

- 24 Then יהוה commanded us to observe all these laws, to revere our God יהוה, for our lasting good and for our survival, as is now the case.
- 25 It will be therefore to our merit before our God יהוה to observe faithfully this whole Instruction, as [God] has commanded us.”

7

- 1 When your God יהוה brings you to the land that you are about to enter and possess, and [God] dislodges many nations before you—the Hittites, Girgashites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites, seven nations much larger than you—
- 2 and your God יהוה delivers them to you and you defeat them, you must doom them to destruction: grant them no terms and give them no quarter.
- 3 You shall not intermarry with them: do not give your daughters to their sons or take their daughters for your sons.
- 4 For they will turn your children away from Me to worship other gods, and יהוה's anger will blaze forth against you, promptly wiping you out.
- 5 Instead, this is what you shall do to them: you shall tear down their altars, smash their pillars, cut down their sacred posts, and consign their images to the fire.
- 6 For you are a people consecrated to your God יהוה: of all the peoples on earth your God יהוה chose you to be God's treasured people.
- 7 It is not because you are the most numerous of peoples that יהוה grew attached to you and chose you—indeed, you are the smallest of peoples;
- 8 but it was because יהוה favored you and kept the oath made to your fathers that יהוה freed you with a mighty hand and rescued you from the house of bondage, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt.
- 9 Know, therefore, that only your God יהוה is God, the steadfast God who keeps the divine covenant faithfully to the thousandth generation of those who love [God] and keep the divine commandments,
- 10 but who instantly requites with destruction those who reject [God]—never slow with those who reject, but requiting them instantly.
- כי יביאוך יהוה אלח'ך אל־הארץ אשר־אתה בא־שמה לרשתה ונגשׁל גוים־רבים ׀ מפניך החתי והגרשׁשי והאמורי והכנעני והפריזי והחוי וזיבולי שבקעה גוים רבים ועצומים ממך:
- ונתנם יהוה אליהך לפניך והכיתם החכם תחרים אתם לא־תבכות להם ברית וְלֹא תחננם:
- וְלֹא תתחתן בם בתך לא־יתתן לבנו ובתו לא־יתקח לבנה:
- כִּי־יסייר את־בנך מאחורי ועברו אֱלֹהִים אחרים וחרה אפי־יהוה בכם והשמידם מִתּוֹךְ:
- כִּי־אסירָה תַעֲשׂוּ לָהֶם מזבחותיהם תתצו ומצבתם תשברו ואשִׁירָהֶם תַּגְדִּילוּ ופסיליהֶם תשרפון באשׁ:
- כי עם קדוש אתה ליהוה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בך בְּתֵר ׀ יהוה אֱלֹהֶיךָ להנחות לוֹ לַעֲם סָגֵל מִכָּל הָעַמִּים אֲשֶׁר עַל־פְּנֵי הָאָדָמָה:
- לֹא מרבֶּלֶם מכל־הָעַמִּים חֲשֵׁק יהוה בכם ויבחר בכם כִּי־אתם המעט מכל־הָעַמִּים:
- כִּי מאהבת יהוה אתכם ומשמרו את־השבועה אשר נשבע לאבותיכם הוציא יהוה אתכם ביד חזקה וניסדך מבית עבדים מִיַּד פַּרְעֹה מֶלֶךְ־מִצְרַיִם:
- וְיִדַּעַת כִּי־יהוה אֱלֹהֶיךָ הוא הָאֱלֹהִים הָאֵל הַנָּאֵמָן שֶׁמֶר הַבְּרִית וְהַחֲסֵד לֹא־הִבִּיּוּ וְלִשְׁמֹרִי מִצְוֹתַי לֹא־לָקַף דֹּדוֹ:
- ומשלם לשנאיו אליפניו להאבידו לא יאחר לשנאו אליפניו ישלם־לוֹ:

3

- 23 I pleaded with יהוה at that time, saying,
- 24 “O Lord יהוה, You who let Your servant see the first works of Your greatness and Your mighty hand, You whose powerful deeds no god in heaven or on earth can equal!
- 25 Let me, I pray, cross over and see the good land on the other side of the Jordan, that good hill country, and the Lebanon.”
- 26 But יהוה was wrathful with me on your account and would not listen to me. יהוה said to me, “Enough! Never speak to Me of this matter again!
- 27 Go up to the summit of Pisgah and gaze about, to the west, the north, the south, and the east. Look at it well, for you shall not go across yonder Jordan.
- 28 Give Joshua his instructions, and imbue him with strength and courage, for he shall go across at the head of this people, and he shall allot to them the land that you may only see.”
- 29 Meanwhile we stayed on in the valley near Beth-peor.

4

- 1 And now, O Israel, give heed to the laws and rules that I am instructing you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that יהוה, the God of your fathers, is giving you.
- 2 You shall not add anything to what I command you or take anything away from it, but keep the commandments of your God יהוה that I enjoin upon you.
- 3 You saw with your own eyes what יהוה did in the matter of Baal-peor, that your God יהוה wiped out from among you every person who followed Baal-peor;
- 4 while you, who held fast to your God יהוה, are all alive today.
- 5 See, I have imparted to you laws and rules, as my God יהוה has commanded me, for you to abide by in the land that you are about to enter and occupy.

ונאתחנן אלי־יהוה בעת ההוא לאמר:

אדני יהוה אתה החלית להראות את־עֲבֹדְךָ אֶת־גְּדֹלְךָ וְאֶת־יָדְךָ הַחֲזָקָה אֲשֶׁר מִי־אֵל בַּשָּׁמַיִם וּבָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר־יַעֲשֶׂה כַּמַּעֲשִׂיךָ וּכְגִבּוּרְתְּךָ:

אעֲבֹה־נָא וְנֹאֶרְאָה אֶת־הָאָרֶץ הַטּוֹבָה אֲשֶׁר בְּעֵבֶר הַיַּרְדֵּן הַהוּא הַהַר הַטּוֹב הַזֶּה וְהַלְבָּנוֹ:

וַיַּעֲזֹבֵר יְהוָה בִּי לִמְעַנְלִם וְלֹא שָׁמַע אֵלַי וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֵלַי רַב־לֶךְ אֶל־לוֹסֶף דְּבַר אֵלַי עוֹד בְּדִבְרֵי הַזֶּה:

עֲלֵה ׀ רֹאשׁ הַפֶּסֶגָה וְנֹשֵׂא עֵינֶיךָ זֶמָּה וְצִפְנָה וְתִמְנָה וּמִזְחָה וּרְאֵה בְּעֵינֶיךָ כִּי־לֹא תַעֲבֹר אֶת־הַיַּרְדֵּן הַזֶּה:

וְצוּ אֶת־יוֹשׁוּעַ וְחֻזְקוּהוּ וְחֻזְקוּהוּ וְנִמְצָחֵהוּ כִּי־הוא יַעֲבֹר לִפְנֵי הָעָם הַזֶּה וְהוא יַחֲזִיל אוֹתָם אֶת־הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר תִּרְאֶה:

וְנִשֵּׁב בְּנִיָּא מִן־בֵּית פְּעוֹר:

וַעֲתָה יִשְׂרָאֵל שָׁמַע אֶל־הַחֻקִּים וְאֶל־הַמִּשְׁפָּטִים אֲשֶׁר אָנֹכִי מְלַמֵּד אֶתְכֶם לַעֲשׂוֹת לְמַעַן תֵּחָיוּ וּבִאתֶם לְיִרְשָׁתָם אֶת־הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי אֲבֹתֵיכֶם נָתַן לָכֶם:

לֹא תִסָּפוּ עַל־הַדָּבָר אֲשֶׁר אָנֹכִי מְצַוָּה אֶתְכֶם וְלֹא תִגְרַעוּ מִמֶּנּוּ לִשְׁמֹר אֶת־מִצְוֹת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם אֲשֶׁר אָנֹכִי מְצַוָּה אֶתְכֶם:

עֵינֶיכֶם הִרְאוּת אֶת אֲשֶׁר־יַעֲשֶׂה יְהוָה בְּכַעַל פְּעוֹר כִּי כִלִּיהֲאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר הִלֵּךְ אַחֲרָיו בַּעַל־פְּעוֹר הַשְׁמִידוּ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיךָ מִקִּרְבְּךָ:

וְאִתָּם הַדְּבָלִים בִּיהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם חַיִּים כָּלֶכֶם הַיּוֹם:

רֹאֵה ׀ לְמוֹדֵתִי אֶתְכֶם חֻקִּים וּמִשְׁפָּטִים כְּאֲשֶׁר צִוִּי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי לַעֲשׂוֹת כֵּן בְּקִרְבֵּי הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר אִתָּם בָּאִים שָׁמָּה לְרִשְׁתָּהּ:

28 But you remain here with Me, and I will give you the whole Instruction—the laws and the rules—that you shall impart to them, for them to observe in the land that I am giving them to possess.”

