



In partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy
David Krantz

will defend his prospectus

***Shmita* Inspiration:
Biblical Ideas for a Sustainable Future**

Friday, November 20, 2020

(4 Kislev 5781)

9:00 a.m. MST

<https://asu.zoom.us/j/82060711377>

Faculty, students, and the public are invited.

Supervisory Committee:
Dr. Evan Berry, Co-Chair
Dr. Paul Hirt, Co-Chair
Dr. George Basile, Member
Dr. Hava Samuelson, Member

Abstract

The academic field of sustainability may be new, but the ideas behind it could be thousands of years old. This work seeks to gain a better understanding of how the modern notion of sustainability, while not necessarily developed from biblical thought, nonetheless reflects the biblical concept and practice of *shmita* — the sabbatical year — and how *shmita* addresses the environmental, economic and social aspects of sustainability. The normative goal of this scholarship is to bridge secular and religious knowledge and people, and in so doing hopefully inspire the biblically minded to adopt more sustainable practices and inspire sustainability practitioners to consider biblical ideas in planning a sustainable future.