

The letter "vav" joins the two parshat Yitro and Mishpatim together,

In Yitro, at the end of the parsha, Hashem starts to give Moshe the religious laws and the mizvot.

In Mishpatim, He continues with more laws and commandments.

We talk about two types of laws – **בין אדם לחבר** – laws which govern our relations with our fellow man, and – **בין אדם למקום** – laws which govern our relations and obligations to Hashem.

The letter "vav" is to remind us that they are both equally important.

Rashi tells us that, for this reason, the Sanhedrin, the highest legal court in the land, was located in the Temple.

This was to remind us that our obeying the civil laws and respecting our fellow man is just as important as the religious laws of sacrifices and our worship of Hashem in the sanctuary.