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- וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה וְאֶל־אַהֲרֹן לֵאמֹר:
- זֹאת חֻקַּת הַתּוֹרָה אֲשֶׁר־צִוָּה יְהוָה לֵאמֹר דָּבַר אֶל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיִּקְחוּ אֵלֶיךָ פָּרָה אֲדָמָה תְּמִימָה אֲשֶׁר אֵין־בָּהּ מוּם אֲשֶׁר לֹא־עָלָה עָלֶיהָ עֹל:
- וְנָתַתָּם אוֹתָהּ אֶל־אַלְעָזָר הַכֹּהֵן וְהוֹצִיא אוֹתָהּ אֶל־מַחֲוֹץ לְמַחֲנֶה וְשַׁחֲט אוֹתָהּ לִפְנָיו:
- וְלָקַח אֲלֶעָזָר הַכֹּהֵן מִדָּמָהּ בְּאֶצְבָּעוֹ וְהִזָּה אֶל־נֹכַח פְּנֵי אֹהֶל־מוֹעֵד מִדָּמָהּ שִׁבְעַת פַּעַמִּים:
- וְשָׂרָף אֶת־הַפָּרָה לְעֵינָיו אֶת־עֹרָהּ וְאֶת־בִּשְׂרָהּ וְאֶת־דָּמָהּ עַל־יִפְרָשָׁה יִשְׂרָאֵל:
- וְלָקַח הַכֹּהֵן עֵץ אֶרֶז וְאֶזֶבֶת וְשֹׁנִי תוֹלַעַת וְהַשְׁלִיךְ אֶל־יְתוֹךְ שֹׂרֶפֶת הַפָּרָה:
- וְכִבֶּס בְּגָדָיו הַכֹּהֵן וְרָחַץ בִּשְׁוֹר בַּמַּיִם וְאָחֹז יָבֹא אֶל־הַמַּחֲנֶה וְטָמֵא הַכֹּהֵן עַד־הָעֶרֶב:
- וְהַשְׂרֹף אוֹתָהּ יִכְבֶּס בְּגָדָיו בַּמַּיִם וְרָחַץ בִּשְׁוֹר בַּמַּיִם וְטָמֵא עַד־הָעֶרֶב:
- וְאִשָּׁה אִישׁ טָהוֹר אֶת אֶפֶר הַפָּרָה וְהִנִּיחַ מִחוּץ לְמַחֲנֶה בַּמָּקוֹם טָהוֹר וְהִיזָּתָה לַעֲלֹת בְּנִי־יִשְׂרָאֵל לְמִשְׁמַרְתָּ לְמִי נָדָה חֲטָאת הָוָא:
- וְכִבֶּס הָאִשָּׁף אֶת־אֶפֶר הַפָּרָה אֶת־בְּגָדָיו וְטָמֵא עַד־הָעֶרֶב וְהִיזָּתָה לְבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְלִזְרָ הַגֵּר בְּתוֹכָם לְחֻקַּת עוֹלָם:
- הַנֶּנֶז בַּמָּת לְכָל־נֶפֶשׁ אָדָם וְטָמֵא שְׁבַעַת יָמִים:
- הוּא יִתְחַטְּא־צֹר בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁלִישִׁי וּבַיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי טָהוֹר וְאִם־לֹא יִתְחַטֵּא בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁלִישִׁי וּבַיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי לֹא יִטָּהֵר:
- 1 spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying:
- This is the ritual law that הוהי has commanded: Instruct the Israelite people to bring you a red cow without blemish, in which there is no defect and on which no yoke has been laid.
- You shall give it to Eleazar the priest. It shall be taken outside the camp and slaughtered in his presence.
- Eleazar the priest shall take some of its blood with his finger and sprinkle it seven times toward the front of the Tent of Meeting.
- The cow shall be burned in his sight—its hide, flesh, and blood shall be burned, its dung included—
- and the priest shall take cedar wood, hyssop, and crimson stuff, and throw them into the fire consuming the cow.
- The priest shall wash his garments and bathe his body in water; after that the priest may reenter the camp, but he shall be impure until evening.
- The one who performed the burning shall also wash those garments in water, bathe in water, and be impure until evening.
- Another party who is pure shall gather up the ashes of the cow and deposit them outside the camp in a pure place, to be kept for water of lustration (water of lustration Lit. “water for impurity.”) for the Israelite community. It is for purgation.
- The one who gathers up the ashes of the cow shall also wash those clothes and be impure until evening. This shall be a permanent law for the Israelites and for the strangers who reside among them.
- Those (Those Heb. impersonal sing., taken as a collective and rendered in the plural.) who touch the corpse of any human being shall be impure for seven days.
- They shall purify themselves with [the ashes] on the third day and on the seventh day, and then be pure; if they fail to purify themselves on the third and seventh days, they shall not be pure.

35 They defeated him and his sons and all his troops, until no remnant was left him; and they took possession of his country.

וַיִּכּוּ אוֹתוֹ וְאֹת־בָּנָיו וְאֹת־כָּל־עַמּוֹ עַד־בְּלֹתִי הַשְּׂאִירֵלָיו שְׂרִיד וַיִּירָשׁוּ אֶת־אֶרֶצּוֹ:

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1 The Israelites then marched on and encamped in the steppes of Moab, across the Jordan from Jericho.

וַיִּסְעוּ בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיַּחֲנּוּ בְּעַרְבֹת מוֹאָב מֵעֵבֶר לִירְדֵן יֶרִיחוֹ:

- 1 The Israelites arrived in a body at the wilderness of Zin on the first new moon, (first new moon Of the fortieth year; cf. Num. 33.36–38.) and the people stayed at Kadesh. Miriam died there and was buried there.
- 2 The community was without water, and they joined against Moses and Aaron.
- 3 The people quarreled with Moses, saying, “If only we had perished when our brothers perished at the instance of הוֹדִי !
- 4 Why have you brought הוֹדִי's congregation into this wilderness for us and our beasts to die there?
- 5 Why did you make us leave Egypt to bring us to this wretched place, a place with no grain or figs or vines or pomegranates? There is not even water to drink!”
- 6 Moses and Aaron came away from the congregation to the entrance of the Tent of Meeting, and fell on their faces. The Presence of הוֹדִי appeared to them,
- 7 and הוֹדִי spoke to Moses, saying,
- 8 “You and your brother Aaron take the rod and assemble the community, and before their very eyes order the rock to yield its water. Thus you shall produce water for them from the rock and provide drink for the congregation and their beasts.”
- 9 Moses took the rod from before הוֹדִי, as he had been commanded.
- 10 Moses and Aaron assembled the congregation in front of the rock; and he said to them, “Listen, you rebels, shall we get water for you out of this rock?”
- 11 And Moses raised his hand and struck the rock twice with his rod. Out came copious water, and the community and their beasts drank.
- 12 But הוֹדִי said to Moses and Aaron, “Because you did not trust Me enough to affirm My sanctity in the sight of the Israelite people, therefore you shall not lead this congregation into the land that I have given them.”
- 13 Those are the Waters of Meribah (Meribah I.e., “Quarrel”; cf. Exod. 17.7 and the second note there.) —meaning that the Israelites quarrelled with הוֹדִי —whose sanctity was affirmed through them.

וַיָּבֹאוּ בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל כָּל־הָעֵדָה מִדֶּבְר־צִין בַּחֹדֶשׁ הָרִאשׁוֹן וַיָּשֶׁב הָעָם בְּקֹדֶשׁ וַתָּמָת שָׁם מִרְיָם וַתִּקָּבֶר שָׁם:

וְלֹא־הָיָה מַיִם לָעֵדָה וַיִּקְהֲלוּ עַל־מֹשֶׁה וְעַל־אַהֲרֹן:

וַיִּבְרָב הָעָם עִם־מֹשֶׁה וַיֹּאמְרוּ לֹא־מָרוּ וְלֹא גָנַעְנוּ בְּגֹנֹעַ אֲחֵינוּ לִפְנֵי יְהוָה:

וַלְמָה הִבָּאתֶם אֶת־קֹהֶל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי־מִדְבָּר הַזֶּה לְמוֹת שָׁם אֲנַחְנוּ וּבְעִירָנוּ:

וַלְמָה תַּעֲלִיתֵנוּ מִמִּצְרַיִם לְהָבִיא אֹתָנוּ אֶל־הַמָּקוֹם הַרְעָה הַזֶּה לֹא אֶל מָקוֹם זָרַע וְתֹאנָה וְגִלְגָּל וְרַמְלוֹן וּמִיָּם אֵין לִשְׁתּוֹת:

וַיָּבֹא מֹשֶׁה וְאַהֲרֹן מִפְּנֵי הַקֹּהֶל אֶל־פֶּתַח אֹהֶל מוֹעֵד וַיִּפְּלוּ עַל־פְּנֵיהֶם וַיִּרְא כְבוֹד־יְהוָה אֲלֵיהֶם:

וַיִּדְבֹּר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר:

קַח אֶת־הַמַּטֵּה וְהִקְהֵל אֶת־הָעֵדָה אֹתָהּ וְאַהֲרֹן אֲחִיךָ וְדַבַּרְתֶּם אֶל־הַסֵּלַע לְעֵינֵיהֶם וְנָתַן מִיָּמִיו וְהוֹצֵאתָ לָהֶם מַיִם מִן־הַסֵּלַע וְהִשְׁקִיתָ אֶת־הָעֵדָה וְאֶת־בְּעִירָתָם:

וַיִּקַּח מֹשֶׁה אֶת־הַמַּטֵּה מִלִּפְנֵי יְהוָה כַּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּהוּ:

וַיִּקְהֲלוּ מֹשֶׁה וְאַהֲרֹן אֶת־הַקֹּהֶל אֶל־פְּנֵי הַסֵּלַע וַיֹּאמֶר לָהֶם שְׁמַעֲרִנָּא הַמַּלְאִים הַמְדַּבְּרִים לָהֶם הִנֵּה נוֹצֵיא לָכֶם מַיִם:

וַיִּרְם מֹשֶׁה אֶת־יָדוֹ וַיַּךְ אֶת־הַסֵּלַע בַּמַּטֵּהוּ פָּעַמַיִם וַיֵּצֵאוּ מַיִם רַבִּים וַתִּשְׁתַּח הָעֵדָה וּבְעִירָם:

וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה וְאַל־אַהֲרֹן יַעַן לֹא־הִקְדַּמְתֶּם בִּי לְהַקְדִּישֵׁנִי לְעֵינֵי בְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לָכֵן לֹא תָבִיאוּ אֶת־הַקֹּהֶל הַזֶּה אֶל־הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר־נָתַתִּי לָהֶם:

הַמָּה מֵי מֵרִיבָה אֲשֶׁר־רָבּוּ בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶת־יְהוָה וַיִּקְדַּשׁ בָּם:

[illegible]

9 Moses made a copper serpent and mounted it on a standard; and when bitten by a serpent, anyone who looked at the copper serpent would recover.

10 The Israelites marched on and encamped at Oboth.

11 They set out from Oboth and encamped at Iye-abarim, in the wilderness bordering on Moab to the east.

12 From there they set out and encamped at the wadi Zered.

13 From there they set out and encamped beyond the Arnon, that is, in the wilderness that extends from the territory of the Amorites. For the Arnon is the boundary of Moab, between Moab and the Amorites.

14 Therefore the Book of the Wars of יהוה speaks of (The quotation that follows is a fragment; its text and meaning are uncertain.) "...Waheb in Suphah, and the wadis: the Arnon

15 with its tributary wadis, stretched along the settled country of Ar, hugging the territory of Moab..."

16 And from there to Beer, (Beer Lit. "well.") which is the well where יהוה said to Moses, "Assemble the people that I may give them water."

17 Then Israel sang this song: Spring up, O well—sing to it—

18 The well which the chieftains dug, Which the nobles of the people started With maces, with their own staffs. And from Midbar (Midbar Septuagint "the well" (= Beer); cf. v. 16.) to Mattanah,

19 and from Mattanah to Nahaliel, and from Nahaliel to Bamoth,

20 and from Bamoth to the valley that is in the country of Moab, at the peak of Pisgah, overlooking the wasteland. (wasteland Or "Jeshimon.")

21 Israel now sent messengers to Sihon king of the Amorites, saying,

22 "Let me pass through your country. We will not turn off into fields or vineyards, and we will not drink water from wells. We will follow the king's highway until we have crossed your territory."

וַיַּעַשׂ מֹשֶׁה נָחָשׁ נְחֹשֶׁת וַיִּשְׁמְהוּ עַל־הַנָּחָשׁ וְהָיָה אֲסִינְשׁוֹר הַנָּחָשׁ אֶת־אִישׁ וְהָבִיט אֶל־נָחָשׁ הַנָּחֻשֶׁת וְנָחַי:

וַיִּסְעוּ בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיַּחֲנוּ בְּאֹבוֹת:

וַיִּסְעוּ מֵאֹבוֹת וַיַּחֲנוּ בְּעֵינֵי הָעֲבָרִים בְּמִדְבַּר יְאֶשֶׁר עַל־פְּנֵי מוֹאָב מִמְזֻרַח הַשָּׁמָיִם:

מִשָּׁם נָסְעוּ וַיַּחֲנוּ בְּנָחַל זֶרֶד:

מִשָּׁם נָסְעוּ וַיַּחֲנוּ מֵעֵבֶר אֶרְנוֹן אֲשֶׁר בְּמִדְבַּר הַיַּצָּא מִגִּבְלֵי הָאֱמֹרִי כִּי אֶרְנוֹן גִּבּוֹל מוֹאָב כִּין מוֹאָב וּבִין הָאֱמֹרִי:

עַל־כֵּן יָאמַר בְּסֵפֶר מִלְחָמֹת יְהוָה אֶת־נִתָּב בְּסוּפֹה וְאֶת־הַנָּחָלִים אֶרְנוֹן:

וְאֲשֶׁר הַנָּחָלִים אֲשֶׁר נָטָה לִשְׁבֹּת עַר וְנִשְׁעַן לִגְבוֹל מוֹאָב:

וּמִשָּׁם בְּאֶרֶה הוּא הַבְּאֵר אֲשֶׁר אָמַר יְהוָה לְמֹשֶׁה אֲסֹף אֶת־הָעָם וְאֶתְנָה לָהֶם מַיִם:

אִזּו יִשְׁרֹאֵל אֶת־הַשִּׁירָה הַזֹּאת עָלֶי בְּאֶר עֲנִרְלָה:

בְּאֶר חֲפְרוּיָה שְׂרָיִים כְּרוּיָה נְדִיבֵי הָעָם בְּמַחֲקֶק בְּמִשְׁעָנָתָם וּמִמְדְּבַר מַתְנָה:

וּמִמַּתְנָה נָחַל יֵאֵל וּמִנְחָל יֵאֵל בְּמוֹת:

וּמִבְּמוֹת הַגִּיאָ אֲשֶׁר בְּשֻׁדָּה מוֹאָב רָאשׁ הַפִּסְגָּה וְנִשְׁקָפָה עַל־פְּנֵי הַיַּשִּׁמּוֹן:

וַיִּשְׁלַח יִשְׂרָאֵל מַלְאָכִים אֶל־סִיחֹן מֶלֶךְ־הָאֱמֹרִי לֵאמֹר:

אֶעֱבְרָה בְּאַרְצְךָ לֹא נָטָה בְּשָׂדֶה וּבְכָרֶם לֹא נִשְׁתָּה מִי בְּאֶר בְּדָרְךָ הַמְּלָלָה נִלְךָ עַד אֲשֶׁר־נַעֲבֹר גִּבְלָךָ:

28 Moses stripped Aaron of his vestments and put them on his son Eleazar, and Aaron died there on the summit of the mountain. When Moses and Eleazar came down from the mountain,

29 the whole community knew that Aaron had breathed his last. All the house of Israel bewailed Aaron thirty days.

1 When the Canaanite, king of Arad, who dwelt in the Negeb, learned that Israel was coming by the way of Atharim, (Atharim Meaning of Heb. ha-'atharim uncertain. Targum and other ancient versions render "the way [taken by] the scouts.") he engaged Israel in battle and took some of them captive.

2 Then Israel made a vow to יהוה and said, "If You deliver this people into our hand, we will proscribe (proscribe I.e., utterly destroy, reserving no booty except what is deposited in the Sanctuary; see Josh. 6.24.) their towns."

3 heeded Israel's plea and delivered up the Canaanites; and they and their cities were proscribed. So that place was named Hormah. (Hormah Connected with heerim "to proscribe.")

4 They set out from Mount Hor by way of the Sea of Reeds (Sea of Reeds Traditionally, but incorrectly, "Red Sea.") to skirt the land of Edom. But the people grew restive on the journey,

5 and the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why did you make us leave Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread and no water, and we have come to loathe this miserable food."

6 he sent seraph (seraph Cf. Isa. 14.29; 30.6. Others "fiery"; exact meaning of Heb. seraph uncertain. Cf. Deut. 8.15.) serpents against the people. They bit the people and many of the Israelites died.

7 The people came to Moses and said, "We sinned by speaking against יהוה and against you. Intercede with יהוה to take away the serpents from us!" And Moses interceded for the people.

8 Then he said to Moses, "Make a seraph (seraph See note at v. 6.) figure and mount it on a standard. And anyone who was bitten who then looks at it shall recover."

2 Then Israel made a vow to יהוה and said, "If You deliver this people into our hand, we will proscribe (proscribe I.e., utterly destroy, reserving no booty except what is deposited in the Sanctuary; see Josh. 6.24.) their towns."

3 heeded Israel's plea and delivered up the Canaanites; and they and their cities were proscribed. So that place was named Hormah. (Hormah Connected with heerim "to proscribe.")

4 They set out from Mount Hor by way of the Sea of Reeds (Sea of Reeds Traditionally, but incorrectly, "Red Sea.") to skirt the land of Edom. But the people grew restive on the journey,

5 and the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why did you make us leave Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread and no water, and we have come to loathe this miserable food."

6 he sent seraph (seraph Cf. Isa. 14.29; 30.6. Others "fiery"; exact meaning of Heb. seraph uncertain. Cf. Deut. 8.15.) serpents against the people. They bit the people and many of the Israelites died.

7 The people came to Moses and said, "We sinned by speaking against יהוה and against you. Intercede with יהוה to take away the serpents from us!" And Moses interceded for the people.

8 Then he said to Moses, "Make a seraph (seraph See note at v. 6.) figure and mount it on a standard. And anyone who was bitten who then looks at it shall recover."

וַיַּפְשֵׁט מֹשֶׁה אֶת־אֶהָרֹן אֶת־בְּגָדָיו וַיַּלְבֵּשׁ אֹתָם אֶת־עֶלְעָזָר וַיָּמָת אֶהָרֹן שָׁם בְּרָאשׁ הַהָר וַיָּרֵד מֹשֶׁה וְעֶלְעָזָר מִרֹּהֲתָהָר:

וַיֵּרָאֻ כָּל־יִהְיֹהּ כִּי גָזַע אֶהָרֹן וַיָּבִקוּ אֶת־אֶהָרֹן שְׁלֹשִׁים יוֹם כָּל בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל:

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וַיִּשְׁלַע הַכִּנְעִנִי מֶלֶךְ־עֵרֹד יֵשֵׁב הַנֶּגֶב כִּי בָא יִשְׂרָאֵל דֶּרֶךְ הָאֲתָרִים וַיִּלָּחֶם בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל וַיִּשָּׁב | מִמֶּנּוּ שְׁבִי:

וַיֵּלֶד יִשְׂרָאֵל נָדָר לַיהוָה וַיֹּאמֶר אֲסִינְשׁוֹן תִּתֵּן אֶת־הָעָם הַזֶּה בְּיָדִי וְהִחַרְמֹתִי אֶת־עִרְיָתָם:

וַיִּשְׁלַע יְהוָה בְּקוֹל יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיִּתֵּן אֶת־הַכִּנְעָנִי וַיַּחֲרֵם אֶתְהֶם וְאֶת־עִרְיָתָם וַיִּקְרָא שֵׁם־הַמָּקוֹם חֹרְמָה:

וַיִּסְעוּ מִהֹר הָהָר דֶּרֶךְ יַם־סוּף לְסַבֵּב אֶת־אֶרֶץ אֲדוֹם וּתְקַצֵּר נֶפֶשׁ־הָעָם בַּדֶּרֶךְ:

וַיְדַבֵּר הָעָם בְּאַלְהֵיִם וּבִמִּשְׁעָה לְמַה הִעֲלִיתָנוּ מִמִּצְרַיִם לָמוֹת בְּמִדְבַּר כִּי אִין לָחֶם וְאִין מַיִם וְנִפְשָׁנוּ לָצָח בְּלֶחֶם הַקֶּלֶקֶל:

וַיִּשְׁלַח יְהוָה בָּעָם אֶת הַנָּחָשִׁים הַשֹּׁרְפִים וַיִּנְשָׁכוּ אֶת־הָעָם וַיָּמָת עַם־יִרְבַּ מִיִּשְׂרָאֵל:

וַיְבֹא הָעָם אֶל־מֹשֶׁה וַיֹּאמְרוּ חֲטָאנוּ כִּי־דִבַּרְנוּ בִּיהוָה וְכָךְ הִתְפַּלֵּל אֵל־יְהוָה וַיִּסַּר מִעֲלֵינוּ אֶת־הַנָּחָשׁ וַיִּתְּפַלֵּל מֹשֶׁה בְּעַד הָעָם:

וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה עֲשֵׂה לָךְ שֹׁרֵף וְשִׂים אוֹתוֹ עַל־נִשְׁחָה כָּל־הַנִּשְׁחָךְ וְרָאָה אוֹתוֹ וְנָחַי: