## ואתחנן Vaetchanan

Deuteronomy 3:23-7:11

- at that time, saying, הוהי at that time, saying,
- 24 אדני יהוה אתה החלות להראות את־עבדר את־גדלך ואת־ידך הַחַזַקה אַשַר מי־אָל בַשַמִים וּבַאַרֵץ אַשר־יַעשה כמעשיך וכגבורתך:
  - "O Lord הוהי, 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!
- אַעבר היַרָּדָן הַהָּר הַטְּב' בּעֲבֶר הַיְּרָדָן הָהַר הַטְוב 25 Let me, I pray, cross over and see the good land הזה והלבנן:
  - on the other side of the Jordan, that good hill country, and the Lebanon."
  - 26 וַיִּתְעַבֵּר יְהוָה בִּי לִמְעַנְכֶם וְלָא שָׁמַע אֵלָי וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֵלַי רבילך אַל־תוֹסֶף דַבֵּר אַלַי עוד בַדַבַר הַזָה:
- But הוהי was wrathful with me on your account and would not listen to me. הוהי said to me, "Enough! Never speak to Me of this matter again!
- 27 עלֶה וֹ רָאשׁ הַפַּסְנָּה וְשַׂא עִינִיךְ יָמַה וְצַפַּנָה וְתִימַנָה וּמַזְרַחָה וּרָאֲה בעיניך כי־לא תעבר את־היַרדון הוָה:
  - 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 Iordan.
  - 28 וצו את־יָהושׁע וְחַזָּקָהוּ וִאָמַצַהוּ כִי־הָוּא יַעַבֿר לִפְנֵי הַעָם הַוֹּה והוא ינחיל אותם את־הארץ אשר תראה:
    - 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.

- ועתה ישראל שמע אל־הַחָקים ואל־הַמשפטים אַשר אַנכי מלמד אָתַכֶם לַעַשַּׁוֹת לִמַעָן תְחִיוֹ וּבָאתֵם וִירִשֹּׁתָם אֵת־הָאָרֵץ אַשַּׁר יִהוָה אַלהֵי אַבתִיכִם נתן לכם:
- 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 הוהי, the God of your fathers, is giving you.
- לא תספו על־הַדַבַר אַשַר אַנכי מצוָה אַתכם ולָא תגרעו ממנו לשמר את־מצות יהוה אלהיכם אשר אנכי מצוה אתכם:
- You shall not add anything to what I command you or take anything away from it, but keep the commandments of your God הוהי that I enjoin upon vou.
- עיניכם הראות את אשריעשה יהוה בבעל פעור כי כל-האיש אשר הַלָּךָ אַחַרֵי בַעַל־פַעור השמידו יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיךָ מקרבַרָ:
- You saw with your own eyes what הוהי did in the matter of Baal-peor, that your God הוהי wiped out from among you every person who followed Baal-peor;
- 4 ואָתֶם הַהַבֶּקִים בַיהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכָם חַיֵּים כַּלְכָם הַיְוֹם:
  - while you, who held fast to your God הוהי, are all alive todav.
- ראָה ו לִמַדתי אֶתכָם חִקים ומשפטים כַאֲשֵׁר צְוַנִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהִי לעשות כַּן בַּקרֵב הַאַרֵץ אֲשֵׂר אַתֵּם בַּאֵים שַׁמָה לִרְשִׁתְה:
- See, I have imparted to you laws and rules, as my God הוהי has commanded me, for you to abide by in the land that you are about to enter and occupy.

- ושמרתם ועשיתם כי הוא חכמתכם ובינתכם לעיני העמים אשר ישמעון אַת כַל־הַחַקִּים הָאֲלֶה וִאַמְרוּ רָק עִם־חַכַם וִנַבוֹן הַגִּוֹי הַגַּדוֹל הַוָּה:
- Observe them faithfully, for that will be proof of your wisdom and discernment to other peoples, who on hearing of all these laws will say, "Surely, that great nation is a wise and discerning people."
- כִי מִי־גִוי נָדוֹל אֲשֵׂר־לָוֹ אֱלֹהִים קרבִים אֵלְיוֹ כַיהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ בכל־קראנו אליו:
- For what great nation is there that has a god so close at hand as is our God הוהי whenever we call?
- ומי גוי גדול אַשר־לו חקים ומשפטים צדיקם ככל התורה הַזֹּאת אַשר אַנכי נתן לפניכם היום:
- Or what great nation has laws and rules as perfect as all this Teaching that I set before you this day?
- ַלַק הִשָּׂמֵר לִךָּ וּשִׁמֹר נַפִּשוֹךָ מִאֹד פֵּן־תִשֹּׁכַּח אֵת־הַדִּבָּרִים אֲשֵׁר־רָאְוּ עִינֵיךָ וּפֵּן־יָסוֹרוֹ מִלְבַבַךָ כִל יִמֵי חַיֵּיךָ וְהוֹדַעַתַם לַבַנֵיךָ וַלְבַנֵי בָנֶיךָ:
- But take utmost care and watch yourselves scrupulously, so that you do not forget the things that you saw with your own eyes and so that they do not fade from your mind as long as you live. And make them known to your children and to your children's children:
- יום אַשֵּׁר עָמַדת לִפּנִי יִהוָה אֵלהֵיךָ בְחֹרֵב בַאֵמֹר יִהוָה אַלִּי הַקהַל־לִי אַת־הָעָם ואַשִּמִעָם אַת־הַבָרַי אַעוֹר יִלִמְדוון לִיִראָה אֹתִי כַּל־הַיַמִים אֲשֵׂר הַם חַיִים עַל־הַאַדַמַה וָאַת־בַּנִיהֵם יִלְמַדְוּוְ:
- The day you stood before your God הוהי at Horeb, when הוהי said to me, "Gather the people to Me that I may let them hear My words, in order that they may learn to revere Me as long as they live on earth, and may so teach their children."
- חשר ענן וערפל:
- עד־לֶב הַשַּׂמִים You came forward and stood at the foot of the mountain. The mountain was ablaze with flames to the very skies, dark with densest clouds.
- 12 נִידַבֶּר יִהוָה אַלִיכֶם מתוך הָאָש קול דבַרים אַתֶם שמעים ותמונה אַינכם ראים זולתי קול:
- spoke to you out of the fire; you heard the sound of words but perceived no shape—nothing but a voice.
  - ניַבּׁד לָכֶם אֶת־בְּרִיתוֹ אֲשֶּׁר צִוָּה אֶתְכֶם לִּעֲשׂוֹת עֲשֶׂרֶת הַדְּבְרְים [God] declared to you the covenant that you were וַיְכַתְבָּם עַל־שׁנֵי לַחות אַבַנִים:
    - commanded to observe, the Ten Commandments, inscribing them on two tablets of stone.
- אתם בארץ אשר אתם עברים שמה לרשתה:
- commanded me to impart to ואת" צוָה יְהוָהׁ בַעַת הַהוֹא לִלְמַד אַתְכָם חָקִים וּמְשַׁפְּטִים לְעַשֹּׁתְכֶם you laws and rules for you to observe in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy.
  - 15 ונשמרתם מאד לנפשתיכם כי לא ראיתם כל תמולה ביום דבר יהוָה אַלִיכֶם בחרב מתוך הָאַש:
- For your own sake, therefore, be most careful—since you saw no shape when הוהי spoke to you at Horeb out of the fire—
  - 16 פורתשחתון ועשיתם לכם פסל תמונת כל־סמל תבנית זכר או נַקבָה:
    - not to act wickedly and make for yourselves a sculptured image in any likeness whatever: the form of a man or a woman, (a man or a woman More precisely, "a male or a female.")
  - 17 תַבנִית כָל־בַהַמָה אֲשֶׂר בָּאָרֵץ תַבנִית כָל־צִפְוֹר כָלָף אֲשֵׂר תַעוּף בשמים:
    - the form of any beast on earth, the form of any winged bird that flies in the sky,
- 18 the form of anything that creeps on the ground, תָבנִית כַּל־רָמֵשׁ בַאָדָמָה תַבנִית כַּל־דָּגָה אֲשֵׂר־בַּמַיָם מַתְּחָת לְאָרֵץ:
- the form of any fish that is in the waters below the earth.—

- 19 וּפֵּן־תִשָּׂא עִינִידָ הַשָּׁמַיִּמָה וְּרָאִיתְ אֵת־הַשַּׂמֵש וִאֵת־הַיָּרֶח ואת־הַכוֹכבים כל צבא הַשַּׁמַיִם ונדַחת והשתחוית לַהֶּם וַעֲבַדתם אַשֵּׂר חָלַק יִהוָה אֱלֹהֵיךָ אֹתְם לִכֹל הַעָּמִים תַחַת כַל־הַשָּׁמִים:
  - 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 ואַתְכֶם לָקָח יָהֹוָה וַיוֹצֵא אַתְכֶם מִכְּוֹר הַבַּרְזֵל מִמְצַרְיָם לְהִיִוֹת לֶוֹ לעם נחלה כיום הזה:
- 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 ניהוָה הִתאַנַף־בִּי עַל־דִבְרֵיכָם וַיִּשָבַע לְבַלְתִי עָבַריּ אֵת־הַיַּרְהַן וּלְבַלְתִי־בֹא אֱל־הַאָרֵץ הַטוּבָה אֲשֵׁר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיך נתון לְדָ נַחֲלָה:
  - 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.
  - וִירִשְׁתֶּם אֶת־הָאָרֶץ הַטּוֹבָה הַזְּאת:
  - בי אַנכי מַת בַּאָרֵץ הַוֹּאת אִינָנִי עבר אַת־הַיִּרְדַן וּאָתָם עברים 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 השמרו לכם פורתשכחו את־ברית יהוה אלהיכם אשר כרת עמכם וַעֲשִׁיתֵּם לָכָם פַּּסֵל תִמִוּנַת כֹל אֲשֵר צוּדָ יְהוָה אֱלֹהִידְ:
  - 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 כִי יָהוָה אֱלֹהֵיךָ אֲשׁ אֹכַלָּה הָוֹא אֱל קְנָא:
    - For your God הוהי is a consuming fire, an impassioned God.
  - 25 כִי־תוּלִיד בָּנִים וֹבַנָי בָנִים וִנוּשׁנִתֵם בַּאָרֵץ וִהְשֹׁחַתֵּם וַעֲשִׁיתֵם ַפֶּׁסֶלֹ תְמַוּנַת כֹּל וַעֲשִׂיתֶם הָרָע בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה־אֱלֹהֶיךָ לְהַכְעִיסְוֹ:
    - 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 displeasure and vexation,
- 26 הַעִידُתִיּ בָלֵם הַיּוֹם אַת־הַשַּׁמַיִם וִאַת־הָאָבץ כִי־אָבָד תֹאבֵדוּן מַהֵרּ מֵעָל ָהָאָרֶץ אֲשֶּׂר אַתֶּם עֹבְרָים אֶת־הַיַּרְדָּן שַׂמָה לְרִשִׂתְה לְא־תַאֲרִיכַן יָמִים עַלֵיהָ כֵּי הִשַּׁמֵד תִשַּׁמֵדוּון:
  - 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.
  - והפיץ יהוה אתכם בעמים ונשארתם מתי מספר בגוים אשר יְנַהָג יְהֹוָה אֶתְכֶם שַׂמָה:
- 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.
- וַעַבַדתַם־שַׂם אֱלֹהִים מַעַשֵּׂה יִדֶי אָדָם עָץ נָאַבֵן אֲשַׂר לְא־יִרְאוּן וִלְא ישמעון ולא יאכלון ולא יריחן:
- There you will serve gods of wood and stone, made by human hands, that cannot see or hear or eat or smell.
- וּבִקשֹתֶם מִשָּם אֶת־יְהֹוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ וּמַצְאתַ כֵּי תִדְרְשֶׂנוּ בְּכָל־לְבָבְךָ ובכל־נפשר:
- But if you search there, you will find your God הוהי, if only you seek with all your heart and soul-
- בַּצָר לֹךָ וּמִצְאוֹדָ כִל הַדִּבָרִים הָאֲלֵה בַאַחֵרִית הַיָּמִים וְשַבַּתְּ עַד־יִהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ וְשָׁמַעְתְּ בְּקְלְוּ:
- when you are in distress because all these things have befallen you and, in the end, return to and obey your God הוהי.

