חקת Chukat

Numbers 19:1-22:1

- וַיִדַבַּר יִהוֹה אֵל־משה וָאֵל־אַהַרוְ לַאמִר:
- הוהי spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying:
- פָּרָה אֲדַמַּה תְּמִימָה אֲשֶׂר אִין־בָה מוּם אֲשֶׂר לֹא־עָלָה עֲלֶיה עְל: אֲשֶׂר־צִּוָּה יְהֹוָה לֵאמֵר דַּבָּר ו אֶל־בְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְיִקחַוּ אֵלֶיךְ זֹאת חקת התורה
- 2 This is the ritual law that הוהי has commanded: Instruct the Israelite people to bring you a red cow without blemish, in which there is no defect and on which no yoke has been laid.
- הַכֹּהֶן וְהוֹצְיא אֹתָהֹ אֶל־מַחַוּץ לְמַחֲנֶה וְשַׂחָט אֹתָה לְפָנְיו: וּנְתַתֶּם אֹתָה אֶל־אֶלְעָזָר
- 3 You shall give it to Eleazar the priest. It shall be taken outside the camp and slaughtered in his presence.
- בְּאֶצְבְּעֻוֹ וְהוָּה אֶלִּינُכַח פְנֶי אְהֶלִּימוֹעֶד מִדָּמָה שֶּׁבַע פְּעָמִים: וְלָקֶח אֶלְעָזָר הַכּהָן מִדָּמָה
- 4 Eleazar the priest shall take some of its blood with his finger and sprinkle it seven times toward the front of the Tent of Meeting.
- לְעִינֵיו אֶת־עֹרָה וְאֶת־בְּשַׂרָהֹ וְאֶת־דָּמַׂה עַל־פִּרְשָׂה יִשְׂרְף: וְשַׂרָף אֶת־הַפָּרָה
- 5 The cow shall be burned in his sight—its hide, flesh, and blood shall be burned, its dung included—
- עץ אֶכֶז וְאַזֻוֹב וּשִׂנֵי תוֹלֶעָת וְהִשְּׁלִּיךְ אֶלֹ־תְּוֹךְ שְׁרֵפָּת הַפַּרָה: וְלֶקָח הַכֹּהֵן
- 6 and the priest shall take cedar wood, hyssop, and crimson stuff, and throw them into the fire consuming the cow.
- בְּשִׂרוֹ בַּמַּיִם וְאַחֶר יָבָא אֶל־הְמַחֲנֵה וְטָמֶא הַכֹּהָן עָד־הְעָרֶב: וְכָבֶּס בְּגָרִיו הַכֹּהֵן וְרָחָץ
- 7 The priest shall wash his garments and bathe his body in water; after that the priest may reenter the camp, but he shall be impure until evening.
- אֹתָה יְכַבֶּס בְּגָדִיוֹ בַּמַיִם וְרָחָץ בְּשַׂרָוֹ בַּמֻיִם וְטָמֶא עִד־הָעְרֶב: וְהַשֹּׁרֶף
- 8 The one who performed the burning shall also wash those garments in water, bathe in water, and be impure until evening.
- וְּהְיְתְּה לַעֲרַֹת בְּנְי־יִשֹּׁרָאֶל לְמִשְׁמֶרֶת לְמֶי נִדָּה חַטָּאת הְוּא: אַישׁ טָהוֹר אָת אָפֶר הַפָּרָה וְהִנָּיחַ מִחְוּץ לְמַחֲנֶה בְּמַקוֹם טַהְוֹר וְאָסָף ו
- 9 Another party who is pure shall gather up the ashes of the cow and deposit them outside the camp in a pure place, to be kept for water of lustration*water of lustration Lit. "water for impurity." for the Israelite community. It is for purgation.
- עד־הִעְרֶב וְהַיְתִּה לִבְנֵי יִשֹׁרָאֵל וְלֹנֶר הַנְּר בְּתוֹכְם לְחַקּת עוֹלְם: וְכִבֶּּס הָאֹסֵף אֶת־אָפֶר הַפִּרָה אֶת־בְּנִדִּיו וְטַמָא
 - 10 The one who gathers up the ashes of the cow shall also wash those clothes and be impure until evening. This shall be a permanent law for the Israelites and for the strangers who reside among them.
 - 11 הַנֹגַעַ בִּמֵת לְכָל־נָפֵשׁ אָדָם וִטְמֵא שֹבִעָת יָמִים:
 - 11 Those*Those Heb. impersonal sing., taken as a collective and rendered in the plural. who touch the corpse of any human being shall be impure for seven days.
- יִטְהֶר וְאָם־לֹּא יִתְחַטָּא בַּיִּוֹם הַשְּׂלִישֶׂי וּבַיִּוֹם הַשְּׂבִיעִי לָּא יִטְהְר: הוא יִתְחַטָּא־בוֹ בַּיִּוֹם הַשַּׂלִישֵׂי וּבַיִּוֹם הַשָּׁבִיעִי
- 12 They shall purify themselves with [the ashes] on the third day and on the seventh day, and then be pure; if they fail to purify themselves on the third and seventh days, they shall not be pure.

- דhose who touch a corpse, the body of a person מִישִׂרְאֵל כִּי[†] מֵּי נִנְּהָׁה לֹא־זֹרְק עְלִיוֹ טִמְא יִהְיֶּה עוֹר טִמְא,ּתְוֹ בְּוֹ:
 אוֹר מִישְׁרְאָל הַיִּלְ עָלִיוֹ טִמְא יִהְיָּה עוֹר טִמְא הַהָּוֹא Those who touch a corpse, the body of a person who has died, and do not purify themselves, defile הוהי Tabernacle; those persons shall be
 - Those who touch a corpse, the body of a person who has died, and do not purify themselves, defile הוהי's Tabernacle; those persons shall be cut off from Israel. Since the water of lustration was not dashed on them, they remain impure; their impurity is still upon them.
- ַבְּאַהֶל כָּל־הַבָּא אֶל־הָאֹהֶל וְכָל־אֲשֶׂר בִּאֹהֶל יִטְמָא שֹבְעָת יִמִים: זָאת הַתוּלָה אָדָם כִּי־יָמִוּת
 - 14 This is the ritual: When a person dies in a tent, whoever enters the tent and whoever is in the tent shall be impure seven days;
 - 15 וְכֹל כְּלְי פָּתוּחַ אֲשֶׂר אֵין־צָמְיד פָּתְיל עָלְיו טָמָא הְוּא:
- 15 and every open vessel, with no lid fastened down, shall be impure.
 - 16 אַוֹ בְמֵת אוֹ־בְעֶצֶם אָדָם אַוֹ בְקְבֶר יִטְמְא שֹבְעָת יִמִים: וַכֹּל אֲשֵׂר־יִּנְע עַל־פָנֵי הָשָּׁדָה בַּחַלְלִּחַרֶבַ
 - 16 And in the open, anyone who touches a person who was killed*killed Lit. "slain by the sword." or who died naturally, or human bone, or a grave, shall be impure seven days.
 - 17 לַטָמֵא מַעֲפָר שֹּרֵפָּת הְחַטֵאת וְנָתָן עָלָיו מִיִם חַיִים אֶל־כֶּלִי: וַלָּקָחוּ
 - 17 Some of the ashes*ashes Lit. "earth" or "dust." from the fire of purgation shall be taken for the impure person, and fresh water shall be added to them in a vessel.
- אֲשֶׂר הְיוּ־שֶׁם וְעָל־הַנּגֵּע בַּעֶּצֶם אַוֹ בְחָלָל אָוֹ בַמֶּת אָוֹ בַקְבֶר: בַּמַּיִם אַישׁ טָהוֹר וְהִזָּה עַל־הָאֹהֶל וְעַל־כָל־הַכֵּלִים וְעַל־הַנְּפָשׁוֹת וַלָּקָח אֲזוֹב וָטַבַל
- 18 Another party who is pure shall take hyssop, dip it in the water, and sprinkle on the tent and on all the vessels and people who were there, or on the one who touched the bones or the person who was killed or died naturally or the grave.
- ּוְחִטְאוֹ בַּיַוֹם הַשְּׂבִיעִי וְכִבֶּס בְּגָדָיו וְרָחָץ בַּמַיִם וְטָהֶר בִּעְרֶב: וְהִזָּה הַטָּהוֹ עַל־הַטָּמֵא בַּיִּוֹם הַשְּׁלִישִי וּבַיָּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי
- 19 The pure person shall sprinkle it upon the impure person on the third day and on the seventh day, thus purifying that person by the seventh day. [The one being purified] shall then wash those clothes and bathe in water—and at nightfall shall be pure.
- כִּי אֶת־מִקְבָּשׁ יְהֹוָה טִמֵא מֶי נִדְּה לֹא־זֹרְק עָלְיו טַמְא הְוּא: אֲשֶׂר־יִטְמָא וְלָא יִתְחַטָּא וְנִכְרְתָּה הַנָּפֶשׁ הַהָּוּא מִתְּוֹךְ הַקּהֲל וָאִישׁ
- 20 If any party who has become impure fails to undergo purification, that person shall be cut off from the congregation for having defiled 'הוה's sanctuary. The water of lustration was not dashed on that person, who is impure.
- 21 וּמַזָּה מִי־הַנִּהָּה יְכַבֶּס בְּגָּדִּיו וְהַנֹּגֵּעָ בְּמֵי הַנִּהָּה יִטְמְא עִד־הִעְרֶב: וְהִיְתָה לָהֶם לְחֻקת עוֹלֶם
 - 21 That shall be for them a law for all time. Further, the one who sprinkled the water of lustration shall wash those clothes; and whoever touches the water of lustration shall be impure until evening.
 - ָאֶעֶר־יָגַע־בָּוֹ הַטָּמָא יִטְמֵא וְהַנָּפֶשׁ הַנֹּגָעַת תְּטְמָא עַד־הָעָרֶב: וֹכֵל
- 22 Whatever that impure person touches shall be impure; and the person who touches the impure one shall be impure until evening.

