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מִקֵּץ Miketz

Genesis 41:1-44:17

- 1 After two years' time, Pharaoh dreamed that he was standing by the Nile,
- 2 when out of the Nile there came up seven cows, handsome and sturdy, and they grazed in the reed grass.
- 3 But presently, seven other cows came up from the Nile close behind them, ugly and gaunt, and stood beside the cows on the bank of the Nile;
- 4 and the ugly gaunt cows ate up the seven handsome sturdy cows. And Pharaoh awoke.
- 5 He fell asleep and dreamed a second time: Seven ears of grain, solid and healthy, grew on a single stalk.
- 6 But close behind them sprouted seven ears, thin and scorched by the east wind.
- 7 And the thin ears swallowed up the seven solid and full ears. Then Pharaoh awoke: it was a dream!
- 8 Next morning, his spirit was agitated, and he sent for all the magician-priests of Egypt, and all its sages; and Pharaoh told them his dreams, but none could interpret them for Pharaoh.
- 9 The chief cupbearer then spoke up and said to Pharaoh, "I must make mention today of my offenses.
- 10 Once Pharaoh was angry with his servants, and placed me in custody in the house of the prefect, (prefect See note at 37.36.) together with the chief baker.
- 11 We had dreams the same night, he and I, each of us a dream with a meaning of its own.
- 12 A Hebrew youth was there with us, a servant of the prefect; and when we told him our dreams, he interpreted them for us, telling each of the meaning of his dream.
- 13 And as he interpreted for us, so it came to pass: I was restored to my post, and the other was impaled."
- 14 Thereupon Pharaoh sent for Joseph, and he was rushed from the dungeon. He had his hair cut and changed his clothes, and he appeared before Pharaoh.
- וַיְהִי מִקֵּץ שְׁנָתַיִם יָמִים וּפְרָעָה חֹלֵם וְהִנֵּה עֹמֵד עַל־הַיָּאֵר:
- וְהִנֵּה מִן־הַיָּאֵר עֹלֹת שֶׁבַע פָּרוֹת יָפוֹת מְרֻאָה וּבְרִיאַת בָּשָׂר וַתִּרְעֶינָה בְּאֲחוֹ:
- וְהִנֵּה שֶׁבַע פָּרוֹת אַחֲרוֹת עֹלֹת אַחֲרֵיהֶן מִן־הַיָּאֵר רָעוֹת מְרֻאָה וְדָקוֹת בָּשָׂר וַתַּעֲמִדְנָה אֶצְלֵן הַפָּרוֹת עַל־שִׁפְתֵי הַיָּאֵר:
- וַתֹּאכְלֶנָה הַפָּרוֹת הָרָעוֹת הַמְרֻאָה וְדָקוֹת הַבָּשָׂר אֶת שֶׁבַע הַפָּרוֹת הַיָּפוֹת הַמְרֻאָה וְהַבְּרִיאַת וַיִּיקֶץ פְּרָעָה:
- וַיִּישָׁן וַיַּחֲלֹם שֵׁנִית וְהִנֵּה | שֶׁבַע שְׂבָלִים עֹלֹת בְּקִנָּה אֶחָד בְּרִיאַת וְטֹבּוֹת:
- וְהִנֵּה שֶׁבַע שְׂבָלִים דָּקוֹת וְשֹׂדֶוּפֹת קִדְּיִם צִמְחוֹת אַחֲרֵיהֶן:
- וַתִּבְלַעְנָה הַשְּׂבָלִים הַדָּקוֹת אֶת שֶׁבַע הַשְּׂבָלִים הַבְּרִיאַת וְהַמְלֵאוֹת וַיִּיקֶץ פְּרָעָה וְהִנֵּה חֵלֹם:
- וַיְהִי בַבֹּקֶר וַתִּפְעֹם רוּחוֹ וַיִּשְׁלַח וַיִּקְרָא אֶת־כָּל־חֲרָטְמֵי מִצְרָיִם וְאֶת־כָּל־חֲכָמָיָהּ וַיְסַפֵּר פְּרָעָה לָהֶם אֶת־חֲלָמוֹ וְאִין־פֹּתָר אוֹתָם לְפָרְעָה:
- וַיְדַבֵּר שֶׁר הַמִּשְׁקִלִּים אֶת־פְּרָעָה לֵאמֹר אֶת־חֲטָאֵי אֲנִי מִזְכִּיר הַיּוֹם:
- פְּרָעָה קֶצֶף עַל־עַבְדָּיו וַיִּתֵּן אוֹתִי בְּמִשְׁמֶר בֵּית שֶׁר הַטִּבְחִים אוֹתִי וְאֶת שֶׁר הָאֲפִים:
- וְנִחְלַמָּה חֵלֹם בַּלַּיְלָה אֶחָד אֲנִי וְהוּא אִישׁ כִּפְתָּרוֹן חֲלָמוֹ חֲלָמְנוּ:
- וְשֵׁם אֹתָנוּ נָעַר עֲבָדִי עֶבֶד לְשֶׁר הַטִּבְחִים וְנִסְפָּרְלוֹ וַיִּפְתָּרֵלְנוּ אֶת־חֲלָמֵינוּ אִישׁ כְּחֲלָמוֹ פִּתָּר:
- וַיְהִי כַּאֲשֶׁר פִּתְרֵלְנוּ כֵּן הָיָה אוֹתִי הַשִּׁיב עַל־כִּנִּי וְאוֹתוֹ תִּלְהַ:
- וַיִּשְׁלַח פְּרָעָה וַיִּקְרָא אֶת־יוֹסֵף וַיְרִיצֵהוּ מִן־הַבּוֹר וַיַּגְלֵחַ וַיַּחֲלֶף שְׂמֹלֵתוֹ וַיָּבֵא אֶל־פְּרָעָה:

- 15 And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I have had a dream, but no one can interpret it. Now I have heard it said of you that for you to hear a dream is to tell its meaning."
- 16 Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, "Not I! God will see to Pharaoh's welfare."
- 17 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "In my dream, I was standing on the bank of the Nile,
- 18 when out of the Nile came up seven sturdy and well-formed cows and grazed in the reed grass.
- 19 Presently there followed them seven other cows, scrawny, ill-formed, and emaciated—never had I seen their likes for ugliness in all the land of Egypt!
- 20 And the seven lean and ugly cows ate up the first seven cows, the sturdy ones;
- 21 but when they had consumed them, one could not tell that they had consumed them, for they looked just as bad as before. And I awoke.
- 22 In my other dream, I saw seven ears of grain, full and healthy, growing on a single stalk;
- 23 but right behind them sprouted seven ears, shriveled, thin, and scorched by the east wind.
- 24 And the thin ears swallowed the seven healthy ears. I have told my magician-priests, but none has an explanation for me."
- 25 And Joseph said to Pharaoh, "Pharaoh's dreams are one and the same: Pharaoh has been told what God is about to do.
- 26 The seven healthy cows are seven years, and the seven healthy ears are seven years; it is the same dream.
- 27 The seven lean and ugly cows that followed are seven years, as are also the seven empty ears scorched by the east wind; they are seven years of famine.
- 28 It is just as I have told Pharaoh: Pharaoh has been shown what God is about to do.
- 29 Immediately ahead are seven years of great abundance in all the land of Egypt.
- 30 After them will come seven years of famine, and all the abundance in the land of Egypt will be forgotten. As the land is ravaged by famine,
- וַיֹּאמֶר פַּרְעֹה אֶל־יוֹסֵף חֲלוֹם חֲלַמְתִּי וּפְתָר אֵין אֹתוֹ וְאֲנִי שֹׁמֵעַתִּי
עֲלֶיךָ לֵאמֹר תִּשְׁמַע חֲלוֹם לִפְתּוֹר אֹתוֹ:
- וַיַּעַן יוֹסֵף אֶת־פַּרְעֹה לֵאמֹר בִּלְעָדִי אֱלֹהִים יַעֲנֶה אֶת־שְׁלוֹם פַּרְעֹה:
- וַיִּדְבֹּר פַּרְעֹה אֶל־יוֹסֵף בְּחִלְמֵי הַנָּהָר עָמַד עַל־שֹׁפֶת הַיָּאֵר:
- וְהִנֵּה מִן־הַיָּאֵר עָלָה שִׁבְעַת פְּרוֹת בְּרִיאֹת בָּשָׂר וַיִּפֹּת תֵּאָר וַתִּרְעֶינָה
בָּאָחוּ:
- וְהִנֵּה שִׁבְעַת־פְּרוֹת אַחֲרוֹת עָלוּת אַחֲרֵיהֶן דָּלוֹת וְרַעּוֹת תֵּאָר מֵאֹד
וְרַקוֹת בָּשָׂר לֹא־רָאִיתִי כְהִנָּה בְּכָל־אֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם לְרַע:
- וַתֹּאכְלֶנָּה הַפְּרוֹת הַרְקוֹת וְהַרְעוֹת אֶת שִׁבְעַת הַפְּרוֹת הָרֵאשֹׁנוֹת
הַבְּרִיאֹת:
- וַתִּבְאֲנָה אֱלִיקֶרְנָה וְלֹא נֹדַע כִּי־בָאוּ אֱלִיקֶרְנָה וּמִרְאִיהֶן לֹעַ
כַּאֲשֶׁר בַּתְּחִלָּה וַאֲיָקִץ:
- וַאֲרָא בְּחִלְמֵי וְהִנֵּה | שִׁבְעַת שִׁבְלִים עָלָה בְּקִנָּה אֶחָד מִלֵּאֶת וְטֹבוֹת:
- וְהִנֵּה שִׁבְעַת שִׁבְלִים צִנְמוֹת דַּקּוֹת שֹׁדֶפוֹת קִדָּים צִמְחוֹת אַחֲרֵיהֶם:
- וַתִּבְלַעַן הַשִּׁבְלִים הַדַּקֹּת אֶת שִׁבְעַת הַשִּׁבְלִים הַטֹּבוֹת וַאֲמַר
אֶל־הַחֹרְטָמִים וַאֲיִן מִגִּיד לִי:
- וַיֹּאמֶר יוֹסֵף אֶל־פַּרְעֹה חֲלוֹם פַּרְעֹה אֶחָד הוּא אֶת אֲשֶׁר הָאֱלֹהִים עֹשֶׂה
הַגִּיד לִפְרָעָה:
- שִׁבְעַת פְּרוֹת הַטֹּבוֹת שִׁבְעַת שָׁנִים הֵנָּה וְשִׁבְעַת הַשִּׁבְלִים הַטֹּבוֹת שִׁבְעַת
שָׁנִים הֵנָּה חֲלוֹם אֶחָד הוּא:
- וְשִׁבְעַת הַפְּרוֹת הַרְקוֹת וְהַרְעוֹת הָעָלוּת אַחֲרֵיהֶן שִׁבְעַת שָׁנִים הֵנָּה וְשִׁבְעַת
הַשִּׁבְלִים הַרְקוֹת שֹׁדֶפוֹת הַקִּדָּים יְהִיו שִׁבְעַת שָׁנֵי רָעָב:
- הוּא הַדְּבָר אֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְתִּי אֶל־פַּרְעֹה אֲשֶׁר הָאֱלֹהִים עֹשֶׂה הָרָאָה
אֶת־פַּרְעֹה:
- הִנֵּה שִׁבְעַת שָׁנִים בָּאוֹת שִׁבְעַת נְדוּל בְּכָל־אֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם:
- וְאַחֲרָיו שִׁבְעַת שָׁנֵי רָעָב אַחֲרֵיהֶן וְנִשְׁכַּח כָּל־הַשֹּׁבַע בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם
וְכָל־הָרָעָב אֶת־הָאֶרֶץ:

- 31 ולא יִנָּדַע הַשְּׂבֹל בָּאָרֶץ מִפְּנֵי הָרָעָב הַהוּא אַחֲרֵי־כֵן כִּי־כָבֵד הוּא מְאֹד:
no trace of the abundance will be left in the land because of the famine thereafter, for it will be very severe.
- 32 וְעַל הַשְּׁנֹת הַחֲלֹם אֶל־פֶּרְעָה פְּעָמַיִם כִּי־נִכּוֹן הַדְּבָר מֵעַם הָאֱלֹהִים וּמִמֶּהָר הָאֱלֹהִים לַעֲשׂוֹתוֹ:
As for Pharaoh having had the same dream twice, it means that the matter has been determined by God, and that God will soon carry it out.
- 33 וְעַתָּה יֵרָא פֶּרְעָה אִישׁ נָבוֹן וְחָכָם וַיִּשְׁתַּהוּ עַל־אֶרֶץ מִצְרָיִם:
“Accordingly, let Pharaoh find someone (someone Lit. “a participant whose involvement defines the (proposed) situation.” See the Dictionary under ‘ish.) who’s discerning and wise, whom you can set over the land of Egypt.
- 34 וַיַּעַשׂה פֶּרְעָה וַיִּפְקֹד פְּקִידִים עַל־הָאָרֶץ וַחֲמֵשׁ אֶת־אֶרֶץ מִצְרָיִם בְּשִׁבְעַ שְׁנֵי הַשְּׂבֹעַ:
And let Pharaoh take steps to appoint overseers over the land, and organize (organize Others “take a fifth part of”; meaning of Heb. uncertain.) the land of Egypt in the seven years of plenty.
- 35 וַיִּקְבְּצוּ אֶת־כָּל־אֹכֶל הַשָּׁנִים הַטֹּבוֹת הַבָּאֹת הָאֵלֶּה וַיִּצְבְּרוּ־בָר תַּחַת יַד־פֶּרְעָה אֹכֶל בְּעָרִים וְשֹׁמְרוֹ:
Let all the food of these good years that are coming be gathered, and let the grain be collected under Pharaoh’s authority as food to be stored in the cities.
- 36 וְהָיָה הָאֹכֶל לְפָקֶדוֹן לָאָרֶץ לְשֹׂבֵל שְׁנֵי הָרָעָב אֲשֶׁר תִּהְיֶינָה בָּאָרֶץ מִצְרָיִם וְלֹא־תִכָּרֵת הָאָרֶץ בְּרָעָב:
Let that food be a reserve for the land for the seven years of famine which will come upon the land of Egypt, so that the land may not perish in the famine.”
- 37 וַיִּיטֹב הַדְּבָר בְּעֵינֵי פֶּרְעָה וּבְעֵינֵי כָל־עֲבָדָיו:
The plan pleased Pharaoh and all his courtiers.
- 38 וַיֹּאמֶר פֶּרְעָה אֶל־עֲבָדָיו הֲנִמְצָא כָּזֶה אִישׁ אֲשֶׁר רוּחַ אֱלֹהִים בּוֹ:
And Pharaoh said to his courtiers, “Could we find another like him—a man with the divine spirit?”
- 39 וַיֹּאמֶר פֶּרְעָה אֶל־יוֹסֵף אַחֲרֵי הוֹדִיעַ אֱלֹהִים אוֹתָךְ אֶת־כָּל־זֹאת אֵין־נִבּוֹן וְחָכָם כָּמוֹךָ:
So Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Since God has made all this known to you, there is none so discerning and wise as you.
- 40 אַתָּה תִּהְיֶה עַל־בֵּיתִי וְעַל־פִּיךָ יִשָּׁק כָּל־עַמִּי רַק הַכֶּסֶּא אֲנִי־לִי מִמֶּךָ:
You shall be in charge of my court, and by your command shall all my people be directed; (be directed Others “order themselves” or “pay homage”; meaning of Heb. yishshaq uncertain.) only with respect to the throne shall I be superior to you.”
- 41 וַיֹּאמֶר פֶּרְעָה אֶל־יוֹסֵף רְאֵה נָתַתִּי אֹתְךָ עַל כָּל־אֶרֶץ מִצְרָיִם:
Pharaoh further said to Joseph, “See, I put you in charge of all the land of Egypt.”
- 42 וַיֹּסֶר פֶּרְעָה אֶת־טַבַּעְתּוֹ מֵעַל יָדוֹ וַיִּתֵּן אֹתָהּ עַל־יַד יוֹסֵף וַיַּלְבֵּשׁ אוֹתוֹ בְּגָדֵי־שֵׁשׁ וַיִּשֶׂם רֶבֶד הַזָּהָב עַל־צִנּוּאוֹ:
And removing his signet ring from his hand, Pharaoh put it on Joseph’s hand; and he had him dressed in robes of fine linen, and put a gold chain about his neck.

- 43 וַיִּרְכַּב אוֹתוֹ בַּמֶּרְכָּבָה הַמִּשְׁנָה אֲשֶׁר־לוֹ וַיִּקְרָאוּ לִפְנֵי אַבְרָהָם וַיִּתְּנוּ אוֹתוֹ עַל כָּל־אֶרֶץ מִצְרָיִם:
- 44 וַיֹּאמֶר פַּרְעֹה אֶל־יֹסֵף אֲנִי פַרְעֹה וּבְלִעְדֶּיךָ לֹא־יִלְיִם אִישׁ אֶת־יָדוֹ וְאֶת־רַגְלוֹ בְּכָל־אֶרֶץ מִצְרָיִם:
- 45 וַיִּקְרָא פַרְעֹה שֵׁם־יֹסֵף צָפְנָת פָּעֻזָּה וַיִּתֵּן־לוֹ אֶת־אִסְנַת בַּת־פּוֹתִי־פְרָעָה כֹּהֵן אֵן לֵאשָׁה וַיֵּצֵא יֹסֵף עַל־אֶרֶץ מִצְרָיִם:
- 46 יֹסֵף בֶּן־שְׁלֹשִׁים שָׁנָה בָּעָמְדוֹ לִפְנֵי פַרְעֹה מֶלֶךְ־מִצְרָיִם וַיֵּצֵא יֹסֵף מִלִּפְנֵי פַרְעֹה וַיַּעֲבֹר בְּכָל־אֶרֶץ מִצְרָיִם:
- 47 וַתֵּעַשׂ הָאָרֶץ בַּשָּׁבַע שְׁנֵי הַשָּׁבָע לִקְמָצִים:
- 48 וַיִּקְבֹּץ אֶת־כָּל־אֹכֶל | שָׁבַע שָׁנִים אֲשֶׁר הָיוּ בָאָרֶץ מִצְרָיִם וַיִּתֵּן־אֹכֶל בְּעָרִים אֹכֶל שְׂדֵה־הָעִיר אֲשֶׁר סְבִיבֹתֶיהָ נָתַן בְּתוֹכָהּ:
- 49 וַיַּצְבֵּר יֹסֵף בָּר כָּחֹל הַיָּם הָרַבָּה מֵאֹד עַד כִּי־חָדַל לִסְפֹּר כִּי־אֵין מִסְפָּר:
- 50 וּלְיֹסֵף יָלְדוּ שְׁנֵי בָנִים בְּטֶרֶם תָּבוֹא שְׁנַת הָרָעָב אֲשֶׁר יָלְדָה־לוֹ אִסְנַת בַּת־פּוֹתִי־פְרָעָה כֹּהֵן אֵן:
- 51 וַיִּקְרָא יֹסֵף אֶת־שֵׁם הַבְּכוֹר מְנַשֶּׁה כִּי־נִשְׁנֵי אֱלֹהִים אֶת־כָּל־עֲמָלִי וְאֶת כָּל־בֵּית אָבִי:
- 52 וְאֶת שֵׁם הַשֵּׁנִי קָרָא אֶפְרַיִם כִּי־הִפְרִנִי אֱלֹהִים בָּאָרֶץ עֲנִי:
- 53 וַתִּבְלֵינָה שָׁבַע שְׁנֵי הַשָּׁבָע אֲשֶׁר הָיָה בָאָרֶץ מִצְרָיִם:
- He had him ride in the chariot of his second-in-command, and they cried before him, “Abrek!” (Abrek Others “Bow the knee,” as though from Heb. barakh “to kneel”; perhaps from an Egyptian word of unknown meaning.) Thus he placed him over all the land of Egypt.
- Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I am Pharaoh; yet without you, no one shall lift up hand or foot in all the land of Egypt.”
- Pharaoh then gave Joseph the name Zaphenath-paneah; (Zaphenath-paneah Egyptian for “God speaks; he lives,” or “creator of life.”) and he gave him for a wife Asenath daughter of Poti-phaera, priest of On. Thus Joseph emerged in charge of the land of Egypt.—
- Joseph was thirty years old when he entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt.—Leaving Pharaoh’s presence, Joseph traveled through all the land of Egypt.
- During the seven years of plenty, the land produced in abundance.
- And he gathered all the grain of the seven years that the land of Egypt was enjoying, (the seven years that the land of Egypt was enjoying Lit. “the seven years that were in the land of Egypt.”) and stored the grain in the cities; he put in each city the grain of the fields around it.
- So Joseph collected produce in very large quantity, like the sands of the sea, until he ceased to measure it, for it could not be measured.
- Before the years of famine came, Joseph became the father of two sons, whom Asenath daughter of Poti-phaera, priest of On, bore to him.
- Joseph named the first-born Manasseh, meaning, “God has made me forget (has made me forget Heb. nashshani, connected with “Manasseh” (Menashsheh).) completely my hardship and my parental home.”
- And the second he named Ephraim, meaning, “God has made me fertile (has made me fertile Heb. hiphrani, connected with “Ephraim.”) in the land of my affliction.”
- The seven years of abundance that the land of Egypt enjoyed came to an end,

- 54 and the seven years of famine set in, just as Joseph had foretold. There was famine in all lands, but throughout the land of Egypt there was bread.
- 55 And when all the land of Egypt felt the hunger, the people cried out to Pharaoh for bread; and Pharaoh said to all the Egyptians, "Go to Joseph; whatever he tells you, you shall do."—
- 56 Accordingly, when the famine became severe in the land of Egypt, Joseph laid open all that was within, and rationed out grain to the Egyptians. The famine, however, spread over the whole world.
- 57 So all the world came to Joseph in Egypt to procure rations, for the famine had become severe throughout the world.

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- 1 When Jacob saw that there were food rations to be had in Egypt, he (he Lit. "Jacob.") said to his sons, "Why do you keep looking at one another?
- 2 Now I hear," he went on, "that there are rations to be had in Egypt. Go down and procure rations for us there, that we may live and not die."
- 3 So ten of Joseph's brothers went down to get grain rations in Egypt;
- 4 for Jacob did not send Joseph's brother Benjamin with his brothers, since he feared that he might meet with disaster.
- 5 Thus the sons of Israel were among those who came to procure rations, for the famine extended to the land of Canaan.
- 6 Now Joseph was the vizier of the land; it was he who dispensed rations to all the people of the land. And Joseph's brothers came and bowed low to him, with their faces to the ground.
- 7 When Joseph saw his brothers, he recognized them; but he acted like a stranger toward them and spoke harshly to them. He asked them, "Where do you come from?" And they said, "From the land of Canaan, to procure food."
- 8 For though Joseph recognized his brothers, they did not recognize him.
- 9 Recalling the dreams that he had dreamed about them, Joseph said to them, "You are spies, you have come to see the land in its nakedness."
- וַיֵּרָא יַעֲקֹב כִּי יֵשׁ-שָׁבֶר בַּמִּצְרַיִם וַיֹּאמֶר יַעֲקֹב לְבָנָיו לְמָה תִּתְרָאוּ:
- וַיֹּאמֶר הִנֵּה שָׁמַעְתִּי כִּי יֵשׁ-שָׁבֶר בַּמִּצְרַיִם רְדוּ-שָׁמָּה וּשְׁבֵרוּ-לָנוּ מִשָּׁם וְנָחִיָּה וְלֹא נָמוּת:
- וַיֵּרְדּוּ אֶחָד־יִוְסֵף עֲשָׂרָה לִשְׁבֵר בָּר מִמִּצְרַיִם:
- וְאֶת־בְּנֵי־יִמִּין אֲחִי יוֹסֵף לֹא־שְׁלַח יַעֲקֹב אֶת־אֲחִיו כִּי אָמַר פֶּן־יִקְרָאנוּ אִסּוֹן:
- וַיָּבֹאוּ בְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לִשְׁבֵר בְּתוֹךְ הַבָּאִים כִּי־הָיָה הָרָעָב בְּאֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן:
- וַיּוֹסֶף הוּא הַשְּׁלִיט עַל־הָאָרֶץ הוּא הַמְּשַׁבֵּיר לְכָל־עַם הָאָרֶץ וַיָּבֹאוּ אֲחֵי יוֹסֵף וַיִּשְׁתָּחוּ וַיִּבֹּאוּ אֶפְסִים אֶרְצָה:
- וַיֵּרָא יוֹסֵף אֶת־אֲחָיו וַיִּכְרָם וַיַּתְנַלֵּךְ אֲלֵיהֶם וַיְדַבֵּר אֲתָם קָשׁוֹת וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵיהֶם מֵאֵין בָּאתֶם וַיֹּאמְרוּ מֵאֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן לִשְׁבֹר־אֲכָל:
- וַיִּכַּר יוֹסֵף אֶת־אֲחָיו וְהֵם לֹא הִכְרָהוּ:
- וַיִּזְכֹּר יוֹסֵף אֶת הַחֲלֻמוֹת אֲשֶׁר חָלַם לָהֶם וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵיהֶם מְרִגְלִים אַתֶּם לִרְאוֹת אֶת־עֲרֹנוֹת הָאָרֶץ בָּאתֶם:

- 10 But they said to him, "No, my lord! Truly, your servants have come to procure food.
- 11 We are all of us sons of the same man; we are being honest; your servants have never been spies!"
- 12 And he said to them, "No, you have come to see the land in its nakedness!"
- 13 And they replied, "We your servants were twelve brothers, sons of a certain man in the land of Canaan; the youngest, however, is now with our father, and one is no more."
- 14 But Joseph said to them, "It is just as I have told you: You are spies!
- 15 By this you shall be put to the test: unless your youngest brother comes here, by Pharaoh, you shall not depart from this place!
- 16 Let one of you go and bring your brother, while the rest of you remain confined, that your words may be put to the test whether there is truth in you. Else, by Pharaoh, you are nothing but spies!"
- 17 And he confined them in the guardhouse for three days.
- 18 On the third day Joseph said to them, "Do this and you shall live, for I fear God.
- 19 If you are being honest, let one of you brothers be held in your place of detention, while the rest of you go and take home rations for your starving households;
- 20 but you must bring me your youngest brother, that your words may be verified and that you may not die." And they did accordingly.
- 21 They said to one another, "Alas, we are being punished on account of our brother, because we looked on at his anguish, yet paid no heed as he pleaded with us. That is why this distress has come upon us."
- 22 Then Reuben spoke up and said to them, "Did I not tell you, 'Do no wrong to the boy'? But you paid no heed. Now comes the reckoning for his blood."
- 23 They did not know that Joseph understood, for there was an interpreter between him and them.
- 24 He turned away from them and wept. But he came back to them and spoke to them; and he took Simeon from among them and had him bound before their eyes.
- וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֵלָיו לֹא אֲדֹנָי וְעַבְדֶּיךָ בָּאוּ לְשׁוֹכֵר־אֶכָּל:
- כָּלֵנוּ בְנֵי אִישׁ־אֶחָד נָחֲנוּ כְּנִים אִנְחֲנוּ לֹא־הָיוּ עַבְדֶּיךָ מְרַגְלִים:
- וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵהֶם לֹא כִי־עָרְוֹת הָאָרֶץ בָּאתֶם לְרֹאוֹת:
- וַיֹּאמְרוּ שְׁנַיִם עָשׂוֹר עַבְדֶּיךָ אֲחִים | אִנְחֲנוּ בְנֵי אִישׁ־אֶחָד בְּאֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן וְהַזֶּה הַקָּטָן אֶת־אֲבִינוּ הַזֶּה וְהָאֶחָד אֵינָנוּ:
- וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵהֶם יוֹסֵף הוּא אֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְתִּי אֲלֵכֶם לֵאמֹר מְרַגְלִים אַתֶּם:
- בְּזֹאת תִּבְחָנוּ חַי פַּרְעֹה אִם־תֵּצְאוּ מִזֶּה כִּי אִם־בָּבוֹא אֲחִיכֶם הַקָּטָן הַזֶּה:
- שְׁלַחוּ מִכֶּם אֶחָד וְיִקַּח אֶת־אֲחִיכֶם וְאַתֶּם הָאֲסוּרִים וַיִּבְחָנוּ דְּבָרֵיכֶם הָאֵמֶת אֲתֶכֶם וְאִם־לֹא חַי פַּרְעֹה כִּי מְרַגְלִים אַתֶּם:
- וַיֹּאסֶף אֹתָם אֶל־מִשְׁמַר שְׁלֹשֶׁת יָמִים:
- וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵהֶם יוֹסֵף בְּיוֹם הַשְּׁלִישִׁי זֹאת עֲשׂוּ וְחַיִּי אֶת־הָאֱלֹהִים אֲנִי יָרֵא:
- אִם־כְּנִים אַתֶּם אֲחִיכֶם אֶחָד יֹאסֶר בְּבֵית מִשְׁמָרְכֶם וְאַתֶּם לָכוּ הַבֵּיאוּ שָׂבָר רָעָבוֹן בְּתֵיכֶם:
- וְאַת־אֲחִיכֶם הַקָּטָן תָּבִיאוּ אֵלַי וַיֹּאמְנוּ דְּבָרֵיכֶם וְלֹא תָמוּתוּ וַיַּעֲשׂוּ־כֵן:
- וַיֹּאמְרוּ אִישׁ אֶל־אֲחִיו אֲבָל אֲשַׁמִּים | אִנְחֲנוּ עַל־אֲחִינוּ אֲשֶׁר רָאִינוּ צָרָת נִפְשׁוֹ בְּהִתְחַנְּנוֹ אֵלָינוּ וְלֹא שָׁמַעְנוּ עֲלֵיכֶן בָּאָה אֵלָינוּ הַצָּרָה הַזֹּאת:
- וַיַּעַן רְאוּבֵן אֹתָם לֵאמֹר הֲלוֹא אָמַרְתִּי אֲלֵיכֶם | לֵאמֹר אֶל־תִּתְּחוּטְאוּ בְּיָד וְלֹא שָׁמַעְתֶּם וְגַם־דָּמוֹ הִנֵּה נִדְרָשׁ:
- וְהֵם לֹא יָדְעוּ כִּי שָׁמַע יוֹסֵף כִּי הַמְלִיץ בֵּינָתָם:
- וַיִּסַּב מִצְּלִיהֶם וַיָּבֶה וַיֵּשֶׁב אֲלֵהֶם וַיְדַבֵּר אֲלֵהֶם וַיִּקַּח מֵאֲתָם אֶת־שִׁמְעוֹן וַיֹּאסֶר אוֹתוֹ לְעֵינֵיהֶם:

- 25 וַיִּצְוֵה יוֹסֵף וַיִּמְלֵאוּ אֶת־כְּלֵיהֶם בָּרֶגֶל וְלִהְשִׁיב כֶּסֶף־הֶם אִישׁ אֶל־שַׁקּוֹ וְלָתֵת לָהֶם צֹדֶה לַדֶּרֶךְ וַיַּעַשׂ לָהֶם כֵּן׃
Then Joseph gave orders to fill their bags with grain, return each one's money to his sack, and give them provisions for the journey; and this was done for them.
