

Shabbat Va-y'chi

30 December 2023 18 Tevet 5784

Torah Reading

Genesis 50:7-26

(7) So Joseph went up to bury his father; and with him went up all the officials of Pharaoh, the senior members of his court, and all of Egypt's dignitaries, (8) together with all of Joseph's household, his brothers, and his father's household; only their children, their flocks, and their herds were left in the region of Goshen. (9) Chariots, too, and horsemen went up with him; it was a very large troop. (10) When they came to Goren ha-Atad, which is beyond the Jordan, they held there a very great and solemn lamentation; and he observed a mourning period of seven days for his father. (11) And when the Canaanite inhabitants of the land saw the mourning at Goren ha-Atad, they said, "This is a solemn mourning on the part of the Egyptians." That is why it was named Abel-mizraim, which is beyond the Jordan. (12) Thus his sons did for him as he had

בראשית נ':ז'-כ"ו

(ז) וַיַּעַל יוֹסֵף לִקְבֹּר אֶת־אָבִיו וַיַּעֲלוּ
אִתּוֹ כָּל־עַבְדֵי פַרְעֹה וְזִקְנֵי בֵיתוֹ וְכָל
זִקְנֵי אֶרֶץ־מִצְרָיִם: (ח) וְכָל־בֵּית יוֹסֵף
וְאֶחָיו וּבֵית אָבִיו וְכָל טַפָּם וְצִאֲנָם
וּבָקָרָם וְעֻזְבוֹ בְּאֶרֶץ גֹּשֶׁן: (ט) וַיַּעַל
עִמְלֹו גַם־רֶכֶב גַּם־פָּרָשִׁים וַיְהִי הַמְחֻנָּה
כְּבֹד מְאֹד: (י) וַיָּבֹאוּ עַד־גֹּרֶן הָאֲטָד
אֲשֶׁר בְּעֵבֶר הַיַּרְדֵּן וַיִּסְפְּדוּ־שָׁם מִסֵּפֶד
גָּדוֹל וְכְבֹד מְאֹד וַיַּעַשׂ לְאָבִיו אֵבֶל
שָׁבַעַת יָמִים: (יא) וַיָּרָא יוֹשֵׁב הָאֶרֶץ
הַכְּנַעֲנִי אֶת־הָאֵבֶל בְּגֶרֶן הָאֲטָד וַיֹּאמְרוּ
אִבְל־כְּבֹד זֶה לַמִּצְרָיִם עַל־כֵּן קָרָא
שְׁמָהּ אֵבֶל מִצְרַיִם אֲשֶׁר בְּעֵבֶר הַיַּרְדֵּן:
(יב) וַיַּעֲשׂוּ בָנָיו לֹו כֵן כַּאֲשֶׁר צֻוּם:
(יג) וַיִּשָּׂאוּ אֹתוֹ בָּנָיו אֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן
וַיִּקְבְּרוּ אֹתוֹ בְּמַעְרַת שְׂדֵה הַמַּכְפֵּלָה
אֲשֶׁר קָנָה אַבְרָהָם אֶת־הַשְּׂדֵה
לְאַחֲזַת־קְבֹר מֵאֵת עֶפְרָן הַחֲתִי עַל־פְּנֵי
מִמְרָא: (יד) וַיָּשָׁב יוֹסֵף מִצְרַיִם הָיָה

instructed them. (13) His sons carried him to the land of Canaan, and buried him in the cave of the field of Machpelah, the field near Mamre, which Abraham had bought for a burial site from Ephron the Hittite. (14) After burying his father, Joseph returned to Egypt, he and his brothers and all who had gone up with him to bury his father. (15) When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrong that we did him!" (16) So they sent this message to Joseph, "Before his death your father left this instruction: (17) So shall you say to Joseph, 'Forgive, I urge you, the offense and guilt of your brothers who treated you so harshly.' Therefore, please forgive the offense of the servants of the God of your father's [house]." And Joseph was in tears as they spoke to him. (18) His brothers went to him themselves, flung themselves before him, and said, "We are prepared to be your slaves." (19) But Joseph said to them, "Have no fear! Am I a substitute for God? (20) Besides, although you intended me harm, God intended it for good, so as to bring about the present result—the survival of many people. (21) And so, fear not. I will sustain you and your dependents."

וְאֶחָיו וְכָל־הָעֲלִים אִתּוֹ לִקְבֹּר
 אֶת־אָבִיו אַחֲרֵי קִבְרוֹ אֶת־אָבִיו: (טו)
 וַיֵּרְאוּ אַחֲרֵי־יוֹסֵף כִּי־מֵת אָבִיהֶם
 וַיֹּאמְרוּ לוֹ יִשְׁטַמְנוּ יוֹסֵף וְהַשֵּׁב יוֹשִׁיב
 לָנוּ אֵת כָּל־הָרָעָה אֲשֶׁר גָּמְלָנוּ אֹתוֹ:
 (טז) וַיִּצְווּ אֶל־יוֹסֵף לֵאמֹר אָבִיךָ צִוָּה
 לִפְנֵי מוֹתוֹ לֵאמֹר: (יז) כֹּה־תֹאמְרוּ
 לְיוֹסֵף אֲנֵא שָׂא נָא פָשַׁע אֶחָיךָ
 וְחַטָּאתָם כִּי־רָעָה גָּמְלוּךָ וְעַתָּה שָׂא נָא
 לִפְשַׁע עַבְדֵי אֱלֹהֵי אָבִיךָ וַיִּבֶן יוֹסֵף
 בְּדִבְרָם אֵלָיו: (יח) וַיֵּלְכוּ גַם־אֶחָיו
 וַיִּפְּלוּ לִפְנָיו וַיֹּאמְרוּ הִגֵּנוּ לָךְ לַעֲבָדִים:
 (יט) וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵהֶם יוֹסֵף אֵלֶיךָ תִּירָאוּ כִּי
 הִתַּחַת אֱלֹהִים אָנִי: (כ) וְאַתֶּם חַשְׁבֶּתֶם
 עָלַי רָעָה אֱלֹהִים חַשְׁבָּה לְטֹבָה לְמַעַן
 עֲשֶׂה כַּיּוֹם הַזֶּה לְהַחְיֹת עַם־יִשְׂרָאֵל: (כא)
 וְעַתָּה אֵלֶיךָ תִּירָאוּ אֲנִי אֶכְלֶל אֶתְכֶם
 וְאֶת־טַפְכֶּם וַיִּנָּחֶם אוֹתָם וַיִּזְכֹּר
 עַל־לֵבָם: (כב) וַיֵּשֶׁב יוֹסֵף בְּמִצְרָיִם
 הוּא וּבֵית אָבִיו וַיְהִי יוֹסֵף מֶאֱדָה וְעֹשֶׂה
 שְׁגִימִים: (כג) וַיֵּרָא יוֹסֵף לְאֶפְרַיִם בְּנֵי
 שְׁלֹשִׁים גַּם בְּנֵי מְכִיר בֶן־מְנַשֶּׁה יִלְדוּ
 עַל־בְּרֵכֵי יוֹסֵף: (כד) וַיֹּאמֶר יוֹסֵף
 אֶל־אֶחָיו אֲנִי מֵת וְאֱלֹהִים פָּקֹד יִפְקֹד
 אֶתְכֶם וְהַעֲלֶה אֶתְכֶם מִן־הָאָרֶץ הַזֹּאת
 אֶל־הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁבַּע לְאַבְרָהָם
 לֵאמֹר וְלִיעָקֹב: (כה) וַיִּשְׁבַּע יוֹסֵף
 אֶת־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לֵאמֹר פָּקֹד יִפְקֹד
 אֱלֹהִים אֶתְכֶם וְהַעֲלֶתֶם אֶת־עַצְמוֹתַי

Thus he reassured them, speaking kindly to them. (22) So Joseph and his father's household remained in Egypt. Joseph lived one hundred and ten years. (23) Joseph lived to see children of the third generation of Ephraim; the children of Machir son of Manasseh were likewise born upon Joseph's knees. (24) At length, Joseph said to his brothers, "I am about to die. God will surely take notice of you and bring you up from this land to the land promised on oath to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob." (25) So Joseph made the sons of Israel swear, saying, "When God has taken notice of you, you shall carry up my bones from here." (26) Joseph died at the age of one hundred and ten years; and he was embalmed and placed in a coffin in Egypt.

מִזֶּה: (כו) וַיָּנַח יוֹסֵף בֶּן־מֵאָה וָעֶשְׂרִי
שָׁנִים וַיַּחַנְטוּ אֹתוֹ בְּיֵשֶׁם בְּאֶרְוֹן
בְּמִצְרַיִם:

Haftarah Reading

Joshua 24:14-32

(14) "Now, therefore, revere GOD and render service with undivided loyalty; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates and in Egypt, and serve GOD. (15) Or, if you are loath to

יהושע כ"ד:י"ד-ל"ב

(יד) וְעַתָּה יִרְאוּ אֶת־יְהוָה וְעַבְדּוּ אֹתוֹ
בְּתַמִּים וּבְאֵמֶת וְהִסִּירוּ אֶת־אֱלֹהִים
אֲשֶׁר עָבְדוּ אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם בְּעֵבֶר הַנָּהָר
וּבְמִצְרַיִם וְעַבְדּוּ אֶת־יְהוָה: (טו) וְאִם

serve GOD, choose this day which ones you are going to serve—the gods that your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or those of the Amorites in whose land you are settled; but I and my household will serve GOD.” (16) In reply, the people declared, “Far be it from us to forsake the ETERNAL and serve other gods! (17) For it was the ETERNAL our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, the house of bondage, and who wrought those wondrous signs before our very eyes, and guarded us all along the way that we traveled and among all the peoples through whose midst we passed. (18) And then GOD drove out before us all the peoples—the Amorites—that inhabited the country. We too will serve the ETERNAL—who is our God.” (19) Joshua, however, said to the people, “You will not be able to serve the ETERNAL—who is a holy God, a jealous one—who will not forgive your transgressions and your sins. (20) If you forsake the ETERNAL and serve alien gods, [God] will turn and deal harshly with you and make an end of you, after having been gracious to you.” (21) But the people replied to Joshua, “No, we will serve the ETERNAL!” (22) Thereupon Joshua said to the people, “You are witnesses against

לע פִּעֲיִיכֶם לַעֲבֹד אֶת־יְהוָה בְּחֵירוֹ
לָכֶם הַיּוֹם אֶת־מִי תַעֲבֹדוּן אִם
אֶת־אֱלֹהִים אֲשֶׁר־עָבְדוּ אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם
אֲשֶׁר (בעבר) [מֵעַבָר] הִנָּהָר וְאִם
אֶת־אֱלֹהֵי הָאֲמֹרִי אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם יֹשְׁבִים
בְּאֶרֶצָם וְאֲנֹכִי וּבֵיתִי נֵעֲבֹד אֶת־יְהוָה:
{פ}

(טז) וַיַּעַן הָעָם וַיֹּאמְרוּ חֲלִילָה לָנוּ
מֵעַזֹּב אֶת־יְהוָה לַעֲבֹד אֱלֹהִים אֲחֵרִים:
(יז) כִּי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ הוּא הַמַּעֲלֶה
אֶתָּנוּ וְאֶת־אֲבוֹתֵינוּ מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם
מִבֵּית עַבְדִּים וְאֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה לְעֵינֵינוּ
אֶת־הָאֲתֹת הַגְּדֹלוֹת הָאֵלֶּה וַיִּשְׁמְרוּנוּ
בְּכָל־הַדֶּרֶךְ אֲשֶׁר הִלְכֵנוּ בָּהּ וּבְכָל־
הָעָמִים אֲשֶׁר עָבְרָנוּ בְּקִרְבָּם: (יח)
וַיִּגְרַשׁ יְהוָה אֶת־כָּל־הָעָמִים
וְאֶת־הָאֲמֹרִי יָשָׁב הָאֶרֶץ מִפְּגִינוֹ
גַּם־אֲנַחְנוּ נֵעֲבֹד אֶת־יְהוָה כִּי־הוּא
אֱלֹהֵינוּ: (יט) וַיֹּאמְרוּ יְהוֹשֻׁעַ אֶל־הָעָם
לֹא תוּכְלוּ לַעֲבֹד אֶת־יְהוָה כִּי־אֱלֹהִים
קְדוֹשִׁים הֵוא אֵל־קַנּוּא הוּא לֹא־יִשְׁאַ
לְפִשְׁעֵכֶם וּלְחַטֹּאוֹתֵיכֶם: (כ) כִּי תַעֲזֹבוּ
אֶת־יְהוָה וְעַבַדְתֶּם אֱלֹהֵי נִגָר וְשָׁב
וְהִרְעָ לָכֶם וְכָלָה אֶתְכֶם אֲחֵרִי
אֲשֶׁר־הֵיטִיב לָכֶם: (כא) וַיֹּאמְרוּ הָעָם
אֶל־יְהוֹשֻׁעַ לֹא כִי אֶת־יְהוָה נֵעֲבֹד:
(כב) וַיֹּאמְרוּ יְהוֹשֻׁעַ אֶל־הָעָם עַדִּים
אַתֶּם בָּכֶם כִּי־אַתֶּם בְּחֵרְתֶּם לָכֶם
אֶת־יְהוָה לַעֲבֹד אוֹתוֹ וַיֹּאמְרוּ עַדִּים:

yourselves that you have by your own act chosen to serve the ETERNAL.” “Yes, we are!” they responded. (23) “Then put away the alien gods that you have among you and direct your hearts to the ETERNAL, the God of Israel.” (24) And the people declared to Joshua, “It is the ETERNAL our God whom we will serve—and whom we will obey.” (25) On that day at Shechem, Joshua made a covenant for the people and he made a fixed rule for them. (26) Joshua recorded all this in a book of divine instruction. He took a great stone and set it up at the foot of the oak in the sacred precinct of GOD; (27) and Joshua said to all the people, “See, this very stone shall be a witness against us, for it heard all the words that GOD spoke to us; it shall be a witness against you, lest you break faith with your God.” (28) Joshua then dismissed the people to their allotted portions. (29) After these events, Joshua son of Nun, the servant of GOD, died at the age of one hundred and ten years. (30) They buried him on his own property, at Timnath-serah in the hill country of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash. (31) Israel served GOD during the lifetime of Joshua and the lifetime of the elders who lived on after Joshua, and who had

(כג) וַעֲתָה הִסִּירוּ אֶת־אֱלֹהֵי הַנֹּכַח
אֲשֶׁר בְּקִרְבְּכֶם וְהָטוּ אֶת־לְבַבְכֶם
אֶל־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל: (כד) וַיֹּאמְרוּ
הָעָם אֶל־יְהוֹשֻׁעַ אֶת־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ
נַעֲבֹד וּבִקְוֹלֵנוּ נִשְׁמָע: (כה) וַיִּכְרַת
יְהוֹשֻׁעַ בְּרִית לָעָם בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא וַיִּשָּׂם
לָו חֹק וּמִשְׁפָּט בְּשֵׁכֶם: (כו) וַיִּכְתֹּב
יְהוֹשֻׁעַ אֶת־הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה בְּסֵפֶר
תּוֹרַת אֱלֹהִים וַיִּקְחֵם אֲבֹן גְּדוֹלָה וַיִּקְיֶמֶהָ
שָׁם תַּחַת הָאֵלֶּה אֲשֶׁר בְּמִקְדָּשׁ יְהוָה:
{ פ }

(כז) וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוֹשֻׁעַ אֶל־כָּל־הָעָם הַזֶּה
הָאֲבֹן הַזֶּה הוּא הַתִּיּוֹנָה־בָּנוּ לַעֲלֹה כִּי־הִיא
שֹׁמֵעָה אֶת כָּל־אֲמָרֵי יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר
עִמָּנוּ וְהִיְתָה בְּכֶם לַעֲלֹה פֶן־תִּכַּחֲשׁוּן
בְּאֵלֵהֵיכֶם: (כח) וַיִּשְׁלַח יְהוֹשֻׁעַ
אֶת־הָעָם אִישׁ לְנַחֲלָתוֹ: { פ }
(כט) וַיְהִי אַחֲרֵי הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה וַיָּמָת
יְהוֹשֻׁעַ בֶּן־נוּן עֶבֶד יְהוָה בֶּן־מֶאָה
וָעֶשְׂרֵן שָׁנִים: (ל) וַיִּקְבְּרוּ אֹתוֹ בְּגִבּוֹל
נַחֲלָתוֹ בְּתִמְנַת־סֶרַח אֲשֶׁר
בְּהַר־אֶפְרַיִם מִצְפֹּן לְהַר־גִּזְעִשׁ: (לא)
וַיַּעֲבֹד יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶת־יְהוָה כָּל יְמֵי
יְהוֹשֻׁעַ וְכָל יְמֵי הַזִּקְנִים אֲשֶׁר
הָאָרִיכוּ יָמִים אַחֲרָיו יְהוֹשֻׁעַ וְאֲשֶׁר
יָדְעוּ אֶת כָּל־מַעֲשֵׂה יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה
לְיִשְׂרָאֵל: (לב) וְאֶת־עֲצָמוֹת יוֹסֵף
אֲשֶׁר־הָעֵלוּ בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמִּצְרָיִם
קָבְרוּ בְּשֵׁכֶם בְּחִלְקַת הַשָּׂדֶה אֲשֶׁר קָנָה

experienced all the deeds that GOD had wrought for Israel. (32) The bones of Joseph, which the Israelites had brought up from Egypt, were buried at Shechem, in the piece of ground that Jacob had bought for a hundred from the children of Hamor, Shechem's father, and which had become a heritage of the Josephites.

יַעֲקֹב מָצֵאת בְּנֵי־חֲמוֹר אֲבֵי־שָׁכֶם
בְּמַעֲרָה קְשִׁיטָה וַיִּהְיוּ לְבְנֵי־יוֹסֵף
לְנַחֲלָה: