

~ACCIDENT, ACCIDENTAL (357)

[Hebrew, *'a-sohn'*; a healing is a euphemism, *miq-reh'*, meet or befall]

- Unforeseen occurrences that result from ignorance, carelessness, or unavoidable events and that cause loss or injury are commonly called accidents. The Hebrew word *'a-sohn'* evidently literally means a healing, and is used as a euphemism for a fatal accident.
- But Jacob did not send Benjamin, Joseph's brother, with his other brothers, because he said; Otherwise a **fatal accident** may befall him. (**Genesis 42:4**)
- The Hebrew *miq-reh'*, which is derived from a root that means, **meet, befall**.
- If you were to take this one also out of my sight and a fatal accident were to **befall** him, you would certainly bring down my gray hairs with calamity to Sheol. (**Genesis 44:29**)
- How he **met** you in the way and proceeded to strike in the rear of you all those straggling after you, while you were exhausted and weary, and he did not fear God. (**Deuteronomy 25:18**)
- Is rendered not only accident,
- And you must look. If it is the road to its territory that it goes up, to Beth-shemesh, it is he that has done to us this great evil, but if not, we must know that it was not his hand that touched us, an **accident** it was that happened to us. (**1 Samuel 6:9**)
- But also eventuality,
- As regards anyone wise, his eyes are in his head, but the stupid one is walking on in sheer darkness. And I have come to know, I too, that there is one eventuality that **eventuates** to them all. (**Ecclesiastes 2:14**)
- And I myself said in my heart; An **eventuality** like that upon the stupid one will **eventuate** to me, yes, me. Why, then, had I become wise, I overmuch so at that time? And I spoke in my heart; This too is vanity. (**Ecclesiastes 2:15**)

- For there is an **eventuality** as respects the sons of mankind and an **eventuality** as respects the beast, and they have the same **eventuality**. As the one dies, so the other dies, and they all have but one spirit, so that there is no superiority of the man over the beast, for everything is vanity. (**Ecclesiastes 3:19**)
- And by chance.
- At that she went off and entered and began to glean in the field behind the harvesters. Thus **by chance** she lighted on the tract of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the family of Elimelech. (**Ruth 2:3**)
- Jacob feared that a **fatal accident** might befall his beloved son Benjamin if allowed to go to Egypt with his brothers.
- But Jacob did not send Benjamin, Joseph's brother, with his other brothers, because he said; Otherwise a **fatal accident** may befall him. (**Genesis 42:4**)
- However, he said; My son will not go down with you men, because his brother is dead and he has been left by himself. If a **fatal accident** should befall him on the way on which you would go, then you would certainly bring down my gray hairs with grief to Sheol. (**Genesis 42:38**)
- The Philistines returned the ark of Yehowah to prove whether the plague of piles they suffered really was from Yehowah or was just **an accident**.
- And you must look. If it is the road to its territory that it goes up, to Beth-shemesh, it is he that has done to us this great evil, but if not, we must know that it was not his hand that touched us, **an accident** it was that happened to us. (**1 Samuel 6:9**)
- Solomon recognized that anyone may become a victim of unforeseen occurrence.
- I returned to see under the sun that the swift do not have the race, nor the mighty one's the battle, nor do the wise also have the food, nor do the understanding one's also have the riches, nor do even those having knowledge have the favor, because time and **unforeseen occurrence** befall them all. (**Ecclesiastes 9:11**)

- The Mosaic Law differentiated between an **accident** that proved fatal, and one that was not.
- And in case men should struggle with each other and they really hurt a pregnant woman and her children do come out but no **fatal accident** occurs, he is to have damages imposed upon him without fail according to what the owner of the woman may lay upon him, and he must give it through the justices. (**Exodus 21:22**)
- But if a **fatal accident** should occur, then you must give soul for soul. (**Exodus 21:23**)
- Eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot. (**Exodus 21:24**)
- Branding for branding, wound for wound, blow for blow. (**Exodus 21:25**)
- It also distinguished between killing intentionally and unintentionally. For deliberate murder, capital punishment was mandatory, for those guilty of **accidental homicide**, cities of refuge were set up.
- The Law applied equally to native Israelite and alien resident, and instructions for the necessary sacrifices to atone for **accidental or unintentional sins** were provided.
- And Yehowah went on to speak to Moses, saying; (**Leviticus 4:1**)
- Speak to the sons of Israel, saying; In case a soul sins by mistake in any of the things that Yehowah commands should not be done, and he actually does one of them. (**Leviticus 4:2**)
- If the priest, the anointed one, sins so as to bring guiltiness upon the people, then he must present for his sin that he has committed a sound young bull to Yehowah as a sin offering. (**Leviticus 4:3**)
- And he must bring the bull to the entrance of the tent of meeting before Yehowah and must lay his hand upon the bulls head, and he must slaughter the bull before Yehowah. (**Leviticus 4:4**)

- **And the priest, the anointed one, must take some of the bull's blood and bring it into the tent of meeting. ([Leviticus 4:5](#))**
- **And the priest must dip his finger in the blood and spatter some of the blood seven times before Yehowah in front of the curtain of the holy place. ([Leviticus 4:6](#))**
- **And the priest must put some of the blood upon the horns of the altar of perfumed incense before Yehowah, which is in the tent of meeting, and all the rest of the bull's blood he will pour at the base of the altar of burnt offering, which is at the entrance of the tent of meeting. ([Leviticus 4:7](#))**
- **As to all the fat of the bull of the sin offering, he will lift up from it the fat that covers over the intestines, even all the fat that is over the intestines. ([Leviticus 4:8](#))**
- **And the two kidneys and the fat that is upon them, the same as that upon the loins. And as for the appendage upon the liver, he will remove it along with the kidneys. ([Leviticus 4:9](#))**
- **It will be the same as what is lifted up of a bull of the communion sacrifice. And the priest must make them smoke upon the altar of burnt offering. ([Leviticus 4:10](#))**
- **But as for the skin of the bull and all its flesh along with its head and its shanks and its intestines and its dung. ([Leviticus 4:11](#))**
- **He must have the entire bull taken out to the outskirts of the camp to a clean place where the fatty ashes are poured out, and he must burn it upon wood in the fire. Where the fatty ashes are poured out it should be burned. ([Leviticus 4:12](#))**
- **Now if the entire assembly of Israel makes a mistake and the matter has been hidden from the eyes of the congregation in that they have done one of all the things that Yehowah commands should not be done and so have become guilty. ([Leviticus 4:13](#))**
- **And the sin that they have committed against it has become known, then the congregation must present a young bull for a sin offering and must bring it before the tent of meeting. ([Leviticus 4:14](#))**
- **And the older men of the assembly must lay their hands upon the**

bulls head before Yehowah, and the bull must be slaughtered before Yehowah. (Leviticus 4:15)

- **Then the priest, the anointed one, must bring some of the bull's blood into the tent of meeting. (Leviticus 4:16)**
- **And the priest must dip his finger into some of the blood and spatter it seven times before Yehowah in front of the curtain. (Leviticus 4:17)**
- **And he will put some of the blood upon the horns of the altar that is before Yehowah, which is in the tent of meeting, and all the rest of the blood he will pour at the base of the altar of burnt offering, which is at the entrance of the tent of meeting. (Leviticus 4:18)**
- **And he will lift up all its fat from it, and he must make it smoke on the altar. (Leviticus 4:19)**
- **And he must do to the bull just as he did to the other bull of the sin offering. That is the way he will do to it, and the priest must make an atonement for them, and so it must be forgiven them. (Leviticus 4:20)**
- **And he must have the bull taken out to the outskirts of the camp and must burn it, just as he burned the first bull. It is a sin offering for the congregation. (Leviticus 4:21)**
- **When a chieftain sins and he does commit unintentionally one of all the things that Yehowah his God commands should not be done, and so has become guilty. (Leviticus 4:22)**
- **Or his sin that he has committed against the commandment has been made known to him, then he must bring as his offering a male kid of the goats, a sound one. (Leviticus 4:23)**
- **And he must lay his hand upon the head of the young goat and slaughter it in the place where the burnt offering is regularly slaughtered before Yehowah. It is a sin offering. (Leviticus 4:24)**
- **And the priest must take some of the blood of the sin offering with his finger and put it upon the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and he will pour the rest of its blood at the base of the altar of burnt offering. (Leviticus 4:25)**

- **And he will make all its fat smoke on the altar like the fat of the communion sacrifice, and the priest must make an atonement for him for his sin, and so it must be forgiven him. (Leviticus 4:26)**
- **And if any soul of the people of the land sins unintentionally by his doing one of the things that Yehowah commands should not be done and he does become guilty. (Leviticus 4:27)**
- **Or his sin that he has committed has been made known to him, then he must bring as his offering a female kid of the goats, a sound one, for his sin that he has committed. (Leviticus 4:28)**
- **And he must lay his hand upon the head of the sin offering and slaughter the sin offering in the same place as the burnt offering. (Leviticus 4:29)**
- **And the priest must take some of its blood with his finger and put it upon the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and he will pour all the rest of its blood at the base of the altar. (Leviticus 4:30)**
- **And he will remove all its fat, just as the fat was removed from off the communion sacrifice, and the priest must make it smoke on the altar as a restful odor to Yehowah, and the priest must make an atonement for him, and so it must be forgiven him. (Leviticus 4:31)**
- **But if he would bring a lamb as his offering for a sin offering, a sound female lamb is what he should bring. (Leviticus 4:32)**
- **And he must lay his hand upon the head of the sin offering and slaughter it as a sin offering in the place where the burnt offering is regularly slaughtered. (Leviticus 4:33)**
- **And the priest must take some of the blood of the sin offering with his finger and put it upon the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and he will pour all the rest of its blood at the base of the altar. (Leviticus 4:34)**
- **And he will remove all its fat the same as the fat of the young ram of the communion sacrifice is regularly removed, and the priest must make them smoke on the altar upon Yehowah's offerings made by fire, and the priest must make an atonement for him for his sin that he has committed, and so it must be**

forgiven him. (**Leviticus 4:35**)

- **And Yehowah continued to speak to Moses, saying; (**Leviticus 5:14**)**
- **In case a soul behaves unfaithfully in that he actually sins by mistake against the holy things of Yehowah, then he must bring as his guilt offering to Yehowah a sound ram from the flock, according to the estimated value in silver shekels, by the shekel of the holy place, as a guilt offering. (**Leviticus 5:15**)**
- **And he will make compensation for the sin he has committed against the holy place and he will add to it a fifth of it, and he must give it to the priest, that the priest may make an atonement for him with the ram of the guilt offering, and so it must be forgiven him. (**Leviticus 5:16**)**
- **And if a soul sins in that he does do one of all the things that Yehowah commands should not be done, although he did not know it, yet he has become guilty and must answer for his error. (**Leviticus 5:17**)**
- **And he must bring a sound ram from the flock according to the estimated value, for a guilt offering, to the priest, and the priest must make an atonement for him for his mistake that he committed unintentionally, although he himself did not know it, and so it must be forgiven him. (**Leviticus 5:18**)**
- **It is a guilt offering. He has positively become guilty against Yehowah. (**Leviticus 5:19**)**
- **Now in case you should make a mistake and not do all these commandments, which Yehowah has spoken to Moses. (**Numbers 15:22**)**
- **All that Yehowah has commanded you by means of Moses from the day that Yehowah commanded and onward for your generations. (**Numbers 15:23**)**
- **It must then occur that if it has been done far from the eyes of the assembly by mistake, the whole assembly must then render up one young bull as a burnt offering for a restful odor to Yehowah, and its grain offering and its drink offering according to the regular procedure, and one kid of the goats as a sin**

offering. (**Numbers 15:24**)

- And the priest must make atonement for the whole assembly of the sons of Israel, and it must be forgiven them, because it was a mistake, and they, for their part, brought as their offering an offering made by fire to Yehowah and their sin offering before Yehowah for their mistake. (**Numbers 15:25**)
- And it must be forgiven the whole assembly of the sons of Israel and the alien resident who is residing as an alien in their midst, because it was by mistake on the part of all the people. (**Numbers 15:26**)
- And if any soul should sin by mistake, then he must present a female goat in its first year for a sin offering. (**Numbers 15:27**)
- And the priest must make atonement for the soul who made a mistake by a sin unintentionally before Yehowah, so as to make atonement for it, and it must be forgiven him. (**Numbers 15:28**)
- As to the native among the sons of Israel and the alien resident who is residing as an alien in their midst, there should prove to be one Law for you as respects doing something unintentionally. (**Numbers 15:29**)

See Also CITIES OF REFUGE