- 26 וַיִּשְׂאוּ אֶת־שִׁבְרָם עַל־מִרְיָהֶם וַיֵּלְכוּ מִשָּׁם׃
So they loaded their asses with the rations and departed from there.
- 27 וַיִּפְתָּח הָאֶחָד אֶת־שַׁקּוֹ לָתֵת מִסֶּפּוֹא לַחֲמֹרוֹ בַּמָּלֶן וַיֵּרָא אֶת־כֶּסֶפוֹ וַהֲנִיחָהוּא בְּפִי אִמְתָּחָתוֹ׃
As one of them was opening his sack to give feed to his ass at the night encampment, he saw his money right there at the mouth of his bag.
- 28 וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל־אֶחָיו הוֹשֵׁב כֶּסֶףִּי וְגַם הִנֵּה בְּאִמְתָּחָתִי וַיֵּצֵא לָבָם וַיִּחְרְדּוּ אִישׁ אֶל־אֶחָיו לֵאמֹר מִה־זֹּאת עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים לָנוּ׃
And he said to his brothers, "My money has been returned! It is here in my bag!" Their hearts sank; and, trembling, they turned to one another, saying, "What is this that God has done to us?"
- 29 וַיָּבֹאוּ אֶל־יַעֲקֹב אֲבִיהֶם אֶרְצָה כְּנָעַן וַיִּגִּידוּ לוֹ אֵת כָּל־הַקֶּרֶת אֲתָם לֵאמֹר׃
When they came to their father Jacob in the land of Canaan, they told him all that had befallen them, saying,
- 30 הֲבֵר הָאִישׁ אֲדֹנֵי הָאָרֶץ אֶתָּנוּ קִשּׁוֹת וַיִּתֵּן אֹתָנוּ כְּמִרְגָּלִים אֶת־הָאָרֶץ׃
"The man (The man More precisely, "the participant [whose involvement defines the depicted situation]." See the Dictionary under 'ish.) who is lord of the land spoke harshly to us and accused us of spying on the land.
- 31 וַנֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו כִּנִּים אֲנַחְנוּ לֹא הִיָּינוּ מִרְגָּלִים׃
We said to him, 'We are being honest; we have never been spies!
- 32 שְׁנַיִם־עָשָׂר אֲנַחְנוּ אֲחִים בְּנֵי אֲבִינוּ הָאֶחָד אֵינָנוּ וְהַקָּטָן הַיּוֹם אֶת־אֲבִינוּ בְּאָרֶץ כְּנָעַן׃
There were twelve of us brothers, sons by the same father; but one is no more, and the youngest is now with our father in the land of Canaan.'
- 33 וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלֵינוּ הָאִישׁ אֲדֹנֵי הָאָרֶץ בְּזֹאת אֵלַע כִּי כִנִּים אַתֶּם אֲחִיכֶם הָאֶחָד הַנִּיחֹו אֵתִי וְאֶת־רַעְבּוֹן בְּתִיכֶם קַחוּ וּלְכוּ׃
But the man—who is lord of the land—said to us, 'By this I shall know that you are being honest: leave one of your brothers with me, and take something for your starving households and be off.
- 34 וְהָבִיאוּ אֶת־אֲחִיכֶם הַקָּטָן אֵלַי וְאִדְלָה כִּי לֹא מִרְגָּלִים אַתֶּם כִּי כִנִּים אַתֶּם אֶת־אֲחִיכֶם אֲתֵן לָכֶם וְאֶת־הָאָרֶץ תִּסְתָּרוּ׃
And bring your youngest brother to me, that I may know that you are not spies, that you are being honest. I will then restore your brother to you, and you shall be free to move about in the land."
- 35 וַיְהִי הֵם מְרִיקִים שַׁקֵּיהֶם וְהִנֵּה־אִישׁ צִרּוֹר־כֶּסֶף בְּשַׁקּוֹ וַיֵּרָאוּ אֶת־צִרְרוֹת כֶּסֶף־הֶם הֵמָּה וְאֲבִיהֶם וַיִּירָאוּ׃
As they were emptying their sacks, there, in each one's sack, was his money-bag! When they and their father saw their money-bags, they were dismayed.
- 36 וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵהֶם יַעֲקֹב אֲבִיהֶם אֲתִי שְׁכַלְתֶּם יוֹסֵף אֵינָנוּ וְשִׁמְעוֹן אֵינָנוּ וְאֶת־בְּנֵימֵן תִּקְחוּ עָלַי הִנֵּה כְלָנָה׃
Their father Jacob said to them, "It is always me that you bereave: Joseph is no more and Simeon is no more, and now you would take away Benjamin. These things always happen to me!"
- 37 וַיֹּאמֶר רְאוּבֵן אֶל־אָבִיו לֵאמֹר אֶת־שְׁנֵי בְנֵי תַמִּית אִם־לֹא אָבִיָּאנוּ אֵלֶיךָ תִּנֵּה אוֹתוֹ עַל־יְדִי וְאֲנִי אֲשִׁיבָנוּ אֵלֶיךָ׃
Then Reuben said to his father, "You may kill my two sons if I do not bring him back to you. Put him in my care, and I will return him to you."