בַּתִּדֶשׁ הְרִאשוֹן וַיָּשֶׁב הָעָם בְּקדֵשׁ וַתְּמָת שָׁם מִרְיָּם וַתִּקבֶר שְׁם: וַיִבְאוּ בַנֵי־יִּשׁרָאֵל כַּל־הַעֶּדָה מִדְבַּר־צֵּן

1 The Israelites arrived in a body at the wilderness of Zin on the first new moon,*first new moon Of the fortieth year; cf. Num. 33.36–38. and the people stayed at Kadesh. Miriam died there and was buried there.

וְלֹא־הָיָה מִיִם לָעִדֶה וַיִּקְהֲלוּ עַל־מֹשֶׁה וְעְל־אַהְרְן:

2 The community was without water, and they joined against Moses and Aaron.

הָעָם עם־מֹשַׂה וַיֹּאמְרַוּ לֵאמֹר וְלְוּ גָוָעְנוּ בִּגְוָע אַחִינוּ לִפְנֶי יְהֹוָה: וַיִּרֵב

3 The people quarreled with Moses, saying, "If only we had perished when our brothers perished at the instance of הוהי!

אֶת־קהַל יְהֹוָה אֶל־הַמִּדְבָּר הַזְּה לָמַוּת שָׂם אֶנְחְנוּ וּבְעִירְנוּ: וִלְמַה הַבַאתֵם

4 Why have you brought 'הוה's congregation into this wilderness for us and our beasts to die there?

ָהָרֶע הזֶה לָא ו מְקוֹם זֶּרֵע וּתְאַנָה וְגֶּפֶּן וְרִמֹּוֹן וּמְיִם אְיִן לִשְׁתְּוֹת: וְלָמָה הָעֶלִיתְנוֹ מִמִצְרַיִם לְהָבֵיא אוֹנוּ אֶל־הַמַקוֹם 5 Why did you make us leave Egypt to bring us to this wretched place, a place with no grain or figs or vines or pomegranates? There is not even water to drink!"

אָהֶל מוֹעָד וְיִפְּלוּ עַל־פְּנֵיהְם וַיֵּרָא כְבוֹד־יְהוֹה אֲלֵיהְם: וַיָבא מֹשֵׂה וָאָהֵלוְ מִפּנֵי הַקְהַל אַל־פָּתַח

6 Moses and Aaron came away from the congregation to the entrance of the Tent of Meeting, and fell on their faces. The Presence of מהוהי appeared to them,

וַיִּדַבֶּר יִהוָה אֱל־משה לֵאמר:

7 and הוהי spoke to Moses, saying,

וְהוֹצֵאתָּ לָהֶם מַּיָם מִן־הַּסֶלִע וְהִשְׁקִיתְ אֶת־הַעֵּדָה וְאֶת־בְּעִירְם: אַתָּה וְאָהֵרֶן אַתִּיךָ וְדִבַּרְתָּם אֶל־הַסֶלַע לְעִינֵיהֶם וְנָתַן מֵימֵיו קח אַת־הַמַּטַה וָהַקָּהָל אַת־הַעֵּדָה

8 "You and your brother Aaron take the rod and assemble the community, and before their very eyes order the rock to yield its water. Thus you shall produce water for them from the rock and provide drink for the congregation and their beasts."

וִיקח משָה אֶת־הַמַטָּה מִלּפְנֶי יְהֹוֶה כַּאֲשֶׂר צִּוְהוּ:

9 Moses took the rod from before הוהי, as he had been commanded.

לָהֶם שַׂמְעוּ־נָאֹ הַמֹּלִים הַמִּן־הַסֶּלַע הֹוֶה נוֹצְיא לָכֶם מִיִם: וַיַּקְהִלוֹ משָה וְאַהֲרֶן אֶת־הַקָּהְלֹ אֶל־פְּנֵי הַסְלַע וַיָּאמֶר

Moses and Aaron assembled the congregation in front of the rock; and he said to them, "Listen, you rebels, shall we get water for you out of this rock?"

בְּמַטָהוּ פַּעֲמֻיִם וַיֵּצְאוּ מַיִם רַבִּים וַתְשְׂתְ הָעֵדָה וּבְעִירְם: וַיָּרֶם מֹשֶׁה אֶת־יָדוֹ וַיָּךְ אֶת־הַסָלַע

11 And Moses raised his hand and struck the rock twice with his rod. Out came copious water, and the community and their beasts drank.

לָבַן לָא תָבִיאוּ אֶת־הַקּהַל הַוֶּה אֶל־הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׂר־נִתְתִּי לָהֶם: וְאָל־אַהַרן יָען לֹא־הָאֱמִנְתָּם בִּי לְהַקְדִּישׁנִי לְעִינֶי בְּנֵי יִשֹּׁרָאֵל וַיָּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל־משָה

12 But הוהי said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not trust Me enough to affirm My sanctity in the sight of the Israelite people, therefore you shall not lead this congregation into the land that I have given them."

מַי מְרִיבָה אֲשֶּׁר־רָבִוּ בְנֵי־יִשְׂרָאָל אֶת־יְהֹנֶה וַיִּקּדֶשׁ בְּם: הָמָה	13	Those are the Waters of Meribah*Meribah I.e., "Quarrel"; cf. Exod. 17.7 and the second note there. —meaning that the Israelites quarrelled with הוהי —whose sanctity was affirmed through them.
אָמַרْ אָחֶיךָ יִשְׂרָאֵלּ אַתְּה יָדַעְתָּ אֶת כָּל־הַתְּלָאָה אֲשֶׁר מְצָאָתְנוּ: וַיִּשְׂלַח מֹשָׂה מַלְאָכָים מִקּדָשׁ אֶל־מָלֶךְ אֱדֵוֹם כְּה	14	From Kadesh, Moses sent messengers to the king of Edom: "Thus says your brother Israel: You know all the hardships that have befallen us;
ַונֶשֶׂב בְּמִצְרָיִם יָמִים רַבִּים וַיָּרֶעוּ לָנוּ מִצְרָיִם וְלַאֲבֹתִינוּ: וַיֵּרְדָוּ אֲבֹתֵינוּ מִצְרַיִמָה	15	that our ancestors went down to Egypt, that we dwelt in Egypt a long time, and that the Egyptians dealt harshly with us and our ancestors.
מַלְאָּךְ וַיִּצְאֶנוּ מִמִּצְרְיִם וְהִנֵּהֹ אֲנָחְנוּ בְקְדֵׁשׁ עִיר קצָה גְבוּלֶךָ: וַנִּצְעָק אֶל־יְהֹוָהֹ וַיִּשְׂמָע קלֵנוּ וַיִּשְׁלֶח	16	We cried to הוהי who heard our plea, sending a messenger*messenger Or angel, that is, "[divine] messenger." who freed us from Egypt. Now we are in Kadesh, the town on the border of your territory.
דָּרֶךְ הַמֶּלֶךְ נַלַּךְ לָּא נִטֶהֹ יָמֵין וּשְׂמֹאוּל עָד אֲשֶׂר־נַצְבַּרְ גְּבַלֶּךָ: נַעְבְּרָה־נָּא בְאַרְצֶׁךָ לָּא נַעֲבֹר בְּשִׁדָה וּבְלֶרֶם וְלָא נִשִּׁתָּה מַי בְאֵר	17	Allow us, then, to cross your country. We will not pass through fields or vineyards, and we will not drink water from wells. We will follow the king's highway, turning off neither to the right nor to the left until we have crossed your territory."
ַניָאמֶר אַלָּיוֹ אֱדֹוֹם לְא תַעֲבֻׂר בֵּי פֶּן־בַּחֶרֶב אֵצֶא לִקְרָאתֶךָ:	18	But Edom answered him, "You shall not pass through us, else we will go out against you with the sword."
נִשְׂתֶהָּ אֲנֶי וּמִקְנֵׁי וְנָתַתָּי מִכְרֶם רָק אֵין־דָּבְר בְּרַגְלָי אָעֶבְרָה: וַיֹּאמְרֹוּ אֵלָיו בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּמְסִלָּה נַעֲלֶהּ וְאִם־מִימָיךָ	19	"We will keep to the beaten track," the Israelites said to them, "and if we or our cattle drink your water, we will pay for it. We ask only for passage on foot—it is but a small matter."
ַנִיּאמֶר לָא תַעֲבֶר נַיֵּצָא אֱדוֹם לִקְרָאתוֹ בְּעָם כָּבֶד וּבְיָד חֲזָקָה:	20	But they replied, "You shall not pass through!" And Edom went out against them in heavy force, strongly armed.
ַנִיְמָאָן ו אֱדוֹם נְתוֹ אֶת־יִשֹּׁרָאֵׁל עֲבִר בּנְבַלֻוֹ וַיָּט יִשִּׂרָאָל מַעְלִיו:	21	So Edom would not let Israel cross their territory, and Israel turned away from them.
וַיִּסְעָוּ מִקְרֶשׁ וַיָּבְאוּ בְנִי־יִשְׂרָאֶל כָּלֹ־הַעֵּדָה הְר הָהְר:	22	Setting out from Kadesh, the Israelites arrived in a body at Mount Hor.
אֶל־מֹשֶׁה וְאֶל־אַהֶּרְן בְּתַּר הַהֶּר עַל־גְּבְוּל אָרֶץ־אֱדְוֹם לֵאמִר: וַיָּאמֶר יְהֹוָה	23	At Mount Hor, on the boundary of the land of Edom, הוהי said to Moses and Aaron,
אֲשֶׂר נִתְתִּי לִבְנָי יִשְׂרָאֵל עָל אֲשֶׂר־מְרִיתָם אֶת־פִּי לְמָי מְרִיבָה: יֵאָסָף אַהֲרֹן אֶל־עַמִּיו כִּי לָא יָבֹא אֶל־הַאְּרֶץ	24	"Let Aaron be gathered to his kin: he is not to enter the land that I have assigned to the Israelite people, because you disobeyed My command about the Waters of Meribah.
:קח אֶת־אַהֵרֹן וְאֶת־אֶלְעָזָר בְּנֵוֹ וְהָעַל אֹתָם הֹר הַהָר	25	Take Aaron and his son Eleazar and bring them up on Mount Hor.

- ב: אֶת־בְּגָלִיו וְהַלְבַשְׂתְּם אֶת־אֶלְעָזָר בְּגָוֹ וְאָהֵרְן יֵאָסַף וּמֶת שָם: 26 Strip Aaron of his vestments and put them on his וָהַפִּשָט אֵת־אַהַרוֹ
 - son Eleazar. There Aaron shall be gathered unto the dead."*unto the dead Lit. "and die."
- 27 משה כַאַשר צוָה יהוָה וַיַעלוֹ אֵל־הְר הָהָר לִעִינֵי כַּל־הָעַדָה: וַיִעשׂ
 - Moses did as הוהי had commanded. They ascended Mount Hor in the sight of the whole community.
- 28 בַּנֹו וַיָּמָת אַהַרֶן שָם בַּרָאשׁ הָהַר וַיָּרֵד משָה וִאַלְעָזָר מוְ־הָהָר: וַיִּפַשֵּטْ משָה אַת־אַהֵרֹן אַת־בַּגַרַיו וַיַלבַש אתם אַת־אַלעזַר
 - Moses stripped Aaron of his vestments and put them on his son Eleazar, and Aaron died there on the summit of the mountain. When Moses and Eleazar came down from the mountain,
 - 29 גוַע אַהַרן וַיִבכוּ אַת־אַהַרן שלשים יום כל בַית ישראַל: וַיִּרָאוֹ כַל־הַעָּדַה כִי
 - the whole community knew that Aaron had breathed his last. All the house of Israel bewailed Aaron thirty days.