29 Be careful, then, to do as your God הוהי has commanded you. Do not turn aside to the right or to the left:

30 follow only the path that your God הוהי has enjoined upon you, so that you may thrive and that it may go well with you, and that you may long endure in the land you are to possess.

6

1 And this is the Instruction—the laws and the rules—that your God הוהי has commanded [me] to impart to you, to be observed in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy,

2 so that you, your children, and your children’s children may revere your God הוהי and follow, as long as you live, all the divine laws and commandments that I enjoin upon you, to the end that you may long endure.

3 Obey, O Israel, willingly and faithfully, that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly [in] a land flowing with milk and honey, (a land flowing with milk and honey According to Ibn Ezra, this phrase connects with the end of v. 1.) as הוהי, the God of your ancestors, spoke to you.

4 Hear, O Israel! הוהי is our God, הוהי alone. (הוהי is our God, הוהי alone Cf. Rashbam and Ibn Ezra; see Zech. 14.9. Others “The Lord our God, the Lord is one.”)

5 You shall love your God הוהי with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

6 Take to heart these instructions with which I charge you this day.

7 Impress them upon your children. Recite them when you stay at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you get up.

8 Bind them as a sign on your hand and let them serve as a symbol (symbol Others “frontlet”; cf. Exod. 13.16.) on your forehead; (on your forehead Lit. “between your eyes”; cf. Exod. 13.9.)

ואלה פה עמד עמד ואדברה אליך את כל־המצוה והחקים והמשפטים אשר תלמדם ועשו בארץ אשר אנכי נתן להם לרשתה:

ושמרתם לעשות כאשר צוה יהוה אלהיכם אתכם לא תסרו ימין ושמאל:

בכל־הדרך אשר צוה יהוה אלהיכם אתכם תלכו למען תחיון וטוב לכם והארכתם ימים בארץ אשר תירשון:

ונתת המצוה תחקים והמשפטים אשר צוה יהוה אלהיכם ללמד אתכם לעשות בארץ אשר אתם עברים שמה לרשתה:

למען תילא את־הנה אלהיך לשמור את־כִּלְי־חַקֹּתיו ומצותיו אשר אנכי מצוֹךְ אתה ובנך ובנִדְבְנֶךָ כל ימי חַיֶּיךָ וּלְמַעַן יֵאָרְכוּ יְמֶיךָ:

ושמעת ישראל ושמרת לעשות אשר יִיטב לך ואשר תרבוּן מאד כאשר דבר יהוה אלהי אבותיך לך ארץ זבת חלב ודבש:

שמע ישראל יהוה אֱלֹהֵינוּ יהוה | אתה:

ואהבת את יהוה אלהיך בכל־לבבך ובכל־נפשך ובכל־מאדך:

והָיָה הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי מְצַוְךָ הַיּוֹם עַל־לְבָבְךָ:

ושננתם לבנך ודברת בם בשבתך בבייתך ובלכתך בדרך ובשכבך ובקומך:

וקשרתם לאות על־יָדְךָ והָיָה לְטַפְּת בֵּין עֵינֶיךָ:

19 And when you look up to the sky and behold the sun and the moon and the stars, the whole heavenly host, you must not be lured into bowing down to them or serving them. These your God הוהי allotted to other peoples everywhere under heaven;

20 but you הוהי took and brought out of Egypt, that iron blast furnace, to be God’s very own people, as is now the case.

21 Now הוהי was angry with me on your account and swore that I should not cross the Jordan and enter the good land that your God הוהי is assigning you as a heritage.

22 For I must die in this land; I shall not cross the Jordan. But you will cross and take possession of that good land.

23 Take care, then, not to forget the covenant that your God הוהי concluded with you, and not to make for yourselves a sculptured image in any likeness, against which your God הוהי has enjoined you.

24 For your God הוהי is a consuming fire, an impassioned God.

25 When you have begotten children and children’s children and are long established in the land, should you act wickedly and make for yourselves a sculptured image in any likeness, causing your God הוהי displeasure and vexation,

26 I call heaven and earth this day to witness against you that you shall soon perish from the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess; you shall not long endure in it, but shall be utterly wiped out.

27 הוהי will scatter you among the peoples, and only a scant few of you shall be left among the nations to which הוהי will drive you.

28 There you will serve gods of wood and stone, made by human hands, that cannot see or hear or eat or smell.

29 But if you search there, you will find your God הוהי, if only you seek with all your heart and soul—

30 when you are in distress because all these things have befallen you and, in the end, return to and obey your God הוהי.

וּכְדָּשָׁא עֵלְיָךְ הַשָּׁמַיִם וְרָאִיתָ אֶת־הַשָּׁמַשׁ וְאֶת־הַיָּרֵחַ וְאֶת־הַכּוֹכָבִים כֹּל צִבְיָא הַשָּׁמַיִם וְנִהְיִיתָ וְהִשְׁתַּחֲוִיתָ לָהֶם וְעַבַּדְתָּם אֲשֶׁר חָלַק יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֹתָם לְכָל הָעַמִּים תַּחַת כִּלְי־הַשָּׁמַיִם:

וְאַחֲכֵם לָקַח יְהוָה וַיּוֹצֵא אֹתְכֶם מִכּוּר הַבְּרֹזֶל מִמִּצְרַיִם לַהֲנוֹת לוֹ לְעַם נַחֲלָה כְּיוֹם הַזֶּה:

וַיְהִינָה הַתֹּאנָדָה בִּי עַל־דְּבָרֶיכֶם וַיִּשָּׁבַע לְבַלְתִּי עֲבֹר אֶת־הַיַּרְדֵּן וּלְבַלְתִּיבֹא אֶל־הָאָרֶץ הַטּוֹבָה אֲשֶׁר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ נָתַן לָךְ נַחֲלָה:

כִּי אֲנִכִּי מוֹת בָּאָרֶץ הַזֹּאת אִינֶנִּי עֹבֵר אֶת־הַיַּרְדֵּן וְנֹאֲתֶם עֲבָרִים וַיִּרְשׁוּכֶם אֶת־הָאָרֶץ הַטּוֹבָה הַזֹּאת:

הַשְׁמַרְוּ לָכֶם כְּרַת־שְׁכָחוֹ אֶת־כְּרִית יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם אֲשֶׁר כָּרַת עִמָּכֶם וְעִשִּׂיתֶם לָכֶם פֶּסֶל תְּמוּנַת כָּל אֲשֶׁר צִוָּךְ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ:

כִּי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֵשׁ אֹכֶלָה הוּא אֵל קָנָא:

כִּי־תוֹלִיד בָּנִים וּבָנִים עֲבָרִים וְנִשְׁתַּחֲוִיתָ בָּאָרֶץ וְהִשְׁתַּחֲוִיתָ וְעִשִּׂיתָם פֶּסֶל תְּמוּנַת כָּל וְעִשִּׂיתָם הָרָע בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה־אֱלֹהֶיךָ לְהַקְעִיסוֹ:

הַעִידֹתִי בָלֶם הַיּוֹם אֶת־הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת־הָאָרֶץ כִּי־אֲבַד תֹּאבְדוּן מִהָרַם מִעַל הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר אֹתָם עֲבָרִים אֶת־הַיַּרְדֵּן שְׁמָה לְרִשְׁתָּהּ לֹא־תֹאדְרִיכוּ יָמֶיךָ עֲלֶיהָ כִּי הַשְׁמַד תִּשְׁמְדוּן:

וְהִפִּיץ יְהוָה אֹתְכֶם בְּעַמִּים וְנִשְׁאַרְתֶּם מִתִּי מִסְפָּר בְּגוֹיִם אֲשֶׁר יִנְהַג יְהוָה אֹתְכֶם שְׁמָה:

וְעַבַּדְתֶּם־שֵׁם אֱלֹהִים מַעֲשֵׂה יָדֵי אָדָם עֵץ וָאֶבֶן אֲשֶׁר לֹא־יִרְאוּן וְלֹא יִשְׁמְעוּן וְלֹא יֵאָכְלוּ וְלֹא יִרְיִיתוּ:

וּבִקְשַׁתֶּם מִשָּׁם אֶת־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ וּמִצֵּאתָ כִּי תִדְרָשְׁנוּ בְּכָל־לְבָבְךָ וּבְכָל־נַפְשְׁךָ:

בְּצָר לָךְ וּמִצְאֹוֹךְ כָּל הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה בְּאַחֲרֵית הַיָּמִים וְשָׁבְתָ עַד־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ וְשָׁמַעַת בְּקוֹלִי:

וּכְדָּשָׁא עֵלְיָךְ הַשָּׁמַיִם וְרָאִיתָ אֶת־הַשָּׁמַשׁ וְאֶת־הַיָּרֵחַ וְאֶת־הַכּוֹכָבִים כֹּל צִבְיָא הַשָּׁמַיִם וְנִהְיִיתָ וְהִשְׁתַּחֲוִיתָ לָהֶם וְעַבַּדְתָם אֲשֶׁר חָלַק יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֹתָם לְכָל הָעַמִּים תַּחַת כִּלְי־הַשָּׁמַיִם:

וְאַחֲכֵם לָקַח יְהוָה וַיּוֹצֵא אֹתְכֶם מִכּוּר הַבְּרֹזֶל מִמִּצְרַיִם לַהֲנוֹת לוֹ לְעַם נַחֲלָה כְּיוֹם הַזֶּה:

וַיְהִינָה הַתֹּאנָדָה בִּי עַל־דְּבָרֶיכֶם וַיִּשָּׁבַע לְבַלְתִּי עֲבֹר אֶת־הַיַּרְדֵּן וּלְבַלְתִּיבֹא אֶל־הָאָרֶץ הַטּוֹבָה אֲשֶׁר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ נָתַן לָךְ נַחֲלָה:

כִּי אֲנִכִּי מוֹת בָּאָרֶץ הַזֹּאת אִינֶנִּי עֹבֵר אֶת־הַיַּרְדֵּן וְנֹאֲתֶם עֲבָרִים וַיִּרְשׁוּכֶם אֶת־הָאָרֶץ הַטּוֹבָה הַזֹּאת:

הַשְׁמַרְוּ לָכֶם כְּרַת־שְׁכָחוֹ אֶת־כְּרִית יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם אֲשֶׁר כָּרַת עִמָּכֶם וְעִשִּׂיתֶם לָכֶם פֶּסֶל תְּמוּנַת כָּל אֲשֶׁר צִוָּךְ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ:

כִּי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֵשׁ אֹכֶלָה הוּא אֵל קָנָא:

כִּי־תוֹלִיד בָּנִים וּבָנִים עֲבָרִים וְנִשְׁתַּחֲוִיתָ בָּאָרֶץ וְהִשְׁתַּחֲוִיתָ וְעִשִּׂיתָם פֶּסֶל תְּמוּנַת כָּל וְעִשִּׂיתָם הָרָע בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה־אֱלֹהֶיךָ לְהַקְעִיסוֹ:

הַעִידֹתִי בָלֶם הַיּוֹם אֶת־הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת־הָאָרֶץ כִּי־אֲבַד תֹּאבְדוּן מִהָרַם מִעַל הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר אֹתָם עֲבָרִים אֶת־הַיַּרְדֵּן שְׁמָה לְרִשְׁתָּהּ לֹא־תֹאדְרִיכוּ יָמֶיךָ עֲלֶיהָ כִּי הַשְׁמַד תִּשְׁמְדוּן:

וְהִפִּיץ יְהוָה אֹתְכֶם בְּעַמִּים וְנִשְׁאַרְתֶּם מִתִּי מִסְפָּר בְּגוֹיִם אֲשֶׁר יִנְהַג יְהוָה אֹתְכֶם שְׁמָה:

וְעַבַּדְתֶּם־שֵׁם אֱלֹהִים מַעֲשֵׂה יָדֵי אָדָם עֵץ וָאֶבֶן אֲשֶׁר לֹא־יִרְאוּן וְלֹא יִשְׁמְעוּן וְלֹא יֵאָכְלוּ וְלֹא יִרְיִיתוּ:

וּבִקְשַׁתֶּם מִשָּׁם אֶת־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ וּמִצֵּאתָ כִּי תִדְרָשְׁנוּ בְּכָל־לְבָבְךָ וּבְכָל־נַפְשְׁךָ:

בְּצָר לָךְ וּמִצְאֹוֹךְ כָּל הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה בְּאַחֲרֵית הַיָּמִים וְשָׁבְתָ עַד־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ וְשָׁמַעַת בְּקוֹלִי:

16 Honor your father and your mother, as your God has commanded you, that you may long endure, and that you may fare well, in the land that you are in.

17 You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

18 You [men] [men] Given ancient Israel's norms, women typically were not in a position take a man into their household. Hence this part of the law addresses men only. See also note at 5.6.) shall not cover your neighbor's wife. Likewise, none of you shall crave your neighbor's house, or field, or male or female slave, or ox, or ass, or anything that is your neighbor's.

19 When you spoke those words—those and no more—to your whole congregation at the mountain, with a mighty voice out of the fire and the dense clouds, [God] inscribed them on two tablets of stone and gave them to me.

20 When you heard the voice out of the darkness, while the mountain was ablaze with fire, you came up to me, all your tribal heads and elders, and said, "Our God has just shown us a majestic Presence, and we have heard God's voice out of the fire; we have seen this day that humankind may live though addressed by God.

22 Let us not die, then, for this fearsome fire will consume us; if we hear the voice of our God then any longer, we shall die.

23 For what mortal ever heard the voice of the living God speak out of the fire, as we did, and lived?

24 You go closer and hear all that our God then says, and then you tell us everything that our God tells you, and we will willingly do it."

25 When I heard the plea that you made to me, and I said to me, "I have heard the plea that this people made to you; they did well to speak thus.

26 May they always be of such mind, to revere Me and follow all My commandments, that it may go well with them and with their children forever!

27 Go, say to them, 'Return to your tents.'

31 For you, God is a compassionate God, who will not fail you nor let you perish. [God] will not forget the covenant made on oath with your fathers.

32 You have but to inquire about bygone ages that came before you, ever since God created humankind on earth, from one end of heaven to the other: has anything as great as this ever happened, or has its like ever been known?

33 Has any people heard the voice of a god speaking out of a fire, as you have, and survived? Or has any deity ventured to go and take one nation from the midst of another by prodigious acts, by signs and portents, by war, by a mighty hand and an outstretched arm and awesome power, as you did for you in Egypt before your eyes?

34 It has been clearly demonstrated to you (it has been shown to know") that alone is God; there is none else.

36 From the heavens [God] let you hear the divine voice to discipline you, on earth [God] let you see the great divine fire, and from amidst that fire you heard God's words.

37 And having loved your ancestors, [God] chose their heirs after them, [God] personally [God] personally Lit. "with His face (or: Presence)", cf. note at Exod. 33.14.)—in great, divine might—led you out of Egypt,

38 to drive from your path nations greater and more populous than you, to take you into their land and assign it to you as a heritage, as is still the case.

39 Know therefore this day and keep in mind that alone is God in heaven above and on earth below; there is no other.

40 Observe God's laws and commandments, which I enjoin upon you this day, that it may go well with you and your children after you, and that you may long remain in the land that your God then is assigning to you for all time.

41 Then Moses set aside three cities on the east side of the Jordan

5 I stood between you and you at that time to convey יהוה's words to you, for you were afraid of the fire and did not go up the mountain—saying:

6 (Tradition varies as to the divisions of the Commandments in vv. 6–18 and the numbering of the verses. Cf. note at Exod. 20.1.) I am your God who brought you (you The Decalogue is couched both in the second-person masculine singular and in terms of a household—the basic social and economic unit. Such a format addresses the Decalogue's provisions to whichever responsible party they apply—most typically the (male) householder, or he and his (primary) wife as household administrators, or every man, or every adult member of the community. Cf. note at 12.7. See further the Dictionary under “house,” “householder,” and “you.”) out of the land of Egypt, the house of bondage:

7 You shall have no other gods beside Me.

8 You shall not make for yourself a sculptured image, any likeness of what is in the heavens above, or on the earth below, or in the waters below the earth.

9 You shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I your God am an impassioned God, visiting the guilt of the parents upon the children, upon the third and upon the fourth generations of those who reject Me,

10 but showing kindness to the thousandth generation of those who love Me and keep My commandments.

11 You shall not swear falsely by the name of your God יהוה; for יהוה will not clear one who swears falsely by God's name.

12 Observe the sabbath day and keep it holy, as your God יהוה has commanded you.

13 Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

14 but the seventh day is a sabbath of your God יהוה; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your ox or your ass, or any of your cattle, or the stranger in your settlements, so that your male and female slave may rest as you do.

15 Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt and your God יהוה freed you from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore your God יהוה has commanded you to observe the sabbath day.

אֲנִי עָמַד בֵּין יְהוָה וּבֵינֵיכֶם בַּעַת הַהוּא לְהַגִּיד לָכֶם אֶת־דִּבְרֵי יְהוָה כִּי יִרְאֶתֶם מִפְּנֵי הָאֵשׁ וְלֹא־עֲלִיתֶם בְּהָר לְאַמֹּר:

אֲנִכִּי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֲשֶׁר הוֹצֵאתִיךָ מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם מִבֵּית עֲבָדִים:

לֹא־יִהְיֶה־לְךָ אֱלֹהִים אֲחֵרִים עֲלֵיפִנִי:

לֹא־תַעֲשֶׂה־לְךָ פֶסֶל ׀ כְּלִיתְמוּנָה אֲשֶׁר בַּשָּׁמַיִם ׀ מִמַּעַל וְאֲשֶׁר בָּאָרֶץ מִתַּחַת וְאֲשֶׁר בַּמַּיִם ׀ מִתַּחַת לָאָרֶץ:

לֹא־תִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה לָהֶם וְלֹא תַעֲבֹדֵם כִּי אֲנִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֵל קָדָא פֶלֶד עֹז ׀ אֲבֹת עַל־בָּנִים וְעַל־שְׁלֵשִׁים וְעַל־רִבְעִים לִשְׁנָאִי:

וְעֹשֶׂה חֲסֵד לְאֵלִפִּים לְאַהֲבֵי וּלְשֹׂמְרֵי (מִצְוֹתוֹ) ׀ מִצְוֹתַי:

לֹא תִשָּׁא אֶת־שְׁמִי־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ לִשְׁוֹא כִּי לֹא יִנְקֶה יְהוָה אֶת אֲשֶׁר־יִשָּׂא אֶת־שְׁמוֹ לִשְׁוֹא:

שְׁמֹר יוֹם אֲתִיוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת לְקֹדֶשׁ כַּאֲשֶׁר צֻוֶּה ׀ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ:

שֵׁשֶׁת יָמִים תַּעֲבֹד וְעָשִׂיתָ כָּל־מְלֹאכְתֶּךָ:

וַיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי שַׁבָּת ׀ לַיהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ לֹא תַעֲשֶׂה כָּל־מְלֹאכָה אַתָּה וּבִנְךָ וּבִתֶּךָ וְעַבְדְּךָ וְאִמָּתְךָ וְשׁוֹרְךָ וְחֹמְרְךָ וְכָל־בְּהֶמְתְּךָ וְגֵרְךָ אֲשֶׁר בְּשַׁעְרֶיךָ לְמַעַן יָנוּחַ עַבְדְּךָ וְאִמָּתְךָ כִּמְנוּ:

וְזָכַרְתָּ כִּי־עַבְדְּךָ הָיִיתָ בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם וַיֹּצֵאֲךָ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ מִשָּׁם בְּיָד חֲזָקָה וּבְרֹעַ נְטוּיָה עַל־פִּנְךָ צֻוֶּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ לַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת־יוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת:

42 to which [a man] ([a man] Like all ancient Near Eastern law collections, the Torah's laws are illustrative rather than comprehensive. Its asylum schema does not appear to treat the case of a woman who kills someone, which would have been more complicated.) who has killed someone (who has killed someone I.e., regardless of intent to kill, or of the victim's gender; trad. “manslayer.”) could escape, one who unwittingly slew another without having been an enemy in the past; he could flee to one of these cities and live:

43 Bezer, in the wilderness in the Tableland, belonging to the Reubenites; Ramoth, in Gilead, belonging to the Gadites; and Golan, in Bashan, belonging to the Manassites.

44 This is the Teaching that Moses set before the Israelites:

45 these are the decrees, laws, and rules that Moses addressed to the people of Israel, after they had left Egypt,

46 beyond the Jordan, in the valley at Beth-peor, in the land of King Sihon of the Amorites, who dwelt in Heshbon, whom Moses and the Israelites defeated after they had left Egypt.

47 They had taken possession of his country and that of King Og of Bashan—the two kings of the Amorites—which were on the east side of the Jordan

48 from Aroer on the banks of the wadi Arnon, as far as Mount Sion, (Sion Cf. “Sirion,” 3.9.) that is, Hermon;

49 also the whole Arabah on the east side of the Jordan, as far as the Sea of the Arabah, at the foot of the slopes of Pisgah.

5

לָכֵם שִׁמְחָה רַחוּם אֲשֶׁר יִרְצֶה אֶת־רַעְיוֹהוּ בְּכַל־יָדְעַת וְהוּא לֹא־שָׁנָא לֹךְ מִתַּמָּל שִׁלְשָׁם וְלֹם אֶל־אַחַת מִן־הַעֲרִים הָאֵל וְחָי:

אֶת־בְּצֵר בְּמִדְבַּר בְּאֶרֶץ הַמִּיֶּשֶׁר לְרֵאוּבֵנִי וְאֶת־רָאֵמֶת בְּגִלְעָד לְגַדִּי וְאֶת־גֹּלָן בְּבָשָׁן לְמַנַּשֶּׁה:

וְזֹאת הַתּוֹרָה אֲשֶׁר־שָׂם מֹשֶׁה לִפְנֵי בְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל:

אֵלֶּה הָעֻדֹת וְהַחֻקִּים וְהַמִּשְׁפָּטִים אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר מֹשֶׁה אֶל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּצֵאתָם מִמִּצְרָיִם:

בְּעֵבֶר הַיַּרְדֵּן בְּגִיא מוֹל בֵּית פְּעוֹר בְּאֶרֶץ סִיחֹן מֶלֶךְ הָאֱמֹרִי אֲשֶׁר יוֹשֵׁב בְּחֶשְׁבוֹן אֲשֶׁר הִכָּה מֹשֶׁה וּבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּצֵאתָם מִמִּצְרָיִם:

וַיִּירְשׁוּ אֶת־אֶרֶצוֹ וְאֶת־אֶרֶץ ׀ עוֹג מֶלֶךְ־הַבָּשָׁן שְׁנֵי מַלְכֵי הָאֱמֹרִי אֲשֶׁר בְּעֵבֶר הַיַּרְדֵּן מִזְרָח מִשְׁמַל:

מִצְרֵעַר אֲשֶׁר עַל־שְׁפַת־נַחַל אַרְנוֹן וְעַד־הָר שִׂיאוֹן הוּא חֶרְמוֹן:

וְכָל־הָעֲרָבָה עֵבֶר הַיַּרְדֵּן מִזְרָחָהּ וְעַד יָם הָעֲרָבָה תַּחַת אֲשַׁרֶּת הַפִּסְגָּה:

1 וַיִּקְרָא מֹשֶׁה אֶל־כָּל־יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵהֶם שָׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶת־הַחֻקִּים וְאֶת־הַמִּשְׁפָּטִים אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי דֹבֵר בְּאָזְנוֹיְכֶם הַיּוֹם וּלְמַדְתֶּם אֹתָם וּשְׁמַרְתֶּם לַעֲשׂוֹתָם:

2 יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ כָּתַב עִמָּנוּ בְּרִית בְּחֹרֵב:

3 לֹא אֶת־אֲבוֹתֵינוּ כָּתַב יְהוָה אֶת־הַבְּרִית הַזֹּאת כִּי אֲתָנוּ אֲנֻחֶנּוּ אֵלֶּה פֶּה הַיּוֹם כָּלְנוּ חַיִּים:

4 פָּנִים ׀ פָּנִים דִּבֶּר יְהוָה עִמָּכֶם בְּהָר מִתּוֹךְ הָאֵשׁ: