigner you may exact it, but whatever of yours is with your brother your hand shall release. 4 But there will be no poor among you; for the LORD will bless you in the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance to possess— 5 if only you will strictly obey the voice of the LORD your God, being careful to do all this commandment that I command you today. 6 For the LORD your God will bless you, as he promised you, and you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow, and you shall rule over many nations, but they shall not rule over you.

7 If among you, one of your brothers should become poor, in any of your towns within your land that the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart or shut your hand against your poor brother, 8 but you shall open your hand to him and lend him sufficient for his need, whatever it may be. 9 Take care lest there be an unworthy thought in your heart and you say, 'The seventh year, the year of release is near,' and your eye look grudgingly on

כד אִם-כֶּסֶף | תִּלְוֶה אֶת-עַמִּי אֶת-הָעֲנִי עִמָּךְ  
לֹא-תִהְיֶה לוֹ כְּנֹשֶׁה לֹא-תִשְׁיָמוֹן עָלָיו נִשְׁךְ:  
כֹּה אִם-חָבֵל תִּחְבֹּל שְׁלֵמַת רֵעֶךָ עַד-כֹּא  
הַשֶּׁמֶשׁ תִּשְׁיָכְנוּ לוֹ: כּו כִּי הוּא כְסוּתָהּ לְבִדָּהּ  
הוּא שְׁמֵלְתוֹ לְעָרוֹ בַּמָּה יִשְׁכֹּב וְהִיא כִּי-יִצְעַק  
אֵלַי וְשָׁמַעְתִּי כִּי-חֲנוּן אֲנִי:

כ לֹא-תִשְׁיָךְ לְאַחֶיךָ נִשְׁךְ כֶּסֶף נִשְׁךְ אֲכָל נִשְׁךְ  
כָּל-דָּבָר אֲשֶׁר יִשְׁךְ: כֹּא לְנִכְרֵי תִשְׁיָךְ וְלֹא-אֶחֱיךָ  
לֹא תִשְׁיָךְ לְמַעַן יִבְרַכְךָ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּכֹל  
מְשָׁלְחַי יָדְךָ עַל-הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר-אַתָּה בָּא-שָׁמָּה  
לְרִשְׁתָּהּ:

א מִקֵּץ שִׁבְע־שָׁנִים תַּעֲשֶׂה שְׁמִטָּה: ב וְזֶה  
דְּבַר הַשְּׁמִטָּה שְׁמוּט כָּל-בַּעַל מִשָּׂה יָדוֹ אֲשֶׁר  
יִשָּׂה בְרַעְהוֹ לֹא-יִגֹּשׁ אֶת-רַעְהוֹ וְאֶת-אֶחָיו  
כִּי-קָרָא שְׁמִטָּה לַיהוָה: ג אֶת-הַנִּכְרִי תִגֹּשׁ  
וְאֲשֶׁר יִהְיֶה לְךָ אֶת-אֶחֱיךָ תִשְׁמַט יָדְךָ: ד אֶפֶס  
כִּי לֹא יִהְיֶה-בְּךָ אֶבְיוֹן כִּי-כִרְךָ יִבְרַכְךָ יְהוָה  
בְּאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ נֹתֵן-לְךָ נַחֲלָה  
לְרִשְׁתָּהּ: ה רַק אִם-שָׁמוּעַ תִּשְׁמַע בְּקוֹל יְהוָה  
אֱלֹהֶיךָ לְשֹׁמֵר לַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת-כָּל-הַמִּצְוָה הַזֹּאת  
אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי מְצַוֶּה הַיּוֹם: ו כִּי-יִהְיֶה אֱלֹהֶיךָ  
בְּרַכְךָ כְּאֲשֶׁר דִּבַּר-לְךָ וְהִעֲבַטְתָּ גוֹיִם רַבִּים  
וְאַתָּה לֹא תַעֲבֹט וּמְשַׁלֵּת בְּגוֹיִם רַבִּים וּבְךָ לֹא  
יִמְשְׁלוּ: ז כִּי-יִהְיֶה בְּךָ אֶבְיוֹן מֵאַחַד  
אֶחֱיךָ בְּאַחַד שְׁעָרֶיךָ בְּאָרְצְךָ אֲשֶׁר-יְהוָה  
אֱלֹהֶיךָ נֹתֵן לְךָ לֹא תֵאֲמֵן אֶת-לִבְּךָ וְלֹא  
תִקְפֹּץ אֶת-יָדְךָ מֵאַחֶיךָ הָאֶבְיוֹן: ח כִּי-פָתַח  
תִּפְתַּח אֶת-יָדְךָ לוֹ וְהִעֲבַט תַּעֲבִיטְנוּ דֵי  
מִחְסָרוֹ אֲשֶׁר יִחְסַר לוֹ: ט הַשְּׁמַר לְךָ פֶּן-יִהְיֶה  
דְּבָר עִם-לִבְּךָ בְּלִיעַל לֵאמֹר קָרְבָה  
שְׁנַת-הַשְּׁבַע שְׁנַת הַשְּׁמִטָּה וְרַעַה עֵינֶיךָ

your poor brother, and you give him nothing, and he cry to the LORD against you, and you be guilty of sin. 10 You shall give to him freely, and your heart shall not be grudging when you give to him, because for this the LORD your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake. 11 For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore I command you, 'You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.'

### Deuteronomy 24:10-18

10 When you make your neighbor a loan of any sort, you shall not go into his house to collect his pledge. 11 You shall stand outside, and the man to whom you make the loan shall bring the pledge out to you. 12 And if he is a poor man, you shall not sleep in his pledge. 13 You shall restore to him the pledge as the sun sets, that he may sleep in his cloak and bless you. And it shall be righteousness for you before the LORD your God.

14 You shall not oppress a hired servant who is poor and needy, whether he is one of your brothers or one of the sojourners who are in your land within your towns. 15 You shall give him his wages on the same day, before the sun sets (for he is poor and counts on it), lest he cry against you to the LORD, and you be guilty of sin.

16 Fathers shall not be put to death because of their children, nor shall children be put to death because of their fathers. Each one shall be put to death for his own sin.

17 You shall not pervert the justice due to the sojourner or to the fatherless, or take a widow's garment in pledge, 18 but you shall remember that you were a slave in Egypt and the LORD your God redeemed you from there; therefore I command you to do this.

### Leviticus 19:33-36

33 When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. 34 You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.

35 You shall do no wrong in judgment, in measures of length or weight or quantity. 36 You shall have just balances, just weights, a just ephah, and a just hin: I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt.

בְּאֶחֶיד הָאֲבִיוֹן וְלֹא תִתֵּן לוֹ וְקָרָא עָלֶיךָ  
אֶל־יְהוָה וְהָיָה בְּךָ חַטָּא: יִנְתּוֹן תִּתֵּן לוֹ  
וְלֹא־יִרַע לְבַבְךָ בְּתִתְּךָ לוֹ כִּי בְּגִלָּל | הַדְּבָר  
הַזֶּה יְבָרְכֶךָ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּכָל־מַעֲשֶׂיךָ וּבְכָל  
מַשְׁלַח יָדְךָ: יֵאָכֵל לֹא־יִחַדֵּל אֲבִיוֹן מִקְרֹב  
הָאָרֶץ עַל־כֵּן אֲנֹכִי מְצִוֶּה לְאָמֹר פִּתַּח תִּפְתַּח  
אֶת־יָדְךָ לְאֶחֶיד לְעַנְיֶיךָ וּלְאֲבִינֶךָ בְּאֶרְצְךָ:

י כִּי־תִשֶׂה בְרַעְךָ מִשָּׂאת מְאוֹמָה לֹא־תִבֵּא  
אֶל־בֵּיתוֹ לְעֵבֵט עֵבֶטוֹ: יֵאָבֵחוּן תַּעֲמֹד  
וְהָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר אָתָּה נִשֶׂה בוֹ יוֹצִיא אֵלֶיךָ  
אֶת־הָעֵבוֹט הַחוּצָה: יב וְאִם־אִישׁ עָנִי הוּא לֹא  
תִשְׁכַּב בְּעֵבֶטוֹ: יג הַשֶּׁבַע תִּשְׁיֵב לוֹ אֶת־הָעֵבוֹט  
כְּבוֹא הַשֶּׁמֶשׁ וְשָׁכַב בְּשִׁלְמָתוֹ וּבִרְכֶךָ וְלֹךְ  
תִּהְיֶה צְדָקָה לְפָנָי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ: ס [שְׂבִיעִי]  
יד לֹא־תַעֲשֶׂק שָׂכִיר עָנִי וְאֲבִיוֹן מֵאֶחֶיד אוֹ  
מִגֵּרְךָ אֲשֶׁר בְּאֶרְצְךָ בְּשַׁעֲרֶיךָ: טו בְּיוֹמוֹ תִּתֵּן  
שְׂכָרוֹ וְלֹא־תִבּוֹא עָלָיו הַשֶּׁמֶשׁ כִּי עָנִי הוּא  
וְאֵלָיו הוּא נִשָּׂא אֶת־נַפְשׁוֹ וְלֹא־יִקְרָא עָלֶיךָ  
אֶל־יְהוָה וְהָיָה בְּךָ חַטָּא: ס טז לֹא־יִוָּמְתוּ  
אָבוֹת עַל־בָּנִים וּבָנִים לֹא־יִוָּמְתוּ עַל־אָבוֹת  
אִישׁ בְּחַטָּאוֹ יוָּמְתוֹ: ס יז לֹא תִטֶּה מִשְׁפַּט  
גֵּר יָתוֹם וְלֹא תִחַבֵּל בְּגַד אֱלֵמְנָה: יח וְזָכַרְתָּ כִּי  
עֶבֶד הָיִיתָ בְּמִצְרַיִם וַיִּפְדֶּךָ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ מִשָּׂם  
עַל־כֵּן אֲנֹכִי מְצִוֶּה לַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת־הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה:

לג וְכִי־יִגּוֹר אִתְּךָ גֵּר בְּאֶרְצְכֶם לֹא תוֹנוּ אֹתוֹ:  
לד כְּאֶזְרַח מִכֶּם יְהִיֶה לְכֶם הַגֵּר | הַגֵּר אֶתְכֶם  
וְאֶהְבֶּתָּ לוֹ כְּמוֹךָ כִּי־גֵרִים הָיִיתֶם בְּאֶרֶץ  
מִצְרַיִם אֲנִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם: לה לֹא־תַעֲשׂוּ עוֹל  
בְּמִשְׁפַּט בְּמִדָּה בְּמִשְׁקָל וּבְמִשׁוֹרָה: לו מֵאֲזַנִּי  
צִדֵּק אֲבִנִי־צִדֵּק אֵיפֶת צִדֵּק וְהִין צִדֵּק יְהִיֶה  
לְכֶם אֲנִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם אֲשֶׁר־הוֹצֵאתִי אֶתְכֶם  
מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם:

### Leviticus 25:35-38

35 If your brother becomes poor and cannot maintain himself with you, you shall support him as though he were a stranger and a sojourner, and he shall live with you. 36 Take no interest from him or profit, but fear your God, that your brother may live beside you. 37 You shall not lend him your money at interest, nor give him your food for profit. 38 I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt to give you the land of Canaan, and to be your God.

### Ezekiel 18:5-9

5 If a man is righteous and does what is just and right— 6 if he does not eat upon the mountains or lift up his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel, does not defile his neighbor's wife or approach a woman in her time of menstrual impurity, 7 does not oppress anyone, but restores to the debtor his pledge, commits no robbery, gives his bread to the hungry and covers the naked with a garment, 8 does not lend at interest or take any profit, withholds his hand from injustice, executes true justice between man and man, 9 walks in my statutes, and keeps my rules by acting faithfully—he is righteous; he shall surely live, declares the Lord GOD.

### Psalms 15

1 A Psalm of David. O LORD, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill?  
2 He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart;  
3 who does not slander with his tongue and does no evil to his neighbor,  
nor takes up a reproach against his friend;  
4 in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but who honors those who fear the LORD;  
who swears to his own hurt and does not change;  
5 who does not put out his money at interest and does not take a bribe against the innocent.  
He who does these things shall never be moved.

לֵא וְכִי־יָמוּךְ אַחִיךָ וּמָטָה יָדוֹ עִמָּךְ וְהִחֲזַקְתָּ  
בּוֹ גַר וְתוֹשֵׁב וְחִי עִמָּךְ: לוֹ אֶל־תִּקַּח מֵאֲתוֹ  
נֶשֶׁךְ וְתִרְבִּית וְיִרְאֵת מֵאַלְהֵיךָ וְחִי אַחִיךָ עִמָּךְ:  
לֹא אֶת־כֶּסֶףְךָ לֹא־תִתֵּן לוֹ בְּנֶשֶׁךְ וּבְמִרְבִּית  
לֹא־תִתֵּן אֶכְלֶךָ: לֹא אֲנִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם  
אֲשֶׁר־הוֹצֵאתִי אֶתְכֶם מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם לְתֵת לָכֶם  
אֶת־אֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן לְהִיּוֹת לָכֶם לְאֱלֹהִים:

ה וְאִישׁ כִּי־יְהִי צַדִּיק וְעָשָׂה מִשְׁפָּט וּצְדָקָה:  
וְאֶל־הַהָרִים לֹא אָכַל וְעֵינָיו לֹא נָשָׂא  
אֶל־גְּלוּלֵי בַיִת יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאֶת־אִשְׁתּוֹ רִעְהוּ לֹא  
טָמָא וְאֶל־אִשָּׁה נְדָה לֹא יִקְרַב: ז וְאִישׁ לֹא  
יוֹנֵה חֲבָלְתוֹ חֹב יִשִּׁיב גְּזֻלָּה לֹא יִגְזַל לְחֶמְרוֹ  
לְרַעַב יִתֵּן וְעֵירִם יִכְסֶה־בְּגָד: ח בְּנֶשֶׁךְ לֹא־יִתֵּן  
וְתִרְבִּית לֹא יִקַּח מֵעוֹל יִשִּׁיב יָדוֹ מִשְׁפָּט אָמֵת  
יַעֲשֶׂה בֵּין אִישׁ לְאִישׁ: ט בַּחֲקוֹתַי יִהְלֶךְ  
וּמִשְׁפָּטַי שָׁמַר לַעֲשׂוֹת אָמֵת צַדִּיק הוּא חַיָּה  
יְחִיָּה נָאִם אֲדַנִּי יְהוָה:

א מִזְמוֹר לְדָוִד יְהוָה מִי־יִגּוֹר בְּאֶהְלֶךְ  
מִי־יִשְׁכֵּן בְּתֵר קֹדְשֶׁךָ:  
ב הוֹלֵךְ תָּמִים וּפְעֵל צְדָק וְדַבַּר אָמֵת בְּלִבּוֹ:  
ג לֹא־רָגַל | עַל־לְשׁוֹנוֹ לֹא־עָשָׂה לְרַעְהוּ רָעָה  
וְחִרְפָּה לֹא־נָשָׂא עַל־קִרְבּוֹ:  
ד נְבוֹזָה | בְּעֵינָיו נִמְאָס וְאֶת־יְרֵאֵי יְהוָה יִכְבֵּד  
נִשְׁבַּע לְהִרְעוֹ וְלֹא יִמַר:  
ה כֶּסֶפוֹ | לֹא־נָתַן בְּנֶשֶׁךְ וְשִׁחַד עַל־נַפְקֵי  
לֹא־לָקַח עֲשֵׂה אֱלֹהֵי לֹא יִמוּט לְעוֹלָם:

## Nehemiah 5:1-13

1 Now there arose a great outcry of the people and of their wives against their Jewish brothers. 2 For there were those who said, "With our sons and our daughters, we are many. So let us get grain, that we may eat and keep alive." 3 There were also those who said, "We are mortgaging our fields, our vineyards, and our houses to get grain because of the famine." 4 And there were those who said, "We have borrowed money for the king's tax on our fields and our vineyards. 5 Now our flesh is as the flesh of our brothers, our children are as their children. Yet we are forcing our sons and our daughters to be slaves, and some of our daughters have already been enslaved, but it is not in our power to help it, for other men have our fields and our vineyards."

6 I was very angry when I heard their outcry and these words. 7 I took counsel with myself, and I brought charges against the nobles and the officials. I said to them, "You are exacting interest, each from his brother." And I held a great assembly against them 8 and said to them, "We, as far as we are able, have bought back our Jewish brothers who have been sold to the nations, but you even sell your brothers that they may be sold to us!" They were silent and could not find a word to say. 9 So I said, "The thing that you are doing is not good. Ought you not to walk in the fear of our God to prevent the taunts of the nations our enemies? 10 Moreover, I and my brothers and my servants are lending them money and grain. Let us abandon this exacting of interest. 11 Return to them this very day their fields, their vineyards, their olive orchards, and their houses, and the percentage of money, grain, wine, and oil that you have been exacting from them." 12 Then they said, "We will restore these and require nothing from them. We will do as you say." And I called the priests and made them swear to do as they had promised. 13 I also shook out the fold of my garment and said, "So may God shake out every man from his house and from his labour who does not keep this promise. So may he be shaken out and emptied." And all the assembly said "Amen" and praised the LORD. And the people did as they had promised.

א וְתָהִי צַעֲקַת הָעָם וְנִשְׁיָהֶם גְּדוֹלָה  
אֶל-אֲחֵיהֶם הַיְהוּדִים: ב וַיֵּשׁ אֲשֶׁר אָמְרִים  
בְּנֵינוּ וּבְנֹתֵינוּ אֲנַחְנוּ רַבִּים וְנִקְחָה דָגָן  
וְנֹאכְלָה וְנַחְיָה: ג וַיֵּשׁ אֲשֶׁר אָמְרִים שְׂדֹתֵינוּ  
וּכְרָמֵינוּ וּבְתֵינוּ אֲנַחְנוּ עֲרִבִים וְנִקְחָה דָגָן  
בְּרָעָב: ד וַיֵּשׁ אֲשֶׁר אָמְרִים לְוֵינוּ כֶּסֶף לְמַדַּת  
הַמֶּלֶךְ שְׂדֹתֵינוּ וּכְרָמֵינוּ: ה וְעַתָּה כִּבְשׂוֹר  
אֲחֵינוּ בְּשָׂרֵנוּ כִּבְנֵיהֶם בְּנֵינוּ וְהֵנָּה אֲנַחְנוּ  
כֹּבְשִׁים אֶת-בְּנֵינוּ וְאֶת-בְּנֹתֵינוּ לְעֶבְדִּים וַיֵּשׁ  
מִבְּנֹתֵינוּ נְכַבְּשׁוֹת וְאֵין לָאֵל יָדֵנוּ וּשְׂדֹתֵינוּ  
וּכְרָמֵינוּ לְאֲחֵרִים: ו וַיַּחַר לִי מְאֹד כִּי אֲשֶׁר  
שָׁמַעְתִּי אֶת-זַעֲקָתָם וְאֶת הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה:  
ז וַיִּמְלֹךְ לִבִּי עָלַי וְאָרִיבָה אֶת-הָאֲחֵרִים  
וְאֶת-הַסֹּגְנִים וְאָמַרְהָ לָהֶם מִשָּׂא אִישׁ-בְּאָחִיו  
אַתֶּם נֹשְׂאִים [נִשְׂאִים] וְאַתֶּן עֲלֵיהֶם קָהֳלָה  
גְּדוֹלָה: ח וְאָמַרְהָ לָהֶם אֲנַחְנוּ קָנִינוּ אֶת-אֲחֵינוּ  
הַיְהוּדִים הַנִּמְכָּרִים לְגוֹיִם כְּפָדִי בָנוּ וְגַם-אַתֶּם  
תִּמְכְּרוּ אֶת-אֲחֵיכֶם וְנִמְכְּרוּ-לָנוּ וַיַּחֲרִישׁוּ וְלֹא  
מָצְאוּ דָבָר: ט וַיֹּאמֶר [וְאָמַר] לֹא-טוֹב הַדָּבָר  
אֲשֶׁר-אַתֶּם עֹשִׂים הֲלוֹא בִּירְאֵת אֱלֹהֵינוּ תֵּלְכוּ  
מִחֲרַפַּת הַגּוֹיִם אֲוִיבֵינוּ: י וְגַם-אֲנִי אֲחִי וְנַעֲרֵי  
נָשִׁים בָּהֶם כֶּסֶף וְדָגָן נַעֲזֹבְה־נָא אֶת-הַמִּשָּׂא  
הַזֶּה: יא הֲשִׁיבוּ נָא לָהֶם כְּהַיּוֹם שְׂדֹתֵיהֶם  
כְּרַמֵּיהֶם זִיתֵיהֶם וּבְתֵיהֶם וּמֵאֵת הַכֶּסֶף וְהַדָּגָן  
הַתִּירוֹשׁ וְהַיְצָהָר אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם נֹשְׂאִים בָּהֶם:  
יב וַיֹּאמְרוּ נָשִׁיב וּמֵהֶם לֹא נִבְקֹשׁ כֵּן נַעֲשֶׂה  
כִּי אֲשֶׁר אַתָּה אֹמֵר וְאָקְרָא אֶת-הַכֹּהֲנִים  
וְאֲשַׁבְּעֵם לַעֲשׂוֹת כַּדָּבָר הַזֶּה: יג גַּם-חֲצָנִי  
נָעַרְתִּי וְאָמַרְהָ כִּכָּה יִנְעַר הָאֱלֹהִים  
אֶת-כָּל-הָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר לֹא-יִקֶּיֶם אֶת-הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה  
מִבֵּיתוֹ וּמִיִּגְעוֹ וְכִכָּה יִהְיֶה נַעוֹר וְרַק וַיֹּאמְרוּ  
כָּל-הַקָּהָל אֲמֵן וַיְהַלְלוּ אֶת-יְהוָה וַיַּעַשׂ הָעָם  
כַּדָּבָר הַזֶּה:

## New Testament Texts on Market Ethics and Lending

### Matthew 18:21-35 (English Standard Version)

<sup>21</sup>Then Peter came up and said to him, "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>23</sup>"Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants.<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>24</sup>When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents.<sup>[c]</sup> <sup>25</sup>And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the servant<sup>[d]</sup> fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii,<sup>[e]</sup> and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' <sup>29</sup>So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' <sup>30</sup>He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' <sup>34</sup>And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers,<sup>[f]</sup> until he should pay all his debt. <sup>35</sup>So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

<sup>21</sup>Τότε προσελθὼν ὁ Πέτρος εἶπεν αὐτῷ, Κύριε, ποσάκις ἁμαρτήσῃ εἰς ἐμὲ ὁ ἀδελφός μου καὶ ἀφήσω αὐτῷ; ἕως ἑπτάκις; <sup>22</sup>λέγει αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Οὐ λέγω σοι ἕως ἑπτάκις ἀλλὰ ἕως ἑβδομηκοντάκις ἑπτά. <sup>23</sup>Διὰ τοῦτο ὁμοιώθη ἡ βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν ἀνθρώπῳ βασιλεῖ ὃς ἠθέλησεν συνᾶραι λόγον μετὰ τῶν δούλων αὐτοῦ. <sup>24</sup>ἄρξαμένου δὲ αὐτοῦ συναίρειν προσηνέχθη αὐτῷ εἷς ὀφειλῆτης μυριάων ταλάντων. <sup>25</sup>μὴ ἔχοντος δὲ αὐτοῦ ἀποδοῦναι ἐκέλευσεν αὐτὸν ὁ κύριος προαθῆναι καὶ τὴν γυναῖκα καὶ τὰ τέκνα καὶ πάντα ὅσα ἔχει, καὶ ἀποδοθῆναι. <sup>26</sup>πεσὼν οὖν ὁ δούλος προσεκύνει αὐτῷ λέγων, Μακροθύμησον ἐπ' ἐμοί, καὶ πάντα ἀποδώσω σοι. <sup>27</sup>σπλαγχνισθεὶς δὲ ὁ κύριος τοῦ δούλου ἐκείνου ἀπέλυσεν αὐτόν, καὶ τὸ δάνειον ἀφήκεν αὐτῷ. <sup>28</sup>ἐξελθὼν δὲ ὁ δούλος ἐκεῖνος εὗρεν ἕνα τῶν συνδούλων αὐτοῦ ὃς ὠφείλεν αὐτῷ ἑκατὸν δηνάρια, καὶ κρατήσας αὐτὸν ἔπνιγεν λέγων, Ἀπόδος εἰ τι ὀφείλεις. <sup>29</sup>πεσὼν οὖν ὁ σύνδουλος αὐτοῦ παρεκάλει αὐτὸν λέγων, Μακροθύμησον ἐπ' ἐμοί, καὶ ἀποδώσω σοι. <sup>30</sup>ὃ δὲ οὐκ ἠθέληεν, ἀλλὰ ἀπελθὼν ἔβαλεν αὐτὸν εἰς φυλακὴν ἕως ἀποδῶ τὸ ὀφειλόμενον. <sup>31</sup>ιδόντες οὖν οἱ σύνδουλοι αὐτοῦ τὰ γενόμενα ἐλυπήθησαν σφόδρα, καὶ ἐλθόντες διεσάφησαν τῷ κυρίῳ ἑαυτῶν πάντα τὰ γενόμενα. <sup>32</sup>τότε προσκαλεσάμενος αὐτὸν ὁ κύριος αὐτοῦ λέγει αὐτῷ, Δούλε πονηρέ, πᾶσαν τὴν ὀφειλὴν ἐκείνην ἀφήκᾰ σοι, ἐπεὶ παρεκάλεσάς με: <sup>33</sup>οὐκ ἔδει καὶ σὲ ἐλεῆσαι τὸν σύνδουλόν σου, ὡς καὶ γὰρ σὲ ἠλέησα; <sup>34</sup>καὶ ὀργισθεὶς ὁ κύριος αὐτοῦ παρέδωκεν αὐτὸν τοῖς βασανισταῖς ἕως οὗ ἀποδῶ πᾶν τὸ ὀφειλόμενον. <sup>35</sup>Οὕτως καὶ ὁ πατήρ μου ὁ οὐράνιος ποιήσει ὑμῖν ἔὰν μὴ ἀφήτε ἕκαστος τῷ ἀδελφῷ αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ τῶν καρδιῶν ὑμῶν.

#### Footnotes:

- a. Or *seventy-seven times*
- b. Greek *bondservants*; also verses 28, 31
- c. A *talent* was a monetary unit worth about twenty years' wages for a laborer
- d. Greek *bondservant*; also verses 27, 28, 29, 32, 33
- e. A *denarius* was a day's wage for a laborer
- f. Greek *torturers*

## Luke 6:27-38 (English Standard Version)

<sup>27</sup>"But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup> bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. <sup>29</sup> To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. <sup>30</sup> Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. <sup>31</sup>And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

<sup>32</sup> "If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup>And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup>And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. <sup>35</sup>But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. <sup>36</sup>Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

<sup>37</sup> "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; <sup>38</sup> give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."

English texts taken with acknowledgement from  
<<http://www.biblegateway.com>>

<sup>27</sup>Ἀλλὰ ὑμῖν λέγω τοῖς ἀκούουσιν, ἀγαπᾶτε τοὺς ἐχθροὺς ὑμῶν, καλῶς ποιεῖτε τοῖς μισοῦσιν ὑμᾶς, <sup>28</sup>εὐλογεῖτε τοὺς καταρωμένους ὑμᾶς, προσεύχεσθε περὶ τῶν ἐπιηρεαζόντων ὑμᾶς. <sup>29</sup>τῷ τύπτοντί σε ἐπὶ τὴν σιαγόνα πάρεχε καὶ τὴν ἄλλην, καὶ ἀπὸ τοῦ αἶροντός σου τὸ ἱμάτιον καὶ τὸν χιτῶνα μὴ καλύσης. <sup>30</sup>παντὶ αἰτοῦντί σε δίδου, καὶ ἀπὸ τοῦ αἶροντος τὰ σὰ μὴ ἀπαίτει. <sup>31</sup>καὶ καθὼς θέλετε ἵνα ποιῶσιν ὑμῖν οἱ ἄνθρωποι, ποιεῖτε αὐτοῖς ὁμοίως. <sup>32</sup>καὶ εἰ ἀγαπᾶτε τοὺς ἀγαπῶντας ὑμᾶς, ποία ὑμῖν χάρις ἐστίν; καὶ γὰρ οἱ ἁμαρτωλοὶ τοὺς ἀγαπῶντας αὐτοὺς ἀγαπῶσιν. <sup>33</sup>καὶ [γὰρ] ἐὰν ἀγαθοποιήτε τοὺς ἀγαθοποιούντας ὑμᾶς, ποία ὑμῖν χάρις ἐστίν; καὶ οἱ ἁμαρτωλοὶ τὸ αὐτὸ ποιοῦσιν. <sup>34</sup>καὶ ἐὰν δανίσητε παρ' ὧν ἐλπίζετε λαβεῖν, ποία ὑμῖν χάρις [ἐστίν]; καὶ ἁμαρτωλοὶ ἁμαρτωλοῖς δανίζουσιν ἵνα ἀπολάβωσιν τὰ ἴσα. <sup>35</sup>πλὴν ἀγαπᾶτε τοὺς ἐχθροὺς ὑμῶν καὶ ἀγαθοποιεῖτε καὶ δανίζετε μηδὲν ἀπελπίζοντες: καὶ ἔσται ὁ μισθὸς ὑμῶν πολὺς, καὶ ἔσεσθε υἱοὶ ὑψίστου, ὅτι αὐτὸς χρηστός ἐστιν ἐπὶ τοὺς ἀχαρίστους καὶ πονηροὺς. <sup>36</sup>Γίνεσθε οἰκτιρμονες καθὼς [καὶ] ὁ πατὴρ ὑμῶν οἰκτιρμῶν ἐστίν. <sup>37</sup>Καὶ μὴ κρίνετε, καὶ οὐ μὴ κριθῆτε: καὶ μὴ καταδικάζετε, καὶ οὐ μὴ καταδικασθῆτε. ἀπολύετε, καὶ ἀπολυθήσεσθε: <sup>38</sup>δίδοτε, καὶ δοθήσεται ὑμῖν: μέτρον καλὸν πεπιεσμένον σεσαλευμένον ὑπερεκχυννόμενον δώσουσιν εἰς τὸν κόλπον ὑμῶν: ᾧ γὰρ μέτρῳ μετρεῖτε ἀντιμετρηθήσεται ὑμῖν.

Greek texts taken with acknowledgement from  
<<http://www.greekbible.com>>

## The Cow 276-281<sup>3 4</sup>

**276** God blots out usury, but freewill offerings He augments with interest. God loves not any guilty ingrate.

**277** Those who believe and do deeds of righteousness, and perform the prayer, and pay the alms -- their wage awaits them with their Lord, and no fear shall be on them, neither shall they sorrow.

**278** O believers, fear you God; and give up the usury that is outstanding, if you are believers.

**279** But if you do not, then take notice that God shall war with you, and His Messenger; yet if you repent, you shall have your principal, unwronging and unwronged.

**280** And if any man should be in difficulties, let him have respite till things are easier; but that you should give freewill offerings is better for you, did you but know.

**281** And fear a day wherein you shall be returned to God, and every soul shall be paid in full what it has earned; and they shall not be wronged.

## سورة البقرة ٢٧٦-٢٨١

يَمْحَقُ اللَّهُ الرِّبَا وَيُرْبِي الصَّدَقَاتِ وَاللَّهُ لَا

يُحِبُّ كُلَّ كَفَّارٍ أَثِيمٍ ٢٧٦

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ  
وَأَقَامُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَآتَوُا الزَّكَاةَ لَهُمْ أَجْرُهُمْ

عِنْدَ رَبِّهِمْ وَلَا خَوْفٌ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا هُمْ

يَحْزَنُونَ ٢٧٧

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَذَرُوا مَا

بَقِيَ مِنَ الرِّبَا إِن كُنْتُمْ مُؤْمِنِينَ ٢٧٨

فَإِن لَّمْ تَفْعَلُوا فَأْذَنُوا بِحَرْبٍ مِّنَ اللَّهِ  
وَرَسُولِهِ وَإِن تُبْتُمْ فَلَكُمْ رُؤُوسُ أَمْوَالِكُمْ

لَا تَظْلِمُونَ وَلَا تُظْلَمُونَ ٢٧٩

وَإِن كَانَ ذُو عُسْرَةٍ فَنَظِرَةٌ إِلَىٰ مَيْسَرَةٍ

وَأَن تَصَدَّقُوا خَيْرٌ لَّكُمْ إِن كُنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ

٢٨٠

وَاتَّقُوا يَوْمًا تُرْجَعُونَ فِيهِ إِلَى اللَّهِ ثُمَّ تُوَفَّى

كُلُّ نَفْسٍ مَّا كَسَبَتْ وَهُمْ لَا يُظْلَمُونَ

٢٨١

<sup>3</sup> Arberry Translation

<sup>4</sup> Quran 2

## Charity<sup>3 5</sup>

- 1 Hast thou seen him who cries lies to the Doom?
- 2 That is he who repulses the orphan
- 3 and urges not the feeding of the needy.
- 4 So woe to those that pray
- 5 and are heedless of their prayers,
- 6 to those who make display
- 7 and refuse charity.

## سورة الماعون

- أَرَأَيْتَ الَّذِي يُكَذِّبُ بِالذِّينِ ١  
فَذَلِكَ الَّذِي يَدُعُّ الْيَتِيمَ ٢  
وَلَا يَحْضُرُ عَلَى طَعَامِ الْمَسْكِينِ ٣  
فَوَيْلٌ لِلْمُصَلِّينَ ٤  
الَّذِينَ هُمْ عَنْ صَلَاتِهِمْ سَاهُونَ ٥  
الَّذِينَ هُمْ يُرَآؤُونَ ٦  
وَيَمْنَعُونَ الْمَاعُونَ ٧

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<sup>5</sup> Quran 107