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GENESIS

*The JPS text modernized
with its divisions marked*

Christine Miller

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NOTHING NEW PRESS
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Genesis Text by Christine Miller

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Nothing New Press
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Suite 609 Number 21
Sarasota, Florida 34232-1334
nothingnewpress.com

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The Scripture text is from the 1917 Jewish Publication Society’s translation of the Hebrew Bible into English, with verbs, archaic words, and grammar modernized by the author. The Jewish Publication Society translation (JPS) is a Public Domain translation of the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) first taken up in 1892, and, through the joint work of eminent Jewish scholars in the United States and Great Britain, and the Central Conference of American Rabbis, was finalized and published in 1917.

The names of God in English translation:

“God” is used where the Hebrew text has *Elohiym* Hebrew characters;

“God *El*” is used where the Hebrew text has *El* Hebrew characters;

“YHVH” is used where the Hebrew text has the Tetragrammaton יהוה;

“*Yah*” is used where the Hebrew text has *Yah* Hebrew characters;

“Lord” is used where the Hebrew text has *Adonai* Hebrew characters.

The paragraph divisions {p} and {s} are from the Hebrew Bible.

All topic summaries and themes are from the author’s personal Bible study notes.

First Edition: 2022

That which has been is that which will be,
And that which has been done is that which will be done.
And, there is nothing new under the sun.

Ecclesiastes 1:9

GENESIS

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CHAPTER ONE

1:1-6:8 Annual Bereisheet “**In the beginning**” *Exile and death follows from sin and walking in flesh, life follows from walking with YHVH*

1:1-2:3 Triennial Bereisheet *God is our Creator*

1:1-2:3 Strong theme: Seven days of Creation *God is our Creator*

1:2-5 Paragraph: First day of Creation {p}

1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. **2** And the earth was unformed and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God hovered over the face of the waters. **3** And God said, ‘Let there be light,’ and there was light. **4** And God saw the light, that it was good, and God divided between the light and between the darkness. **5** And God called, with regard to the light, Day, and with regard to the darkness, He called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day. {p}

1:6-8 Second day of Creation {p}

1:6 And God said, ‘Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide between the waters with regard to the waters.’ **7** And God made the firmament, and divided between the waters which were under with regard to the firmament, and between the waters which were above with regard to the firmament; and it was so. **8** And God called, with regard to the firmament, Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day. {p}

1:9-13 Third day of Creation {p}

1:9 And God said, ‘Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together to one place, and let the dry land appear.’ And it was so. **10** And God called the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas; and God saw that it was good. **11** And God said, ‘Let the earth bring forth grass, herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree bearing fruit after its kind, within which is its seed, on the earth.’ And it was so. **12** And the earth brought forth grass, herb yielding seed after its kind, and the tree bearing fruit, within which is its seed, after its kind, and God saw that it was good. **13** And there was evening and there was morning, a third day. {p}

1:14-19 Fourth day of Creation {p}

1:14 And God said, ‘Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years; **15** and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light on the earth.’ And it was

so. **16** And God made the two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night; and the stars. **17** And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light on the earth, **18** and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. **19** And there was evening and there was morning, a fourth day. {p}

1:20-23 Fifth day of Creation {p}

1:20 And God said, 'Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let winged creatures fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.' **21** And God created the great sea creatures, and every living creature that creeps, with which the waters swarmed, after its kind, and every winged creature after its kind; and God saw that it was good. **22** And God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let winged creatures multiply in the earth.' **23** And there was evening and there was morning, a fifth day. {p}

1:24-31 Sixth day of Creation {p}

1:24 And God said: 'Let the earth bring forth the living creature after its kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after its kind.' And it was so. **25** And God made the beast of the earth after its kind, and the cattle after their kind, and every thing that creeps on the ground after its kind; and God saw that it was good. **26** And God said: 'Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the winged creatures of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.' **27** And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. **28** And God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the winged creatures of the air, and over every living thing that creeps on the earth.' **29** And God said, 'Behold, I have given you every herb yielding seed, which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree, within which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for food. **30** And to every beast of the earth, and to every winged creature of the air, and to every thing that creeps on the earth, within which is a living soul, I have given every green herb for food.' And it was so. **31** And God saw every thing that He had made, and, behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. {p}

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CHAPTER TWO

2:1-3 Seventh day of Creation {p}

2:1 And the heaven and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. **2** And on the seventh day God finished His work which He had made; and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made. **3** And God blessed the seventh day, and hallowed it; because in it He rested from all His work which God in creating had made. {p}

2:4-3:24 Triennial *Elleh toldot* "These are the generations" *Sin brings exile, painful toil, and death*

2:4-3:21 Disobedience is sin with the consequence of painful toil and death {s+s+p}

2:4-3:15 Disobedience to YHVH's command is sin {s}

2:4 These are the generations of the heaven and of the earth when they were created, in the day that YHVH God made earth and heaven. **5** No shrub of the field was yet in the earth, and no herb of the field had yet sprung up; for YHVH God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground. **6** But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground. **7** Then YHVH God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. **8** And YHVH God planted a garden eastward, in Eden; and there He put the man whom He had formed. **9** And out of the ground YHVH God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. **10** And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from there it was parted, and became four heads. **11** The name of the first is Pishon; that which encompasses the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; **12** and the gold of that land is good; bdellium and the onyx stone is there. **13** And the name of the second river is Gihon; the same which encompasses the whole land of Cush. **14** And the name of the third river is Tigris; that which goes toward the east of Asshur. And the fourth river is the Euphrates. **15** And YHVH God took the man, and put him in the garden of Eden to tend it and to keep it. **16** And YHVH God commanded the man, saying, 'Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; **17** but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you shall not eat; for in the day that you eat of it, you shall surely die.' **18** And YHVH God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.' **19** And out of the ground YHVH God formed every beast of the field, and every winged creature of the air; and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. **20** And the man gave names to all cattle, and to the winged creatures of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam [*Man*] there was not found a helper fit for him. **21** And YHVH God caused a deep sleep to fall on the man, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the place with flesh instead. **22** And the rib, which YHVH God had taken from the man, He made into a woman, and brought her to the man. **23** And the man said, 'This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.' **24** Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife, and they shall be one flesh. **25** And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

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CHAPTER THREE

3:1 Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which YHVH God had made. And he said to the woman, 'Yes, did God say, "You shall not eat of any tree of the garden?"' **2** And the woman said to the serpent, 'Of the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; **3** but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God said, "You shall not eat of it, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" **4** And the serpent said to the woman, 'You shall not surely die; **5** for God knows that in the day you eat of it, then your eyes shall be opened, and you shall be as God, knowing good and evil.' **6** And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit, and ate; and she also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. **7** And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves cov-

erings. **8** And they heard the voice of YHVH God walking in the garden toward the cool of the day; and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of YHVH God among the trees of the garden. **9** And YHVH God called to the man, and said to him, ‘Where are you?’ **10** And he said, ‘I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.’ **11** And He said, ‘Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree, of which I commanded you that you should not eat?’ **12** And the man said, ‘The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate.’ **13** And YHVH God said to the woman, ‘What is this you have done?’ And the woman said, ‘The serpent beguiled me, and I ate.’ **14** And YHVH God said to the serpent, ‘Because you have done this, cursed are you from among all cattle, and from among all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. **15** And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.’ {s}

3:16 Consequences for the woman: painful toil {s}

3:16 To the woman He said, ‘I will greatly multiply your toil in your labor; in toil you shall bring forth children; and your desire shall be to your husband, and he shall rule over you.’ {s}

3:17-21 Consequences for the man: painful toil {p}

3:17 And to Adam He said, ‘Because you have paid heed to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, saying, “You shall not eat of it;” cursed is the ground for your sake; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life. **18** Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth for you; and you shall eat the herb of the field. **19** In the sweat of your face shall you eat bread; until you return to the ground; for out of it you were taken; for dust you are, and to dust shall you return.’ **20** And the man called his wife’s name Eve [*Living*], because she was the mother of all living. **21** And YHVH God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins, and clothed them. {p}

3:22-6:4 Exile and death follows from sin; life follows from walking with YHVH {sxll+p}

3:22-24 Exile from YHVH’s presence is a consequence of sin {s}

3:22 And YHVH God said, ‘Behold, the man is become as one of Us, to know good and evil; and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever—’ **23** therefore YHVH God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which he was taken. **24** So He drove out the man; and He dwelt between the cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and the fire of wrath infolding itself to preserve inviolate the way of the tree of life. ¹ {s}

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CHAPTER FOUR

4:1-26 Triennial *V’adam yada* “And the man knew” *Exile from family a consequence of sin*

4:1-26 Exile from family is a consequence of sin {s}

4:1 And the man knew Eve his wife; and she conceived and bore Cain [*Acquire*], and said, ‘I have gotten a man with the help of YHVH.’ **2** And again she bore his brother Abel [*Breath*]. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. **3** And in process of

time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering to YHVH. **4** And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of its fat. And YHVH had respect for Abel and for his offering; **5** but for Cain and for his offering He did not have respect. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. **6** And YHVH said to Cain, ‘Why are you angry? And why is your countenance fallen? **7** If you do well, shall you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin couches at the door; and its desire is for you, but you must rule over it.’ **8** And Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him. **9** And YHVH said to Cain, ‘Where is Abel your brother?’ And he said, ‘I don’t know; am I my brother’s keeper?’ **10** And He said, ‘What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood cries to Me from the ground. **11** And now cursed are you from the ground, which has opened her mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. **12** When you till the ground, from now on it shall not yield to you her strength; a fugitive and a wanderer you shall be in the earth.’ **13** And Cain said to YHVH, ‘My punishment is greater than I can bear. **14** Behold, You have driven me out this day from the face of the land; and from Your face I shall be hidden; and I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer in the earth; and it will come to pass, that whoever finds me will slay me.’ **15** And YHVH said to him, ‘Therefore whoever slays Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold.’ And YHVH set a sign for Cain, lest any finding him should strike him. **16** And Cain went out from the presence of YHVH, and dwelt in the land of Nod [*Wandering*], on the east of Eden. **17** And Cain knew his wife; and she conceived, and bore Enoch [*Teaching*]; and he built a city, and called the name of the city after the name of his son Enoch. **18** And to Enoch was born Irad [*Sequestered*]; and Irad begot Mehujael [*Smitten of God*]; and Mehujael begot Methushael [*Who is of God*]; and Methushael begot Lamech [*Despairing*]. **19** And Lamech took to him two wives; the name of one was Adah, and the name of the other Zillah. **20** And Adah bore Jabal [*Stream*]; he was the father of those who dwell in tents and have cattle. **21** And his brother’s name was Jubal [*River*]; he was the father of all those who handle the harp and pipe. **22** And Zillah, she also bore Tubal-cain [*Brought of Cain*], the forger of every cutting instrument of brass and iron; and the sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah [*Pleasant*]. **23** And Lamech said to his wives, ‘Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; you wives of Lamech, pay heed to my speech; for I have slain a man for wounding me, and a young man for bruising me. **24** If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, truly Lamech seventy and sevenfold.’ **25** And Adam knew his wife again; and she bore a son, and called his name Seth [*Appointed*], ‘for God has appointed to me another seed instead of Abel; for Cain slew him.’ **26** And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name Enosh [*Mortality*]; then men profanely began to call themselves by the name of YHVH. ² {s}

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CHAPTER FIVE

5:1-6:8 Triennial *Sefer toldot* “Book of generations” *Sin leavened the whole earth with wickedness, even the righteous seed of Seth*

5:1-5 Mortality of Adam {s}

5:1 In the day that God created man, He made him in the likeness of God; **2** male and female He created them, and blessed them, and called their name Adam [*Man*], in the day when they were created. **3** And Adam lived one hundred and thirty years; and begot a son

in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth [*Appointed*]. 4 And the days of Adam after he begot Seth were eight hundred years; and he begot sons and daughters. 5 And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years; and he died. {s}

5:6-8 Mortality of Seth {s}

5:6 And Seth lived one hundred and five years, and begot Enosh [*Mortality*]. 7 And Seth lived after he begot Enosh eight hundred and seven years, and begot sons and daughters. 8 And all the days of Seth were nine hundred and twelve years; and he died. {s}

5:9-11 Mortality of Enosh {s}

5:9 And Enosh lived ninety years, and begot Kenan [*Possessed of sorrow*]. 10 And Enosh lived after he begot Kenan eight hundred and fifteen years, and begot sons and daughters. 11 And all the days of Enosh were nine hundred and five years; and he died. {s}

5:12-14 Mortality of Kenan {s}

5:12 And Kenan lived seventy years, and begot Mahalalel [*Praise of God*]. 13 And Kenan lived after he begot Mahalalel eight hundred and forty years, and begot sons and daughters. 14 And all the days of Kenan were nine hundred and ten years; and he died. {s}

5:15-17 Mortality of Mahalalel {s}

5:15 And Mahalalel lived sixty-five years, and begot Jared [*Descend*]. 16 And Mahalalel lived after he begot Jared eight hundred and thirty years, and begot sons and daughters. 17 And all the days of Mahalalel were eight hundred and ninety-five years; and he died. {s}

5:18-20 Mortality of Jared {s}

5:18 And Jared lived one hundred and sixty-two years, and begot Enoch [*Teaching*]. 19 And Jared lived after he begot Enoch eight hundred years, and begot sons and daughters. 20 And all the days of Jared were nine hundred and sixty-two years; and he died. {s}

5:21-24 Enoch walked with God and did not die {s}

5:21 And Enoch lived sixty-five years, and begot Methuselah [*His death shall bring*]. 22 And Enoch walked with God after he begot Methuselah three hundred years, and begot sons and daughters. 23 And all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. 24 And Enoch walked with God, and he was not; for God took him. {s}

5:25-27 Mortality of Methuselah {s}

5:25 And Methuselah lived one hundred and eighty-seven years, and begot Lamech [*Despairing*]. 26 And Methuselah lived after he begot Lamech seven hundred and eighty-two years, and begot sons and daughters. 27 And all the days of Methuselah were nine hundred and sixty-nine years; and he died. {s}

5:28-31 Mortality of Lamech {s}

5:28 And Lamech lived one hundred and eighty-two years, and begot a son. 29 And he called his name Noah [*Comfort*], saying, 'He shall comfort us in our work and in the toil of our hands, which comes from the ground which YHVH has cursed.' 30 And Lamech lived after he begot Noah five hundred and ninety-five years, and begot sons and daughters. 31 And all the days of Lamech were seven hundred and seventy-seven years; and he died. {s}

5:32-9:29 The life of Noah {p+p+sx3+p+p}

5:32-6:4 The Holy Spirit will not strive with flesh forever {p}

5:32 And Noah was five hundred years old; and Noah begot Shem [*Name*], Ham [*Hot*], and Japheth [*Opened*].

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CHAPTER SIX

6:1 And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, 2 that the sons of rulers saw that the daughters of men were fair; and they took wives for themselves, whomever they chose. 3 And YHVH said, 'My Spirit shall not abide in man forever, for he is flesh; therefore his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.' 4 The giants were in the earth in those days, and also after that, when the sons of rulers came in to the daughters of men, and they bore children to them; the same were the mighty men that were of old, the men of renown. ³ {p}

6:5-8 Exile is a consequence of sin, but Noah found grace in the eyes of YHVH {p}

6:5 And YHVH saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. 6 And YHVH repented that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him at His heart. 7 And YHVH said, 'I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and creeping thing, and winged creature of the air, for I repent that I have made them.' 8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of YHVH. {p}

6:9-11:32 Annual *Noach* "Noah" *God judges the wicked but preserves the righteous*

6:9-9:17 God preserves the righteous and destroys the wicked {sx3+p}

6:9-8:14 Triennial *Noach* *The ark of salvation in the midst of judgment*

6:9-12 Contrast of righteous Noah with the corrupt earth {s}

6:9 These are the generations of Noah. Noah was in his generation a man righteous and whole-hearted; Noah walked with God. 10 And Noah begot three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. 11 And the earth was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. 12 And God saw the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth. {s}

6:13-8:14 Righteous preserved through the judgment of the wicked {s}

6:13 And God said to Noah, 'The end of all flesh has come before Me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth. 14 Make an ark of gopher wood; with rooms you shall make the ark, and shall pitch it within and without with pitch. 15 And this is how you shall make it: the length of the ark, three hundred cubits; the breadth of it, fifty cubits; and the height of it, thirty cubits. 16 You shall make a window in the ark, and to a cubit you shall finish it upward; and you shall set the door of the ark in its side; with lower, second, and third stories you shall make it. 17 And I, behold, I will bring the flood of waters on the earth, to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life, from under heaven; every thing that is in the earth shall perish. 18 But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall come into the ark, you, and your sons, and your wife, and your sons' wives with you. 19 And of every living thing of all flesh, two of every sort you shall bring into the ark, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and female. 20 Of the winged creatures after their kind, and of the cattle after their kind, of every creeping thing of the ground after its kind, two of every sort shall come to you, to keep them alive. 21 And

take of all food that is eaten, and gather it to you; and it shall be for food for you, and for them.' **22** Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him; so he did.

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CHAPTER SEVEN

7:1 And YHVH said to Noah, 'Come, you and all your house into the ark; for I have seen you righteous before Me in this generation. **2** Of every clean beast you shall take seven and seven, each with his mate; and of the beasts that are not clean two, each with his mate; **3** of the winged creatures also of the air, seven and seven, male and female; to keep seed alive on the face of all the earth. **4** For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain on the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from off the face of the earth.' **5** Noah was six hundred years old when two and two went into the ark; and Noah did according to all that YHVH commanded him. **6** And Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters was on the earth. **7** And Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him, into the ark, because of the waters of the flood. **8** Of clean beasts, and of beasts that are not clean, and of winged creatures, and of every thing that creeps on the ground, **9** there went in two and two to Noah into the ark, male and female, **9** as God commanded Noah. **10** And it came to pass after seven days, that the waters of the flood were on the earth. **11** In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on the same day all the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. **12** And the rain was on the earth forty days and forty nights. **13** In the selfsame day Noah entered, and Shem, and Ham, and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife, and the three wives of his sons with them, into the ark; **14** they, and every beast after its kind, and all the cattle after their kind, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth after its kind, and every winged creature after its kind, every bird of every sort. **15** And they went in to Noah into the ark, two and two of all flesh, in which is the breath of life. **16** And they that went in, went in male and female of all flesh, as God commanded him, and YHVH shut him in. **17** And the flood was forty days on the earth. And the waters increased, and bore up the ark, and it was lifted up above the earth. **18** And the waters prevailed, and increased greatly on the earth; and the ark went on the face of the waters. **19** And the waters prevailed exceedingly on the earth; and all the high mountains that were under the whole heaven were covered. **20** Fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered. **21** And all flesh perished that moved on the earth, both winged creatures, and cattle, and beast, and every swarming thing that swarms on the earth, and every man; **22** all in whose nostrils was the breath of the spirit of life, whatever was on the dry land, died. **23** And He blotted out every living thing which was on the face of the ground; both man, and cattle, and creeping thing, and winged creature of the heaven, and they were blotted out from the earth; and Noah only was left, and they that were with him in the ark. **24** And the waters prevailed on the earth a hundred and fifty days.

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CHAPTER EIGHT

8:1 And God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the cattle that were with him in the ark. And God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters abated. **2** The

fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained. **3** And the waters returned from off the earth continually; and after the end of a hundred and fifty days the waters decreased. **4** And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on the mountains of Ararat. **5** And the waters decreased continually until the tenth month, in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the tops of the mountains were seen. **6** And it came to pass at the end of forty days, that Noah opened the window of the ark which he had made. **7** And he sent forth a raven, and it went forth to and fro, until the waters were dried up from off the earth. **8** And he sent forth a dove from him, to see if the waters were abated from off the face of the ground. **9** But the dove found no rest for the sole of her foot, and she returned to him to the ark, for the waters were on the face of the whole earth; and he put forth his hand, and took her, and brought her in to him into the ark. **10** And he waited yet another seven days, and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark. **11** And the dove came in to him at evening, and lo in her mouth an olive leaf freshly plucked; so Noah knew that the waters were abated from off the earth. **12** And he waited yet another seven days, and sent forth the dove; and she did not return again to him any more. **13** And it came to pass in the six hundred and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from off the earth; and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and behold, the face of the ground was dried. **14** And in the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, was the earth dry. {s}

8:15-9:17 Triennial *Tze min hatvah* “Go out from the ark” *God confers blessing and covenant on those saved*

8:15-9:7 Blessing on the righteous: Be fruitful and multiply {s}

8:15 And God spoke to Noah, saying, **16** ‘Go forth from the ark, you, and your wife, and your sons, and your sons’ wives with you. **17** Bring forth with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh, both winged creatures, and cattle, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, that they may swarm in the earth; and be fruitful, and multiply on the earth.’ **18** And Noah went forth, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons’ wives with him; **19** every beast, every creeping thing, and every winged creature, whatever moves on the earth, after their families, went forth out of the ark. **20** And Noah built an altar to YHVH, and took of every clean beast, and of every clean winged creature, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. **21** And YHVH smelled the sweet savor; and YHVH said in His heart, ‘I will not again curse the ground any more for man’s sake; for the imagination of man’s heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again strike anymore every thing living, as I have done. **22** While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.’

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CHAPTER NINE

9:1 And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth. **2** And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be on every beast of the earth, and on every winged creature of the air, and on all with which the ground teems, and on all the fish of the sea: into your hand are they delivered. **3** Every moving thing that lives shall be for food for you; as the green herb, I have given you all. **4** Only flesh with its life, which is its blood, you shall not eat. **5** And surely the blood of your lives I will require; at

the hand of every beast I will require it; and at the hand of man, even at the hand of every man's brother, I will require the life of man. **6** Whoever sheds man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed, for in the image of God He made man. **7** And you, be fruitful, and multiply, swarm in the earth, and multiply in it.' {s}

9:8-17 God's everlasting covenant with the earth {p}

9:8 And God spoke to Noah, and to his sons with him, saying, **9** 'As for Me, behold, I establish My covenant with you, and with your seed after you; **10** and with every living creature that is with you, the winged creatures, the cattle, and every beast of the earth with you; of all that go out of the ark, even every beast of the earth. **11** And I will establish My covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of the flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth.' **12** And God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant which I make between Me and you and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations; **13** I have set My bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a sign of a covenant between Me and the earth. **14** And it shall come to pass, when I bring clouds over the earth, and the bow is seen in the cloud; **15** that I will remember My covenant, which is between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh. **16** And the bow shall be in the cloud, and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth.' **17** And God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant which I have established between Me and all flesh that is upon the earth.' {p}

9:18-10:32 Triennial Vayikyu ben Noach "And the sons of Noah" *The whole earth was populated from the sons of Noah*

9:18-29 Shem and Japheth blessed, but Canaan cursed {p}

9:18 And the sons of Noah, that went forth from the ark, were Shem, and Ham, and Japheth; And Ham is the father of Canaan [*Made low*]. **19** These three were the sons of Noah, and of these was the whole earth overspread. **20** And Noah the husbandman began, and planted a vineyard. **21** And he drank of the wine, and was drunk; and he was uncovered within his tent. **22** And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brothers outside. **23** And Shem and Japheth took a garment, and laid it on both their shoulders and went backward, and covered the nakedness of their father; and their faces were backward, and they did not see their father's nakedness. **24** And Noah awoke from his wine, **25** and knew what his youngest son had done to him. And he said, 'Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants he shall be to his brothers.' **26** And he said, 'Blessed be YHVH, the God of Shem, and let Canaan be their servant. **27** May God enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem, and let Canaan be their servant.' **28** And Noah lived after the flood three hundred and fifty years. **29** And all the days of Noah were nine hundred and fifty years; and he died. {p}

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CHAPTER TEN

10:1-32 Seventy descendants of Noah became the fathers of the nations {s+s+p}

10:1-14 The sons of Japheth and Ham {s}

10:1 Now these are the generations of the sons of Noah: Shem, Ham, and Japheth; and to them sons were born after the flood. **2** The sons of Japheth: Gomer, and Magog, and Madai, and Javan, and Tubal, and Meshech, and Tiras. **3** And the sons of Gomer: Ashkenaz,

and Riphath, and Togarmah. **4** And the sons of Javan: Elishah, and Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim. **5** Of these were the isles of the nations divided in their lands, every one after his tongue, after their families, in their nations. **6** And the sons of Ham: Cush, and Mizraim, and Put, and Canaan. **7** And the sons of Cush: Seba, and Havilah, and Sabtah, and Raamah, and Sabteca; and the sons of Raamah: Sheba, and Dedan. **8** And Cush begot Nimrod; he began to be a mighty one in the earth. **9** He was a mighty hunter before YHVH; therefore it is said, 'Like Nimrod a mighty hunter before YHVH.' **10** And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. **11** Out of that land Asshur went forth, and built Nineveh, and Rehoboth-ir, and Calah, **12** and Resen between Nineveh and Calah—the same is the great city. **13** And Mizraim begot Ludim, and Anamim, and Lehabim, and Naphtuhim, **14** and Pathrusim, and Casluhim—from these went forth the Philistines—and Caphtorim. {s}

10:15-20 The sons of Canaan {s}

10:15 And Canaan begot Sidon his firstborn, and Heth, **16** and the Jebusite, and the Amorite, and the Girgashite, **17** and the Hivite, and the Arkite, and the Sinite, **18** and the Arvadite, and the Zemarite, and the Hamathite; and afterward were the families of the Canaanites spread abroad. **19** And the border of the Canaanites was from Sidon, as you go toward Gerar, to Gaza; as you go toward Sodom and Gomorrah and Admah and Zeboiim, to Lasha. **20** These are the sons of Ham, after their families, after their tongues, in their lands, in their nations. {s}

10:21-32 The sons of Shem {p}

10:21 And to Shem, the father of all the children of Eber [*Region beyond*], the elder brother of Japheth, to him also were children born. **22** The sons of Shem: Elam, and Asshur, and Arphaxad, and Lud, and Aram. **23** And the sons of Aram: Uz, and Hul, and Gether, and Mash. **24** And Arphaxad begot Shelah; and Shelah begot Eber. **25** And to Eber were born two sons; the name of the one was Peleg [*Division*]; for in his days was the earth divided; and his brother's name was Joktan [*Smallness*]. **26** And Joktan begot Almodad, and Sheleph, and Hazarmaveth, and Jerah, **27** and Hadoram, and Uzal, and Diklah, **28** and Obal, and Abimael, and Sheba, **29** and Ophir, and Havilah, and Jobab; all these were the sons of Joktan. **30** And their dwelling was from Mesha, as you go toward Sephar, to the mountain of the east. **31** These are the sons of Shem, after their families, after their tongues, in their lands, after their nations. **32** These are the families of the sons of Noah, after their generations, in their nations; and of these were the nations divided in the earth after the flood. {p}

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CHAPTER ELEVEN

11:1-32 Triennial *Vayhee chal haaretz* "And the whole earth" *Shem's movement abroad in the earth, after the people's rebellion against God*

11:1-9 The tower of Babel rebellion against God {p}

11:1 And the whole earth was of one language and of one speech. **2** And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there. **3** And they said one to another, 'Come, let us make brick, and burn them thoroughly.' And they had brick for stone, and they had bitumen for mortar. **4** And they said, 'Come, let us build a city, and a tower, with its top in heaven, and let us make a name for us, lest we

be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.’ 5 And YHVH came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men built. 6 And YHVH said, ‘Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language; and this is what they begin to do; and now nothing will be withheld from them, which they purpose to do. 7 Come, let Us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another’s speech.’ 8 They left off building the city because YHVH confounded the language of all the earth. 9 Therefore was the name of it was called Babel [*Confusion*], because YHVH did there confound the language of all the earth; and from there YHVH scattered them abroad on the face of all the earth. {p}

11:10-32 The seed of Shem {sx8+p}

11:10-11 Shem the father of Arphaxad {s}

11:10 These are the generations of Shem; Shem was a hundred years old, and begot Arphaxad two years after the flood. **11** And Shem lived after he begot Arphaxad five hundred years, and begot sons and daughters. {s}

11:12-13 Arphaxad the father of Shelah {s}

11:12 And Arphaxad lived thirty-five years, and begot Shelah. **13** And Arphaxad lived after he begot Shelah four hundred and three years, and begot sons and daughters. {s}

11:14-15 Shelah the father of Eber {s}

11:14 And Shelah lived thirty years, and begot Eber. **15** And Shelah lived after he begot Eber four hundred and three years, and begot sons and daughters. {s}

11:16-17 Eber the father of Peleg {s}

11:16 And Eber lived thirty-four years, and begot Peleg. **17** And Eber lived after he begot Peleg four hundred and thirty years, and begot sons and daughters. {s}

11:18-19 Peleg the father of Reu {s}

11:18 And Peleg lived thirty years, and begot Reu. **19** And Peleg lived after he begot Reu two hundred and nine years, and begot sons and daughters. {s}

11:20-21 Reu the father of Serug {s}

11:20 And Reu lived thirty-two years, and begot Serug. **21** And Reu lived after he begot Serug two hundred and seven years, and begot sons and daughters. {s}

11:22-23 Serug the father of Nahor {s}

11:22 And Serug lived thirty years, and begot Nahor. **23** And Serug lived after he begot Nahor two hundred years, and begot sons and daughters. {s}

11:24-25 Nahor the father of Terah {s}

11:24 And Nahor lived twenty-nine years, and begot Terah. **25** And Nahor lived after he begot Terah a hundred and nineteen years, and begot sons and daughters. {s}

11:26-32 Terah the father of Abram, Nahor, and Haran {p}

11:26 And Terah lived seventy years, and begot Abram [*Exalted father*], Nahor, and Haran. **27** Now these are the generations of Terah: Terah begot Abram, Nahor, and Haran; and Haran begot Lot. **28** And Haran died in the presence of his father Terah in the land of his nativity, in Ur of the Chaldeans. **29** And Abram and Nahor took wives: the name of Abram’s wife was Sarai [*Princess*]; and the name of Nahor’s wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran, the father of Milcah, and the father of Iscah. **30** And Sarai was barren; she had no child. **31** And Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran, his son’s son, and Sarai

his daughter-in-law, his son Abram's wife; and they went forth with them from Ur of the Chaldeans, to go into the land of Canaan; and they came to Haran, and dwelt there. **32** And the days of Terah were two hundred and five years; and Terah died in Haran. {p}

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CHAPTER TWELVE

12:1-17:27 Annual *Lech lecha* "Go forth from" *The promise of land and descendants made to Abraham, then tested and confirmed*

12:1-13:18 Triennial *Lech lecha* *Promise given; faith tested; promise reaffirmed*

12:1-13:18 Promise of land, descendants given; tested; confirmed {p+p}

12:1-9 Promise of land and descendants {p}

12:1 Now YHVH said to Abram, 'Get out of your country, and from your kindred, and from your father's house, to the land that I will show you. **2** And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; and you will be a blessing. **3** And I will bless them that bless you, and him that curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.' **4** So Abram went as YHVH had spoken to him, and Lot went with him. And Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed out of Haran. **5** And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the people whom they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go to the land of Canaan; and to the land of Canaan they came. **6** And Abram passed through the land to the place of Shechem, to the terebinth tree of Moreh. And the Canaanites were then in the land. **7** And YHVH appeared to Abram, and said, 'To your seed I will give this land.' And he built there an altar to YHVH, who had appeared to him. **8** And he moved from there to the mountain on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, having Bethel on the west, and Ai on the east; and he built there an altar to YHVH, and called on the name of YHVH. **9** And Abram journeyed, going on still toward the South. {p}

12:10-13:18 Abram's faith in the promise tested; promise reaffirmed {p}

12:10 And there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to sojourn there; for the famine was grievous in the land. **11** And it came to pass, when he was come near to enter into Egypt, that he said to Sarai his wife, 'Behold now, I know that you are a fair woman to look upon. **12** Therefore it shall come to pass, when the Egyptians shall see you, that they shall say, "This is his wife;" and they will kill me, but you they will keep alive. **13** Say, I pray, that you are my sister; that it may be well with me for your sake; and my soul shall live because of you.' **14** And it came to pass, that, when Abram was come into Egypt, the Egyptians beheld the woman, that she was very fair. **15** And the princes of Pharaoh saw her, and praised her before Pharaoh; and the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house. **16** and he dealt well with Abram for her sake; and he had sheep, and oxen, and male donkeys, and menservants, and maidservants, and female donkeys, and camels. **17** And YHVH plagued Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai, Abram's wife. **18** And Pharaoh called Abram and said, 'What is this that you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife? **19** Why did you say, "She is my sister?" so I might have taken her to me to wife; now therefore behold your wife, take her, and go your way.' **20** And Pharaoh commanded his men concerning him; and they sent him away, and his wife, and all that he had.

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CHAPTER THIRTEEN

13:1 And Abram went up out of Egypt, he, and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the South. **2** And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold. **3** And he went on his journeys from the South even to Bethel, to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Ai; **4** to the place of the altar, which he had made there at the first; and there Abram called on the name of YHVH. **5** And Lot also, who went with Abram, had flocks, and herds, and tents. **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** And there was 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** And Abram said to Lot, 'Let there be no strife, I pray you, between me and you, and between my herdsmen and your herdsmen; for we are brothers. **9** Is not the whole land before you? Separate yourself, I pray you, from me; if you will take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if you take the right hand, then I will go to the left.' **10** And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of the Jordan, that it was well-watered everywhere, before YHVH destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, even as the garden of YHVH, like the land of Egypt, as you go to Zoar. **11** Then Lot chose for himself all the plain of the Jordan, and Lot journeyed east; and they separated themselves one from the other. **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** Now the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners against YHVH exceedingly. **14** And YHVH said to Abram, after Lot was separated from him, 'Lift up now your eyes, and look from the place where you are, northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward; **15** for all the land which you see, to you will I give it, and to your seed forever. **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** Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for to you will I give it.' **18** And Abram moved his tent, and came and dwelt by the terebinths of Mamre, which are in Hebron, and built there an altar to YHVH. {p}

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CHAPTER FOURTEEN

14:1-17:27 **The promised seed is Abram's heir, not of his father's house** (*Lot*), **his house** (*Eliezer*) **nor his flesh** (*Ishmael*) {sx4+p}

14:1-24 **Triennial Amraphel "Amraphel"** *Signs of Messiah: victory over death, Melchizedek, bread and wine*

14:1-24 **Signs of Messiah: victory over death, Melchizedek, bread and wine** {s}

14:1 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 Goiim, **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** All these came as allies to the vale of Siddim—the same is the Salt Sea. **4** Twelve years they served Chedorlaomer, and in the thirteenth year they rebelled. **5** And in the fourteenth year Chedorlaomer came and the kings that were with him, and struck the Rephaim in Ashteroth-karnaim, and the Zuzim in Ham, and the Emim in Shaveh-kiriathaim, **6** and the Horites in their Mount Seir, to El-

paran, which is by the wilderness. **7** And they turned back, and came to En-mishpat—the same is Kadesh—and struck all the country of the Amalekites, and also the Amorites, that dwelt in Hazazon-tamar. **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** 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** 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** And they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their foodstuffs, and went their way. **12** And they took Lot, Abram’s brother’s son, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed. **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** 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** And he divided himself against them by night, he and his servants, and struck them, and pursued them to Hobah, which is on the left hand of Damascus. **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** 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** And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine; and he was priest of God *El* the Most High. **19** And he blessed him, and said, ‘Blessed be Abram of God *El* Most High, Maker of heaven and earth, **20** and blessed be God *El* the Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand.’ And he gave him a tenth of all. **21** And the king of Sodom said to Abram, ‘Give me the persons, and take the goods for yourself.’ **22** And Abram said to the king of Sodom, ‘I have lifted up my hand to YHVH, God *El* Most High, Maker of heaven and earth, **23** that I will not take a thread nor a shoelace nor anything that is yours, lest you should say, “I have made Abram rich;” **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.’ {s}

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CHAPTER FIFTEEN

15:1-21 Triennial *B’mecheza* “In a vision to say” Promise reaffirmed by covenant

15:1-21 Promise reaffirmed by covenant {s}

15:1 After these things the word of YHVH came to Abram in a vision, saying, ‘Fear not, Abram, I am your shield, your reward shall be exceeding great.’ **2** And Abram said, ‘O Lord YHVH, what will you give me, seeing I go childless, and he who shall be the inheritor of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?’ **3** And Abram said, ‘Behold, to me You have given no seed, and, lo, one born in my house is to be my heir.’ **4** And, behold, the word of YHVH came to him, saying, ‘This man shall not be your heir, but he that shall come forth out of your own loins shall be your heir.’ **5** And He brought him forth abroad, and said, ‘Look now toward heaven, and count the stars, if you are able to count them.’ And He said to him, ‘So shall your seed be.’ **6** And he believed in YHVH; and He counted it to him for righteousness. **7** And He said to him, ‘I am YHVH that brought you out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give you

this land to inherit it.’ **8** And he said, ‘O Lord YHVH, how shall I know that I shall inherit it?’ **9** And He said to him, ‘Take for Me a heifer of three years old, and a female goat of three years old, and a ram of three years old, and a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.’ **10** And he took for Him all these, and divided them in the midst, and laid each half over against the other; but the birds he divided not. **11** And the birds of prey came down upon the carcasses, and Abram drove them away. **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** And He said to 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; ⁴ **14** and also that nation, whom they shall serve, I will judge; and afterward they shall come out with great substance. **15** But you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. **16** And in the fourth generation they shall come back here, for the iniquity of the Amorite is not yet full.’ **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** In that day YHVH made a covenant with Abram, saying, ‘To your seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates; **19** the Kenite, and the Kenizzite, and the Kadmonite, **20** and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, and the Rephaim, **21** and the Amorite, and the Canaanite, and the Girgashite, and the Jebusite.’ {s}

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CHAPTER SIXTEEN

16:1-16 Triennial *Sarai eshshet* “Sarai his wife” Abram’s faith in the promise tested (Ishmael)

16:1-16 Abram’s faith in the promise tested (Ishmael) {s}

16:1 Now Sarai, Abram’s wife, bore him no children; and she had a handmaid, an Egyptian, whose name was Hagar. **2** And Sarai said to Abram, ‘Behold now, YHVH has restrained me from bearing; go in, I pray you, to my handmaid; it may be that I shall obtain children through her.’ And Abram paid heed to the voice of Sarai. **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** And he went in to Hagar, and she conceived, and when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress was despised in her eyes. **5** And Sarai said to Abram, ‘My wrong be upon you; 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 you.’ **6** But Abram said to Sarai, ‘Behold, your maid is in your hand; do to her that which is good in your eyes.’ And Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she fled from her face. **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** And he said, ‘Hagar, Sarai’s handmaid, from where did you come? And where do you go?’ And she said, ‘I flee from the face of my mistress Sarai.’ **9** And the angel of YHVH said to her, ‘Return to your mistress, and submit yourself under her hands.’ **10** And the angel of YHVH said to her, ‘I will greatly multiply your offspring, that they shall not be numbered for multitude.’ **11** And the angel of YHVH said to her, ‘Behold, you are with child, and shall bear a son. And you shall call his name Ishmael [*God will hear*], because YHVH has heard your affliction. **12** And he shall be a wild donkey 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 brothers.’ **13** And she called the name of YHVH who spoke to her, ‘You Are a God *El*

Who Sees;’ for she said, ‘Have I even here seen Him who sees me?’ **14** Therefore the well was called Beer Lahai Roi [*Well of the Living One Who Sees*]; behold, it is between Kadesh and Bered. **15** And Hagar bore Abram a son; and Abram called the name of his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael. **16** And Abram was eighty-six years old, when Hagar bore Ishmael to Abram. {s}

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CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

17:1-27 Triennial Vayhee Avram “When Abram” *God’s covenant reaffirmed and established through the promise (Isaac) and not the works of the flesh (Ishmael)*

17:1-14 Circumcision, sign of the covenant, given {s}

17:1 And when Abram was ninety-nine years old, YHVH appeared to Abram, and said to him, ‘I am God *El* Almighty; walk before Me, and be wholehearted. **2** And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly.’ **3** And Abram fell on his face; and God talked with him, saying, **4** ‘As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. **5** Neither shall your name any more be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham [*Father of a multitude*]; for the father of a multitude of nations have I made you. **6** And I will make you exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come out of you. **7** And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. **8** And I will give to you, and to your offspring after you, the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.’ **9** And God said to Abraham, ‘And as for you, you shall keep My covenant, you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations. **10** This is My covenant, which you shall keep, between Me and you and your offspring after you; every male among you shall be circumcised. **11** And you shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of a covenant between Me and you. **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 offspring. **13** He that is born in your house, and he that is bought with your money, must be circumcised; and My covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant. **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 has broken My covenant.’ {s}

17:15-27 Promise made of seed through Sarah (*Isaac*) {p}

17:15 And God said to Abraham, ‘As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah [*Queen*] shall be her name. **16** And I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son from her; yes, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of peoples shall be from her.’ **17** Then Abraham fell on his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, ‘Shall a child be born to him that is a hundred years old? And shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear?’ **18** And Abraham said to God, ‘Oh that Ishmael might live before You!’ **19** And God said, ‘No, but Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac [*Laughter*]; and I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant for his offspring after him. **20** And as for Ishmael, I have heard you; behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes he shall beget, and I will make him a great nation. **21** But My covenant I will establish with Isaac,

whom Sarah shall bear to you at this set time in the next year.' **22** And He left off talking with him, and God went up from Abraham. **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 to him. **24** And Abraham was ninety-nine years old, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. **25** And Ishmael his son was thirteen years old, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. **26** In the selfsame day was Abraham circumcised, and Ishmael his son. **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. {p}

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CHAPTER EIGHTEEN

18:1-22:24 Annual Vayeira "And He appeared" *Isaac a Messiah type: miraculous birth; Abraham's heir; offered up by the father*

18:1-21:21 The promised seed prophesied and opposed; the birth of Isaac {s+s+p}

18:1-19:38 Abraham's intercession for Sodom and Gomorrah; its overthrow {s}

18:1-33 Triennial Vayeira *The Seed of Abraham the intercessor, keeping the way of YHVH so that all the nations of the earth are blessed*

18:1 And YHVH appeared to him by the terebinths of Mamre, as he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day; **2** and he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood near him; and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed down to the earth, **3** and said, 'My Lord, if now I have found favor in your sight, pass not away, I pray you, from your servant; **4** let now a little water be fetched, and wash your feet, and recline yourselves under the tree. **5** And I will fetch a morsel of bread, and strengthen your heart; after that you shall pass on, since you have come to your servant.' And they said, 'Do as you have said.' **6** And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, 'Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes.' **7** And Abraham ran to the herd, and fetched a calf tender and good, and gave it to the servant; and he hastened to dress it. **8** And he took curds, and milk; and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they ate. **9** And they said to him, 'Where is Sarah your wife?' And he said, 'Behold, in the tent.' **10** And He said, 'I will certainly return to you when this season comes round again; and, lo, Sarah your wife shall have a son.' And Sarah heard in the tent door, which was behind him. **11** Now Abraham and Sarah were old, and well stricken in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. **12** And Sarah laughed within herself, saying, 'After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?' **13** And YHVH said to Abraham, 'Why did Sarah laugh, saying, "Shall I of a surety bear a child, who am old?" **14** Is anything too hard for YHVH? At the set time I will return to you, when this season comes round again, and Sarah shall have a son.' **15** Then Sarah denied, saying, 'I did not laugh;' for she was afraid. And He said, 'No; but you did laugh.' **16** And the men rose up from there, and looked out toward Sodom, and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way. **17** And YHVH said, 'Shall I hide from Abraham that which I am doing, **18** seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? **19** For I have known him, to the end that he may command his children and his household after him, that they may keep the way of YHVH, to do righteousness and justice; to the end that YHVH may bring

upon Abraham that which He has spoken of him.’ **20** And YHVH said, ‘Truly, the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and, truly, their sin is exceedingly grievous. **21** I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry against it, which has come to Me; and if not, I will know.’ **22** And the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom; but Abraham yet stood before YHVH. **23** And Abraham drew near, and said, ‘Will You indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? **24** Perhaps there are fifty righteous within the city; will You indeed sweep away and not forgive the place for the fifty righteous within it? **25** Far be it from You to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked, that so the righteous should be as the wicked, far be it from You; shall not the Judge of all the earth do justly?’ **26** And YHVH said, ‘If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will forgive all the place for their sake.’ **27** And Abraham answered and said, ‘Behold now, I have taken it upon me to speak to the Lord, who am but dust and ashes. **28** Perhaps there shall lack five of the fifty righteous; will You destroy all the city for lack of five?’ And He said, ‘I will not destroy it, if I find there forty-five.’ **29** And he spoke to Him yet again, and said, ‘Perhaps there shall be forty found there.’ And He said, ‘I will not do it for the forty’s sake.’ **30** And he said, ‘Oh, let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Perhaps there shall be thirty found there.’ And He said, ‘I will not do it, if I find thirty there.’ **31** And he said, ‘Behold now, I have taken it upon me to speak to the Lord; perhaps there shall be twenty found there.’ And He said, ‘I will not destroy it for the twenty’s sake.’ **32** And he said, ‘Oh, let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once. Perhaps ten shall be found there.’ And He said, ‘I will not destroy it for the ten’s sake.’ **33** And YHVH went His way, as soon as He had left off speaking to Abraham; and Abraham returned to his place.

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CHAPTER NINETEEN

19:1-38 Triennial *Vayabou sheni* “Then came the two” *The overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah*

19:1 And the two angels came to Sodom at evening; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom. And Lot saw them, and rose up to meet them; and he fell down on his face to the earth; **2** and he said, ‘Behold now, my lords, turn aside, I pray you, into your servant’s house, and tarry all night, and wash your feet, and you shall rise up early, and go on your way.’ And they said, ‘No; but we will abide in the open square all night.’ **3** And he urged them greatly; and they turned in to him, and entered into his house; and he made them a feast, and baked unleavened bread, and they ate. **4** But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, encircled the house around, both young and old, all the people from every quarter; **5** and they called to Lot, and said to him, ‘Where are the men that came in to you this night? Bring them out to us, that we may know them.’ **6** And Lot went out to them to the door, and shut the door after him. **7** And he said, ‘I pray you, my brothers, do not do so wickedly. **8** Behold now, I have two daughters that have not known man; let me, I pray you, bring them out to you, and do to them as is good in your eyes; only to these men do nothing, since they have come under the shadow of my roof.’ **9** And they said, ‘Stand back.’ And they said, ‘This fellow came in to sojourn, and indeed, he plays the judge; now will we deal worse with you, than with them.’ And they pressed severely on the man, even Lot, and drew near to break the door. **10** But the men put forth their hand, and brought Lot into the

house to them, and they shut the door. **11** And they struck the men that were at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great; so that they wearied themselves to find the door. **12** And the men said to Lot, 'Do you have here anyone else? Son-in-law, and your sons, and your daughters, and whoever you have in the city, bring them out of the place; **13** for we will destroy this place, because the outcry against them has waxed great before YHVH; and YHVH has sent us to destroy it.' **14** And Lot went out, and spoke to his sons-in-law, who married his daughters, and said, 'Up, get out of this place; for YHVH will destroy the city.' But he seemed to his sons-in-law as one that jested. **15** And when the morning arose, then the angels hurried Lot, saying, 'Arise, take your wife, and your two daughters that are here; lest you be swept away in the iniquity of the city.' **16** But he lingered, and the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters, YHVH being merciful to him. And they brought him forth, and set him outside the city. **17** And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said, 'Escape for your life; do not look behind you, neither stay anywhere in the plain; escape to the mountain, lest you be swept away.' **18** And Lot said to them, 'Oh, not so, my lord; **19** behold now, your servant has found grace in your sight, and you have magnified your mercy, which you have shown to me in saving my life. And I cannot escape to the mountain, lest the evil overtake me, and I die; **20** behold now, this city is near to flee to, and it is a little one; oh, let me escape there—is it not a little one?—and my soul shall live.' **21** And he said to him, 'See, I have accepted you concerning this thing also, that I will not overthrow the city of which you have spoken. **22** Hurry, escape there; for I cannot do anything till you have come there.' Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar. **23** The sun was risen upon the earth when Lot came to Zoar. **24** Then YHVH caused to rain on Sodom and on Gomorrah brimstone and fire from YHVH out of heaven; **25** and He overthrow those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew on the ground. **26** But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt. **27** And Abraham got up early in the morning to the place where he had stood before YHVH. **28** And he looked out toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain, and beheld, and, lo, the smoke of the land went up as the smoke of a furnace. **29** And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when He overthrew the cities in which Lot dwelt. **30** And Lot went up out of Zoar, and dwelt in the mountain, and his two daughters with him, for he feared to dwell in Zoar. And he dwelt in a cave, he and his two daughters. **31** And the firstborn said to the younger, 'Our father is old, and there is not a man in the earth to come in to us after the manner of all the earth. **32** Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father.' **33** And they made their father drink wine that night. And the firstborn went in, and lay with her father; and he knew not when she lay down, nor when she arose. **34** And it came to pass on the morrow, that the firstborn said to the younger, 'Behold, I lay yesternight with my father. Let us make him drink wine this night also; and you go in, and lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father.' **35** And they made their father drink wine that night also. And the younger arose, and lay with him; and he knew not when she lay down, nor when she arose. **36** Thus were both the daughters of Lot with child by their father. **37** And the firstborn bore a son, and called his name Moab—the same is the father of the Moabites to

this day. **38** And the younger, she also bore a son, and called his name Ben-ammi—the same is the father of the children of Ammon to this day. {s}

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CHAPTER TWENTY

20:1-18 Triennial *Vayisa misham* “He journeyed from there” *Abimelech takes but then restores Sarah, Abraham’s wife*

20:1-18 Abimelech takes but then restores Sarah, Abraham’s wife {s}

20:1 And Abraham journeyed from there toward the land of the South, and dwelt between Kadesh and Shur, and he sojourned in Gerar. **2** And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, ‘She is my sister.’ And Abimelech, king of Gerar, sent, and took Sarah. **3** But God came to Abimelech in a dream of the night, and said to him, ‘Behold, you shall die, because of the woman whom you have taken; for she is a man’s wife.’ **4** Now Abimelech had not come near her, and he said, ‘Lord, will You slay even a righteous nation? **5** Did he not himself say to me, “She is my sister?” And she, even she herself said, “He is my brother.” In the simplicity of my heart and the innocence of my hands have I done this.’ **6** And God said to him in the dream, ‘Yes, I know that in the simplicity of your heart you have done this. And I also withheld you from sinning against Me. Therefore I suffered you to touch her not. **7** Now therefore restore the man’s wife; for he is a prophet, and he shall pray for you, and you shall live; and if you do not restore her, know that you shall surely die, you, and all that are yours.’ **8** And Abimelech rose early in the morning, and called all his servants, and told all these things in their ears; and the men were severely afraid. **9** Then Abimelech called Abraham, and said to him, ‘What have you done to us? And how have I sinned against you, that you have brought on me and on my kingdom a great sin? You have done deeds to me that ought not to be done.’ **10** And Abimelech said to Abraham, ‘What did you see, that you have done this thing?’ **11** And Abraham said, ‘Because I thought, “Surely the fear of God is not in this place; and they will slay me for my wife’s sake.” **12** And moreover she is indeed my sister, the daughter of my father, but not the daughter of my mother; and so she became my wife. **13** And it came to pass, when God caused me to wander from my father’s house, that I said to her, “This is your kindness which you shall show to me; at every place to which we shall come, say of me, “He is my brother.”’ **14** And Abimelech took sheep and oxen, and male servants and female servants, and gave them to Abraham, and restored to him Sarah his wife. **15** And Abimelech said, ‘Behold, my land is before you; dwell where it pleases you.’ **16** And to Sarah he said, ‘Behold, I have given your brother a thousand pieces of silver; behold, it is a covering for you to all who have seen you; and before all men you are vindicated.’ **17** And Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech, and his wife, and his maid servants; and they bore children. **18** For YHVH had fast closed up all the wombs of the house of Abimelech, because of Sarah Abraham’s wife. {s}

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CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE

21:1-34 Triennial *V’Yehovah paqad* “YHVH had visited” *When the seed of promise comes, Gentile and Hebrew will be in a covenant of peace*

21:1-21 Isaac becomes Abraham’s heir when he is weaned {p}

21:1 And YHVH remembered Sarah as He had said, and YHVH did to Sarah as He had spoken. **2** And Sarah conceived, and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him. **3** And Abraham called the name of his son that was born to him, whom Sarah bore to him, Isaac. **4** And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. **5** And Abraham was a hundred years old, when his son Isaac was born to him. **6** And Sarah said, 'God has made laughter for me, every one that hears will laugh on account of me.' **7** And she said, 'Who would have said to Abraham, that Sarah should nurse children? For I have borne him a son In his old age.' **8** And the child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast, on the day that Isaac was weaned. **9** And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, mocking. **10** Therefore she said to Abraham, 'Cast out this bondwoman and her son; for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, even with Isaac.' **11** And the thing was very grievous in Abraham's sight on account of his son. **12** And God said to Abraham, 'Let it not be grievous in your sight because of the lad, and because of your bondwoman; in all that Sarah says to you, pay heed to her voice; for in Isaac shall your seed be called. **13** And also of the son of the bondwoman will I make a nation, because he is your seed.' **14** And Abraham arose up early in the morning, and took bread and a bottle of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, and the child, and sent her away; and she departed, and strayed in the wilderness of Beersheba. **15** And the water in the bottle was spent, and she cast the child under one of the shrubs. **16** And she went, and sat herself down over against him a good way off, a bow-shot's distance; for she said, 'Let me not look on the death of the child.' And she sat over against him, and lifted up her voice, and wept. **17** And God heard the voice of the lad; and the angel of God called to Hagar out of heaven, and said to her, 'What ails you, Hagar? Fear not; for God has heard the voice of the lad where he is. **18** Arise, lift up the lad, and hold him fast by your hand; for I will make him a great nation.' **19** And God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water; and she went, and filled the bottle with water, and gave the lad drink. **20** And God was with the lad, and he grew; and he dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer. **21** And he dwelt in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother took for him a wife out of the land of Egypt. {p}

21:22-34 Abimelech and Abraham make a covenant of peace {p}

21:22 And it came to pass at that time, that Abimelech and Phicol the captain of his host spoke to Abraham, saying, 'God is with you in all that you do; **23** now therefore swear to me here by God that you will not deal falsely with me, nor with my son, nor with my son's son; but according to the kindness that I have done to you, you shall do to me, and to the land wherein you have sojourned.' **24** And Abraham said, 'I will swear.' **25** And Abraham reproved Abimelech because of the well of water, which Abimelech's servants had violently taken away. **26** And Abimelech said, 'I do not know who has done this thing; neither did you tell me, neither have I heard of it, until today.' **27** And Abraham took sheep and oxen, and gave them to Abimelech; and they two made a covenant. **28** And Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock by themselves. **29** And Abimelech said to Abraham, 'What do these seven ewe lambs mean, which you have set by themselves?' **30** And he said, 'Truly, these seven ewe lambs you shall take of my hand, that it may be a witness to me, that I have dug this well.' **31** Therefore that place was called Beersheba [*Well of the Seven*]; because there they swore both of them. **32** So they made a covenant at Beersheba; and Abimelech rose up, and Phicol the captain of his host, and they returned into the land of the Philistines. **33**

And Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beersheba, and called there on the name of YHVH, the Everlasting God *El*. **34** And Abraham sojourned in the land of the Philistines many days. {p}

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CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO

22:1-24 Triennial *Vayhee nisah* “After these things” *Isaac the promised seed of Abraham, and Rebekah, the seed of Nahor*

22:1-19 Abraham and the offering of Isaac {p}

22:1 And it came to pass after these things, that God tested Abraham, and said to him, ‘Abraham;’ and he said, ‘Here am I.’ **2** And He said, ‘Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, even Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you.’ **3** And Abraham rose early in the morning, and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went to the place of which God had told him. **4** On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off. **5** And Abraham said to his young men, ‘Abide here with the donkey, and I and the lad will go yonder and we will worship, and come back to you.’ **6** And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took in his hand the fire and the knife; and they went both of them together. **7** And Isaac spoke to Abraham his father, and said, ‘My father.’ And he said, ‘Here I am, my son.’ And he said, ‘Behold the fire and the wood; but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?’ **8** And Abraham said, ‘God will provide Himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.’ So they went both of them together. **9** And they came to the place of which God had told him; and Abraham built the altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar, on the wood. **10** And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. **11** And the angel of YHVH called to him out of heaven, and said, ‘Abraham, Abraham.’ And he said, ‘Here I am.’ **12** And He said, ‘Do not lay your hand on the lad, neither do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.’ **13** And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold, behind him a ram caught in the thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the place of his son. **14** And Abraham called the name of that place YHVH-Yireh; as it is said to this day, ‘In the mount of YHVH it shall be provided.’ **15** And the angel of YHVH called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, **16** and said, ‘By Myself have I sworn,’ says YHVH, ‘because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son, **17** that in blessing I will bless you, and in multiplying I will multiply your seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; **18** and in your seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because you have paid heed to My voice.’ **19** So Abraham returned to his young men, and they rose up and went together to Beersheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beersheba. {p}

22:20-24 The seed of Nahor {p}

22:20 And it came to pass after these things, that it was told Abraham, saying, ‘Behold, Milcah, she also has borne children to your brother Nahor: **21** Uz his firstborn, and Buz his brother, and Kemuel the father of Aram, **22** and Chesed, and Hazo, and Pildash, and

Jidlaph, and Bethuel.’ **23** And Bethuel begot Rebekah. These eight Milcah bore to Nahor, Abraham’s brother. **24** And his concubine, whose name was Reumah, she also bore Tebah, and Gaham, and Tahash, and Maacah. {p}

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CHAPTER TWENTY-THREE

23:1-25:18 Annual *Chayei Sarah* “The life of Sarah” *YHVH has not forsaken His loving-kindness or truth toward Abraham*

23:1-24:67 YHVH has not forsaken His lovingkindness or truth toward Abraham {s+p}

23:1-20 Triennial *Chayei Sarah* *Heth gives Abraham a possession in Canaan*

23:1-20 Heth gives Abraham a possession in Canaan {s}

23:1 And the life of Sarah was a hundred and twenty-seven years; these were the years of the life of Sarah. **2** And Sarah died in Kiriatharba—the same is Hebron—in the land of Canaan; and Abraham came to mourn for Sarah, and to weep for her. **3** And Abraham rose up from before his dead, and spoke to the children of Heth, saying, **4** ‘I am a stranger and a sojourner with you, give me a possession of a burial place with you, that I may bury my dead out of my sight.’ **5** And the children of Heth answered Abraham, saying to him, **6** ‘Hear us, my lord; you are a mighty prince among us; in the choicest of our burial places bury your dead; none of us shall withhold from you his burial place, so that you may bury your dead.’ **7** And Abraham rose up, and bowed down to the people of the land, even to the children of Heth. **8** And he spoke with them, saying, ‘If it be your mind that I should bury my dead out of my sight, hear me, and entreat for me with Ephron the son of Zohar, **9** that he may give me the cave of Machpelah, which he has, which is in the end of his field; for the full price let him give it to me in the midst of you for a possession of a burial place.’ **10** Now Ephron was sitting in the midst of the children of Heth; and Ephron the Hittite answered Abraham in the hearing of the children of Heth, even of all that went in at the gate of his city, saying, **11** ‘Nay, my lord, hear me; the field I give you, and the cave that is in it, I give it to you; in the presence of the sons of my people I give it to you; bury your dead.’ **12** And Abraham bowed down before the people of the land. **13** And he spoke to Ephron in the hearing of the people of the land, saying, ‘But if you will, I pray you, hear me; I will give the price of the field; take it from me, and I will bury my dead there.’ **14** Ephron answered Abraham, saying to him, **15** ‘A piece of land worth four hundred shekels of silver, what is that between me and you? Therefore bury your dead.’ **16** And Abraham paid heed to Ephron; and Abraham weighed to Ephron the silver, which he had named in the hearing of the children of Heth, four hundred shekels of silver, current money with the merchant. **17** So the field of Ephron, which was in Machpelah, which was before Mamre, the field, and the cave which was in it, and all the trees that were in the field, that were in all the borders round about, were made sure **18** to Abraham for a possession in the presence of the children of Heth, before all that went in at the gate of his city. **19** And after this, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah before Mamre—the same is Hebron—in the land of Canaan. **20** And the field, and the cave that is in it, were made sure to Abraham for a possession of a burial place by the children of Heth. {s}

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CHAPTER TWENTY-FOUR

24:1-67 The servant finds a bride for Isaac, the promised seed {p}

24:1-41 Triennial V'Avraham zagen "Now Abraham was old" *YHVH prospered the servant's task to find a bride for Isaac*

24:1 And Abraham was old, well stricken in age; and YHVH had blessed Abraham in all things. **2** And Abraham said to his servant, the elder of his house, that ruled over all that he had, 'Put, I pray you, your hand under my thigh. **3** And I will make you swear by YHVH, the God of heaven and the God of the earth, that you shall not take a wife for my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell. **4** But you shall go to my country, and to my kindred, and take a wife for my son, even for Isaac.' **5** And the servant said to him, 'Perhaps the woman will not be willing to follow me to this land; must I take your son back to the land from where you came?' **6** And Abraham said to him, 'Beware that you do not take my son back there. **7** YHVH, the God of heaven, who took me from my father's house, and from the land of my nativity, and who spoke to me, and who swore to me, saying, "To your seed I will give this land;" he will send His angel before you, and you shall take a wife for my son from there. **8** And if the woman is not willing to follow you, then you shall be clear from this my oath; only you shall not take my son back there.' **9** And the servant put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master, and swore to him concerning this matter. **10** And the servant took ten camels, of the camels of his master, and departed; having all good things of his master's in his hand; and he arose, and went to Aram of the Two Rivers (that is, Mesopotamia), to the city of Nahor. **11** And he made the camels to kneel down outside the city by the well of water at the time of evening, the time that women go out to draw water. **12** And he said, 'O YHVH, the God of my master Abraham, send me, I pray You, good speed this day, and show kindness to my master Abraham. **13** Behold, I stand by the fountain of water; and the daughters of the men of the city come out to draw water. **14** So let it come to pass, that the damsel to whom I shall say, "Let down your pitcher, I pray you, that I may drink;" and she shall say, "Drink, and I will give your camels drink also;" let the same be she that You have appointed for Your servant, even for Isaac; and in this way I shall know that You have shown kindness to my master.' **15** And it came to pass, before he had done speaking, that, behold, Rebekah came out, who was born to Bethuel the son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, with her pitcher upon her shoulder. **16** And the damsel was very fair to look upon, a virgin, neither had any man known her; and she went down to the fountain, and filled her pitcher, and came up. **17** And the servant ran to meet her, and said, 'Give me to drink, I pray you, a little water from your pitcher.' **18** And she said, 'Drink, my lord.' And she hastened, and let down her pitcher upon her hand, and gave him drink. And when she had done giving him drink, she said, 'I will draw for your camels also, until they have done drinking.' **20** And she hastened, and emptied her pitcher into the trough, and ran again to the well to draw, and drew for all his camels. **21** And the man looked steadfastly upon her holding his peace, to know whether YHVH had made his journey prosperous or not. **22** And it came to pass, as the camels had done drinking, that the man took a golden ring of half a shekel weight, and two bracelets for her hands of ten shekels weight of gold; **23** and said, 'Whose daughter are you? Tell me, I pray you. Is there room within your father's house for us to lodge?' **24** And she said to him, 'I am the daughter of Bethuel the son of Milcah, whom she bore to Nahor.' **25** She said moreover to him, 'We have both straw and provender enough, and room within which to lodge.' **26** And the

man bowed his head, and humbled himself before YHVH. **27** And he said, 'Blessed be YHVH, the God of my master Abraham, who has not forsaken His mercy and His truth toward my master; as for me, YHVH has led me in the way to the house of my master's brothers.' **28** And the damsel ran, and told her mother's house according to these words. **29** And Rebekah had a brother, and his name was Laban; and Laban ran out to the man, to the fountain. **30** And it came to pass, when he saw the ring, and the bracelets upon his sister's hands, and when he heard the words of Rebekah his sister, saying, 'Thus spoke the man to me,' that he came to the man; and, behold, he stood by the camels at the fountain. **31** And he said, 'Come in, blessed of YHVH; why do you stand outside? For I have cleared the house, and made room for the camels.' **32** And the man came into the house, and he ungirded the camels, and he gave straw and provender for the camels, and water to wash his feet and the feet of the men that were with him. **33** And there was set before him food to eat; but he said, 'I will not eat, until I have told my errand.' And he said, 'Speak on.' **34** And he said, 'I am Abraham's servant. **35** And YHVH has blessed my master greatly, and he has become great; and He has given him flocks and herds, and silver and gold, and menservants and maidservants, and camels and donkeys. **36** And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and to him he has given all that he has. **37** And my master made me swear, saying, "You shall not take a wife for my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I dwell. **38** But you shall go to my father's house, and to my kindred, and take a wife for my son." **39** And I said to my master, "Perhaps the woman will not follow me." **40** And he said to me, "YHVH, before whom I walk, will send his angel with you, and prosper your way; and you shall take a wife for my son of my kindred, and of my father's house; **41** then you shall be clear from my oath, when you come to my kindred; and if they give her not to you, you shall be clear from my oath."

24:42-67 Triennial Vavo hayom "So I came this day" *The servant fulfills his oath to his master, and brings YHVH's appointed bride for his master's son*

24:42 And I came this day to the fountain, and said, "O YHVH, the God of my master Abraham, if now You prosper my way which I go, **43** behold, I stand by the fountain of water; and let it come to pass, that the maiden that comes forth to draw, to whom I shall say, 'Give me, I pray you, a little water from your pitcher to drink;' **44** and she shall say to me, 'Both you drink, and I will also draw for your camels;' let the same be the woman whom YHVH has appointed for my master's son." **45** And before I had done speaking in my heart, behold, Rebekah came forth with her pitcher on her shoulder; and she went down to the fountain, and drew. And I said to her, "Let me drink, I pray you." **46** And she made haste, and let down her pitcher from her shoulder, and said, "Drink, and I will give your camels drink also." So I drank, and she made the camels drink also. **47** And I asked her, and said, "Whose daughter are you?" And she said, "The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him." And I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her hands. **48** And I bowed my head, and humbled myself before YHVH, and blessed YHVH, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me in the right way to take my master's brother's daughter for his son. **49** And now if you will deal kindly and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me; that I may turn to the right hand, or to the left.' **50** Then Laban and Bethuel answered and said, "The thing proceeds from YHVH; we cannot speak to you bad or good. **51** Behold, Rebekah is before you, take her, and go, and let her be your master's son's wife, as YHVH has spoken.' **52** And it came to pass, that, when Abraham's servant heard their

words, he bowed himself down to the earth to YHVH. **53** And the servant brought forth jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment, and gave them to Rebekah; he also gave to her brother and to her mother precious things. **54** And they ate and drink, he and the men that were with him, and tarried all night; and they rose up in the morning, and he said, 'Send me away to my master.' **55** And her brother and her mother said, 'Let the damsel abide with us a few days, at the least ten; after that she shall go.' **56** And he said to them, 'Do not delay me, seeing YHVH has prospered my way; send me away that I may go to my master.' **57** And they said, 'We will call the damsel, and inquire of her.' **58** And they called Rebekah, and said to her, 'Will you go with this man?' And she said, 'I will go.' **59** And they sent away Rebekah their sister, and her nurse, and Abraham's servant, and his men. **60** And they blessed Rebekah, and said to her, 'Our sister, be the mother of thousands of ten thousands, and let your seed possess the gate of those that hate them.' **61** And Rebekah arose, and her damsels, and they rode on the camels, and followed the man. And the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. **62** And Isaac came from the way of Beer lahai roi; for he dwelt in the land of the South. **63** And Isaac went out to meditate in the field at the evening. And he lifted up his eyes, and saw, and, behold, there were camels coming. **64** And Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when she saw Isaac, she alighted from the camel. **65** And she said to the servant, 'What man is this, that walks in the field to meet us?' And the servant said, 'It is my master.' And she took her veil, and covered herself. **66** And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. **67** And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. And Isaac was comforted for his mother. {p}

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CHAPTER TWENTY-FIVE

25:1-34 The seed of Abraham by Keturah, Hagar (Ishmael) and Sarah (Isaac) {px3}

25:1-18 Triennial V'yasaf Avraham "So Abraham again" *The seed of Abraham by Keturah and Hagar*

25:1-11 The seed of Abraham by Keturah {p}

25:1 And Abraham took another wife, and her name was Keturah. **2** And she bore him Zimran, and Jokshan, and Medan, and Midian, and Ishbak, and Shuah. **3** And Jokshan begot Sheba, and Dedan. And the sons of Dedan were Asshurim, and Letushim, and Leummim. **4** And the sons of Midian: Ephah, and Epher, and Hanoch, and Abidah, and Eldaah. All these were the children of Keturah. **5** And Abraham gave all that he had unto Isaac. **6** But to the sons of the concubines, that Abraham had, Abraham gave gifts, and he sent them away from from Isaac his son, while he yet lived, eastward, to the east country. **7** And these are the days of the years of Abraham's life which he lived, one hundred and seventy-five years. **8** And Abraham expired, and died in a good old age, an old man, and full of years; and was gathered to his people. **9** And Isaac and Ishmael his sons buried him; in the cave of Machpelah, in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, which is before Mamre; **10** the field which Abraham purchased of the children of Heth; there was Abraham buried, and Sarah his wife. **11** And it came to pass after the death of Abraham, that God blessed Isaac his son; and Isaac dwelt by Beer lahai roi. {p}

25:12-18 The seed of Ishmael *(The seed of Abraham by Hagar)* {p}

25:12 Now these are the generations of Ishmael, Abraham's son, whom Hagar the Egyptian, Sarah's handmaid, bore to Abraham. **13** And these are the names of the sons of Ishmael, by their names, according to their generations: the firstborn of Ishmael, Nebaioth; and Kedar, and Adbeel, and Mibsam, **14** and Mishma, and Dumah, and Massa, **15** Hadad, and Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedem. **16** These are the sons of Ishmael, and these are their names, by their villages, and by their encampments; twelve princes according to their nations. **17** And these are the years of the life of Ishmael, one hundred and thirty-seven years; and he breathed his last and died, and was gathered to his people. **18** And they dwelt from Havilah to Shur that is before Egypt, as you go toward Assyria; over against all his brothers he settled. {p}

25:19-28:9 Annual Toledoth "Generations" *Life of Isaac repeats events from the life of Abraham / Life of Jacob repeats events from the life of Isaac*

25:19-26:11 Triennial Toledoth *Isaac was Abraham's heir of the covenant / Esau despised his right to it, but Jacob loved and desired it;*

25:19-34 The seed of Isaac *(The seed of Abraham by Sarah)* {p}

25:19 And these are the generations of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham begot Isaac. **20** And Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah, the daughter of Bethuel the Aramean, of Paddan-aram, the sister of Laban the Aramean, to be his wife. **21** And Isaac entreated YHVH for his wife, because she was barren; and YHVH let Himself be entreated of him, and Rebekah his wife conceived. **22** And the children struggled together within her; and she said, 'If it be so, why do I live?' And she went to inquire of YHVH. **23** And YHVH said to her, 'Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples shall be separated from your body; and the one people shall be stronger than the other people, and the elder shall serve the younger.' **24** And when her days to be delivered were fulfilled, behold, there were twins in her womb. **25** And the first came forth ruddy, all over like a hairy mantle; and they called his name Esau [*Hairy*]. **26** And after that came forth his brother, and his hand had hold on Esau's heel; and his name was called Jacob [*Supplanter*]. And Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. **27** And the boys grew; and Esau was a cunning hunter, a man of the field; and Jacob was a quiet man, dwelling in tents. **28** Now Isaac loved Esau, because he ate of his venison; and Rebekah loved Jacob. **29** And Jacob boiled pottage; and Esau came in from the field, and he was faint. **30** And Esau said to Jacob, 'Let me swallow, I pray you, some of this red, red pottage; for I am faint.' Therefore was his name called Edom [*Red*]. **31** And Jacob said, 'Sell me first your birthright.' **32** And Esau said, 'Behold, I am at the point of death; and what profit shall the birthright be to me?' **33** And Jacob said, 'Swear to me first.' And he swore to him; and he sold his birthright to Jacob. **34** And Jacob gave Esau bread and pottage of lentils; and he ate and drink, and rose up, and went his way. So Esau despised his birthright. {p}

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CHAPTER TWENTY-SIX

26:1-32:2 Transfer of the blessing, covenant, promises from Abraham and Isaac to Jacob {sx3+p}

26:1-33 Life of Isaac repeats events from the life of Abraham {s}

26:1 And there was a famine in the land, beside the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went to Abimelech, king of the Philistines, to Gerar. **2** And YHVH ap-

peared to him, and said, 'Do not go down to Egypt; dwell in the land of which I shall tell you. **3** Sojourn in this land, and I will be with you, and will bless you; for to you, and to your seed, I will give all these lands, and I will establish the oath which I swore to Abraham your father. **4** And I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven, and will give to your seed all these lands; and by your seed shall all the nations of the earth bless themselves; **5** because Abraham paid heed to My voice, and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws.' **6** And Isaac dwelt in Gerar. **7** And the men of the place asked him of his wife; and he said, 'She is my sister;' for he feared to say, 'My wife;' lest the men of the place should kill him for Rebekah, because she is fair to look upon. **8** And it came to pass, when he had been there a long time, that Abimelech king of the Philistines looked out at a window, and saw, and, behold, Isaac was flirting with Rebekah his wife. **9** And Abimelech called Isaac, and said, 'Behold, of a surety she is your wife. **9** And how is it that you said, "She is my sister?"' And Isaac said to him, 'Because I said, "Lest I die because of her."' **10** And Abimelech said, 'What is this you have done to us? One of the people might easily have lain with your wife, and you would have brought guilt upon us.' **11** And Abimelech charged all the people, saying, 'He that touches this man or his wife shall surely be put to death.'

26:12-35 Triennial Vayizra Yitschak "And Isaac sowed" YHVH brought Isaac through difficult circumstances and contentions, and was with him

26:12 And Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year a hundredfold; and YHVH blessed him. **13** And the man waxed great, and grew more and more until he became very great. **14** And he had possessions of flocks, and possessions of herds, and a great household; and the Philistines envied him. **15** Now all the wells which his father's servants had dug in the days of Abraham his father, the Philistines had stopped them, and filled them with earth. **16** And Abimelech said to Isaac, 'Go from us; for you are much mightier than we.' **17** And Isaac departed from there, and encamped in the valley of Gerar, and dwelt there. **18** And Isaac dug again the wells of water, which they had dug in the days of Abraham his father; for the Philistines had stopped them after the death of Abraham; and he called their names after the names by which his father had called them. **19** And Isaac's servants dug in the valley, and found there a well of living water. **20** And the herdsmen of Gerar strove with Isaac's herdsmen, saying, 'The water is ours.' And he called the name of the well Esek [*Contention*]; because they contended with him. **21** And they dug another well, and they strove for that also. And he called the name of it Sitnah [*Strife*]. **22** And he moved from there, and dug another well; and for that they strove not. And he called the name of it Rehoboth [*Wide spaces*]; and he said, 'For now YHVH has made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land.' **23** And he went up from there to Beersheba. **24** And YHVH appeared to him the same night, and said, 'I am the God of Abraham your father; fear not, for I am with you, and will bless you, and multiply your seed for My servant Abraham's sake.' **25** And he built an altar there, and called on the name of YHVH, and pitched his tent there; and there Isaac's servants dug a well. **26** Then Abimelech went to him from Gerar, and Ahuzzath his friend, and Phicol the captain of his host. **27** Isaac said to them, 'Why have you come to me, seeing you hate me, and have sent me away from you?' **28** And they said, 'We saw plainly that YHVH was with you; and we said, "Let there now be an oath between us, even between us and you, and let us make a covenant with you;" **29** that you will do us no hurt, as we have not touched you, and as we have done to you nothing but good, and

have sent you away in peace; you are now the blessed of YHVH.’ **30** And he made them a feast, and they ate and drink. **31** And they rose up early in the morning, and swore one to another; and Isaac sent them away, and they departed from him in peace. **32** And it came to pass the same day, that Isaac’s servants came and told him concerning the well which they had dug, and said to him, ‘We have found water.’ **33** And he called it Shibah [*Oath* or *Seven*]. Therefore the name of the city is Beersheba [*Well of the Oath* or *Well of the Seven*] to this day. {s}

26:34-35 Esau’s wives {s}

26:34 And when Esau was forty years old, he took to wife Judith the daughter of Beerli the Hittite, and Basemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite. **35** And they were a bitterness of spirit to Isaac and to Rebekah. {s}

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CHAPTER TWENTY-SEVEN

27:1-28:9 Jacob received the blessing / Jacob’s wife was the beginning of his blessing (*Life of Jacob repeats events from the life of Isaac*) {s}

27:1-29 Triennial *Zagen Yitschak* “Isaac had become old” *Jacob received the blessing of the firstborn from his father Isaac*

27:1 It came to pass, that when Isaac was old, and his eyes were dim, so that he could not see, he called Esau his elder son, and said to him, ‘My son;’ and he said to him, ‘Here am I.’ **2** And he said, ‘Behold now, I am old, I do not know the day of my death. **3** Now therefore take, I pray you, your weapons, your quiver and your bow, and go out to the field, and bring me venison; **4** and make me savory food, such as I love, and bring it to me, that I may eat; that my soul may bless you before I die.’ **5** And Rebekah heard when Isaac spoke to Esau his son. And Esau went to the field to hunt for venison, and to bring it. **6** And Rebekah spoke to Jacob her son, saying, ‘Behold, I heard your father speak to Esau your brother, saying, **7** “Bring me venison, and make me savory food, that I may eat, and bless you before YHVH before my death.” **8** Now therefore, my son, pay heed to my voice according to that which I command you. **9** Go now to the flock, and fetch me from there two good kids of the goats; and I will make them savory food for your father, such as he loves; **10** and you shall bring it to your father, that he may eat, so that he may bless you before his death.’ **11** And Jacob said to Rebekah his mother, ‘Behold, Esau my brother is a hairy man, and I am a smooth man. **12** My father perhaps will feel me, and I shall seem to him as a mocker; and I shall bring a curse upon me, and not a blessing.’ **13** And his mother said to him, ‘On me be your curse, my son; only pay heed to my voice, and go fetch them for me.’ **14** And he went, and fetched, and brought them to his mother; and his mother made savory food, such as his father loved. **15** And Rebekah took the choicest garments of Esau her elder son, which were with her in the house, and put them on Jacob her younger son. **16** And she put the skins of the kids of the goats on his hands, and upon the smooth of his neck. **17** And she gave the savory food and the bread, which she had prepared, into the hand of her son Jacob. **18** And he came to his father, and said, ‘My father;’ and he said, ‘Here am I; who are you, my son?’ **19** And Jacob said to his father, ‘I am Esau your firstborn; I have done according as you have bidden me. Arise, I pray you, sit and eat of my venison, that your soul may bless me.’ **20** And Isaac said to his son, ‘How is it that you have found it so quickly, my son?’ And he said, ‘Because YHVH your God sent me good speed.’ **21** And Isaac said to Jacob,

'Come near, I pray you, that I may feel you, my son, whether you are truly my son Esau or not.' **22** And Jacob went near to Isaac his father; and he felt him, and said, 'The voice is the voice of Jacob, but the hands are the hands of Esau.' **23** And he discerned him not, because his hands were hairy, as his brother Esau's hands; so he blessed him. **24** And he said, 'Are you truly my son Esau?' And he said, 'I am.' **25** And he said, 'Bring it near to me, and I will eat of my son's venison, that my soul may bless you.' And he brought it near to him, and he ate; and he brought him wine, and he drank. **26** And his father Isaac said to him, 'Come near now, and kiss me, my son.' **27** And he came near, and kissed him. And he smelled the smell of his raiment, and blessed him, and said, 'See, the smell of my son is as the smell of a field which YHVH has blessed. **28** So God give you of the dew of heaven, and of the fat places of the earth, and plenty of corn and wine. **29** Let peoples serve you, and nations bow down to you. Be lord over your brothers, and let your mother's sons bow down to you. Cursed be every one that curses you, and blessed be every one that blesses you.'

27:30-28:9 Triennial *Yitschak barach* "Isaac had blessed" *Because Jacob received the blessing of the firstborn, Esau hated him*

27:30 And it came to pass, as soon as Isaac had made an end of blessing Jacob, and Jacob was yet scarce gone out from the presence of Isaac his father, that Esau his brother came in from his hunting. **31** And he also made savory food, and brought it to his father; and he said to his father, 'Let my father arise, and eat of his son's venison, that your soul may bless me.' **32** And Isaac his father said to him, 'Who are you?' And he said, 'I am your son, your firstborn, Esau.' **33** And Isaac trembled very exceedingly, and said, 'Who then is he that has taken venison, and brought it to me, and I have eaten of all of it before you came, and have blessed him? Yes, and he shall be blessed.' **34** When Esau heard the words of his father, he cried with an exceeding great and bitter cry, and said to his father, 'Bless me, even me also, O my father.' **35** And he said, 'Your brother came with guile, and has taken away your blessing.' **36** And he said, 'Is not he rightly named Jacob? For he has supplanted me these two times: he took away my birthright; and, behold, now he has taken away my blessing.' And he said, 'Have you not reserved a blessing for me?' **37** And Isaac answered and said to Esau, 'Behold, I have made him your lord, and all his brothers I have given to him for servants; and with corn and wine have I sustained him; and what then shall I do for you, my son?' **38** And Esau said to his father, 'Have you but one blessing, my father? Bless me, even me also, O my father.' And Esau lifted up his voice, and wept. **39** And Isaac his father answered and said to him, 'Behold, of the fat places of the earth shall be your dwelling, and of the dew of heaven from above; **40** and by your sword you shall live, and you shall serve your brother; and it shall come to pass when you shall break loose, that you shall shake his yoke from off your neck.' **41** And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing with which his father blessed him; and Esau said in his heart, 'Let the days of mourning for my father be at hand; then will I slay my brother Jacob.' **42** And the words of Esau her elder son were told to Rebekah; and she sent and called Jacob her younger son, and said to him, 'Behold, your brother Esau comforts himself concerning you, purposing to kill you. **43** Now therefore, my son, pay heed to my voice; and arise, flee to Laban my brother in Haran; **44** and tarry with him a few days; until your brother's fury turn away; **45** until your brother's anger turn away from you, and he forgets what you have done to him; then I will send, and fetch you from there; why should I be bereaved of you both in one day?' **46** And Rebekah said to Isaac, 'I am weary of my life because of the daughters of Heth. If Jacob takes a wife

of the daughters of Heth, such as these, of the daughters of the land, what good shall my life be to me?’

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CHAPTER TWENTY-EIGHT

28:1 And Isaac called Jacob, and blessed him, and charged him, and said to him, ‘You shall not take a wife of the daughters of Canaan. **2** Arise, go to Paddan-aram, to the house of Bethuel your mother’s father, and take a wife from there of the daughters of Laban your mother’s brother. **3** And God *El* Almighty bless you, and make you fruitful, and multiply you, that you may be a congregation of peoples; **4** and give you the blessing of Abraham, to you, and to your seed with you; that you may inherit the land of your sojournings, which God gave to Abraham.’ **5** And Isaac sent Jacob away; and he went to Paddan-aram to Laban, son of Bethuel the Aramean, the brother of Rebekah, Jacob’s and Esau’s mother. **6** Now Esau saw that Isaac had blessed Jacob and sent him away to Paddan-aram, to take him a wife from there; and that as he blessed him he gave him a charge, saying, ‘You shall not take a wife of the daughters of Canaan.’ **7** And that Jacob paid heed to his father and his mother, and was gone to Paddan-aram; **8** and Esau saw that the daughters of Canaan did not please Isaac his father; **9** so Esau went to Ishmael, and took, along with the wives that he had, Mahalath the daughter of Ishmael Abraham’s son, the sister of Nebaioth, to be his wife. {s}

28:10-32:2 Annual Vayetze “And he left” *YHVH fulfills His promise to Jacob*

28:10-32:2 YHVH fulfills His promise to Jacob (*Wives + children + flocks*) {p}

28:10-29:30 Triennial Vayetze *God confirms Abraham’s covenant to Jacob*

28:10 And Jacob went out from Beersheba and went toward Haran. **11** And he arrived to a certain place, and tarried there all night, because the sun was set; and he took one of the stones of the place, and put it under his head, and lay down in that place to sleep. **12** And he dreamed, and behold, a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven; and behold, the angels of God ascending and descending on it. **13** And behold, YHVH stood beside him, and said, ‘I am YHVH, the God of Abraham your father, and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie, to you I will give it, and to your seed. **14** And your seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south, and in you and in your seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed. **15** And behold, I am with you, and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back into this land; for I will not leave you until I have done that of which I have spoken to you.’ **16** And Jacob awoke out of his sleep, and said, ‘Surely YHVH is in this place; and I knew it not.’ **17** And he was afraid, and said, ‘How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!’ **18** And Jacob rose up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put under his head, set it up for a pillar, and poured oil on top of it. **19** And he called the name of that place Bethel [*House of God*]; but the name of the city was previously Luz. **20** And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, ‘If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and clothing to put on, so that I come back to my father’s house in peace; then YHVH shall be my God, **22** and this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God’s house, and of all that You shall give me I will surely give the tenth to You.’

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CHAPTER TWENTY-NINE

29:1 Then Jacob went on his journey, and came to the land of the children of the East. **2** And he looked, and behold, a well in the field, and lo, three flocks of sheep lying there by it; for out of that well they watered the flocks; and the stone on the well's mouth was great. **3** And there all the flocks were gathered; and they rolled the stone from the well's mouth, and watered the sheep, and put the stone back on the well's mouth in its place. **4** And Jacob said to them, 'My brothers, where are you from?' And they said, 'We are from Haran.' **5** And he said to them, 'Do you know Laban the son of Nahor?' And they said, 'We know him.' **6** And he said to them, 'Is it well with him?' And they said, 'It is well; and behold, Rachel his daughter comes with the sheep.' **7** And he said, 'Lo, it is yet high day, it is not time for the cattle to be gathered together; water the sheep, and go and feed them.' **8** And they said, 'We cannot, until all the flocks are gathered together, and they roll the stone from the well's mouth; then we water the sheep.' **9** While he was yet speaking with them, Rachel came with her father's sheep, for she tended them. **10** And it came to pass, when Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban his mother's brother, and the sheep of Laban his mother's brother, that Jacob went near, and rolled the stone from the well's mouth, and watered the flock of Laban his mother's brother. **11** And Jacob kissed Rachel, and lifted up his voice, and wept. **12** And Jacob told Rachel that he was her father's brother, and that he was Rebekah's son; and she ran and told her father. **13** And it came to pass, when Laban heard the tidings of Jacob his sister's son, that he ran to meet him; and embraced him, and kissed him, and brought him to his house. And he told Laban all these things. **14** And Laban said to him, 'Surely you are my bone and my flesh.' And he abode with him for a month. **15** And Laban said to Jacob, 'Because you are my brother, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?' **16** Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. **17** And Leah's eyes were weak; but Rachel was of beautiful form and fair to look upon. **18** And Jacob loved Rachel. And he said, 'I will serve you seven years for Rachel your younger daughter.' **19** And Laban said, 'It is better that I give her to you, than that I should give her to another man; abide with me.' **20** And Jacob served seven years for Rachel; and they seemed to him but a few days, for the love he had for her. **21** And Jacob said to Laban, 'Give me my wife, for my days are fulfilled, that I may go in to her.' **22** And Laban gathered together all the men of the place, and made a feast. **23** And it came to pass in the evening, that he took Leah his daughter, and brought her to him; and he went in to her. **24** And Laban gave Zilpah his handmaid to his daughter Leah for a handmaid. **25** And it came to pass in the morning that, behold, it was Leah. And he said to Laban, 'What is this you have done to me? Did not I serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?' **26** And Laban said, 'It is not so done in our place, to give the younger before the firstborn. **27** Fulfill the week of this one, and we will give you the other also for the service which you shall serve with me yet seven other years.' **28** And Jacob did so, and fulfilled her week. And he gave him Rachel his daughter to wife. **29** And Laban gave to Rachel his daughter Bilhah his handmaid to be her handmaid. **30** And he went in also to Rachel, and he loved Rachel more than Leah, and served with him yet seven other years.

29:31-30:21 *Triennial Vayara Yehovah "YHVH saw" God fulfills His promise to Jacob in giving him wives and children*

29:31 And YHVH saw that Leah was hated, and He opened her womb; but Rachel was barren. **32** And Leah conceived, and bore a son; and she called his name Reuben [*Behold a son*]; for she said, 'Because YHVH has looked upon my affliction; for now my husband will love me.' **33** And she conceived again, and bore a son; and said, 'Because YHVH has heard that I am hated, He has therefore given me this son also.' And she called his name Simeon [*Heard*]. **34** And she conceived again, and bore a son; and said, 'Now this time will my husband be joined to me, because I have borne him three sons.' Therefore was his name called Levi [*Attached*]. **35** And she conceived again, and bore a son; and she said, 'This time will I praise YHVH.' Therefore she called his name Judah [*Praise*]; and she left off bearing.

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CHAPTER THIRTY

30:1 And when Rachel saw that she bore Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister; and she said to Jacob, 'Give me children, or else I die.' **2** And Jacob's anger was kindled against Rachel; and he said, 'Am I in God's stead, who has withheld from you the fruit of the womb?' **3** And she said, 'Behold my maid Bilhah, go in to her; that she may bear upon my knees, and I also may be built up through her.' **4** And she gave him Bilhah her handmaid to wife; and Jacob went in to her. **5** And Bilhah conceived, and bore Jacob a son. **6** And Rachel said, 'God has judged me, and has also heard my voice, and has given me a son.' Therefore she called his name Dan [*Judge*]. **7** And Bilhah Rachel's handmaid conceived again, and bore Jacob a second son. **8** And Rachel said, 'With mighty wrestlings have I wrestled with my sister, and have prevailed.' And she called his name Naphtali [*Wrestlings*]. **9** When Leah saw that she had left off bearing, she took Zilpah her handmaid, and gave her to Jacob to wife. **10** And Zilpah Leah's handmaid bore Jacob a son. **11** And Leah said, 'Fortune is come!' And she called his name Gad [*Fortune*]. **12** And Zilpah Leah's handmaid bore Jacob a second son. **13** And Leah said, 'Happy am I! For the daughters will call me happy.' And she called his name Asher [*Happy*]. **14** And Reuben went in the days of wheat harvest, and found mandrakes in the field, and brought them to his mother Leah. Then Rachel said to Leah, 'Give me, I pray you, of your son's mandrakes.' **15** And she said to her, 'Is it a small matter that you have taken away my husband? And would you take away my son's mandrakes also?' And Rachel said, 'Therefore he shall lie with you tonight for your son's mandrakes.' **16** And Jacob came from the field in the evening, and Leah went out to meet him, and said, 'You must come in to me; for I have surely hired you with my son's mandrakes.' And he lay with her that night. **17** And God paid heed to Leah, and she conceived, and bore Jacob a fifth son. **18** And Leah said, 'God has given me my hire, because I gave my handmaid to my husband.' And she called his name Issachar [*Wages*]. **19** And Leah conceived again, and bore a sixth son to Jacob. **20** And Leah said, 'God has endowed me with a good dowry; now will my husband dwell with me, because I have borne him six sons.' And she called his name Zebulun [*Dwelling*]. **21** And afterwards she bore a daughter, and called her name Dinah [*Judgment*].

30:22-31:2 Triennial Vayizchar Elohiym "God remembered" God fulfills His promise to Jacob in giving him wealth

30:22 And God remembered Rachel, and God paid heed to her, and opened her womb. **23** And she conceived, and bore a son, and said, 'God has taken away my reproach.' **24** And she called his name Joseph [*He will add*], saying, 'YHVH add to me another son.' **25** And it

came to pass, when Rachel had borne Joseph, that Jacob said to Laban, 'Send me away, that I may go to my own place, and to my country. 26 Give me my wives and my children for whom I have served you, and let me go, for you know my service with which I have served you.' 27 And Laban said to him, 'If now I have found favor in your eyes, I have observed the signs, and YHVH has blessed me for your sake.' 28 And he said, 'Appoint me your wages, and I will give it.' 29 And he said to him, 'You know how I have served you, and how your livestock have fared with me. 30 For you had little before I came, and you have increased abundantly; and YHVH has blessed you wherever I turned. And now when shall I provide for my own house also?' 31 And he said, 'What shall I give you?' And Jacob said, 'You shall not give me anything; if you will do this thing for me, I will again feed your flock and keep it. 32 I will pass through all your flock today, removing from there every speckled and spotted one, and every dark one among the sheep, and the spotted and speckled among the goats; and of such shall be my wages. 33 So shall my righteousness witness against me hereafter, when you shall come to look over my wages that are before you; every one that is not speckled and spotted among the goats, and dark among the sheep, that if found with me shall be counted stolen.' 34 And Laban said, 'Behold, may it be according to your word.' 35 And he removed that day the male goats that were streaked and spotted, and all the female goats that were speckled and spotted, every one that had white in it, and all the dark ones among the sheep, and gave them into the hand of his sons. 36 And he set three days' journey between himself and Jacob, and Jacob fed the rest of Laban's flocks. 37 And Jacob took rods of fresh poplar, and of the almond and of the plane tree; and peeled white streaks in them, making the white appear which was in the rods. 38 And he set the rods which he had peeled over against the flocks in the gutters in the watering troughs where the flocks came to drink; and they conceived when they came to drink. 39 And the flocks conceived at the sight of the rods, and the flocks brought forth streaked, speckled, and spotted. 40 And Jacob separated the lambs, he also set the faces of the flocks toward the streaked and all the dark in the flock of Laban; and put his own droves apart, and did not put them with Laban's flock. 41 And it came to pass, whenever the stronger of the flock conceived, that Jacob laid the rods before the eyes of the flock in the gutters, that they might conceive among the rods. 42 But when the flock were feeble, he did not put them in, so the feebler were Laban's, and the stronger Jacob's. 43 And the man increased exceedingly, and had large flocks, and maidservants and menservants, and camels and donkeys.

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CHAPTER THIRTY-ONE

31:1 Now Jacob heard the words of Laban's sons, saying, 'Jacob has taken away all that was our father's, and from what was our father's he has acquired all this wealth.' **2** And Jacob saw the countenance of Laban, and indeed it was not favorable toward him as before.

31:3-32:2 **Triennial *Shuv el-eretz* "Return to the land"** *Jacob departed his father-in-law's (pagan) household with the blessings God had given him, to return to the land*

31:3 Then YHVH said to Jacob, 'Return to the land of your fathers and to your family, and I will be with you.' **4** And Jacob sent and called Rachel and Leah to the field to his flock, **5** and said to them, 'I see your father's countenance, that it is not toward me as before; but the God of my father has been with me. **6** And you know that with all my power I have served your father. **7** And your father has mocked me, and changed my wages ten times;

but God suffered him not to hurt me. **8** If he said, "The speckled shall be your wages," then all the flock bore speckled; and if he said, "The streaked shall be your wages," then all the flock bore streaked. **9** Thus God has taken away the livestock of your father, and given them to me. **10** And it came to pass at the time that the flock conceived, that I lifted up my eyes, and saw in a dream, and, behold, the male goats which leaped upon the flock were streaked, speckled, and gray-spotted. **11** And the angel of God said to me in the dream, "Jacob;" and I said, "Here am I." **12** And He said, "Lift up now your eyes, and see, all the male goats which leap upon the flock are streaked, speckled, and gray-spotted; for I have seen all that Laban has done to you. **13** I am the God *El* of Bethel, where you anointed a pillar, where you vowed a vow to Me. Now arise, get out from this land, and return to the land of your birth." **14** And Rachel and Leah answered and said to him, 'Is there yet any portion or inheritance for us in our father's house? **15** Are we not accounted by him strangers? For he has sold us, and has also quite devoured our price. **16** For all the riches which God has taken away from our father, that is ours and our children's; now then, whatever God has said to you, do.' **17** Then Jacob rose up, and set his sons and his wives on the camels; **18** and he carried away all his livestock, and all his substance which he had gathered, the livestock he had gained, which he had gathered in Paddan-aram, to go to Isaac his father to the land of Canaan. **19** Now Laban was gone to shear his sheep. And Rachel stole the household idols that were her father's. **20** And Jacob outwitted Laban the Aramean, in that he told him not that he fled. **21** So he fled with all that he had; and he rose up, and passed over the River, and set his face toward the mountain of Gilead. **22** And it was told Laban on the third day that Jacob had fled. **23** And he took his brothers with him, and pursued after him seven days' journey, and he overtook him in the mountain of Gilead. **24** And God came to Laban the Aramean in a dream of the night, and said to him, "Take heed to yourself that you do not speak to Jacob either good or bad.' **25** And Laban came up with Jacob. Now Jacob had pitched his tent in the mountain, and Laban with his brothers pitched in the mountain of Gilead. **26** And Laban said to Jacob, 'What have you done, that you have outwitted me, and carried away my daughters as though captives taken with the sword? **27** Why did you flee secretly, and outwit me, and not tell me, that I might have sent you away with mirth and with songs, with timbrel and with harp? **28** And you did not allow me to kiss my sons and my daughters? Now you have done foolishly. **29** It is in the power of my hand to do you harm; but the God of your father spoke to me last night, saying, "Take heed to yourself that you speak to Jacob neither good nor bad." **30** And now you are surely gone, because you greatly long for your father's house, but why have you stolen my gods?' **31** And Jacob answered and said to Laban, 'Because I was afraid, for I said, "Perhaps you would take your daughters from me by force." **32** With whomever you find your gods, he shall not live; in the presence of our brothers, discern what I have of yours, and take it with you." For Jacob did not know that Rachel had stolen them. **33** And Laban went into Jacob's tent, and into Leah's tent, and into the tent of the two maidservants; but he did not find them. And he went out of Leah's tent, and entered into Rachel's tent. **34** Now Rachel had taken the household idols, put them in the camel's saddle, and sat on them. And Laban searched about all the tent, but did not find them. **35** And she said to her father, 'Let not my lord be angry that I cannot rise up before you, for the manner of women is upon me.' And he searched, but did not find the household idols. **36** And Jacob was angry and rebuked Laban; and Jacob answered and said to Laban, 'What is my trespass? What is my sin, that you have

so hotly pursued after me? **37** Although you have searched all my things, what have you found of your household things? Set it here before my brothers and your brothers, that they may judge between us both. **38** These twenty years I have been with you; your ewes and your female goats have not miscarried their young, and I have not eaten the rams of your flock. **39** That which was torn of beasts I did not bring to you; I bore the loss of it; of my hand you required it, whether stolen by day or stolen by night. **40** Thus I was: in the day the drought consumed me, and the frost by night, and my sleep fled from my eyes. **41** These twenty years I have been in your house; I served you fourteen years for your two daughters, and six years for your flock; and you have changed my wages ten times. **42** Unless the God of my father, the God of Abraham, and the Fear of Isaac, had been on my side, surely now you would have sent me away empty. God has seen my affliction and the labor of my hands, and rebuked you last night.’ **43** And Laban answered and said to Jacob, ‘The daughters are my daughters, and the children are my children, and the flocks are my flocks; and all that you see is mine. And what can I do this day to these my daughters, or to their children whom they have borne? **44** And now come, let us make a covenant, you and I; and let it be for a witness between you and me.’ **45** And Jacob took a stone, and set it up as a pillar. **46** And Jacob said to his brothers, ‘Gather stones.’ And they took stones, and made a heap, and they ate there by the heap. **47** And Laban called it Jegar Sahadutha, [*Aramaic for Witness Heap*] but Jacob called it Galeed [*Hebrew for Witness Heap*]. **48** And Laban said, ‘This heap is a witness between you and me this day.’ Therefore its name was called Galeed, **49** and Mizpah [*Watchtower*], for he said, ‘May YHVH watch between you and me, when we are absent one from another. **50** If you shall afflict my daughters, and if you shall take wives besides my daughters, although no man is with us, see, God is witness between you and me.’ **51** And Laban said to Jacob, ‘Behold this heap, and behold the pillar, which I have set up between you and me. **52** This heap is a witness, and the pillar is a witness, that I will not pass beyond this heap to you, and that you shall not pass beyond this heap and this pillar to me, for harm. **53** The God of Abraham, and the God of Nahor, the God of their father, judge between us.’ And Jacob swore by the Fear of his father Isaac. **54** And Jacob offered a sacrifice on the mountain, and called his brothers to eat bread; and they ate bread, and tarried all night on the mountain. **55** And early in the morning Laban rose up, and kissed his sons and his daughters, and blessed them. And Laban departed and returned to his place.

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CHAPTER THIRTY-TWO

32:1 And Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him. **2** And Jacob said when he saw them: ‘This is God’s camp.’ And he called the name of that place Mahanaim [*Double camp*]. {p}

32:3-36:43 Annual Vayishlach, “And he sent” *Life of Jacob repeats events from the lives of Abraham and Isaac: faith tested, covenant confirmed*

32:3-34:31 Jacob’s faith in the promise tested (*Esau + Shechem*) {s+s+p}

32:3-33:17 Triennial Vayishlach *Jacob renamed Israel, “Upright of El”*

32:3-33:17 Jacob renamed Israel, “Upright of El” {s}

32:3 And Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau his brother to the land of Seir, the field of Edom. **4** And he commanded them, saying, ‘Thus shall you say to my lord Esau: “Thus

says your servant Jacob: 'I have sojourned with Laban, and stayed until now. 5 And I have oxen, and donkeys and flocks, and menservants and maidservants; and I have sent to tell my lord, that I may find favor in your sight.'” 6 And the messengers returned to Jacob, saying, 'We came to your brother Esau, and moreover he is coming to meet you, and four hundred men with him.' 7 Then Jacob was greatly afraid and was distressed. And he divided the people that were with him, and the flocks, and the herds, and the camels, into two camps. 8 And he said, 'If Esau comes to the one camp, and strikes it, then the camp which is left shall escape.' 9 And Jacob said, 'O God of my father Abraham, and God of my father Isaac, O YHVH, who said to me, "Return to your country, and to your kindred, and I will do you good;" 10 I am not worthy of all the mercies, and of all the truth, which You have shown to Your servant; for with my staff I passed over this Jordan; and now I am become two camps. 11 Deliver me, I pray You, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau; for I fear him, lest he come and strike me, the mother with the children. 12 And You said: "I will surely do you good, and make your seed as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude." 13 And he lodged there that night; and took of that which he had with him a present for Esau his brother; 14 two hundred female goats and twenty male goats, two hundred ewes and twenty rams, 15 thirty milk camels and their colts, forty cows and ten bulls, twenty female donkeys and ten foals. 16 And he delivered them into the hand of his servants, every drove by itself; and said to his servants, 'Pass over before me, and put a space between drove and drove.' 17 And he commanded the foremost, saying, 'When Esau my brother meets you, and asks you, saying, "Whose are you, and where do you go, and whose are these before you?" 18 then you shall say, "They are your servant Jacob's; it is a present sent to my lord, even to Esau; and, behold, he also is behind us." 19 And he commanded also the second, and the third, and all that followed the droves, saying, 'In this manner shall you speak to Esau, when you find him. 20 And you shall say, "Moreover, behold, your servant Jacob is behind us." For he said, "I will appease him with the present that goes before me, and afterward I will see his face; perhaps he will accept me.' 21 So the present passed over before him, and he himself lodged that night in the camp. 22 And he rose up that night, and took his two wives, and his two handmaids, and his eleven children, and passed over the ford of the Jabbok. 23 And he took them, and sent them over the stream, and sent over that which he had. 24 And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a Man with him until the breaking of the day. 25 And when He saw that He prevailed not against him, He touched the hollow of his thigh, and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was strained, as he wrestled with Him. 26 And He said, 'Let me go, for the day breaks.' And he said, 'I will not let you go, unless you bless me.' 27 And He said to him, 'What is your name?' And he said, 'Jacob.' 28 And He said, 'Your name shall be no more called Jacob, but Israel [*Upright of God*]; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed.' 29 And Jacob asked Him, and said, 'Tell me, I pray You, Your name.' And He said, 'Why is it that you ask after My name?' And He blessed him there. 30 And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel [*Face of God*]'—'For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.' 31 And the sun rose upon him as he passed over Peniel, and he limped on his thigh. 32 Therefore the children of Israel do not eat the muscle that shrank which is on the hollow of the thigh, to this day; because He touched the hollow of Jacob's thigh, even in the muscle that shrank.

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CHAPTER THIRTY-THREE

33:1 And Jacob lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, Esau came, and with him four hundred men. And he divided the children to Leah, and to Rachel, and to the two handmaids. **2** And he put the handmaids and their children foremost, and Leah and her children after, and Rachel and Joseph last. **3** And he himself passed over before them, and bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother. **4** And Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck, and kissed him; and they wept. **5** And he lifted up his eyes, and saw the women and the children, and said, 'Who are these with you?' And he said, 'The children whom God has graciously given your servant.' **6** Then the handmaids came near, they and their children, and they bowed down. **7** And Leah also and her children came near, and bowed down; and after came Joseph near and Rachel, and they bowed down. **8** And he said, 'What do you mean by all this camp which I met?' And he said, 'To find favor in the sight of my lord.' **9** And Esau said, 'I have enough, my brother, let that which you have be yours.' **10** And Jacob said, 'No, I pray you, if now I have found favor in your sight, then receive my present at my hand; inasmuch as I have seen your face, as one sees the face of God, and you were pleased with me. **11** Take, I pray you, my gift that is brought to you; because God has dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough.' And he urged him, and he took it. **12** And he said, 'Let us take our journey, and let us go, and I will go before you.' **13** And he said to him, 'My lord knows that the children are tender, and that the flocks and herds which are nursing are a care to me; and if they overdrive them one day, all the flocks will die. **14** Let my lord, I pray you, pass over before his servant; and I will journey on gently, according to the pace of the livestock that are before me and according to the pace of the children, until I come to my lord to Seir.' **15** And Esau said, 'Let me now leave with you some of the people that are with me.' And he said, 'What need is there? Let me find favor in the sight of my lord.' **16** So Esau returned that day on his way to Seir. **17** And Jacob journeyed to Succoth, and built him a house, and made booths for his cattle. Therefore the name of the place is called Succoth. {s}

33:18-35:8 Triennial Vayavo "And he arrived" *Defilement with Canaanites; repentance and return to God*

33:18-20 Jacob acquires property in Canaan / altar of God {s}

33:18 And Jacob came in peace to the city of Shechem, ⁵ which is in the land of Canaan, when he came from Paddan-aram; and encamped before the city. **19** And he bought the parcel of ground, where he had spread his tent, from the hand of the children of Hamor, Shechem's father, for a hundred pieces of money. **20** And he erected there an altar, and called it El-elohe-Israel [*El is Israel's God*]. {s}

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CHAPTER THIRTY-FOUR

34:1-31 Defilement with Canaanites / killing and plunder / rebuke {p}

34:1 And Dinah the daughter of Leah, whom she had borne to Jacob, went out to see the daughters of the land. **2** And Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, the prince of the land, saw her; and he took her, and lay with her, and humbled her. **3** And his soul cleaved to Dinah the daughter of Jacob, and he loved the damsel, and spoke comfortingly to the damsel. **4** And Shechem spoke to his father Hamor, saying, 'Get me this damsel to wife.' **5** Now Jacob heard that he had defiled Dinah his daughter; and his sons were with his cattle in the

field, and Jacob held his peace until they came. **6** And Hamor the father of Shechem went out to Jacob to speak with him. **7** And the sons of Jacob came in from the field when they heard it; and the men were grieved, and they were very angry, because he had done a vile deed in Israel in lying with Jacob's daughter; which thing ought not to be done. **8** And Hamor spoke with them, saying, 'The soul of my son Shechem longs for your daughter. I pray you give her to him to wife. **9** And make marriages with us, give your daughters to us, and take our daughters to you, **10** and you shall dwell with us; and the land shall be before you; dwell and trade in it, and get possessions in it.' **11** And Shechem said to her father and to her brothers, 'Let me find favor in your eyes, and what you shall say to me I will give. **12** Ask me ever so much dowry and gift, and I will give according as you shall say to me; but give me the damsel to wife.' **13** And the sons of Jacob answered Shechem and Hamor his father deceitfully, and spoke, because he had defiled Dinah their sister, **14** and said to them, 'We cannot do this thing, to give our sister to one that is uncircumcised, for that would be a reproach to us; **15** only on this condition we will consent to you: if you will become as we are, that every male of you become circumcised, **16** then we will give our daughters to you, and we will take your daughters to us, and we will dwell with you, and we will become one people. **17** But if you will not listen to us, to be circumcised, then will we take our daughter, and we will be gone.' **18** And their words pleased Hamor, and Shechem Hamor's son. **19** And the young man delayed not to do the thing, because he had delight in Jacob's daughter. And he was honored above all the house of his father. **20** And Hamor and Shechem his son came to the gate of their city, and spoke with the men of their city, saying, **21** 'These men are peaceable with us; therefore let them dwell in the land, and trade in it; for, behold, the land is large enough for them; let us take their daughters to us for wives, and let us give them our daughters. **22** Only on this condition will the men consent to us to dwell with us, to become one people, if every male among us becomes circumcised, as they are circumcised. **23** Shall not their cattle and their substance and all their beasts be ours? Only let us consent to them, and they will dwell with us.' **24** And to Hamor and to Shechem his son, all that went out of the gate of his city, listened; and every male was circumcised, all that went out of the gate of his city. **25** And it came to pass on the third day, when they were in pain, that two of the sons of Jacob, Simeon and Levi, Dinah's brothers, took each man his sword, and came upon the city unaware, and slew all the males. **26** And they slew Hamor and Shechem his son with the edge of the sword, and took Dinah out of Shechem's house, and went forth. **27** The sons of Jacob came upon the slain, and spoiled the city; because they had defiled their sister. **28** They took their flocks and their herds and their donkeys, and that which was in the city and that which was in the field, **29** and all their wealth, and all their little ones and their wives, they took captive and spoiled, even all that was in the house. **30** And Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, 'You have troubled me, to make me odious to the inhabitants of the land, even to the Canaanites and the Perizzites; and, I being few in number, they will gather themselves together against me and strike me, and I shall be destroyed, I and my house.' **31** And they said, 'Should one treat our sister as a harlot?' {p}

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CHAPTER THIRTY-FIVE

35:1-29 Repentance, return, and renewal of the covenant defines the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob {px3}

35:1-8 Repentance and return to the house of God (Bethel) {p}

35:1 And God said to Jacob, ‘Arise, go up to Bethel, and dwell there; and make there an altar to God *El*; who appeared to you when you fled from the face of Esau your brother.’ **2** Then Jacob said to his household, and to all that were with him, ‘Put away the strange gods that are among you, and purify yourselves, and change your garments; **3** and let us arise, and go up to Bethel; and I will make there an altar to God *El*, who answered me in the day of my distress, and was with me in the way which I went.’ **4** And they gave to Jacob all the foreign gods which were in their hand, and the rings which were in their ears; and Jacob hid them under the terebinth which was by Shechem. **5** And they journeyed; and a terror of God was on the cities that were round about them, and they did not pursue after the sons of Jacob. **6** So Jacob came to Luz, which is in the land of Canaan—the same is Bethel—he and all the people that were with him. **7** And he built there an altar, and called the place El-bethel [*God of the house of God*], because there God was revealed to him when he fled from the face of his brother. **8** And Deborah Rebekah’s nurse died, and she was buried below Bethel under the oak; and the name of it was called Allon-bacuth. {p}

35:9-36:43 Triennial Vayrah Elohiym el “And God appeared” God’s covenant with Abraham and Isaac passes to Jacob (Israel) and his seed, not to Esau and his seed

35:9-22 Renewal of the covenant {p}

35:9 And GOD appeared to Jacob again, when he came from Paddan-aram, and blessed him. **10** And God said to him, ‘Your name is Jacob: your name shall not be called any more Jacob, but Israel shall be your name;’ and He called his name Israel. **11** And God said to him, ‘I am God *El* Almighty. Be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall come of you, and kings shall come out of your loins, **12** and the land which I gave to Abraham and Isaac, to you I will give it, and to your seed after you will I give the land.’ **13** And God went up from him in the place where He spoke with him. **14** And Jacob set up a pillar in the place where He spoke with him, a pillar of stone, and he poured out a drink offering on it, and poured oil on it. **15** And Jacob called the name of the place where God spoke with him, Bethel. **16** And they journeyed from Bethel, and there was still some way to come to Ephrath; and Rachel travailed, and she had hard labor. **17** And it came to pass, when she was in hard labor, that the midwife said to her, ‘Fear not; for this also is a son for you.’ **18** And it came to pass, as her soul was departing—for she died—that she called his name Ben-oni [*Son of my sorrow*], but his father called him Benjamin [*Son of the right hand*]. **19** And Rachel died, and was buried in the way to Ephrath—the same is Bethlehem. **20** And Jacob set up a pillar on her grave; the same is the pillar of Rachel’s grave to this day. **21** And Israel journeyed, and spread his tent beyond Migdal-eder. **22a** And it came to pass, while Israel dwelt in that land, that Reuben went and lay with Bilhah his father’s concubine; and Israel heard of it. {p}

35:22b-29 The seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob {p}

35:22b Now the sons of Jacob were twelve; **23** the sons of Leah: Reuben, Jacob’s first-born, and Simeon, and Levi, and Judah, and Issachar, and Zebulun; **24** the sons of Rachel: Joseph and Benjamin; **25** and the sons of Bilhah, Rachel’s handmaid: Dan and Naphtali; **26** and the sons of Zilpah, Leah’s handmaid: Gad and Asher. These are the sons of Jacob, that were born to him in Paddan-aram. **27** And Jacob came to Isaac his father to Mamre, to Kiriatharba—the same is Hebron—where Abraham and Isaac sojourned. **28** And the days of Isaac

were a hundred and eighty years. **29** And Isaac expired, and died, and was gathered to his people, old and full of days; and Esau and Jacob his sons buried him. {p}

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CHAPTER THIRTY-SIX

36:1-30 The seed of Esau and Seir {s+p}

36:1-19 The seed of Esau {s}

36:1 Now these are the generations of Esau—the same is Edom. **2** Esau took his wives of the daughters of Canaan; Adah the daughter of Elon the Hittite, and Oholibamah the daughter of Anah, the daughter of Zibeon the Hivite, **3** and Basemath Ishmael’s daughter, sister of Nebaioth. **4** And Adah bore to Esau Eliphaz; and Basemath bore Reuel; **5** and Oholibamah bore Jeush, and Jalam, and Korah; these are the sons of Esau, that were born to him in the land of Canaan. **6** And Esau took his wives, and his sons, and his daughters, and all the souls of his house, and his cattle, and all his beasts, and all his possessions, which he had gathered in the land of Canaan; and went into a land away from his brother Jacob. **7** For their substance was too great for them to dwell together, and the land of their sojournings could not bear them because of their cattle. **8** And Esau dwelt in the mountain land of Seir—Esau is Edom. **9** And these are the generations of Esau the father of the Edomites in the mountain land of Seir; **10** these are the names of Esau’s sons: Eliphaz the son of Adah the wife of Esau, Reuel the son of Basemath the wife of Esau. **11** And the sons of Eliphaz were Teman, Omar, Zepho, and Gatam, and Kenaz. **12** And Timna was concubine to Eliphaz Esau’s son; and she bore to Eliphaz Amalek. These are the sons of Adah Esau’s wife. **13** And these are the sons of Reuel: Nahath, and Zerah, Shammah, and Mizzah. These were the sons of Basemath Esau’s wife. **14** And these were the sons of Oholibamah the daughter of Anah, the daughter of Zibeon, Esau’s wife; and she bore to Esau Jeush, and Jalam, and Korah. **15** These are the chiefs of the sons of Esau: the sons of Eliphaz the firstborn of Esau: the chief of Teman, the chief of Omar, the chief of Zepho, the chief of Kenaz, **16** the chief of Korah, the chief of Gatam, the chief of Amalek. These are the chiefs that came of Eliphaz in the land of Edom. These are the sons of Adah. **17** And these are the sons of Reuel Esau’s son: the chief of Nahath, the chief of Zerah, the chief of Shammah, the chief of Mizzah. These are the chiefs that came of Reuel in the land of Edom. These are the sons of Basemath Esau’s wife. **18** And these are the sons of Oholibamah Esau’s wife: the chief of Jeush, the chief of Jalam, the chief of Korah. These are the chiefs that came of Oholibamah the daughter of Anah, Esau’s wife. **19** These are the sons of Esau, and these are their chiefs, the same is Edom. {s}

36:20-30 The seed of Seir {p}

36:20 These are the sons of Seir the Horite, the inhabitants of the land: Lotan and Shobal and Zibeon and Anah, **21** and Dishon and Ezer and Dishan; these are the chiefs that came of the Horites, the children of Seir in the land of Edom. **22** And the children of Lotan were Hori and Hemam; and Lotan’s sister was Timna. **23** And these are the children of Shobal: Alvan and Manahath and Ebal, Shepho and Onam. **24** And these are the children of Zibeon: Aiah and Anah. This is Anah who found the hot springs in the wilderness, as he fed the donkeys of Zibeon his father. **25** And these are the children of Anah: Dishon and Oholibamah the daughter of Anah. **26** And these are the children of Dishon: Hemdan and

Eshban and Ithran and Cheran. **27** These are the children of Ezer: Bilhan and Zaavan and Akan. **28** These are the children of Dishan: Uz and Aran. **29** These are the chiefs that came of the Horites: the chief of Lotan, the chief of Shobal, the chief of Zibeon, the chief of Anah, **30** the chief of Dishon, the chief of Ezer, the chief of Dishan. These are the chiefs that came of the Horites, according to their chiefs in the land of Seir. {p}

36:31-37:36 The seed of Edom and Jacob {p+p}

36:31-43 The kings of Edom {p}

36:31 And these are the kings that reigned in the land of Edom, before there reigned any king over the children of Israel. **32** And Bela the son of Beor reigned in Edom; and the name of his city was Dinhabah. **33** And Bela died, and Jobab the son of Zerah of Bozrah reigned in his stead. **34** And Jobab died, and Husham of the land of the Temanites reigned in his stead. **35** And Husham died, and Hadad the son of Bedad, who smote Midian in the field of Moab, reigned in his stead. And the name of his city was Avith. **36** And Hadad died, and Samlah of Masrekah reigned in his stead. **37** And Samlah died, and Shaul of Rehoboth by the River reigned in his stead. **38** And Shaul died, and Baal-hanan the son of Achbor reigned in his stead. **39** And Baal-hanan the son of Achbor died, and Hadar reigned in his stead; and the name of the city was Pau; and his wife's name was Mehetabel, the daughter of Matred, the daughter of Mezahab. **40** And these are the names of the chiefs that came of Esau, according to their families, after their places, by their names; the chief of Timna, the chief of Alvah, the chief of Jetheth, **41** the chief of Oholibamah, the chief of Elah, the chief of Pinon, **42** the chief of Kenaz, the chief of Teman, the chief of Mibzar, **43** the chief of Magdiel, the chief of Iram. These are the chiefs of Edom, according to their habitations in the land of their possession. This is Esau the father of the Edomites. {p}

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CHAPTER THIRTY-SEVEN

37:1-40:23 Annual Vayeshev “**And he dwelt**” *The seed of Jacob, Judah and Joseph, departed from their brothers among the pagans*

37:1-36 Triennial Vayeshev *Joseph's advancement and enslavement*

37:1-36 Joseph's advancement and enslavement {p}

37:1 And Jacob dwelt in the land of his father's sojournings, in the land of Canaan. **2** These are the generations of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brothers, being still a lad, even with the sons of Bilhah, and with the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought an evil report of them to their father. **3** Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he made him a coat of many colors. **4** And when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him. **5** And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it to his brothers, and they hated him all the more. **6** And he said to them, ‘Hear, I pray you, this dream which I have dreamed; **7** for, behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright; and, behold, your sheaves came round about, and bowed down to my sheaf.’ **8** And his brothers said to him, ‘Shall you indeed reign over us? Or shall you indeed have dominion over us?’ And they hated him all the more for his dreams, and for his words. **9** And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it to his brothers, and said, ‘Behold, I have dreamed yet another dream;

and, behold, the sun and the moon and eleven stars bowed down to me.’ **10** And he told it to his father, and to his brothers; and his father rebuked him, and said to him, ‘What is this dream that you have dreamed? Shall I and your mother and your brothers indeed come to bow down to you to the earth?’ **11** And his brothers envied him, but his father kept the saying in mind. **12** And his brothers went to feed their father’s flock in Shechem. **13** And Israel said to Joseph, ‘Do not your brothers feed the flock in Shechem? Come, and I will send you to them.’ And he said to him, ‘Here I am.’ **14** And he said to him, ‘Go now, see whether it is well with your brothers, and well with the flock, and bring me back word.’ So he sent him out of the valley of Hebron, and he came to Shechem. **15** And a certain man found him, and, behold, he was wandering in the field; and the man asked him, saying, ‘What do you seek?’ **16** And he said, ‘I seek my brothers. Tell me, I pray you, where they are feeding the flock.’ **17** And the man said, ‘They are departed from here; for I heard them say, “Let us go to Dothan.”’ And Joseph went after his brothers, and found them in Dothan. **18** And they saw him afar off, and before he came near to them, they conspired against him to slay him. **19** And they said one to another, ‘Behold, this dreamer comes. **20** Come now therefore, and let us slay him, and cast him into one of the pits, and we will say, “An evil beast has devoured him;” and we shall see what will become of his dreams.’ **21** And Reuben heard it, and delivered him out of their hand, and said, ‘Let us not take his life.’ **22** And Reuben said to them, ‘Shed no blood, cast him into this pit that is in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him;’ that he might deliver him out of their hand, to restore him to his father. **23** And it came to pass, when Joseph had come to his brothers, that they stripped Joseph of his coat, the coat of many colors that was on him; **24** and they took him, and cast him into the pit—and the pit was empty, there was no water in it. **25** And they sat down to eat bread. And they lifted up their eyes and looked, and, behold, a caravan of Ishmaelites came from Gilead, with their camels bearing spices and balm and ladanum, going to carry it down to Egypt. **26** And Judah said to his brothers, ‘What profit is it if we slay our brother and conceal his blood? **27** Come, and let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be on him; for he is our brother, our flesh.’ And his brothers heeded him. **28** And there passed by Midianites, merchantmen; and they drew and lifted Joseph up out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver; and they brought Joseph into Egypt. **29** And Reuben returned to the pit, and, behold, Joseph was not in the pit; and he rent his clothes. **30** And he returned to his brothers, and said, ‘The child is not; and as for me, where shall I go?’ **31** And they took Joseph’s coat, and killed a male goat, and dipped the coat in the blood. **32** And they sent the coat of many colors, and they brought it to their father; and said, ‘We have found this; do you know now whether it is your son’s coat or not?’ **33** And he knew it, and said, ‘It is my son’s coat; an evil beast has devoured him; Joseph is without doubt torn in pieces.’ **34** And Jacob rent his garments, and put sackcloth on his loins, and mourned for his son many days. **35** And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted; and he said, ‘No, but I will go down to the grave to my son mourning.’ And his father wept for him. **36** And the Midianites sold him into Egypt to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh’s, the captain of the guard. {p}

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CHAPTER THIRTY-EIGHT

38:1-39:23 Judah and Joseph departed from their brothers among the pagans {s+p}

38:1-30 Triennial Vayered Yehudah “And Judah departed” *Judah departed from his brothers among the Canaanites*

38:1-30 Judah departed from his brothers among Canaanites {s}

38:1 And it came to pass at that time, that Judah went down from his brothers, and turned in to a certain Adullamite, whose name was Hirah. **2** And Judah saw there a daughter of a certain Canaanite whose name was Shua; and he took her, and went in to her. **3** And she conceived, and bore a son; and he called his name Er. **4** And she conceived again, and bore a son; and she called his name Onan. **5** And she yet again bore a son, and called his name Shelah; and he was at Chezib, when she bore him. **6** And Judah took a wife for Er his firstborn, and her name was Tamar. **7** And Er, Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the sight of YHVH; and YHVH slew him. **8** And Judah said to Onan, 'Go in to your brother's wife, and perform the duty of a husband's brother to her, and raise up seed to your brother.' **9** And Onan knew that the seed would not be his; and it came to pass when he went in to his brother's wife, that he spilled it on the ground, lest he should give seed to his brother. **10** And the thing which he did was evil in the sight of YHVH; and He slew him also. **11** Then Judah said to Tamar his daughter-in-law, 'Remain a widow in your father's house, till Shelah my son is grown up;' for he said, 'Lest he also die, like his brothers.' And Tamar went and dwelt in her father's house. **12** And in process of time Shua's daughter, the wife of Judah, died; and Judah was comforted, and went up to his sheep-shearers to Timnah, he and his friend Hirah the Adullamite. **13** And it was told Tamar, saying, 'Behold, your father-in-law goes up to Timnah to shear his sheep.' **14** And she put off from her the garments of her widowhood, and covered herself with her veil, and wrapped herself, and sat in the entrance of Enaim, which is by the way to Timnah; for she saw that Shelah was grown up, and she was not given to him to wife. **15** When Judah saw her, he thought her to be a harlot, for she had covered her face. **16** And he turned to her by the way, and said, 'Come, I pray you, let me come in to you;' for he knew not that she was his daughter-in-law. And she said, 'What will you give me, that you may come in to me?' **17** And he said, 'I will send you a kid of the goats from the flock.' And she said, 'Will you give me a pledge, till you send it?' **18** And he said, 'What pledge shall I give you?' And she said, 'Your signet and your cord, and your staff that is in your hand.' And he gave them to her. And he came in to her, and she conceived by him. **19** And she arose, and went away, and put off her veil from her, and put on the garments of her widowhood. **20** And Judah sent the kid of the goats by the hand of his friend the Adullamite, to receive the pledge from the woman's hand; but he found her not. **21** Then he asked the men of her place, saying, 'Where is the harlot, that was at Enaim by the wayside?' And they said, 'There has been no harlot here.' **22** And he returned to Judah, and said, 'I have not found her; and also the men of the place said, "There has been no harlot here."' **23** And Judah said, 'Let her take it, lest we be put to shame; behold, I sent this kid, and you have not found her.' **24** And it came to pass about three months after, that it was told Judah, saying, 'Tamar your daughter-in-law has played the harlot; and moreover, behold, she is with child by harlotry.' And Judah said, 'Bring her forth, and let her be burnt.' **25** When she was brought forth she sent to her father-in-law, saying, 'By the man whose these are, I am with child;' and she said, 'Discern, I pray you, whose these are, the signet, and the cords, and the staff.' **26** And Judah acknowledged them, and said, 'She is more righteous than I, since I did not give her to Shelah my son.' And he knew her again no more. **27** And it came to pass in the time of her travail, that, behold, twins were in her

womb. **28** And it came to pass, when she travailed, that one put out a hand, and the midwife took and bound on his hand a scarlet thread, saying, 'This came out first.' **29** And it came to pass, as he drew back his hand, that, behold his brother came out. And she said, 'How have you made a breach for yourself?' Therefore his name was called Perez. **30** And afterward his brother came out, that had the scarlet thread on his hand; and his name was called Zerah. {s}

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CHAPTER THIRTY-NINE

39:1-23 Triennial Vayosheph "Now Joseph" *Joseph departed from his brothers among the Egyptians*

39:1-23 Joseph departed from his brothers among Egyptians {p}

39:1 And Joseph was brought down to Egypt. And Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh's, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him of the hand of the Ishmaelites, that had brought him down there. **2** And YHVH was with Joseph, and he was a successful man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian. **3** And his master saw that YHVH was with him, and that YHVH made all that he did to prosper in his hand. **4** And Joseph found favor in his sight, and ministered to him. And his master appointed him overseer over his house, and all that he had, he put into his hand. **5** And it came to pass from the time that he appointed him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, that YHVH blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of YHVH was on all that he had, in the house and in the field. **6** And he left all that he had in Joseph's hand; and, having him, he knew nothing save the bread which he ate. And Joseph was of beautiful form, and fair to look upon. **7** And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph; and she said, 'Lie with me.' **8** But he refused, and said to his master's wife, 'Behold, my master, having me, knows nothing that is in the house, and he has put all that he has into my hand. **9** He is not greater in this house than I; neither has he kept back anything from me but you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?' **10** And it came to pass, as she spoke to Joseph day by day, that he did not listen to her, to lie with her, or to be with her. **11** And it came to pass on a certain day, when he went into the house to do his work, and there were none of the men of the house there within it, **12** that she caught him by his garment, saying, 'Lie with me.' And he left his garment in her hand, and fled outside. **13** And it came to pass, when she saw that he had left his garment in her hand, and had fled, **14** that she called to the men of her house, and spoke to them, saying, 'See, he has brought in a Hebrew to us to mock us; he came in to me to lie with me, and I cried with a loud voice. **15** And it came to pass, when he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment by me, and fled outside.' **16** And she kept his garment by her, until his master came home. **17** And she spoke to him according to these words, saying, 'The Hebrew servant, whom you have brought to us, came in to me to mock me. **18** And it came to pass, as I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment by me, and fled outside.' **19** And it came to pass, when his master heard the words of his wife which she spoke to him, saying, 'After this manner did your servant do to me;' that his wrath was kindled. **20** And Joseph's master took him, and put him in the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were bound; and he was there in the prison. **21** But YHVH was with Joseph, and showed kindness to him, and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of

the prison. **22** And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph's hand all the prisoners that were in the prison; and whatever they did there, it was his doing. **23** The keeper of the prison did not look into anything that was under Joseph's hand, because YHVH was with him; and that which he did, YHVH made it to prosper. {p}

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CHAPTER FORTY

40:1-23 Triennial Chateu "They offended" Joseph in prison

40:1-23 Joseph in prison {p}

40:1 And it came to pass after these things, that the butler of the king of Egypt and his baker offended their lord the king of Egypt. **2** And Pharaoh was angry with his two officers, with the chief of the butlers, and with the chief of the bakers. **3** And he put them under guard in the house of the captain of the guard, into the prison, the place where Joseph was bound. **4** And the captain of the guard charged Joseph to be with them, and he ministered to them, and they continued a season in the prison. **5** And they dreamed a dream both of them, each man his dream, in one night, each man according to the interpretation of his dream, the butler and the baker of the king of Egypt, who were bound in the prison. **6** And Joseph came in to them in the morning, and saw them, and, behold, they were sad. **7** And he asked Pharaoh's officers that were with him in the prison of his master's house, saying, 'Why do you look so sad today?' **8** And they said to him, 'We have dreamed a dream, and there is none that can interpret it.' And Joseph said to them, 'Do not interpretations belong to God? Tell it to me, I pray you.' **9** And the chief butler told his dream to Joseph, and said to him, 'In my dream, behold, a vine was before me; **10** and in the vine were three branches; and as it was budding, its blossoms shot forth, and its clusters brought forth ripe grapes, **11** and Pharaoh's cup was in my hand. And I took the grapes, and pressed them into Pharaoh's cup, and I gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand.' **12** And Joseph said to him, 'This is the interpretation of it: the three branches are three days; **13** within yet three days shall Pharaoh lift up your head, and restore you to your office; and you shall give Pharaoh's cup into his hand, after the former manner when you were his butler. **14** But keep me in your remembrance when it shall be well with you, and show kindness, I pray you, to me, and make mention of me to Pharaoh, and bring me out of this house; **15** for indeed I was stolen away out of the land of the Hebrews; and here also have I done nothing that they should put me into the prison.' **16** When the chief baker saw that the interpretation was good, he said to Joseph, 'I also saw in my dream, and, behold, three baskets of white bread were on my head; **17** and in the uppermost basket there was of all manner of baked food for Pharaoh, and the birds did eat them out of the basket on my head.' **18** And Joseph answered and said, 'This is the interpretation of it: the three baskets are three days; **19** within yet three days shall Pharaoh lift up your head from off of you, and shall hang you on a tree; and the birds shall eat your flesh from off of you.' **20** And it came to pass on the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, that he made a feast for all his servants; and he lifted up the head of the chief butler and the head of the chief baker among his servants. **21** And he restored the chief butler back to his butlership; and he gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand. **22** But he hanged the chief baker, as Joseph had interpreted to them. **23** Yet the chief butler did not remember Joseph, but forgot him. {p}

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CHAPTER FORTY-ONE

41:1-47:31 Joseph raised to overseer to provide for his father and brothers {sx3+p}

41:1-44:17 Annual *Miketz* “At the end” *Joseph the overseer*

41:1-44:17 Joseph the overseer {s}

41:1-37 Triennial *Miketz* *God raised Joseph from prison, and brought him, his gift before the king*

41:1 And it came to pass at the end of two full years, that Pharaoh dreamed; and, behold, he stood by the river. **2** And, behold, there came up out of the river seven well-favored cattle and fat-fleshed; and they fed in a meadow. **3** And, behold, seven other cattle came up after them out of the river, ill-favored and lean-fleshed; and stood by the other cattle on the bank of the river. **4** And the ill-favored and lean-fleshed cattle ate up the seven well-favored and fat cattle. So Pharaoh awoke. **5** And he slept and dreamed the second time; and, behold, seven ears of corn came up on one stalk, plump and good. **6** And, behold, seven thin ears and blasted with the east wind sprung up after them. **7** And the seven thin ears devoured the seven good and full ears. And Pharaoh awoke, and, behold, it was a dream. **8** And it came to pass in the morning that his spirit was troubled; and he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt, and all its wise men; and Pharaoh told them his dream, but there was none that could interpret them for Pharaoh. **9** Then the chief butler spoke to Pharaoh, saying, ‘I do remember my faults this day. **10** Pharaoh was angry with his servants, and put me into the prison in the captain of the guard’s house, both me and the chief baker; **11** and we dreamed a dream in one night, I and he; we dreamed each man according to the interpretation of his dream. **12** And there was there with us a young man, a Hebrew, servant to the captain of the guard; and he interpreted to us our dreams; to each man according to his dream he did interpret. **13** And it came to pass, as he interpreted to us, so it was; I was restored to my office, and he was hanged.’ **14** Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him hastily out of the prison; and he shaved himself, and changed his clothes, and came in to Pharaoh. **15** And Pharaoh said to Joseph, ‘I have dreamed a dream, and there is none that can interpret it. **16** And I have heard it said of you that you can understand a dream to interpret it.’ And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, ‘It is not in me; God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace.’ **17** And Pharaoh said to Joseph, ‘In my dream, behold, I stood on the bank of the river. **18** And, behold, there came up out of the river seven cattle, fat-fleshed and well-favored; and they fed in a meadow. **19** And, behold, seven other cattle came up after them, poor and very ill-favored and lean-fleshed, such as I never saw in all the land of Egypt for ugliness. **20** And the lean and the ill-favored cattle ate up the first seven fat cattle. **21** And when they had eaten them up, it could not be known that they had eaten them; for they were still ill-favored, as at the beginning. So I awoke. **22** And I saw in my dream, and, behold, seven ears came up in one stalk, full and good. **23** And, behold, seven ears, withered, thin, and blasted with the east wind, sprung up after them; **24** and the thin ears devoured the seven good ears; and I told this to the magicians; but there was none that could declare it to me.’ **25** And Joseph said to Pharaoh, ‘The dream of Pharaoh is one: God has shown Pharaoh what He is about to do. **26** The seven good cattle are seven years; and the seven good ears are seven years: the dream is one. **27** And the seven thin and ill-favored cattle that came up after them are seven years; and the seven empty ears blasted with the east wind are seven years of famine. **28** This is the thing which

I have spoken to Pharaoh: what God is about to do He shows to Pharaoh. **29** Behold, there come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt. **30** And there shall arise after them seven years of famine; and all the plenty shall be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine shall consume the land. **31** And the plenty shall not be known in the land by reason of that famine following; for it shall be very grievous. **32** And that the dream was doubled to Pharaoh twice, it is because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass. **33** Now therefore let Pharaoh look out for a man discreet and wise, and set him over the land of Egypt. **34** Let Pharaoh do this, and let him appoint officers over the land, and take up the fifth part of the land of Egypt in the seven plentiful years. **35** And let them gather all the food of those good years that come, and lay up corn under the hand of Pharaoh, and let them keep food in the cities. **36** And that food shall be for store to the land against the seven years of famine, which shall be in the land of Egypt; that the land does not perish through the famine.' **37** And the thing was good in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of all his servants.

41:38-42:17 Triennial *Hanimitza* "Can we find" Joseph made governor over all the land of Egypt; he gathered immeasurable grain

41:38 And Pharaoh said to his servants, 'Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom is the Spirit of God?' **39** And Pharaoh said to Joseph, 'Since God has shown you all this, there is none so discreet and wise as you are. **40** You shall be over my house, and according to your word shall all my people be ruled: only in the throne will I be greater than you.' **41** And Pharaoh said to Joseph, 'See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt.' **42** And Pharaoh took off his ring from his hand, and put it on Joseph's hand, and arrayed him in garments of fine linen, and put a gold chain about his neck. **43** And he made him to ride in the second chariot which he had; and they cried before him, 'Bow the knee.' And he made him ruler over all the land of Egypt. **44** And Pharaoh said to Joseph, 'I am Pharaoh, and without you shall no man lift up his hand or foot in all the land of Egypt.' **45** And Pharaoh called Joseph's name Zaphnathpaaneah [*God speaks and He lives*]; and he gave him to wife Asenath the daughter of Potipherah priest of On. And Joseph went out over all the land of Egypt. **46** And Joseph was thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh king of Egypt; and Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh, and went throughout all the land of Egypt. **47** And in the seven plentiful years the earth brought forth by handfuls. **48** And he gathered up all the food of the seven years, which were in the land of Egypt, and laid up the food in the cities; the food of the field, which was round about every city, he laid up in the same. **49** And Joseph gathered corn as the sand of the sea, very much, until he left numbering; for it was without number. **50** And to Joseph were born two sons before the years of famine came, which Asenath the daughter of Potipherah priest of On bore to him. **51** And Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh [*Making forgetful*], 'For God,' he said, 'has made me forget all my toil, and all my father's house.' **52** And the name of the second he called Ephraim [*Fruitfulness*], 'For God has caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction.' **53** And the seven years of plenty, that was in the land of Egypt, were ended. **54** And the seven years of famine began to come, according as Joseph had said; and the famine was in all lands, but in all the land of Egypt there was bread. **55** And when all the land of Egypt was famished, the people cried to Pharaoh for bread, and Pharaoh said to all the Egyptians, 'Go to Joseph; what he says to you, do.' **56** And the famine was over all the face of the earth, and Joseph opened all the storehouses, and sold to the Egyptians; and the famine grew se-

vere in the land of Egypt. 57 And all countries came into Egypt to Joseph to buy corn; because the famine was so severe in all lands.

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CHAPTER FORTY-TWO

42:1 Now when Jacob saw that there was grain in Egypt, Jacob said to his sons, 'Why do you look on one another?' 2 And he said, 'Behold, I have heard that there is corn in Egypt. Get down there, and buy for us from there; that we may live, and not die.' 3 And Joseph's ten brothers went down to buy corn in Egypt. 4 But Benjamin, Joseph's brother, Jacob did not send with his brothers; for he said, 'Lest perhaps mischief befalls him.' 5 And the sons of Israel came to buy corn among those that came, for the famine was in the land of Canaan. 6 And Joseph was the governor over the land, and it was he that sold to all the people of the land; and Joseph's brothers came, and bowed themselves down before him with their faces to the earth. 7 And Joseph saw his brothers, and he knew them, but made himself foreign to them, and spoke roughly to them; and he said to them, 'From where do you come?' And they said, 'From the land of Canaan to buy food.' 8 And Joseph knew his brothers, but they did not know him. 9 And Joseph remembered the dreams which he dreamed of them, and said to them, 'You are spies; to see the nakedness of the land you have come.' 10 And they said to him, 'No, my lord, but to buy food have your servants come. 11 We are all one man's sons; we are true men, your servants are not spies.' 12 And he said to them, 'No, but to see the nakedness of the land you have come.' 13 And they said, 'Your servants are twelve brothers, the sons of one man in the land of Canaan; and, behold, the youngest is this day with our father, and one is no more.' 14 And Joseph said to them, 'It is that which I spoke to you, saying, "You are spies." 15 Here is how you shall be proved: by the life of Pharaoh you shall not go forth from here; unless your youngest brother comes here. 16 Send one of you, and let him fetch your brother, and you shall be kept in prison, that your words may be proved, whether there is any truth in you; or else by the life of Pharaoh, surely you are spies.' 17 And he put them all together into the prison three days.

42:18-43:23 Triennial Vayomer eleichem "He said to them" *Joseph's test of the brothers: Benjamin to return with them if they want to buy more food*

42:18 And Joseph said to them on the third day, 'This do, and live; for I fear God. 19 If you are true men, let one of your brothers be bound in the house of your prison; and go, carry corn for the famine of your houses. 20 But bring your youngest brother to me; so shall your words be verified, and you shall not die.' And they did so. 21 And they said one to another, 'We are truly guilty concerning our brother, in that we saw the anguish of his soul, when he besought us, and we would not hear; therefore this distress has come upon us.' 22 And Reuben answered them, saying, 'Did I not speak to you, saying, "Do not sin against the child;" and you would not hear? Therefore, behold, also his blood is required.' 23 And they did not know that Joseph understood them; for he spoke to them by an interpreter. 24 And he turned himself about from them, and wept; and returned to them again, and communed with them, and took Simeon from them, and bound him before their eyes. 25 Then Joseph commanded to fill their sacks with corn, and to restore every man's money into his sack, and to give them provision for the way; and so he did to them. 26 And they loaded their donkeys with the corn, and departed from there. 27 And as one of them opened his sack to give his donkey provender in the inn, he saw his money; for, behold, it was in his

sack's mouth. **28** And he said to his brothers, 'My money is restored; and, lo, it is even in my sack;' and their hearts failed them, and they were afraid, saying one to another, 'What is this that God has done to us?' **29** And they came to Jacob their father to the land of Canaan, and told him all that befell them; saying, **30** 'The man, who is the lord of the land, spoke roughly to us, and took us for spies of the country. **31** And we said to him, "We are true men; we are no spies. **32** We are twelve brothers, sons of our father; one is not, and the youngest is this day with our father in the land of Canaan." **33** And the man, the lord of the country, said to us, "Here is how I shall know that you are true men; leave one of your brothers here with me, and take food for the famine of your households, and be gone; **34** And bring your youngest brother to me; then I shall know that you are not spies, but that you are true men; so I will deliver to you your brother, and you shall trade in the land." **35** And it came to pass as they emptied their sacks, that, behold, every man's bundle of money was in his sack; and when both they and their father saw the bundles of money, they were afraid. **36** And Jacob their father said to them, 'You have bereaved me of my children: Joseph is not, and Simeon is not, and you will take Benjamin away; all these things are against me.' **37** And Reuben spoke to his father, saying, 'Slay my two sons, if I bring him not to you; deliver him into my hand; and I will bring him to you again.' **38** And he said, 'My son shall not go down with you; for his brother is dead, and he is left alone; if mischief befall him by the way in the which you go, then you shall bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to the grave.'

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CHAPTER FORTY-THREE

43:1 And the famine was severe in the land. **2** And it came to pass, when they had eaten up the grain which they had brought out of Egypt, their father said to them, 'Go again, buy us a little food.' **3** And Judah spoke to him, saying, 'The man did earnestly warn us, saying, "You shall not see my face, except your brother is with you." **4** If you will send our brother with us, we will go down; and buy you food; **5** But if you will not send him, we will not go down; for the man said to us, "You shall not see my face, except your brother is with you." **6** And Israel said, 'Why did you deal so wrongfully with me, as to tell the man whether you had another brother?' **7** And they said, 'The man asked us pointedly of our state, and of our family, saying, "Is your father still alive? Have you another brother?" And we told him according to the tenor of these words; could we possibly know that he would say, "Bring your brother down?"' **8** And Judah said to Israel his father, 'Send the lad with me, and we will arise and go, that we may live, and not die, both we, and you, and also our little ones. **9** I will be surety for him; of my hand shall you require him; if I bring him not to you, and set him before you, then let me bear the blame for ever. **10** For if we had not lingered, surely by now we would have returned a second time.' **11** And their father Israel said to them, 'If it must be so, now do this: take of the best fruits in the land in your vessels, and carry down the man a present, a little balm, and a little honey, spices, and myrrh, nuts, and almonds; **12** And take double money in your hand; and the money that was returned in the mouth of your sacks, carry it again in your hand; perhaps it was an oversight. **13** Take also your brother; and arise, go again to the man. **14** And God *El* Almighty give you mercy before the man, that he may send away your other brother, and Benjamin. If I am bereaved of my children, I am bereaved.' **15** And the men took that present, and they took double money in

their hand, and Benjamin; and rose up, and went down to Egypt, and stood before Joseph. **16** And when Joseph saw Benjamin with them, he said to the ruler of his house, 'Bring these men home, and slay, and make ready; for these men shall dine with me at noon.' **17** And the man did as Joseph ordered, and the man brought the men into Joseph's house. **18** And the men were afraid, because they were brought into Joseph's house. And they said, 'Because of the money that was returned in our sacks at the first time are we brought in; that he may seek occasion against us, and fall upon us, and take us for bondmen, and our donkeys.' **19** And they came near to the steward of Joseph's house, and they spoke with him at the door of the house, **20** and said, 'O sir, we came indeed down at the first time to buy food; **21** and it came to pass, when we came to the inn, that we opened our sacks, and, behold, every man's money was in the mouth of his sack, our money in full weight; and we have brought it again in our hand. **22** And other money have we brought down in our hands to buy food; we cannot tell who put our money in our sacks.' **23** And he said, 'Peace be to you, fear not; your God, and the God of your father, has given you treasure in your sacks; I had your money.' And he brought Simeon out to them.

43:24-44:17 Triennial Vayavei ha-ish "Then the man brought" *The brothers honor and acknowledge Joseph's sovereignty over them*

43:24 And the man brought the men into Joseph's house, and gave them water, and they washed their feet; and he gave their donkeys provender. **25** And they made ready the present against Joseph's coming at noon; for they heard that they should eat bread there. **26** And when Joseph came home, they brought him the present which was in their hand to the house, and bowed themselves to him to the earth. **27** And he asked them of their welfare, and said, 'Is your father well, the old man of whom you spoke? Is he yet alive?' **28** And they answered, 'Your servant our father is in good health, he is yet alive.' And they bowed down their heads, and made obeisance. **29** And he lifted up his eyes, and saw his brother Benjamin, his mother's son, and said, 'Is this your younger brother, of whom you spoke to me?' And he said, 'God be gracious to you, my son.' **30** And Joseph made haste, for his heart yearned for his brother, and he sought somewhere to weep; and he entered into his chamber, and wept there. **31** And he washed his face, and went out, and refrained himself, and said, 'Serve the bread.' **32** And they served him by himself, and them by themselves, and the Egyptians, which ate with him, by themselves; because the Egyptians might not eat bread with the Hebrews; for that is an abomination to the Egyptians. **33** And they sat before him, the firstborn according to his birthright, and the youngest according to his youth; and the men marveled at one another. **34** And portions were taken to them from before him; but Benjamin's portion was five times as much as any of theirs. And they drank, and were merry with him.

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CHAPTER FORTY-FOUR

44:1 And he commanded the steward of his house, saying, 'Fill the men's sacks with food, as much as they can carry, and put every man's money in his sack's mouth. **2** And put my cup, the silver cup, in the sack's mouth of the youngest, and his grain money.' And he did according to the word that Joseph had spoken. **3** As soon as the morning was light, the men were sent away, they and their donkeys. **4** And when they were gone out of the city, and not yet far off, Joseph said to his steward, 'Up, follow after the men; and when you overtake

them, say to them, “Why have you rewarded evil for good? 5 Is not this the one from which my lord drinks, and with which indeed he divines? You have done evil in so doing.” 6 And he overtook them, and he spoke to them these same words. 7 And they said to him, ‘Why does my lord say these words? God forbid that your servants should do according to this thing! 8 Behold, the money, which we found in our sacks’ mouths, we brought again to you out of the land of Canaan; how then should we steal out of your lord’s house silver or gold? 9 With whomever of your servants it is found, both let him die, and we also will be my lord’s slaves.’ 10 And he said, ‘Now also let it be according to your words; he with whom it is found shall be my servant; and you shall be blameless.’ 11 Then they speedily took down every man his sack to the ground, and opened every man his sack. 12 And he searched, and began at the eldest, and left at the youngest; and the cup was found in Benjamin’s sack. 14 And Judah and his brothers came to Joseph’s house; for he was yet there; and they fell before him on the ground. 15 And Joseph said to them, ‘What deed is this that you have done? Do you not know that such a man as I can certainly divine?’ 16 And Judah said, ‘What shall we say to my lord? What shall we speak? Or how shall we clear ourselves? God has found out the iniquity of your servants; behold, we are my lord’s servants, both we, and he also with whom the cup is found.’ 17 And he said, ‘God forbid that I should do so, but the man in whose hand the cup is found, he shall be my servant; and as for you, go up in peace to your father.’ {s}

44:18-47:27 Annual Vayigash “**And he drew near**” *Joseph revealed to his brothers and father, who live under his care*

44:18-46:27 Triennial Vayigash *God, not Joseph’s brothers, sent him to Egypt to preserve life*

44:18-46:7 Joseph revealed to his brothers and father {s}

44:18 Then Judah came near to him, and said, ‘Oh my lord, let your servant, I pray you, speak a word in my lord’s ears, and let not your anger burn against your servant; for you are even as Pharaoh. **19** My lord asked his servants, saying, “Have you a father, or a brother?” **20** And we said to my lord, “We have a father, an old man, and a child of his old age, a little one; and his brother is dead, and he alone is left of his mother, and his father loves him.” **21** And you said to your servants, “Bring him down to me, that I may set my eyes on him.” **22** And we said to my lord, “The lad cannot leave his father; for if he should leave his father, his father would die.” **23** And you said to your servants, “Except your youngest brother come down with you, you shall see my face no more.” **24** And it came to pass when we came up to your servant my father, we told him the words of my lord. **25** And our father said, “Go again, buy us a little food.” **26** And we said, “We cannot go down; if our youngest brother is with us, then will we go down; for we may not see the man’s face, except our youngest brother is with us.” And your servant my father said to us, “You know that my wife bore me two sons; **28** and the one went out from me, and I said, ‘Surely he is torn in pieces;’ and I have not seen him since; **29** and if you take this one also from me, and harm befall him, you will bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to the grave.” **30** Now therefore when I come to your servant my father, and the lad is not with us, seeing that his soul is bound up with the lad’s soul; **31** it will come to pass, when he sees that the lad is not with us, that he will die; and your servants will bring down the gray hairs of your servant our father with sorrow to the grave. **32** For your servant became surety for the lad to my father, saying, “If I bring him not to you, then shall I bear the blame before my father forever.” **33** Now therefore, let your servant, I pray you, stay instead of the lad a bondman to

my lord; and let the lad go up with his brothers. **34** For how shall I go up to my father, if the lad is not with me, lest I look on the evil that shall come on my father.'

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CHAPTER FORTY-FIVE

45:1 Then Joseph could not restrain himself before all those who stood by him; and he cried, 'Cause every man to go out from me.' And there stood no man with him, while Joseph made himself known to his brothers. **2** And he wept aloud; and the Egyptians heard, and the house of Pharaoh heard. **3** And Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am Joseph; does my father yet live?' And his brothers could not answer him; for they were dismayed at his presence. **4** And Joseph said to his brothers, 'Come near to me, I pray you.' And they came near. And he said, 'I am Joseph your brother, whom you sold into Egypt. **5** And now do not be grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. **6** For these two years the famine has been in the land; and there are yet five years in which there shall be neither sowing nor reaping. **7** And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on the earth, and to save you alive by a great deliverance. **8** So now it was not you that sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and ruler over all the land of Egypt. **9** Now hasten, and go up to my father, and say to him, "Thus says your son Joseph, 'God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, tarry not.' **10** And you shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near to me, you, and your children, and your children's children, and your flocks, and your herds, and all that you have; **11** and there I will sustain you; for there are yet five years of famine; lest you come to poverty, you, and your household, and all that you have. **12** And, behold, your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin, that it is my mouth that speaks to you. **13** And you shall tell my father of all my glory in Egypt, and of all that you have seen; and you shall hasten and bring my father down here.' **14** And he fell on his brother Benjamin's neck, and wept; and Benjamin wept on his neck. **15** And he kissed all his brothers, and wept on them; and after that his brothers talked with him. **16** And the report of it was heard in Pharaoh's house, saying, 'Joseph's brothers have come;' and it pleased Pharaoh well, and his servants. **17** And Pharaoh said to Joseph, 'Say to your brothers, "Do this: load your beasts, and go, get to the land of Canaan; **18** and take your father and your households, and come to me; and I will give you the best of the land of Egypt, and you shall eat the fat of the land. **19** Now you are commanded, do this: take wagons out of the land of Egypt for your little ones, and for your wives, and bring your father, and come. **20** Also regard not your belongings; for the best things of all the land of Egypt are yours.'" **21** And the sons of Israel did so; and Joseph gave them wagons, according to the commandment of Pharaoh, and gave them provision for the way. **22** To all of them he gave each man changes of raiment; but to Benjamin he gave three hundred shekels of silver; and five changes of raiment. **23** And to his father he sent in like manner ten donkeys laden with the good things of Egypt, and ten female donkeys laden with grain and bread and food for his father on the way. **24** So he sent his brothers away, and they departed; and he said to them, 'See that you do not quarrel on the way.' **25** And they went up out of Egypt, and came into the land of Canaan to Jacob their father, **26** and they told him, saying, 'Joseph is yet alive, and he is ruler over all the land of Egypt.' And his heart fainted, for he believed them not. **27** And they told him all the words of Joseph, which he had said to them; and when he saw the

wagons which Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of Jacob their father revived. **28** And Israel said, 'It is enough; Joseph my son is yet alive; I will go and see him before I die.'

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CHAPTER FORTY-SIX

46:1 And Israel took his journey with all that he had, and came to Beersheba, and offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac. **2** And God spoke to Israel in the visions of the night, and said, 'Jacob, Jacob.' And he said, 'Here I am.' **3** And He said, 'I am God *El*, the God of your father; do not fear to go down into Egypt; for I will there make of you a great nation. **4** I will go down with you into Egypt; and I will also surely bring you up again; and Joseph shall close your eyes.' **5** And Jacob rose up from Beersheba; and the sons of Israel carried Jacob their father, and their little ones, and their wives, in the wagons which Pharaoh had sent to carry him. **6** And they took their cattle, and their goods, which they had gotten in the land of Canaan, and came into Egypt, Jacob, and all his descendants with him; **7** his sons, and his sons' sons with him, his daughters, and his sons' daughters, and all his descendants he brought with him into Egypt. {s}

46:8-27 Seventy persons of Israel went down to Egypt {s}

46:8 And these are the names of the children of Israel, who came into Egypt, Jacob and his sons: Reuben, Jacob's firstborn. **9** And the sons of Reuben: Hanoch, and Pallu, and Hezron, and Carmi. **10** And the sons of Simeon: Jemuel, and Jamin, and Ohad, and Jachin, and Zohar, and Shaul the son of a Canaanite woman. **11** And the sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari. **12** And the sons of Judah: Er, and Onan, and Shelah, and Perez, and Zerah; but Er and Onan died in the land of Canaan. And the sons of Perez were Hezron and Hamul. **13** And the sons of Issachar: Tola, and Puvah, and Iob, and Shimron. **14** And the sons of Zebulun: Sered, and Elon, and Jahleel. **15** These are the sons of Leah, whom she bore to Jacob in Paddanaram, with his daughter Dinah; all the souls of his sons and his daughters were thirty-three. **16** And the sons of Gad: Ziphion, and Haggi, Shuni, and Ezbon, Eri, and Arodi, and Areli. **17** And the sons of Asher: Imnah, and Ishvah, and Ishvi, and Beriah, and Serah their sister; and the sons of Beriah: Heber, and Malchiel. **18** These are the sons of Zilpah, whom Laban gave to Leah his daughter, and these she bore to Jacob, even sixteen souls. **19** The sons of Rachel Jacob's wife: Joseph and Benjamin. **20** And to Joseph in the land of Egypt were born Manasseh and Ephraim, whom Asenath the daughter of Potiphera priest of On bore to him. **21** And the sons of Benjamin: Bela, and Becher, and Ashbel, Gera, and Naaman, Ehi, and Rosh, Muppim, and Huppim, and Ard. **22** These are the sons of Rachel, who were born to Jacob; all the souls were fourteen. **23** And the sons of Dan: Hushim. **24** And the sons of Naphtali: Jahzeel, and Guni, and Jezer, and Shillem. **25** These are the sons of Bilhah, whom Laban gave to Rachel his daughter, and these she bore to Jacob; all the souls were seven. **26** All the souls belonging to Jacob that came into Egypt, that came out of his loins, besides Jacob's sons' wives, all the souls were sixty-six. **27** And the sons of Joseph, who were born to him in Egypt, were two souls; all the souls of the house of Jacob, that came into Egypt, were seventy. {s}

46:28-47:27 Triennial *Yehudah shalach* "He sent Judah" *Joseph the provider*

46:28-47:31 Joseph the provider {p}

46:28 And he sent Judah before him to Joseph, to show the way before him to Goshen; and they came to the land of Goshen. **29** And Joseph made ready his chariot, and went up to meet Israel his father, to Goshen; and he presented himself to him, and fell on his neck, and wept on his neck a good while. **30** And Israel said to Joseph, 'Now let me die, since I have seen your face, that you are yet alive.' **31** And Joseph said to his brothers and to his father's house, 'I will go up, and tell Pharaoh, and will say to him, "My brothers, and my father's house, who were in the land of Canaan, have come to me; **32** and the men are shepherds, for they have been keepers of cattle; and they have brought their flocks, and their herds, and all that they have." **33** And it shall come to pass, when Pharaoh shall call you, and shall say, "What is your occupation?" **34** That you shall say, "Your servants have been keepers of cattle from our youth even until now, both we, and our fathers;" that you may dwell in the land of Goshen; for every shepherd is an abomination to the Egyptians.'

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CHAPTER FORTY-SEVEN

47:1 Then Joseph went in and told Pharaoh, and said, 'My father and my brothers, and their flocks, and their herds, and all that they have, have come out of the land of Canaan; and, behold, they are in the land of Goshen.' **2** And from among his brothers he took five men, and presented them to Pharaoh. **3** And Pharaoh said to his brothers, 'What is your occupation?' And they said to Pharaoh, 'Your servants are shepherds, both we, and our fathers.' **4** And they said to Pharaoh, 'To sojourn in the land we have come; for there is no pasture for your servants' flocks; for the famine is severe in the land of Canaan. Now therefore, we pray you, let your servants dwell in the land of Goshen.' **5** And Pharaoh spoke to Joseph, saying, 'Your father and your brothers have come to you. **6** The land of Egypt is before you; in the best of the land make your father and your brothers to dwell; in the land of Goshen let them dwell. And if you know any able men among them, then make them rulers over my cattle.' **7** And Joseph brought in Jacob his father, and set him before Pharaoh; and Jacob blessed Pharaoh. **8** And Pharaoh said to Jacob, 'How many are the days of the years of your life?' **9** And Jacob said to Pharaoh, 'The days of the years of my sojournings are a hundred and thirty years; few and evil have been the days of the years of my life, and they have not attained to the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their sojournings.' **10** And Jacob blessed Pharaoh, and went out from the presence of Pharaoh. **11** And Joseph placed his father and his brothers, and gave them a possession in the land of Egypt, in the best of the land, in the land of Rameses, as Pharaoh had commanded. **12** And Joseph sustained his father, and his brothers, and all his father's household, with bread, according to the want of their little ones. **13** And there was no bread in all the land; for the famine was very severe, so that the land of Egypt and the land of Canaan languished by reason of the famine. **14** And Joseph gathered up all the money that was found in the land of Egypt, and in the land of Canaan, for the grain which they bought; and Joseph brought the money into Pharaoh's house. **15** And when the money was all spent in the land of Egypt, and in the land of Canaan, all the Egyptians came to Joseph, and said, 'Give us bread; for why should we die in your presence? For our money has failed.' **16** And Joseph said, 'Give your cattle, and I will give you bread for your cattle, if the money has failed.' **17** And they brought their cattle to Joseph. And Joseph gave them bread in exchange for the horses, and for the flocks, and for the herds, and for the donkeys; and he fed them with

bread in exchange for all their cattle for that year. **18** And when that year was ended, they came to him the second year, and said to him, 'We will not hide from my lord, that our money is all spent; and the herds of cattle are my lord's; there is nothing left in the sight of my lord, but our bodies, and our lands; **19** why should we die before your eyes, both we and our land? Buy us and our land for bread, and we and our land will be bondmen to Pharaoh; and give us seed, that we may live, and not die, and that the land is not desolate.' **20** So Joseph bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh. For the Egyptians sold every man his field, because the famine was severe upon them; and the land became Pharaoh's. **21** And as for the people, he removed them city by city from one end of the border of Egypt even to the other end. **22** Only the land of the priests he did not buy, for the priests had a portion from Pharaoh, and ate their portion which Pharaoh gave them; therefore they did not sell their land. **23** Then Joseph said to the people, 'Behold, I have bought you this day and your land for Pharaoh. Lo, here is seed for you, and you shall sow the land. **24** And it shall come to pass at the harvest, that you shall give a fifth to Pharaoh, and four parts shall be your own, for seed of the field, and for your food, and for those of your households, and for food for your little ones.' **25** And they said, 'You have saved our lives. Let us find favor in the sight of my lord, and we will be Pharaoh's bondmen.' **26** And Joseph made it a statute concerning the land of Egypt to this day, that Pharaoh should have the fifth; only the land of the priests alone did not become Pharaoh's. **27** And Israel dwelt in the land of Egypt, in the land of Goshen; and they acquired possessions in it, and were fruitful, and multiplied exceedingly.

47:28-50:26 Annual Vayechi "And he lived" *Jacob transfers the birthright and blessing to his sons / Joseph receives the double portion*

47:28-48:22 Triennial Vayechi *Jacob blessed the two sons of Joseph with his sons before his death*

47:28 And Jacob lived in the land of Egypt seventeen years; so the days of Jacob, the years of his life, were a hundred and forty-seven years. **29** And the time drew near that Israel must die; and he called his son Joseph, and said to him, 'If now I have found favor in your sight, put, I pray you, your hand under my thigh, and deal kindly and truly with me; bury me not, I pray you, in Egypt. **30** But when I sleep with my fathers, you shall carry me out of Egypt, and bury me in their burial place.' And he said, 'I will do as you have said.' **31** And he said, 'Swear to me.' And he swore to him. And Israel bowed down upon the bed's head. {p}

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CHAPTER FORTY-EIGHT

48:1-49:13 Jacob blesses his sons *(the sons of Joseph (of Rachel) and Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Zebulun (of Leah) {px5}*

48:1-22 Jacob blesses Ephraim and Manasseh {p}

48:1 And it came to pass after these things, that one said to Joseph, 'Behold, your father is sick.' **2** And he took with him his two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim. And one told Jacob, and said, 'Behold, your son Joseph comes to you.' And Israel strengthened himself, and sat upon the bed. **3** And Jacob said to Joseph, 'God *El* Almighty appeared to me at Luz in the land of Canaan, and blessed me, **4** and said to me, "Behold, I will make you fruitful, and multiply you, and I will make of you a company of peoples; and will give this land to your seed

after you for an everlasting possession.” 5 And now your two sons, who were born to you in the land of Egypt before I came to you in Egypt, are mine; Ephraim and Manasseh, even as Reuben and Simeon, shall be mine. 6 And your children, that you beget after them, shall be yours, they shall be called after the name of their brothers in their inheritance. 7 And as for me, when I came from Paddan, Rachel died to me in the land of Canaan in the way, when there was still some way to come to Ephrath; and I buried her there in the way to Ephrath—the same is Bethlehem.’ 8 And Israel beheld Joseph’s sons, and said, ‘Who are these?’ 9 And Joseph said to his father, ‘They are my sons, whom God has given me here.’ And he said, ‘Bring them, I pray you, to me, and I will bless them.’ 10 Now the eyes of Israel were dim for age, so that he could not see. And he brought them near to him; and he kissed them, and embraced them. 11 And Israel said to Joseph, ‘I had not thought to see your face; and, lo, God has let me see your offspring also.’ 12 And Joseph brought them out from between his knees, and he fell down on his face to the earth. 13 And Joseph took them both, Ephraim in his right hand toward Israel’s left hand, and Manasseh in his left hand toward Israel’s right hand, and brought them near to him. 14 And Israel stretched out his right hand, and laid it on Ephraim’s head, who was the younger, and his left hand on Manasseh’s head, guiding his hands knowingly; for Manasseh was the firstborn. 15 And he blessed Joseph, and said, ‘The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, the God who has been my shepherd all my life long to this day, 16 the angel who has redeemed me from all evil, bless the lads; and let my name be named in them, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth.’ 17 And when Joseph saw that his father was laying his right hand on the head of Ephraim, it displeased him, and he held up his father’s hand, to remove it from Ephraim’s head to Manasseh’s head. 18 And Joseph said to his father, ‘Not so, my father, for this is the firstborn; put your right hand on his head.’ 19 And his father refused, and said, ‘I know it, my son, I know it; he also shall become a people, and he also shall be great; however his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his seed shall become a multitude of nations.’ 20 And he blessed them that day, saying, ‘By you shall Israel bless, saying, “God make you as Ephraim and as Manasseh.”’ And he set Ephraim before Manasseh. 21 And Israel said to Joseph, ‘Behold, I die; but God will be with you, and bring you back to the land of your fathers. 22 Moreover I have given to you one portion above your brothers, which I took out of the hand of the Amorite with my sword and with my bow.’ {p}

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CHAPTER FORTY-NINE

49:1-26 Triennial *Vayiqra Yaacov* “Then Jacob summoned” *Jacob’s blessing on his sons*

49:1-4 Reuben’s blessing {p}

49:1 And Jacob called to his sons, and said, ‘Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you what shall befall you in the end of days. 2 Assemble yourselves, and hear, you sons of Jacob; and pay heed to Israel your father. 3 Reuben, you are my firstborn, my might, and the first fruits of my strength, the excellency of dignity, and the excellency of power; 4 unstable as water, you shall not have the excellency; because you went up to your father’s bed, then you defiled it—he went up to my couch. {p}

49:5-7 Simeon and Levi’s blessing {p}

49:5 Simeon and Levi are brothers; weapons of violence their kinship. 6 Let not my soul enter into their council; let not my glory be united to their assembly, for in their anger they slew men, and in their self-will they hamstrung oxen. 7 Cursed be their anger, for it is fierce; and their wrath, for it is cruel! I will divide them in Jacob and scatter them in Israel. {p}

49:8-12 Judah's blessing {p}

49:8 Judah, you shall your brothers praise; your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; your father's sons shall bow down before you. 9 Judah is a lion's whelp; from the prey, my son, you have gone up; he stooped down, he crouched as a lion; and as a lioness; who shall rouse him up? 10 The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until Shiloh comes; and to Him shall be the obedience of the peoples. 11 Binding his foal to the vine, and his donkey's colt to the choice vine, he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes. 12 His eyes are darkly flashing with wine, and his teeth white with milk. {p}

49:13 Zebulun's blessing {p}

49:13 Zebulun shall dwell at the shore of the sea, and he shall be a haven for ships, and his border shall be upon Sidon. {p}

49:14-26 Jacob blesses his sons (*Issachar (of Leah), Dan (of Bilhah)—Yeshua—Gad, Asher (of Zilpah), Naphtali (of Bilhah), and Joseph (of Rachel)*) {sx6+p}

49:14-15 Issachar's blessing {s}

49:14 Issachar is a strong donkey, lying down between two burdens; 15 for he saw a resting place that was good, and the land that was pleasant; and he bowed his shoulder to bear, and to serve under forced labor. {s}

49:16-18 Dan's blessing {s}

49:16 Dan shall judge his people as one of the tribes of Israel. 17 Dan shall be a serpent in the way, a viper in the path, that bites the horse's heels, so that his rider shall fall backward. 18 I wait for your salvation, O YHVH. {s}

49:19 Gad's blessing {s}

49:19 Gad, a troop shall tramp upon him, but he shall tramp upon their heel. {s}

49:20 Asher's blessing {s}

49:20 Bread from Asher shall be rich, and he shall yield royal dainties. {s}

49:21 Naphtali's blessing {s}

49:21 Naphtali is a deer let loose; he gives beautiful words. {s}

49:22-26 Joseph's blessing {p}

49:22 Joseph is a fruitful vine, a fruitful vine by a fountain; its branches run over the wall. 23 The archers have dealt bitterly with him, and shot at him, and hated him; 24 but his bow remained firm, and the arms of his hands were made supple by the hands of the Mighty One of Jacob; from there is the Shepherd, the Stone of Israel; 25 even by the God *El* of your father; who shall help you, and by the Almighty, who shall bless you, with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that lies beneath, blessings of the breasts, and of the womb. 26 The blessings of your father are excellent beyond the blessings of my ancestors to the utmost bound of the everlasting hills; they shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him that was separated from his brothers. {p}

**49:27-50:26 Triennial *Shivtey Yisrael* “The tribes of Israel” Benjamin’s blessing /
Death, burial of Jacob, and death of Joseph**

49:27-50:26 Benjamin’s blessing / Death, burial of Jacob, and death of Joseph {p}

49:27 Benjamin is ravenous wolf; in the morning he devours the prey, and at evening he divides the spoil.’ **28** All these are the twelve tribes of Israel, and this is what their father spoke to them and blessed them; every one according to his blessing he blessed them. **29** And he charged them, and said to them, ‘I am to be gathered to my people; bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite, **30** in the cave that is in the field of Machpelah, which is before Mamre, in the land of Canaan, which Abraham bought with the field from Ephron the Hittite for a possession of a burial place. **31** There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife; there they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife; and there I buried Leah— **32** the field and the cave that is within it, which was purchased from the children of Heth.’ **33** And when Jacob made an end of charging his sons, he gathered up his feet into the bed, and expired, and was gathered to his people.

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CHAPTER FIFTY

50:1 And Joseph fell on his father's face, and wept on him, and kissed him. **2** And Joseph commanded his servants the physicians to embalm his father. And the physicians embalmed Israel. **3** And forty days were fulfilled for him; for so are fulfilled the days of embalming; and the Egyptians wept for him seventy days. **4** And when the days of weeping for him were past, Joseph spoke to the house of Pharaoh, saying, ‘If now I have found favor in your eyes, speak, I pray you, in the ears of Pharaoh, saying, **5** “My father made me swear, saying, ‘Lo, I die; in my grave which I have dug for me in the land of Canaan, there you shall bury me.’ Now therefore let me go up, I pray you, and bury my father; and I will come back.”’ **6** And Pharaoh said, ‘Go up, and bury your father, according as he made you swear.’ **7** And Joseph went up to bury his father; and with him went up all the servants of Pharaoh, the elders of his house, and all the elders of the land of Egypt, **8** and all the house of Joseph, and his brothers, and his father’s house; only their little ones, and their flocks, and their herds, they left in the land of Goshen. **9** And there went up with him both chariots and horsemen; and it was a very great company. **10** And they came to the threshing floor of Atad, which is beyond the Jordan; and there they wailed with a very great and severe wailing; and he made a mourning for his father seven days. **11** And when the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, saw the mourning in the floor of Atad, they said, ‘This is a grievous mourning for the Egyptians.’ Therefore the name of it was called Abel-mizraim, which is beyond the Jordan. **12** And his sons did for him according as he commanded them. **13** For his sons carried him into the land of Canaan, and buried him in the cave of the field of Machpelah, which Abraham bought with the field, for a possession of a burial place, of Ephron the Hittite, in front of Mamre. **14** And Joseph returned to Egypt, he, and his brothers, and all that went up with him to bury his father, after he had buried his father. **15** And when Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, ‘It may be that Joseph will hate us, and will fully requite us all the evil which we did to him.’ **16** And they sent a message to Joseph, saying, ‘Your father commanded before he died, saying, **17** “So shall you say to Joseph: ‘Forgive now, I pray you, the transgression of your brothers, and their sin; for they did evil to you.”’ And now, we pray you, forgive the transgression of

the servants of the God of your father.’ And Joseph wept when they spoke to him. **18** And his brothers also went and fell down before his face; and they said, ‘Behold, we are your bondmen.’ **19** And Joseph said to them, ‘Fear not; for am I in the place of God? **20** And as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save many people alive. **21** Now therefore fear not; I will sustain you, and your little ones.’ And he comforted them, and spoke kindly to them. **22** And Joseph dwelt in Egypt, he, and his father’s house; and Joseph lived a hundred and ten years. **23** And Joseph saw Ephraim’s children of the third generation; the children also of Machir the son of Manasseh were born on Joseph’s knees. **24** And Joseph said to his brothers, ‘I die; but God will surely remember you, and bring you up out of this land to the land which He swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.’ **25** And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying: ‘God will surely remember you, and you shall carry up my bones from here.’ **26** So Joseph died, being a hundred and ten years old. And they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt. {p}

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End Notes

¹ Gen 3:24 ... *He dwelt between the cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and the fire of wrath infolding itself to preserve inviolate the way of the tree of life.*

The word translated ‘placed,’ is literally ‘to dwell as in a tabernacle—to inhabit.’ The word ‘cherubim’ has, in the original, the definite article ‘the’ before it. ‘Sword’ is introduced, while no such weapon as a sword had yet been known: the phrase is ‘the fire of wrath;’ a sword being the instrument of wrath afterwards having been applied here; but in this place the primary idea of the word should be used, because the object which came later was then unknown. Besides, here, if the word meant sword, the phrase would literally be ‘the fire of sword’ which is senseless. ‘Turning every way’ is the same word which the translators render in Ezekiel, chapter 1:4, as ‘infolding itself;’ and ‘keep,’ although properly translated, does not, in the original, mean here ‘to guard,’ but ‘to keep’ in the sense of observe; in the same sense in which it is used in the phrase ‘to keep the commandments of the LORD.’ Had the translators of the English Bible, then, not been misled by some idea about a guard around the tree, they would have rendered the verse thus:

So He drove out the man. And He dwelt between the cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and the fire of wrath (a fierce fire) infolding itself to preserve inviolate the way of the tree of life.

edited from David Morison, *A Religious History of Man* (1842), p. 97.

As I studied the validity of this change to the text, I found that Scripture’s Teaching Tools confirmed it.

Applying the Original Hebrew Teaching Tool:

To drive out is Strong’s H1644 גרש *garash*, a primitive root meaning, “to expel.” The 3-letter root is *gimel* + *resh* + *shin*.

gimel ג = the foot, thus foot, walk, gather

resh ר = the head of man, thus head, first, top, beginning, man

shin ש = two front teeth, thus sharp, press, eat, two, again

The story told is to become a **walking** (*gimel*) **man** (*resh*) **once more** (through the idea of a repeat, *shin*).

To place is Strong's H7931 שכן *shakan*, a primitive root meaning, "to settle down, to dwell." According to *Gesenius*, the 3-letter root is *shin* + *kaph* + *nun*, but the *Ancient Hebrew Lexicon* says the *shin* was transposed from an original *sin* or *samech* over time.

sin ס = the thorn, thus grab, hate, protect

kaph כ ך = the open palm, thus bend, open, allow, tame

nun נ ן = the seed, thus continue, heir, son

The story told is of a **protected** (*sin*) **covering** (*kaph*, in the sense of the father's open palm covering the head of his son when conferring the blessing) under which one **continues** (*nun*); i.e., one's permanent dwelling place rather than a temporary booth.

Cherubim is Strong's H3742 *kerub*, a concrete noun meaning, "cherub," of uncertain derivation. *Gesenius* speculates that the original verb may have been Strong's H7126, קרב *qarab*, a primitive root meaning, "to draw near," the *quph* having been transposed for the *kaph* over time. If so, the 3-letter root is *quph* + *resh* + *bet*.

quph ק = sun on the horizon, thus condense, circle, time

resh ר = the head of man, thus head, first, top, beginning, man

bet ב = the house, thus house, household, family, in, within

The story told is that which **draws** (*quph*, as the light is drawn back to its source when the sun is on the horizon) the **man** (*resh*) **home** (*bet*). The relation of the root to "cherub" is that the cherubim are always found in the presence of YHVH, His presence being man's home.

Flaming is Strong's H3858 *lahat*, a concrete noun meaning, "flame," from Strong's H3857 להט *lahat*, a primitive root meaning "to be on fire." The 3-letter root is *lamed* + *hey* + *tet*.

lamed ל = the shepherd's staff, thus teach, yoke, to, bind

hey ה = man w/ raised arms, thus look, reveal, wonder, worship, breath

tet ט = the basket, thus surround, contain, hold, mud

Gesenius says the root can also mean "to hide," and the *Ancient Hebrew Lexicon* corroborates this meaning. The related words of veil (hiding the hair or face of a woman), lizard (a hidden reptile), secret (hidden from common knowledge), and wrap (enclosing something which hides it from view) bring out the common thread of something hidden. So the story the pictographs are telling is of **authority** (*lamed*) that is **wondrous** or supernatural (*hey*) which **surrounds** (*tet*, or hides, as a wrap which surrounds hides what it wraps from view).

This word occurs only twice in the Hebrew Bible:

So He drove out the man; and He placed at the east of the garden of Eden the cherubim, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life. Gen 3:24
Then Pharaoh also called for the wise men and the sorcerers; and they also, the magicians of Egypt, did in like manner with their secret arts. Exo 7:11

Why is this word used to mean both the flame of the Cherubim, and the secret arts of the Egyptian magicians? The wondrous action of the Cherubim, whatever it was, was a sign of **spiritual authority** which **hid** the way to the tree of life. The arts of the magicians were accomplished through real **spiritual authority**, not of God, but of the occult, which was **hidden** or secret from common knowledge. According to Webster's Dictionary, the word *occult* means, "to shut off from view or exposure, to cover."

Sword is Strong's H2719 *chereb*, a concrete object meaning "tool, sword, knife;" from Strong's H2717 חרב *charab*, a primitive root meaning, "to lay waste." The 3-letter root is *chet* + *resh* + *bet*.

chet ח = the wall, thus outside, divide, half
resh ר = the head of man, thus head, first, top, beginning, man
bet ב = the house, thus house, household, family, in, within

In antiquity animals were slaughtered for the family's use for meat, hides, glue, and even the bone. The labor of slaughter was done **outside** (*chet*) by the **man** (*resh*) for the benefit of the **household** (*bet*). In all of the verb's uses in Scripture, it carries the meaning of drying up, laying waste, or making desolate.

Turned every way is Strong's H2015 הפך *haphak*, a primitive root meaning, "to overturn." The 3-letter root is *hey* + *pey* + *kaph*.

hey ה = man w/ raised arms, thus look, reveal, wonder, worship, breath
pey פ = the mouth, thus open, blow, scatter, edge
kaph כ = the open palm, thus bend, open, allow, tame

The story told is to **upraise** (*hey*) a **flask**, that is, the **mouth** (*pey*) **opened** (*kaph*), i.e. a vessel for storing contents. You upraise a flask to overturn it to pour out its contents.

To keep is Strong's H8104 שמר *shamar*, a primitive root meaning, "to keep, to watch, to guard as a husbandman or shepherd." The 3-letter root is *shin* + *mem* + *resh*. The *Ancient Hebrew Lexicon* tells us that the *shin* + *mem* in this root were originally a *sin* + *nun*, the similar sounds becoming transposed over time. So the 3-letter root for the sake of the Hebrew parable is *sin* + *nun* + *resh*.

sin ס = the thorn, thus grab, hate, protect
nun נ = the seed, thus continue, heir, son
resh ר = the head of man, thus head, first, top, beginning, man

Shepherds would surround their flocks at night with thorn branches to protect them from predators when they were pasturing them away from the fold. They kept or guarded their flocks so that their children would be provided for. Thus, to **protect** (*sin*) for the **next generation** (*nun*) that which is of **first importance** (*resh*).

The Hebrew in its original meanings seems to bear out David Morison's explanation of the verse and make sense of it.

² Gen 4:26. ... *then men began to call on the name of YHVH.*

An equally admissible translation is noted in the margin of the King James: "Or, to call themselves by the name of the LORD;" that is, that it was they who were the self-existent and eternal. The interpretation that the pious descendants of Seth formed themselves into a distinct society which they called after the name of the LORD has no agreement in any of the preserved remains of antiquity. We find no allusion to this society, by this or any other name, in any of the subsequent writings of Moses or elsewhere. There is, however, another understanding of the text which some of the best scholars contend is not only allowable, but required by the original words. The word rendered "began" is Strong's H2490, "to begin to profane," marking the generation in which proud and wicked men started applying to themselves, and to each other, the names, titles, and attributes of Deity. Thus,

... then men profanely began to call themselves by the name of YHVH.

edited from George Smith, *The Patriarchal Age* (1847), pp. 164-165.

As I studied the validity of this change to the text, I found that Scripture's Teaching Tools confirmed it.

Applying the Original Hebrew Teaching Tool:

To begin is Strong's H2490 חלל *chalal*, a primitive root meaning, "profane, defile, pollute, desecrate." The 3-letter root is *chet* + *lamed* + *lamed*.

chet ח = the wall, thus outside, divide, half
lamed ל = the shepherd's staff, thus teach, yoke, to, bind
lamed ל = the shepherd's staff, thus teach, yoke, to, bind

From the *Ancient Hebrew Lexicon* by Dr. Jeff Benner:

A hole is drilled with a tool called a bow drill. The string of the bow is wrapped around the drill. By moving the bow back and forth, and firmly pressing down, the drill spins around drilling the hole.

In the patriarchal era, a string or sinew was **wrapped around** (*chet*, as a wall surrounds a house) the **drill** (*lamed*, as the drill is a long stick with a sharpened end), in order to bore a hole into wood or stone. Holes were bored to give a place of egress for chisels or other tools to do their work for whatever **purpose man has determined** for it (*lamed*, in the sense of man's authority exercised over the stone).

This is the everyday, common, or profane use of the bow drill and the stone, in service of man's daily work and responsibilities.

*And if you make Me an altar of stone, you shall not build it of hewn stones; for if you lift up your tool on it, you have **profaned** (Strong's H2490 *chahal*) it. Exo 20:25*

YHVH seems to be saying that when man exercises authority over the stones which comprise His altar, then he has made it common, or profaned something which ought to be set apart or holy to YHVH.

The Hebrew of the sentence under question (Hebrew is read right to left):

אז הוחל לקרא בשם יהוה .

אז הוחל לקרא (men began) יהוה by ב the name שם to ל call יהוה YHVH .

You can see the *chet* + *lamed* in "men began."

Applying the Common Theme Teaching Tool:

"Men began," where *chahal* "to profane" is translated as 'began:'

*And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name Enos: then **be-gan men** to call upon the name of YHVH. Gen 4:26*

*And it came to pass, when **men began** to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, Gen 6:1*

*And **Noah began** to be a husbandman, and he planted a vineyard, Gen 9:20*

*And Cush begat Nimrod: **he began** to be a mighty one in the earth. Gen 10:8*

*And YHVH said, "Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language, and this **they begin** to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do." Gen 11:6*

We saw that the root of *chahal* is the bow drill, a tool which is used to make an ingress into a material so that it might be split, that is, *weakened*. To **profane** something sacred is to weaken its sanctity in the eyes of the people commanded to hold it sacred.

In each of these Scriptural instances where men began to profane in Gen 1-11, the following history reveals how society was weakened.

Gen 4:26, Men profanely began to call themselves by the name of YHVH, or take upon themselves titles and attributes of Deity. As a result the wickedness testified of in chapters 5 and 6 increased and became great. The result was that the individual integrity of man was weakened.

Gen 6:1, Men profanely began to multiply their daughters, not as children to be cherished and raised to feminine maturity as helpmates and mothers of their own house, but as objects to be bartered for the use of the wealthy elite in possibly the first in-

stance of human trafficking in the history of the world. See the next endnote, Gen 5:32-6:4, on the sons of God. The result was that the father and family bond was weakened.

Gen 9:20, Noah profanely began to plant a vineyard, resulting in the first instance of drunkenness related in Scripture. This incident called forth the mocking of Noah's son Ham—and it was wrong for Ham to do so—but honestly Noah first did something worthy of mockery. Now, I believe it was not the planting of the vineyard that was profane, but the over-indulgence of wine which impaired Noah's ability, that was profane. To be fair, if Noah was the inventor of fermented grapes, or wine, he might not have known the effect the wine would have on his body and his sensibilities, until after he awoke from his wine. The result was that substance abuse weakened the family integrity and fed into sibling rivalry.

Gen 10:8, Nimrod profanely began to be a mighty one in the earth, lifting himself to position and power over men, when previously the government in human society had been a benevolent patriarchy, with each tribe's patriarch settling disputes and rendering decisions based in love for his children and grandchildren, rather than in Nimrod's model of control and lust for power. The result was that governmental integrity was weakened.

Gen 11:6, The people at Babel profanely began to build the tower rather than obey God and disperse to their assigned borders, which weakened the peace between national neighbors and introduced warfare into the human experience. The result was that the peaceful co-existence between the global family of nations was weakened.

³ Gen 6:1-4. Who were the sons of God, when Scripture tells us that God has only one begotten Son?

*For God so loved the world, that He gave His **only begotten Son**, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. Joh 3:16*

First we must recognize that the Hebrew which is always translated, "God," the true God, Strong's H430 *elohiym*, is also used in Scripture to mean, "false gods," "angels," "judges," and "rulers." In this passage I believe the correct translation is,

*... the sons of the **rulers** saw that the daughters of men were fair ... Gen 6:2*

For these reasons.

First. The phrase, "when men began," in 6:1, is one of only five occurrences in the opening chapters of Genesis, describing a change in culture and society following the profaning of something meant to be sacred, as the verb translated "began" actually means, "to profane." See the previous endnote.

Second. The Hebrew in the phrase, "took wives for themselves," in 6:2, translated "to take," carries both a positive and a negative spin. The positive spin on this verb is merely *to receive that which has been given*, as indicated by the noun "learning," which comes from this root. The negative spin on this verb is *to take by force*, as indicated by the nouns "captive," "prey," and "oppression," which also come from this root. I believe in 6:2 it is meant in its negative spin, that the sons of the rulers forcibly took wives from among the daughters of (common) men, whomever they chose.

Third. Immediately following the history of the rapacious abuse of office employed by the sons of rulers, if the above is correct, God's commentary in 6:3 is,

"My Spirit shall not abide in man forever, for he is flesh; therefore his days shall be one hundred and twenty years."

That is, **a censure**, for men in this era lived 900+ years. The double meaning on this censure is also that Noah was 120 years building the ark, so man had 120 years left before his flesh was destroyed in the Flood.

Now if the fault was with higher spiritual beings, demons or angels, who impregnated women, and not man, then why censure man? Why does His censure not fall on angels? Moreover, in Gen 6:5-6, His censure is again with man and not angels:

And YHVH saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And it repented YHVH that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him at His heart.

⁴ Gen 15:13. “*And He said to 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 ...’*”

The Hebrew poetical construction of the sentence looks something like this:

A) Your seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs

B) And shall serve them

B) And they shall afflict them

A) Four hundred years

The four hundred years part of the sentence pairs with the your seed part of the sentence, thus:

Your seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs ... four hundred years.

The service and affliction are descriptions unrelated to the chronology detail. The sojourn begins with Abram in Canaan, and not with Joseph or Jacob in Egypt.

Why 400 years here and not 430 as elsewhere in Scripture, for example in Exo 12:40?

Now the time that the children of Israel dwelt in Egypt was four hundred and thirty years.

In Exo 12:40, there is another poetical construction. More precisely, it should read,

Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was four hundred and thirty years.

A) Now the sojourning of the children of Israel

X) Who dwelt in Egypt

A) Was four hundred and thirty years

The pairing contains the chronology information, as in Gen 15:13. Was God just being imprecise with His dates? No. It was 430 years from the time Abram entered into the covenant with YHVH in the Promised Land (Gen 15:13), but 400 years from the time that Isaac became “Your seed” at his weaning, which transpired 30 years later (Gen 21:8). There is another witness to this truth:

And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect. Gal 3:17

The Law was given in the same year as the Exodus from Egypt, when the children of Israel ceased serving the Egyptians. Note that Paul says that from the covenant, Gen 15:13, to the Law, following Exo 12:40, was 430 years.

None of this analysis is original with me; Dr. Floyd Nolen Jones, author of *The Chronology of the Old Testament*, explains this chronological “thorn” in Scripture with much more detail.

⁵ Gen 33:18. *And Jacob came in peace to the city of Shechem ... JPS, Hebrew Bible in English (HBE)*

And Jacob came to Shalem, a city of Shechem ... KJV

Then Jacob came safely to the city of Shechem ... NKJV

In peace is in Hebrew, Strong’s H8004, *shalem*, which Strong’s assigns as a place name. It is used three times in the Hebrew Bible:

And Melchizedek king of Salem [Strong's H8004] brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the Most High God. Gen 14:18

And Jacob came to Shalem, [Strong's H8004] a city of Shechem, which is in the land of Canaan, when he came from Padanaram; and pitched his tent before the city. Gen 33:18

In Salem [Strong's H8004] also is his tabernacle, and his dwelling place in Zion. Psa 76:2

Most Hebrew scholars agree that as a place name, it refers to Jerusalem.

However, it is also the same word as Strong's H8003, *shalem*, an adjective, meaning "complete," from Strong's H7999, a primitive root, *shalam*, meaning to be whole, sound, or safe.

That in Gen 33:18, *shalem* should be translated as the adjective as the JPS does, and not a place name: given the distance between Jerusalem–*Shalem*–and Shechem, the city of Hamor, in this era of Canaanite and Near Eastern city-states, it is unlikely that Jerusalem was a city of Shechem. The NKJV corrects the translation error and comes into agreement with the JPS.

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The Teaching Tools of Scripture

God wants to be understood, so He has revealed truth about Himself to man. This truth is contained in the Scripture, into which He has also embedded teaching tools, which both Jewish and Christian scholars have brought to light. God wants to be understood, but He does not throw His pearls before swine (Mat 7:6). His gold and silver requires some digging, but treasure is just under the surface for those willing to look for it (Pro 2:1-6). This list of teaching tools is not comprehensive, but they have been the most help to me in unraveling the way Scripture reveals its truth.

THE PLAIN MEANING OF THE TEXT. God's Word means what it appears to mean, upon the simple reading of the text. An example is,

And God said, "Let the waters bring forth abundantly the living creature, and let that the winged creatures may fly above the earth in the open expanse of heaven." And God created the great sea creatures, and every living creature that moves, with which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged creature after its kind. And God saw that it was good. And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let winged creatures multiply in the earth." Gen 1:20-22

The plain meaning of the text is that God created sea creatures according to their kinds, which then multiplied after their kinds; and God created birds according to their kinds, which then multiplied after their kinds. Everything in the earth today, of plants, animals, and people, still multiplies after its kind. Orange trees do not produce blueberries, and cats do not bear puppies. This is as it has been from the beginning; unlike Darwinian evolution teaches.

PATTERNS AND REPETITION. The Scripture often establishes patterns in the narrative. Sometimes the repetition is enough to draw our attention to the fact that this cannot be coincidence; Scripture is trying to make a point about something. Sometimes, however, the pattern is broken, to draw attention to the break, because God is trying to teach something important.

An example of repetition is found in Gen 5:1-21. In the list of the descendants of Adam, each successive generation lived x years, begot his son, lived y years after his birth, begetting other sons and daughters, and died when he was z years old, over and over again until our eyes glaze. But then we have a break in pattern, which leaps off the page to us precisely because it is something different from the monotonous repetition preceding it.

And Enoch walked with God after Methuselah's birth for three hundred years, and became the father of sons and daughters. And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty-five years; and Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him. Gen 5:22-24

Someone didn't die! And that is the point Scripture is teaching by the teaching tool of repetition and break in pattern; walk with God and live.

COMPARISON AND CONTRAST. Scripture is loaded with real and seeming opposites, which draw our attention and invite us to make a closer examination. Examples are: Cain and Abel, Isaac and Ishmael, Jacob and Esau, Israel and Canaan. The Word and the Spirit. Grace and Law. Faith and works. The contrast between the two throws a spotlight on each, which is revealing.

ORIGINAL HEBREW. The Old Testament Scripture was penned (for the most part) in ancient Hebrew, God's beautiful language. In particular, God gave the *Torah* to Moses face to face on Mount Sinai—Moses wrote it in Hebrew, every word in its place as dictated by God. As one studies Hebrew, it becomes more and more apparent that not only were the themes of *Torah* God-inspired, but every word, even every letter, is in the place ordained for it by God.

Hebrew words come from verbal three-letter roots, with each letter originally a picture character, such as a house, a hand, or a sun. The three-letter roots themselves are more than just a name for a thing; each root "paints" a picture which tells a story, through its characters, which gives deeper meaning to the translated written message.

For example, the Hebrew word for "husband," as in, "For your Maker is your **husband**" (Isa 54:5) is from the Hebrew root, *bet* + *ayin* + *lamed*, **בעל** = *ba'al*. Of course this word has a negative connotation because the Canaanites worshiped an idol they called *Baal*. But long before there were Canaanites, there were God's words in Hebrew, and husbands.

The *bet* **ב** was originally the picture of the house or family. The *ayin* **ע** was originally the picture of the eye. The *lamed* **ל** was originally the picture of the shepherd's staff.

The husband, then, is the one who **watches over** (*ayin*) or shades his **house** (*bet*) like a **shepherd** (*lamed*) watches over or shades his flock, as God designed things from the beginning. Isn't that beautiful? Often this investigation into Hebrew will reveal God's great heart of love, which is not always readily apparent in English translation.

PARAGRAPH DIVISIONS. God's paragraph divisions, when He has concluded one topic and is ready to go on to the next, are included in *Torah* scrolls and Hebrew Bibles, but not in English translations. These divisions, which were given to Moses and the other authors of the Old Testament by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, have been preserved through the generations by the Hebrew and Jewish scribes who faithfully copied every letter of Scripture without alteration. They were discarded by the European and English translators.

There are two kinds of paragraph divisions, a weak division and a strong division. A weak division roughly indicates another facet of the same theme. A strong division roughly indicates a new theme or topic. God has divided His paragraphs the way He has for a reason; He is trying to teach us something! While sometimes the divisions occur in places which make sense to human logic, just as often they do not; I am sure this is one of the reasons the translators discarded them in the first place. However, where the paragraph divisions aren't is often just as telling as where they are, as they have revealed beautiful pictures of Messiah, salvation, the Gospel, and grace.

I mark weak divisions with an {s}, because the Hebrew for the weak division (*stumah*) begins with the "s" sound. I mark strong divisions with a {p}, because the Hebrew for the strong division (*p'tuchah*) begins with the "p" sound. Here is an example:

Deu 6:4-9 {s} Listen to YHVH's commandments

Deu 6:10-15 {s} Pay careful heed to YHVH's commandments

Deu 6:16-19 {s} Observe YHVH's commandments

Deu 6:20-25 {s} Teach YHVH's commandments to your children

Deu 7:1-11 {p} YHVH has set His love upon Israel

We can see that each weak paragraph in this series is a continuation of the same topic, that of our responsibility toward YHVH's commandments. The series concludes with a strong paragraph that at first glance does not seem to continue the topic. However, that is the teaching of this strong theme. Because YHVH has set His love upon Israel, He has given them His commandments, which, if observed, opens blessing over His people on this side of heaven (Lev 18:5, Deu 4:1, 4:40, 6:1-3, 6:24, 10:12-13, 28:1-2).

CHIASTIC STRUCTURES. The Scriptures, Old and New Testaments, contain chiasmic structures from beginning to end. They are one of the thumbprints of God on His Word, that reveal a single divine author from beginning to end, as their beauty, elegance, logic, and symmetry is impossible for a human mind to create in the complexity that they are found in Scripture.

A chiasmic structure is a narrative with a central point, which is the key point of the passage. The Spirit highlights that point by having the narrative around it zero in on it like an arrow. The way the narrative zeroes in on the central point is fascinating: let's say there are four elements or ideas in a passage that leads up to the central point. Following the central point, the same elements or ideas will be repeated in some way, but in reverse order. This makes pairings, as the element immediately preceding the central point is paired by common theme, to the element immediately following the central point, and so on throughout the narrative. There can be any number of elements or ideas. But that they repeat in reverse order around a central point is the key characteristic.

There are complete structures that are one paragraph long, even one sentence long, and others which were five, ten, or twenty chapters long, with smaller structures embedded within them. There are elegant and complex structures overlapping other completely different elegant and complex structures, meaning that they share portions of a narrative for their elements, without once disturbing the flow of the narrative, or the symmetry of the greater and lesser structures around them. There are single structures that encompass an

entire book of the Bible, from beginning to end. The *Torah* from Gen 1:1-Deu 34:12 makes a single structure. I believe the Old Testament makes a single structure, as well as the New, as well as the entire Bible from Gen 1:1-Rev 22:21 (I am working on mapping it). The events of the life of Yeshua form a chiastic structure. Well, that would make sense if He is the Word of God made flesh, and the chiastic structure is a thumbprint of the Holy Spirit on the text of the Word of God.

Gen 21:1-21 Chiastic Structure

1A) 21:1-3 YHVH TOOK NOTE OF SARAH, and fulfilled His promise concerning Isaac;

1B) 21:4 ABRAHAM DID UNTO ISAAC according to the Word of YHVH;

1C) 21:5-7 The son of Sarah caused the **LAUGHTER OF JOY**;

CENTRAL AXIS) GEN 21:8 THE CHILD GREW, AND WAS WEANED. ABRAHAM MADE A GREAT FEAST ON THE DAY THAT ISAAC WAS WEANED; (I.E., ISAAC OFFICIALLY BECAME ABRAHAM'S HEIR);

2C) 21:9 The son of Hagar **LAUGHED IN MOCKERY** of Isaac;

2B) 21:10-14 ABRAHAM DID UNTO ISHMAEL according to the word of YHVH, and sent them away;

2A) 21:15-21 YHVH TOOK NOTE OF HAGAR, and fulfilled His promise concerning Ishmael.

The thing that is amazing is that the central point often isn't what you might expect it to be, and sometimes, the matching pairs aren't what you would expect them to be a first glance either. But God has a reason for making His central points and His matching pairs as He has. Often He is revealing something beautiful and amazing about Himself, about Messiah, or the Gospel of salvation by grace through faith. Sometimes He reveals prophetic pictures. At any rate, He is trying to help us understand Him.

HISTORY THAT PROPHESES. The history of Israel, recorded in *Torah* and the Old Testament history books, is not merely simple history, but it is a history which prophesies of spiritual truths and things to come. Most Christians are very aware of one example of history that prophesies: Israel's deliverance from slavery in Egypt, on the night the Passover lambs were slain and their blood was applied to the doorposts of their houses. This history actually happened, but this history also prophesies of our deliverance from slavery in the kingdom of darkness, when the blood of the Passover Lamb, Yeshua Messiah, is applied to the doorposts of our hearts. It is history that foretells the Gospel. However, this is not an isolated incident, but all the history of Israel recorded in Scripture likewise prophesies. Yeshua Messiah is the Word of God made flesh; He is the substance which casts the shadow of the written Word, so that the written Word points to and reveals Him.

NATURAL PICTURES. A similar tool to history that prophesies is the tool of natural pictures. Yeshua made heavy use of this teaching tool by teaching us many things about spiritual truths using parables. He often began a parable by saying, "The kingdom of heaven is like..." and then proceeded to tell a story about seeds, crops, harvests, landowners, fathers and sons, or some other aspect of normal human existence or the natural world with which His audience was well aware. That picture in the natural world was meant to teach us something about the spiritual world, or God, or the kingdom of heaven that we might not otherwise understand. Prophecy and the prophetic Scriptures also often employ this tool.

TYPES. Throughout the Old Testament, we find not only history that prophesies of Messiah, but persons whose lives strangely contain amazing elements that mirror Messiah's life and ministry. We find these "types" particularly in the *Torah*, which makes sense, since the purpose of *Torah* was to proclaim Messiah (Joh 5:46). We say that Isaac is a type of Messiah, since he was bound to be sacrificed by His father Abraham, but then he was restored to life, seemingly miraculously. This event in Isaac's life coincides with the same event in Messiah's life. Isaac is not the only type of Messiah in *Torah* or the Old Testament; and in fact, the Old Testament contains types of antichrist also.

SIGNS OF MESSIAH. God has placed signs, markers, and identifying guideposts in His Word to help us recognize when a person or passage is prophetic of Messiah. These signs of Messiah are consistently used, especially throughout the *Torah*. The first is the number three. Threes appear with overwhelming frequency in passages which prophesy of Messiah in some way, shape, or form. Another sign is resurrection life: someone's death seems certain or is certain, but miraculously, they escape death or are restored to life.

The life of Joseph beginning in Gen 37 is full of signs of Messiah. Three times he was brought low, where he experienced a death and resurrection metaphor: when his brothers put him in a dry well intending to kill him, but he was raised out of the pit to life; when he was sold as a slave in Egypt, so that the life he had known was ended, but he was raised up to the position of overseer over all that Potipher owned; and when he was cast into prison, so that the life he had known was again ended, but then was raised up to the position of overseer of all Egypt. There are other signs of Messiah in Scripture also.

COMMON THEMES. This is one of the most powerful teaching tools God has placed in Scripture. When multiple passages reveal the same theme or topic, even if they seem dissimilar at first glance, a comparison of those passages often reveals amazing insight, instruction, and wisdom. One simple example is the theme of the tree of life. This tree appears overtly in Gen 2:9, Gen 3:22-24, Rev 2:7, and Rev 22. But also the tree of life appears, perhaps not so covertly, in Psa 1. It is not mentioned by name, but it becomes clear upon consideration of the passage in its entirety, that its theme or topic is a life-giving tree. Comparison, then, of Gen 2:9, Gen 3:22-24, Psa 1, Rev 2:7, and Rev 22 (and any other passages in which the theme is the tree of life) will be instructive.

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Titles by Christine Miller

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The Law of Love

If Yeshua is God incarnate (Joh 1:1,14) and the same yesterday, today, and forever (Heb 13:8) then the God of the Old Testament must be the same God of love as the God of the New Testament. But many describe the God of the Old Testament as vengeful, wrathful, angry, and judgmental. We have misunderstood the unique way Moses "writes about Messiah" (Joh 5:46) misunderstanding the Law, and the nature of the God whose Law it is. It is the Law of Love.



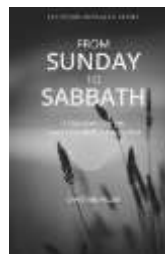
Finding Messiah in Torah

If God has declared the end from the beginning (Isa 46:9-10a), then He has declared Messiah, the Gospel of grace, the new birth, and the free gift of eternal life from the very first chapter of the Bible. In fact, all of the Law declares Messiah and points to Him. "For had you believed Moses, you would have believed Me, for he wrote of Me." – Jesus, in Joh 5:46



From Sunday to Sabbath

The story of one Christian's journey from Sunday keeping, being raised in the American Church, to Saturday Sabbath keeping, and the subsequent investigation into all the objections concerned family and friends brought up because of doing something that was commanded in the Law.



Bible for Beginners Series

If you are new to the Bible, but daunted trying to read it for yourself, this series is designed to help. Taking it one chapter at a time, each commentary highlights the common Teaching Tools of Scripture, history and culture, understanding the "hard" sayings, and the prophecies of Messiah Yeshua and the gospel of grace.



The Chiastic Structure Series

The text of each book of the Bible forms a continuous string of chiastic structures from beginning to end. The structures illuminate the "hard" places of Scripture, elegantly revealing the Gospel of grace, and the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, as well as providing amazing insight into the message of Scripture.

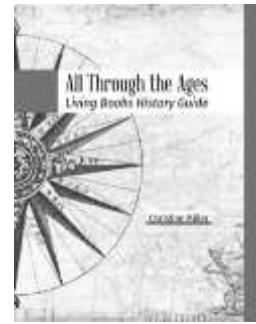


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Homeschooling Helps

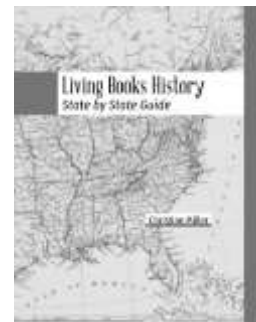
All Through the Ages

Teach and learn history using “living books:” narrative histories, historical fiction, compelling non-fiction, biography and literature. History is full of excitement,, adventure, and heart-wrenching drama, which is almost always lost in textbooks. Bring the “story” back into “history,” armed with a library card and this exhaustive guide for every reading level from pre-readers through college-bound adults, divided by chronological era and geographical region.



State by State History Guide

In the same format as All Through the Ages above, but the focus is exclusively on United States history, state by state. Most homeschools are required to teach state history, and with this guide, you can, teaching and learning using “living books:” narrative histories, historical fiction, compelling non-fiction, biography and literature. Bring the “story” back into “history,” with a library card and this exhaustive guide for every reading level from pre-readers through college-bound adults.



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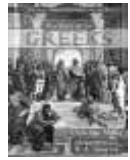
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