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נצבים Nitzavim

Deuteronomy 29:9-30:20

- רָאשִיכֶם שֹבִטִיכֵם זִקנִיכֵם וְשַׂטַרֵיכֵם כִּל אֵישׁ יִשִּרָאֵל: אַתֵּם נצָבִים הַיום כַּלְכֵם לִפְנֵי יִהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכַם
- You stand this day, all of you, before your God שהוה'—your tribal heads, your elders, and your officials, every householder*householder Lit. "participant whose involvement defines the depicted situation." Moses' description of those present treats their social station as more germane than their gender. Trad. "[all the] men." See the first note at 1.31. in Israel,
- 10 נשילם וגרך אשר בקרב מחניך מחטב עציך עד שאב מימיך: מפכם
 - your children, your wives, even the stranger within your camp, from woodchopper to waterdrawer-
 - יהנה אַלהִיך ובאַלתו אַשל יהנה אַלהיך כרת עמך היום: לעברך בברית
 - to enter into the covenant of your God, which your God הוהי is concluding with you this day, with its sanctions; *its sanctions I.e., the curses that covenant violations will entail.
 - 12 דבֶר־לֶךְ וְכַאֲשֶׁר נִשְבַע לַאֲבתֶּיךָ לְאַבְרָהָם לְיִצְחָק וְלִיעֲקב: הָקִים־אֹתךָּ הַיִּוֹם ו לו לִעָם וִהְוֹא יִהֹיֵה־לִּךָ לֵאלֹהִים כַּאֲשֵׁר לִמַעַן
 - in order to establish you this day as God's people and in order to be your God, as promised you and as sworn to your fathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
- ו אתכם לבדכם אנלי כתל את־הברית הזאת ואת־האלה הזאת: 13 I make this covenant, with its sanctions, not with you alone,
- 14 עמד הַיִּוֹם לִפְנֵי יִהוָה אֱלֹהַינוּ וִאַּת אֲשֶׂר אֵינֵנוּ פָה עמַנוּ הַיְוֹם: כי את־אַשר ישנו פה עמנו
 - but both with those who are standing here with us this day before our God הוהי and with those who are not with us here this day.
 - בָּאֶרֵץ מִצְרַיִם וִאָת אֲשֵׁר־עָבַרנוּ בִּקָרֵב הַגּוֹיִם אֲשֵׂר עַבַרתַם: כי־אַתַם יִדַעתַם אַת אַשר־יַשבנוּ
- Well you know that we dwelt in the land of Egypt and that we passed through the midst of various other nations;
- 16 את־שקוציהם ואת גלליהם עץ ואבן כסף ווהב אשר עמהם: וַתראוֹ
- and you have seen the detestable things and the fetishes of wood and stone, silver and gold, that they keep.
- אַת־אֵלֹהֵי הַגּוֹיָם הָהָם פַּן־יָשׁ בַּכֵם שַׂרֵשׁ פֹרֶה רְאשׁ וּלַעַנָה: או שובט אַשֵר לבָבו פנה הַיום מַעם יהוָה אַלהַינו לָלֶכֵת לַעבר פון שַ בַּבָּם אִיש או אשה או משפחה
- Perchance there is among you some man or woman, or some clan or tribe, whose heart is even now turning away from our God הוהי to go and worship the gods of those nations—perchance there is among you a stock sprouting poison weed and wormwood.
- יָהיֵה־לִּי כֵי בִשֹרְרִוּת לִבִּי אֵלָךְ לִמַען סִפְּוֹת הָרָוָה אֵת־הַצִּמַאָה: בשמעו את־דברי האלה הזאת והתברך בלבבו לאמר שלום וָהַיַּה
- *In this verse and the next, grammatically masculine singular co-references with gender-inclusive force (cf. v. 17) are rendered in the plural. When hearing the words of these sanctions, they may imagine a special immunity, thinking, "I shall be safe, though I follow my own willful heart"—to the utter ruin of moist and dry alike.*moist and dry alike I.e., everything.