- בָּא יִשִׁרָאֵל הַרֶךָ הָאֲתְרָים וַיִּלָּחֵם בִּישִׁרָאֵל וַיָשַבַּ ו מִמֵנוּ שַבִּי: וַיִשׁמַשׁ הַכִּנַעָנִי מֵלְךִ־עֵרָדׁ ישָׁב הַנַּגַב כִי
- When the Canaanite, king of Arad, who dwelt in the Negeb, learned that Israel was coming by the way of Atharim,*Atharim Meaning of Heb. ha-'atharim uncertain. Targum and other ancient versions render "the way [taken by] the scouts." he engaged Israel in battle and took some of them captive.
- וַיאמַר אָם־נָתֹן תִתֹּן אֵת־הָעָם הַזֵּהֹ בִיָּדִי וִהַחַרַמִתִּי אֵת־עָרֵיהֵם: וַיִּבַּר יִשַּׁרָאֵל נַדֵר לַיהוַה
- Then Israel made a vow to הוהי and said, "If You deliver this people into our hand, we will proscribe*proscribe I.e., utterly destroy, reserving no booty except what is deposited in the Sanctuary; see Josh. 6.24. their towns."
- וַיַחַרֶם אַתַהָם וִאַת־עָרֵיהָם וַיִּקרָא שַׁם־הַמַּקוֹם חָרִמַה: וַיִשׁמַע יהוָה בקול ישראל וַיִּתוֹ אַת־הַכנַעַנִי
- heeded Israel's plea and delivered up the Canaanites; and they and their cities were proscribed. So that place was named Hormah.*Hormah Connected with heerim "to proscribe."
- ַדֶּרֶךְ יַם־סוֹף לִסבָב אַת־אָרֵץ אֱדָוֹם וַתִּקצָר נְפֵשֹּ־הַעָם בַּדָּרֵךְ: וַיִּסעוֹ מַהַר הַהַר
- They set out from Mount Hor by way of the Sea of Reeds*Sea of Reeds Traditionally, but incorrectly, "Red Sea." to skirt the land of Edom. But the people grew restive on the journey,
- בַּמִדבַר כִּי אֶין לַחֵם וִאֶין מַיִם וִנַפִּשָנוּ לְצָה בַּלַחֵם הַקּלקל: וַיִדַבֶּר הָעָם בַאלהִים ובמשה לָמָה הַעֵּלִיתְנוֹ מִמְצַרַיִם לְמִוּת
- and the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why did you make us leave Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread and no water, and we have come to loathe this miserable food."
- אַת הַנַּחַשֵים הַשַּׁרַפִּים וַיִּנַשַּׁכוּ אַת־הַעָם וַיַּמַת עם־רַב מִישַׁרָאַל: וַישַלָּח יהוַה בַעָּם
- sent seraph*seraph Cf. Isa. 14.29; 30.6. Others "fiery"; exact meaning of Heb. saraph uncertain. Cf. Deut. 8.15. serpents against the people. They bit the people and many of the Israelites died.

אֶל־יְהֹוָה וְיָסֶר מֵעְלֶינוּ אֶת־הַנָּחְשׁ וַיִּתְפַּלֶּל משֶׁה בְּעָד הָעְם: The people came to Moses and said, "We sinned הָעָם אֵל־משֵׂה וַיאמרו חָטָאנוּ כִי־דבַרנוּ בִיהוָה וָבַךְ התפַלֵּל by speaking against הוהי and against you. ויבא Intercede with הוהי to take away the serpents from us!" And Moses interceded for the people. לַךָּ שַׁרָף וִשִּים אתו עַל־נָס והָיָה כָל־הַנָּשוֹרְ ורָאָה אתו וַחִי: Then הוהי said to Moses, "Make a seraph*seraph וַיאמר יהוָה אַל־משה עשה See note at v. 6. figure and mount it on a standard. And anyone who was bitten who then looks at it shall recover." וָהָיָה אָם־נָשַׁךְ הַנָּחָשׁ אָת־אִישׁ וִהְבֵיט אֵל־נַחָשׁ הַנָּחשׁת וָחַי: Moses made a copper serpent and mounted it on וַיַעש משה נחש נחשת וַישמהו על־הַנַּס a standard; and when bitten by a serpent, anyone who looked at the copper serpent would recover. 10 The Israelites marched on and encamped at Oboth. בעני העברים במדבר אַשר על־פני מואב ממזרח השמש: They set out from Oboth and encamped at Iye-abarim, in the wilderness bordering on וַיִּסעו מאבת וַיַּחֵנוּ Moab to the east. בנחל וַרְד: משם נסעו ויַחָנוּ בנחל וַרָד: 12 From there they set out and encamped at the wadi Zered. 13 מגבל הָאֵמרִי כִּי אַרְנוֹן גִבְוּל מוֹאָב בֵין מוֹאָב וּבֵין הָאֵמרִי: From there they set out and encamped beyond משם נסעו ויחנו מעבר ארנון אשר במדבר היצא the Arnon, that is, in the wilderness that extends from the territory of the Amorites. For the Arnon is the boundary of Moab, between Moab and the Amorites. speaks הוהי את־וָהֶב בַּסוּפָּה וְאֵת־הַנְּחָלִים אַרְנִוֹן: Therefore the Book of the Wars of על־כַן יַאמר of*The quotation that follows is a fragment; its text and meaning are uncertain. "... Waheb in Suphah, and the wadis: the Arnon ים אַשֵּׁר נָטָה לְשַבֵּת עַר וְנָשִעָן לְגַבִּוּל מוֹאַב: 15 with its tributary wadis, stretched along the settled country of Ar, hugging the territory of Moab..." 16 And from there to Beer,*Beer Lit. "well." which אַשׂר אָסַר יָהוָה לָמשׁה אַסַר אַת־הַּלָם ואַתנָה לָהַם מיִם: ומשם באַרָה הַוא הַבאַר is the well where הוהי said to Moses, "Assemble the people that I may give them water." באַר עַנוּ־לָה: באַר עַנוּ־לָה: Then Israel sang this song:Spring up, O well—sing to it— 18 שַׁרִים כַּרוֹהָ נִדִיבֵי הָעָם במחקק במשענתם וממדבר מַתְנָה: The well which the chieftains dug, Which the באר חפרוה nobles of the people startedWith maces, with their own staffs. And from Midbar*Midbar Septuagint "the well" (= Beer); cf. v. 16. to

Mattanah,

Nahaliel to Bamoth,

and from Mattanah to Nahaliel, and from

19 וממתנה נחליאל ומנחליאל במות:

and from Bamoth to the valley that is in the אַשׂר בשׁדָה מוֹאָב רָאשׁ הַפְּסוָה וָנִשׁקְפָה על־פַנֵי הַיְשִׁימְן: country of Moab, at the peak of Pisgah, ומבמות הגיא overlooking the wasteland.*wasteland Or "Jeshimon." בי ישראל מלאלים אַל־סיחן מַלְרַ־הָאַמרי לָאמר: 21 Israel now sent messengers to Sihon king of the Amorites, saying, ַלָא נִשֹׂתָה מַי בְאֵר בִּדֶרֶךְ הַמֶּלֶךְ נַלַּךְ עָד אֲשֶׂר־נַעֲבִר גְּבַלֶּךְ: "Let me pass through your country. We will not אֶעְבְּרָה בְאַרְצֶּׁךָ לָא נִטֶה בַּשִּׁדָה וּבַכֹּרֵם turn off into fields or vineyards, and we will not drink water from wells. We will follow the king's highway until we have crossed your territory." 23 וַיַּצֵא לִקרָאת יִשׁרָאֵל הַמַּדְבַּרָה וַיָּבָא יַהִצָה וַיִּלְחֵם בִּישִׁרָאֵל: But Sihon would not let Israel pass through his וְלֹא־נָתַוֹ סִיחוֹ אֶת־ישִׁרָאֵל עֲבָר בּגְבַלוֹ וַיֶּאֱסֹף סִיחוֹ אַת־כָּל־עַמוֹ territory. Sihon gathered all his troops and went out against Israel in the wilderness. He came to Jahaz and engaged Israel in battle. 24 אֶת־אַרְצוֹ מָאַרְנוֹ עָד־יַבּלֹ עָד־בַּנֶי עַמוֹן כֵּי עַז גְּבְוּל בְּנֶי עָמוֹן: But Israel put them to the sword, and took וַיַּכָהוּ יִשִׁרָאֵל לִפִּי־חַרֵב וַיִּירַש possession of their land, from the Arnon to the Jabbok, as far as [Az] of the Ammonites, for Az*Az Septuagint "Jazer," cf. v. 32. Others "for the boundary of the Ammonites was strong." marked the boundary of the Ammonites. Israel took all those towns. And Israel settled in הָאַלֵה וַיָשֵב ישׁרָאַל בּכָל־עָרָי הָאַמֹרִי בַּחְשֹבוּן ובַכָּל־בַּנֹתִיהָ: ויקח ישראל את כל־הערים all the towns of the Amorites, in Heshbon and all its dependencies. ַנִלְחַם בִּמַלֶּךָ מוֹאָבַ הָרִאשוֹן וַיִּקָח אֲת־כָּל־אַרצֵו מִיָּדוֹ עַד־אַרנְן: Now Heshbon was the city of Sihon king of the כִי חַשַבון עִיר סִיחַן מֵלַךְ הָאֲמרי הָוֹא והְוֹא Amorites, who had fought against a former king of Moab and taken all his land from him as far as the Arnon. על־כֶן יאמרו הַמשלים בָאוּ חַשֹבֶון תִבְנָה ותכונן עיר סיחון: Therefore the bards would recite:*The meaning of several parts of this ancient poem is no longer certain. "Come to Heshbon; firmly builtAnd well founded is Sihon's city. לַהָבָה מקריַת סיחון אָכלָה ער מואב בַעלֵי בַמות אַרנן: For fire went forth from Heshbon, Flame from כי־אַש יִצאָה מַחַשבון Sihon's city, Consuming Ar of Moab, The lords of Bamoth*Bamoth Cf. vv. 19 and 20 and Num. 22.21. by the Arnon. עם־כמוש נתו בניו פליטם ובנתיו בשבית למלך אמרי סיחון: Woe to you, O Moab!You are undone, O people אוי־לך מואב אבדת of Chemosh!His sons are rendered fugitiveAnd his daughters captiveBy an Amorite king, Sihon." :ניַרָם אָבָד חַשַבון עַד־דִּיבַן וַנַּשַיִם עַד־נֹפַח אַשֵר עַד־מֵידבַא: *Meaning of verse uncertain. Alternatively: "Their dominion is at an end / From Heshbon to Dibon / And from Nashim to Nophah, / Which is hard by Medeba." Yet we have cast them down utterly, Heshbon along with Dibon; We have wrought desolation at Nophah, Which is hard by

Medeba.

יישב ישראל באַרץ האַמרי: 31 So Israel occupied the land of the Amorites.

- ביתיה ()ויירש אַת־האָמרָי אַשֵּר־שִׁם: אַת־הָאָמרָי אַשֵּר־שִׁם: Then Moses sent to spy out Jazer, and they וַיִשׁלַח משה לרגל
 - captured its dependencies and dispossessed the Amorites who were there.
- ינצָא עוֹג מֶלֶךְ־הַבְּשוֹּן לִקרָאתִם הְוּא וְכָל־עַמְוֹ לַמִּלְחָמָה אֶדְרֶעִי: 33 They marched on and went up the road to וִיפִנוֹ וַיִּעֵלוֹ דְרֵךְ הַבְּשׁן
 - Bashan, and King Og of Bashan, with all his troops, came out to Edrei to engage them in battle.
 - 34 לו כאשר עשית לסיחן מלך האמרי אשר יושב בחשבון: אתו כֵי בִידְךָ נָתְתִי אתו וְאֶת־כָּל־עַמָו וְאֶת־אַרְצֵו וְעָשֵית וַיֹּאמֵר יִהוָה אֵל־משֵה אַל־תירֵא
 - But הוהי said to Moses, "Do not fear him, for I give him and all his troops and his land into your hand. You shall do to him as you did to Sihon king of the Amorites who dwelt in Heshbon."
 - ואת־כליעמו עד־בלתי השאיר־לו שריד ויירשו את־ארצו: 35 They defeated him and his sons and all his ויכו אתו ואת־בניו
 - troops, until no remnant was left him; and they took possession of his country.

- בני ישראל ניחנו בערבות מואב מעבר לירדן יבחו: וַיִּסְעָוּ
- 1 The Israelites then marched on and encamped in the steppes of Moab, across the Jordan from Jericho.