

# הומש דברים THE TORAH

With an Interpolated English Translation and Commentary Based on the Works of The Lubavitcher Rebbe Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson זצוקללה"ה נבנ"מ זי"ע

## Chumash Devarim

The Book of Deuteronomy

Parshat Eikev



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#### THE TORAH - CHUMASH DEVARIM

WITH AN INTERPOLATED ENGLISH TRANSLATION AND COMMENTARY BASED ON THE WORKS OF THE LUBAVITCHER REBBE

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# Eikev 46 נקב

Re'eh Shoftim Teitzei Tavo Nitzavim Vayeilech Ha'azinu Vezot Habrachah



#### **Overview**

s was explained in the previous *parashah*,¹ although God did not fully grant Moses′ request that our Divine perception be characterized by the certainty associated with the sense of sight, He nevertheless did implant this level of Divine perception in our latent, subconscious minds. This subliminal perception endows us with the conviction necessary to fulfill our God-given mission: to promulgate and disseminate Divine consciousness throughout the world. At its initial, literal level, this mission focuses on the national duty to conquer the Land of Israel from the nations who personify the deification of worldly forces and antagonism to Divine awareness. On its derivative, allegorical level, this mission translates into our challenge to liberate all aspects of life from their materialistic orientation, allowing them to express their true, Divine essence.

The Divine "sight" implanted in our subliminal consciousness is, as Moses asked that it be, a Divine gift, unearned and unconditional. It is our job to actualize it, to bring it from subliminal to sentient consciousness. This is the subject of *parashat Eikev*.

Parashat Eikev begins, "If you will listen...." As was explained, listening (or hearing) is a lower level of perception than seeing. Indeed, the name of this parashah, Eikev, literally means "heel," the lowest extremity of the body and perhaps its most insensitive part.<sup>2</sup> On the other hand, hearing involves our interpretive efforts more than does seeing, since seeing is a more direct experience than hearing. True, it is possible to see without seeing attentively, i.e., without "looking," just as it is possible to hear without hearing attentively, i.e., without "listening." But on the whole, we are quicker to know what it is we have seen than what it is we have only heard or heard about, and we are more staunchly convinced of the truth of what we have seen than the truth of what we have merely heard. Attaining knowledge through hearing requires more effort.

The same holds true for Divine perception in the manner of "seeing" versus Divine perception in the manner of "hearing." The advantage of attaining Divine awareness via "hearing" is that it requires us to reach deeper into our personalities, forcing us to forge a more profound relationship with God than that which is accomplished through "seeing." "Seeing" Divinity the way Moses did is more direct, more immediate, and more overwhelming, but it is at the same time more ephemeral, more elusive. In contrast, "hearing"

<sup>1.</sup> In the Overview and on 4:35 & 39.

<sup>2.</sup> Avot d'Rabbi Natan 31:3.

Divinity requires us to dig deeper, to examine and work through our entire system of belief, until we reach the very bedrock of our Divine soul, our Divine essence, which then serves as the basis of our commitment to our Divine mission in life.

This, perhaps, is why the verb "to listen," both in Hebrew and in English, means not only "to hear with the ears" but also "to obey." When we "hear" a truth consummately—in the very fiber of our being—we become committed to that truth.

Paradoxically, then, it is hearing, rather than the more riveting experience of seeing, that enables us to commit ourselves wholeheartedly and totally to our Divine calling. This is one reason<sup>3</sup> why the word for "if" in the opening phrase of this *parashah* ("If you will listen…) literally means "heel": the heel, as we noted, is the least sensitive limb of the body, and is thus a metaphor for raw commitment, the least emotionally engaging form of fulfilling our Divine mission.

Raw commitment and self-discipline, essential though they may be as the immutable basis of our relationship with God, are not intended, of course, to be either the entirety or quintessence of that relationship. We are bidden to progress from "hearing" to "seeing," to manifest our subliminal surety of God's existence that He granted us at Moses' behest. Living life on this level of Divine awareness is a much loftier experience since, as we said, the experience of seeing overtakes our entire consciousness; all our faculties of intellect, emotion, and expression are imbued with this heightened energy.

The culmination of this process is alluded to in the following *parashah*, *Re'eh*, which opens with the words: "See, I have placed before you this day...." The implied promise is that if we fully and truly "hear," as detailed in *parashat Eikev*, then even in the overall exilic context of "hearing," we will be granted the ability to consciously experience the subconscious Divine sight (to "see" God's "I") that was implanted within us in *parashat Va'etchanan*. Nonetheless, it is the work we do while only "hearing" that enables our subsequent "seeing" to remain a permanent feature of our psyches, rather than the fleeting glimpse of higher reality that it is by itself.

Thus, in this *parashah*, Moses continues his review of Jewish history with the immediate aftermath of the Giving of the Torah (which he recounted in *parashat Va'etchanan*): the incident of the Golden Calf and the mechanism of return to God and reconciliation with Him—*teshuvah*. As we have noted,<sup>5</sup> *teshuvah* is the underlying theme of the entire Book of Deuteronomy, but it receives particular emphasis in *parashat Eikev*, since it is the struggle to "hear" God, rather than the ecstasy of "seeing" Him, that characterizes the process of *teshuvah*.



The opening phrase of *parashat Eikev* is thus interpreted in the Midrash to refer allegorically to the messianic era.<sup>6</sup> This is because "hearing," aside from leading to "seeing," also prepares us for the future messianic Redemption. As noted, "hearing" enables us to reach our own essence, and the result and reward of manifesting our Divine essence is the revelation of God's essence that will occur after the final Redemption.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>3.</sup> For additional reasons, see on 7:12, below.

Deuteronomy 11:26.

<sup>5.</sup> In the Overview to parashat Devarim.

See on 7:12, below.

<sup>7.</sup> Likutei Sichot, vol. 9, pp. 76-77, pp. 81-83; Sichot Kodesh 5733, pp. 344-345.

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1:12 ויהי חַלָּף דִּי תְּקְבְּלּוּן יָת דִינָיָא הָאלִין וְתִשְׁרוּן וְתַעְבְּדוּן יַתְהוֹן וְיִשָּׁר יִיְ אֱלְהָּךְּ לְּךְּ יָת קְיָמָא וֹלְדָּא דִמְעָךְּ וִאָּבָּא דְאַרְעָךְּ עָבּוּרְךְּ וֹלְדָּא דִמְעָךְ וְאָבָּא דְאַרְעָךְ עַבּוּרְךְּ זְלְדָּא דִמְעָךְ וְאִבָּא דְאַרְעָרְ עַבּוּרְךְּ וֹלְדָת עַלְּאַרְעָא דִי קִיִּים לָאֲבָהָתְרָּ למתו לְהָ: לינה ועקיתם אֹתֶם וְשְׁמִלּוּן אֵת הַמִּשְׁפָּטִים הָאֵלֶה וְיִּהְרָת וְשְׁמִר וְשְׁמְרִי אַוְמְהְרָת צֹאנֶּךְ וְנְשְׁתְרִת צֹאנֶּךְ וְעַלְּבְרִר וְשִׁתְּרָת צֹאנֶּךְ וְעַלְּבְרִר וְשִׁמְרִת צֹאנֶּךְ וְעַלְּבְרָת צֹאנֶּךְ וְעַלְּבִרְת צֹאנֶּךְ וְעַלְּבְרָת בַּעְלְבָּרְ וְעַשְׁתְרָת צֹאנֶּךְ וְעַלְּבִרְת צֹאנֶּךְ וְעַלְּבְרָת בַּעְלְבָּרְ וְעִשְׁתְרָת צֹאנֶּךְ וְעַלְּבִּתְרָת צֹאנֶּךְ וְעַלְּבִּתְרָת בַּעְּבְּבְּע לֵאֲבֹנְיִךְ לָתֵת לֶּךְ:

∞ RASHI 🗷

בְשָׁן״וֹ — מִבְחַר הַצֹּאן, כְּמוֹיֵּ: ״עַשְּׁתְרֹת קַרְנַיִם״, לְשׁוֹן חֹזֶק. וְאֻנְּקְלוֹס תִּרְגֵם: ״וְעֶדְרֵי עָנְךְ״. וְרַבּוֹתֵינוּ אָמְרוּיִּ: לְמָה נִקְרָא שְׁמָם ״עַשְׁתָּרֹת״, שֶׁמַּעֲשִׁירוֹת אֶת בּעליהזי בּעליהזי 12 וְהָּיָה עָקֶב תִּשְׁמְעוּן. אָם הַמִּצְוֹת הַקּלּוֹת שֶׁאָדָם דְּשׁׁבְּעוּן. אָם הַמִּצְוֹת הַקּלּוֹת שֶׁאָדָם דְּשׁׁ בַּצַקַבְּיוֹ תִּשְּׁמְעוּן: וְשְׁמֵר הֹ׳ וְגוּ׳. יִשְׁמֹר לְּהְ הַבְּטְהָוֹ: 13 שְׁגַר אֲלְפֶּיּה. וַלְדֵי בְקְרְך שֶׁהַנְּקְבָה מִבְּטְהָיה: וְעֵשְׁתִּרת צֹאנָה. מִנָחֵם פֵּרַשׁ: ״אַבִּירֵי מִשְׁגַּרת מִאנֶר. מְנָחֵם פֵּרַשׁ: ״אָבִּירֵי

ב. תהלים כב, יג. 2. בראשית יד, ה. 3. חולין פד, ב.

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we are about performing the "heavier" ones. Our devotion to God will prompt us to seek to serve Him completely—fulfilling all His commands without distinction.

In this context, our awareness of which commandments are more vital and which are less so serves only to help us ensure that we are no less scrupulous and enthusiastic in observing the latter than we are in observing the former. Thus, it is specifically this uniform approach to fulfilling God's will that focuses on the essential bond with God that performing the commandments effects.

In this light, the first three interpretations of this verse listed above can be seen as complementary aspects of the same idea. By being equally conscientious about the "light" and "heavy" commandments, we affirm that we are performing all of them out of pure devotion to God. In reward, God provides us with the material means with which to perform them more easily now, and will ultimately enable us to fulfill them completely by ushering in the messianic era.<sup>10</sup>

Then God, your God, will keep for you the covenant: As has been explained previously, a covenant is a pact made by two parties indicating that they are from now on two halves of one whole, and that, based on this inner bond, they agree to always behave lovingly toward each other, even if one or the other's future behavior fails to justify such love. So, if God made such a covenant with us, swearing to our forefathers that He would always treat us with loving-kindness, why is this now being made

contingent upon our performance of the commandments?

The answer is that if God would fulfill the terms of this covenant literally, bestowing His beneficence on us even when we do not deserve it, it could embarrass us, causing us to feel like little children whose parents overlook their infantile behavior because adult behavior cannot be expected of them. Or worse, repeatedly receiving undeserved beneficence could undermine our belief in Divine justice. We would thus live our lives in either existential shame or confusion. Certainly, then, this would be the very opposite of being kind and merciful.

Therefore, even though the gifts promised here are beyond our power to elicit through our own efforts, God nonetheless determined that their bestowal *would* be dependent upon our efforts. Furthermore, in order that this arrangement not appear arbitrary, He determined that the bestowal of His infinite beneficence be contingent upon human effort that specifically mirrors the infinite, unlimited nature of this beneficence.

By taking care to fulfill the seemingly less-important commandments with the same devotion with which we naturally fulfill the seemingly more-important ones, we demonstrate our absolute devotion to God. We show that what matters to us is that God said that He wants us to do these things, not our own evaluation of which things are more weighty than others.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>10.</sup> Sefer HaSichot 5749, vol 2, pp. 641-648. 11. On Genesis 15:9. 12. Likutei Sichot, vol. 9, pp. 71-75.

#### **Humility**

7:12 Having exhorted the people to keep God's commandments first out of legal obligation and then additionally out of love, Moses continued: "I must now warn you about falling into the delusion of self-aggrandizement when God rewards you for observing His commandments. If you will indeed heed these ordinances with such devotion that you are scrupulous about even the seemingly inconsequential ones, and safeguard them by studying the Torah's instructions regarding how to perform them, and then perform them accordingly, God, your God, will keep the covenant for you, as well as the promise of kindness that He swore to your forefathers that He would keep.

13 He will love you, bless you, and multiply you. He will bless your children, the fruit of your womb; your produce, the fruit of your soil: your grain, your wine, your oil; the offspring of your cattle and the choice of your flocks—all this in the land that He swore to your forefathers to give you.

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- **12 If you will heed:** The word used here for "if" (*eikev*) literally means "heel." This unusual phrase-ology invites a number of interpretations:
- Heeding God's instructions will be closely followed by ("come at the heels of") the reward detailed in the verses that follow.<sup>1</sup> According to this interpretation, the verse would read: "On the 'heels' of your heeding...."
- The reward for heeding detailed in the verse that follow will be bestowed specifically for fulfilling those commandments that people typically neglect ("trample under their heels").<sup>2</sup> According to this interpretation, the verse would read: "If you heed even the 'heel'-commandments...."
- The reward for heeding detailed in the verse that follow will be bestowed in the messianic future (the end or "heel" of history).<sup>3</sup> According to this interpretation, the verse would read: "There will be reward in the 'heel'-era for your heeding."
- In the era immediately preceding the advent of the Messiah (when we hear the "footsteps" of the Messiah), the Jewish people will return fully to God. According to this interpretation, the verse would read: "In the 'footstep'-era, you will heed...."<sup>4</sup>

What exactly is the reward for performing the commandments? Although the text appears to imply that the reward consists only of material blessing and plenty, this cannot be the case, since such a reward would not be commensurate with the tremendous, far-reaching effects of fulfilling the commandments. The sages point out that even the im-

measurable, indescribable delight experienced by the soul in the afterlife is not enough to compensate for just one hour of performing God's will in this world.<sup>5</sup>

By fulfilling God's commandments, we connect with God in the most intimate way possible.<sup>6</sup> It is this very intimacy that is the true reward for performing the commandments, as alluded to in the sages' statement, "The reward for [doing] a commandment is a commandment."<sup>7</sup> This refers to the bond forged with God by the commandment itself, the even greater bond forged by the further commandments it leads to, and the deeper bond resulting from the increased quality with which the individual performs it the next time.

Hence, the material bounty promised here and elsewhere in the Torah for observing God's laws is not an end in itself but rather simply the means by which God facilitates our further performance of His commandments.<sup>8</sup> "The reward for [doing] a commandment is [that God will make it easier to do] another commandment."

Similarly, the material bounty awaiting us in the messianic era is not an end in itself but rather the circumstance that will enable us to fulfill God's will and perform the commandments in the most ideal way possible.<sup>9</sup>

There are, of course, many possible motivations for observing God's commandments, many of them quite legitimate. But only if we observe the commandments out of simple devotion to God will we be as careful about performing the "lighter" ones as

<sup>1.</sup> Onkelos, Rashi ad loc. 2. Tanchuma, Rashi ad loc. 3. Devarim Rabbah 3:1, 3; Midrash Tehilim 92; Ibn Ezra, Ramban ad loc., Or HaTorah, Devarim, p. 103, pp. 106 ff. 4. Or HaTorah ad loc., quoting Or HaMeir. 5. Avot 4:17. 6. Likutei Torah 2:45c, inter alia. 7. Avot 4:2. 8. Mishneh Torah, Teshuvah 9:1. 9. Mishneh Torah, Melachim 12.

בּי־מוֹלֵשׁ הָוּא לֶךְ: ם בִּרִמוֹלֵשׁ הָוּא לֶךְ: ם בִּרְהָשְׁ הָּוּא לֵא הַשְּׁר יְהַנֶּה מִפְּּל הַבְּלְהַ בְּלְּהַיִּה בְּלְּהַ הָּלָּה הְנְּה בְּלְּהַיִּה בְּלְּהַיִּה בְּלְּהַיִּה בְּלְּהַיִּה בְּלְּהַיִּה בְּלְּהַיִּה בְּלִי הְלָא הַעְּבִּר בְּלְהַיִּהְ בְּלְּהַיִּהְ בְּלְּהַיִּהְ בְּלְּהַ בְּלְּהַיִּה בְּלְּהְיִה בְּלְּהַ בְּלְּהַבְּלִים בְּלְּהְיִה בְּלְּהְיִבְּל בְּלְיִהְנְיִם בְּלְהַיִּבְלְיה בְּלְיהַ בְּלְיהַ בְּלְהַבְּלְהַבְּלְיה בְּלְיהַ בְּלְיהַ בְּלְיהַ בְּלְיהַ בְּלְיהַ בְּלְיהַ בְּלְיהַ בְּלְיהַ בְּלְיהַ בְּלְיהִים בְּלְיהִים בְּלִים בְּלְיבִים בְּלְיבִים בְּלְיבִים בְּלִים בְּלִים בְּבְּלִים בְּלִים בְּלִים בְּלְיבִים בְּלְיבִים בְּלְיבִים בְּלִים בְּלְיבִים בְּלִים בְּלְבִים בְּבְּלִים בְּלְיבִים בְּלִים בְּבְּבְים בְּבְיבִים בְּלִים בְּבְּבְים בְּבִילְם בְּבְיבִים בְּבְיבוֹם בְּבְיבִים בְּבְּבִילְם בְּבְּבִים בְּבִילְים בְּבִּים בְּבִילְים בְּבִּים בְּבִילְם בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִילְים בְּבִילְים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בּיבּים בְּבִילִים בְּבִילְים בְּבִים בְּבִּים בּיבּים בְּבִיבְים בּיבּים בְּבִים בְּיבּים בּיבּים בּבְּיוֹים בְּבִים בְּבִים בְּבִּים בְּבִים בְּבִים בְּבִים בְּבִים בְּבִים בְּבִים בְּבִּים בְּיִים בְּבִים בְּבִים בְּבִים בְּיבוּים בְּיִים בְּבְיבִים בְּבִים בְּבִים בְּבִים בְּבִּים בְּיבְים בְּבִים בְּבִים בְּבִים בְּבִים בְּבִים בְּבִים בְּבִים בְּבּים בְּבְיבְים בְּבְיבְים בְּבְיבְים בְּבְיבְים בְּבְיבְים בְּבְיבְים בְּבְיבִים בְּבָּבְיבּים בְּבְיבְים בְּבְיבְיבְים בְּבְיבוּב בְּבְיבְים בְּבְּבְיבְים בְּבְּבְיבְים בְּבְיבִים בְּבִּיבְים בְּבְּבְיבְים בְּבְבִים בְּבִּיבְים בְּבְּבְיבְים בְּבְּבִים בְבִים בְּבִים בְּבִיבְים בְּבִּים בְּבִים בְּבִים בְּבְבּים בְּבְיבִים בְּבְבּים בְּבְיבּים בְּבְיבִים בְּבִים בְּבִיבְים בְּבְיבְ

בָרְ עֲקַר וְעַקְרָא וּבִבְעִירְךְ: 15 וְיַעְדֵי יָיָ מִנְּךְ כָּל מַרְעִין וְכָל מַכְּתָּשֵׁי מִצְרַיִם בִּישַׁיָּא דִי יְדַעְתָּ לָא יְשַׁוּנּוּן בָּךְ וְיִתְנִנּוּן בְּכָל סְנְאָיךְ: 16 וּתְגַמַּר יָת כָּל עַמְמַיָּא דִי יְיָ אֱלְהָךְּ יָהֵב לָךְ לָא תְחוּס עֵינָךְ עֲלֵיהוֹן וְלָא תִפְלַח יָת טַעֲוַתְהוֹן אֲרֵי לְתַקְלָא יְהוֹן לָךְ: 17 דִּלְמָא תֵימֵר בְּלִבְּךְ סַגִּיאִין עַמְמַיָּא הָאִלֵין מִנִּי אֵיכְדִין אָבּוּל לְתָרְכוּתְהוֹן: 18 לָא תִדְחַל מִנְּהוֹן מִדְכַּר תִּדְכַּר יָת דִּי עֲבַד יָיָ אֱלָהָרְ לְפַּרְעֹה וּלְכָל מִצְרָיִם: אַנְירְ עִינְיךְ דִי הְוַאָאָה עֵינְיךְ 19 וְאָתַיָּא וּמוֹפְתַיָּא וִידָא תַקִּיפְתָּא וּדְרָעָא מְרָמְמָא דִּי אַפְּקָרְ יְיָ אֱלְהָרְ בֵן יַעְבֵּד יְיָ אֱלְהָרְּ לְכָל עַמְמַיָּא די אַהְ דָּחֵל מִקְּדָמֵיהוֹן: 20 וְאַף יָת עַרִעיתָא יְגָרִי יְיָ אֱלְהָךְּ בְּּהוֹן עַד דְיֵיבְדוּן דְאִשְׁתְאָרוּ וּדְאִטַּמְּרוּ

מִקֶּדְמָרִ: 21 לָא תִתְבַר מִקֶּדְמֵיהוֹן

קָבִי יְיָ אֱלְהָךְ שְׁכִינְתֵהּ בִּינְךְ אֱלָהָא רַבָּא וּדְחִילָא: 22 וִיתָרֵךְ יְיָ

אֱלָהָרְ יָת עַמְמַיָּא הָאִלֵין מִקֶּדְמָרְ

זְעֵר זְעֵר לָא תִכּוּל לְשֵׁצְיוּתְהוֹן בִּפְרִיעַ דִּלְמָא תִסְנֵּי עֲלָךְּ חֵיוַת

בְּרָא: 23 וְיִמְסְרנּוּן יְיָ אֱלְהָךְ קֵדְמְּך וִישַׁגֵּשִׁנּוּן שָׁגּוּשׁ רַב עַד דְּיִשְׁתַצוּן:

—⊗ ONKELOS બ્s——

יְהֵי לְא יְהֵי מִבֶּל עַמְמַיָּא לְא יְהֵי 14

-∞ RASHI 🗷

14 עָקָר. שֶׁאֵינוֹ מוֹלִיר: 17 כִּי תֹאמֵר בִּלְבְבְּךָ. עַל כְּרְחָךְ לְשׁוֹן ״דִּלְמָא״ הוּא, שֶׁמָא תֹאמֵר בִּלְבְבְּךָ ״מִפְּנֵי שֶׁהֵם רַבִּים לֹא אוּכַל לְהוֹרִישָׁם״, אַל תּאמֵר כֵּן, ״לֹא תִירָא מֵהֶם״. וְלֹא יִתְּכֵן לְפָּרְשׁוֹ בְּאֶחָד מִשְּאָר לְשׁוֹנוֹת שֶׁל ״כִּי״ שֶׁיפּּל עָלְיוֹ שׁוּב ״לֹא תִירָא מֵהֶם״: 19 הַפָּּשֹת. נְסְיוֹנוֹת: וְהָאֹתֹת. כְּגוֹן: ״וַיְהִיּ לְנָחָשׁ״٠, ״וְהִיוּ לְדָם בַּיַּבְּשֶׁת״٠: וְהַמֹּפְתִים. הַמַּכּוֹת הַמֶּפְלָאוֹת: וְהַיִּר הַחָּזְקָה. זָה הַדֶּבֶר: וְהַזִּרְעַ הַּנְּטִּיִּה. זוֹ הַחֶּרֶב שֶׁל מַכַּת בְּכוֹרוֹת: 20 הַאֵּרְעָה. מִין שֶׁרֶץ

הְעוֹף, שֶׁהְיְתָה זוֹרֶקֶת בָּהֶם מְרָה וּמְטַרִסְתָּוֹ וּמְסַמְאָה אֶת עֵינִיהֶם, בְּּכְל מְקוֹם שֶׁהִיוּ נִסְתָּרִים שְׁם: 22 כֵּּל מִקוֹם שֶׁהִיוּ נִסְתָּרִים שְׁם: 22 כִּּלְ מִקוֹם שֶׁהִיוּ נִסְתָּרִים שְׁם: 22 כִּּלְ מִקוֹם אֵיוְ מִרְיָּרְאִין מִן הַחַיָּה, שֶׁנָאֱמֵריּ: "וְחַיַּת הַשְּׁדָה מְקוֹם אֵיוְ מִרְיִּרְאִין מִן הַחַיָּה, שְׁנָאֱמִריּ: "וְחַיַּת הַשְּׁדָה הָשְׁלְמָה לְּךְּ": אֶלֶא גָּלוּי הָיָה לְפְנִיו שֶׁעֵתִידִין לַחֲטֹא: מִן הַיְּטֹּר, וַהְבֵּי שָׁאֵין מֵ"ם אַחְרוֹנְה מִן הַיְּטֹר, וַהְרֵי הוּא בְּמוֹ "וְהָמֵם אוֹתִם". אֲבְל "וְהָמֵם גִּלְּנִי סְוֹר, לְפִיכְךְ חֶצְיוֹ קְמֵץ וְחָצִיוֹ פְּמַתְן מְשִׁל שְׁלשׁ אוֹתִיוֹת:

4. שמות ד, ג. 5. שם, ט. 6. איוב ה, כג. 7. ישעיה כח, כח.

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transformation of evil into good is clearly a greater victory over evil than is merely holding evil at bay.<sup>21</sup>

tual victory over them would lead them to acknowledge the superiority of Judaism over idolatry. This

- 14 You will be blessed above all peoples. There will be no sterile male or barren female among you or your livestock.
- 15 God will remove from you all illness. He will not set upon you any of the evil diseases of Egypt that you knew, 13 but will put them instead upon all your enemies.
- 16 You must destroy all the peoples whom God, your God, is handing over to you. You must not spare them, nor may you worship their deities, for that will be a snare for you.
- 17 Perhaps you will you say to yourself, 'These nations are more numerous than me; how will I be able to drive them out?'
- 18 You must not fear them. Rather, you should remember well what God, your God, did to Pharaoh and to all of Egypt:
- 19 the great trials that you saw with your own eyes, in which He dared the Egyptians to test Him;<sup>14</sup> the signs by which He confirmed that He sent me to save you;<sup>15</sup> the marvels, i.e., the plagues,<sup>16</sup> especially the two in which He killed the Egyptians: the mighty hand that He figuratively used to kill their animals with an epidemic, and the outstretched arm that He figuratively used to slay their firstborn—all of with which God, your God, brought you out.<sup>17</sup> So will God, your God, do to all the peoples whom you fear.
- 20 In addition, as He told you, <sup>18</sup> GoD, your God, will incite hornets against them, which will inject venom into them that will castrate and blind them, until the survivors and those who hide from you perish.
- 21 You must not be terrified of these nations, for God, your God, who is in your midst, is a great and awesome God.
- 22 And you need not worry that if all the inhabitants of the land suddenly die, the land will be overrun by dangerous wild animals, for as He told you, <sup>19</sup> **God, your God, will cast out these nations from before you gradually. You will** thus **not be able to destroy them** too **quickly, lest the beasts of the field outnumber you.** True, wild animals do not harm righteous people, <sup>20</sup> but I do not expect your entire population to sustain such a level of righteousness.
- 23 God, your God, will deliver these nations to you, and He will derange them with great pandemonium until they are utterly destroyed.

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**14 You will be blessed above all peoples:** This phrase may also be read, "You will be blessed *by* all peoples."

As mentioned previously, had the Jewish people entered the Promised Land directly from Egypt and not taken the forty-year detour in the desert, the Canaanite nations would have offered no resistance. They would have simply fled, and the Jews

would not have had to battle them or engage them in any way.

Although such a scenario would have been simpler, it would not have effected any change *per se* in these nations. They would have remained struck with fear from without, but within they would have remained just as they always were. In contrast, the armed struggle against these nations and our even-

**<sup>13.</sup>** See Exodus 15:26. **14.** Exodus 8:5. **15.** Exodus 4:2. **16.** Exodus 7:3, 11:9-10. **17.** Above, 4:34. **18.** Exodus 23:28. **19.** Exodus 23:29-30. **20.** Cf. Genesis 6:2, 9:2; Rashi on 9:15; Job 5:23.

-80 ONKELOS 03-24 וימסר מלכיהון בידר ותובד יַת שָׁמָהוֹן מְתָּחוֹת שָׁמַיָּא לָא יָתְעַתַּד אָנָשׁ קַדְמַךְ עַד דְּתְשִׁיצִי יַתְהוֹן: 25 צַלְמֵי טַעֲוַתְהוֹן תּוֹקְדוֹן בְּנוּרָא לָא תַחְמֵד כַּסְפָּא וְדַהֶּבָא די עֵלֵיהוֹן וְתִסַב לָךְ דִּלְמָא תִּתָּקַל בָּה אַרִי מִרְחֵקָא דִּייָ אֵלְהָךְּ הוּא: וַלָא תַעֵל דְּמַרַחַק לְבֵיתַךְ וּתְהֵי 26 חַרמָא כָּוָתָהּ שַׁקָּצָא תִשַּׁקִצְנַהּ וְרַחָקָא הְּרַחֲקִנָּה אֲרֵי חֵרְמָא הוּא: 8:1 כַּל תַפָּקֶדְתָא דִּי אָנָא מִפַּקָדְרָ יוֹמָא דֵין הַּטָּרוּן לִמֵעבָּד בִּדִיל דְּתֵיחוּן וְתָסָגוּן וְתָעֵלוּן וְתֵירְתוּן יָת אַרְעָא דִי קַיִּים יִי לַאֲבָהַתְּבוֹן: וְתִדְכַּר יָת כַּל אַרְחָא דִּי דַבְּרְךְ יִיָּ אַלַהַרְ דְּנָן אַרְבָּעִין שָׁנִין בְּמַדְבָּרָא בִּדִיל לְעַנָּיוֹתֶךְ לְנַסְיוֹתֶךְ לְמִדַע יָת דִּי בְלִבְּךְ הֲתִטַּר פָּקוֹדוֹהִי אִם לַא: זַועַנִיר ואַכפּנַר ואוֹכְלַרְ יַת מַנָּא דִי לָא יִדְעָתַ וְלָא יִדְעוּ אַבַהָתַרְ בִּדִיל לְאוֹדַעוּתַרְ אֵרֵי לַא עַל לַחִמַא בִלְחוֹדוֹהִי מִתְקַיַם אַנָשָׁא אַרֵי עַל כָּל אַפָּקוּת מֵימִרָא דַייַ יִתְקַיַם אֲנָשַׁא: 4 כַּסוּתַךְ לַא בְלִיאַת מִנֶּךְ וּמְסָנֵיךְ לָא יִחֵפוּ דְּנַן אַרבּעין שָׁנִין:

24 וְנָתָן מַלְבֵיהֶם בְּיָדֶׁךְ וְתַעֲבֶבוּ בִּי־תֵּרֶם הְוּא: 26 וְלָא־תָבִיא תְוֹעֵבָר אִישׁ בְּפָּנֶּיךְ עַרְ הִשְּׁמִרְךְ אֹתְם: 25 פְּסִילֵי אֶלְהִיהֶם תִּשְּׂרְפִּוּן בָּאֵשׁ לְא־תַחְמֹד בָּפֶּף וְזָהֶב עַלִיהֶם וְלָּלַחְתָּ לֶּךְ בָּן תִּנְּלֵשׁ בּוֹ כִּי תְוֹעֲבָת יְהֹוָה אֶלֹהֵיה הָוּא: 26 וְלָא־תָבִיהָם הִשְּׂרְפִּוּן בָּאֵשׁ לְא־תַחְמֹד בָּפֶּף וְזָהֶב שַׁקֵּץ וֹ הְשַׁקְצֵנּוּ וְתַעֲב וֹ תַּתְעֲבֶנּוּ בִּי־תֵּרֶם הְוּא: פּ שַׁקֵץ וֹ הְשַׁקְצֵנּוּ וְתַעֵב וֹ תַּתְעֲבֶנּוּ בִּי־תֵּרֶם הְוּא: פּ

8:1 פְלֹיתֵן הְיִּהְיּוֹן וּרְבִיתֶם וּבָאתֶם וִירִשְׁתֶם אֶת־הָאֶרִץ לְמַעַן הְּחְיּוֹן וּרְבִיתֶם וּבָאתֶם וִירִשְׁתֶם אֶת־הָאֶרִץ אֲשֶׁר וּהְלִירְהְ יְהוָֹה לֵאֲבְרֹתִיכֵם: 2 וְזֵכַרְתֵּ אֶת־בָּל־הַהֶּרֶךְ אֲשֶׁר הוֹלִירְהְ יְהוָֹה לֵאַבְּתִיכֵם: 2 וְזֵכַרְתַּ אֶת־בָּל־הַהָּרֶךְ אֲשֶׁר הוֹלִירְהְ יְהוֹּה אֶלֹהֶיְךְ זָה אֶלֹהֶיְךְ זָה אַרְבָּעִים שְׁנֶה בַּמִּיְרָהְ לְאַיְרָבְּרְ וְיִאֲבְּרְ וְיִבְּיְהְ וְיִבְּיְהְ וְיִבְּיִּךְ אָתִיךְ וְבִיּלְהְ וְיִבְּיְהְ וְיִבְיְּהְ וְיִבְּיְרְהְ לְא עַל־בְּלְרִמוֹצְא פִיי עַל־בָּלִרמוֹצְא פִיי הַמָּן אֲשָׁר לְא־יָדִישְׁהְ וְיִבְיְהְ לְא בֵּלְתָה מְשָׁרֵה וְבִיּלְהְ לִיִּ עַרְיִבְיְרְ לְא בַּלְתָה מֵעְלֶיךְ לְא בֵּלְתָה מֵעְלֶיךְ וְיִבְּלְּךְ לִא בְלְתָה מֵעְלֶיךְ וְיִבְּלְּהְ לֹא בַלְתָה מֵעְלֶיךְ וְבִּלְּלְךְ לִא בְלְתָה מֵעְלֶיךְ וְבִּלְּלְךְ לֹא בַלְתָה מֵעְלֶיִךְ וְבִּלְּךְ לִא בִּיְלְהָה לִא בַּלְתָה מִעְלֵיךְ וְבִּלְּלְּךְ לֹא בַּצְקָה זָה אִרבּעִים שְׁנֵה:

#### -∞ RASHI 🗷

1 **כָּל הַמִּצְוָה.** כִּפְשׁוּטוֹ. וּמְדְרֵשׁ אַגָּדָהיּ: אִם הַתְחַלְתָּ בְּמִצְוָה, גְּמֹר אוֹתָה, שֶׁאֵינְה נִקְרֵאת אֶלְא עַל שֵׁם הַגּוֹמְרָה, שֶׁנֶּאֲמַריּ: ״וְאֶת עַצְמוֹת יוֹסֵף אֲשֶׁר הָעֶלוּ בְנֵי יִשְּׂרָאֵל מִמְצְרַיִם קָבְרוּ בִשְׁכֶם״, וַהָּלֹא מֹשֶׁה לְבַדּוֹ נִתְעַסֵּק בָּהֶם לְהַעֲלוֹתָם? אֶלְּא לְפִי שֶׁלֹא הַספּיק לְגַמֵּרָה וּגִמֵרוּה יִשִּׂרָאל, נִקְרָאת על שׁמָם:

#### −& CHASIDIC INSIGHTS ଔ-

4 The Clouds of Glory pressed them: We may sometimes feel overwhelmed by the concealment of God in this world, leaving us feeling distant from Him and spiritually lifeless. Rather than succumbing to despair, however, we should take this as a challenge to spur us on to exerting greater efforts to overcome the obstacles to Divine revelation. Such renewed resolve will in turn lead us to a deepened awareness and love of God. Indeed, it is precisely

2 **הַתִּשְׁמֹר מִצְוֹתָו**. שֶׁלֹּא תְנַסֵּהוּ וְלֹא תְהַרְהֵר אַחֲרְיוּ: **שִׂמִלְתְרָּ לֹא בַּלְתַה.** ענְנֵי כָבוֹד הַיוּ שֵׁפִים בַּכְסוּתִם

וּמְגַהַצִים אוֹתָם כִּמִין כֵּלִים מְגֹהָצִים, וְאַף קִטַנֵּיהֵם

בְּלבוּשׁן עָמָהֵם, כַּלְבוּשׁ

הַזָּה שֵׁל חֹמֵט שַׁגָּדֵל עִמוֹ: לֹא בָצֵקָה. לֹא נָפְּחָה

בַבַּצָק, בַּדֵרֶךְ הוֹלְכֵי יַחֶף שַׁרְגַּלֵיהֵם נְפוּחוֹת:

because feeling estranged from God can inspire us to seek Him with greater resolve that God sometimes hides from us, similarly to how parents will sometimes temporarily distance themselves from their children in order to make the children realize how much their parents mean to them.

This dynamic is alluded to in Ezekiel's prophetic vision of the Divine chariot, in which he saw "a great cloud followed by a flaming fire", 28 the cold

- 24 He will deliver their kings into your hand, and you will thus destroy their renown from everywhere under heaven. No man will be able to stand up before you, from the beginning of the battle until you have destroyed them.
- 25 You must burn the sculpted images of their deities with fire. You must not desire the silver or gold that is plated upon them and take it for yourself, lest you be ensuared by it, for it is disgusting to God, your God.
- 26 Nor should you bring an idol, which is an object of God's disgust, into your house, lest—by demonstrating your lack of abhorrence for it—you thereby forfeit your life and become condemned to destruction like it. Rather, you must utterly loathe it<sup>22</sup> and utterly detest it; for it is to be destroyed.
- 8:1 In the time remaining between now and your entry into the land, you must safeguard—of all the commandments that I am commanding you today—those that you are able to perform during this period,<sup>23</sup> by studying the Torah's instructions regarding how to perform them, in order to be able to perform them properly, in order that you may live, multiply, and come take possession of the land that Gop swore to your forefathers—for you will enter and take possession of the land in the merit of the commandments you perform. Of course, you are building on the accrued merits of the commandments that were performed by the generation that died out in the desert. But since the merits of the commandments that you perform will ultimately determine whether you will be able to conquer the land, it is as if all the merits that contributed toward this end belong to you. This principle will apply no matter why those who contributed toward the effort did not complete it—whether they were opposed to the goal (e.g., the spies and their sympathizers) or not (e.g., all the others over 20 years old, who were implicated in the spies' plot passively)—and no matter at what point those who are completing it joined the effort (e.g., the sympathizers of the spies who were under 20 at the time and thus were not punished and lived on to the present day).<sup>24</sup>

It is thus clear that, wherever possible, you should take care to properly complete the performance of any commandment you begin to perform, for the merit of the commandment is ascribed to the one who completes it.

- 2 You must recall the entire journey on which God, your God, led you during these forty years in the desert, in order to afflict you and thereby to test you, i.e., to know what is in your heart, specifically: whether or not you would keep His commandments—i.e., the commandment not to put Him to the test<sup>25</sup>—or criticize Him.
- 3 He afflicted you, let you go hungry, and then fed you with manna, which neither you nor your forefathers had ever known, in order to make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but that man lives by whatever is given him through the command that issues from God's mouth.
- 4 Your clothing did not wear out upon you, for the Clouds of Glory laundered and pressed them, and your children's clothing grew with them,<sup>26</sup> nor did your feet swell from walking barefoot during these forty years, for like your clothing, your shoes never wore out.<sup>27</sup>

**<sup>22.</sup>** *Likutei Sichot*, vol. 9, p. 96, note 15. **23.** *Likutei Sichot*, vol. 19, pp. 94-97. **24.** *Likutei Sichot*, vol. 19, pp. 98-99. **25.** Above, 6:16. **26.** Exodus 13:21; *Likutei Sichot*, vol. 18, p. 259. **27.** Below, 29:4.

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זותדע עם לבּך ארי כּמא די 5 מָאַלֶּף גַּבָּרָא יַת בָּרָה יִיַ אֱלָהַרְּ מָאַלֶּף לַךְ: 6 וְתְטַר יַת פָּקּוֹדְיַא דיי אַלַהָר למָהַר בּאָרחָן דּתָקנָן 7 ארי קַבמוהי וּלְמִדְחַל יַתֵה: יִי אֵלָהַרְ מַעַלַרְ לְאַרְעַא טַבְתָא אַרעַא נָגָדָא נַחֵלִין דְּמַיִּין מַבּוּעֵי בבקען עינון ותהומין נפקין ובטורין: 8 ארע חטין ושערין וגופנין ותאַנין ורמונין אַרעא דְזֵיתַהָא עַבְדִין מִשְׁחַא וְהָיא עַבְדֵא דבַש: פַאַרעַא דִי לַא בִמִּסְבֵּינוּ תֵּיכוּל בַּה לַחִמָּא לַא תַחְסַר כַּל מדעם בה ארעא די אבנהא פרזלא ומטורהא תפסול נחשא: 10 וְתֵיכוּל וְתִשְׂבַע וּתִבַרֶךְ יַת יִיַ אַלַהַרְ עַל אַרעַא טַבְתַא דִּיהַב לָך: 11 אָסְתַּמַר לָךְ דִּלְמָא תִתִנְשֵׁי יָת דַּחַלְתָּא דַייָ אֱלְהָרְ בִּדִיל דְּלָא לִמְטַר פָקוֹדוֹהִי וְדִינוֹהִי וְקִימוֹהִי דִי אַנָא מִפַּקָדַך יוֹמָא דֵין: 12 דְּלְמַא תֵיכוּל וְתִשְבַע וּבַתִּין שַׁפִּירִין תָּבְנֵי וְתֵיתֵב: 13 וְתוֹרֶךְ וְעַנַךְ יִסְגוּון וכספא ודהבא יסגא לך וכל די לַךְ יִסְגַא: 14 ויִירַם לַבַּךְ וַתְתַנְשֵׁי יָת דַּחַלְתָא דַייָ אֱלְהָךְ דִּי אַפְּקָךְ מאַרעא דמצרים מבית עַבדותא: 15 דְּדַבְּרֶךְ בְּמַדְבְּרָא רַבְּא וּדְחִילְא אַתַר חֵיוַן קַלָן וְעַקַרַבִּין וּבֵית צַחַוָנַא אַתַר דִּי לֵית מַיַּא דְאַפָּק לַךְ מַיָּא מִטְנָרָא תַּקִיפָא: לַיְדַרְעָהֵ עִם־לְּבָבֶךְ בִּי בַּאֲשֶׁר יְיֵפֵּר אִישׁ אֶת־בְּנוֹ יְהֹוָה אֵלהֶיך מְיַבְּלָהָ הִיְלְהָה אִתְי: 7 בִּי יְהוָה אֵלהֶיך מְיַבְּלָהָ וּלְיִרְאָה אֹתְו: 7 בִּי יְהוָה אֵלהֶיך מְבִּרְבָּי וּלְיִרְאָה אֹתְו: 7 בִּי יְהוָה אֵלהֶיך מְבִּרְבָּי וּלְיִרְאָה אֹתְו: 7 בִּי יְהוָה אֵלהֶיך מְבִּיאָך אָעָרִץ אֲשֶׁר לְא בְמִסְבֵּנֵת הְאבֹלִי מְבִּים עָיָנֹת וּתְבָּלֵה וְנְבָּלְוֹ וּלְצִּאִים בְּלְבֶר וּלְצִבְיי מּבֹרְי, זְיִת שֶׁבֶּוֹ וּלְבְבֵּי 9 אֶבֶיץ חַשְּׁה וֹשְׁבַלְיה וְנָבֶּן וּתְאֵנֶה וְרְבִּיוֹלְ אֵבְיִי מִבְּלְעָה וְנָבֶּן וּתְאֵנֶה וְרְבְּיוֹלְ בַּבְּרְנְיִי מִבְּרְי, זְמָבְלְהֵי וְשְׁבְּלְיה וְבְּבְיוֹ וּלְיִבְלְהָ וְבְּבְיוֹלְ בְּבְרְבְּה בְּבְרְנְה בְּבְרְבְּה בְּבְיִי בְּבְּלְעָה וְבְבְּבְיוֹ בְּלְבָבְיוֹ וּלְיִבְלְה בְּבְרְבְּה בְּבְרְבְּה בְּבְרְבְיִה בְּבְרְבְהְיֹ בִּבְּרְהָי מִבְּרְבְיִה בְּבְרְבְיִי בִּבְּבְיְה בְּבְבְּיִב בְּעְבָּב וְחְשָׁבְּר וְיִבְּבְיוֹ וּלְבְּבְרְיה בְּבְרְבְיִי בְּבְבְּבְיי בְּבְּבְּלְעָה וְבְבְבְיה בְּבְבְּבְיִי בְּבְּבְיְבְיה בְּבְבְּבְיה בְּבְבְּבְיי בְּשְׁבְיִם מְבֹילְבְבְיתְ בְּבְרְבְהְיִּ בְּבְירְבְיִי בְּבְבְיִים בְּבְבְיה בְּבְבְּבְיה בְּבְבְיִי בְּבְּבְיי בִּבְּבְיְה בְּבְבְיִים בְּבְבְיים בְּבְבְיה בְּבְבְיִים בְּבְבְיה בְּבְבְייִם בְּבְייִם בְּבְיבְיה בְּבְבְיבְיי בְּבְבְייִי וּבְּבְיבְיה בְּבְבְיה בְּבְבְייִם בְּבְבְייִם בְּבְבְבְיה בְּבְבְבְיי בִבְּצְבְיי בְבְּבְבְייִם בְּבְבְבְיי בְּבְבְיּבְיי בְּבְבְייִי בְּבְבְייִם בְּבְבְיי בְּבְּבְיי בְבְבְבְיי בְּבְבְיי בְּבְבְייִם בְּבְיי בְבְּבְבְיי בְבְיּבְבְיי בְבְבְבְיי בְּבְבְייִבְיי בְּבְבְיוֹבְבְיים בְּבְבְייִבְיי בְּבְבְבְיִים בְּבְבְייִבְיי וּבְבְרְבְבְיי בְּבְבְיוֹ בְּבְיִבְיי בְּבְיבְבְיי בְּבְבְייִי בְּבְיבְבְיי בְּבְבְייִבְיי בְּבְיבְבְיי בְבְבְבְייִבְיי וּבְּבְבְייִבְיוֹ בְּבְבְיִבְיי בְּבְבְייִים בְּבְבְיי בְבְייִבְבְּיוֹב בְּיוֹים בְּבְבְייוֹי וּבְּבְבְבְיי בְּבְבְייִבְיוֹ בְּבְבְייִבְיי בְּבְבְבְיי בְּבְבְיִבְיי בְבְּבְייִים בְּבְבְבְיי בְּבְבְיוֹבְיי בְבְייוֹבְיּבְיי בְּבְבְייִי בְּבְבְייִבְיי בְּבְבְייוֹבְבְיוֹם בְּבְבְבְבְיי בְּבְייִבְּבְיי בְבְבְּבְבְיי בְבְבְיוֹבְבְּבְייוֹבְבְיוּ

שני 11 הַשָּׁכֶּר לְךְּ פֶּן־תִּשְׁכָּח אָת־יְרוֹנְה אֵלהֵיך לְבִּלְהִי שׁנִי 11 הַשְּׁכֶּר לְךְּ פֶּן־תִּשְׁכָּח אָת־יְרוֹנְה אֵלהֵיך לְבִּלְהִי בְּעִים מֹבֵים תִּבְנֶה וְיִשֵּׁבְתִּי לְּךָ יִרְבָּיֹן וְכֶסֶף וְזָהֶב יִרְבָּח־לֵּךְ וְעִקְרָ וְשְׁבָתִי לְּךָ יִרְבָּה וְשְׁבַרְים: 15 וְבְּלִי אֲשֶׁר בְּבֵּרְ וְשְׁבַרְים: 15 וְבְּלִי אֲשֶׁר בְּבֵּרְ וְשְׁבַרְים: 15 וְבְּנִי וְשְּבְרִים: 15 וְבְּנִי וְשְּׁבַרְים: 15 וְבְּנִילְ אֲשֶׁר בְּבְרִים: 15 וְמִּלְּיִרְה וְבִּנִי מְבְּרִים: 15 וְבִּנּוֹלִיכְךְ בְּבָּרְוֹ וְבְּנִילִי מְבְּרִים מִבְּיִם מִבְּיִם: 15 וְבְּנִוֹלְיִרְךְ וְבְּנִילִי מִבְּיִים מִבְּיִים מִבְּיִרם: 15 וְבְּנִוֹלְיִבְרְ וְבְּבְּוֹלִי מְבְּרִים מִבְּיִם מִבְּיִרם: 15 וְבְּנִוֹלְיִבְּלְ מִשְּׁבְּיִים מִבְּיִרם מִבְּיִרם מִבְּיִרם: 15 בְּמּוֹלִיכְרְ בְּבְּרָוֹ וְבְּנִיְרָ וְבְּנִים מִבְּיִם מִצְּיִר הְחַלְּלְיִים: 15 וְבְּנִים הַמּוֹצִיִא לְדְּ לַיִים מִצְיִּר הְחַלְּלְיִישׁ:

-∞ RASHI ശ-

וֹיתִים הַעוֹשִים שַׁמֵן. זֵיתִים הַעוֹשִים שַׁמֵן: s

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work we have to do (manifesting our inner, Divine nature) to the hardest (refining the outside world).

The repetition of the word "land"—emphasizing the setting in which all this work takes place—alludes to an intensified variation of the paradigm of work described by the first five plants. This is the extra exertion we must invest in attaining our goal during the exile, when the effort required of us is far greater than that required in the Holy Land during times of open Divine revelation.

This intensified process and its results are alluded to by the last two of the seven plants: Olives are bitter tasting and produce their oil only when pressed hard. Date trees take a very long time to grow, reflecting the great amount of work required during the exile to produce spiritual fruits. However, both the light-producing oil extracted from olives as well as the sweet honey produced from dates allude to the great revelations of the inner dimension of the

Torah that will accompany the messianic redemption. The supreme efforts required of us during the exile call forth much deeper and profounder dimensions of our relationship with God and our devotion to Him, and therefore elicit commensurately deep revelations of the Torah.

Obviously, the same dynamic applies to each of us in our own individual journeys toward our personal "promised land": the greater the efforts we expend in attaining, sustaining, and promulgating Divine consciousness, the deeper we must dig into the core of our souls, and the more profound will be our resultant relationship with God and the Torah.<sup>35</sup>

15 That great and awesome desert: The Jewish people's desert trek was a forerunner and metaphor of the existential state of exile, which is followed by the redemption and entry into the Promised Land. The Torah here describes the stages through which both the people as a whole can descend into their

- 5 You know in your heart that just as a man chastises his son, so does God, your God, chastise you.
- 6 You must keep the commandments of God, your God, to go in His ways, and to revere Him.
- 7 For God, your God, is bringing you to a good land: a land of brooks of water, fountains, and aquifers that emerge in valleys and mountains;
- 8 a land of wheat, barley, grapevines, figs, and pomegranates; a land of oil-producing olives and date- and fig-honey;<sup>29</sup>
- 9 a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity—you will lack nothing in this land; a land whose stones yield iron, and out of whose mountains you will mine copper.
- 10 You will eat, be satiated, and bless God, your God, for the good land He has given you.
- ◆ Second Reading 11 So, after God has rewarded you with material abundance and military victory, beware lest you forget GoD, your God, by not keeping His commandments, ordinances, and rules, which I am commanding you today.
  - 12 Beware lest you eat and be sated and build sturdy houses and dwell in them,
  - 13 and your herds and your flocks multiply and your silver and gold increase, and all that you have increase,
  - 14 and your heart subsequently grow haughty and you forget God, your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the house of slaves;
  - 15 who led you through that great and awesome desert, which was notorious for its snakes, vipers, scorpions, and thirst induced from lack of water; who brought forth water for you out of flint-stone;<sup>30</sup>

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darkness of the cloud is often the precursor to the great fire of desire in our relationship with God.

The spiritual garments of the soul are its modes of expression: thought, speech, and action. The garments we weave by pursuing mundane, ephemeral, or selfish ends wear out all too quickly; the garments we weave by studying the Torah, praying, or performing God's other commandments never tatter. It follows that mixing our personal agendas with our Divine pursuits undermines the quality and permanence of the garments we weave. But if we train ourselves to utilize our feelings of estrangement—our feeling of being "under the cloud"—to refine our intentions in the fire of Divine passion, the garments then woven out of our study, prayer, and performance of the commandments will be correspondingly pure and eternal.<sup>31</sup>

7-8 **A land of wheat...:** The Land of Israel, as we have said, is the archetypal setting in which the

Jewish people are to transform the world into God's home. The seven plants enumerated here as the distinctive ones grown in the Land of Israel represent the diverse facets of this transformation process:

Wheat is used primarily for human food, barley primarily for animal food. These two grains therefore represent our methods for working with the Divine and animal sides of our personalities. Wine—the consummate product of the grape—which releases inhibitions and "gladdens man's heart," represents the joy with which we should infuse our work with both our Divine and animal natures. Since Adam and Eve's first clothes were made of fig leaves, figs represent our efforts to refine the "garments" of our souls, i.e., thought, speech, and action. The seed-laden pomegranate symbolizes the multitude of Divine commandments through which we refine the world around us. Thus, these five plants depict how we fulfill our task in the world, progressing from the easier

<sup>29.</sup> Rashi on Exodus 34:26 and below, 26:2. 30. Exodus 17:1-7; Numbers 20:2-13. 31. Or Torah 159. 32. Psalms 104:15. 33. Genesis 3:7. 34. Berachot 57a, et al. 35. Sefer HaSichot 5752, vol. 1, pp. 324-328.

−& ONKELOS 08− 16 דאוכלך מנא במדברא די לא ידעו אבהתר בדיל לעניותר ובדיל לָנַסֵיוּתַרְ לָאוֹטַבָא לַךְ בְּסוֹפַרְ: 17 ותימר בלבך חילי ותקוף ידי קָנוֹ לִי יָת נָבְסַיַּא הַאָּלֵין: 18 וְתִדְבַּר יָת יִיָּ אֱלְהָךְּ אֵרֵי הוּא יַהֵב לַרְ עצה למקני נכסין בּדִיל לקיַמא יָת קָיָמֶה דִּי קַיִּים לַאֲבָהָתֶךְ כִּיוֹמֶא הָדֵין: 19 וִיהֵי אָם אָתִנְשַׁאַה תִתְנְשֵׁי יַת דַּחַלְתַּא דַייַ אֱלָהַרְ וּתִהַרְ בָּתַר טעות עממיא ותפלחנון ותסגוד לְהוֹן אַסְהֵדִית בָּכוֹן יוֹמַא דֵין אֲרֵי מֵיבֶד תֵּיבְדוּן: 20 כַּעַמְמֵיַא דִּי יִיַ מוֹבִיד מַקַּדַמִיכוֹן כֵּן תֵּיבִדוּן חֵלַף דַלָא קַבֶּלְתוּן בַּמִימְרָא דַייַ אַלְהַכוֹן: אָת עבר יומא 9:1 דִין יָת יַרִדְּנָא לְמֵעַל לְמֵירַת עַמְמִין רברבין ותקיפין מנה קרוין רברבן רַב עַם בּית שָׁמֵיָא: בַ עַם רַב ותַקיף בָּנֵי גָבַריַא דִי אַתִּ יִדַעתַ וְאַתִּ שָׁמַעָתַ מַאן יִבּוּל לְמֵקַם קָדָם בְּנֵי גָבָּרַיָּא: זַּוְתִדַע יוֹמָא דֵין אֲרֵי יִיָּ אַלָהָךְ הוּא דִעָבַר קַדַמַךְ מֵימְרֵה אַשָּא אַכְלָא הוא יִשְׁצְנוּן וְהוּא יְתַבְּרנּוּן קֶדְמָךְ וּתְתָרֵכְנּוּן וִתוֹבִדְנּוּן בפריע במא די מליל יי לך:

דַּוֹנִי: פּ דִּינִי: פּ דִּינִים בִּינִים אָת־בְּרִיתִּוֹ אֲשֶׁר־נִשְׁבַּע לַאֲבִתֵּיך בַּיִּים 16 דַפּּאַבְרָבָ בָּיִם אָבְבִּיר אָשֶׁר לִא־נֵתֵן לְךֶּ כִּים לַאֲבִּעִיר 19 דַפּאַבְרָבָ בּיִחִי וְעִצֶּם יָּדִי עֲשָׁר לִא־נֵתוֹן לְךֶּ כִּים לַאֲבִּעִיר 19 בַּפִּאְבָּרָך בַּיִּמִרְ לְמִישִׁר לִא־נֵרְעוּוֹ אֲבִּתְּיך לְמַעַּוֹת 19 בַּפִּאְבָּרְרָ בָּיִלְבָּר אֲשֶׁר לִא־נֵרְעוּוֹ אֲבִּתְּיך לְמַעַּוֹת

19 וְהָיָה אָם־שָּׁכְתַ תִּשְּׁבֵּח אֶת־יְהְוָה אֱלֹהֶׁיךּ וְהֻלַּכְהָּ אָחֲבֵי אֶלהִים אֲחֵלִים וַעֲבַּדְהָּם וְהִשְּׁתַּחְוִיתְ לְהֶם הַעִּדְרִי בְּבֶם הַיּוֹם כִּי אָבְד הְּאבֵּדְוּן עֲכֶב לָא תִשְּׁמְעוּן בְּקוֹל מַאָבִיד מִפְּנֵיבֶּם כֵּן הְאבֹדְוּן עֲכֶב לָא תִשְׁמְעוּן בְּקוֹל יְהוָה אֱלְהֵיבֶם: פּ

9:1 שְׁמֵע יִשְּׂרָאֵל אַהָּה עבֵר הַיּוֹם אֶת־הַיַּרְהֵּן לְבֹא לְרֵשֶׁת גּוֹיִם נְּדִלְים וַעֲצֵמָים מִמֶּךְ עָרֶים נְּדִלְית וּבְצֵּירְת בְּצֵירְת בְּנִי עֲנָקִים אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּה יָדְעְהָּ הַיִּּוֹם הַאַבְּרִת בְּנִי עֲנָקִים אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּה יָדְעְהָּ הַיִּּוֹם וְאַבְּיִם הְנִּי עְנָקִים אֲשֶׁר אַתָּה יָדְעְהָּ הַיִּּוֹם נְאַבְּיִרְ אֵשֵׁ אִבְלָּה הְוּא הַנִּי וְתָנֵבֵר לְפָנֶיך אֲשׁ אִבְלָּה הְוּא יַבְנִיעֵם לְפָנֵיך וְהְוֹרַשְּׁתֶם וְהַאֲבַרְתָם מַהֵּר יִשְׁמִידֶם וְהָנִּה לַהְ:
בְּאַשֵּר הָבֵּר יְהַנֵּה לַהְ:

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ו גְּ**דֹלִים וַעֲצֻמִּים מִמֶּךְ.** אַתָּה עָצוּם, וְהֵם עֲצֻמִּים מִמֶּךְ:

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up to our true destiny.41

accumulated this wealth for me: It is clear to any intelligent person, especially to believing Jews—as were those who were about to enter the Land of Israel—that God is the source of all worldly success. True, God asks us to do our part by setting up a natural channel through which He can bestow His blessings. But there are also enough cases of unrewarded effort on the one hand and fortuitous "coincidences" on the other to make it clear that it is God's hidden hand that ultimately determines whether or not our efforts will be crowned with success. Surely, then, the Torah is not seeking here to refute the preposterous claim that a person's suc-

cess is entirely his own doing!

Rather, the Torah is here addressing a more subtle error in perception. We observe that children often surpass their parents in many ways, even though they received all their talents and aptitudes from them. The reason that children can manifest capabilities their parents do not seem to possess is because these talents and aptitudes remained dormant in the parents and only became active in their children.

Similarly, God calls the Jewish people His "children," and has indeed left it up to us to bring creation to its completion, granting us a measure of power that He—in the context of created reality—has relinquished. Thus, when we accomplish

<sup>41.</sup> Likutei Sichot, vol. 2, pp. 372-375.

- 16 who fed you in the desert with manna,<sup>36</sup> which your forefathers did not know, in order to afflict you<sup>37</sup> and in order to test you,<sup>38</sup> for your ultimate benefit—
- 17 and you say to yourself, 'It is my own strength and the might of my hand that have accumulated this wealth for me, and since I accrued it myself, I do not owe God anything for it.'
- 18 Rather, you should remember God, your God, for it is He who gives you strength to become wealthy, in order to fulfill His covenant that He swore to your forefathers, namely, to give their descendants this land, as He is doing this day.
- 19 If, on the other hand, you forget God, your God, and you follow insentient deities, worship them, and prostrate yourself before them, I testify before you today that you will surely perish. The surest way to forget God is by failing to remember what you have learned of the Torah, and the surest way to forget what you have learned is by failing to review it.<sup>39</sup>
- 20 You will perish just as the nations that God destroys before you will perish, since you will not obey God, your God.
- 9:1 Hear, O Israel: You are indeed a great and strong nation, but today, you are crossing the Jordan River in order to come dispossess nations greater and stronger than you, great cities fortified up to heaven,
- 2 as well as great and tall people, the descendants of the supernatural giants,<sup>40</sup> whom you know and of whom you have heard said by the spies, 'Who can stand up against the descendants of a giant?!'
- 3 Nonetheless, you must know and remember today that it is God, your God, who passes over before you as a consuming fire. He will destroy them and He will subdue them before you. You will either drive them out or destroy them quickly, as God spoke to you.

- ⊗ CHASIDIC INSIGHTS ଔ

collective exile and we as individuals can descend into our own personal exiles:

The first error lies in overestimating the power of the secular, mundane world and underestimating the power of holiness. True, the Divine soul, the observant Jewish community, and the Jewish people in general often seem to be at a disadvantage in every way, but the truth is that nothing can really oppose holiness. Deluding ourselves into thinking that anything is so *great* that it can oppose holiness is the first psychological descent into the mentality of exile.

Exaggerating the power of the unrectified world leads us to granting it dominion over the "religious" aspects of life as well. We become so afraid of the world's power—we consider the desert so awesome—that we are scared to appear too religious, even in private.

This leads us to replace our natural religious fervor

with enthusiasm for worldly pursuits. This is symbolized by the *snake*, whose venom is hot. Eventually, our enthusiasm for worldly things will consume our religious fervor altogether; this is symbolized by the burning sting of the *viper*.

But sooner or later, devotion to worldly pursuits leaves us jaded and our enthusiasm for them spent. This leaves us cold and deadened to any kind of stimulation, just as the venom of the *scorpion* is cold. When God tries to arouse us from this state with a thirst for true life, we will not be able to recognize what we are thirsting for. We will *thirst* but remain *lacking water*.

The way to avoid all of this, then, is not to begin this process altogether, by making the mistake of overestimating the weight of the world around us. By fostering our awareness of the power of holiness within us, we can avoid the pitfalls of exile and live שלישי 4 אַל־תֹאמַר בִּלְבֶבְהֹ בַּהַרַף יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיד אֹתָם וּ מִלְפַנֵּיך באמה בְּצִדְקַתִּי הֲבִיאַנִי יְחֹוָה לָרֶשֶׁת שָת־ הָאָרֶץ הַוֹּאת וּבְרִשְּׁעַת הַגּוֹיֵם הָאֵׁלֶּה יְהֹוָה מְוֹרִישְׁם מִפּנֵיף: 5 לָא בְּצִּדְקֶתְּדְ וּבְיּשֶׁר לְבֵבְדְ אַתָּה בָא לֶּוֶשֶׁת אָת־אַרְצֶם בִּּי בְּרִשְּׁעַת ו הַגּוֹיֵם הָאַבֶּה יְהַוָּה אֱלֹהֶיךּ מְוֹרִישָׁם מִפָּנֶּידְ וּלְמַעַן הָקִים אֶת־הַדְּבָר אֲשֶׁר נִשְּבַּע יְהוָה לַאֲבֹלֶּיף לְאַבְרָהָם לְיִצְחֶק וּלְיִעֲקֹב: 6 וְיָדִעְהָׁ בִּי לְא בֹּצִרְבֶתְדִּ יְהַנָּה אֶׁלבֶּידִ נֹתֵן לְךְ אֶת־הָאָבֶיץ הַפּוֹבֶה הַוֹּאת ּלְרִשְּׁתֶה בִּי עַם־קְשֵׁה־עָרֶף אֶתָה: 7 וְכֹר אַל־תִּשְׁבַּׁח אָת אָשֶׁר־הַקְצַפְּתָ אֶת־יְדּוָה אֶלֹהֶיךְ בַּמִּדְבֶּר לְמִן־הַיּוֹם אָשֶּׁר־יָצָאתָ ו מֵאֶב"ץ מִצְרַיִם עַד־בְּאָבֶם עַד־הַפָּוּקוֹם הַּזֶּה מַּמְרִים הָיִיתֶם עִם־יְהוָֹה: 8 וּבְחֹרֵב הִקְצַפְּתֶם אֶת־יְהוֹּוֶה וַיִּרָאַנַּף יְהוֹּוֶה בָּבֶם לְהַשְּׁמִיד אֶרְבֶם: 9 בַּעְּלֹתִי הָהָרָה לָלַחַת לוּחָת הֶאֲבָנִים לוּחָת הַבְּלִית אֲשֶׁר־בָּרָת יְהוָה עפָּבֶם וָאַשֵּׁב בָּהָר אַרְבָּעִים יוֹם וְאַרְבָּעֵים לַיְלָה לֶחֶם לָא אָבַּלְתִּי וּמֵיִם לָא שָׁתִיתִי: 10 וַיִּמֵּן יְהוָּה אֵלֵי אֶת־ שְׁנֵל לוּרְוֹת הָאֲבָנִים בְּתֻבִים בְּאֶצְבַּע אֱלֹהֶים וַעֲלֵיהֶם בְּבָל־הַדְּבָלִים אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר יְהנָה עִפָּבֶם בְּהָר מִתְּוֹךְ הָאֵשׁ בְּיִוֹם הַקָּהֶל: 11 וַיְהִי מִקֵּץ אַרְבָּעֵים יוֹם וְאַרְבָּעִים לֵיְלָה נָתַוֹ יְהוָּה אַלֵּי אֶת־שְׁנֵי לֻחָוֹת הַאֲבָנִים לַחְוֹת הַבְּרִית: 12 וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָּה אַלֵּי קוּם רֶד מַהֵר מִנֶּה בָּי שִׁחֵת עַבְּוֹדְ אָשֶּׁר הוֹצֵאתָ מִפִּיצְרֵיִם סֵרוּ מַהֵּר מִן־הַדָּרֶךְ אֲשֶׁר צִוּיתִם עָשִׂוּ לָהֶם מַפַּבְה:

—⊗ ONKELOS &—— יָּיְ תֵימֵר בְּלִבְּךְ בִּדְיִתְבַּר יְיָ אֱלָהָךְ יַתְהוֹן מִקְּדָמָךְ לְמֵימַר בְּזָכוּתִי אַעֲלַנִי יְיָ לְמֵירַת יָת אַרְעָא יָיָ הָאָלֵין יִיָּ הָאָלֵין יִיָּ מְתָרֵךְ לְהוֹן מִקֶּדְמָךְ: 5 לָא בְזָבוּתָךְ וּבְקַשִּׁיטוּת לְבָּךְ אַהְּ עָלֵל לְמֵירַת יָת אַרְעֲהוֹן אֲרֵי בְּחוֹבֵי עַמְמַיָּא הָאָלֵין יָיָ אֱלְהָרְ מְתָרֵיכְהוֹן מִקֶּדְמָרְ וּבְדִיל לַאֲקָמָא יָת פִּתְגָּמָא דִּי קַיִּים יָיָ לַאֲבָהָתָרְ לְאַבְרָהָם לְיִצְחָק וּלְיַעֲקֹב: 6 וְתִדַע אֲרֵי לָא בְזְכוּתָךְ יָיָ אֱלָהָרְ יָהֵב לָךְ יָת אַרְעָא טַבְתָא הָדָא לְמֵירְתַהּ אֲרֵי עַם קְשֵׁי קְדַל אָהְ: 7 הֱוֵי דְכִיר לָא תִתְנְשֵׁי יָת דִּי אַרגָזָתָ קָדָם יִיָּ אֱלָהָרְ בְּמַדְבְּרָא לְמָן יוֹמָא דִּי נְפַּקְתָּ מֵאַרְעָא דְמִצְרֵיִם עַד מֵיתֵיכוֹן עַד אַתְרָא הָדֵין מְסָרְבִּין הֲוֵיתוּן קֶדָם יְיָ: 8 וּבְחוֵֹרב אַרְגָּזְתּוּן קֶדָם יְיָ וַהֲנָה רְגַז מָן קֶדָם יָיָ בְּבוֹן לְשֵׁצְאָה יַתְבוֹן: 9 בְּמִסְּקִי לְטוּרָא לְמִסַּב לוּחֵי אַבְנַיָּא לוּחֵי קְיָמָא דִּי גְזַר יְיָ עִמְּכוֹן וִיתֵבִית דְטוּרָא אַרְבְּעִין יְמָמִין וְאַרְבְּעִין לֵילָנָן לַחְמָא לָא אֲבָלִית וּמֵיָּא לָא אָשְׁתֵּיתִי: 10 וִיהַב יְיָ לִי יָת הְּרֵין לוּחֵי אַבְנַיָּא כְּתִיבִין בְּאֶצְבְּעָא דַייָ וַעֲלֵיהוֹן כְּכָל פִּתְגָּמֵיָּא דִּי מַלֵּיל יְיָ עִמְכוֹן בְּטוּרָא מִגּוֹ אֶשָׁא בְּיוֹמְא דְקְהָלָא: 11 וַהְוָה מִסּוֹף אַרְבְּעִין יְמָמִין וְאַרְבְּעִין לֵילָון יְהַב יְיָ לִי יָת תְּרֵין לוּחֵי אַבְנַיָּא לוּחֵי קְיָמָא: 12 וַאֲמַר יְיָ לִי קוּם חוּת בִּפְּרִיעַ מָבָּא אֲרֵי חַבִּיל עַמְּךְ דִּי אַפֵּקְתְּ יִדְּרְיִם סְטוּ בִּפְרִיעַ מִן אָרְחָא דִּי פַּקֵּדְתִּנּוּן עֲבָדוּ לְהוֹן מַתְּבָא:

-₻ RASHI ശ-

<sup>4</sup> אַל תּאמֵר בִּלְבָבְרָּ. צִדְקָתִי וְרִשְׁעַת הַגּוֹיִם גָּרְמוּ: בְּהָר. אֵין ״יְשִׁיבָה״ אֶלְּא לְשׁוֹן עַכְּבָה: 10 **לֻחֹת**.

<sup>5</sup> לא בְצִרְקְתְרְּ וְגוֹ׳ אַתְּה בָא לֶרֶשֶׁת וְגוֹ׳ בִּי בְּרִשְׁעַת "לְחַת" כְּתִיב, שֶשְׁתֵיהָן שְׁוֹת: הַגוֹּיִם. הֲרֵי "בִּי" מְשַׁמֵשׁ בִּלְשׁוֹן "אֶלֶא": 9 וָאֵשֵׁב

- ♦ Third Reading 4 Do not say to yourself when God, your God, has repelled them from before you, saying, 'Because of my righteousness, God has brought me to take possession of this land,' and that because of the wickedness of these nations, God is driving them out from before you.
  - 5 You are not coming to take possession of their land because of your righteousness or because of the integrity of your heart. Rather, it is because of the wickedness of these nations that God, your God, is driving them out from before you, as well as in order to fulfill the statement that God swore to your forefathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
  - 6 You must know that God, your God, is not giving you this land to possess because of your righteousness, for on the contrary, you are a stiff-necked people.
  - 7 Remember—do not forget—how you repeatedly angered God, your God, in the desert. You have been rebelling against God from the day you went out of Egypt until the day you came to this place.

#### The Golden Calf Revisited

- 8 The most graphic example of your stubbornness was when **you angered God at** Mount **Horeb** by making the Golden Calf, **and God was** so **incensed with you** that He wanted **to destroy you**, as I will now review with you.
- 9 When I ascended the mountain the first time, to receive the stone tablets, the tablets of the covenant that God made with you, I remained on the mountain for forty days and forty nights. I neither ate bread nor drank water,<sup>42</sup>
- 10 and GoD gave me two stone tablets, inscribed by the finger of God, and on them were engraved all the exact words that GoD spoke with you on the mountain from the midst of the fire on the day of the assembly, i.e., the day of the Giving of the Torah. These tablets were written in an openly miraculous manner, since even though both tablets were the same size and there were many more words on the first tablet than there were on the second, nevertheless, the size of the letters, the spacing between the letters, the spacing between the lines, and the size of the margins were all identical on each.<sup>43</sup>
- 11 At the end of forty days and forty nights, GoD gave me the two stone tablets, the Tablets of the Covenant.<sup>44</sup>
- 12 But then God said to me, 'Arise, descend quickly from here, for your people, whom you have brought out of Egypt, have become corrupt. They have been quick to turn away from the path that I commanded them to follow; they have made for themselves a molten calf.'45

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something real in this world, bringing it that much closer to its ultimate fulfillment, we may well ascribe this accomplishment to our own prowess. Therefore, the Torah reminds us that just as children owe their superior powers to the parents from whom they inherited them, so should we recall that we owe all our power to accomplish great things in this world exclusively to God.<sup>46</sup>

<sup>42.</sup> Exodus 24:18. 43. Exodus 31:18. 44. Exodus 31:18. 45. Exodus 32:7-8. 46. Hitva'aduyot 5743, vol. 4, pp. 1857-1859.

ווֹ נִיאָבֶר יְהנָה אַלַי לֵאבֶיר רָאִיתִי אֶת־הָעֲם הַנֶּה וְהַנָּה 13 עַם־קְשֵׁה־עֶּרֶף הְנָא: 14 הֶרֶף מָשָּׁנִּי וְאַשְׁמִיבִּם וְאֶבְּהְ אָת־שְּׂמָם מִתַּחַת הַשָּׁמֻיִם וְאָנֻשֶּׁה אְוֹתְךּ לְגְוֹי־עָצִוּם וָרֶב ָאָבֶּוּ: 15 וָאֵפֶּן וָאֵרֵד אַן־הָהָר וְהָהֶר בֹּעֵר בָּאָשׁ וּשְׁנֵּי לוּחָת הַבְּּרִית עַל שְׁתֵּי יָדֵי: 16 וָאֵׁרֶא וְהִגָּה חֲטָאתֶם לַיהוָה אֱלְהֵיבֶּם עֲשִּׁיתָם לָבֶּם עֵגֶל מַפֵּבֶה סַרְהָם מַהֵּר מָן־הַבֶּרֶךְ אֲשֶׁר־צִנְּה יְהוֶֹה אֶתְכֶם: 17 וֵאֶתְפּשׁ בִּשְׁנֵי הַלַּהֹת וַאַשְּׁלְבֵּם מֵעַל שְׁתֵּי יָדֶי וַאֲשַׁבְּרֵם לְעֵינִיכֶם: 18 וָאֶתְנַפַּלٌ לִפְנֵי יְהוָּה בָּרָאשׁנָה אַרְבָּעִים יוֹם וְאַרְבָּעֵים לַיְלָה לֶהֶם לָא אָבַּלְהִי וּכַוִים לָא שָׁתֶיתִי עַל בָּל־ הַפַּארְגֶכֶם אֲשֶׁר הֲפָאהֶם לַעֲשְׂוֹת הָרֶע בְּעֵיגִי יְהֹוֶה לְהַבְעִיסְוֹ: 19 בִּי יָגֹרְתִּי מִפְּגֵי הָאַף וְהַחֵלָּה אֲשֶּׁר קַצְף יְהוָֹּה עֲלֵיכֶם לְהַשְּׁמֵיד אֶתְכֶם וַיִּשְׁמַע יְהוָֹה אֵלֵי גַּם בַּפַעַם הַהָוא: 20 וְּבְאָהֲרֹן הֹתְאַנַּף יְהֹנֶה מְאָד לְהַשְּׁמִידֶוֹ וֶאֶתְפַּלֵּל נַּם־בְּעָד אֲדָרְן בָּעֵת הַהַוֹא: 21 וְאֶת־חַפַּאתְבֶּם אֲשֶׁר־עֲשִׂיתָם אֶת־הָעַׂנֶל לְכַּקְחְתִי ֮ וֶאֶשְׂרַף אֹתְוֹ ו בָּאשׁ וָאֶבֹּת אֹתְוֹ מָחוֹן הֵימֵב עַד אֲשֶׁר־הַּק לְעָבֶּר וָאַשְּלֹך אֶת־ עַפָּרוֹ אֶל־הַנָּחַל הַיֹּרֵד מִן־הָהָר: 22 וּבְתַבְעֵרָה וּבְמַפָּה וּבְקבְרָת הַתַּאֲוָה מַקִּצִפִּים הָיִיתֶם אֶת־יְהוָה: 23 וּבִשְּׁלֹחַ יְהֹנָה אֶהְבָּם מִקּוֹדֵשׁ בַּרְגַעַ לֵאמֹר עֲלוֹּ וּרְשִׁוּ אֶת-הָאָׁב"ץ אָשֶׁר נָתַתִּי לָבֶם וַתַּמְיֹרוּ אֶת־פָּי יְהוֹּה אֱלְהֵיבֶם וְלְא הֶאֶמַנְהֶם לוֹ וְלָא שְׁמַעְהֶם בְּּקֹלְוֹ:

13 וַאֲמַר יְיָ לִי לְמֵימָר גְּלֵי קָדְמַי עַנּא הָדֵין וְהָא עַם קְשֵׁי קְדַל הוּא: אַנַּח בָּעוּתָךְ מִקְּדְמֵי וַאֲשֵׁצְנּוּן 14 וְאֶמְחֵי יָת שִׁמְהוֹן מִתְּחוֹת שְׁמַיָּא וָאַעְבֵּד יָתָךְ לְעַם תַּקִּיף וְסַגִּי מִנְּהוֹן: 15 וְאָתְפְּנֵיתִי וּנְחָתִית מִן טוּרָא וְטוּרָא בָּעֵר בְּאֶשָׁא וּתְרֵין לוּחֵי קְיָמָא עַל תַּרְתֵּין יְדִי: 16 וַדְּוַזִיתִי וְהָא חַבְּתּוּן קֶדָם יְיָ אֱלְהֲכוֹן עַבַרְתּוּן לְכוֹן עַגֶּל מַתְּכָא סְטֵיתוּן בָּפְרִיעַ מִן אָרְחָא דִּי פַּקֵּיד יְיָ יַתְכוֹן: וֹאֲחָדִית בִּתְרֵין לוּחַיָּא וּרְמִיתִנּוּן 17 מֵעַל תַּרְתֵּין יְדָי וְתַבַּּרְתִּנּוּן לְעֵינֵיכוֹן: 18 וְאִשְׁתַּטְּחִית קֶּדֶם יְיָ רְבִּעִין יְמָמִין וְאַרְבְּעִין בְּקַבִּעִין לֵילָון לַחְמָא לָא אֲכָלִית וּמַיָּא לָא אָשְׁתֵּיתִי עַל כָּל חוֹבֵיכוֹן דִּי חַבְתּוּן לְמֶעְבַּד דְּבִישׁ קֶדָם יְיָ לְאַרְגָּזָא קֶדְמוֹהִי: 19 אֲרֵי דְחֵלִית מִקֶּדְם רָגְזָא וְחֵימְתָא דִּי רְגַז יְיָ עֲלֵיכוֹן לְשֵׁצְאָה יַתְכוֹן וְקַבֵּל יְיָ צְלוֹתִי אַף בְּזִמְנָא הַהִיא: 20 וְעֵל אַהָרֹן הֲוָה רְגַז מָן קֶדָם יְיָ לַחֲדָא לְשֵׁצְיוּתֵה וְצַלֵּיתִי אַף עַל אַהָרןֹ בְּעִדְּנָא דָהָיא: 21 וְיָת חוֹבַתְּכוֹן דִּי עֲבַדְתּוּון יָת עֶגְלָא נְסֵבִית וְאוֹקֵדִית יָתֵה בְּנוּרָא וְשָׁפִית יָתֵה בְּשׁוּפִינָא יָאוּת עַד דִּי הָוָה דַקִּיק לְעַפְּרָא וּרְמֵית יָת עַפְּרֵה לְנַחֲלָא דְּנָחֵת מָן טוּרָא: 22 וּבְדְלֶקְתָּא וּבְנִפֵּתָא וּבְקּבְרֵי דִמְשַׁאֲלֵי מַרְגְּזִין הֲוֵיתוּן קֶדָם יְיָ: בּיאָה מְרְקַם גֵּיאָה יָיָ יַתְבוֹן מֵרְקַם גֵּיאָה 23 לְמֵימֵר סָקוּ וְאַחֲסִינוּ יָת אַרְעָא די יְהָבִית לְכוֹן וְסָרֶבְתוּן עַל גְּוֵרַת מִימֶרָא דַייָ אֱלְהַבוֹן וְלָא הֵימַנְתּוּן

—∞ ONKELOS ശ——

−&> RASHI 🗷-

18 וָאֶתְנַפָּל לִפְנֵי ה' בָּרְאשׁנָה אַרְבָּעִים יוֹם. שֶׁנֶּאֱמַרº:
״וְעַתָּה אֶעֶלֶה אֶל ה' אוּלֵי אֲכַפְּרָה״. בְּאוֹתָהּ עֲלִיָּה
נְתְעַכַּבְתִּי אַרְבָּעִים יוֹם, נִמְצְאוּ כָלִים בְּכ״ט בְּאָב,
שָׁהוּא עָלָה בִּשְׁמוֹנָה עָשֶׁר בְּתַמוּז, בּוֹ בִיוֹם נִתְרַצְה הַקְּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא לְיִשְּׂרְאֵל וְאָמַר לוֹ לְמשֶׁה": ״פְּסְל לְךְּ שְׁנֵי לָחֹת״. עְשָׁה עוֹד אַרְבָּעִים יוֹם, נִמְצְאוּ כָלִים בְּיוֹם הַכִּפּוּרִים, בּוֹ בִיּוֹם נִתְרַצָּה הַקְּדוֹשׁ בְּרוּךְ

הוּא לְיִשְׂרָאֵל בְּשִׁמְחָה, וְאָמַר לוֹ לְמֹשֶׁה': ״סְלַחְתִּי בִּדְבָרֶךְּ״, לְכָךְ הֻקְבַּע לִמְחִילְה וְלִסְלִּיחָה. וּמִנִּין שָׁנָתְרצָה בְּרָצוֹן שָׁלֵם? שֶׁנָּאֲמַר בְּאַרְבָּעִים שֶׁל לוּחוֹת שָׁנְתְרצָה בְּרָצוֹן שָׁלֵם? שֶׁנָּאֲמַר בְּאַרְבָּעִים שֶׁל לוּחוֹת אֲחֲרוֹנוֹת': ״וְאָנֹכִי עְמַרְתִּי בָהָר כַּיָּמִים הָרִאשׁנִים״ — מַה הָראשׁוֹנִים בְּרָצוֹן, אַף הָאַחֲרוֹנִים בְּרָצוֹן. אֱמֹר מֵעַתָּה, אֶמְצְעִיִּים הָיוֹ בְּכַעַם: 20 וּבְאַהַרוֹ הִתְאַנַף ה'. לְפִי שֶׁשָּׁמַע לְכָם: לְּהַשְּׁמִידוֹ. זֶה כִּלוִי בָּנִים, וְכַן

לַה וְלָא קַבֶּלְתוּן לְמֵימְרֵה:

**<sup>.10</sup>**. שמות לב, ל. **.11**. שמות לד, א. **.12**. במדבר יד, כ. **.13**. דברים י, י.

- 13 Gop spoke to me further, saying, 'I have observed this people, and they are indeed a stiff-necked people—they do not accept rebuke easily, if at all.
- 14 Therefore, I have only one option: Leave Me alone, and I will destroy them and obliterate their name from everywhere beneath heaven, i.e., the whole world, and I will start over and make you and your descendants into a nation mightier and more numerous than they.'47
- 15 So I turned and came down from the mountain. The mountain was ablaze with fire,<sup>48</sup> and the two Tablets of the Covenant were in my two hands.
- 16 I saw that you had sinned against God, your God: you had made yourselves a molten calf. You were indeed quick to turn away from the path that God had commanded you to follow.
- 17 So I grasped the two tablets and hurled them from my two hands, shattering them before your eyes at the foot of the mountain.<sup>49</sup>
- 18 I then ascended the mountain a second time<sup>50</sup> and I threw myself down on my face, to plead your case before God, staying there as before—for forty days and forty nights. I neither ate bread nor drank water, this time because I was so pre-occupied with seeking God's forgiveness for all the sins that you committed by doing evil in the eyes of God to anger Him,<sup>51</sup>
- 19 for I was frightened by the wrath and the fury that God displayed when He was angry at you, threatening to destroy you. But thankfully, God hearkened to me also at that time and did not destroy you.
- 20 **God was extremely furious with Aaron** for acquiescing to your insistence on making the calf. He threatened **to destroy him** by killing his four sons, thereby leaving him without any descendants, **so I prayed also for Aaron at that time.** My prayer was effective only halfway, and therefore two of his sons—Nadav and Avihu—later died an unnatural death before having had any children of their own.<sup>52</sup>
- 21 Before I ascended Mount Sinai for the second time, I took the object of your sin—the calf that you had made—and I burned it with fire. I crushed it, grinding it well, until it was as fine as dust, and I cast its dust into the stream that descended from the mountain.<sup>53</sup>
- 22 Besides the incident of the Golden Calf, you also provoked God to anger at Taveirah,<sup>54</sup> at Masah and Merivah,<sup>55</sup> at Kivrot HaTa'avah,<sup>56</sup>
- 23 and when God sent you from Ritmah, opposite Kadesh Barnea, saying, 'Go up and take possession of the land I have given you,' you defied the word of God, your God. You did not believe Him when He promised to grant you victory, nor did you obey Him; instead, you asked to send spies.<sup>57</sup>

∙⊗ RASHI ∽

הוּא אוֹמֵר ּיּוּ: ״וָאַשְׁמִיד פִּרְיוֹ מִמַּעַל״: **וְאֶתְפַּלֵּל נִּם בְּעֵד** וְנִשְׁאֲרוּ הַשְּׁנַיִם: 2**1 טְחוֹן.** לְשׁוֹן הֹוֶה, כְּמוֹ ״הָלוֹךְ **אַהָרוֹ**. וְהוֹעִילָה תְפַלְתִי לְכַפֵּר מֶחֱצָה, וּמֵתוּ שְׁנַיִם וְכַלּוֹת״, מולאנ״ט בְּלַעַזּיּ:

.14 עמוס ב, ט. 15. בְּטָחֵנוֹ.

**<sup>47.</sup>** Exodus 32:9-10. **48.** Exodus 19:18. **49.** Exodus 32:19. **50.** Exodus 32:30. **51.** Exodus 33:4. **52.** Exodus 32:34; Leviticus 10:1-7. **53.** Exodus 32:20. **54.** Numbers 11:1-3. **55.** Exodus 17:1-7. **56.** Numbers 11:4-34. **57.** Numbers 13:1-2.

בְּלַתְלֵים הָּיִיתֶם עִם־יְהֹוֹה מִיּוֹם הַיְּוֹם הַעָּתִים הָיִּוֹם הַעָּתִים הָיִּוֹם הַעָּתִים הַיִּוֹם הַעָּתִים הַיִּוֹם הַעָּתִים הַיִּוֹם הַעָּתִים הַיִּוֹם הַעָּתִים הַעָּתִּם הַעָּתִים הַיִּוֹם הַעָּתִים הַיִּוֹם הַעָּתִים הַיִּוֹם הְאָת־אַרְבָּעִים הַיִּוֹם וְאָת־אַרְבָּעִים הַיִּוֹם וְאָת־אַרְבָּעִים הַיִּוֹם וְאָת־אַרְבָּעִים הַוֹּוֹתְ עַמְּהְ הַעָּבֵּל אַלְּיִתְּבְּבְּרִים בְּיִבְּעִים הַיִּוֹם וְאָל־רִשְּעוֹ וְאָל־רִשְּׁתְוֹ וְאָל־תַשְּׁתְתוֹ: 28 פֵּן־הַוֹּבְילְהְיְּ אֲשֶׁר בְּנְיִבְּרְ לְאֵבְרְרָהְשְׁעוֹ וְאֶל־תַמְּאַתְוֹ: 28 פֵּן־הַבְּילְ אָל־רְאָבְּ הַעְּבֵּר לְתֵּם וְאָל־תַּשְּׁתְוֹוֹ אוֹלְם הַיְּתְרִ בְּעָרְ הַשְּׁעוֹ וְאֶל־תַמְּאַתְנוֹ אוֹלְם הַיְּעָרְ הְעָּבְרִי בְּנִרְ לְתָּבְּ הַבְּעִרְ וְבְּבְּרְ לְתָּבְּ הַנְּעִרְ הְעָּבְּר לְתָּבְ הַנְּעִרְ וְבְּעָרְ הַבְּעִרְ וְבְּבְּר לְתָּבְ הַנְּעִרְ וְבְּעָרְ הַבְּעִרְ וְבְּבְּר לְתָּבְ הַנְּעִרְ הְעָבְ הַבְּעִרְ וְבְּבְּר לְתָּבְ הַבְּעִרְ וְבְּבְּר לְתָּבְ הַבְּעִרְ וְבְּעָרְ הִבְּעִרְ וְבְּבְּר לְתָּבְ הַבְּעִרְ וְבְּבְּר לְתָבְ הַיְּבְּבְירִ בְּבְּבְיר לְתְבְּ הַבְּעִרְ הְּעָבְ הְנְבְּיוֹרְבְּבְ הַבְּעִרְ הְבְּוֹרְעְךְ הַבְּעִרְם הְנְבְּוֹרְעְךְ הְבִּוֹרְעָךְ הַבְּבְיוֹבְי הְבִּעְרִים הְבִּילְתְבְּ הַבְּעְרִים הְבִּיוֹרְתְּ הְבִּוֹרְעָךְ הַבְּבְּר לְבְבָּבְי וְבְּבְּבְיוֹבְיף הְבְּוֹרְעָךְ הְבִּוֹרְעָךְ הַבְּבְיוֹב בְּיִבְּבְיי בְּבְּבְרִים בְּבְּבְירִים הְבִּיוֹרְעָךְ הְבִוֹרְעָךְ הַבְּבְייִים בְּבִיבְיים בְּבְּבְיוֹבְיף הְבִּוֹרְעָךְ הַבְּבְּבְיי וְבְּוֹבְיוֹבְיף הַבְּיוֹרְעָךְ הְבִּוֹרְעָךְ הַבְּבְייִים בְּבְּבְייִים בְּבְּבְייִים בְּבְּבְיִיים בְּבְּבְייִים בְּבְּבְיִי וְבְבְּבְייִי בְּבְיוֹבְיוֹבְיְתְבְּבְּי בְּבְּבְיוֹבְיוֹבְים בְּבְּבְייִים בְּבְבְיוֹבְים בְּבְּבְייִים בְּבְבְּבְייוֹם הְבּוּבְיבְבְיי בְּבְבְבְיים בְּבְּבְייוֹם בְּבְבְייִבְיים בְּבְּבְייוֹם בְּבְבְּבְיים בְּבְבְיוֹבְיוֹ בְּבְבְיים בְּבְבּבְייוֹם בְּבְבְיוֹבְיבְבְים בְּבְבְיבְיים בְּבְבְיים בְּבְבְיוֹבְבְיוֹבְבְיוֹם בְּבְבְיוֹבְיוֹבְבְיוֹם בְּבְבְיים בְּבְבְיוֹם בְּבְבְּבְיוֹם בְּבְבְיוֹם בְּבְבְיוֹם בְּבְבְיוֹם בְּבְבְיוֹם בְּבְּבְיים בְּבְבְייִים בְּבְבְיוֹם

רביעי 10:1 בָּעֵּת הַהִוֹא שָׁמֵּר יְהַנְה אֵלֵי פְּסָל־לְף שְׁנֵיר לְּהָרֹת אֲבָנִים בָּעָת הַהִוֹא שָׁמֵּר יְהַנָה אֵלֵי הָהֶרָה וְעָשִׂית לְּךְּ שְׁנֵיר עִץ: 2 וְאָבְתּבֹ עַל־הַלֶּהֹת אֶת־הַדְּבְּרִים אֲשֶׁר הָיָי עַל־הַלָּחֹת הָרְאשׁנִים וְאֶבְּסָל שְׁנִי־לַחְת אֲבָנִים בַּאָרוֹן:
 נְאַעַשׁ אֲרוֹן עֲצֵי שִׁפִּים וְאֶבְּסֶל שְׁנֵי־לַחְת אֲבָנִים בַּאָרוֹן:
 נְאַעַל הָהְרָה וּשְׁנֵי הַלֶּחָת בְּיִרִי: 4 וִיִּבְתֹּב עַל־הַלָּחֹת בַּמִּרְתָּב הָרִאשׁוֹן אֲת עֲשֶׂרֶת הַדְּבְרִים אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר יְהוֹה יְבַלְיֹת בְּמִרְתָּב בְּתְר מִתְּוֹך הָאֵשׁ בְּיוֹם הַקּּתְל וַיִּהְנֵב יְהוֹה בְּאָרוֹן אֵתְיֹנִי וְהַנָּה וְמָשְׁר עִשֶּׂר יְהַנְּה יְהַנְּה יְהַנְּה בְּאָרוֹן אֵשְׂר עֲשֶׂיִתִי וַנְּהְיִנִּם יְהְנָה מִוֹלְּה בְּאָלִי יְהְנָה יִבְּלְּהֹת בְּאָרוֹן אֵשְׁר עֲשֶׂיתִי וַיְּהְיִה מִּן בְּאָב בְּנִים בְּאָשֵׁר צִוֹנִי יְהוֹה:
 אַבְּר עְשֶׂיתִי וַיִּהְיוֹּ שִׁם בְּאֲשֶׁר צִוֹנִי יְהוֹה:
 אַבְּר עִשְּׂיתִי וַיִּהְיוֹּ שִׁם בְּאֲשֶׁר צִוֹנִי יְהוֹה:

—⊗ ONKELOS &—— אַסְרְבִין הֲוֵיתוּן קֶדֶם יְיָ מִיּוֹמְא 24 דִידְעִית יַּתְכוֹן: 25 וְאִשְׁתַּטְּחִית קָדָם יְיָ יָת אַרְבְּעִין יְמָמִין וְיָת אַרִין לֵילָוָן דִּי אִשְׁתַּשְּׁחִית אֲרֵי אֲמַר יְיָ לְשֵׁצְאָה יַתְכוֹן: 26 וְצַלֵּיתִי קֶדָם יְיָוַאֲמָרִית יְיָ אֱלֹהִים לָא תְחַבֵּל עַפָּרְ וְאַחֲסַנְתָּרְ דִּי פְרַקְתָּ בְּתֻקְפָּרְ דִּי אַפֵּקְתָּ מִמִּצְרַיִם בְּיַד תַּקִּיפָא: 27 אִדְכַר לְעַבְדִיךְ לְאַבְרָהָם לְיִצְחָק וּלְיַעֲקֹב לָא תִתְפְּנֵי לְקַשְׁיוּת עַבָּא הָבִין וּלְחוֹבֵיהוֹן וְלַחֲטָאֵיהוֹן: דּיְבֵי אַרְעָא דִי בּיְבֵי אַרְעָא דִּי 28 אַפֶּקְתָנָא מִתַּמָּן מִדְּלֵית יוּכְלָא דִייָ לְאַעְלוּתְהוֹן לְאַרְעָא דִּי מַלֵּיל לְהוֹן וּמִדְסָנֵי יַתְהוֹן אַפֵּקנוּן לְקַטָּלוּתְהוֹן קְמַדְבְּרָא: 29 וְאָנּוֹן עַמְּרְ וְאַדְּוֹסְנְתְּ דִּי אַפֵּקְתָּ בְּחֵילָךְ רַבָּא וּבִדְרָעָךְ 10:1 בְּעִדְנָא הַהִּיא :מְרָמְמָא אָמַר יְיָ לִי פְּסַל לָךְ הְנֵרִין לוּחֵי אַבְנַיָּא בְּקַדְמָאֵי וְסַק לְקֶדְמַי לְטוּרָא וְתַעְבֵּד לְךְ אֲרוֹנָא דְאָעָא: וְאֶכְתֹב עַל לוּחַיָּא יָת פִּתְגְּמַיָּא z דִי הָווֹ עַל לוּחַיָּא קַדְמָאֵי דִּי תְבַרְתָּ וּתְשַׁוּנּוּן בַּאֲרוֹנָא: זַ וַעֲבָדית אֲרוֹנָא דְאָעֵי שִׁטִּין וּפְּסְלִית הְרֵין לוּחֵי אַבְנַיָּא בְּקַדְמָאֵי וּסְלֵקִית לְטוּרָא וּתְרֵין לוּחַיָּא בִּידי: 4 וּכְתַב עַל לוּחַיָּא כִּכְתָבָא קַדְמָאָה יָת עַשְׂרָא פָּתְגָּמֵיָּא דִּי מַלֵּיל יְיָ עִמְּכוֹן בְּטוּרָא מָגוֹ אֶשָׁא בְּיוֹמָא דִקְהָלָא וִיהָבִנּוּן יָיָ לִי: 5 וְאָתְפְּנֵיתִי וּנְחָתִית מָן טוּרָא וְשַׁוֵּיתִי יָת לוּחַיָּא בַּאֲרוֹנָא דִּי עֲבָדִית וַהֲווֹ תַמָּן כְּמָא דִי פַקְּדַנִי יְיָ:

נָתִעַסִּקוּ בוֹ עַד לְאַחַר יוֹם הַכִּפּוּרִים, כִּי בִּרְדִתּוֹ מִן

הָהָר צִוָּה לְהֶם עַל מְלֶאכֶת הַמִּשְׁכָּן, וּבְצַלְאֵל עָשָׂה

ָמִשָּׁכֶּן תִּחִלֶּה וָאַחַר כָּךְ אָרוֹן וִכַלִּים, נִמִצְא זֶה אָרוֹן

אַחֵר הָיָה, וְזֶהוּ שֶׁהָיָה יוֹצֵא עִמְּהֶם לְמִלְחָמָה. וְאוֹתוֹ

שֶׁעְשָׂה בִצַלִאֵל לֹא יָצָא לִמִלְחָמָה אֶלָּא בִּימֵי עֵלִי,

-∞ RASHI ഗ്ദ

ּוְנֶעֶנְשׁוּ עָלָיו וְנִשְׁבָּה:

25 וְאֶתְנַפָּל וְגוּ׳. אֵלוּ הֵן עַצְמְם הָאָמוּרִים לְמַעְלָה,
וּרְפָלָן כָּאן לְפִי שֶׁכְּתוּב כָּאן סֵדֶר הְּפִּלְתוֹ, שֶׁנֶּאֶמַריּ׳יּ:
וֹר בְּעֵת הַהִּוֹא.
יה׳ אֱלֹהִים אַל תַּשְׁחֵת עַמְּהִ״ וְגוֹי: וֹ בְּעֵת הַהִּוֹא.
לְסוֹף אַרְבָּעִים יוֹם נִתְרַצְה לִי, וְאָמֵר לִי ״פְּסְל לְהְ״
וְאַחֵר כָּךְ ״וְעָשִׁיתִ לְךְ אֲרוֹן״, וַאֲנִי עְשִׂיתִי אְרוֹן
תְחַלְּה, שֶׁכְּשֶׁאָבוֹא וְהַלּוּחוֹת בְּיָדִי, הֵיכָן אֶתְּנֵם? וְלֹא
זָה הוּא הָאָרוֹן שֶׁעְשָׁה בְצַלְאֵל, שֶׁהָבִי מִשְׁכָּן לֹא

<sup>16.</sup> להלן פסוק כו.

- 24 So you see, besides the Golden Calf, you have been rebelling against GoD since the day I became acquainted with you.
- 25 As I said,<sup>58</sup> when I ascended Mount Sinai the second time, **I threw myself down** to plead your case **before God** and remained prostrate during **the** entire **forty days and the forty nights** after **I threw myself down, because God had said** that He intended **to destroy you.**
- 26 I prayed to God and said, 'God, do not destroy Your people and Your inheritance, whom You have redeemed in Your greatness and whom You have brought out of Egypt with a mighty hand.<sup>59</sup>
- 27 Remember your servants, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.<sup>60</sup> Pay no heed to the stubbornness of this people, or to their wickedness, or to their sin,
- 28 lest the people of the land from which you brought us out—Egypt—say, "Because of God's inability to bring them into the land about which He spoke to them, and because of His hatred toward them, He has brought them out to slay them in the desert."
- 29 But they are Your people and Your inheritance, whom You brought out with Your great strength and with Your outstretched arm.'
- ◆ Fourth Reading 10:1 As I also said,<sup>62</sup> God accepted my argument and did not wipe you out. At that time, after my second forty days on the mountain,<sup>63</sup> GoD said to me, 'Hew yourself two tablets of stone like the first ones that you shattered, and come up to Me onto the mountain for a third time. Also make yourself a wooden ark.
  - 2 I will inscribe on the new tablets the same words that were upon the first tablets, which you shattered, and you must place the new tablets into the wooden ark.'
  - 3 Although God had told me first to hew the tablets and only then to make an ark to house them, I made an ark of acacia wood first, in order to have something to house the tablets, and only then I hewed two stone tablets like the first ones. I ascended the mountain with the two tablets in my hand.<sup>64</sup>
  - 4 On the fortieth day of my third stay on the mountain,<sup>65</sup> God inscribed on the tablets according to the original text, the Ten Commandments that God spoke to you on the mountain from the midst of the fire on the day of the assembly. God then gave them to me.
  - 5 I turned, came down from the mountain, and placed the tablets in the ark that I had made, and they remained there, as God had commanded me, until the golden Ark was built and we inaugurated the Tabernacle.<sup>66</sup>

<sup>58.</sup> Above, vv. 18-19. 59. Exodus 32:11. 60. Exodus 32:13. 61. Exodus 32:12; cf. Numbers 14:13-16. 62. Above, 9:19. 63. Exodus 34:1-2. 64. Exodus 34:4. 65. Exodus 34:28-29. 66. Exodus 40:20.

6 וּבְגֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל נֵסְעוּ מִבְּאֵרְת בְּנִי־יִעֲקֵן מְוֹמֵרֶה שֶׁם מֵת אַבְּלֵּי יִשְׂבָרוֹ וַיִּפְבֵּר שָׁם וַיִּכַהֵּן אֶלְעָזְר בְּגוֹ תַּחְתֵּיו: 7 מִשֶּׁם נַסְעוּ הַגִּיְרֹה וֹיִלְבֹר יְמִים וֹיִכְהַן אֶלְעָזְר בְּגוֹ תַּחְתֵּיו: 8 בְּעֵת הַבְּיִל יְהוֹה אֶת־שֵּׁבֶם הַלֵּוֹי לְשֵׁאת אֶת־אֲרָוֹ בְּבְּעִם הַוֹּה וֹיִם וְאַרְבְּעִם הַנְּיֹם הַנְּים הַנְּים לְּנִי בְּבָּעִם הַנְּים לְּנִי תַלֶּכְן וְנִחֲלֶה עִם־אֶתִיוּ בְּבְּעִם הַנְּים הַנְּה בַּבְּעִם הַנְּים לְנִי בְּיִבְים וֹיִם וְאַרְבְּעִם הְנִים הַנְּים הַנְּים הַנְּים בְּבְּעִם הַנְּים בְּבְּעִם הַנְּים הַנְּים בְּבְּעִם הַנְּים בְּנִים הַנְּבְים הַנְּים בְּבְּעִם הַנְּים בְּבְּעִם הַנְּים בְּבְּבְעם הַנְּים לְנִי בְּבְּעִם לְנִים לְנִי בְּבְּבְים הְנִיבְּבְּעִם הְנִים לְנִים בְּבְּבְים הַנְּחִבְּנִים וְבִּבְּעִם הְנִים בְּבְּבְים הַנְּבְבְּעִם הְנִים לְנִים בְּבְּבְים הַנְּים לְנִים לְנִים בְּבְּבְים הַנְּים בְּבְּבְים הְנִים לְנִים לְנִים בְּבְּבְים הְנִים לְנִים לְנִים בְּבְּבְים הְנִים לְנִים לְנִים לְנִים לְנִים לְנִים לְנִים לְנִים לְנִים לְבְּנִים לְנִים לְנִייְבְשִׁוּ אָתִירְשִּׁנִּ עָּבְילִם לְנִים לְנִים לְנִים לְנִים לְנִייְבְשִׁוּ אָּבְיבְעִם לְנִילִי בְּשְׁבְּי בְּבְּבְּיוֹם לְנִישְׁוֹ בְּעִים לְנִיוֹי בְשִׁוּ בְּבִּים בְּבְּבְּעִם הְנִיבְישְׁבּי בְּבְּבְים בְּבְּבְּעִים לְנִילְם בְּנִי בְּבְּבְים בְּבְּים לְנִילְבְּים לְנִים בְּנִים לְנִים לְנִייְבְשִׁים לְנִים לְנִים לְנִים בְּבְּי בְּיבְּבְים לְנִילְים לְנִים לְנִים לְנִים לְנְיוֹ בְּעִבְּים לְנִים לְנִייוֹ בְשְׁבְּבוּ בְּנִים לְנִים לְנִים לְנִייוֹ בְשְּבּם בְּבּבְייִים לְנִים לְנִים בְּנִי בְּבְּבְיי בְּבְּבְּי בְּבְּבְיי בְּבְּבְּי בְּבְּיוֹ בְּבְיים בְּבְּיוֹ בְּיוֹם לְנִים בְּבְּיוֹם לְנִבּיוֹ בְּבְיי בְּבְּבְיי בְּבְּבְּים בְּבְּבְיים בְּבְּבְּיים בְּבְּבְיים בְּבְּבְיים בְּבְּבְיים בְּבְּיוֹם בְּבְּיים בְּבְּיִים בְּבְּבְיים בְּבְּבְיים בְּבְיים ב

—∞ ONKELOS ശ—— 6 וּבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל נְטָלוּ מִבְּאֵרתׁ בְּנֵי יַעֲקָן לְמוֹסֵרָה תַּמָּן מִית אַהָרֹן וֹאָתִקבר תַּמָן וִשַּׁמֵשׁ אֱלְעָזָר בְּרֵה תַחוֹתוֹהִי: 7 מִתַּמֶּן נָטָלוּ לְגִּדְגֹּד וּמָן גָּדְגֹּד לְיָטְבָת אַרְעָא נָגְדָא נַחֲלִין דְמַיִּין: 8 בְּעִדְנָא הַהִּיא אַפְרֵשׁ יְיָ יָת שִׁבְטָא דְלֵוִי לְמִטַּל יָת אֲרוֹן קָיָמָא דַייָ לְמֵקַם קֶּדָם יְיָ לְשַׁמְשׁוּתֵה וּלְבָרָכָא בִשְׁמֵה עַד יוֹמָא הָדִין: 🤊 עַל כַּן לָא הָוָה לְלֵוִי חֶלָק וְאַחֲסָנָא עִם אֲחוֹהִי מַתְּנָן דיהַב לֵה יָיָ אִנּוּן אַחֲסַנְתֵּה כְּמָא די מַלֵּיל יָיָ אֱלְהָךְ לֵה: 10 וַאֲנָא הָוֵיתִי קָאֵם בְּטוּרָא כְּיוֹמִין קַדְמָאִין אַרבּעין יִמְמִין וְאַרבּעין לֵילָוָן וְקַבֵּל יְיָ צְלוֹתִי אַף בְּזִמְנָא הַהִּיא לָא אֲבָא יְיָ לְחַבְּלוּתָךְ: 11 וַאֲמַר יָיָ לִי קוּם זִיל לְמַשוּל קֶדָם עַמָּא וְיֵעֲלוּן וְיֵירְתוּן יָת אַרְעָא דִּי קַיֵּמִית לַאֲבָהַתְהוֹן לְמִתַּן לְהוֹן:

-⊗ RASHI ଔ-

קה. מְהַלָּאָל נָסְעוּ מִבְּאֵרֹת בְּנֵי יַעֲקָן מוֹסֵרָה. מְה ּעִנִין זֶה לִּכָאן? וִעוֹד, וִכִי מִבָּאַרוֹת בִּנֵי יַעֲקָן נָסִעוּ ּלִמוֹסֵרָה? וַהַלֹא מִמּוֹסֵרָה בָּאוּ לִבְנֵי יַעַקָן, שֶׁנֶּאֱמֵר־יוּ: ״וַיִּסְעוּ מִמֹּסֵרוֹת״ וְגוֹ׳? וְעוֹד, ״שָׁם מֵת אַהֲרֹן״, וַהֲלֹא בְּהֹר הָהָר מֵת, צֵא וַחֲשׁוֹב וְתִמְצָא שְׁמוֹנָה מַסְּעוֹת תַּמוֹסֵרוֹת לְהֹר הָהָר! אֶלָּא אַף זוֹ מִן הַתּוֹכָחָה — ּוְעוֹד זֹאת עֲשִׂיתֶם, כְּשֶׁמֵת אַהֲרֹן בְּהֹר הָהָר לְסוֹף אַרְבָּעִים שָׁנָה וְנִסְתַּלְּקוּ עַנְנֵי כְבוֹד, יְרֵאתֶם לְכֶם ָמִמִּלְחֶמֶת מֶלֶךְ עֲרָד וּנְתַתֶּם רֹאשׁ לַחֲזֹר לְמִצְרַיִם, ַוַחֲזַרְתֶּם לַאֲחוֹרֵיכֶם שְׁמוֹנָה מַסְּעוֹת עַד בְּנֵי יַעֲקָן, וּמִשֶּׁם לְמוֹסֵרָה. שָׁם נִלְחֲמוּ בָכֶם בְּנֵי לֵוִי וְהָרְגוּ מִכֶּם ּוְאַתֶּם מֵהֶם, עַד שֶׁהֱחֶזִירוּ אֶתְכֶם בְּדֶרֶךְ חֲזְרַתְכֶם, וּמִשָּׁם חֲזַרְתֶּם הַגַּדְגֹּדָה, הוּא חֹר הַגִּדְגָּד, וּמִן הַגַּדְגֹּדָה יִטְבָתָה. װּ בְמוֹסֵרָה עֲשִׂיתֶם אֵבֶל כָּבֵד עַל מִיתָתוֹ שֶׁל אַהַרֹן שֶׁגָּרְמָה לָכֶם וֹאת, וְנִדְמָה לָכֶם כְּאִלוּ מֵת שָׁם. וְסָמַך משָׁה תּוֹכָחָה זוֹ לִשְׁבִירַת הַלּוּחוֹת, לוֹמֵר שֶׁקְשָׁה מִיתָתָן שֶׁל צַדִּיקִים לִפְנֵי הַקְּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא בַּיוֹם שֶׁנִּשִׁתַּבִּרוּ בוֹ הַלּוּחוֹת, וּלְהוֹדִיעֲךְ שֶׁהְקִשָּׁה לוֹ

עַל שֶׁנְּתְנוּ רֹאשׁ לִפְרֹשׁ מִמֶּנוּ כַּיּוֹם שֶׁעְשׁוּ בּוֹ אֶת קעָנֶל: s בָּעֵת הַהָּוּא הִבְּדִּיל ה׳ וְגוֹי. מוּסְב לְעִנְיָן הָרִאשׁוֹן: **בְּעֵת הַהִּוּא.** בַּשָּׁנָה הָרָאשׁוֹנָה לְצֵאתִכֶם מִמִּצְרַיִם, וּטָעִיתֶם בָּעֵגֶל, וּבְנֵי לֵוִי לֹא טָעוּ, הִבְּדִּילְם הַפָּקוֹם מִכֶּם. וְסְמַךְ מִקְרָא זֶה לַחֲזֶרַת בְּנֵי יַצֲקָן, לוֹמַר שָׁאַף בָּזֶה לֹא טָעוּ בָה בְּנֵי לֵוִי, אֶלְא עְמְדוּ בֶאֱמוּנְתָם: לְשַׂאת אֶת אֲרוֹן. הַלְוִיִּם: לַעֲמֹד לִפְנֵי ה' לְשָׁרְתוֹ וּלְבָרֵךְ בָּשְׁמוֹ. הַכֹּהֲנִים, וְהוּא נְשִׂיאַת כַּפַּיִם: 9 עַל בַּן לֹא **הָיָה לְלֵוִי חֵלֶק.** לְפִי שֶׁהֻבְּדְּלוּ לַעֲבוֹדַת מִוְבֵּחַ וְאֵינָן פְּנוּיִין לַחֲרשׁ וְלִזְרשׁ: **ה׳ הוּא נַחֲלְתוֹ.** נוֹטֵל פְּרָס מְזָמְן מִבֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ: 10 וְאָנֹכִי עָמַדְתִּי בָהָר. לְקַבֵּל הַלּוּחוֹת הָאַחֲרוֹנוֹת. וּלְפִי שֶׁלֹא פֵרַשׁ לְמַעְלָה כַּמָּה עָמַד בָּהָר בַּעֲלִיָּה אַחֲרוֹנָה זוֹ, חָזַר וְהִתְחִיל בָּה: בַּיָּמִים **הָראשׁנִּים.** שֶׁל לּוּחוֹת הָראשׁוֹנוֹת, מַה הֵם בְּרָצוֹן, אַף אַלּוּ בְּרָצוֹן, אֲבָל הָאֶמְצָעִיִּים שֶׁעָמַדְתִּי שָׁם לְהִתְפַּּלֵּל ַעַלִיכֶם הָיוּ בִכַעַס: 11 וַיֹּ**אמֶר ה' אֵלַי וְגוּ'.** אַף עַל פִּי שֶׁפַּרְתָּם מֵאַחֲרָיו וּטְעִיתֶם בָּעֵגֶל, אָמַר לִי: ״לֵךְ נְחֵה אָת הָעָם" וְגוֹי:

<sup>.1</sup> הערה 30 במדבר לג, לא. 18. עייפ דפוס ראשון ; לקוייש חיייד, עמי 30 הערה 1.

- of the Tablets of the Covenant. It is therefore now appropriate to mention yet another instance when you angered God, this one occasioned by the death of Aaron. When Aaron died at Mount Hor and the Amalekites attacked you, the Israelites (i.e., all of you except the tribe of Levi) became discouraged and fled, backtracking toward Egypt. When you journeyed from the wells of Benei Ya'akan to Moseirah (i.e., Moseirot), the Levites caught up with you and engaged you in battle until you halted your retreat. Then, once peace and order were restored, you mourned Aaron as if there he had died, had been buried, and his son Eleazar had been installed to serve as high priest in his stead.
- 7 From there, you resumed the trek toward the Promised Land and journeyed once again to HaGudgod (i.e., Chor HaGidgad), and from HaGudgod you journeyed again to Yotvatah, which was a land with streams of water.<sup>67</sup> I mention this incident in the context of the incident of the Golden Calf (even though the two incidents were separated by many years) in order to emphasize, as well, that your defection from God's mission was as distressing to Him as when you made the Golden Calf.
- 8 Just as the Levites showed themselves to be faithful to God when you tried to return to Egypt after Aaron's death, so were they the only tribe all of whose members proved faithful in the incident of the Golden Calf. Since they did not participate in this sin, God separated the tribe of Levi at that time from the rest of the people, charging them to bear the Ark of the Covenant of God, as well as all the other components of the Tabernacle when we travel,<sup>68</sup> to stand before God to serve Him as priests,<sup>69</sup> and to bless the people in His Name,<sup>70</sup> as they do to this day.<sup>71</sup>
- 9 Therefore, the tribe of Levi has no portion in the spoils of war nor any land-in-heritance<sup>72</sup> with its brothers, since they are occupied with other work and have no time to engage in war or agriculture. The portion that the lay people will separate from their produce and give to God is their inheritance, just as God, your God, spoke to them.<sup>73</sup>
- 10 I remained on the mountain the third time like the first days, that is, in God's good favor, for forty days and forty nights, and God hearkened to me also at that time; God did not seek to destroy you.
- 11 God therefore said to me, 'Arise, go before the people to lead them on their journey, so that they may come and take possession of the land I promised their forefathers that I would give them.'<sup>74</sup>

<sup>67.</sup> Numbers 20:23-21:4, 33:31-40. 68. Numbers 3:8. 69. Exodus 28:1. 70. Numbers 6:22-27. 71. Exodus 32:4, 26-29. 72. Rashi on 18:1, below. 73. Numbers 18:24. 74. Exodus 33:1.

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12 וכען ישראל מא יי אלהך תַבַע מִנֶּךְ אֵלָהֵין לִמְדְחַל קָדָם יִיַּ אַלַהַר לִמָהַר בָּכַל אַרחַן דִּתַקְנַן קַדְמוֹהִי וּלְמָרְחַם יַתָה וּלְמָפּלח קַדָם יִיַ אַלַהַרְ בְּכַל לְבַּרְ וּבְכַל נפשר: 13 למטר ית פּקוֹדיא דיי וַיָּת קַיַמוֹהָי דַּאָנָא מְפַקּדֶךְ יוֹמָא דין לדייטב לך: 14 הא דיי אלהך שַׁמַיַא וּשָׁמֵי שָׁמַיַא אַרְעַא וְכַל די בה: 15 לחוד באבהתר צבי יי לְמָרַחַם יַתָהוֹן וְאָתָרְעֵי בְּבָנֵיהוֹן בתריהון בכון מכל עממיא כיומא הָדֵין: 16 וְתַעְדוּן יַת טַפִּשׁוּת לְבָּכוֹן וּקְדַלְבוֹן לָא תַקְשׁוּן עוֹד: 17 אֲרֵי ייַ אַלַהַכוֹן הוא אַלַה דַיַנִין וּמַרִי מַלְכִין אֵלַהָא רָבָּא גָבָּרָא וִדְחִילָא דִי לֵית קַדָמוֹהִי מִסֶב אַפִּין וְאַף לַא לקבלא שוחדא: 18 עבד דין יתם ואַרמלא ורחם גיורא למתן לה מזונא וכסו: חמישי 12 וְעַהָּהֹ יִשְׂרָאֵל כְּה יְהוֹה אֱלֹהֶיךְ שֹׁאֵל מֵעבֶּוְרּ
 בִּי אִם בְּלִירְאָה אֶת יִהוֹה אֱלֹהֶיךְ לְלֶכֶת בְּכְל־דְּרָכִיוֹ
 וּלְאַהַבָּה אֹתוֹ וְלַעֲבֹד אֶת יִהוֹה אֱלֹהֶיךְ בְּכְל־לְבַבְּךְ
 וּלְאַהַבָּה אֹתוֹ וְלַעֲבֹד אֶת יִהוֹה אֱלֹהֶיךְ בְּכְל־לְבַבְּךְ
 וִּלְאַבְיִ מְצִיּּךְ הַיְּיֹם לְטִוֹב לֵךְ: 14 הֵן לִיהוֹה אֱלֹהֶיף
 בְּאֲבֹרְיִ הְצִּיְם הָאֶרֵין וְכָל־אֲשֶׁר־בָּהּ: 15 הַּלְּתְּיֹ
 בְּאֲבֹרְ, הְשָׁכִי הַשְּׁמֵים הַאֶּרֵן וְכָל־אֲשֶׁר־בָּהּ: 16 וּמַלְהָים אֵת מְלְהֵי הְעָם וַיִּבְּרֹת לְבַבְּבֶבְ וְשִׁלְהֵי וְהַנֵּוֹה לְאִהְבָּה אוֹתְם וַיִּבְּרֹה בְּנִרְעְם אֵת מְלְשִׁר עְוֹד: 17 בִּי יְהוֹה עְּלְבִרְלְ הַבְּבְּלְ הָנְיִבְ הְאָבֹרְ הָנִבְּלְ הְנִבְּלְ הַבְּלְיֹת לְבִבְּבְבֶם וְעָּרְבְּבֶּבְ לְאֹר לְאִרִישֵּׂא בְּנִים וְעָּלְבְיְנֵה וְאַבְרֹי הַנְּאַרֹי הַנְּלָא יִקְח הְנִוֹם וְאַרְלֹי הַנְּבְּלֹר וְהַנּוֹלְיא אֲשֶׁר לְאִרִישְׂא בְּנִים וְלָא יִקְח הְנִוֹרְ א אֲשֹׁר לְאִרִישְׂא בְּנִים וְלָּא יִקְח הְנִיבְּלְ הַבְּבֹּלְ וְהַנּוֹלְיִא אֲשֶׁר לְאִרִישְׂא בְּנִים וְלְאֹא יִקְח הְיִבְּלְבְינְ הַנְבְּלְ הָנְבְּלְ הֵיוֹ וְלָבְינְ הַבְּלְבְיְנְ וְחַבְּלִבְיְ הְבְּבְיְ וְהַבּנֹלְבְיְ וְחִבּנוֹי וְתְלִיבְ בְּבְּבְיְבְיוֹ וְמִבְּלְבְיְבְיוֹ וְתְלִבְיְ הְעִבְּיִ הְוֹחְבּבֹי וְתְוֹב נִוֹרְלְא וְשָׁבְּיוֹ וְמִבְּבְיְבְיְבְיוֹ וְבְּלְבְיְבְיוֹ וְבְבּוֹלְיוֹב וְיִבְיֹבְיוֹ הְיִבְיְבְיִבְיִבְיוֹ וְשִׁבּילְיוֹ בְּיִים וְעִבְּיִים וְתִּבְיּבְיוֹם וְעִבְּיִים וְעִבְּבְיוֹ וְשְבְּבְי יְהוֹם וְעִבְּיִים וְעִבְּיִבְיְיִבְיוֹ בְּבְּבְבְי יְתְוֹם וְעִבְּיִים וְעִבְּיִבְיוֹ וְבְבְּלְבְי יְתְוֹם וְעִבְּבְיֹבְיוֹ וְשְבְּבְיוֹבְיוֹ בְּבְּבְי וְתְוֹבְיּבְיוֹ וְבְיֹבְיוֹבְיוֹם וְנְבְיוֹבְיוֹב בְּבְיוֹ בְבְּבְבְּי וְבְבְּבְבְיוֹם וְבְּבְּיוֹ בְּבְבְיוֹ בְבְּבְבְּי וְבְּבְּבְּבְי וְבְבְּבְיוֹיוֹים וְבְעְבְיוֹבוֹי וְבְבְיוֹם וְנְלְיִבְּבְי וְבְּבְּבְיוֹב בְּוֹבְיוֹבְבְּיוֹבְיוֹים וְבְּבְבְיוֹם וְנְלְיוֹב בְּבְיוֹים וְבְּבְיוֹים וְבְיִבְּיוֹם בְּיִבְיבְיוֹם וְבְיוֹבְיוֹבְיוֹים בְּבְיוֹים וְבְּבְיוֹם בְּבְיוֹב בְּבְיוֹבְיוֹבְיוֹבְיוֹם בְּבְיוֹם בְּבְיוֹם בְּבְיוֹב

-⊗ RASHI ଔ

״מִכְּל הָעַמִּים כַּיּוֹם הַזָּה״: 16 עְּרְלַת לְבַבְּכֶם. אֹטֶם לְבַבְּכֶם וְכְסוּיוֹ: 17 וַאֲדֹנֵי הָאֲדֹנִים. לֹא יוּכַל שׁוּם אָדוֹן לְהַצִּיל אֶתְכֶם מִיְּדוֹ: לֹא יִשְׂא פָּנִים. אִם תִּפְּרְקוּ אָדוֹן לְהַצִּיל אֶתְכֶם מִיְּדוֹ: לֹא יִשְׂא פָּנִים. אִם תִּפְּרְקוּ עֻלוֹ: וְלֹא יִקּח שׁחַד. לְפַיְּטוֹ בְמְמוֹן: 18 עשׁה מִשְׁפַּט יְתוֹם וְאַלְמָנָה. הָרֵי גְבוּרָה, וְאֵצֶל גְבוּרְתוֹ אַתָּה מוֹצֵא עַנְוְתְנוֹתוֹ: וְאֹהֵב גֵּר לְתֵת לוֹ לֶחֶם וְשִׁמְלָה. וְדָבְר חְשׁוּב גַר לְתֵת לוֹ לֶחֶם וְשִׁמְלָה. וְדָבְר חְשׁוּב הוֹא זָה, שֶׁבְּל עַצְמוֹ שֶׁל יִבְעֹל צְבוֹי עַל זָה נִתְפַּלֵּליי: ״וֹנתן לי לחם לאכל וּבגד ללבּשׁ״:

12 וְעַתָּה יִשְּׂרָאֵל. אַף עַל פִּי שֶׁעֲשִׂיתֶם כָּל זֹאת עוֹדֶנוּ רַחֲמְיו וְחִבְּתוֹ עֲלֵיכֶם, וּמִכְּל מֵה שֶׁחֲטָאתֶם לְפְנִיו, אֵינוֹ שׁוֹאֵל מָכֶם: כִּי אִם לְיִרְאָה וְגוֹי. רַבּוֹתֵינוּ" לְפְנִיו, אֵינוֹ שׁוֹאֵל מָכֶם: כִּי אִם לְיִרְאָה וְגוֹי. רַבּוֹתֵינוּ" דְּרְשׁוּ מִכְּאן: הַכֹּל בִּידֵי שְׁמִים חוּץ מִיִּרְאַת שְׁמִים: 13 לִשְׁמֹר אֶת מִצְּוֹת הֹ. וְאַף הִיא לֹא לְחִנָּם, אֶלְא "לְטוֹב לְּךְ", שֶׁתְּקבְּלוּ שְׂכָר: 14 הֵן לַה׳ אֱלֹהֶיךּ. הַכֹּל, וְאַף עַל פִּי כֵן "רַק בַּאֲבֹתֶיךְ חְשַׁק ה׳" מִן הַכֹּל, וְאַף עַל פִּי כֵן "רַק בַּאֲבֹתֶיךְ חְשַׁק ה׳" מִן הַכֹּל: 15 בָּבָם. כִּמוֹ שֵׁאַהֶּם רוֹאִים אַתִּכֶם חֲשׁוּקִים

.19 ברכות לג, ב. 20. בראשית כח, כ.

#### −® CHASIDIC INSIGHTS ଔ-

Of course, Moses is here addressing all the Jewish people. How was the apparent ease with which he attained fear of God relevant to the rest of the people—who were certainly not on his spiritual level? The answer is that indeed, every Jew contains within him a "spark" of the soul of Moses. Moses was the "shepherd" of the Jewish flock, charged by God with the task of conveying the Torah he received directly from Him to the people—in all its facets, both rational and supra-rational. In order to accomplish this feat, God made Moses' soul a comprehensive one, in which the souls of all the people were rooted and which projected itself into the souls of all the people. This is the allegorical interpretation of Moses' statement about "the people in whose midst I

am."<sup>79</sup> And since, as we have noted,<sup>80</sup> the souls of all the Jewish people were present at Mount Sinai and received the Torah from God through Moses, something of Moses' soul is projected into the souls of all Jews throughout all time.

By virtue of this spark of Moses within us, every one of us can emulate him. When we reveal our inner Moses, the fear of God does indeed become relatively easy to attain.

Moses personified the ability to "know" God, as the Torah testifies: "There was no other prophet who arose among Israel like Moses, whom God knew face to face." The Moses within us is thus our inborn ability to reach profound levels of Divine consciousness.

<sup>79.</sup> Numbers 11:21; Likutei Torah 3:31d; Sefer HaMa'amarim 5732, p. 148. 80. On Exodus 20:1. 81. Below, 34:10.

#### **Response to God's Mercy**

- ◆ Fifth Reading 12 And now, Israel, even though you rebelled against God all those times, what does God, your God, demand of you? Only that you exercise your free choice to revere God, your God, to walk in all His ways, to love Him, and to serve God, your God, with all your heart and with all your soul,
  - 13 by keeping Gop's commandments and rules, which I am commanding you today. Furthermore, He is not asking you to do this gratuitously, but for your own good, since He will reward you amply for your devotion. Indeed, it is only regarding your relationship with Him that He grants you free choice; everything else in life is predestined.
  - 14 Behold, both the physical heaven and the spiritual heavens beyond the physical heaven, not to mention the earth and all that is on it, belong to God, your God.
  - 15 Yet, out of the entire universe, **GoD** desired only your forefathers, to love them, and He chose their seed after them—you—out of all peoples, as you remain His chosen ones to this day.
  - 16 You must therefore circumcise the foreskin of your heart—i.e., cease to be callous in the face of His love—and cease being stiff-necked.
  - 17 For God, your God, is God over all divine beings and Lord over all earthly kings and lords, so you will never be able to appeal to any other power for protection from Him. He is the great, mighty, and awesome God, who will not be partial to you if you totally shirk your Divine mission, despite having promised to be partial toward you by overlooking occasional lapses.<sup>75</sup> Nor will He accept a bribe if you try to appease Him by donating money to His causes if you totally shirk your Divine mission, even though paying a fine can atone for sins in certain other cases.<sup>76</sup>
  - 18 Yet, despite His transcendence and omnipotence, He also concerns Himself with the lowly affairs of humanity, even its least powerful strata: **He executes justice** in behalf of **the orphan and widow, and He showers love upon the** resident **alien by giving him bread and clothing** even though he will not possess any land inheritance from which to earn a living. Do not underestimate the importance of food and clothing, for when your forefather Jacob was threatened by his enemies, the only material request he made of God besides physical protection was for these two things.<sup>77</sup>

#### -⊗ CHASIDIC INSIGHTS 🗷

12 Only to fear God, your God: Although in some contexts, the "fear of God" mentioned in the Torah could arguably mean "the fear that God will (or could) punish you," in most cases it is clear that "fear of God" refers to a palpable awareness of His presence; "fear," in this context, is simply the fear that God would see you doing something that you

would be embarrassed or ashamed to have Him see you do, a mere consequence of a much more significant intensity of Divine consciousness.

It is in this vein that the sages of the Talmud ask, referring to this verse, "Is the fear of Heaven, then such a small matter?" And they answer, "Yes, for Moses it is a small matter."

<sup>75.</sup> Numbers 6:26. 76. Exodus 21:30; Likutei Sichot, vol. 24, pp. 73-76. 77. Genesis 28:20. 78. Berachot 33b.

19 וַאֲהַבְּתֶּם אֶת־הַגֵּר בְּי־גַרִים הֲיִיתֶם בְּאֶרֶין מִּצְרֵים: 20 אֶת־יְהוֹהָ אֶלהֶיף תִּירֶא אֹתְוֹ תַעֲבֶר וּבְּוֹ תִּדְבָּכְ ּוּבִשְּׂמָוֹ תִּשָּׁבֵעַ: 21 הָוּא תְהַלֶּתְךּ וְהַוּא אֱלֹהֶיִּךְ אֲשֶׁר־ אַמָּה אַהְּדָּ אָת-בַּנְּרַלְת וְאָת-בַנְּוֹרָאת בַּאַכֶּה אַאָּר בַאַנ עיגֶיך: 22 בְּשִׁבְעֵים נָפָשׁ יְרְדִוּ אֲבֹעֶיךְ מִצְרֶיְמָה וְעַתָּה שֶׂמְדֹּ יְהֹוָה אֶלהֶׁיךִ כְּכִוֹכְבֵי הַשָּׁמֵיִם לָרְב: 11:1 וְאֲהַבְּהָּ אָת יְהֹוָה אֶלֹהֶיִף וְשֶׁמַרְתָּ מִשְׁמַרְתֹּוֹ וְחֻקֹּתָיו וּמִשְׁפְּמֵיו וּמִצְוֹתָיו בָּל־הַיָּמִים: 2 וְידַעְהֶם הַיּוֹם בִּי וֹ לְא אֶת־בְּנֵיבֶׁם אַשֶּׁר לא־יָדעוֹ וַאַשֶּׁר לְא־רָאוֹ אָת־מוּסַר יִהוָה אֵלְהֵיכֶם אָת־גַּדְלוֹ אֶת־יָדוֹ הַהַוָלֶה וּוְרֹעוֹ הַנְּפוּיֶה: 3 וְאֶת־אְתֹתִיוֹ וְאֶת־מַעֲשָּׁיו אֲשֶׁר עָשֶׂה בְּתַוֹךְ מִצְּרֵים לְפַּרְעָה מֶלֶדְ מִצְרֵיִם וּלְבָל־אַרְצְוֹ: 4 וַאֲשֶׁר עָשָׂהٌ לְהֵיל מִצְרֵיִם לְסוּסֵיו וּלְרַכְבוֹ אֲשֶׁר הַצִּיף אֶת־מֵי יִם־סוּף עַל־בְּנֵיהֶם בְּרָדְבָּם אָחֲבִיכֶם וַיְאַבְּדֵם יְהֹוָה עָד הַיִּוֹם הַזֶּה: 5 וַאֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה לָכֶם בַּמִּדְבָּר עַד־בְּאֲכֶם עַד־הַמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה: 6 וַאֲשֶׁר עָשְׂה לְדָתָן וְלַאֲבִירָם בְּגֵי אֶלִיאָב בֶּן־רְאוּבֵן אֲשֶׁר בְּצְתָה הָאָרֶין אֶת־פִּיהָ וַתִּבְלָעֵם וְאֶת־בָּהֵיהֶם וְאֶת־אֲהָלֵיתֶם וְאָת בָּל־הַיְקוּם אֲשֶׁר בְּרַגְלֵיהֶם בְּכֶרֶב בָּל־יִשְׂרָאֵל: 7 בִּי עיניכֶם הַרֹאֹת אָת כָּל־מַעֲשֵׂה יְהוָה הַנְּדֻל אֲשֶׁר עָשֶׂה: 8 וּשְׁמַרְהֶּם אֶת־בָּל־הַפִּצְוָֹה אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי מְצַוּךּ הַיָּוֹם לְמַעַן הֶהָזְלוּ וּבָאתֶם וֵירִשְׁתֵּם אֶת־הָאָרִץ אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם עֹבְרֵים שֶׁמָה לְרִשְׁתָה:

—⊗ ONKELOS ଔ—— 19 וְתִרְחֲמוּן יָת גִּיּוֹרָא אֲבֵי דַיְּרִין דְנֵיתוּן בְּאַרְעָא דְמִצְרָיִם: 20 יָת יָיָ אֱלָהָרְ תִּדְחַל וּקְדָמוֹהִי תִפְּלָח וּלְדַחַלְתֵה תִקְרב וּבִשְׁמֵה תְקַיֵם: רנ הוא תֻשְׁבַּחְתָּךְ וְהוּא אֱלְהָךְ 21. דְּעֲבַד עִּמְּך יָת רַבְרְבָתָא וְיָת ּחֲסִינָתָא הָאִלֵּין דִּי חֲזְאָה עֵינָיךְ: בַּשַׁבְעִין נַפְשָׁן נְחָתוּ אֲבָהָתָךְ 22 לְמִצְרָיִם וּכְעַן שַׁוְיָרְ יְיָ אֱלְהָרְ בְּכוֹכְבֵי שְׁמַיָּא לְמִסְגֵּי: 11:1 וְתִרְחַם יָת יְיָ אֱלְהָךְּ וְתִשַּׁר מַשְּׁרַת מֵימְרֵה וּקְיָמוֹהִי וְדִינוֹהִי וּפָקוֹדוֹהִי כְּל יוֹמַיָּא: זַ וְתִּדְעוּן יוֹמָא דֵין אֲרֵי לָא יָת בְּנֵיכוֹן דִּי לָא יְדְעוּ וְדִי לָא חֲזוֹ יָת אֻלְפָּנָא דִּייָ אֱלְהֲכוֹן יָת רְבוּתֵה יָת יְדֵה תַּקִּיפְתָא וּדְרָעֵה מְרָמְמָא: ז וְיָת אַתְוָתֵהּ וְיָת עוֹבְדוֹהִי דִּי עֲבַד 🤻 בְּגוֹ מִצְרָיִם לְפַּרְעֹה מֵלְכָּא דְמִצְרַיִם וּלְכָל אַרְעֵה: 4 וְדִי עֲבַד לְמַשִּׁרְיַת מִצְרַיִם לְסוּסָוְתֵהּ וְלִרְתִכּוֹהִי דִּי אַפֵּיהוֹן אַפּיהוֹן אַפּיהוֹן אַפּיהוֹן בְּמִרְדַּפְּהוֹן בַּתְרֵיכוֹן וְאוֹבְדִנּוּן יְיָ עַד יוֹמָא הָדֵין: 5 וְדִי עֲבַד לְכוֹן בְּמַדְבְּרָא עַד מֵיתֵיכוֹן עַד אַתְרָא הָדִין: 6 וְדִי עֲבַד לְדָתָן וְלַאֲבִירָם בְּנֵי אֱלִיאָב בַּר רְאוּבֵן דִּי פְתַחַת אַרְעָא יָת פָּמַה וּבְלְעַתְנוּן וְיָת אֶנַשׁ בָּתֵּיהוֹן וְיָת מַשְׁכְּנֵיהוֹן וְיָת כָּל יְקוּמָא דִּי עִמְּהוֹן בְּגוֹ כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל: אָרֵי עֵינֵיכוֹן חֲזָאָה יָת כָּל עוֹבָדָא 7 דַייָ רַבָּא דִּי עֲבָד: 8 וְתִשְׂרוּן יָת כָּל תַפְּקֶדְתָּא דִּי אֲנָא מְפַקְּדֶךְ יוֹמָא דֵין בְּדִיל דְּתִתְקְפוּן וְתֵעֲלוּן וְתֵירְתוּן יָת אַרְעָא דִּי אַתּוּן עָבְרִין לְתַמָּון

−&> RASHI 🗷

19 בּי גַרִים הָיִיתֶם. מוּם שֶׁבְּךּ אַל תֹאמַר לַחֲבֵּרְךּ: 20 אֶת ה׳ אֱלֹהֶיֹּךְ תִּירָא. וְתַעֲבֹד לוֹ וְתִּדְבַּק בּוֹ, וּלְאַחַר שִׁיִּידְיּוּ בְּדְּ כָּל הַמִּדּוֹת הַלְּלוּ, אָז ״בִּשְׁמוֹ תִּשְּׁבֵע״: 2 יִידַשְׁתֶּם הַיּוֹם. תְּנוּ לֵב לְדַעַת וּלְהָבִין וּלְקבֵּל תוֹבַחְתִּי: בִּי לֹא אֶת בְּנֵיכָם. אֲנִי מְדַבֵּר עַכְשָׁו, שֶׁיוּכְלוּ לוֹמֵר: אָנוּ לֹא יְדַעְנוּ וְלֹא רְאִינוּ בְּכְל זֶה: 6 בְּקָרב בְּל יִשְׂרָאַל. כָּל מְקוֹם שֶׁהָיָה אֶחָד מֵהֶם בּוֹרַחַ, הָאָרֶץ נְבְּקַעַת מִתּחְתִּיו וּבוֹלַעְתוּ, אֵלוּ דִּבְרֵי רַבִּי יְהוּדָה. נְבָּקתַת אָמָחְתִּיו וּבוֹלַעְתוּ, אֵלוּ דִּבְרֵי רַבִּי יְהוּדָה. אָמָר לוֹ רַבִּי נְחָמְיִה: וַהְלֹא בְּבָר נָאֱמַר־יֹּ: ״וַתִּפְתַּח

הָאָרֶץ אֶת פִּיהָ״, וְלֹא ״פִּיּוֹתֶיהָ״; אָמַר לוֹ: וֹמָה אֲנִי מְקֵיֵּם ״בְּקֶרֶב כָּל יִשְׂרְאַל״; אָמַר לוֹ: שֶׁנְּעֲשֵׂית הָאָרֶץ מְקְרֵוֹן כְּמַשְׁפֵּךְ, וְכָל מְקוֹם שָׁהָיָה אֶחָר מֵהֶם בּוֹרַחַ, הָיָה מִתְגַּלְגַּל וּבָא עַר מְקוֹם הַבְּקִיעָה: וְאַת בָּל הַיְּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר בְּרְגִּלִיהֶם, זֶה מְמוֹנוֹ שֶׁל אָדֶם, שֶׁמְעְמִידוֹ עַל רֵגְלָיו: 7 בִּי עֵינִיכֶם הָרֹאֹת. מוֹסְב עַל מִקְרָא הָאָמוֹר לְמַעְלָהײַ: ״בִּי לֹא אֶת בְּנֵיכֶם אֲשֶׁר לֹא יָדְעוּ״ וְגוֹי, כִּי אָם עִמְּכֶם אֲשֶׁר ״עִינֵיכֶם הָרֹאֹת׳ וְגוֹי:

לְמֵירְתַה:

<sup>21.</sup> במדבר טז, לב. 22. פסוק ב.

- 19 You, likewise, must show love toward the resident alien by not taunting him for being of inferior social status, for you yourselves were aliens in Egypt and suffered for being of inferior status.
- 20 In general, you should strive to imitate God by imitating all facets of His loving-kindness. Accordingly, I am stipulating that this behavior be an additional aspect of the respect you must accord Him. Previously, I told you that you may only swear in His name if you revere Him and worship Him.<sup>82</sup> Now, I am adding a third condition: Only if **You revere God**, **your God**, **worship Him**, **and are attached to Him** in love<sup>83</sup> **may you swear by His Name**.
- 21 He deserves to be the object of your praise, because He is your God, who did these great and awesome things for you, as you have seen with your own eyes.
- 22 Your forefathers descended to Egypt with seventy souls, and now God, your God, has made you—relative to those seventy souls<sup>84</sup>—as abundant as the stars of heaven.
- 11:1 You must therefore reciprocate His love, and love God, your God, and guard His charge, rules, ordinances, and commandments, all the days, i.e., for all time.
- 2 Know and accept all that I am saying today, for I am not speaking with your children—who did not know and who did not see the chastisement of God, your God, His greatness, His mighty hand, His outstretched arm,
- 3 His signs, and His deeds, which He performed in the midst of Egypt, to Pharaoh, king of Egypt and to his entire land;
- 4 and what He did to the army of Egypt, to its steeds, and to its chariots, how He caused the waters of the Sea of Reeds to inundate them when they pursued you, and how God destroyed them, so that their army remains crippled to this day;
- 5 and what He did for you in the desert, until you arrived at this place;
- 6 and what He did to Dathan and Aviram, sons of Eliav the son of Reuben, when the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, along with their households, their tents, and all the property that stood them on their feet (i.e., made them self-sufficient), in the midst of all Israel;<sup>85</sup> and since your children did not know or see all this, they might question how I can exhort them to be faithful to God based upon all these things—
- 7 rather, it is with you that I am speaking, for your eyes have seen all the great work of God, which He did, as I have recounted.
- 8 Therefore, keep all the commandments that I am commanding you today, in order that you be strong and come take possession of the land that you are crossing into in order to possess,

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Possessing this inner spark enables us all to contemplate and meditate upon God's unlimited immanence and transcendence and thereby awaken ourselves to a profound awareness of His presence. Even though we may not be able to sustain this awareness con-

stantly, the depth of its impression upon those of us who indeed contemplate it profoundly makes it relatively "simple" to reawaken this awareness at any time. Thus, "for [the] Moses [within us], it is indeed a relatively small matter." <sup>86</sup>

<sup>82.</sup> Above, 6:13. 83. Likutei Sichot, vol. 14, p. 55. 84. Likutei Sichot, vol. 19, p. 20, note 46; vol. 39, p. 1, note 8. 85. Numbers 16:32. 86. Tanya, chapter 42.

9 וּלְמַשׁ הַאָּרֶיכוּ יָמִים עַל־הַאָדְלָה אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁבַּע יְהֹוְה
 ♦ ששי 10 בִּי הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׂר אַתֶּה בָא־שְּׁפָּח לְרִשְּׁהָה לָא בַּעָרִץ מִצְּרִים הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׂר הִוֹּבְע יִצְאתֶם מִשֶּׁם אֲשֶׁר הִוֹבְע
 ♦ ששי 10 בִּי הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׂר אַתֶּה בָּא־שָּׁפָח לְרִשְּׁהָה לָא בְּרָץ מִצְרִים הִצְּעָר לְרִשְׁלָּה בְּגַן הַיְּרֵק: 11 וְהָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׂר הִוֹבְעֹ
 אַרֶּץ הָלְים וֹבְּקְעָת לְמְשֵׁר הִישְׁבָּים וּבְּלְעָת לְמְשֵׁר הַבְּעִר לְמְשֵׁר הַשְּׁבָּים תִשְׁכִּים הִשְּׁמָה לְרִשְׁלָה בְּנִץ אֲשֶׁר־יְהוֹּה אֱלֹהֶיך הַבְּעַר לְמְשֵׁר הַשְּׁבָּה וְעֵר אַבְּרִים שָּׁבָּה: מַנְיִי יְהוֹה אֱלֹהֶיךְ בְּה מֵרִשִׁית הַשְּׁנָה וְעֵר אַבְּרִית שָׁנָה: מַ אַלֹהָיך הְנֵּה אֲלֹהִיך בְּה מֵרִשִּׁית הַשְּׁבָּה וְעֵר אַבְּרִית שָׁנָה: מַ

13 וְהָיָה אִם־שָּׁמָעַ תִּשְּׁמְעוּ אֶל־מִצְוֹתַׁי אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכֵי מְצַוֶּה אֶתְכֶם הַיָּוֹם לְאַהֲבָּה אֶת־יְהוָֹה אֶלְהֵיכֶם וּלְעָבְרוֹ בְּכָל־ לְבַבְכֶם וּבְכָל־נַפְשְׁכֶם:

—∞ ONKELOS ശ—— אַרְעָא יוֹמִין עַל אַרְעָא 🤊 דִּי קַיִּים יְיָ לַאֲבָהַתְבוֹן לְמִתַּן לְהוֹן וּלְבְנֵיהוֹן אַרְעָא עָבְדָא חֵלַב וּדְבָשׁ: ַ אַרִי אַרְעָא דִּי אַתְּ עְלֵל לְתַמְּן 10 לְמֵירְתַהּ לָא כְאַרְעָא דְמִצְרַיִם הָיא דִּי נְפַקְתוּן מִתַּמֶּן דִּי תִוְרַע יָת זַרְעָרְ וּמַשְׁקַת לֵהּ בְּרַגְּלָךְ בְּגִנְּתָא יַרְקָא: 11 וְאַרְעָא דִּי אַתּוּן עָבְרין לְתַפָּן לְמֵירְתַהּ אֲרַע טוּרִין וּבִקְעָן לִמְטַר שְׁמֵיָּא תִּשְׁתֵּי מֵיָּא: חַבָע יְתַה אַלְהָךְ הָבַע יְתַה 12 ּתְדִירָא עֵינֵי יְיָ אֱלְהָךְּ בַּה מֵרֵישָׁא יְהֵי 13 יְעַד סוֹפָּא דְשַׁתְּא: 13 וְיהֵי אָם קַבָּלָא תְקַבְּלוּן לְפָקוֹדֵי דִּי אֲנָא מְפַקֵּד יַתְכוֹן יוֹמָא דֵין לְמִרְחַם יָת יָיָ אֱלְהַבוֹן וּלְמִפְלַח קֶדְמוֹהִי בְּכָל לִבְּכוֹן וּבְכֶל נַפִּשָׁכוֹן:

∙⊗ RASHI ∽

10 לא כאַרץ מִצְרִיִם הָוא. אֵלָּא טוֹבָה הֵימֵנָה. ְוָנֶאֶמְרָה הַבְּטָחָה זוֹ לְיִשְּׂרָאֵל בִּיצִיאָתָם מִמִּצְרַיִם, שָׁהָיוּ אוֹמְרִים: שֶׁמָּא לֹא נְבוֹא אֶל אֶרֶץ טוֹבָה ּוְיָפָה כָּזוֹ. יָכוֹל בִּגְנוּתָה הַכָּתוּב מְדַבֵּר, וְכָךְ אָמַר לָהֶם: לֹא כְאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם הִיא, אֶלָּא רְעָה הֵימֶנְּה, תַּלְמוּד לוֹמַר־: ״וְחֶבְרוֹן שֶׁבַע שְׁנִים נִבְנְתָה לִפְנִי״ ּ וְגוֹ׳ — אָדָם אֶחָד בְּנָאָן, חָם בָּנָה צֹעַן לְמִצְרַיִם בְּנוֹ, ָוְחֶבְרוֹן לְכְנַעַן, דֶּרֶךְ אֶרֶץ אָדָם בּוֹנֶה אֶת הַנָּאֶה וְאַחַר ּכָּךְ בּוֹנֶה אֶת הַכָּעוּר, שֶׁפְּסְלְתּוֹ שֶׁל רִאשׁוֹן הוּא נוֹתֵן בַּשַּׁנִי, וּבְכָל מָקוֹם הֶחָבִיב קוֹדֵם. הָא לְמַדְתָּ, שֶׁחֶבְרוֹן יָפָה מִצֹעַן. וּמִצְרַיִם מְשָׁבַּחַת מִכָּל הָאֲרְצוֹת, שֶׁנֶּאֲמַר⁴: ״בְּגַן ה׳ בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם״, וְצֹעַן שֶׁבַח מִצְרַיִם שָׁבָּ הִיא, שֶׁהָיְתָה מְקוֹם מַלְכוּת, שֶׁבֵּן הוּא אוֹמֵר™: ״בִּי ָהָיוּ בְצֹעַן שָּׂרָיו״. וְחֶבְרוֹן פְּסְלְתָּהּ שֶׁל אֶרֶץ יִשְּׂרָאֵל, לְכָךְ הִקְצוּהָ לִקְבוּרַת מֵתִים, וְאַף עַל פִּי כֵן הִיא יָפָה מִצֹעַן. וּבְמַסֶּכֶת כְּתָבּוֹת ּ דְּרְשׁוּ בְּעִנְיָן אַחֵר: אֶפְשָׁר אָדָם בּוֹנֶה בַּיִת לִבְנוֹ הַקְּטָן וְאַחַר כָּךְ לִבְנוֹ ָהַגָּרוֹל, אֶלָּא שֶׁמְבָנָה עַל אֶחָר מִשִּׁבְעָה בְּצֹעַן: אֲשֶׁר יָצָאתֶם מִשָּׁם. אֲפִלּוּ אֶרֶץ רַעְמְסֵס וְאֶרֶץ גֹּשֶׁן אֲשֶׁר יָשַׁבְתֶּם בָּה, וְהִיא בְּמֵיטֵב אֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם, שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר־״: יִשְׂרָאֵל: ״בְּמֵיטַב הָאָבֶץ״ וְגוֹ׳, אַף הִיא אֵינָהּ בְּאֶבֶץ יִשְׂרָאֵל: וָהִשְׁקִיתָ בְּרַגְלְךָּ. אֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם הָיְתָה צְרִיכָה לְהָבִיא מַיִם מִנִּילוּס בְּרַגְלְךְ וּלְהַשְׁקוֹתָה, וְצָרִיךְ אַתָּה לִנְדֹּד מִשְּׁנָתְךּ וְלַעֲמֹל, וְהַנָּמוּךְ שׁוֹתֶה וְלֹא הַגָּבוֹהַ, וְאַתָּה ַמְעֲלֶה הַמַּיִם מִן הַנָּמוּךְ לַגְבוֹהַ. אֲבָל זוֹ — "לִמְטַר

הַשָּׁמֵיִם תִּשְׁתֶּה מָיִם״״, אַתָּה יָשֵׁן עַל מִטְּתְרְּ וְהַקָּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא מַשְׁקֶה נָמוּךְ וְגָבוֹהַ, גָּלוּי וְשֶׁאֵינוֹ גָּלוּי, בְּאֶחָת: **בְּגַן הַיָּרָק.** שֶׁאֵין דִּי לוֹ בִגְשָׁמִים, וּמַשְׁקִין אוֹתוֹ בָּרֶגֶל וּבַכָּתַף: 11 אֶ**ֶרץ הָרִים וּבְקָעֹת.** מְשָׁבָּח הָהָר מִן הַמִּישׁוֹר, שֶׁהַמִּישׁוֹר — בְּבֵית כּוֹר אַתְּה זוֹרֵעַ כּוֹר, אֲבָל הָהָר — בֵּית כּוֹר מִמֶּנוּ חֲמֵשֶׁת כּוֹרִין, אַרְבָּעְה מֵאַרְבָּעָה שִׁפּוּעָיו וְאֶחֶד בְּרֹאשׁוֹ: וּ**בְּקְעֹת.** הֵן מִישׁוֹר: 12 **אֲשֶׁר ה' אֱלֹהֶיף דּרֵשׁ אֹתָה.** וַהֲלֹא כָּל הָאֲרָצוֹת ָרוא דּוֹרֵשׁ, שֶׁנֶאֲמַריּ: ״לְהַמְטִיר עַל אֶבֶץ לֹא אִישׁ״, אַלָּא כַּבִיָכוֹל אֵינוֹ דוֹרֵשׁ אֵלָּא אוֹתָהּ, וְעַל יִדֵי אוֹתָהּ דְּרִישָּׁה שֶׁדּוֹרְשָׁה, דּוֹרֵשׁ אֶת כָּל הָאֲרָצוֹת עִמָּה: **תְּמִיד** עיני ה' אֱלֹהֶיךְ בָּה. לְרְאוֹת מַה הִיא צְרִיכָה וּלְחַדֵּשׁ לָה גְוַרוֹת, עִתִּים לְטוֹבָה וְעִתִּים לְרָעָה וְכוּ׳, כִּדְאִיתָא בְּרֹאשׁ הַשָּׁנָה יּ: **מֵרִשִּׁית הַשְּׁנָה.** מֵרֹאשׁ הַשָּׁנָה נִדּוֹן מַה יְהֵא בְּסוֹפָה: 13 **וְהָיָה אִם שָׁמֹעַ.** ״וְהָיָה״ מוּסָב עַל הָאָמוּר לְמַעְלָה — ״לִמְטֵר הַשָּׁמֵיִם תִּשְׁהֶה פָּיִם״: וְ**הָיָה** אָם שָׁמִעַ הִּשְׁמְעוּ. אָם "שָׁמֹעַ" בַּיָּשְׁן "תִּשְׁמַע" בֶּּחְדְשׁ. ּ וְבֵןיֹּ: ״וְהָיָה אָם שָׁכֹחַ תִּשְׁכַּח״, אָם הִתְחַלְּתָּ לִשְׁכֹּחַ — סוֹפְךּ שֶׁתִּשְׁכַּח כָּלָּה, שֶׁכֵּן כְּתִיב בִּמְגִלְּהײַ: אָם תַּעַזְבֵנִי יוֹם, יוֹמַיִם אֶעֶזְבֶךָ: מְצַיֶּה אֶתְכֶם הַיּוֹם. שֶׁיִּהְיוּ עֲלֵיכֶם ַחַדְשִׁים, כְּאָלוּ שְׁמַעְהֶּם בּוֹ בַיּוֹם: לְאַהֲבָה אֶת ה׳. ָשֶׁלֹּא תֹאמַר: הֲרֵי אֲנִי לוֹמֵד בִּשְׁבִיל שֶׁאֶהְיֶה עֲשִׁיר, בִּשְׁבִיל שֶׁאֶקֶבִא רַב, בִּשְׁבִיל שֶׁאֲקַבֵּל שְׂכָר, אֶלְא ּכָל מַה שֶּׁתַּעֲשֶׂה עֲשֵׂה מֵאַהֲבָה, וְסוֹף הַכָּבוֹד לְבוֹא: וּלְעָבְדוֹ בְּכָל לְבַבְּכֶם. עֲבוֹדָה שֶׁהִיא בַלֵּב, וְזוֹ הִיא

<sup>23.</sup> במדבר יג, כב. 24. בראשית יג, י. 25. ישעיה ל, ד. 26. קיב, א. 27. בראשית מז, יא. 28. דברים יא, יא. 29. איוב לח, כו. 30. יז, ב. 11. דברים ח, יט.

- 9 and in order that you prolong your days in the land that God swore to your forefathers that He would give to them and to their seed, a land flowing with milk and date- and fig-honey.
- ♦ Sixth Reading 10 For the land to which you are coming to possess is not like Egypt, not even like the part of Egypt out of which you came—Goshen, which is the choicest part of Egypt.<sup>87</sup> In Egypt, after you sowed your seed, you watered many of the fields manually, carrying water to them by foot—just as a vegetable garden cannot survive on rainwater and needs to be irrigated—since the natural overflow of the Nile did not reach all the fields by itself, and certainly not the fields that were higher than the river.
  - 11 In contrast, **the land that you are crossing into in order to possess** is superior to Egypt. Whereas all the arable land in Egypt is level, the Land of Israel **is a land of mountains and valleys**, so you can cultivate their slopes and thereby produce more yield per area than is possible in Egypt. Furthermore, **it is watered by the rains of heaven**, which reach all elevations equally. You do not have to trouble yourselves to irrigate it manually.
  - 12 It is the land that God, your God, watches over; only through watching over the Land of Israel does He watch over the rest of the world. The eyes of God, your God, are always upon it, from the beginning of the year—Rosh HaShanah, when the material fortune of the world is determined for that year<sup>88</sup>—to the end of the year, to see if the beneficence He apportioned it on Rosh HaShanah needs to be increased or decreased based on the merits of its inhabitants."

#### The Community's Love of God

13 Moses then spoke in God's name, articulating the conditions for receiving the Divine blessings he just mentioned as characterizing the Land of Israel: "Specifically, **if you**, as a community,<sup>89</sup> ensure that all the individuals that compose the community<sup>90</sup> **study My commandments continuously**, reviewing them constantly in order not to forget what you have already learned and in order to better understand what you have yet to learn, and you study them with ever-fresh enthusiasm as if **I am commanding** them **to you** for the first time **today**,<sup>91</sup> and you study the Torah **out of love** for **God**, **your God**, rather than out of any ulterior motive, such as reward or title, **and in order to serve Him** in prayer **with all your heart and** 

ജ RASHI ശ-

לְפָנֶיךְ": בְּ**כְל לְבַבְּכֶם וּבְכָל וַפְשְׁכֶם.** וַהֲלֹא כְּבָר הִּוְהִיר עַל כְּךְ\*: "בְּכָל לְבָבְךּ וּבְכָל וַפְשְׁךְ"? אֶלָא, אַוְהָרָה לִיָּחִיר, אַוָהָרָה לִצְבּוּר: תְפִּלְה, שֶׁהַתְּפִּלְּה קְרוּיָה עֲבוֹדָה, שֶׁנֶאֲמַרײּ: ״אֱלְהָךְ דִּי אַנְתְּ פָּלַח לֵה בִּתְדִירָא״, וְבִי יֵשׁ פְּלְחָן בְּבָבֶל? אֶלָא, עַל שֶׁהָיָה מִתְפַּלֵל, שֶׁנֶאֱמֵרײּ: ״וְכִוּין פְּתִיחָן לַה״ וְגוֹ׳. וְכֵן בְּדָיִד הוּא אוֹמֵרײּ: ״תִּבּוֹן תִּפְלְתִי קְטֹרֵת

32. עיין מדרש שמואל פרשה א שהביא כן משם "מגילת חסידים". 33. דניאל ו, יז. 34. שם, יא. 35. תהלים קמא, ב. 36. דברים ו, ה.

<sup>87.</sup> Genesis 47:6, 11. 88. Leviticus 23:25. 89. Whereas above, 6:4 ff, the commandment is couched in the singular "you," here it is couched in the plural "you." 90. Sichot Kodesh 5729, vol. 2, p. 419. 91. Likutei Sichot, vol. 19, p. 233, note 48; vol. 24, pp. 192-193 (particularly note 42).

#### -∞ CHASIDIC INSIGHTS 🗷 -

created and sustained by God. Relative to the first paragraph, this experience is true "hearing," since we are now "hearing" what is normally "heard"—God's immanence.

The implications of these two levels of Divine consciousness account for the differences in the two versions of life as described by these two similar but different passages.

★ THE FIRST TWO PARAGRAPHS OF THE SHEMA <	
Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (parashat Va'etchanan)	Deuteronomy 11:13-21 (parashat Eikev)
4 Hear, O Israel: God is our God, God is one.	
5 You will love God, your God, with all your heart, and at the expense of your very soul, and with all your material means.	13 If you study My commandments continuously, as if I am commanding them to you today, out of love for God, your God, and in order to serve Him in prayer with all your heart and with all your soul,
	14 I will give the rain of your land both in its proper time, the early rain and the latter rain, and you will gather in your grain, wine, and oil.
	15 I will give grass to your livestock in your field you will eat and be sated.
	16 beware, lest your heart be misled and you neglect the study of the Torah, and you worship insentient gods and prostrate yourselves before them.
	17 If you do, the wrath of God will be kindled against you. He will close off heaven and there will be no rain, and the ground will not give back its produce. You will perish quickly from upon the good land that God is giving you.
6 These words that I command you today you will keep them upon your heart.	18 You must set these words of Mine upon your heart and upon your soul.
7 You will learn for the sake of your students. You will discuss them when you sit in your house, when you walk on the way, when you lie down, and when you wake up.	
8 You must bind them as a sign upon your weaker arm and they must act as a reminder between your eyes.	You must bind them as a sign upon your weaker arm and they must act as a reminder between your eyes.
	19 You must teach them to your children to speak with them when you sit in your house, when you walk on the way when you lie down and when you wake up.
9 You must inscribe this paragraph upon the doorposts of your house and upon your gates.	20 You must inscribe this paragraph upon the doorposts of your house and upon your gates.
	21 In order that your days and the days of your children increase on the land that God swore to your forefathers to give them as the days of heaven above earth.

with all your soul—but you nevertheless do all this only to the extent required of you, not going beyond that which is required of you and not exceeding your natural abilities,

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- 13 If you study My commandments continuously: This paragraph appears in the daily liturgy as the second paragraph of the *Shema* (the first paragraph being found toward the end of *parashat Va'etchanan*<sup>92</sup>). As can be seen in the comparison given here, it is similar to the first paragraph in many ways—and even seems to repeat it—but there are a number of significant differences:
- The first paragraph is couched entirely in the singular (each Jew is addressed individually), whereas the second paragraph is mainly couched in the plural (i.e., the Jews are addressed as a community).
- In the first paragraph, we are commanded to love God "with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your means." In the second paragraph, the third type of love—"with all your means" is not mentioned.
- Unlike the first paragraph, the second paragraph raises the issue of reward and punishment.
- Unlike the first paragraph, the second paragraph discusses the eventuality of exile and how
  the Jew—even in such circumstances—can and
  should continue to serve God.
- In the first paragraph, the commandment to learn the Torah is mentioned before the commandment of *tefilin*, whereas in the second paragraph, the order is reversed: the commandment of *tefilin* precedes that of learning Torah.
- In the first paragraph, learning the Torah is mentioned with reference to teaching students, whereas in the second paragraph it is mentioned with reference to teaching one's children.

These differences mirror the diverse aspects of our relationship with God described in parashat Va'etchanan and parashat Eikev.

The key to understanding the differences between these aspects of relationship lies in the word used to describe the type of love for God that appears only in the first paragraph of the *Shema*: "with all your *means* (מאר)." Every other time this word appears in Scripture, it is used as an adjective meaning "very" or "very much," so that it might be translated here as "your very much," or "beyond your own ability." Thus, the contemplation that introduces the first paragraph of the *Shema* is one that will lead us to love God beyond our natural ability, while that presumed by the second paragraph will not.

As has been discussed at length, Moses asked God to grant us the unconditional gift of Divine "sight," i.e., the direct perception of God's transcendence. This request was not granted, so he instead exhorted us to "hear," i.e., to contemplate and understand God's transcendence intellectually. Moses then described how our relationship with God will unfold based on this meditation.

Nonetheless, since that which we are exhorted to "hear"—God's transcendence—is the same as what Moses wanted us to "see," this "hearing" is still relatively on the level of "seeing."

Therefore, this expectation is still not realistic, at least on the popular level. Sustained contemplation on the fact that there is Something and Someone that so transcends everything we see and know that it renders our apparent reality null and void is simply too intense to demand of the average individual. The Torah therefore asks us to sustain consciousness of God's immanence, the aspect of His Divinity to which we can all relate much more readily. It is indeed reasonable to expect us to remain aware that everything we see and know is continuously

#### **≫** INNER DIMENSIONS ◆

[13] If you study: The fact that the first paragraph of the *Shema* is couched in the singular indicates that it is addressing the unique, singular essence of the Jew (the *yechidah* of the soul), which—at least in the present order—lies latent, deep within our Divine consciousness and is not normally evident. This aspect of the soul, in which we all identify ourselves as "a veritable part of God," knows nothing of the bounds of nature; therefore, when it does surface, it enables

us to operate at a much higher level of Divine energy and existence. This is possible because of this aspect of the soul's singular focus on God to the exclusion of all else.

In the second paragraph of the *Shema*, which is couched in the plural, we are addressed as a collection of various faculties and powers, i.e., at the levels below our unique essence. Therefore, the commandment to express love for God "beyond your natural ability" is not relevant.

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14 וְאָתֵּן מְטֵיר אַרְעֵכוֹן בְּעְדְּנֵה בָּבִּיר וְלָלְּיִשׁ וְתִּבְנוֹשׁ עִבּוּרְךְּ וְחַמֶּרְךְ וּמִשְׁחָרָ: 15 וְאָתֵּן עִשְׁבָּא בְּחַלְּךְ לִבְעִירָךְ וֹתֵיכוּל וִתִשׁבָּע:

## 14 וְגַתַתִּי מְשַׂר־אַרְצְבֶּם בְּעִתִּי עִשֶּׁב בְּשֵּׂרְךְ לִבְהָמְתָּדְ דְגָּבֶׁרְ וְתִירִשְׁךְ וְיִצְהָרֶך: 15 וְגַתַתֵּי עֵשֶּׁב בְּשֵּׂרְךָ לִבְהָמְתֶּרְ וֹאַכַלְתַּ וִשָּׂבַעִתַּ:

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אֶל הַבִּיִת וְלֹא אוֹיְבֶיּךְ, כְּעִנְיְן שֶׁנֶּאֲמַרּ״ּ: ״אִם אֶתַּן אֶת דְּגְנֵךְ וְגוֹ׳ כִּי מְאַסְפִּיו יֹאכְלָהוּ״, וְלֹא כְעִנְיָן שֶׁנֶּאֲמַר״ּ: ״וְהָיָה אִם זְרע יִשְּׂרָאֵל״ וְגוֹ׳: 15 וְנְתַתִּי עֵשֶׂב בְּשְׁדְּךָ. שֶׁלֹא תִצְטָרֵךְ לְהוֹלִיכָה לַמִּדְבָּרִיוֹת. דְּבָר אֲחֵר: שֶׁתְּהְיֶה גוֹזִז הְבוּאָתְךְ כָּל יְמוֹת הַגְּשָׁמִים וּמַשְׁלִיךְ לְבָנִי בְהָמְתָּךָ, וְאַתָּה מוֹנֵעַ יִדְךְ מִמֶּנְה שְׁלֹשִׁים יוֹם לְּדֶם לַקְצִיר, וְאֵינָה פּוֹחֶתֶת מִדְּגָנָה: וְאָבַלְתָּ וְשְׂבָעְתָּ. הַרִי זוֹ בְּרְכָה אֲחֶרֶת, שֶׁתְּהֵא בְּרְכָה מְצוּיָה בַּפַּת בְּתוֹךְ הַמִּעִים. ״וְאַכּלֹתְ וְשַׂבַעתַ״: 14 וְּנָתְתִּי מְטָר אַרְצְבֶּם. עֲשִׂיתֶם מַה שֶּעֲלִיכֶם, אַף אֲנִי אֶעֱשֶׂה מַה שֶּעֲלִי: בְּעַתּוֹ. בַּלֵילוֹת שֶׁלֹא יַטְרִיחוּ אֶתְכֶם. דְּבָר אַחֵר: ״בְּעִתּוֹ. בַּלֵילוֹת שֶׁלֹא יַטְרִיחוּ אֶתְכֶם. דְּבָר אַחֵר: ״בְּעִתּוֹ״, בְּלֵילֵי שַׁבְּתוֹת, שֶׁהַבּל מְצוּיִין בְּבָתֵּיהָם: יוֹרָה. הִיא רְבִיעָה הַוּוְּרָעִים: יְּאָחַר הַוְּרִיעָה, שֶׁמִּרְיָה אֶת הָאָרֶץ וְאֶת הַוְּרְעִים: וּמְלְקוֹשׁ. רְבִיעָה הַיּוֹרֶדֶת סְמוּךְ לַקְצִיר לְמַלֹאות הַמְּלְקוֹשׁ״ דְּבָר הַמְּאָחָר, בְּיִמְתְרְגְּמִינְוֹיִי: ״וְהָיָה הָעֲטָפִים לְלָבְן״ – ״לַקִּישַׁיָא״. בְּרָר אַחַר, לְבָרְר אַחָר: לְבָךְ נִקְרְאת ״מַלְקוֹשׁ״, שֶׁיוֹרֶדֶת עַל הַמְּשִׁיוּן: וְאָסַבְּּתְּ דְּנָבֶּר. אַתָּה תַאַסְפָּנוּ הַמְּץִילוֹת וְעַל הַקּשִׁיון: וְאָסַבְּתְּ דְּנָבֶר. אַתָּה תַאַסְפָּנוּ

.x. בראשית ל, מב. 38. ישעיה סב, חיט. 39. שופטים ו, ג.

#### **& CHASIDIC INSIGHTS G**

discouraging descent from the utopia depicted in the first paragraph. However, as we have seen before, there is often an advantage to the apparently lower scenario over the apparently higher one—in the present case, of "hearing" over "seeing." Onsciousness of God's transcendence may indeed engender a more comprehensive and absolute dissolution of the will before God, but its disadvantage is that it is so beyond our natural consciousness that it cannot affect it or transform it. In contrast, since consciousness of God's immanence, in contrast, must by nature infuse itself into the very fabric of our mundane lives, it strikes much deeper at the root of our natural consciousness and is far more effective in transforming it into Divine consciousness.

This explains, from another perspective, why exile is mentioned only in the second paragraph but not in the first. When our relationship with God is predicated solely on "sight," its very perfection precludes compromise or provisional policies; it knows only of "either/or" logic. Thus, it cannot conceive of performing the commandments during exile; exile and any continued relationship with God seem mutually exclusive. When, however, our relationship with God is attained through "hearing," it penetrates to our essential bond with Him; thus, in its context, the particulars of circumstance are inconsequential and we can continue our relationship with God even in exile.

For this reason, too, the first paragraph only speaks

of teaching "students," who can appreciate the value of the Torah, while the second paragraph also speaks of teaching "children," who are still too immature to appreciate its value. In teaching the immature, we address their intrinsic relationship with the Torah rather than their conscious recognition of its worth.

Nonetheless, despite its applicability to only the select few and its inherent flaw, the higher vision of our relationship with God remains part of the daily liturgy, even preceding the recitation of the lower vision. This fact reminds us that despite our limitations, we should still aspire to the future day when we will be able to overcome them, and moreover, that we can now and again rise above our everyday selves and live life as if we belonged to the religious elite that live that way constantly.

If you study My commandments continuously: As was noted, the sages inserted the ancillary statement "Blessed be the name of the glory of His kingdom forever and ever" into our twice-daily liturgical recitation of the *Shema*. The purpose of this insertion is to focus our consciousness on our direct perception ("sight") of God's immanence within creation. Thus, although the Torah itself only requires us to "hear" rather than "see," the sages encourage us to "see" as much as we can—God's immanence—in order that we benefit from the advantages of direct perception as well as from intellectual contemplation. "

<sup>97.</sup> See the Overview to parashat Va'etchanan. 98. Or HaTorah 166; Likutei Torah 3:42c; Likutei Sichot, vol. 9, p. 77, footnote 40; pp. 79-85; Sefer HaMa'amarim Melukat, vol. 4, pp. 6-7, vol. 5, p. 282.

14 I will reward you in a like manner: 93 I will provide you with all your material needs, but only to the maximal extent possible within the limitations I have built into nature. Thus, I will give the rain in the manner best suited for your land to produce its yield: it will fall in its time—i.e., the time I have placed at its exclusive disposal (so to speak)—the nighttime, when people are not outdoors working the land. This way, you will be able to work the land by day unhindered by rain. Both types of rain necessary for an optimal yield will fall: the early rain, which falls after sowing-time, enabling the newly sown seed to germinate and grow; and the latter rain, which falls just before harvest-time, bringing the grain to full ripeness. You—rather than your enemies—will gather in your grain, wine, and oil.

15 In fact, I will give your land so much fertility that you will be able to harvest your grain a month early and use it as the grass you need to feed your livestock in your field, and by harvest time it will have grown back so you will still have enough to eat and be sated. And if you do not choose to use your grain for fodder, I will still give you the grass you need for your livestock in your own field, so you won't have to lead them to other, far-away fields. In any case, even when you will eat a small amount of the bread that you bake from your grain, you will be sated by it.<sup>94</sup>

(In contrast, as I have told you, 95 if you dedicate yourselves to your Divine mission beyond the call of duty, you will earn beneficence that exceeds the limitations of nature. 96)

#### **& CHASIDIC INSIGHTS 03-**

Sustained contemplation of God's transcendence—Moses' vision for the Jewish people in the first paragraph of the *Shema*—is so intense that fulfillment of God's will is a given; there is no need to mention reward and punishment, and the possibility of exile is of course not even considered. Furthermore, the intensity of this Divine consciousness enables us to transcend our innate finitude and love God "beyond your natural ability," beyond our natural limits. When this is the case, we can all rely on ourselves and on our own personal experience of Divinity to ensure our commitment to God and His will.

Similarly, learning Torah—relative to performing the commandments—is a direct experience of Godliness, inasmuch as through learning the Torah we are granted a glimpse into God's mind, as it were. In this context, therefore, it is given precedence over the fulfillment of the Torah's commandments.

But the fact that this vision of reality is couched in the singular alludes to the fact that it is ultimately relevant only for select individuals, the spiritually gifted few who can indeed continuously sustain such a transcendent consciousness. In contrast, consciousness of God's immanence in creation is the "consciousness for the masses"; therefore, the second paragraph of the *Shema* is couched in the plural.

Since, at this less-intense level of Divine perception, we are entirely aware of our own existence, we are therefore susceptible to mistakenly putting our own perceived priorities ahead of those of the Torah. It therefore becomes necessary to delineate the consequences both of heeding and ignoring God's call. Since we are fallible, reliance on our own effort leaves room for the possibility of exile, and we need to look to each other for communal support to bolster our commitment to God's will—another reason this paragraph is couched in the plural rather than in the singular.

Similarly, the experience of fulfilling God's commandments, relative to Torah study, is an indirect experience of God; in this context, therefore, it is given precedence over the study of the Torah.

Thus far, the second paragraph seems to be a

<sup>93.</sup> Likutei Sichot, vol. 19, pp. 115-117. 94. Leviticus 25:19, 26:5; Cf. Genesis 23:2, 24:67. 95. Leviticus 26:3-13. 96. Likutei Sichot, vol. 19, pp. 115-120.

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16 אִסְתִּמְּרוּ לְכוֹן דִּלְמָא יִטְעֵי לְּבְּכוֹן וְתִפְּלְחוּן לְטַעֲוַת לְבְּכוֹן וְתִפְּלְחוּן לְטַעֲוַת עִמְמִיָּא וְתִסְּגִּדוּן לְהוֹן: 17 וְיִתְקּוֹף רְגְּזָא יִטְיִא נְתִּטְּרָא וְאַרְעָא לָא תִמַּן וְלָא יְהֵי מִטְרָא וְאַרְעָא לָא תִמַּן יָת עֲלַלְתָּה וְתֵיבְדוּן בְּפְּרִיעַ מֵעַל אַרְעָא טַבְּתָא דִייִ יְהֵב לְכוֹן: אַרְעָא טַבְתָא דִייִ יְהֵב לְכוֹן: לְבִּכוֹן וְעַל נַפְּשְׁכוֹן וְתִקְטְרוּן יִתְהוֹן לַתְפִּלִּין נַיְתְהוֹן לְאָת עַל יֶדְכוֹן וִיהוֹן לִתְפִּלִּין בַּין עִינִיכוו:

16 השֵּׁמְרוּ לָבֶּם פֶּּן־יִפְּתֶּה לְבַבְּכֵם וְסַרְהָּם וַעֲבַדְּתָּם הַּאֲלְהִים אֲחַלִּה אָפִּיִּהְוֹיתֶם לְהֶם: 17 וְחָלָה אַף־יְהֹנְה בְּּבָּם וְעָצַר אָת־הַשְּׁמִים וְלֹא־יִהְיֶה מְשָׁר וְהָאֲדְּמְה לָא בְּבָבְ וְעָצַר אָת־יְבוּלֶה וַאֲבַרְתָּם מְהַלָּה מֵעַל הָאָרֶץ הַפּּבָּה אֲשֶׁר יְהֹוֶה נֹתֵן לָכֵם: 18 וְשַׂמְתֶּם אֶת־דְּבְּרֵי אֵלֶה עַל־יִבְּבָּם וְעַל־נַפְשְׁכֵם וּקְשַׁרְתָּם אֹתֶם לְאוֹת עַל־יָדְבֶּם לְבִּבְּכֶם וְעַל־יַנְפְשְׁכֵם וּקְשַׁרְתָּם אֹתֶם לְאוֹת עַל־יָדְבֶּם וְחָשִׁרְהָם:

-⊗ RASHI છ્વ-

הַיִּסוּרִין אַגְּלֶה אֶתְכֶם מִן הָאֲדָמָה, שֻׁגְּרְמָה לְכֶם לַחֲטֹא. מְשֶׁל לְמֶלֶךְ שֶׁשֶׁלַח בְּנוֹ לְבֵית הַמִּשְׁתָּה, וְהָיָה יוֹשֵב וּמְפַּקְדוֹ: אַל תֹאכַל יוֹתֵר מִצְּרְבְּךְ, שֻׁתָּבוֹא נָקִי לְבֵית, וְלֹא הִשְׁנִּיח הָבֵּן הַהוּא, אָכַל וְשְׁתָה יוֹתֵר מִצְּרְבֹּר, וְשָׁתָה יוֹתֵר מִצְּרְבֹּר, וְשָׁתָה יוֹתֵר מִצְּרְבֹּר, וְשָׁתָה יוֹתֵר מִצְּרְבֹּוֹ, וְהַקִּיא וְטְבֵּף אֶת כָּל בְּנֵי הַמְּסְבָּה, נְטְלוּהוּ בְּיִדְיו וּבְרִגְלִיו וּוְרְקוּהוּ אֲחוֹרֵי פַּלְטְרִין: מְּהַרָה. אֵינִי בְּיִרְיוֹ לְכֶם אַרְבָּא. וְאָם תֹּאמְרוּ: וַהְלֹא נִמְנָה אַרְבָּא לְבֹּי תִּשְׁבוּל לֹא הָיָה לְהֶם מִמִּי לִלְמוֹד: 18 וְשִׁמְתָּם אֶת דְּבְּרִי. אַף לְאַחַר שָׁתְּלָּוֹ הֶיוֹ מְאָה וְצְשְׂרִים בְּמְצְוֹת הָבְּלִי שְׁמְבָּל לֹא הָיִה לְכֶם חֲדְשִׁמְתָּם אֶת דְּבְּרִי. אַף לְאָחַר שָׁתְגְלוּ הֶיוֹ מְצְיָנִים בְּמִצְוֹת: הַנִּיחוּ הְּפִּלִין וּעֲשֹׁרִ מְיִבְי לְּהְ צִיְנִים בְּמִצְוֹת: הַנִּשְׁתְחְוֹרוּ. וְעֲשֹׁרִ יִּיִי לְּהְ צִיְנִים בְּמְצְוֹת: בְּנִים בְּשֶׁתַחְוְרוּ. וְעָשֹּׁרִי: אֵלֹא יִהְיוּ לְבְּיִבִיי לְּהְ צִיְנִים בְּמְצְוֹת בְּשָּׁתְחִוֹרוּ. וְבִּשְּׁתְחוֹרִוּ. וְבִית בְּשְׁתִּחוֹרִי. זְּהִיים בְּשָׁתִּחוֹרוּ. בִּנִנִים בְּשָׁת וְבְיִב בְּיִבְייִם בְּשְׁתִּחוֹרוּ. בְּבִים בְּשְׁתִּוֹי בְּיִבְייִי לְּבְּ צִינְיִים לְּבְּיִבִיים בְּשָׁתְחִוֹרוּ.

16 הּשְּׁמְרוּ לָּכֶם בּיוֶן שֶׁתִּהְיוּ אוֹכְלִים וּשְׁבֵעִים, הַשְּׁמְרוּ לָכֶם שֶׁלֹּא תִבְעֲטוּ, שֻׁאֵין אָדְם מוֹרֵד בְּהַקְּדוֹשׁ הָשְׁבְעִה, לֶּכֶם שֶׁלֹּא תִבְעֲטוּ, שֻׁאֵין אָדְם מוֹרֵד בְּהַקְּדוֹשׁ בְּרוּף הוּא אֶלָא מִתּוֹף שְׁבִיעָה, שֶׁנֶּאֱמַרºº: "פֶּן תֹאכֵל יְשְׁבָעְתָּ, וּבְּקָרְף וְצֹאנְף יִרְבְּיֻן", מַה הוּא אוֹמֵר אַחֲרִיוּ? יְיְרָבְּרְוּ וְצִאנְף יִרְבְּיֻן", מַה הוּא אוֹמֵר אַחֲרִיוּ? יְיְרָבְּרְ וְצִאנְף יְרְבְּיִן" שְׁאָדָם מִּוֹרִם לְבָבֶּף מִן הַתּוֹרָה, וְבֵן דְּתִּר פּוֹרָם אֲחַרִים אֲחַרִים", שֶׁבִּיוֹן שֶׁאָדָם פּוֹרַשׁ מִן הַתּוֹרָה וְלָה הוֹלֵף וּמִדַּבֵּק בַּעֲבוֹרָה וְרָה. וְבֵן דְּוִּדְ אָמִר שִׁ בְּקִים בְּעבוֹרְה וְרָה. וְבֵן דְּוִּדְ מִּלְרְשׁ מִן בְּתוֹרְה, וְבֵרְיִם מְחַבְּרִם לְעוֹבְדֵיהָם אֲחַרִים: מִלְרְשׁ אָלִהִים אֲחַרִים: אֲלָהִים אֲחַרִים: אֲלְהִים אֲחַרִים: אֶלְהִים אֲחָרִים: אַלְהִים שְׁהַרָּה, בְּעִנִין שֶׁנָּאֲמַר בּיּ: זוֹ אֶתְ יְבֹּוֹלְה, בְּעִנִין שֶׁנָּאֲמֵר בּי: זוֹ אֶתְרָה, מִנְיִלְ לְּה, בְּעִנִין שֶׁנָּאֲמֵר בּי: זוֹ אֶתְבָּתְ בְּלִּהְ מִּלְרָה, בְּרִבִּיל לְה, בְּעִנִין שֶׁנָּאֲמֵר בּי: זוֹ וְרָבָּא מְשִׁנִּח הַבֵּא מְנְשִׁה, מִנְיִם לְּהָבָּא מְשִׁנּי לֹן לְּה, בְּעִנִין שֶׁנָּאֲמֵר בּי: זוֹ הִבְּלִהְ מִּעְטִיתְ בַּרְבָּת בְּיִבְּל לְּה, בְּעִנְיִן שֶׁנָּאָ מֵר בּי: זוֹ הְבֵא מְנְטִיי. וִיְבְּבָּתְם מְּבְּרָבְיִם הְבָּב וְנִבְּא מְּעִם הִיּבְרָה, עַלִּין לְהָבָּא מְיִבּרְה. עַל כְּל שְׁאָר

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16 Beware, lest your heart be misled and you neglect (literally, "you turn away") and you worship insentient gods: The Ba'al Shem Tov interpreted this verse to mean that the moment a person turns away from God, he is already "serving idols." <sup>107</sup>

Divine consciousness encompasses the awareness that God is the only true, intrinsic reality, and that everything else is contingent on His reality. As soon as a person allows this consciousness to lapse, he is ipso facto tacitly ascribing at least some independent reality to creation. Having lost sight of the fact that God is the sole autonomous force in the world, he succumbs to the illusion that he should respect lesser "deities," whether these be celestial, natural, or societal forces (such as wealth, power, and prestige). This is a subtle but very real form of idolatry. <sup>108</sup>

<sup>99.</sup> Above, 8:11-17. 100. Rashi here and on 32:1, below. 101. Above, 8:19-20. 102. Genesis 6:3. 103. Likutei Sichot, vol. 9, p. 80, note 6. 104. Likutei Sichot, vol. 9, p. 80, note 9. 105. Rashi on 6:8, above, and on Exodus 13:16. 106. Above, 6:8. 107. Tzava'at HaRibash (ed. Kehot) 76. 108. Sichot Kodesh 5720, pp. 392-393.

16 Here again,<sup>99</sup> **beware, lest your heart be misled** into spiritual insensitivity by this material abundance, as it is apt to be, **and you** consequently **neglect** the study of the Torah, **and** as a result, when you eventually seek to fill the spiritual void in your life, **you worship insentient deities and prostrate yourselves before them.** 

17 If you fall into idolatry, the wrath of GoD will be kindled against you. He will close off heaven and there will be no rain, and the ground will even not give back as its produce the quantity of grain you sow it with. In addition, <sup>100</sup> I will exile you; you will perish quickly from upon the good land that GoD is giving you, since that very land and its material bounty are causing you to rebel against Me. <sup>101</sup> I will not give you any reprieve; although I gave the generation of the Flood reprieve, <sup>102</sup> they had no one to learn from. You, however, should have learned from their example.

18 Therefore, **you must set these words of Mine upon your heart and upon your soul**: fulfill My commandments—both when you are in your land, in order to earn the right to remain there, and when you go into exile,<sup>103</sup> in order to remain practiced in them so they will not seem strange to you when you return.<sup>104</sup> With regard to *tefilin*, I instruct you now to write this paragraph on a fourth parchment and place it in the remaining empty compartment of your head-*tefilin* (see Figure 1), and also to add this paragraph to the single parchment of your hand-*tefilin* (see Figure 2). Thus, **you must bind them as a sign upon your** weaker **arm** (see Figure 3) **and they must act as a** fourfold<sup>105</sup> **reminder** on your forehead, above the point exactly **between your eyes** (see Figure 4).<sup>106</sup>



Figure 1. Manufacture of Head-Tefilin



Figure 3. Wearing the Arm-Tefilin



Figure 2. Manufacture of Arm-Tefilin



*Figure 4.* Wearing the Head-*Tefilin* 

−⊗ ONKELOS ଔ−

19 וְתַלְפּוּן יַתְהֹוּן יָת בְּנִיכוֹן לְמַלְּלָא בְּאָרְחָא וּבְמִשְׁבָּךְ וּבְמְקִינְהְּ וּבְמְקִינְהְּ בְּאָרְחָא וּבְמִשְׁבָּךְ וּבְמְקִינְהְ: 20 וְתַכְּתְבָנוֹן עַל מְזוֹזְין וְתִקְּבְענוּן בְּיסְבּי בִיתָּר וּבְתִרְעִיף: 21 בְּדִיל אַרְעָא: בִיתָר וּמִיכוֹן וְיוֹמֵי בְנֵיכוֹן עַל 22 אֲרֵי אִם מִשֵּׁר תִּשְׁרוּן יְת בְּל בְּאַרְנִא הִי מְיֵּי לָאֲבְהַתְכוֹן לְמִתַּן מַתְכוֹן לְמֶעְבְּדָה לְמִרְחָן יְת בְּל מַלְהָכוֹן לְמֶעְבָּדָה לְמִרְתוּ אַל אַרְעָא: קַרְמוֹהִי וּלְאָתַקְרַבָּא לְדָחָלְתָּהּ: 19 וְלִפַּוְרָתֶם אֹתֶם אֶת־בְּנֵיכֶם לְדַבֵּר בֶּם בְּשִּׁרְתְּדְ בְּבֵיתֶּךְ וּבְלֶּרְתְּךָ בַּדֶּרֶךְ וְבְשָּׁרְבְּךָ וּבְקוּמֶך: 20 וּרְתַבְתָּם עַל־מְזוּזוֹת בֵּיתֶךְ וּבִשְּׁעֶרֶיך: 21 לְמַעַן יִרְבִּוּ יְמִיכֶם וִימֵי בְנֵיכֶּם עֻל הַאֲּדְמָה אֲשֶּׁר נִשְּבַּע יְהוֹּה לַאֲבְתִיכֶם לְתַת לָהֵם כִּימֵי הַשָּׁמֵים עַל־הַאֵּרֵץ: ם

שביעי ומפטיר 22 כִּי אָם־שָׁמֹר תִּשְּׁמְרוּן אֶת־כָּל־הַמִּצְוָה הוֹאת אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי מְצֵוֶה אֶתְכֶם לַעֲשֹׁתְה לְאַהַבְּה אַת־יִהוֹה אֵלְהֵיכֵם לַלֵכָת בְּכַל־דְּרַכֵּיו וּלְדָבְקַה־בִּוּ:

-⊗ RASHI ശ

לְתֵת לְהֶם. "לְתֵת לְכֶם" אֵין כְּתִיב כָּאן, אֶלְּא "לְתֵת לְהֶם", מִכְּאן מְצִינוּ לְמֵדִים תְּחִיַּת הַמֵּתִים מִן הַתּוֹרָה: לְהָבָּת הַשְּׁמִרוּן. אַוְהָרֵת שְׁמִירוֹת הַרְבֵּה, לְהָזָהֵר בָּעְלְמוּדוֹ שֶׁלֹא יִשְׁתַּכַּח: לְלֶבֶת בְּבָל דְּרָבִיוּ. הוּא בְּתַלְמוּדוֹ שֻׁלֹא יִשְׁתַּכַּח: לְלֶבֶת בְּבָל דְּרָבִיוּ. הוּא רַחוּם וְאַתָּה תְּהֵא רַחוּם, הוּא גוֹמֵל חֲסָדִים וְאַתְּה גוֹמֵל חֲסָדִים וְלַדְבְּקָה בוֹ. אָפְשָׁר לוֹמֵר בֵּן, וַהְלֹא גִּשׁ אוֹבְלָה הוּא, אֶלָא הִדְּבֵק בַּתַּלְמִידִים וּבַחְכָמִים, וּמִעלה אני עליף כּאלוּ נדבּקת בּוֹ:

10 לְדַבֵּר בָּם. מִשְּעָה שֶׁהַבֵּן יוֹדֵע לְדַבֵּר, לְמְדַהוּ: ״תּוֹרָה צִּוָּה לְנוּ מֹשֶׁה״<sup>5</sup>, שֶּיְהֵא זֶה לִמוּד דְּבּוּרוֹ. מִשְּׁהְיּ לְנוּ מֹשֶׁה״<sup>5</sup>, שֶּיְהֵא זֶה לִמוּד דְּבּוּרוֹ. מִפְּאן אָמְרוּ: בְּשֶׁהַתִּינוֹק מַתְחִיל לְדַבֵּר אָבִיו מֵשְׁיַה עְמוֹ בִּלְשׁוֹן הַקְּדֶשׁ וּמְלַמְּדוֹ תוֹרָה, וְאִם לֹא עָשָׁה כֵּן, הָרי הוּא בְּאלוּ קוֹבְרוֹ, שֶׁנֶּאֱמֵר: ״וְלִמִּדְתָּם אֹתָם אֶת בְּנִיכֶם לְדַבֵּר בָּם״ וְגוֹי: 21 לְמֵעֵן יִרְבּוּ יְמֵיכֶם וִימֵל בְּנִיכֶם לְבִּר בָּם״ וְגוֹי: 12 לְמֵעֵן יִרְבּוּ יְמֵיכֶם וֹלְא וֹרְבּוּ לִמִיכָם לְאוֹ הֹן וֹמִבְּלָל לָאו הַן וֹמִבְּלָל הֵן לְאוּ הֵן וֹמִבְּלֶל הֵן לָאו: שִׁוּ וִמִבְּלָל הֵן לְאוּ:

**.45.** דברים לג, ד.

#### ≈ A CLOSER LOOK ≪

[20] You must inscribe: It is customary for the scribe to write God's Name Shakai (שרי) on the back of the mezuzah. The mezuzah is then rolled up and positioned in its case with the word Shakai facing outward. This Name can be seen as an acronym for the words "Guardian of the Doors of Israel" (שומר דלחות ישראל). 115

Although there is nothing wrong with encasing the *mezuzot* in ornamental or artistically crafted cases, one should never scrimp with the quality of the parchments in order to afford more expensive cases, since it is only the parchments that fulfill the commandment and produce the spiritual and physical effects the commandment is intended to provide. Hence the special importance of ensuring that all the *mezuzot* affixed to the doorposts of our homes and places of work be written by skilled scribes in compliance with the strictest standards of Jewish law.

#### 

[20] You must inscribe: The letters that spell the word mezuzah (מווות) allude to the unique ideal of the Jewish home:

π and ππ are the third-person feminine and masculine demonstrative pronouns ("this"), respectively. They thus allude to the male and female principles in creation, which are most fundamentally the cosmic groom and bride (God and

the Jewish people), and which are reflected in the husband and wife in the physical home itself. The *mem* (a) preceding these two pronouns alludes to the Written Torah, which was given to Moses (in the form of the Ten Commandments, which include the entire Torah<sup>116</sup>) at the end of 40 days (40 being the numerical value of the letter *mem*), and the Oral Torah, which, as recorded

<sup>114.</sup> Zohar 3:228b, 258a 115. Etz Chaim, Sha'ar HaKelalim 4; Yalkut Me'am Lo'ez on this verse. 116. Exodus 20:1.

- 19 You must teach them to your children;<sup>109</sup> in fact, teach your children to speak with them: converse with your children in Hebrew so it becomes their native tongue, and teach them the language using passages from the Torah. Let them see that the Torah's teachings are your chief occupation: as above,<sup>110</sup> each one of you should discuss them when you sit in your house and when you walk on the way; let them be your last concern when you lie down to sleep at night and your first concern when you awaken in the morning.
- 20 Every one of **you must inscribe** this paragraph, too, **upon** the parchment that I have instructed you<sup>111</sup> to place in a container (see Figure 5) fastened to one of **the doorposts** of each door **of your house and upon your gates** (see Figure 6).



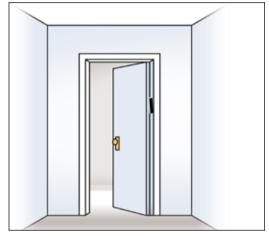


Figure 5. The Mezuzah and a Case

Figure 6. The Mezuzah on a Doorpost

- 21 Fulfill My commandments and study My Torah in order that your days as a collective entity and the days of your children increase in the land<sup>112</sup> that God swore to your forefathers to give not only to you, their descendants, but to them as well, when they will be resurrected in the messianic future, for as long as the days of heaven above earth, i.e., for all time.
- ◆ Seventh Reading & Maftir 22 For if you take measures to safeguard all these commandments that I am commanding you, by studying the Torah's instructions regarding how to perform them properly and not by forgetting what you have learned, and in order to love God, your God, and then to walk in all His ways by being merciful and kind—not only to the extent to which you have been explicitly commanded to be, but by imitating how He is merciful and kind beyond the ways He requires of you in His commandments—and finally to cleave to Him by constantly associating with the sages and teachers of the Torah,<sup>113</sup>

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zuzah—a parchment inscribed with these passages—to the doorposts of our homes, we affirm that everything we possess and all aspects of our lives are infused with this dedication to God. [continues...]

<sup>20</sup> You must inscribe: We have just described how the first two paragraphs of the *Shema* express the two facets of Divine consciousness that we are intended to maintain throughout our lives. By affixing a *me*-

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23 וְיתָרָךְ יְיָ יֶת כָּל עַמְמַיָּא הָאִלֵּין
מְקֵּדְמִיכוֹן וְתִירְתוּן עַמְמִיָּא הָאִלֵּין
תְּקִיפִין מְנְכוֹן: 24 כָּל אַתְרָא דִּי
תִּדְרוֹךְ פַּרְסַת רַגְּלְכוֹן בֵּה דִּלְכוֹן
תְּחִימְכוֹן בַּרְא וְלְבָּנָן מִן נָהָרְא
תְּחִרמְכוֹן: 25 לְא יִתְעַתְּד אֲנָשׁ
תְּחִימְכוֹן דַּחֲלַתְכוֹן וְאִימַתְכוֹן יִתַּן
יִיְ אֱלְהַכוֹן עַל אַפֵּי כָל אַרְעָא דִּי
תְּדְרָכוֹן עַל אַפֵּי כָּל אַרְעָא דִי
תְּדְרָכוֹן בַּה בָּמַא דִי מַלְיל לְכוֹן:

23 וְהוֹרֶישׁ יְהוָה אֶת־כָּל־הַגּוֹיִם הָאֵלֶה מִלְּפְנֵיכֶם וְיִרְשְׁתֶּם גּוֹיִם גְּדְלִים וַעֲצֵמֶים מִכֶּם: 24 כָּל־הַפְּלִוֹם אֲשָׁר תִּיְרָךְ כַּף־רֵגְלְכֶם בְּוֹ לָכֶם יְהְיֶה מִן־הַפִּּרְבָּר וְהַלְּבָנוֹן מִיְרָהְ נְהַר־בְּּרָת וְעֵד הַיָּם הָאַחֲלוֹן יִהְיֶה גְּבֵלְכֶם: מוֹרַבְּּלָכֶם יִתֵּן וּ מִיֹרְנַצֵב אִישׁ בִּפְנֵיכֶם פַּחְדְּכֶם וּמוֹרְאַכֶּם יִתֵּן וּ בַּלְבָם: מִלְּהֵיכָם עַל־בְּנֵי כָל־הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר תִּדְרְכוּ־בָּה יְהֹוֹר לַבַם: בַּאִשׁר הָבֵּר לַבַם: בַּאַשׁר הָבָּר לַבַם: בַּאַשׁר הָבָּר לַבַם:

קי״א פסוקים. אי״ק סימן. יעל״א סימן.

#### ® RASHI @

מְבֶּל מְקוֹם. אִם בֵּן, מֵה תַּלְמוּד לוֹמֵר "אִישׁ"? אֲפְּלוּ בְּעוֹג מֶלֶךְ הַבְּשָׁן: בַּחְדְּכֶם וּמוֹרַאֲכֶם. וַהֲלֹא "פַּחַד" הוּא "מוֹרָא", אֶלָּא "פַּחְדְּכֶם" עַל הַקְּרוֹבִים, "וּמוֹרַאֲכֶם" עַל הָרְחוֹקִים. "פַּחַד" לְשׁוֹן בְּעִיתַת פִּתְאֹם, "מוֹרָא" לְשׁוֹן דְּאָגָה מִיָּמִים רַבִּים: בָּאֲשֶׁר דְּבֶּר לְּכֶם. וְהֵיכָן דַבַּר? "אֶת אֵימָתִי אֲשַׁלַּח לְפָנֶיךְּ" וְגוֹ". 23 וְהוֹּרִישׁ ה׳, עֲשֹיתֶם מַה שֶּׁעֲלֵיכֶם, אַף אֲנִי אֶעֲשֶׂה מַה שֶּׁעְלֵיכֶם, אַף אֲנִי אֶעֲשֶׂה מַה שֶּׁעְלֵי: וַעֲצְמִים מִבֶּם. אַתָּם גָּבּוֹרִים וְהֵם גִּבּוֹרִים מָבֶּם. שֶׁאָם לֹא שֶׁיִשְׁרָאֵל גִּבּוֹרִים, מַה הַשֶּׁבִח שֶׁפְשַׁבַּח אֶתְם אֶת הָאֱמוֹרִיִּים לוֹמֵר "וַעֲצָמִים מִבֶּם", אֶלְא אַתֶּם גָּבּוֹרִים מִבֶּם: 25 לֹא גָּבּוֹרִים מִבֶּם: 25 לֹא יִתְנַצֵב אִישׁ וְגוֹי. אֵין לִי אֶלָא אִישׁ, אֻמְּה וּמִשְׁפְּחָה יְּתִיצֵב אִישׁ וְגוֹי. אֵין לִי אֶלָא אִישׁ, אֻמְה וּמִשְׁפְּחָה וְאַשְׁיִה מִנִּיִן? תַּלְמוּד לוֹמַר: "לֹא יִתְנַצב"

.46. שמות כג, כז.

#### ♦ INNER DIMENSIONS ♦

**[continued...]** in its seminal form as the Mishnah, begins and ends with the letter *mem*. (The first word of the Mishnah is מאימחי ["from when"]<sup>122</sup> and the last word in the Mishnah is "peace"].<sup>123</sup>) The word *mezuzah* thus alludes to

the domestic harmony between husband and wife as well as to that between God and the Jewish people, which is ultimately possible only when their relationship is governed by the principles of the Torah.<sup>124</sup>

<sup>122.</sup> Berachot 1:1. 123. Uktzin 3:12. 124. Benei Veitcha, p. 28 (from Kefar Chabad Magazine, issue 1163, p. 38).

- 23 then, in reward, God will drive out all these nations from before you. You will dispossess nations who are so strong that they are greater and stronger than you, even though you yourselves are mighty.
- 24 Every place upon which the soles of your feet will tread in order to conquer will be yours, even territory beyond your promised border, which will extend from the desert in the south to Lebanon in the north, and from the 'great' river, the Euphrates River in the east to the Mediterranean sea in the west.<sup>117</sup>
- 25 No one will stand up against you, not even a man as giant as Og. Gop, your God, will cast the immediate terror of you on those near you and the gnawing dread of you on all the inhabitants of the land upon which you tread, even those far away, as He spoke concerning you."<sup>118</sup>

The Haftarah for parashat Eikev is on p. 239.



#### ⊗ CHASIDIC INSIGHTS ଔ

The *mezuzah* is affixed to the right doorpost because the right side is associated with love, <sup>119</sup> as is stated in the Song of Songs, <sup>120</sup> "His right hand embraces me," and maintaining Divine consciousness, as these passages assure us, inspires us to love God with and through all aspects of our lives.

Affixing the *mezuzah* to the doorpost of the home's entrance—in addition to the doorposts of all inner doorways—is an affirmation that the ideals and

Divine consciousness inscribed on the *mezuzah* are meant to accompany us when we leave our homes, as well. This heightened Divine consciousness protects us spiritually from the materialistic enticements of those aspects of the outside world that have yet to be rectified, and since every spiritual reality finds expression in physical reality, the *mezuzah* serves to protect us from physical harm, as well.<sup>121</sup>

<sup>117.</sup> Numbers 34:1-15. 118. Exodus 23:27. 119. See on Genesis 1:1 (Inner Dimensions). 120. 2:6, 8:3. 121. Torah Or 42c; Sefer HaMa'amarim Melukat, vol. 5, pp. 48-49.

## Dedicated in honor of our children

# Nathan, Yitzchok, Moshe Lev, and Gilana

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## Yuri and Deana Pikover