- is a compassionate God, who will בי אַל רַחום יהוָה אֱלהֵיךָ לְא יַרִפַּךָ וַלְא יָשׁחִיתְךָ וַלְא יְשׁבַּחֹ אַת־בַּרִית אַבתִּיך אַשֵר נשבַע לַהַם:
  - not fail you nor let you perish; [God] will not forget the covenant made on oath with your fathers.
- 32 כִי שֹאַל־נָא לִיָמִים רָאשׁנִים אֲשֵר־הָיָוּ לִפְנִיךָ לִמְן־הַיּוֹם אֲשֵרְ בַּרָא אָלהִים ו אָדָם על־הַאַּבֶץ וּלִמִקצָה הַשַּׁמַיִם וִעָד־קצָה הַשַּׁמַיִם הֵנָהִיָּה כַּדָבָר הַנָּדוֹל הַוֹּה או הַנִשׁמְע כַּמהו:
  - 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 grand as this ever happened, or has its like ever been known?
- :33 הַשַּׁמַע עָם לוּוֹל אֱלֹהִים מִדַבֶּר מִתוֹרְ־הָאֲשׁ כַּאֲשֵׂר־שַׁמַעתְ אַתָּה וַיָּחִי:
- Has any people heard the voice of a god speaking out of a fire, as you have, and survived?
  - 34 אוֹן הַנָסָה אֱלֹהִים לָבוֹא לָלְחַת לְוֹ גוֹיֹ מִקְרֵב גוֹיֹ בִמַסת באתת ובמופתים ובמלחמה וביד חוקה ובזרוע נטויה ובמוראים גדלים בפלל אַשר־עשה לכם יהוה אַלהיכם במצרים לעיניך:
    - 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 your God הוהי did for you in Egypt before your very eyes?
    - 35 אַתָּה הָרְאָתָ לָדַעַת כִי יְהֹוָה הַוֹּא הָאֵלֹהַים אֵין עוֹד מִלְבַדִּוֹ:
      - It has been clearly demonstrated to you (It has been clearly demonstrated to you Lit. "You have been shown to know.") that הוהי alone is God; there is none else.
    - ַמן־הַשָּׁמִים השמִיעַךָ אֵת־קלו לִיַסְרָךָ וִעַל־הַאָּרֵץ הַרָאַךָּ אֵת־אִשׁוּ הַגִּדוֹלָה וּדְבַרֵיוֹ שַׁמַעָתַ מִתוּךְ הַאֲשׁ:
- 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.
- וּתַּחַת כִּי אָהַבַּ אֵת־אֵבֹתֶּיךָ וַיִּבְחָר בְּזַרְעוֹ אַחֲרֶיו וַיוֹצְאֲךָ בְּפָנָיו בכחו הגדל ממצרים:
- 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,
- לָהוֹרִישׁ גוֹיַם גִּדֹלִים וַעַצַמִים מִמְךָ מִפְנַיךָ לַהַבִיאַךָּ לְתַת־לְךָ אָת־אַרצַם נַחֲלָה כַיִּוֹם הָזֵה:
- 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.
- וְיָדַעָתְ הַיֹּוֹם וַהֲשֵבתָּ אֶל־לְבָבֶּךָ כִי יְהוָהֹ הַוֹּא הָאֱלֹהִים בַּשָּׁמְים מַלַעַל וִעַל־הַאַרֵץ מִתְחַת אֵין עוד:
- Know therefore this day and keep in mind that הוהי alone is God in heaven above and on earth below; there is no other.
- ושִמַרת אַת־חָקיו ואַת־מִצותיו אַשור אַנכי מצון הַיוֹם אַשור יִיטַב לְךָ וּלְבַנֶיךָ אַחֲרָיָךָ וּלְמַעַן תַאֲרִיךְ יָמִים עַל־הַאֲדָמָה אֲשֵׂר יְהֹוָה אַלהֵיךָ נתון לךָ כָל־הַיָּמִים:
- 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 הוהי is assigning to you for all time.
- : אַז יַבַדִּיל משה שלש ערים בעבר היַרַדַן מזַרְחַה שמש:
- Then Moses set aside three cities on the east side of the Jordan

- to which [a man] ([a man] Like all ancient Near לָּלֶס שִׁמָה רוֹצֵח אֲשֶּׁר יִרְצֶח אֶת־רֵעֵּהוֹּ בִּבְלִי־דַּעַת וְהָוּא לֹא־שֹנֶא לְוֹ
  במִרְמֵל שַׁלְשַׁם וְנָס אֱל־אַחָת מַן־הַעֶּרִים הָאֵל וָחָי:
  Eastern law collections, the Torah's laws are
  - 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 אֶת־בָּצֶר בַּמִדְבָּר בְּאֶרֶץ הַמִּישֵׂר לָרְאוּבַנֵי וְאֶת־רָאמֹת בַּגִּלְעָדֹ לַנְּדִׂי ואת־גוֹלן בּבשׁן למנשׂי:
    - 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.
    - :אָמֶר־שַׂם מֹשֶׂה לִפְנֶי בְּנֶי יִשְׂרָאֵל
- 44 This is the Teaching that Moses set before the Israelites:
- ל אָלֶה הָעֵדֹת וְהְחָקִים וְהַמִשְׂפָּטֵים אֲשֶּׁר הִבֶּר משֶׁה אֶל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל בּבְּעִי יִשְׂרָאֵל בִּצְאַהָם מִמִצְרָיָם:
  - 45 these are the decrees, laws, and rules that Moses addressed to the people of Israel, after they had left Egypt,
  - 46 בְּעָבֶר הַיַּרְהַן בַּגַּיְא מְוּל בֶּית פְּעוֹר בְּאֶבֶץ סִיחֹן מֶלֶךְ הָאֱמֹרִי אֲשֶׂר יוֹשֶׁב בְּחָשְׁבְּוֹן אֲשֶּׁר הִכְּה מֹשֶׁה וּבְנֶי יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּצֵאתִם מִמְצִרִיִם:
- 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.
  - ַנְיִּרְשׁׂוּ אֶת־אַרְצוֹ וְאֶת־אֶבֶץ וּ עַוֹג מֶלֶרְ־הַבִּשׁׁן שִׁנֵיּ מַלְכֶּי הְאֵמֹרִי אֲשֶׂר בִּעָבֶר הַיִּרְדֵּן מִזְרָח שִׁמֵשׁ:
- 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
- מֵעֲרֹעֵّר אֲשֶּׁר עַל־שִׂפַת־נָחַל אַרְנֶן וְעַד־הָר שִׂיאַן הָוּא חֶרְמְוֹן:
- 48 from Aroer on the banks of the wadi Arnon, as far as Mount Sion, (Sion Cf. "Sirion," 3.9.) that is, Hermon;
- וְכָל־הַּעֶּרָבָה עָבֶר הַיַּרְהַן מִזְּלָתָה וְעָד יָם הָעָרָבָה תְּחַת אַשְּׂרְּת הַפַּסְגַּה:
- 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.

- וַיִּקרָא מֹשֶׁהٌ אֶל־כָּל־יִשְׂרָאֵלֿ וַיָּאמֶר אֲלֵהֶם שֹּמְע יִשְׂרָאֵלֿ אֶת־הַחַקִּים וְאֶת־הַמִּשְׂפָּטִים אֲשָׂר אָנֹכִי דֹּבָר בְּאָזְנֵיכֶם הַיֻּוֹם וּלְמַדְתָּם אֹתִם וּשִׂמַרְתָּם לַצְשׁתִם:
- 1 Moses summoned all the Israelites and said to them: Hear, O Israel, the laws and rules that I proclaim to you this day! Study them and observe them faithfully!
- יהוה אלהינו כַרַת עמנו ברית בחרב:
- 2 Our God הוהי made a covenant with us at Horeb.
- לָא אֶת־אֲבֹתַׂינוּ כָּרָת יְהֹוָה אֶת־הַבְּרָית הַזָּאת כִּי אִתְּנוּ אֲנַׁחְנוּ אֶלֶה פה היוֹם כלנוּ חיים:
- 3 It was not with our ancestors that הוהי made this covenant, but with us, the living, every one of us who is here today.
- פָנֵים ו בְּפָנִים דִבֶּר יְהוֹנָה עָמָכֶם בָּהָר מִתְּוֹךְ הָאֲשֹׁ:
- 4 Face to face הוהי spoke to you on the mountain out of the fire—

אָנֹכִּי עֹמֵד בֵּין־יְהֹוָה וּבְינֵיכֶם בִּעָת הַהִּוֹא לְהַנֶּיד לָכֶם אֶת־דְּבֶּר יְהֹוָה כִּי יְרֵאתֶם מִפְנֵי הָאֵשׁ וְלְא־עֲלִיתֶם בָּהָר לֵאמְר: 5 I stood between הוהי and you at that time to convey הוה's words to you, for you were afraid of the fire and did not go up the mountain—saying:

אָנֹכִי יהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֲשֵׁר הוֹצֵאתֵיךָ מֵאֶרֵץ מִצְרִיִם מִבֵּית עַבָּדִים:

(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.) והוהי 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:

לָא־יִהְיֶה־לְךֶּ אֱלֹהְים אֲחֵלִים עַל־פָּנָי:

7 You shall have no other gods beside Me.

לָא־תַעֲשֶּׂה־לְךָ כָּּסֶל ו כָל־תְּמוּנָה אֲשֶׂר בַּשִּׁמִיִם ו מִמַּעל וַאֲשֶׂר בַּאָּרֵץ מִתְּחַת וָאֲשֵּׁר בִּמִיִם ו מִתְּחַת לָאַרֵץ: 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.

לא־תשְׂתַחָנָה לָהֶםٌ וְלַא תָעָבְדֶםׁ כִּי אָנבִّי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֲל קּנָא פֿקּד עַוֹן אָבָות על־בָּנִים וִעל־שֹלֵשֵים וִעל־רַבַעִים לִשׁנִאַי: 9 You shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I your God הוהי 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,

ּוְעְשֶׁה חֶּסֶדְ לְאֲלָפִּים לְאֹהֵבְי וּלְשֹׂמְרָי )מצותו( ]מִצְוֹתִי[:

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

לָא תִשָּׂא אֶת־שַּׁם־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ לַשַּׂוְא כַּי לָּא יְנַקָּה יְהוָה אֶת אַשֵּׁר־יִשַּׂא אָת־שַׁמִּוֹ לַשַּׁוָא: 11 You shall not swear falsely by the name of your God הוהי; for הוהי will not clear one who swears falsely by God's name.

שָמָוֹר אֶת־יִוֹם הַשַּבָּת לְקִדְּשֵׁוֹ כַּאֲשָׂר צַוְּךָ ו יְהֹוָה אֱלֹהַיךָ:

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

עשת יַמִים תַעַבֹּד ועשית כַּל־מַלַאכְתֵךָ:

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

וְיֹוֹםֹ הַשְּׁבִיעִי שַּׁבָּת וּ לַיִהֹנָה אֱלֹהֵיךְ לָּא תַעְשָׁה כָל־מְלָאכָה אַתַּה וּבִּנְךְ־וּבִתְּךָ וִעִבְהְדְּ'נַאֲמַתְּלֶךְ וְשׁוֹרְלָ וַחֲמֹרְךָ וְכָל־בִּהֶמְתְּךָ וְגַרְלָ אֲשָׂר בִּשִּׂעָלִיךְ לְמַען יָנָוּחַ עַבְהָּךְ נַאֲמַתְךָ כְּמִוֹרֵ: 14 but the seventh day is a sabbath of your God הוהי; 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.

וְזָכַרְתְּׁ כִּי־עָבֶד הָיָּיתָ וּ בְּאָרֶץ מִצְלַיִם נִיצֹאֲךָ יְהֹוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ מִשָּׂם בִּיָד חֲזָקָה וּבִזְלַע נְטוּיְה עַלֹּ־כֵּן צוּּךָ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ לַעֲשִׂוֹת אֲת־יִוֹם הַשַּׁבַּת: 15 Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt and your God הוהי freed you from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore your God הוהי has commanded you to observe the sabbath day.

- 16 כַבַּד אַת־אַבִּילָ וִאַת־אָמֵדָ כַאֲשֶׁר צוּדָ יִהוָה אֵלהַיךָ לִמְעָן וּ יַאַרִיכַן יַמֵיךָ וּלְמַען יִיטַב לָךָ עַל הַאַדַמַה אֲשַר־יִהוָה אֱלֹהֵיךָ נתוַ לַךָ:
  - 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 your God הוהי is assigning to you.
  - ַלֶא תַּרִצָּח: וַלֶּא תַּנִאַף: וַלֶּא תַּגַּנְב: וַלְא־תַעַנָה בַרֵעַךָ עָד :שוא
- 17 You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- 18 ולא תחמד אָשֵת רֵעָךָ ולא תתאַוֹה בֵּית רֵעַׂךָ שַׁבֹהוּ ועַבַדִּוּ וַאַמַתוֹ שורו וַחֲמרו וכל אַשר לַרֵעָך:
  - 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 covet 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 אַת־הַהַבָּרֶים הָאַלֵּה הַבֵּר יִהוֹנָה אֵל־כַּל־קהַלְכַם בַּהָר מִתְוֹךָ הָאֲשׁ הַעָנַן וָהַעָרַפֶּל קול נַדול וַלָּא יָסף וַיִּכַתְבָּם עַל־שׁנֵי לְחִת אַבַנִים וַיִתנָם אֵלִי:
  - 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 וַיִּהִי כִּשָּׂמִעֵכָם אַת־הַקּוֹל מִתְּוֹךְ הַחֹשֶׁךְ וְהָהָר בֹּעֶר בָּאֲשׁ וַתִּקְרְבְוּן אַלַי כַּל־רַאשֵי שֹבִטִיכָם וִזִקנַיכָם:
- 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,
- 21 נתאמרו הן הראנו יהנה אלהינו את־כבדו ואת־נדלו ואת־קלו שַמַענוּ מַתְּוֹךָ הַאֲשׁ הַיָּוֹם הָזֵהֹ רַאִינוּ כִי־יִדָבַר אֱלֹהַים אֶת־הַאָדַם ַנָתַי:
  - and said, "Our God הוהי 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.
- ועתה לָמָה נָמוֹת כִי תִאכלֵנוּ הָאֲשׁ הַגִּדלָה הַזָּאת אִם־יספִים | אַנַּחנוּ לשמע את־קול יהוה אלהינו עוד ומתנו:
- Let us not die, then, for this fearsome fire will consume us; if we hear the voice of our God הוהי any longer, we shall die.
- כִי מֵי כָל־בַשַּׂר אֲשֶׁר שָׁמָע קוֹל אֱלֹהִים חַיִּים מִדַבָּר מתוּן־הָאֲשׁ כמנו ויחי:
- For what mortal ever heard the voice of the living God speak out of the fire, as we did, and lived?
- אַלִינוּ אַתֹּ כָל־אַעוַר יִדַבַּר יִהוָה אַלהינוּ אַלִידְ וִשְׁמַענוּ וִעְשִׁינוּ:
- אַת וּ תִּבְבֶּר אַתָּה וְשִׁמְע אֶת כָּל־אֲשֶׂר יֹאמַר יִהוֹה אֱלֹהָינוּ וִאָת וּ תִּדְבֶּר You go closer and hear all that our God הוהי says, and then you tell us everything that our God הוהי tells you, and we will willingly do it."
- 25 וַיִּשִׁמַע יִהוָה אֲת־קול דִבְרֵיכֶם בַּדַבַּרְכֶם אֲלַי וַיֹּאמֵר יִהוָה אֲלַי שַּׁמַשְׁר אַבִּיך הַיטִיבוּ כָּל־אַשֵּׁר הַבַּרוּ אַלֵּיך הַיטִיבוּ כָּל־אַשֵּׁר דברו:
- הוהי heard the plea that you made to me, and הוהי said to me, "I have heard the plea that this people made to you; they did well to speak thus.
  - מִי־יִתֹן וַהַיָה לִבַבָּם זֵה לָהֵם לִיִראָה אֹתִי וַלְשַׁמְר אַת־כָּל־מִצוֹתִי כַל־הַיַּמִים לִמַען יִיטַב לָהֶם וַלְבַנֵיהֶם לעלָם:
- 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.'

- 28 וְאַתָּה פֹהֿ עֲמַד עִמָּד יִאֲדַבְּרָה אֵלֶּיךְ אָת כָּל־הַמִּצְוָה וְהַחֻקִים וְעָשֵוּ בָאַרֶץ אֲשֶׂר אָנֹכֶי נֹתְן לִהֶם וְתָשֵוּ בָאַרֶץ אֲשֶׂר אָנֹכֶי נֹתְן לִהֶם לרשׂתה:
  - 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 וּשְׂמַרְתֶּם לַעֲשׂוֹת כַּאֲשָׂר צַוָּה יְהֹוָה אֱלֹהַיכֶם אֶתְכֶם לָּא תָסֶרוּ יָמִין וּשׂמֹאל:
  - 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 בְּכָל־הַדֶּּרֶךְ אֲשֶּׂר צִּנָּה יְהֹנָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם אֶתְכֶם תַּלְכוּ לְמַעַן תְּחִיוּן וְטַוֹב לָלֶם וְהַאֲרַכְתָּם יִמִים בַּאְרֵץ אֲשֶׁר תִּירִשִּוּן:
    - 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.

- וְזָאת הַמִּצְוָה הְחַקִּים וְהַמִּשְׂפָּטִים אֲשֶׁר צוָה יְהוָה אֱלֹהַיכֶם לְלַמֵּד אָתַכֶם לַעֲשִׁוֹת בַּאָרֵץ אֲשֵׂר אָתָם עֹברֵים שַׂמַה לִרְשַׁתָה:
- 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,
- לְמַען תִירָא אֶת־יְהֹנָה אֱלֹהֶּיךְ לִּשְׁמֹר אֶת־כָּל־חֻקֹתְיוּ וּמִצְוּתִיוֹ אֲשֶׂר אָנֹכִי מְצַנֶּרָ אִתְהֹ וּבִנְךָ וּבֶּן־בִּנְךָ כָּל יְמֵי חַיֵּיךָ וּלְמַען יַאֲרַכָּן יִמֵיךָ:
- 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.
- וְשִׂמֵעְתְּ יִשְׂרָאֵל וְשִׂמֵרְתְּ לִּצְשׁוֹת אֲשֶׂר יִיטַב לְךָ וִאֲשֶׁר תִּרְבְּוּן מאָד כַּאֲשֵׂר הַבָּר יְהוֹנָה אֵלֹהַי אֲבֹתִיךָ לְדָ אֲרֵץ זָבַת חַלָּב וּדְבַש:
- 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.
- שמע ישראל יהוה אלהינו יהוה ואחד:
- 4 Hear, O Israel! הוהי is our God, הוהי alone. הוהי alone Cf. Rashbam and Ibn Ezra; see Zech. 14.9. Others "The Lord our God, the Lord is one.")
- וְאָהַבְתֹּ אָת יְהֹנָה אֱלֹהֵיךָ בְּכָל־לְבָבְךְ וּבְכָל־נַפְשֹׁךְ וּבְכָל־מְאֹדֶךָ:
- 5 You shall love your God הוהי with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.
- וָהָ"וּ הַהַבָּרֶים הָאֲלֵה אֲשֵׂר אָנֹכִי מִצְוּךָ הַיִּוֹם עַל־לבַבְּךָ:
- 6 Take to heart these instructions with which I charge you this day.
- ְוְשֹנֵּנְתְּם לְבָלֶידָ וְדִבַּרְתְּ בְּם בְּשִׁבְתְּךָ בְּבֵיתֶּלֶ וְבְלֶּכְתְּךָ בַּדֶּׁרֶךְ וְבְשַׂכְבְּךָ וִבְקוֹמֵךָ:
- 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.
- וקשַרְתָּם לְאִוֹת עַל־יָדֶךָ וְהָיָו לְטַטָפָת בֶּין עֵינֵיךָ:
- 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.)

- וכתבתם על־מוַוות בִיתֵך ובשעריך:
- inscribe them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.
- לְאַבְרָהָם לִיצִחָק וְלִיצֵקב לָתֶת לֶךָ עָרִים גְּדֹלְת וְטֹבְת אֲשֶׁר לֹא־בַנִית:
  - הוהי שולהי, אַליהאָרֶץ אֲשֶּׁר נִשְבְּע לַאֲבתְיךָ 10 When your God הוהי brings you into the land that was sworn to your fathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to be assigned to you—great and flourishing cities that you did not build,
- 11 ובַתִּים מַלָאִים כַּל־טובּ אֲשֵׁר לֹא־מַלֵּאת וברת חֲצובִים אֲשֵׁר לֹא־חַצַבת כָּרָמֵים וְזֵיתִים אֲשֵׂר לֹא־נַטַעָתְ וָאַכַלָּתַ וְשַׂבַעָתַ:
  - houses full of all good things that you did not fill, hewn cisterns that you did not hew, vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant—and you eat your fill,
  - who freed הוהי take heed that you do not forget הַשְּׁמֵר לְרָּ פַּן־תִּשֹׁכָּח אַת־יִהוָה אַשַּׁר הוֹצִיאַךְ מַאָרֵץ מִצְרַיָם מַבִּית
- you from the land of Egypt, the house of bondage.

  - and worship [God] alone, הוהי and worship and worship [God] אַת־יָהוָה אֵלוֹהְיָרָ תִירָא וָאתוּ תַעָבֶר וְבַשְׁמוֹ תְשַבְעַי and swear only by God's name.

  - Do not follow other gods, any gods of the peoples לא תַלבוּן אַחַרֵי אַלוּיִים מַאֵלהַי הַעְמִים אַשֶּר סבִיבוֹתִיכַם: about you-
    - 15 כִי אֵל קנָא יִהוָה אֵלהֵיךָ בִּקרבַךָ פַן־יֵּחֵבֵה אַף־יִהוָה אֵלהֹיךָ בַּךְ וָהשִּמֵידְךָ מֵעָל פַנָי הָאַדָמָה:
      - for your God הוהי in your midst is an impassioned God—lest the anger of your God הוהי blaze forth against you, wiping you off the face of the earth.

      - .הוהי as you did at Massah, לָא תְנַסוֹ אֲת־יַהוֹה אֱלֹהַיַכֶם כַּאֲשֶׁר נָסִיתְם בַּמַסָה: as you did at Massah. (as you did at Massah Cf. Exod. 17.1–7.)

  - שמור תשמלון אַת־מצות יהוָה אֱלהַיכָם ועַדתִיו וַחָקיו אֲשֶׁר צַּוְרָ: Be sure to keep the commandments, decrees, and laws that your God הוהי has enjoined upon you.
    - ועשית הישר והטוב בעיני יהוה למען ייטב לך ובאת וַיַרָשׁתַּ אַת־הַאַרֵץ הַטבָה אַשר־נשבע יהוַה לַאַבתיך:
- Do what is right and good in the sight of הוהי, 18 that it may go well with you and that you may be able to possess the good land that your God הוהי promised on oath to your fathers,
- 19 לַהַדְף אַת־כָּל־אִיבֵיךָ מִפָּנַיךָ כַאֲשֵׂר דִבֶּר יִהֹוָה:
- and that all your enemies may be driven out before you, as הוהי has spoken.
- ּ כִּי־יִשְׂאָלְךָ בִנְךָ מָחָר לֵאמֹר מַה הָעֵדֹת וְהַחַקִים וִהַמַּשִּׁפָּטִים אֲשֹר צוָה יהוָה אֱלֹהִינוּ אַתֹכֶם:
  - When, in time to come, your children ask you, "What mean the decrees, laws, and rules that our God הוהי has enjoined upon you?" (you Septuagint and rabbinic quotations read "us.")
  - 21 וְאָמַרְתְּ לְבִנְךָ עֲבָדֶים הָיֶינוּ לְפַרְעָה בְּמִצְרְיִם וַיֹּצִיאָנוּ יְהוָה ממצרים ביד חווקה:
    - you shall say to your children, "We were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt and הוהי freed us from Egypt with a mighty hand.
  - וַיִתָן יִהוָה אותת ומפתים גדלים וַרָעִים ו במצרים בפַרעה ובכל־בֵיתו לעינינו:
    - mrought before our eyes marvelous and destructive signs and portents in Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his household;
- ואותנו הוציא משם למַען הביא אתנו לָתַת לָנוֹ אַת־הָאַרֵץ אַשֶׁר נשבע לאבתינו:
- and us [God] freed from there, in order to take us and give us the land promised on oath to our fathers.

- בווי מול אוריהוה אַלהִינוּ ביהוֹה לַעשות אוריבְל־הַחְקִים הְאַלֵּה לִיִרְאָה אַת־יִהוָה אֵלֹהְינוּ commanded us to observe all these laws, לטוב לנו כל היַמִים לחַיתנו כהיום הזֵה:
  - to revere our God הוהי, for our lasting good and for our survival, as is now the case.
  - וצדָקה תְהַיֵה־לָנוּ כִי־נִשִּׁמֹר לַעֲשׂות אַת־כַּל־הַמִצְוָה הַזֹּאת לִפְנֵי יהוה אלהינו כאשר צונו:
- It will be therefore to our merit before our God to observe faithfully this whole Instruction, as [God] has commanded us."

- ַכִּי יְבִיאֲךָ יְהֹוָה אֱלֹהֶידָ אֶל־הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׂר־אַתָּה בָא־שִׂמָּה לְרִשִּׂתְה וְנַשַל גוּיִם־רַבִּים | מִפַּנֵידָ הַחתי וְהַגַּרְגַשוֹי וִהַאֱמרי וִהַכַנַעַנֵי והַפַּרוֹי והַחוּי והַיִבוּסִי שבעה גווֹם רַבִּים וַעֲצוּמִים מִמַךָ:
- When your God הוהי 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—
- וּנִתְנֶّם יִהֹנָה אֵלֹהֵיךָ לִפְנֵיךָ וִהְכִיתָם הַחֲרֵם תַחֲרִים אֹתָם לֹא־תִכְרִת להם ברית ולא תחנם:
- and your God הוהי delivers them to you and you defeat them, you must doom them to destruction: grant them no terms and give them no quarter.
- וְלָא תִתְחַתֶּן בָּם בִּתְּךָ לֹא־תִתָּן לִבְנוֹ וּבִתוּ לֹא־תִקח לִבְנֵךֵ:
- You shall not intermarry with them: do not give your daughters to their sons or take their daughters for your sons.
- כִי־יָסִיר אַת־בַּנָךָ מֵאַחַלִי וִעְבִדוּ אֵלֹהָים אַחַרָים וִחָרָה אַף־יִהוָה בַּכֵּם וָהְשַּׂמִידְרָ מַהֵּר:
- For they will turn your children away from Me to worship other gods, and הוהי's anger will blaze forth against you, promptly wiping you out.
- כי־אם־כָה תַעשוֹ לָהֶם מזִבְחתִיהֶם תַתֹצוּ ומצבתם תשברו ואַשִירָהָם תַּנְדֵעון ופסילֵיהַם תַשַׁרְפָּון בַאֲשׁ:
- 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.
- כֵי עָם קדושׁ אַתִּה לַיהוָה אֵלהַיךָ בִּךָּ בַּחַר ו יִהוָה אֵלהַיךָ לִהִיוֹת לוֹ: לעם סגלה מכל העמים אשר על־פני האדמה:
- For you are a people consecrated to your God הוהי: of all the peoples on earth your God הוהי chose you to be God's treasured people.
- לא מרבכם מכל־העמים חשק יהוה בכם ויבחר בכם כי־אתם הַמִעָט מִכַּל־הַעָמִים:
- It is not because you are the most numerous of peoples that הוהי grew attached to you and chose you—indeed, you are the smallest of peoples;
- כִּי מַאָהַבַּת יָהוָה אַתכַם וּמִשָּמַרוּ אַת־הַשַּבַעָה אַשַר נִשַבַע לַאֲבַתִיכֶּם הוֹצִיא יְהוָה אֶתְכֶם בִּיָד חֲזָקָה וַיִּפְּדְּךָ מִבְּית עֲבָדִים מִיַד פַרעה מלד־מצרים:
- but it was because הוהי favored you and kept the oath made to your fathers that הוהי freed you with a mighty hand and rescued you from the house of bondage, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt.
- ויָדַעתֹּ כִי־יִהוָה אֱלֹהֵיךָ הַוּא הָאֵלֹהַים הָאֵל הַנֵּאֵלֵן שֹׁמֶר הַבַּרֵית והַתַּסֶד לִאהַבַיו ולִשמרֵי מצותו לִאַלֶף דִור:
- Know, therefore, that only your God הוהי 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,
- וּמְשַׂלֶּם לִשֹׂנָאַיו אֵל־פָּנָיו לִהַאָבִידָו לָא יִאַחֵר לִשִׂנָאוֹ אֵל־פָּנָיו ישלם־לו:
- but who instantly requites with destruction those who reject [God]—never slow with those who reject, but requiting them instantly.

אַנְרָי מְצַּוְּךָ אַת־הַמִּשְׂפָטִים אָשֶּׁר אָנֹכִי מְצַוְּךָ Therefore, observe faithfully the Instruction—the laws and the rules—with which I charge you today.