- will never forgive that party.*that party הוהי 19 הַכּתוֹבָה בַּסָפַר הַזָּה וֹמַחָה יְהוָהֹ אֵת־שַׁמוֹ מַתְחַת הַשַּׁמִים: כִי אָז יֵעשַן אַף־יִהוָה וִקנִאָתוֹ בָאֵישׁ הַהוֹא וִרָבַצָה בּוֹ כַל־הָאַלָה לא־יאבה יהוה סלח לו
 - Moved up from v. 19 for clarity. Rather, הוה's anger and passion will rage against them, till every sanction recorded in this book comes down upon them, and הוהי blots out their name from under heaven.
- 20 שבטי ישראל ככל אלות הברית הכתובה בספר התורה הזה: והבדילו יהוה לרעה מכל
 - [As for such a clan or tribe,] הוהי will single it out from all the tribes of Israel for misfortune, in accordance with all the sanctions of the covenant recorded in this book of Teaching.
 - אַת־מַכֿות הָאָרֵץ הַהוּאֹ ואַת־תְחַלָּאֵיהָ אֲשַׂר־חַלָּה יְהוָה בַּה: אָשֶר יָלִוּמוֹ מַאְחֲרֵיכֶם וְהַנָּכְרִי אֲשֶר יָבִא מֵאֶרֵץ רחוקה וֹּרָאוּ ואַמַר הַדור הַאַחַרון בניכַם
 - And later generations will ask—the children who succeed you, and foreigners who come from distant lands and see the plagues and diseases that הוהי has inflicted upon that land,
 - 22 אַדְמָה)וצביים(]וּצְבוּלִּם[אֲשֶׂרֹ הָפָּךְ יְהֹוָה בְּאַפִּוֹ וּבַחֲמָתְוֹ: וְלָא תַצְמִת וְלֹא־יַעֲלֶה בָה כָּל־עֲשֶׁב כְּמַהְפֵּכַּת סְרָם וַעֲמֹרָה גַפַּרֵית וַמֶּלָח שרֵפָה כַל־אַרְצַה לֹא תזַרַע
 - all its soil devastated by sulfur and salt, beyond sowing and producing, no grass growing in it, just like the upheaval of Sodom and Gomorrah, Admah and Zeboiim, which הוהי overthrew in fierce anger—
- על־מֵה עשה יהוָה כַּכָה לָאָרֵץ הַזָּאת מֶה חַרֵי הָאַף הַנָּדוֹל הַזָּה:
- 23 all nations will ask, "Why did הוהי do thus to this land? Wherefore that awful wrath?"
 - 24 אֱלֹהָי אֲבֹתֶם אֲשֶׂרֹ כָּרָת עָכָּם בְּהוֹצִיאָוֹ אֹתָם מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרָיִם: ואַמרו על אַשר עזבו אַת־ברית יהוַה
 - They will be told, "Because they forsook the covenant that הוהי, God of their ancestors, made with them upon freeing them from the land of Egypt;
- אַחֵלִים וַיְשֹׁתַחַווּ לָהָם אֱלֹהִים אֲשֶׂר לְא־יִדְעוּם וַלְא חָלָק לָהָם: וילכו ויעבדו אלהים
- they turned to the service of other gods and worshiped them, gods whom they had not experienced*whom they had not experienced See note at 11.28. and whom [God] had not allotted*allotted See 4.19-20. to them.
- וַיחַר־אָף יהוָה בָאְרֶץ
- ים בּסֶפֵר הַזָּה: was incensed at that land and brought upon it all the curses recorded in this book.
- 27 בְּאָף וּבְחַמָה וּבְקָצֶף נָּדְוֹל וַיַשֹּׁלְכֶם אֶל־אֶכֶץ אַחֶכֶת כַּיִּוֹם הַזָּה: וַיִּתִשַם יִהֹוָהֹ מֵעָל אַדִּמָתְם
 - uprooted them from their soil in anger, fury, and great wrath, and cast them into another land, as is still the case."
 - וּלְבָנֵינוֹ עָד־עוֹלָם לַעֲשׁוֹת אֶת־כָּל־דִבְרֶי הַתּוֹרָה הַזְּאת: הַנְּסתַרת לַיהוָה אֱלֹהַינוּ וְהַנָגִלֹת לַנוּ
- Concealed acts concern our God; but with overt acts, it is for us and our children ever to apply all the provisions of this Teaching.

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- וַהֲשֵׂבֹתָּ אֶל־לְבָבֶּךָ בְּכָּל־הַגּוּיִם אֲשָׂר הִדִּיחֲךְ יְהֹוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ שְׁמָה: עָלֶידָ כָל־הַדְּבָרֵים הָאֵלֶה הַבְּרָכָה וְהַקְלָלָה אֲשֶׂר נָתְתִּי לְפָנֵידָ והָיָה בי־יָבֹאוּ
- When all these things befall you—the blessing and the curse that I have set before you—and you take them to heart amidst the various nations to which your God הוהי has banished you,

- אַשֶּׁר־אָנֹכֶי מְצַוְּךָ הְיֻוֹם אַתְּה וּבְנֶּיךָ בְּכָל־לְבַבְךְ וּבְכָל־נַפְּשֵׁךָ: וְשַׂבְתִּ עִד־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ וְשַמַעִתְּ בְקֹלוֹ כְכָל
- 2 and you return to your God הוהי, and you and your children heed God's command with all your heart and soul, just as I enjoin upon you this day,
- ּוְשָּׂב וְקבֶּצְךָ מִכְּל־הָעַמִּים אֲשָׂר הֱפִיצְךָ יְהֹוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ שִׁמִה: וִשֵּׂב יְהֹוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֲת־שִׁבוּתְךָ וִרְחֲמַךָ
- then your God הוהי will restore your fortunes*fortunes Others "captivity." and take you back in love.*and take you back in love More precisely, "take you in; restore your standing." The image is of a (typically male) householder, who has the authority to determine the standing of his household's members, especially as heirs. Cf. Hos. 1.6; 2.6; 2.25; 14.4; Isa. 54.8; Ps. 103.13. See the Dictionary under "householder." [God] will bring you together again from all the peoples where your God in has scattered you.
- ּנְהַחֲךָ בִּקצָה הַשָּׁמֻיִם מִשָּׁם יְקבֶּצְךָ יְהֹנָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ וּמִשְּׁם יִקּחְךָ: אִם־יִּהְיָה
- Even if your outcasts are at the ends of the world,*world Lit. "sky." from there your God הוהי will gather you, from there [God] will fetch you.
- אֲשֶׂר־יָרְשִׂוּ אֲבֹתֶיְךָ וְיִרִשְׁתָּה וְהֵיטְבְךָ וְהִּרְבְּךָ מֵאֲבֹתֶיךָ: וַהַבִּיאַךֵּ יִהוָה אֱלֹהֵיךָ אֵל־הַאָּרֵץ
- 5 And your God הוהי will bring you to the land that your fathers possessed, and you shall possess it; and [God] will make you more prosperous and more numerous than your ancestors.
- ּלְאַהְבָּה אֶת־יְהֹנָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּכָל־לְבָבְךָ וּבְכָל־נַפְּשַׂךָ לְמָעו חַיֶּיךָ: וּמָל יְהֹנָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֶת־לְבַבְךָ וְאֶת־לְבַב זַרְעְךָ
- 6 Then your God הוהי will open up*open up Others "circumcise." your heart and the hearts of your offspring—to love your God הוהי with all your heart and soul, in order that you may live.
- אֶת כָּל־הָאַלְוֹת הָאֲלֶה עַל־אֹיְבֶיךָ וְעַל־שֹׁנְאָיךְ אֲשֶׂר רְדָפִּוּךְ: וְנַתַּן יִהֹוָה אַלֹּהֵירָ
- 7 Your God הוהי will inflict all those curses upon the enemies and foes who persecuted you.
- בְּקוֹל יְהֹוֶה וְעָשֹׁיתָ אֶת־כָּל־מִצְוֹתִּיו אֲשֶׁר אָנֹכֶי מְצַוְּךָ הִיְוֹם: וִאָתָה תְשׁוּב וִשִּׁמֵעתַ
- 8 You, however, will again heed הוהי and obey all the divine commandments that I enjoin upon you this day.
- כִּי ו יָשִוּב יְהוֹה לָשִׁוּשׁ עְלֶּיךָ לְטוֹב כַּאֲשֶׂר־שִׁשׁ עַל־אֲבֹתֶיךָ: ו מַצְשַׂה יָבֶׁךְ בִּפְרִי בִטְנְךָ וּבִפְּרִי בְהֶמְתְּךָ וּבִפְּרִי אַדְמִתְךָ לְטֹבֵה וְהוֹתִירְךָּ יְהוֹה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּלַל
- 9 And your God הוהי will grant you abounding prosperity in all your undertakings, in your issue from the womb, the offspring of your cattle, and your produce from the soil. For אווהי will again delight in your well-being as in that of your ancestors,
- 10 הזַה כִּי תָשוּבּ אֶל־יְהוָה אֱלוֹלֶיךָ בְּכְל־לְבִבְךְ וּבְכָל־נַפְשֶׂךָ: יְהוֹה אֱלוֹלֶיךָ לִשְׁמִר מִצְוּתִיוֹ וְחֻקֹתִיו הַכְּתוּבָּה בְּסְפֶּר הַתוֹרָה כִי תִשְׂמַע בְּקוֹל
 - 10 since you will be heeding your God הוהי and keeping the divine commandments and laws that are recorded in this book of the Teaching—once you return to your God הוהי with all your heart and soul.
- 11 אֲשֶׂר אָנֹכְי מְצַוְּךָ הַיֻּוֹם לֹא־נִפְּלָאת הְוֹאֹ מִמְךָ וְלָּא רְחֹקָה הְוֹא: כִי הַמַצַוָּה הַזֹּאת
 - 11 Surely, this Instruction which I enjoin upon you this day is not too baffling for you, nor is it beyond reach.

