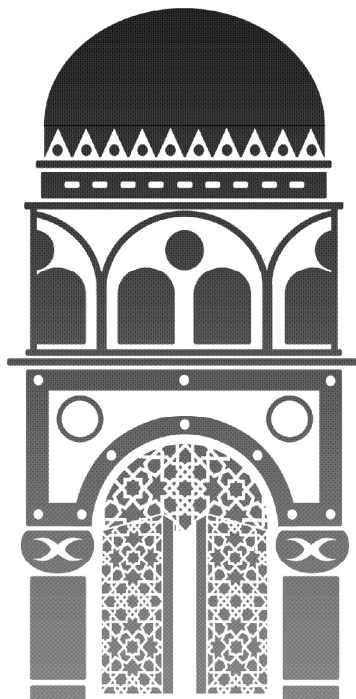


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SHABBAT SHALOM

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14/15 August 2020

25 Av 5780

SHABBAT R'EIH

Parashat R'ei continues Moses' speeches to the Israelites. Warning that they face the choice between a life of blessings or a life of curses, he urges them to observe God's commandments in the land west of the Jordan, where they will settle. He tells them to destroy all idolatrous altars and to worship at the place designated by God. Rules about sacrifices, tithes, and care for the Levites are discussed along with regulations for slaughtering and eating meat. Moses warns the people not to be lured into idolatry by false prophets, family members, or friends. He commands them not to disfigure themselves or eat anything harmful to their health. He clarifies which animals are permitted and which are forbidden for eating and details regulations for setting aside a tenth part of one's produce (tithe) for the stranger, fatherless, and widow. Moses also defines the sabbatical year as a time for canceling all debts and for extending care to the needy, promising that those who help the poor will be blessed with no regrets. In addition, he instructs the Israelites in the treatment of slaves and reviews the three Pilgrimage Festivals of Pesach, Shavuot, and Sukkot.

כִּי־יִכְרִית׃ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֶת־הַגּוֹיִם אֲשֶׁר אַתָּה בֹא־שָׁמָּה לְרִשֵׁת אוֹתָם
 מִפְּנֵיךָ וּרְשַׁתְּתָם וְיָשַׁבְתָּ בְּאֶרֶץ־סוּר׃ לֹא תִשְׁמַר לָךְ פֶּן־תִּנְקַשׁ אַחֲרֵיהֶם
 אַחֲרֵי הַשְּׂמֵדָם מִפְּנֵיךָ וּפֶן־תִּדְרֹשׁ לְאֱלֹהֵיהֶם לֵאמֹר אֵיכָה יַעֲבֹדוּ הַגּוֹיִם
 הָאֵלֵּה אֶת־אֱלֹהֵיהֶם וְאֶעֱשֶׂה־כֵּן גַּם־אֲנִי׃ לֹא לַאֲתַעֲשֶׂה כֹּן לַיהוָה
 אֱלֹהֶיךָ כִּי כָל־תּוֹעֵבֶת יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר שָׁנֵא עָשׂוּ לְאֱלֹהֵיהֶם כִּי גַם אֶת־בְּנֵיהֶם
 וְאֶת־בְּנֹתֵיהֶם יִשְׂרְפוּ בָאֵשׁ לְאֱלֹהֵיהֶם׃ אֵת כָּל־הַדָּבָר אֲשֶׁר אֲנִכִּי מִצִּוְהָ
 אֲתָכֶם אֲתוֹ תִשְׁמְרוּ לַעֲשׂוֹת לֹא־תִסְרֹף עָלֶיךָ וְלֹא תִגְרַע מִמֶּנּוּ׃ בִּכְיִקּוּם
 בְּקִרְבְּךָ נָבִיא אוֹ חֵלֶם חִלּוּם וְנָתַן אֱלֹהֶיךָ אוֹת אוֹ מוֹפֵת׃ גּוֹבֵא הָאוֹת
 וְהַמוֹפֵת אֲשֶׁר־דִּבֶּר אֱלֹהֶיךָ לֵאמֹר נִלְכָּה אַחֲרֵי אֱלֹהִים אַחֲרֵים אֲשֶׁר
 לֹא־יִדְעַתֶּם וְנַעֲבֹדֶם׃ ד לֹא תִשְׁמַע אֶל־דְּבַר הַנְּבִיא הַהוּא אוֹ אֶל־חֹלֶם
 הַחִלּוּם הַהוּא כִּי מִנְּטָה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם אֲתָכֶם לְדַעַת הַיִּשְׁכֵּם אֲהַבִּים
 אֶת־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם בְּכָל־לִבְבְּכֶם וּבְכָל־נַפְשְׁכֶם׃ ה אַחֲרֵי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם
 תִּלְכוּ וְאֲתוֹ תִּקְרְאוּ וְאֶת־מִצְוֹתָיו תִּשְׁמְרוּ וּבִקְלוֹ תִשְׁמְעוּ וְאֲתוֹ תַעֲבֹדוּ וְבוֹ
 תִדְבְּקוּ׃ ו וְהַנְּבִיא הַהוּא אוֹ חֵלֶם הַחִלּוּם הַהוּא יוֹמֵת כִּי דִבֶּר־סִרְהָ
 עַל־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם הַמוֹצִיא אֲתָכֶם | מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם וְהַפִּדְךָ מִבַּיִת עֲבָדִים
 לְהַדְיַחְךָ מוֹ־הַדָּרֶךְ אֲשֶׁר צִוְּךָ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ לִלְכַת בָּהּ וּבַעֲרַתְךָ הִרַע
 מִקִּרְבְּךָ׃ ז כִּי יִסִּיתְךָ אַחִיךָ בֶן־אִמְךָ אוֹ־בֵןךָ אוֹ־בֵתְךָ אוֹ אִשְׁתְּ חִיקְךָ אוֹ
 רֵעֶךָ אֲשֶׁר כִּנְפֹשֶׁךָ בִּסְתֵר לֵאמֹר נִלְכָּה וְנַעֲבֹדָה אֱלֹהִים אַחֲרֵים אֲשֶׁר לֹא
 לְדַעַת אַתָּה וְאַבְתִּיךָ׃ ח מֵאֵלֵהֶי הַעַמִּים אֲשֶׁר סְבִיבֹתֶיכֶם הַקְּרִבִים אֱלֹהֶיךָ
 אוֹ הַרְחֻקִים מִמֶּךָ מִקְצֵה הָאָרֶץ וְעַד־קְצֵה הָאָרֶץ׃ ט לֹא־תֵאבְדָה לוֹ וְלֹא
 תִשְׁמַע אֲלֵיךָ וְלֹא־תִחוּס עֵינֶיךָ עָלָיךָ וְלֹא־תִחַמְל וְלֹא־תִכְסֶה עָלָיךָ׃ י כִּי
 הָרַג תִּהְרַגְנוּ יָדְךָ תִּהְיֶה־בּוֹ בְּרֵאשׁוֹנָה לְהַמִּיתוֹ וְיָד כָּל־הָעָם בְּאַחֲרָנָה׃
 יא וְסִקְלֹתוֹ בְּאֲבָנִים וְמָת כִּי בִקֵּשׁ לְהַדְיַחְךָ מֵעַל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ הַמוֹצִיאֶךָ
 מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם מִבַּיִת עֲבָדִים׃ יב וְכָל־יִשְׂרָאֵל יִשְׁמְעוּ וְיִרְאוּ וְלֹא־יִוָּסְפוּ
 לַעֲשׂוֹת כַּדָּבָר הַרַע הַזֶּה בְּקִרְבְּךָ׃

DEUTERONOMY 12:29-13:12

29 When Adonai your God has cut down before you the nations that you are about to enter and dispossess, and you have dispossessed them and settled in their land, 30 beware of being lured into their ways after they have been wiped out before you! Do not inquire about their gods, saying, "How did those nations worship their gods? I too will follow those practices." 31 You shall not act thus toward Adonai your God, for they perform for their gods every abhorrent act that Adonai detests; they even offer up their sons and daughters in fire to their gods.13:1 Be careful to observe only that which I enjoin upon you: neither add to it nor take away from it.2 If there appears among you a prophet or a dream-diviner, who gives you a sign or a portent,3 saying, "Let us follow and worship another god"—whom you have not experienced—even if the sign or portent named to you comes true, 4 do not heed the words of that prophet or that dream-diviner. For Adonai your God is testing you to see whether you really love Adonai your God with all your heart and soul. 5 It is Adonai your God whom you should follow, whom you should revere, whose commandments you should worship, and to whom you should hold fast. 6 As for that prophet or dream-diviner, such a one shall be put to death for having urged disloyalty to Adonai your God—who freed you from the land of Egypt and who redeemed you from the house of bondage—to make you stray from the path that Adonai your God commanded you to follow. Thus you will sweep out evil from your midst.7 If your brother, your own mother's son, or your son or daughter, or the wife of your bosom, or your closest friend entices you in secret, saying, "Come let us worship other gods"—whom neither you nor your ancestors have experienced— 8 from among the gods of the peoples around you, either near to you or distant, anywhere from one end of the earth to the other: 9 do not assent or give heed to any of them. Show no pity or compassion, and do not cover up the matter; 10 but take that person's life. Let your hand be the first to put that person to death, the hand of the rest of the people thereafter. 11 Stone that person to death, for having sought to make you stray from Adonai your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. 12 Thus all Israel will hear and be afraid, and such evil things will not be done again in your midst.

ISAIAH 54:11-55:5

Unhappy, storm-tossed one,
uncomforted!
I will lay carbuncles as your building stones
And make your foundations of sapphires.
I will make your battlements of rubies,
Your gates of precious stones,
The whole encircling wall of gems.
And all your children shall be disciples of
Adonai,
And great shall be the happiness of your children;
You shall be established through
righteousness.
You shall be safe from oppression,
And shall have no fear;
From ruin, and it shall not come near you.
Surely no harm can be done
Without My consent:
Whoever would harm you
Shall fall because of you.
It is I who created the smith
To fan the charcoal fire
And produce the tools for their work;
So it is I who create
The instruments of havoc.
No weapon formed against you
Shall succeed,
And every tongue that contends with you at law
You shall defeat.
Such is the lot of the servants of Adonai,
Such their triumph through Me
—declares Adonai.

Ho, all who are thirsty,
Come for water,
Even if you have no money;
Come, buy food and eat:
Buy food without money,
Wine and milk without cost.
Why do you spend money for what is not
bread,
Your earnings for what does not satisfy?

Give heed to Me,
And you shall eat choice food
And enjoy the richest viands.
Incline your ear and come to Me;
Hearken, and you shall be revived.
And I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
The enduring loyalty promised to David.
As I made him a leader of peoples,
A prince and commander of peoples,
So you shall summon a nation you did not know,
And a nation that did not know you
Shall come running to you—
For the sake of Adonai your God,
The Holy One of Israel who has glorified you.