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Trusting God
25: 18-22

Trusting God DIG: How could you summarize these verses? What was success in the Land based on? What would be the evidence of their trust? How does the Year of Jubilee compare to the Garden of Eden? Is the Sabbath Year still observed in Isra'el today?

REFLECT: In what ways do you trust God today? How have you learned to trust Him? Did you ever not trust Him and meet the hard consequences? Who can you help that doesn't trust God? Are you living securely in God's Garden, or are you stressed? How can you change that?

God promised to reward a heart of simple trust.

These verses interrupt the continuity of the mitzvot governing **the Sabbath Year** and **the Year of Jubilee**. This subject is resumed next (**to see link click Eq – Immanuel's Land**) in **Leviticus 25:23 where it** takes up where it left off in **25:17**. After explaining the mitzvot for the leasing of **the land**, **25:23** reemphasizes the point that because of **the Year of Jubilee**, **the land** was not actually "sold," but leased for a certain amount of time depending on how much harvest it could produce. In other words, all "sales" were not final. Therefore, the verses seen here constitute an encouragement to obey **God's** mitzvot, with the promise of security an abundance as a reward for such obedience.[500]

Success in **the land** of **Isra'el** was directly associated with the observance of Torah during the Dispensation of Torah (see the commentary on **Exodus Da – The Dispensation of the Torah**). When **the Sabbath Year** (see **El – The Sabbath Year**) and **the Year of Jubilee** (see **En – The Freedom of the Year of Jubilee**) were kept, then **Isra'el** would dwell **securely on the land.** The Hebrew word for **"securely"** is the word *batach*, a word that generally is translated as **"trust."** We might understand **Leviticus 25:18** to say: **You are to keep my regulations and rulings and act accordingly. If you do, you will live securely (trustworthily) in the land. The land will yield its produce, you will eat until you have enough, and you will live there securely (25:19).** It takes a **trustful** person to agree not to plant crops simply on the basis that **YHVH** said so. How much more **trustful** a person has to be to agree to refrain from planting crops for two years in a row during **the Year of Jubilee**. Inevitably, one would **ask, "If we aren't allowed to sow seed or harvest what our land produces, what are we going to eat in the seventh [or eighth] year (25:20)?**

God promised to reward **their trust**. If those living in **the Land** would faithfully keep the command of **the Sabbath Years**, then **ADONAI** would respond with blessing: **He** said: **Then I will order my blessing on you during the sixth year, so that the land brings forth enough produce for all three years.** In **the first year** of the new **seven-year** cycle**, you will sow** new **seed but eat the old, stored produce until the second year** of the new **seven-year** cycle (see below)**; that is, until the produce comes in, you will eat the old, stored food (25:21-22).**[501]

Today, we are to demonstrate our **trust** by obeying – whether it makes sense to us or not. Obedience to **ADONAI's** commandments must take precedence over our pragmatism or human wisdom. If we obey **Him** only when it seems financially prudent to do so, we are not really obeying **Him**, are we? Furthermore, not obeying reveals our mistrust. If we honestly **trust** that **He** will take care of us, then we should not be afraid to do what **He** says.

*Dear Great **Savior**, With **You** as our **Father**, we never need to be afraid! **You** are the absolute Best **Father** there ever could be. Focusing on **You** and **Your** Almighty character, power, strength and wisdom is so encouraging! It's not good to look at the things of this world for they are getting darker and darker; but it is all in **Your** hand, in **Your** control. How amazing **You** are! You are absolutely loving **(1 John 4:8)** and Holy. **Seraphim . . . called to another and said, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory" (Isaiah 6:3)!***

You *not only control all that is happening now, the events of the future are in* ***Your*** *hand also. In* ***Daniel 2*** *and* ***7*** *you brilliantly describe exactly what the future world kingdoms will be like. Nothing takes* ***You*** *by surprise. In* ***Revelation 19 You*** *describe the entire evil world preparing to battle against* ***You****; but* ***You*** *are victorious – without even a fight.* ***The sword of Your mouth*** *is all that is needed to strike them all dead.* ***From His mouth comes a sharp sword – so that with it He may strike down the nations – and He shall rule them with an iron rod, and He treads the winepress of the furious wrath of Elohei-Tzva'ot. On His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "King of kings, and Lord of lords" (Revelation 19:15-16).***

I rejoice in keeping my eyes on ***You****. How true is the saying Big problem, small god; and Big* ***God****, small problem.* ***You keep in perfect peace one whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You (Isaiah 26:3).*** *Thank* ***You*** *for being such a wise, wonderful, and powerful Heavenly* ***Father****! In* ***Yeshua's*** *Holy name and power of* ***His*** *resurrection. Amen*

Another benefit is that **the Sabbath Year** affords **the Israelites** an opportunity to see how much **God** can increase our **trust** in **Him**. Some would no doubt ask, "But how would we **eat**?" The answer is "Fear not! **Ha'Shem** has this one covered! In **Leviticus 25:21 He** tells us: **I will order my blessing on you during the sixth year, so that the Land brings forth enough produce for all three years. The Word of God** was that **He** would abundantly bless **them** in **the sixth year** so that **the Land** would produce enough for the **three years** to follow: the sixth, **seventh**, and **the first year** of the next **seven-year** cycle, when **they** began to plant again.[502] **Until the produce of year two** came **in, they** would **eat the old, stored food (25:21-22).** Just as the weekly **Sabbath rest** is an act of **trust** in **ADONAI**, so too **the Sabbath Year** is an act of **trust**. However, the fruit and grain which grew by itself without plowing or sowing (which is common in **Isra'el**) in **the Sabbath Year** could be picked and eaten, but not stored.

Spring	**Fall**
Year six: God's blessing: reap the barley. reap the wheat	**Year six: God's blessing:**
Year seven: Shabbat rest for the Land the Land	**Year seven: Shabbat rest for**

Yovel Year: Shabbat rest for the Land

Year one: God's blessing: sow the barley

Year two: Eat the newly harvested crops

Yovel Year: Shabbat rest for the Land

Year one: God's blessing: sow the wheat

Year two: Eat the newly harvested crops

The picture that emerges in these verses takes us back to Eden; **God's people** living **securely** in **God's Garden**, having all their needs met, and walking in obedient fellowship with **ADONAI**. This has always been **the LORD's** intent for humanity, and now **Isra'el** is privileged with showing the Gentile nations this vision of Eden and inviting them to experience it **(Exodus 19:4-6; Deut 4:6-8; Psalm 67)**.[503] Modern **Jews** in **Isra'el** still observe **the Sabbath Year**, which **they** call the shemitah (see **El – The Sabbath Year**). However, **the Year of Jubilee** has not been observed since the years of Jewish captivity in Babylon, which occurred around 600 BC.