- 38 וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא־יֵרֵד בְּנִי עִמָּכֶם כִּי־אֶחָיו מֵת וְהוּא לְבֶדּוֹ נִשְׁאַר וּקְרָאָהוּ
אֶסּוֹן בְּדֶרֶךְ אֲשֶׁר תֵּלְכוּ־בָּהּ וְהוֹרֵדְתֶּם אֶת־שִׁיבְתִּי בִּיגוֹן שְׂאוּלָה׃
But he said, "My son must not go down with you, for his brother is dead and he alone is left. If he meets with disaster on the journey you are taking, you will send my white head down to Sheol in grief."
- 43
- 1 וְהָרָעַב כְּבֵד בְּאֶרֶץ׃
But the famine in the land was severe.
- 2 וַיְהִי כַּאֲשֶׁר כָּלוּ לֶאֱכֹל אֶת־הַשֶּׁבֶר אֲשֶׁר הֵבִיאוּ מִמִּצְרַיִם וַיֹּאמְרוּ
אֲלֵיהֶם אֲבִיהֶם שִׁבוּ שִׁבְרו־לָנוּ מִעֵט־אֶכֶל׃
And when they had eaten up the rations which they had brought from Egypt, their father said to them, "Go again and procure some food for us."
- 3 וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו יְהוּדָה לֹא־מֵרָע הָעֵד הָעֵד בְּנִי הָאִישׁ לֹא־תֵרָאוּ פָנַי
בְּלִתִּי אַחֲיָכֶם אִתְּכֶם׃
But Judah said to him, "The man (See note at 42.30.) warned us, 'Do not let me see your faces (Do not let me see your faces Lit. "Do not see my face.") unless your brother is with you.'
- 4 אִם־יֵשֶׁךְ מִשְׁלַח אֶת־אֲחִינוּ אִתָּנוּ נֵרְדָּה וְנִשְׁבְּרָה לָךְ אֶכֶל׃
If you will let our brother go with us, we will go down and procure food for you;
- 5 וְאִם־אֵינְךָ מִשְׁלַח לֹא נֵרֵד כִּי־הָאִישׁ אָמַר אֵלֵינוּ לֹא־תֵרָאוּ פָנַי
בְּלִתִּי אַחֲיָכֶם אִתְּכֶם׃
but if you will not let him go, we will not go down, for that man said to us, 'Do not let me see your faces (Do not let me see your faces See note at v. 3.) unless your brother is with you.'
- 6 וַיֹּאמֶר יִשְׂרָאֵל לָמָּה הִרְעַתֶּם לִי לְהַגִּיד לְאִישׁ הָעוֹד לָכֶם אֵח׃
And Israel said, "Why did you serve me so ill as to tell the man that you had another brother?"
- 7 וַיֹּאמְרוּ שְׂאוּל שְׂאֹל־הָאִישׁ לָנוּ וּלְמוֹלֶדְתָּנוּ לֵאמֹר הָעוֹד אֲבִיכֶם חַי
הִישׁ לָכֶם אֵח וְנִגְדְּלוּ עֲלֵיפִי הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה הִידוּעַ נָדַע כִּי יֹאמַר
הוֹרִידוּ אֶת־אֲחֵיכֶם׃
They replied, "But the man kept asking about us and our family, saying, 'Is your father still living? Have you another brother?' And we answered him accordingly. How were we to know that he would say, 'Bring your brother here?'"
- 8 וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוּדָה אֶל־יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲבִיו שְׁלַחָה הִנֵּעַר אֶתִּי וְנִקְוָמָה וְנִלְכָּה
וְנַחֲיָהּ וְלֹא נָמוּת גַּם־אֲנַחְנוּ גַּם־אַתָּה גַּם־טַפְּנוּ׃
Then Judah said to his father Israel, "Send the boy in my care, and let us be on our way, that we may live and not die—you and we and our children.
- 9 אֲנִכִּי אֶעֱרָבָנוּ מִיָּדִי תִּבְקֶשְׁנוּ אִם־לֹא הֵבִיאתִיו אֵלֶיךָ וְהִצַּגְתִּיו
לְפָנֶיךָ וְחָטָאתִי לָךְ כְּלַיִמִים׃
I myself will be surety for him; you may hold me responsible: if I do not bring him back to you and set him before you, I shall stand guilty before you forever.
- 10 כִּי לֹוִיָּא הִתְמַהֲמַהֲנוּ כִּי־עָתָה שִׁבְנוּ זֶה פַּעַמִּים׃
For we could have been there and back twice if we had not dawdled."
- 11 וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵיהֶם יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲבִיהֶם אִם־כֵּן | אֶפּוֹאֵ זֹאת עֲשׂוּ קַחֻּ מִמֶּנֶּה
הָאֶרֶץ בְּכֻלֵּיהֶם וְהוֹרִידוּ לְאִישׁ מִנְחָה מִעֵט צָרִי וּמִעֵט דְּבַשׁ נִכְאֹת וְלֵט
בְּטָנִים וּשְׁקָדִים׃
Then their father Israel said to them, "If it must be so, do this: take some of the choice products of the land in your baggage, and carry them down as a gift for the man—some balm and some honey, gum, ladanum, pistachio nuts, and almonds.

- 12 And take with you double the money, carrying back with you the money that was replaced in the mouths of your bags; perhaps it was a mistake.
- 13 Take your brother too; and go back at once to the man.
- 14 And may El Shaddai dispose the man to mercy toward you, that he may release to you your other brother, as well as Benjamin. As for me, if I am to be bereaved, I shall be bereaved.”
- 15 So the agents (agents More precisely, “participants whose involvement defines the depicted situation”—i.e., the sons who have been delegated as their father’s agents. See the Dictionary under ’ish; Agent.) took that gift, and they took with them double the money, as well as Benjamin. They made their way down to Egypt, where they presented themselves to Joseph.
- 16 When Joseph saw Benjamin with them, he said to his house steward, “Take those men (those men More precisely, “the [salient] participants.” See the Dictionary under ’ish.) into the house; slaughter and prepare an animal, for those men will dine with me at noon.”
- 17 The man did as Joseph said, and he brought the men into Joseph’s house.
- 18 But the men were frightened at being brought into Joseph’s house. “It must be,” they thought, “because of the money replaced in our bags the first time that we have been brought inside, as a pretext to attack us and seize us as slaves, with our pack animals.”
- 19 So they went up to Joseph’s house steward and spoke to him at the entrance of the house.
- 20 “If you please, my lord,” they said, “we came down once before to procure food.
- 21 But when we arrived at the night encampment and opened our bags, there was each one’s money in the mouth of his bag, our money in full. (in full Lit. “by its weight.”) So we have brought it back with us.
- 22 And we have brought down with us other money to procure food. We do not know who put the money in our bags.”
- וְכֶסֶף מְשֻׁנָּה קָחוּ בִידְכֶם וְאֶת־הַכֶּסֶף הַמוֹשָׁב בְּפִי אִמְתָּחֲתִיכֶם תְּשִׁיבוּ בִידְכֶם אוֹלֵי מְשֻׁנָּה הוּא:
- וְאֶת־אֲחֵיכֶם קָחוּ וְקוּמוּ שׁוּבוּ אֶל־הָאִישׁ:
- וְאֵל שְׁדַי יִתֵּן לָכֶם רַחֲמִים לִפְנֵי הָאִישׁ וְשַׁלַּח לָכֶם אֶת־אֲחֵיכֶם אַחֵר וְאֶת־בְּנֵימִן וְאֲנִי כֹאשֶׁר שְׁכַלְתִּי שְׁכַלְתִּי:
- וַיִּקְחוּ הָאֲנָשִׁים אֶת־הַמִּנְחָה הַזֹּאת וּמְשֻׁנָּה־כֶּסֶף לִקְחוּ בִידָם וְאֶת־בְּנֵימִן וַיֵּקְמוּ וַיֵּרְדּוּ מִצְרָיִם וַיַּעֲמְדוּ לִפְנֵי יוֹסֵף:
- וַיֵּרָא יוֹסֵף אֹתָם אֶת־בְּנֵימִן וַיֹּאמֶר לְאִשְׁרָ עַל־בֵּיתוֹ הִבָּא אֶת־הָאֲנָשִׁים הַבְּיָתָה וּטְבַח טֶבֶח וְהָכֵן כִּי אֹתִי יֹאכְלוּ הָאֲנָשִׁים בִּצְהָרִים:
- וַיַּעַשׂ הָאִישׁ כְּאִשְׁרָ אָמַר יוֹסֵף וַיָּבֵא הָאִישׁ אֶת־הָאֲנָשִׁים בֵּיתָה יוֹסֵף:
- וַיִּירָאוּ הָאֲנָשִׁים כִּי הוּבְאָו בֵּית יוֹסֵף וַיֹּאמְרוּ עַל־דְּבַר הַכֶּסֶף הֵשֵׁב בְּאִמְתָּחֲתֵינוּ בַתְּחִלָּה אֲנַחְנוּ מוּבָאִים לְהִתְגַּלֵּל עֲלֵינוּ וּלְהִתְנַפֵּל עֲלֵינוּ וּלְקַחַת אֹתָנוּ לַעֲבָדִים וְאִתְּחַמְרוּנוּ:
- וַיֵּגֶשׁוּ אֶל־הָאִישׁ אִשְׁרָ עַל־בֵּית יוֹסֵף וַיְדַבְּרוּ אֵלָיו פֶּתַח הַבַּיִת:
- וַיֹּאמְרוּ בִּי אֲדֹנָי יְרֵד יִרְדְּנוּ בַתְּחִלָּה לְשִׁבְר־אֶכָּל:
- וַיֹּאֲרֵ כִּי־בָאנוּ אֶל־הַמָּלוֹן וְנִפְתָּחָה אֶת־אִמְתָּחֲתֵינוּ וְהִנֵּה כֶסֶף־אִישׁ בְּפִי אִמְתָּחֲתוֹ כֶּסֶפְנוּ בְּמִשְׁקָלוֹ וְנִשָּׁב אֹתוֹ בִּידָנוּ:
- וְכֶסֶף אַחֵר הוֹרְדְּנוּ בִידָנוּ לְשִׁבְר־אֶכָּל לֹא יָדַעְנוּ מִי־שָׂם כֶּסֶפְנוּ בְּאִמְתָּחֲתֵינוּ:

- 23 וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁלוֹם לָכֶם אֵלֶיךָ וְאֵלֶיכֶם וְאֵלֶיכֶם נָתַן לָכֶם מִטְמוֹן
בְּאִמְתְּחֹתֵיכֶם כְּסָפְכֶם בָּא אֵלַי וַיּוֹצֵא אֲלֵהֶם אֶת־שִׁמְעוֹן:
He replied, "All is well with you; do not be afraid. Your God, the God of your father's [house], must have put treasure in your bags for you. I got your payment." And he brought out Simeon to them.
- 24 וַיָּבֵא הָאִישׁ אֶת־הָאֲנָשִׁים בֵּיתָה יוֹסֵף וַיִּתֵּן־לָמַיִם וַיִּרְחֲצוּ רַגְלֵיהֶם
וַיִּתֵּן מִסָּפּוֹא לַחֲמֵיהֶם:
Then the steward brought the men into Joseph's house; he gave them water to bathe their feet, and he provided feed for their asses.
- 25 וַיִּלְכְּדוּ אֶת־הַמִּנְחָה עַד־בּוֹא יוֹסֵף בַּצֹּהֲרַיִם כִּי שָׁמְעוּ כִּי־שָׁם
יֵאָכְלוּ לֶחֶם:
They laid out their gifts to await Joseph's arrival at noon, for they had heard that they were to dine there.
- 26 וַיָּבֵא יוֹסֵף הַבֵּיתָה וַיָּבִיאוּ לוֹ אֶת־הַמִּנְחָה אֲשֶׁר־בִּידָם הַבֵּיתָה
וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ־לוֹ אַרְצָה:
When Joseph came home, they presented to him the gifts that they had brought with them into the house, bowing low before him to the ground.
- 27 וַיִּשְׁאַל לָהֶם לְשָׁלוֹם וַיֹּאמֶר הַשְׁלוֹם אֲבִיכֶם הַזֶּקֶן אֲשֶׁר אָמַרְתֶּם
הָעוֹדֵנוּ חַיִּי:
He greeted them, and he said, "How is your aged father of whom you spoke? Is he still in good health?"
- 28 וַיֹּאמְרוּ שְׁלוֹם לַעֲבָדְךָ לְאֲבִינוּ עוֹדֵנוּ חַיִּי וַיִּקְדּוּ (וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ)
[וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ]:
They replied, "It is well with your servant our father; he is still in good health." And they bowed and made obeisance.
- 29 וַיֵּשָׂא עֵינָיו וַיֵּרָא אֶת־בְּנֵימִין אֶחָיו בֶּן־אִמּוֹ וַיֹּאמֶר הֲזֶה אֶחָיֶכֶם
הַקָּטָן אֲשֶׁר אָמַרְתָּם אֵלַי וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים יַחַנֵּךְ בְּנִי:
Looking about, he saw his brother Benjamin, his mother's son, and asked, "Is this your youngest brother of whom you spoke to me?" And he went on, "May God be gracious to you, my boy."
- 30 וַיַּמְהֵר יוֹסֵף כִּי־נִכְמְרוּ רַחֲמָיו אֶל־אֶחָיו וַיִּבְקֶשׁ לִבְכּוֹת וַיָּבֵא
הַחֲדָרָה וַיִּבֶךְ שָׁמָּה:
With that, Joseph hurried out, for he was overcome with feeling toward his brother and was on the verge of tears; he went into a room and wept there.
- 31 וַיִּרְחֹץ פָּנָיו וַיֵּצֵא וַיִּתְאַפֵּק וַיֹּאמֶר שִׁימוּ לֶחֶם:
Then he washed his face, reappeared, and—now in control of himself—gave the order, "Serve the meal."
- 32 וַיַּעֲשִׂימוּ לוֹ לִבְדּוֹ וְלָהֶם לִבְדָּם וְלַמִּצְרִיִּים הָאֹכְלִים אִתּוֹ לִבְדָּם כִּי
לֹא יוֹכְלוּן הַמִּצְרִיִּים לֶאֱכֹל אֶת־הָעֵבְרִים לֶחֶם כִּי־תוֹעֵבָה הוּא לַמִּצְרִיִּים:
They served him by himself, and them by themselves, and the Egyptians who ate with him by themselves; for the Egyptians could not dine with the Hebrews, since that would be abhorrent to the Egyptians.
- 33 וַיֵּשְׁבוּ לִפְנֵי הַבָּכָר כַּבְּכֹרְתוֹ וְהַצָּעִיר כַּצָּעֲרֹתוֹ וַיִּתְמָהּ
הָאֲנָשִׁים אִישׁ אֶל־רֵעֵהוּ:
As they were seated by his direction, from the oldest in the order of his seniority to the youngest in the order of his youth, the men looked at one another in astonishment.
- 34 וַיֵּשָׂא מִשְׁאֵת מֵאֵת פָּנָיו אֶלֶהֶם וַתֵּרֶב מִשְׁאֵת בְּנֵימִין מִמִּשְׁאֵת כָּל־
חֵמֶשׁ יָדוֹת וַיִּשְׁתּוּ וַיִּשְׁכְּרוּ עִמּוֹ:
Portions were served them from his table; but Benjamin's portion was several (several Lit. "five.") times that of anyone else. And they drank their fill with him.

- וַיֹּצֵא אֶת־אֲשֶׁר עַל־בֵּיתוֹ לְאֹמֶר מֶלֶא אֶת־אֲמֻתָּחוֹת הָאֲנָשִׁים אֲכָל כֶּאֱשֶׁר יוֹכְלוּן שָׂאתָ וְשֵׁים כֶּסֶף־אִישׁ בְּפִי אֲמֻתָּחוֹתוֹ:
- וְאֶת־גִּבְיָעִי גִבִּיעַ הַכֶּסֶף תָּשִׂים בְּפִי אֲמֻתָּחוֹת הַקָּטָן וְאֵת כֶּסֶף שִׁבְרֹו וַיַּעַשׂ כַּדְּבָר יוֹסֵף אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר:
- הַבֹּקֶר אִוֹר וְהָאֲנָשִׁים שָׁלְחוּ הֵמָּה וְחֲמֹרֵיהֶם:
- הֵם יָצְאוּ אֶת־הָעִיר לֹא הִרְחִיקוּ וַיּוֹסֶף אֹמֶר לְאֲשֶׁר עַל־בֵּיתוֹ קוֹם רִדְף אַחֲרֵי הָאֲנָשִׁים וְהִשְׁגָּתָם וְאָמַרְתָּ אֲלֵהֶם לְמָה שְׁלַמְתֶּם רָעָה תַּחַת טוֹבָה:
- הֲלוֹא זֶה אֲשֶׁר יִשְׁתָּה אֲדֹנִי בֹו וְהוּא נָחֵשׁ יִנְחֹשׁ בֹּו הִרְעַתָּם אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתָם:
- וַיִּשְׁגֹּם וַיְדַבֵּר אֲלֵהֶם אֶת־הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה:
- וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֵלָיו לְמָה יְדַבֵּר אֲדֹנִי כַּדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה תְּלִילָה לַעֲבָדֶיךָ מַעֲשֹׂוֹת כַּדְּבָר הַזֶּה:
- הֵן כֶּסֶף אֲשֶׁר מָצְאָנוּ בְּפִי אֲמֻתָּחוֹתֵינוּ הִשְׁיִבְנוּ אֵלֶיךָ מֵאֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן וַאֲיִךְ נִגְנַב מִבֵּית אֲדֹנֶיךָ כֶּסֶף אוֹ זָהָב:
- אֲשֶׁר יִמָּצָא אֹתוֹ מֵעַבְדֶּיךָ נָמֹת וְגַם־אֲנֹחְנוּ נִהְיָה לְאֲדֹנִי לַעֲבָדִים:
- וַיֹּאמֶר גַּם־עַתָּה כַּדְּבָרִיכֶם כִּי־הוּא אֲשֶׁר יִמָּצָא אֹתוֹ יִהְיֶה־לִּי עֶבֶד וְאַתֶּם תִּהְיוּ נְקִיִּם:
- וַיִּמָּהְרוּ וַיּוֹרְדוּ אִישׁ אֶת־אֲמֻתָּחוֹתוֹ אֶרְצָה וַיִּפְתְּחוּ אִישׁ אֲמֻתָּחוֹתוֹ:
- וַיַּחְפֹּשׁ בַּגְּדוֹל הַחֹל וּבַקָּטָן כֻּלָּה וַיִּמָּצָא הַגִּבִּיעַ בְּאֲמֻתָּחַת בִּנְיָמִן:
- וַיִּקְרְעוּ שִׁמְלָתָם וַיַּעֲמֹס אִישׁ עַל־חֲמֹרוֹ וַיָּשֻׁבוּ הָעִירָה:
- וַיָּבֹא יְהוּדָה וְאָחִיו בֵּיתָה יוֹסֵף וְהוּא עוֹדְנֵו שָׁם וַיִּפְּלוּ לִפְנֵיו אֶרְצָה:
- וַיֹּאמֶר לָהֶם יוֹסֵף מַה־הַמַּעֲשֶׂה הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתֶם הֲלוֹא יָדַעְתֶּם כִּי־נָחֵשׁ יִנְחֹשׁ אִישׁ אֲשֶׁר כַּמְנִי:
- 1 Then he instructed his house steward as follows, "Fill the men's bags with food, as much as they can carry, and put each one's money in the mouth of his bag.
- 2 Put my silver goblet in the mouth of the bag of the youngest one, together with his money for the rations." And he did as Joseph told him.
- 3 With the first light of morning, the men were sent off with their pack animals.
- 4 They had just left the city and had not gone far, when Joseph said to his house steward, "Up, go after those men! And when you overtake them, say to them, 'Why did you repay good with evil?
- 5 It is the very one from which my master drinks and which he uses for divination. It was a wicked thing for you to do!'"
- 6 He overtook them and spoke those words to them.
- 7 And they said to him, "Why does my lord say such things? Far be it from your servants to do anything of the kind!
- 8 Here we brought back to you from the land of Canaan the money that we found in the mouths of our bags. How then could we have stolen any silver or gold from your master's house!
- 9 Whichever of your servants it is found with shall die; the rest of us, moreover, shall become slaves to my lord."
- 10 He replied, "Although what you are proposing is right, only the one with whom it is found shall be my slave; but the rest of you shall go free."
- 11 So each one hastened to lower his bag to the ground, and each one opened his bag.
- 12 He searched, beginning with the oldest and ending with the youngest; and the goblet turned up in Benjamin's bag.
- 13 At this they rent their clothes. Each reloaded his pack animal, and they returned to the city.
- 14 When Judah and his brothers reentered the house of Joseph, who was still there, they threw themselves on the ground before him.
- 15 Joseph said to them, "What is this deed that you have done? Do you not know that a man like me practices divination?"

- 16 וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוֹדָה מִה־נֹּאמַר לְאֹדְנִי מִה־נִּדְבָר וּמִה־נִּצְטָדֵק הָאֱלֹהִים מִצָּא אֶת־עֲוֹן עַבְדֶּיךָ הִנֵּנוּ עֲבָדִים לְאֹדְנִי גַם־אֲנִיחֵנוּ גַם אִשְׁרֵי־נִמְצָא הַגִּבִּיעַ בִּידּוֹ:
- 17 וַיֹּאמֶר חֲלִילָה לִּי מַעֲשׂוֹת זֹאת הָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר נִמְצָא הַגִּבִּיעַ בְּיָדוֹ הוּא יִהְיֶה־לִּי עֶבֶד וְאַתֶּם עָלוּ לְשָׁלוֹם אֶל־אֲבִיכֶם:
- 16 Judah replied, "What can we say to my lord? How can we plead, how can we prove our innocence? God has uncovered the crime of your servants. Here we are, then, slaves of my lord, the rest of us as much as he in whose possession the goblet was found."
- 17 But he replied, "Far be it from me to act thus! Only the one in whose possession the goblet was found shall be my slave; the rest of you go back in peace to your father."