## ~BAAL OF PEOR (158) (Ba'al of Pe'or)

- The particular **Baal** worshiped at **Mount Peor** by both Moabites and Midianites.
- Now Israel was dwelling in Shittim. Then the people started to have immoral relations with the daughters of Moab. (Numbers 25:1)
- So Israel attached itself to the **Baal of Peor**, and the anger of Yehowah began to blaze against Israel. (Numbers 25:3)
- But, look! A man of the sons of Israel came, and he was bringing near to his brothers a Midianite woman before Moses eyes and before the eyes of all the assembly of the sons of Israel, while they were weeping at the entrance of the tent of meeting. (Numbers 25:6)
- It has been suggested that Baal of Peor may actually have been Chemosh, in view of the fact that the latter deity was the chief god of the Moabites.
- Woe to you, Moab! You will certainly perish, O people of Chemosh! He will certainly give his sons as escaped one's and his daughters in the captivity to the king of the Amorites, Sihon. (Numbers 21:29)
- As with Baalism generally, grossly licentious rites were probably connected with the worship of Baal of Peor. The Israelites, while encamped at Shittim on the high plains of Moab, were enticed into immorality and idolatry by the female worshipers of this god.
- Now Israel was dwelling in Shittim. Then the people started to have immoral relations with the daughters of Moab. (Numbers 25:1)
- And the women came calling the people to the sacrifices of their gods, and the people began to eat and to bow down to their gods. (Numbers 25:2)
- So Israel attached itself to the Baal of Peor, and the anger of

Yehowah began to blaze against Israel. (Numbers 25:3)

- Hence Yehowah said to Moses; Take all the head one's of the people and expose them to Yehowah toward the sun, that the burning anger of Yehowah may turn back from Israel. (Numbers 25:4)
- Then Moses said to the judges of Israel; Each one of you kill his men who have an attachment with the Baal of Peor. (Numbers 25:5)
- But, look! A man of the sons of Israel came, and he was bringing near to his brothers a Midianite woman before Moses eyes and before the eyes of all the assembly of the sons of Israel, while they were weeping at the entrance of the tent of meeting. (Numbers 25:6)
- When Phinehas the son of Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest caught sight of it, he at once got up from the midst of the assembly and took a lance in his hand. (Numbers 25:7)
- Then he went after the man of Israel into the vaulted tent and pierced both of them through, the man of Israel and the woman through her genital parts. At that the scourge was halted from upon the sons of Israel. (Numbers 25:8)
- And those who died from the scourge amounted to twenty-four thousand. (Numbers 25:9)
- Then Yehowah spoke to Moses, saying; (Numbers 25:10)
- Phinehas the son of Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest has turned back my wrath from upon the sons of Israel by his tolerating no rivalry at all toward me in the midst of them, so that I have not exterminated the sons of Israel in my insistence on exclusive devotion. (Numbers 25:11)
- For that reason say; Here I am giving him my covenant of peace. (Numbers 25:12)
- And it must serve as the covenant of a priesthood to time indefinite for him and his offspring after him, due to the fact that he tolerated no rivalry toward his God and proceeded to make atonement for the sons of Israel. (Numbers 25:13)

- Incidentally the name of the fatally struck Israelite man who was fatally struck with the Midianitess was Zimri the son of Salu, a chieftain of a paternal house of the Simeonites. (Numbers 25:14)
- And the name of the Midianite woman fatally struck was Cozbi the daughter of Zur, he was a head one of the clans of a paternal house in Midian. (Numbers 25:15)
- Later Yehowah spoke to Moses, saying; (Numbers 25:16)
- Let there be a harassing of the Midianites, and you men must strike them. (Numbers 25:17)
- Because they are harassing you with their deeds of cunning that they committed against you cunningly in the affair of Peor and in the affair of Cozbi the daughter of a chieftain of Midian, their sister who was fatally struck in the day of the scourge over the affair of Peor. (Numbers 25:18)
- Your own eyes are the ones that saw what Yehowah did in the case of the Baal of Peor, that every man who walked after the Baal of Peor was the one whom Yehowah your God annihilated from your midst. (Deuteronomy 4:3)
- And they began to attach themselves to Baal of Peor and to eat the sacrifices of the dead ones. (Psalms 106:28)
- Like grapes in the wilderness I found Israel. Like the early fig on a fig tree in its beginning I saw the forefathers of you people. They themselves went in to Baal of Peor, and they proceeded to dedicate themselves to the shameful thing, and they came to be disgusting like the thing of their love. (Hosea 9:10)
- Nevertheless, I have a few things against you, that you have there those holding fast the teaching of Balaam, who went teaching Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols and to commit fornication. (Revelation 2:14)
- Israel's sin in connection with Baal of Peor resulted in Yehowah's sending a death-dealing scourge that killed thousands of Israelites. A question arises as to the number of those actually killed by the scourge in view of a seeming discrepancy between.

- And those who died from the scourge amounted to twenty-four thousand. (Numbers 25:9)
- Neither let us practice fornication, as some of them committed fornication, only to fall, twenty-three thousand of them in one day. (1 Corinthians 10:8)
- Apparently 23,000 were directly killed by the scourge, whereas 1,000 head one's or ringleaders were killed by the judges of Israel and then hung up, exposed to public view.
- Hence Yehowah said to Moses; Take all the head one's of the people and expose them to Yehowah toward the sun, that the burning anger of Yehowah may turn back from Israel. (Numbers 25:4)
- Then Moses said to the judges of Israel; Each one of you kill his men who have an attachment with the Baal of Peor. (Numbers 25:5)

See Also BAAL 4