לא בשמים הוא לאמר

בו ווַשַּמְעָנוֹ אַתָּה וּנַעְשַנָּה: 12 It is not in the heavens, that you should say, "Who among us can go up to the heavens and get it for us and impart it to us, that we may observe

13 מִי יַעַבָּר־לָנוּ אֵל־עָבֵר הַיָּם וִיִּקְחָהָ לָנוּ וַיַשִּׁמִעָנוּ אֹתָה וַנַעֲשַׁנָה: וַלֹא־מַעֶבֵר לַיָּם הַוֹא לֵאמֹר

Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, "Who among us can cross to the other side of the sea and get it for us and impart it to us, that we may observe it?"

ובּלְבַבַּךְ לַעשׁתוֹ: אַלִּיךַ הַדָּבַר מַאָד בַפִּיךְ וּבַלְבַבַךְ לַעשׁתוֹ: No, the thing is very close to you, in your mouth and in your heart, to observe it.

15 נַתַתִּי לִפַנַיךָ הַיִּוֹם אֲת־הַחַיִים וִאֲת־הַטַוֹב וִאֲת־הַמַוַת וִאֲת־הַרָע:

See, I set before you this day life and prosperity, death and adversity.

16 ובַרַכַּךָ יִהֹוָה אֱלֹהֵיךָ בַּאְּרֵץ אֲשֵׂר־אַתָּה בָא־שַׂמָה לִּרְשִׂתָה: לָלֶכֵת בַדַּרָכָיו וִלְשִׁמֵר מצותיו וחַקתיו ומשפַטיו וחַיֶית וַרָבִית אַשֵּׂר אָנכִי מצַוּךָ הַיוֹם לאַהַבָּה אַת־יִהוָה אֵלהֵיךָ

For*For Septuagint reads "If you obey the commandments of your God הוהי, which." I command you this day, to love your God הוהי, to walk in God's ways, and to keep God's commandments, God's laws, and God's rules, that you may thrive and increase, and that your God הוהי may bless you in the land that you are about to enter and possess.

וּלָא תִשֹׁמַע וּנִדַּחִתְּ וִהְשֹׁתַחֵוֵית לֵאלֹהֵים אֲחֵרִים וַעֲבַדתְם: וִאִם־יִפִּנָה לִבָבְךָ

But if your heart turns away and you give no heed, and are lured into the worship and service of other gods,

על־הַאַדָּמָה אַשֵּׁר אַתָּה עבר אַת־הַיַּרְהֵּן לָבְוֹא שַמָה לִרשִׁתְה: הנָדתי לָכֵם הַיּוֹם כִי אָבִד תאבַדְוֹן לֹא־תַאַרִיכָן יָמִים

I declare to you this day that you shall certainly perish; you shall not long endure on the soil that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.

הַבַּרָכָה וִהַקּלָלָה וּבַחַרִתְּ בַּחַלִּים לִמַען תְחַיֵה אַתָּה ווַרִעֶּךָ: בַכֶם הַיוֹם אַת־הַשַּׂמַיִם וִאֵת־הָאָּבֵץ הַחַיָּים וִהַמַּוֵת נָתָתִי לִפְּנֵיךָ הַעָלתִי

I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day: I have put before you life and death, blessing and curse. Choose life—if you and your offspring would live-

ַנשבַע יְהוָה לַאֲבתֶיךָ לְאַבְרָהָם לִיצְחָק וְלִיעֲקב לָתֶת לָהֶם: וּלֹדָבַקָה־בָוֹ כֵי הָוּא חַזֵּיךָ וִאְרֵךְ יָמֵיךָ לָשֶבֶת עַל־הָאַדָּמָה אֲשֵׁרְּ לִאַהַבָּה אַת־יִהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ לִשְׂמְעַ בְּקֹלְוֹ

by loving your God הוהי, heeding God's commands, and holding fast to [God]. For thereby you shall have life and shall long endure upon the soil that הוהי swore to your fathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give to them.