

The book of  
Genesis בְּרֵאשִׁית

Lech Lecha – לך לך

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## Memorial page

For the soul elevation of

**Lazar ben  
Manya**

לעילוי נשמת  
רב יחיאל הלל בן רב יעקב

לעילוי נשמת  
יוכבד הענא בת חיים יהושע  
פאליק

For the soul elevation of  
**Shayna Mindel bat  
Rav Yechiel Hillel**

לעילוי נשמת  
יחיה בן חיים

לעילוי נשמת  
יהודית בת נחמיה

## *Parasha Summary*

*Lech-Lecha, Lekh-Lekha, or Lech-L'cha (לֵךְ-לְךָ lek-ləḵā — Hebrew for "go!" or "leave!", literally "go for you" — the fifth and sixth words in the parashah) is the third weekly Torah portion (פַּרְשָׁה, parashah) in the annual Jewish cycle of Torah reading. It constitutes Genesis 12:1–17:27. The parashah tells the stories of God's calling of Abram (who would become Abraham), Abram's passing off his wife Sarai as his sister, Abram's dividing the land with his nephew Lot, the war between the four kings and the five, the covenant between the pieces, Sarai's tensions with her maid Hagar and Hagar's son Ishmael, and the covenant of circumcision (בְּרִית מִילָה, brit milah).*

*The parashah is made up of 6,336 Hebrew letters, 1,686 Hebrew words, 126 verses, and 208 lines in a Torah Scroll (סֵפֶר תּוֹרָה, Sefer Torah). Jews read it on the third Sabbath after Simchat Torah, in October or November*

*In traditional Sabbath Torah reading, the parashah is divided into seven readings, or עלייות, aliyot. In the Masoretic Text of the Tanakh (Hebrew Bible), Parashah Lech-Lecha has three "open portion" (פְּתוּחָה, petuchah) divisions (roughly equivalent to paragraphs, often abbreviated with the Hebrew letter פ (peh)). Parashah Lech-Lecha has several further subdivisions, called "closed portion" (סְתוּמָה, setumah) divisions (abbreviated with the Hebrew letter ס (samekh)) within the open portion divisions. The first open portion divides the first reading. The second open portion covers the balance of the first and all of the second and third readings. The third open portion spans the remaining readings. Closed portion divisions further divide the fifth and sixth readings.*


**Aliya: Kohen-Chessed-Abraham**


*In the first reading (עלייה, aliyah), God told Abram to leave his native land and his father's house for a land that God would show him, promising to make of him a great nation, bless him, make his name great, bless those who blessed him, and curse those who cursed him. Following God's command, at age 75, Abram took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, and the wealth and persons that they had acquired in Haran, and traveled to the terebinth of Moreh, at Shechem in Canaan. God appeared to Abram to tell him that God would assign the land to his heirs, and Abram built an altar to God. Abram then moved to the hill country east of Bethel and built an altar to God there and invoked God by name. Then Abram journeyed toward the Negeb. The first open portion (פתוחה, petuchah) ends here. Abram's Counsel to Sarai (watercolor circa 1896–1902 by James Tissot)*

*In the continuation of the reading, famine struck the land, so Abram went down to Egypt, asking Sarai to say that she was his sister so that the Egyptians would not kill him. The first reading (עלייה, aliyah) ends here.*

## Chapter: 12

1. וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-אַבְרָם לֵךְ-לְךָ מֵאֶרֶץ וּמִבְּנוֹתֶיהָ וּמִבֵּית אָבִיךָ אֶל-הָאָרֶץ  
אֲשֶׁר אֲרָאָה:

1. Now YHVH said unto Abram: 'Get thee out of your country, and from your kindred, and from your father's house, unto the land that I will show thee.

2. וְאֶעֱשֶׂה לְךָ לְגוֹי גָּדוֹל וְאֲבָרְכְךָ וְאֶזְדַּלְתָּה שְׂמִיךָ וְהָיָה בְרָכָה:

2. And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make your name great; and be thou a blessing.

3. וְאֲבָרְכָה מְבַרְכֶיךָ וּמְקַלְלֶיךָ אֶאֱרָ וְנִבְרְכוּ בְּךָ כָּל מִשְׁפְּחוֹת הָאָדָמָה:

3. And I will bless them that bless thee, and him that curseth thee will I curse; and in thee shall all the families of the earth be blessed.'

4. וַיֵּלֶךְ אַבְרָם כְּאֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר אֵלָיו יְהוָה וַיֵּלֶךְ אִתּוֹ לוֹט וְאַבְרָם בֶּן-זָרְמֵשׁ שָׁנִים  
וּשְׁבַעִים שָׁנָה בְּצֵאתוֹ מִחוּרָן:

4. So Abram went, as YHVH had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him; and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.

5. וַיִּקְחוּ אַבְרָם אֶת-שָׂרִי אִשְׁתּוֹ וְאֶת-לוֹט בֶּן-אָזוּיוֹ וְאֶת-כָּל-רְכוּשָׁם אֲשֶׁר  
רָכְשׁוּ וְאֶת-הַנֶּפֶשׁ אֲשֶׁר-עִשׂוּ בְּחוּרָן וַיָּצְאוּ לְלֶכֶת אֶרְצָה כְּנָעַן וַיָּבֹאוּ אֶרְצָה כְּנָעַן:

5. And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came.

6. וַיַּעֲבֹר אַבְרָם בְּאֶרֶץ עַד מְקוֹם שְׂכֵם עַד אֶלְוֵן בְּמִוְרָה וַהֲכִנְעָנִי אִוּ בְּאֶרֶץ:

6. And Abram passed through the land unto the place of Shechem, unto the terebinth of Moreh. And the Canaanite was then in the land.

7. וַיֵּרָא יְהוָה אֶל-אַבְרָם וַיֹּאמֶר לְוָרְעָה אֶתְּךָ אֶת-הָאֶרֶץ הַזֹּאת וַיְבִן שָׁם מִזְבֵּחַ לַיהוָה הַנִּרְאָה אֵלָיו:

7. And YHVH appeared unto Abram, and said: 'Unto your seed will I give this land'; and he builded there an altar unto YHVH, who appeared unto him.

8. וַיַּעֲלֶתֶךָ מִשָּׁם הָהָרָה מִקְדָּם לְבֵית-אֵל וַיֵּט אֶהְלֵה בֵּית-אֵל בַּיָּמִים וְהָעִי מִקְדָּם וַיְבִן-שָׁם מִזְבֵּחַ לַיהוָה וַיִּקְרָא בְּשֵׁם יְהוָה:

8. And he removed from thence unto the mountain on the east of Beth-el, and pitched his tent, having Beth-el on the west, and Ai on the east; and he builded there an altar unto YHVH, and called upon the name of YHVH.

9. וַיִּסַּע אַבְרָם הַלֹּךְ וְנֹסֵעַ הַנִּנְגְּבָה: (פ)

9. And Abram journeyed, going on still toward the South.

10. וַיְהִי רָעָב בְּאֶרֶץ וַיֵּרֵד אַבְרָם מִצְרַיִמָּה לְזֹרֵם שָׁם כִּי-כָבֵד הָרָעָב בְּאֶרֶץ:

10. And there was a famine in the land; and Abram went down into Egypt to sojourn there; for the famine was sore in the land.

11. וַיְהִי כַּאֲשֶׁר הִקְרִיב לָבוֹא מִצְרַיִמָּה וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-שָׂרִי אִשְׁתּוֹ הִנֵּה-נָא יִדְעֵתִי כִּי אִשָּׁה יִפְת-מִרְאָה אֶת:

11. And it came to pass, when he was come near to enter into Egypt, that he said unto Sarai his wife: 'Behold now, I know that thou art a fair woman to look upon.

12. וְהָיָה כִּי-יֵרְאוּ אֶתְךָ הַמִּצְרַיִם וַאֲמָרוּ אִשְׁתּוֹ אֵאת וְהָרְגוּ אוֹתִי וְאַתְּךָ יִחְיֶי:

12. And it will come to pass, when the Egyptians shall see thee, that they will say: This is his wife; and they will kill me, but thee they will keep alive.

13. אֲמַרְי-נָא אֲזוּתִי אֶת לְמַעַן יִיטַב-לִי בְּעַבְדוֹרְךָ וְזוּזִיתָה נַפְשִׁי בְּגֻלְלָה:

13. Say, I pray thee, thou art my sister; that it may be well with me for your sake, and that my soul may live because of thee.'



*In the second reading (עלייה, aliyah), when Abram and Sarai entered Egypt, Pharaoh's courtiers praised Sarai's beauty to Pharaoh, and she was taken into Pharaoh's palace. Pharaoh took Sarai as his wife. Because of her, Abram acquired sheep, oxen, donkeys, slaves, and camels, but God afflicted Pharaoh and his household with mighty plagues. Pharaoh questioned Abram why he had not told Pharaoh that Sarai was Abram's wife. Pharaoh returned Sarai to Abram and had his men take them away with their possessions. Abram, Sarai, and Lot returned to the altar near Bethel. The second reading (עלייה, aliyah) ends here.*

14. וַיְהִי כִּכְּוֹא אֲבָרָם מִצְרִימָה וַיֵּרְאוּ הַמִּצְרַיִם אֶת-הָאִשָּׁה כִּי-יָפָה הִוא מְאֹד:

14. And it came to pass, that, when Abram was come into Egypt, the Egyptians beheld the woman that she was very fair.

15. וַיֵּרְאוּ אֹתָהּ שָׂרֵי פְרֹעֶה וַיְהַלְלוּ אֹתָהּ אֶל-פְּרֹעֶה וַתִּקְחוּ הָאִשָּׁה בֵּית פְּרֹעֶה:

15. And the princes of Pharaoh saw her, and praised her to Pharaoh; and the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house.

16. וּלְאֲבָרָם הֵיטִיב בְּעִבְרָה וַיְהִי-לוֹ צֹאן-וּבָקָר וְזִמְרִים וְעִבְדִּים וְשִׁפּוֹת וְאִתְנֹת וְגַמְלִים:

16. And he dealt well with Abram for her sake; and he had sheep, and oxen, and he-asses, and men-servants, and maid-servants, and she-asses, and camels.

17. וַיִּנְזַע יְהוָה אֶת-פְּרֹעֶה בְּגַעִים גְּדֹלִים וְאֶת-בֵּיתוֹ עַל-דְּבַר שָׂרֵי אִשָּׁת אֲבָרָם:

17. And YHVH plagued Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai Abram's wife.

18. וַיִּקְרָא פְּרֹעֶה לְאֲבָרָם וַיֹּאמֶר מַה-זֹּאת עָשִׂיתָ לִּי לָמָּה לָא-הִגַּדְתָּ לִּי כִּי אִשְׁתְּךָ הִוא:

18. And Pharaoh called Abram, and said: 'What is this that thou hast done unto me? why didst thou not tell me that she was your wife?

19. לָמָּה אָמַרְתָּ אֲנֹתִי הִוא וְאָקֻחַ אֹתָהּ לִי לְאִשָּׁה וְעַתָּה הִנֵּה אִשְׁתְּךָ קָזוּ וְכָרָ:

19. Why saidst thou: She is my sister? so that I took her to be my wife; now therefore behold your wife, take her, and go your way.'

20. וַיִּצְוּ עָלָיו פְּרֹעֶה אַנְשִׁים וַיִּשְׁלְחוּ אוֹתוֹ וְאֶת-אִשְׁתּוֹ וְאֶת-כָּל-אֲשֶׁר-לוֹ:

20. And Pharaoh gave men charge concerning him; and they brought him on the way, and his wife, and all that he had.

### Chapter: 13

1. וַיֵּלֶךְ אֲבָרָם מִמִּצְרַיִם הִוא וְאִשְׁתּוֹ וְכָל-אֲשֶׁר-לוֹ וְלוֹט עַמּוֹ הַנִּזְבָּה:

1. And Abram went up out of Egypt, he, and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the South.

2. **וְאַבְרָם כָּבֵד מְאֹד בַּמִּקְנֵהוּ בַכֶּסֶף וּבַזָּהָב:**  
2. And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold.
3. **וַיֵּלֶךְ לְמִסְעָיו מִנֶּגֶב וְעַד-בֵּית-אֵל עַד-הַמְּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר-הָיָה שָׁם אֹהֶלָה בְּתוֹזֵלָה בֵּין בֵּית-אֵל וּבֵין הָעֵי:**  
3. And he went on his journeys from the South even to Beth-el, unto the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Beth-el and Ai;
4. **אֶל-מְקוֹם הַמִּזְבֵּחַ אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה שָׁם בְּרֵאשִׁיתָהּ וַיִּקְרָא שָׁם אַבְרָם בְּשֵׁם יְהוָה:**  
4. unto the place of the altar, which he had made there at the first; and Abram called there on the name of YHVH.

 **Aliya: Third-Tiferet-Jacob** 

*In the third reading (עלייה, aliyah), Abram and Lot now had so many sheep and cattle that the land could not support them both, and their herdsmen quarreled. Abram proposed to Lot that they separate, inviting Lot to choose which land he would take. Lot saw how well watered the plain of the Jordan was, so he chose it for himself, and journeyed eastward, settling near Sodom, a city of wicked sinners, while Abram remained in Canaan. God promised to give all the land that Abram could see to him and his offspring forever, and to make his offspring as numerous as the dust of the earth. Abram moved to the terebinths of Mamre in Hebron, and built an altar there to God. The third reading (עלייה, aliyah) and the second open portion (פתוחה, petuchah) end here with the end of chapter*

5. **וְגַם-לָלוּט הָהֵלֶךְ אֶת-אַבְרָם הָיָה עֹאן-וּבָקָר וְאֹהֶלִים:**  
5. And Lot also, who went with Abram, had flocks, and herds, and tents.
6. **וְכֹא-נָשָׂא אֹתָם הָאָרֶץ לְשֹׁבֹת יוֹזְרוֹ כִּי-הָיָה רְכוּשָׁם רָב וְכֹא יָכְלוּ לְשֹׁבֹת יוֹזְרוֹ:**  
6. And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell together; for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together.
7. **וַיְהִי-רִיב בֵּין רְעֵי מִקְנֵה-אַבְרָם וּבֵין רְעֵי מִקְנֵה-לוֹט וְהַכְּנַעֲנִי וְהַפְּרִזִּי אָן יֵשֵׁב בְּאֶרֶץ:**  
7. And there was a strife between the herdsmen of Abram's cattle and the herdsmen of Lot's cattle. And the Canaanite and the Perizzite dwelt then in the land.
8. **וַיֹּאמֶר אַבְרָם אֶל-לוֹט אַל-תְּהִי מְרִיבָה בֵּינִי וּבֵינֶךָ וּבֵין רְעֵי וּבֵין רְעֵיךָ כִּי-אַנְשִׁים אֲנִי וְאַנְשֵׁי אֲנִי:**  
8. And Abram said to Lot, 'Let there be no strife between me and you, and between my men and your men, for we are men and your men are men.'

8. And Abram said unto Lot: 'Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and your herdmen; for we are brethren.

9. הֲלֹא כָּל-הָאָרֶץ לְפָנֶיךָ הַפָּרָדָה זֶה מֵעָלַי אִם-הִשְׁמַאל וְאִימְנָה וְאִם-הַיְמִינִי וְאִשְׁמְאִילָה:

9. Is not the whole land before thee? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me; if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou take the right hand, then I will go to the left.'

10. וַיִּשָׂא-לוֹט אֶת-עֵינָיו וַיִּרְא אֶת-כָּל-כַּפְּר הַיַּרְדֵּן כִּי כָּלָה מִשְׁקָהּ לְפָנָי | שְׁזוּת יְהוָה אֶת-סֹדֶם וְאֶת-עֲמֹרָה כִּגְן-יְהוָה כְּאָרֶץ מִצְרַיִם בְּאֶמְכָה צֹעַר:

10. And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of the Jordan, that it was well watered every where, before YHVH destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, like the garden of YHVH, like the land of Egypt, as thou goest unto Zoar.

11. וַיִּבְחַר-לוֹ לוֹט אֶת כָּל-כַּפְּר הַיַּרְדֵּן וַיִּסַּע לוֹט מִקְדָּם וַיִּפְרְדּוּ אִישׁ מֵעַל אֶזְוִיו:

11. So Lot chose him all the plain of the Jordan; and Lot journeyed east; and they separated themselves the one from the other.

12. אֲבָרָם יָשָׁב בְּאָרֶץ-כְּנָעַן וְלוֹט יָשָׁב בְּעָרֵי הַכְּפָר וַיֵּאָהֵל עַד-סֹדֶם:

12. Abram dwelt in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelt in the cities of the Plain, and moved his tent as far as Sodom.

13. וְאֲנָשֵׁי סֹדֶם רָעִים וְזוֹטָאִים לַיהוָה מְאֹד:

13. Now the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners against YHVH exceedingly.

14. וַיְהִי־הָאֵתָּה אָמַר אֶל-אֲבָרָם אֲזוּרֵי הַפָּרָדָה-לוֹט מֵעַמּוֹ שֶׁנָּא זֶה עֵינֶיךָ וְרָאָה בֵּין-הַמְּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר-אֵתָּה שָׁם צִפְנָה וְנִגְבְּהָ וְקִדְמָה וַיְמִינָה:

14. And YHVH said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him: 'Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art, northward and southward and eastward and westward;

15. כִּי אֶת-כָּל-הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר-אֵתָּה רָאָה לְךָ אֶתְנַנְּהָ וְלִרְעָךָ עַד-עוֹלָם:

15. for all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to your seed for ever.

16. וַיִּשְׁמַתִּי אֶת-יְרֵעָךָ כְּעֵבֶר הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר | אִם-יִוְכַל אִישׁ לְמַנּוֹת אֶת-עֵבֶר הָאָרֶץ זֶם-יְרֵעָךָ יִמְנָה:

16. And I will make your seed as the dust of the earth; so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall your seed also be numbered.

17. קוּם הִתְהַלֵּךְ בְּאָרֶץ לְאָרְכָהּ וּלְרוֹחְבָהּ כִּי לְךָ אֶתְנַנְּהָ:

17. Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for unto thee will I give it.'



18. וַיֵּאֱהָל אַבְרָם וַיָּבֵא וַיֵּשֶׁב בְּאֵלְנֵי מַמְרֵה אֲשֶׁר בְּזוֹבְרוֹן וַיְבַן-שָׁם מִזְבֵּחַ לַיהוָה: (פ)

18. And Abram moved his tent, and came and dwelt by the terebinths of Mamre, which are in Hebron, and built there an altar unto YHVH.

 **Aliya: Fourth-Netzach-Moses** 

*In the fourth reading (עליה), aliyah (in chapter 14, the Mesopotamian Kings Amraphel of Shinar, Arioch of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer of Elam, and Tidal of Goiim made war on the Canaanite kings of Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, Zeboiim, and Zoar, who joined forces at the Battle of Siddim, now the Dead Sea. The Canaanite kings had served Chedorlaomer for twelve years, but rebelled in the thirteenth year. In the fourteenth year, Chedorlaomer and the Mesopotamian kings with him went on a military campaign and defeated several peoples in and around Canaan: the Rephaim, the Zuzim, the Emim, the Horites, the Amalekites, and the Amorites. Then the kings of Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, Zeboiim, and Zoar engaged the four Mesopotamian kings in battle in the Valley of Siddim. The Mesopotamians routed the Canaanites, and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled into bitumen pits in the valley, while the rest escaped to the hill country. The Mesopotamians seized all the wealth of Sodom and Gomorrah, as well as Lot and his possessions, and departed. A fugitive brought the news to Abram, who mustered his 318 retainers, and pursued the invaders north to Dan. Abram and his servants defeated them at night, chased them north of Damascus, and brought back all the people and possessions, including Lot and his possessions. When Abram returned, the king of Sodom came out to meet him in the Valley of Shaveh, the Valley of the King. King Melchizedek of Salem (Jerusalem), a priest of God Most High, brought out bread and wine and blessed Abram and God Most High, and he gave him a tenth of everything. The fourth reading (עליה), aliyah (ends here.p>In the fourth reading (עליה), aliyah (in chapter 14, the Mesopotamian Kings Amraphel of Shinar, Arioch of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer of Elam, and Tidal of Goiim made war on the Canaanite kings of Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, Zeboiim, and Zoar, who joined forces at the Battle of Siddim, now the Dead Sea. The Canaanite kings had served Chedorlaomer for twelve years, but rebelled in the thirteenth year. In the fourteenth year, Chedorlaomer and the Mesopotamian kings with him went on a military campaign and defeated several peoples in and around Canaan: the Rephaim, the Zuzim, the Emim, the Horites, the Amalekites, and the Amorites. Then the kings of Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, Zeboiim, and Zoar engaged the four Mesopotamian kings in battle in the Valley of Siddim. The Mesopotamians routed the Canaanites, and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled into bitumen pits in the valley, while the rest escaped to the hill country. The Mesopotamians seized all the wealth of Sodom and Gomorrah, as well as Lot and his possessions, and departed. A fugitive brought the news to Abram, who mustered his 318 retainers, and pursued the invaders north to Dan. Abram and his servants defeated them at night, chased them north of Damascus, and brought back all the people and possessions, including Lot and his*

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Chapter: 14

1. ויהי בימי אמרפל מלך-שִׁנָר-שִׁנְעָר אַרְיוֹךְ מֶלֶךְ אֶלְסָר כְּדָרְלָעֹמֶר מֶלֶךְ עֵילָם וְתִדְעָל מֶלֶךְ גֹּיִים:

1. And it came to pass in the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of Goim,

2. עָשׂוּ מִלְחָמָה אֶת-בְּרַע מֶלֶךְ סְדֹם וְאֶת-בְּרִשָׁע מֶלֶךְ עֲמֹרָה שִׁנְאָב | מֶלֶךְ אַדְמָה וְשִׁמְאֵבֶר מֶלֶךְ (צַבִּיִּים) זְבוֹיִים וּמֶלֶךְ בְּלַע הִיא-צֶעֶר:

2. that they made war with Bera king of Sodom, and with Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, and Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela--the same is Zoar.

3. כָּל-אֵלֶּה זָוְבְרוּ אֶל-עַמְּקֵי הַשְּׂדִיִּים הוּא יָם הַמֶּלַח:

3. All these came as allies unto the vale of Siddim--the same is the Salt Sea.

4. שְׁתַּיִם עֶשְׂרֵה שָׁנָה עָבְדוּ אֶת-כְּדָרְלָעֹמֶר וּשְׁלֹשׁ-עֶשְׂרֵה שָׁנָה מָרְדוּ:

4. Twelve years they served Chedorlaomer, and in the thirteenth year they rebelled.

5. וּבָאֲרַבְעֵי עֶשְׂרֵה שָׁנָה בָּא כְּדָרְלָעֹמֶר וְהַמְּלָכִים אֲשֶׁר אִתּוֹ וַיַּכּוּ אֶת-רֶפְאִים בְּעֶשְׂתֵּתֵת קַרְנִים וְאֶת-הַזּוּזִים בָּהֶם וְאֶת הָאִיִּמִּים בְּשֵׁנֵה קַרְיָתָיִם:

5. And in the fourteenth year came Chedorlaomer and the kings that were with him, and smote the Rephaim in Ashteroth-karnaim, and the Zuzim in Ham, and the Emim in Shaveh-kiriathaim,

6. וְאֶת-הַזּוּרִי בְּהַרְרָם שִׁעִיר עַד אֵיל פָּאֲרָן אֲשֶׁר עַל-הַמִּדְבָּר:

6. and the Horites in their mount Seir, unto El-paran, which is by the wilderness.

7. וַיֵּשְׁבוּ וַיָּבֹאוּ אֶל-עֵין מִשְׁפָּט הוּא קָדֵשׁ וַיַּכּוּ אֶת-כָּל-שְׂדֵה הָעַמְּלָקִי וְגַם אֶת-הָאֱמֹרִי הַיֵּשֵׁב בְּזוּזְצָן תַּמָּר:

7. And they turned back, and came to En-mishpat--the same is Kadesh--and smote all the country of the Amalekites, and also the Amorites, that dwelt in Hazazon-tamar.

8. וַיֵּצֵא מֶלֶךְ-סְדֹם וּמֶלֶךְ עֲמֹרָה וּמֶלֶךְ אַדְמָה וּמֶלֶךְ (צַבִּיִּים) זְבוֹיִם וּמֶלֶךְ בְּלַע הוּא-צֶעֶר וַיַּעֲרְכוּ אֹתָם מִלְחָמָה בְּעַמְּקֵי הַשְּׂדִיִּים:

8. And there went out the king of Sodom, and the king of Gomorrah, and the king of Admah, and the king of Zeboiim, and

the king of Bela--the same is Zoar; and they set the battle in array against them in the vale of Siddim;

9. אֶת כְּדֹרְלָאוֹמֶר מֶלֶךְ עֵילָם וְתִדַּל מֶלֶךְ גֹּיִים וְאַמְרָפֶל מֶלֶךְ שִׁנְאָר וְאַרְיוֹךְ מֶלֶךְ אֵלְסָר אַרְבָּעָה מְלָכִים אֶת-הַחֲמִישֶׁה:

9. against Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of Goiim, and Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar; four kings against the five.

10. וְעַמֻּקָּה הַשְּׂדֵיִם בְּאֶרֶת בְּאֶרֶת זֹזָר וַיָּגֶסוּ מֶלֶךְ-סְדֹם וְעַמְרָה וַיִּפְלוּ-שָׁמָּה וְהַנְּשִׂאָרִים הָרָה גָּסוּ:

10. Now the vale of Siddim was full of slime pits; and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, and they fell there, and they that remained fled to the mountain.

11. וַיִּקְחוּ אֶת-כָּל-רֶכֶשׂ סְדֹם וְעַמְרָה וְאֶת-כָּל-אֲכָלָם וַיֵּלְכוּ:

11. And they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their victuals, and went their way.

12. וַיִּקְחוּ אֶת-לוֹט וְאֶת-רֶכְשׁוֹ בֶן-אֲזוּי אַבְרָם וְהוּא יוֹשֵׁב בְּסְדֹם:

12. And they took Lot, Abram's brother's son, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.

13. וַיָּבֹא הַפְּלִיט וַיִּגַּד לְאַבְרָם הָעֵבְרִי וְהוּא שָׂכַן בְּאֵלְנֵי מִמְרָה הָאֲמֹרִי אֲזוּי אֲשֶׁכַל וְאֲזוּי עֵזֶר וְהֵם בְּעַלֵי בְרִית-אַבְרָם:

13. And there came one that had escaped, and told Abram the Hebrew--now he dwelt by the terebinths of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol, and brother of Aner; and these were confederate with Abram.

14. וַיִּשְׁמַע אַבְרָם כִּי נִשְׁבָּה אֲזוּי וַיִּרְקֶה אֶת-זִנְיָכֹו וַיִּלְחֲדֵי בֵיתוֹ שְׁמֹנֶה עָשָׂר וּשְׁלֹשׁ מֵאוֹת וַיִּרְדֹּף עַד-הָיָן:

14. And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he led forth his trained men, born in his house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued as far as Dan.

15. וַיִּזְזַלְקֵהוּ עַלֵיהֶם לְלִלָה הוּא וְעַבְדָּיו וַיִּכְּמוּ וַיִּרְדֹּפוּם עַד-זֹזָבָה אֲשֶׁר בְּשֹׁמְאֵל כְּדַמְשֶׁק:

15. And he divided himself against them by night, he and his servants, and smote them, and pursued them unto Hobah, which is on the left hand of Damascus.

16. וַיָּשִׁב אֶת כָּל-הָרֶכֶשׁ וְגַם אֶת-לוֹט אֲזוּי וְרֶכְשׁוֹ הַיְשִׁיב וְגַם אֶת-הַנְּשִׂיִם וְאֶת-הָעָם:

16. And he brought back all the goods, and also brought back his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people.

17. וַיָּשָׂא מֶלֶךְ-סְדֹם לְקָרְאָתוֹ אֲזוּרִי שׁוּבוּ מִהַכּוֹת אֶת-כְּדֹרְלָאוֹמֶר וְאֶת-הַמְּלָכִים אֲשֶׁר אִתּוֹ אֶל-עַמֻּקָּה עֲוֹהָה הוּא עַמֻּקָּה הַמְּלָכָה:

17. And the king of Sodom went out to meet him, after his return from the slaughter of Chedorlaomer and the kings that were with him, at the vale of Shaveh--the same is the King's Vale.

18. ובמלכי-צָדֵק מֶלֶךְ שָׁלֹם הוֹצִיא לָזֶוּם וַיֵּן וְהוּא כֹהֵן לְאֵל עֵלְיוֹן:

18. And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine; and he was priest of God the Most High.

19. וַיְבָרֶכְהוּ וַיֹּאמֶר בָּרוּךְ אֲבָרָם לְאֵל עֵלְיוֹן קִנְיַת שָׁמַיִם וָאָרֶץ:

19. And he blessed him, and said: 'Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Maker of heaven and earth;

20. וּבָרוּךְ אֵל עֵלְיוֹן אֲשֶׁר-בִּגְזֹן צָרִיף בְּיָדְךָ וַיִּתֶּן-לִּי מִעֲשֵׂר מִכֹּל:

20. and blessed be God the Most High, who hath delivered thine enemies into your hand.' And he gave him a tenth of all.

 **Aliya: Fifth-Hod-Aaron** 

*In the fifth reading (עלייה, aliyah), the king of Sodom offered Abram to keep all the possessions if he would merely return the people, but Abram swore to God Most High not to take so much as a thread or a sandal strap from Sodom, but would take only shares for the men who went with him. A closed portion (סתומה, setumah) ends here with the end of chapter 14.*

*As the reading (עלייה, aliyah) continues in chapter 15, some time later, the word of God appeared to Abram, saying not to fear, for his reward would be very great, but Abram questioned what God could give him, as he was destined to die childless, and his steward Eliezer of Damascus would be his heir. The word of God replied that Eliezer would not be his heir, Abram's own son would. God took Abram outside and bade him to count the stars, for so numerous would his offspring be, and because Abram put his trust in God, God reckoned it to his merit. The fifth reading (עלייה, aliyah) ends here.*

21. וַיֹּאמֶר מֶלֶךְ-סְדֹם אֶל-אֲבָרָם תֵּן-לִּי הַנְּפֹשׁ וְהָרֶכֶשׁ קִזּוּ-לָךְ:

21. And the king of Sodom said unto Abram: 'Give me the persons, and take the goods to thyself.'

22. וַיֹּאמֶר אֲבָרָם אֶל-מֶלֶךְ סְדֹם הֲרַבְמַתִּי יָדִי אֶל-יְהוָה אֵל עֵלְיוֹן קִנְיַת שָׁמַיִם וָאָרֶץ:

22. And Abram said to the king of Sodom: 'I have lifted up my hand unto YHVH, God Most High, Maker of heaven and earth,

23. אִם-מִזְוֹוֹט וְעַד שְׂרוּף-זַעַל וְאִם-אֶקְזוּ מִכֹּל-אֲשֶׁר-לָךְ וְלֹא תֹאמַר אֲנִי הִעֲשִׂיתִי אֶת-אֲבָרָם:

23. that I will not take a thread nor a shoe-latchet nor aught that is thine, lest thou shouldest say: I have made Abram rich;

24. בַּלְעָדֵי רַק אֲשֶׁר אָכְלוּ הַנְּעָרִים וְזוֹלָהּ הָאֲנָשִׁים אֲשֶׁר הִלְכוּ אִתִּי עִנּוֹר אֲשֶׁכֶּל וּמִמָּוֶרָה הֵם יִקְחוּ וְזוֹלָתָם: (ס)

24. save only that which the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men which went with me, Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre, let them take their portion.'

Chapter: 15

1. אַחֲרַי הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה הָיָה דְבַר-יְהוָה אֶל-אַבְרָם בְּמַוֹזָה לֵאמֹר אֶל-תִּירָא אַבְרָם אֲנִכִּי מִגֵּן לֶךְ שְׂכָרְךָ הַרְבֵּה מְאֹד:

1. After these things the word of YHVH came unto Abram in a vision, saying: 'Fear not, Abram, I am your shield, your reward shall be exceeding great.'

2. וַיֹּאמֶר אַבְרָם אֲדֹנָי יְהוִה מַה-תִּתֶּנְךָ-לִּי וְאַנְכִּי הוֹלֵךְ עֲרִירִי וּבֶן-מִשְׁקָ בֵּיתִי הוּא דְמִשְׁקָ אֶלְיָעֶזֶר:

2. And Abram said: 'O Lord GOD, what wilt Thou give me, seeing I go hence childless, and he that shall be possessor of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?'

3. וַיֹּאמֶר אַבְרָם הֵן לִּי לֹא נָתַתָּה זָרַע וְהִנֵּה בֶן-בֵּיתִי יוֹרֵשׁ אֹתִי:

3. And Abram said: 'Behold, to me Thou hast given no seed, and, lo, one born in my house is to be mine heir.'

4. וְהִנֵּה דְבַר-יְהוָה אֵלָיו לֵאמֹר לֹא יִירָשְׁךָ זֶה כִּי-אִם אֲשֶׁר יֵצֵא מִמִּעֶיךָ הוּא יִירָשְׁךָ:

4. And, behold, the word of YHVH came unto him, saying: 'This man shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir.'

5. וַיּוֹצֵא אֹתוֹ הַזּוֹזָעָה וַיֹּאמֶר הִבֵּט-נָא הַשָּׁמַיְמָה וּסְפֹר הַכּוֹכָבִים אִם-תּוּכֹל לְסַפֵּר אֹתָם וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ כֹּה יִהְיֶה זְרַעֲךָ:

5. And He brought him forth abroad, and said: 'Look now toward heaven, and count the stars, if thou be able to count them'; and He said unto him: 'So shall your seed be.'

6. וְהֵאמֵן בַּיהוָה וַיּוֹשֵׁבֶהָ לוֹ צְדָקָה:

6. And he believed in YHVH; and He counted it to him for righteousnes.

 Aliya: Sixth-Yessod-Joseph 

*In the sixth reading (עליה, aliyah), God directed Abram to bring three heifers, three goats, three rams, a turtledove, and a bird, to cut the non-birds in two, and to place each half opposite the other. Abram drove away birds of prey that came down upon*

the carcasses, and as the sun was about to set, he fell into a deep sleep. God told Abram that his offspring would be strangers in a land not theirs, and be enslaved 400 years, but God would execute judgment on the nation they were to serve, and in the end they would go free with great wealth and return in the fourth generation, after the iniquity of the Amorites was complete. And there appeared a smoking oven, and a flaming torch, which passed between the pieces. And God made a covenant with Abram to assign to his offspring the land from the river of Egypt to the Euphrates: the land of the Kenites, the Kenizzites, the Kadmonites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites, and the Jebusites. A closed portion (סתומה, setumah) ends here with the end of chapter 15. As the reading continues in chapter 16, having borne no children after 10 years in Canaan, Sarai bade Abram to consort with her Egyptian maidservant Hagar, so that Sarai might have a son through her, and Abram did as Sarai requested. When Hagar saw that she had conceived, Sarai was lowered in her esteem, and Sarai complained to Abram. Abram told Sarai that her maid was in her hands, and Sarai treated her harshly, so Hagar ran away. An angel of God found Hagar by a spring of water in the wilderness, and asked her where she came from and where she was going, and she replied that she was running away from her mistress. The angel told her to go back to her mistress and submit to her harsh treatment, for God would make Hagar's offspring too numerous to count; she would bear a son whom she should name Ishmael, for God had paid heed to her suffering. Ishmael would be a wild donkey of a man, with his hand against everyone, and everyone's hand against him, but he would dwell alongside his kinsmen. Hagar called God "El-roi," meaning that she had gone on seeing after God saw her, and the well was called Beer-lahai-roi. And when Abram was 86 years old, Hagar bore him a son, and Abram gave him the name Ishmael. A closed portion (סתומה, setumah) ends here with the end of chapter 16. As the reading continues in chapter 17, when Abram was 99 years old, God appeared to Abram as El Shaddai and asked him to walk in God's ways and be blameless, for God would establish a covenant with him and make him exceedingly numerous. Abram threw himself on his face, and God changed his name from Abram to Abraham, promising to make him the father of a multitude of nations and kings. The sixth reading (עליה, aliyah) ends here

7. וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו אֲנִי יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר הוֹצֵאתִיךָ מֵאוּר כְּשֶׁהָיִים לָתֶת לְךָ אֶת-הָאָרֶץ הַזֹּאת לְרִשְׁתָּהּ:

7. And He said unto him: 'I am YHVH that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give thee this land to inherit it.'

8. וַיֹּאמֶר אֲדֹנָי יְהוָה בְּמָה אֲדַע כִּי אִירְשֶׁנָּה:

8. And he said: 'O Lord GOD, whereby shall I know that I shall inherit it?'

9. וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו קְחוּנָה לִי עֵגְלָה מִשְׁלֹשֶׁת וְעֵז מִשְׁלֹשֶׁת וְאֵיִל מִשְׁלֹשֶׁת וְתֹר וְגֹזָל:

9. And He said unto him: 'Take Me a heifer of three years old, and a she-goat of three years old, and a ram of three years old, and a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.'



10. ויקוזו-לו את-כל-אלה ויבחר אתם בְּתוֹךְ ויתן איש-בְּתָרוֹ לְקַרְאֵת רֵעֵהוּ וְאֶת-הַצֶּפֶר לֹא בָתָר:

10. And he took him all these, and divided them in the midst, and laid each half over against the other; but the birds divided he not.

11. ויִרְדּוּ הָעֵיט עַל-הַפְּגָרִים וישב אתם אִבְרָם:

11. And the birds of prey came down upon the carcasses, and Abram drove them away.

12. ויהי השמשׁ לָבוֹא ותרדמה נִפְלָה עַל-אִבְרָם והנה אימה וְשִׁכָּה גְדוֹלָה נִפְלָת עָלָיו:

12. And it came to pass, that, when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, lo, a dread, even a great darkness, fell upon him.

13. ויאמר לְאִבְרָם וְדַע תְּדַע כִּי-גֵר ויהיה זְרַעְךָ בְּאֶרֶץ לֹא לָהֶם וְעַבְדִּים וְעָנָו אַתֶּם אֲרַבְעַת מֵאוֹת שָׁנָה:

13. And He said unto Abram: 'Know of a surety that your seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;

14. וְגַם אֶת-הַגּוֹי אֲשֶׁר יַעֲבֹדוּךָ אֶנְכִי וְאֲזוּרֶי-כֶן יֵצְאוּ בְרִכְשׁ גָּדוֹל:

14. and also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge; and afterward shall they come out with great substance.

15. ואתה תָּבוֹא אֶל-אֲבֹתֶיךָ בְּשָׁלוֹם תִּקְבָּר בְּשֵׂיבָה טוֹבָה:

15. But thou shalt go to your fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age.

16. וְדוֹר רְבִיעִי יָשׁוּבוּ הֵנָּה כִּי לֹא-שָׁלֵם עֲוֹן הָאֱמֹרִי עַד-הֵנָּה:

16. And in the fourth generation they shall come back hither; for the iniquity of the Amorite is not yet full.'

17. ויהי השמשׁ בָּאָה וְעֵלְטָה הָיָה וְהֵנָּה תִזְוֹר עֵשָׂן וְלִפְיֵד אֵשׁ אֲשֶׁר עֹבֵר בֵּין הַגְּזָרִים הָאֵלֶּה:

17. And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and there was thick darkness, behold a smoking furnace, and a flaming torch that passed between these pieces.

18. בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא כָּרַת יְהוָה אֶת-אִבְרָם בְּרִית לֵאמֹר לְרֵעֶךָ נָתַתִּי אֶת-הָאָרֶץ הַזֹּאת בְּנִצְחָתָךְ מִצְרַיִם עַד-הַנָּהָר הַגָּדוֹל נְהַר-פְּרָת:

18. In that day YHVH made a covenant with Abram, saying: 'Unto your seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates;

19. אֶת-הַכְּנִזִּי וְאֶת-הַקְּנִזִּי וְאֶת הַקַּדְמוֹנִי:

19. the Kenite, and the Kenizzite, and the Kadmonite,

20. וְאֶת-הַזוּזִי וְאֶת-הַכְּרִזִּי וְאֶת-הַקְּפָאִים:

20. and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, and the Rephaim,

21. וְאֶת-הָאֱמֹרִי וְאֶת-הַכְּנַעֲנִי וְאֶת-הַגְּרִזִּי וְאֶת-הַיְבוּסִי: (ס)

21. and the Amorite, and the Canaanite, and the Girgashite, and the Jebusite.'

### Chapter: 16

1. וְשָׂרַי אִשְׁתּוֹ אַבְרָם לֹא יָלְדָה לּוֹ וְלֵהּ שְׁפֹחָה מִצְרַיִם וּשְׁמֶהָ הָגָר:

1. Now Sarai Abram's wife bore him no children; and she had a handmaid, an Egyptian, whose name was Hagar.

2. וְהִתְאָמַר שָׂרַי אֶל-אַבְרָם הִנֵּה-נָא עֲצַרְנִי יְהוָה מִקְלֶדֶת בֶּא-נָא אֶל-שְׁפֹחֹתַי אוֹלֵי אֲבֹנָה מִמִּנְהָ וַיִּשְׁמַע אַבְרָם לְקוֹל שָׂרַי:

2. And Sarai said unto Abram: 'Behold now, YHVH hath restrained me from bearing; go in, I pray thee, unto my handmaid; it may be that I shall be builded up through her.' And Abram hearkened to the voice of Sarai.

3. וַתִּקְחוּ שָׂרַי אִשְׁתּוֹ אַבְרָם אֶת-הָגָר הַמִּצְרַיִת שְׁפֹחָתָהּ מִקֶּץ עֶשְׂרִים שָׁנִים לְשִׁבְתָּ אַבְרָם בְּאֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן וַתִּתֵּן אֹתָהּ לְאַבְרָם אִשָּׁה לּוֹ לְאִשָּׁה:

3. And Sarai Abram's wife took Hagar the Egyptian, her handmaid, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan, and gave her to Abram her husband to be his wife.

4. וַיָּבֹא אֶל-הָגָר וַתֵּהָר וַתֵּהָרָא כִּי הָרְתָהּ וַתִּקַּל גְּבֻרָתָהּ בְּעֵינֶיהָ:

4. And he went in unto Hagar, and she conceived; and when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress was despised in her eyes.

5. וַתִּתֵּן שָׂרַי אֶל-אַבְרָם זִמְסִי עָלֶיךָ אֲנֹכִי נָתַתִּי שְׁפֹחֹתִי בְּזוּיָקָה וַתֵּהָרָא כִּי הָרְתָהּ וַאֲקַל בְּעֵינֶיהָ יִשְׁפֹט יְהוָה בֵּינִי וּבֵינֶיךָ:

5. And Sarai said unto Abram: 'My wrong be upon thee: I gave my handmaid into your bosom; and when she saw that she had conceived, I was despised in her eyes: YHVH judge between me and thee.'

6. וַיֹּאמֶר אַבְרָם אֶל-שָׂרַי הִנֵּה שְׁפֹחֹתְךָ בְּיָדְךָ עָשִׂי-לָהּ הַטּוֹב בְּעֵינֶיךָ וַתֵּעַזְבֵהּ שָׂרַי וַתִּבְרָח מִפְּנֵיהָ:

6. But Abram said unto Sarai: 'Behold, your maid is in your hand; do to her that which is good in thine eyes.' And Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she fled from her face.

7. וַיִּמְצָאָהּ מַלְאָךְ יְהוָה עַל-עַיִן הַמַּיִם בְּמִדְבָּר עַל-הָעַיִן בְּדֶרֶךְ שׁוּר:

7. And the angel of YHVH found her by a fountain of water in the wilderness, by the fountain in the way to Shur.

8. וַיֹּאמֶר הָגָר שְׁפֹחֹת שָׂרַי אִי-מִנֹּה בָאת וְאֵנָה תִלְכִּי וַתֹּאמֶר מִפְּנֵי שָׂרַי גְּבֻרָתִי אֲנֹכִי בְרוּת:

8. And he said: 'Hagar, Sarai's handmaid, whence camest thou? and whither goest thou?' And she said: 'I flee from the face of my mistress Sarai.'

9. וַיֹּאמֶר לָהּ מִלֵּאָהּ יְהוָה שׁוּבִי אֶל-גְּבֻרְתָּךְ וְהִתְעַנִּי תַּנּוּזֹת יְדֵיָהּ:

9. And the angel of YHVH said unto her: 'Return to your mistress, and submit thyself under her hands.'

10. וַיֹּאמֶר לָהּ מִלֵּאָהּ יְהוָה הַרְבֵּה אַרְבֵּה אֶת-אַרְעֶךָ וְלֹא יִסְפָּר בְּמִרְבֵּ:

10. And the angel of YHVH said unto her: 'I will greatly multiply your seed, that it shall not be numbered for multitude.'

11. וַיֹּאמֶר לָהּ מִלֵּאָהּ יְהוָה הִנֵּה הָרָה וְיִלְדֶת בֵּן וְקָרָאת שְׁמוֹ יִשְׁמָעֵאל כִּי-שָׁמַעַתְּ אֶת-עֲנִיָּהּ:

11. And the angel of YHVH said unto her: 'Behold, thou art with child, and shalt bear a son; and thou shalt call his name Ishmael, because YHVH hath heard your affliction.'

12. וְהוּא יִהְיֶה פָּרָא אֲדָם יָדוֹ בְּכֹל יוֹד כָּל בּוֹ וְעַל-פָּנָיו כָּל-אֲזוּזֵי יִשְׁכָּן:

12. And he shall be a wild ass of a man: his hand shall be against every man, and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the face of all his brethren.'

13. וַתִּקְרָא שֵׁם-יְהוָה הַדֹּבֵר אֵלֶיהָ אֵתָהּ אֵל רֵאִי כִי אָמְרָה הִנֵּם הֵלֶם רָאִיתִי אֲזוּרֵי רֵאִי:

13. And she called the name of YHVH that spoke unto her, Thou art a God of seeing; for she said: 'Have I even here seen Him that seeth Me?'

14. עַל-כֵּן קָרָא לַבְּאֵר בְּאֵר לַחַי רֵאִי הַנִּזָּה בֵּין-קַדֶּשׁ וּבֵין בְּרֵד:

14. Wherefore the well was called 'Beer-lahai-roi; behold, it is between Kadesh and Bered.'

15. וַתִּלְדֶּה הַגֵּר לְאַבְרָם בֵּן וַיִּקְרָא אַבְרָם שֵׁם-בְּנֵוֹ אֶשֶׁר-יִלְדָהּ הַגֵּר יִשְׁמָעֵאל:

15. And Hagar bore Abram a son; and Abram called the name of his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael.

16. וְאַבְרָם בֶּן-שְׁבַעִים שָׁנָה וְשֵׁשׁ שָׁנִים בְּלֻדַת-הַגֵּר אֶת-יִשְׁמָעֵאל לְאַבְרָם: (ס)

16. And Abram was fourscore and six years old, when Hagar bore Ishmael to Abram.

## Chapter: 17

1. וַיְהִי אַבְרָם בֶּן-תְּשַׁעִים שָׁנָה וַתַּשְׁעֵ שְׁנָיִם וַיֵּרָא יְהוָה אֶל-אַבְרָם וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו אֲנִי-אֵל שְׁדַי הַתְּהַלְלָךְ לְפָנַי וְהָיָה תְּבָמִים:

1. And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, YHVH appeared to Abram, and said unto him: 'I am God Almighty; walk before Me, and be thou wholehearted.  
2. **וְאֶתְנֶנָּה בְּרִיתִי בֵּינִי וּבֵינֶךָ וְאֶרְבֵּה אֹתְךָ בְּמֵאֵד בְּמֵאֵד:**
2. And I will make My covenant between Me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.'  
3. **וַיִּפֹּל אַבְרָם עַל-פָּנָיו וַיְדַבֵּר אֱלֹהִים לְאִמְרוֹ:**
3. And Abram fell on his face; and God talked with him, saying:  
4. **אֲנִי הֵנָּה בְּרִיתִי אִתְּךָ וְהָיִיתָ לְאָב הַבְּמוֹן גּוֹיִם:**
4. 'As for Me, behold, My covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be the father of a multitude of nations.  
5. **וְלֹא-יִקְרָא עוֹד אֶת-שְׁמֶךָ אַבְרָם וְהָיָה שְׁמֶךָ אַבְרָהָם כִּי אֲב-הַבְּמוֹן גּוֹיִם גִּתְתִּיךָ:**
5. Neither shall your name any more be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for the father of a multitude of nations have I made thee.  
6. **וְהִפְרִתִי אֹתְךָ בְּמֵאֵד בְּמֵאֵד וְגִתְתִּיךָ לְגוֹיִם וּמְלָכִים מִמֶּךָ יֵצְאוּ:**
6. And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee.

 **Aliya: Seventh-Malchut-King David** 

*In the seventh reading (עליה, aliyah), God promised to maintain the covenant with Abraham and his offspring as an everlasting covenant throughout the ages, and assigned all the land of Canaan to him and his offspring as an everlasting holding. God further told Abraham that he and his offspring throughout the ages were to keep God's covenant and every male (including every slave) was to be circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin at the age of eight days as a sign of the covenant with God. If any male failed to circumcise the flesh of his foreskin, that person was to be cut off from his kin for having broken God's covenant. And God renamed Sarai as Sarah, and told Abraham that God would bless her and give Abraham a son by her so that she would give rise to nations and rulers. Abraham threw himself on his face and laughed at the thought that a child could be born to a man of a hundred and a woman of ninety, and Abraham asked God to bless Ishmael. But God told him that Sarah would bear Abraham a son, and Abraham was to name him Isaac, and God would maintain the everlasting covenant with him and his offspring. In response to Abraham's prayer, God blessed Ishmael as well and promised to make him exceedingly numerous, the father of twelve chieftains and a great nation. But God would maintain the covenant with Isaac, whom Sarah would bear at the same season the next year. And when God finished speaking, God disappeared. That very day, Abraham circumcised himself, Ishmael, and every male in his household, as God had directed. The maftir (מפטיר) reading that*

*concludes the parashah reports that when Abraham circumcised himself and his household, Abraham was 99 and Ishmael was 13. The seventh reading (עליה, aliyah), the third open portion (פתוחה, petuchah), chapter 17, and the parashah end here.*

7. וְהִקְמֹתִי אֶת-בְּרִיתִי בֵּינִי וּבֵינְךָ וּבֵין יְרֵעָה אֲנֹרְיָה לְדֹרֹתֶם לְבְרִית עֹלָם לְהִיּוֹת לָךְ לְאֱלֹהִים וּלְיְרֵעָה אֲנֹרְיָה:

7. And I will establish My covenant between Me and thee and your seed after thee throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee and to your seed after thee.

8. וְנָתַתִּי לָךְ וּלְיְרֵעָה אֲנֹרְיָה אֶת אֶרֶץ מִצְרָיִם אֶת כָּל-אֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן לְאֻזּוֹת עֹלָם וְהִיְיִתִי לָהֶם לְאֱלֹהִים:

8. And I will give unto thee, and to your seed after thee, the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.'

9. וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים אֶל-אַבְרָהָם וְאֵתָה אֶת-בְּרִיתִי תִשְׁמֹר אֶתָּה וְיְרֵעָה אֲנֹרְיָה לְדֹרֹתֶם:

9. And God said unto Abraham: 'And as for thee, thou shalt keep My covenant, thou, and your seed after thee throughout their generations.

10. זֹאת בְּרִיתִי אֲשֶׁר תִּשְׁמְרוּ בֵּינִי וּבֵינֵיכֶם וּבֵין יְרֵעָה אֲנֹרְיָה הַבּוֹל לָכֶם כָּל-זָכָר:

10. This is My covenant, which ye shall keep, between Me and you and your seed after thee: every male among you shall be circumcised.

11. וְנִמְלֹתֶם אֶת בְּשָׂר עֲרֻלְתְּכֶם וְהָיָה לְאוֹת בְּרִית בֵּינִי וּבֵינֵיכֶם:

11. And ye shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of a covenant betwixt Me and you.

12. וּבֶן-שְׁמֹנֶת יָמִים יִבּוּל לָכֶם כָּל-זָכָר לְדֹרֹתֵיכֶם יֶלֶד בַּיִת וּמִקְנֵת-כֶּסֶף בּוֹכֵל בֶּן-זָכָר אֲשֶׁר לֹא בּוֹרֵא הוּא:

12. And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every male throughout your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any foreigner, that is not of your seed.

13. הַבּוֹל | יִבּוּל יֶלֶד בַּיִת וְהִתָּה בְרִיתִי בְּבִשְׂרְכֶם לְבְרִית עֹלָם:

13. He that is born in your house, and he that is bought with your money, must needs be circumcised; and My covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant.

14. וְעָרַל | זָכָר אֲשֶׁר לֹא-יִבּוּל אֶת-בְּשָׂר עֲרֻלְתּוֹ וְנִכְרְתָה הַנֶּפֶשׁ הַזֹּאת מֵעַמּוּיָה אֶת-בְּרִיתִי הַזֶּה: (ס)

14. And the uncircumcised male who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken My covenant.'

15. וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים אֶל-אַבְרָהָם שְׂרֵי אִשְׁתְּךָ לֹא-תִקְרָא אֶת-שְׁמֹה שְׂרֵי כִי שְׂרָה שְׁמֹה:

15. And God said unto Abraham: 'As for Sarai your wife, thou shalt not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall her name be.

16. וּבִרְכַתִּי אֶתְּהָ וְגַם נָתַתִּי מִמֶּנָּה לָךְ בֶּן וּבִרְכַתֶּיהָ וְהָיְתָה לְגוֹיִם מִלְכֵי עַמִּים מִמֶּנָּה יִהְיוּ:

16. And I will bless her, and moreover I will give thee a son of her; yea, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of peoples shall be of her.'

17. וַיִּפֹּל אַבְרָהָם עַל-פָּנָיו וַיִּצְוֹק וַיֹּאמֶר בְּלִבּוֹ הֲלִבָּן מֵאָה-שָׁנָה יוֹלֵד וְאִם- שְׂרָה הִבֵּת-תִּשְׁעִים שָׁנָה תִלְדֶּה:

17. Then Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, and said in his heart: 'Shall a child be born unto him that is a hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear?'

18. וַיֹּאמֶר אַבְרָהָם אֶל-הָאֱלֹהִים לֹא יִשְׁמַעַל יְזוּיָהּ לְפָנֶיךָ:

18. And Abraham said unto God: 'Oh that Ishmael might live before Thee!'

19. וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים אֶבְל שְׂרָה אִשְׁתְּךָ יִלְדֶת לָךְ בֶּן וְקָרָאתָ אֶת-שְׁמוֹ יִצְחָק וְהִקְבֹּוֹתִי אֶת-בְּרִיתִי אִתּוֹ לְבְרִית עִוְלָם לְרַעְוֹ אֲזוּרָיו:

19. And God said: "Nay, but Sarah your wife shall bear thee a son; and thou shalt call his name Isaac; and I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant for his seed after him.

20. וְלִישְׁמַעַאל שָׁמַעְתִּיךָ הִנֵּה | בִּרְכַתִּי אִתּוֹ וְהִפְרִיתִי אִתּוֹ וְהָרַבִּיתִי אִתּוֹ בְּמֵאֹד מֵאֹד שָׁנִים-עָשָׂר נְשִׂאִם יוֹלִיד וְנָתַתִּנוּ לְגוֹי גָּדוֹל:

20. And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee; behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation.

21. וְאֶת-בְּרִיתִי אָקִים אֶת-יִצְחָק אֲשֶׁר תִּלְדֶּה לָךְ שְׂרָה לְמוֹעֵד הַזֶּה בְּשָׁנָה הָאֲזוּרָת:

21. But My covenant will I establish with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year.'

22. וַיִּכַּל לְדַבֵּר אִתּוֹ וַיֵּעַל אֱלֹהִים מֵעַל אַבְרָהָם:

22. And He left off talking with him, and God went up from Abraham.

23. וַיִּקְחוּ אַבְרָהָם אֶת-יִשְׁמָעֵאל בְּנוֹ וְאֵת כָּל-יְלִידֵי בֵּיתוֹ וְאֵת כָּל-מִקְנֵת כֶּסֶף  
כָּל-זָכָר בְּאֲנָשֵׁי בֵּית אַבְרָהָם וַיְמַל אֶת-בְּשָׂר עֶרְלָתָם בְּעֶצֶם הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה כַּאֲשֶׁר  
דִּבֶּר אֱלֹהִים:

23. And Abraham took Ishmael his son, and all that were born in his house, and all that were bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house, and circumcised the flesh of their foreskin in the selfsame day, as God had said unto him.

**Aliya: Maftir**

24. וְאַבְרָהָם בֶּן-תְּשַׁעִים וְתֵשַׁע שָׁנָה בְּהִמְלֹךְ בְּשָׂר עֶרְלָתוֹ:

24. And Abraham was ninety years old and nine, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

25. וַיִּשְׁמָעֵאל בְּנוֹ בֶּן-שְׁלֹשׁ עֶשְׂרֵה שָׁנָה בְּהִמְלֹךְ אֶת בְּשָׂר עֶרְלָתוֹ:

25. And Ishmael his son was thirteen years old, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

26. בְּעֶצֶם הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה נִמְוֹל אַבְרָהָם וַיִּשְׁמָעֵאל בְּנוֹ:

26. In the selfsame day was Abraham circumcised, and Ishmael his son.

27. וְכָל-אֲנָשֵׁי בֵּיתוֹ יְלִידֵי בֵּית וּמִקְנֵת-כֶּסֶף מֵאֶת בֶּן-זָכָר נִמְוֹל אֹתוֹ: (פפפ)

27. And all the men of his house, those born in the house, and those bought with money of a foreigner, were circumcised with him.

- End of Parasha -