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נצבים Nitzavim

Deuteronomy 29:9-30:20

- אָתֵּם נִצָּבִים הַיוֹם כַּלְּכֵם לִפַנִי יִהוָה אֵלהַיכָם רָאשִיכֶם שבטִיכֵם זקניכם ושטריכם כל איש ישראל:
- You stand this day, all of you, before your God –your tribal heads, your elders, and your officials, every householder (householder Lit. "participant whose involvement defines the depicted situation." Moses' description of those present treats their social station as more germane than their gender. Trad. "[all the] men." See the first note at 1.31.) in Israel,
- 10 טפכם נשיבם וגרך אשר בקרב מחניך מחטב עציך עד שאב
- your children, your wives, even the stranger within your camp, from woodchopper to waterdrawer—
- הוהי אַלהֵיך ובאַלְתוּ אַשֵּׁר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיך כֹּרֶת עִמְךָ 11 to enter into the covenant of your God לעברך בברית יהוָה אֱלֹהֵיך ובאַלְתוּ אֲשֵׁר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיך כֹּרֶת עִמְךָ :היום
 - your God הוהי is concluding with you this day, with its sanctions; (its sanctions I.e., the curses that covenant violations will entail.)
 - לִמַען הָקִים־אֹתְךָּ הַיִּוֹם | לו לִעָם וִהְוֹא יִהְיֵה־לִּךָ לֵאלֹהִים כַּאֲשֵׁר דבר־לָךָ וְכַאֲשֵׁר נִשְבַע לַאֲבֹתִיךָ לִאַבַרָהָם לִיצִחָק וְלִיעַקב:
- in order to establish you this day as God's people and in order to be your God, as promised you and as sworn to your fathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
- ו לא אָתכֶם לְבַדְּכֶם אָנֹכִי כֹרֵת אֱת־הַבְּרָית הַזֹּאת וְאֱת־הַאָּלָה הַזְּאת: 13 I make this covenant, with its sanctions, not with
 - you alone,
 - 14 כי את־אַשור יַשוֹנו פֿה עמַנוֹ עמַד הַיוֹם לפְנֵי יִהוָה אֵלהַינוּ וִאַׂת אַשר אִינֵנוּ פה עמַנוּ הַיִּום:
 - but both with those who are standing here with us this day before our God הוהי and with those who are not with us here this day.
 - 15 כִּי־אַתֶּם יִדַעָתֵּם אֶת אֲשֵׂר־יָשַׂבְנוּ בַּאֶרֵץ מִצְרַיִם וִאָת אֲשֵׂר־עָבְרַנוּ בקרב הגוים אַשֶר עברתם:
 - Well you know that we dwelt in the land of Egypt and that we passed through the midst of various other nations;
 - 16 וַתַרָאוֹ אַת־שֹקוּצֵיהֵם וִאָת גַּלָּלֵיהַם עָץ וָאֵבֶן כְּסֵף וִזָהָב אֲשֵׂר עמהם:
 - and you have seen the detestable things and the fetishes of wood and stone, silver and gold, that they keep.
- 17 פוריש בַּבֶּם אִיש אוֹ־אִשַּה אוֹ משפחה אוֹ־שַׂבַט אֲשַר לבבו פנה הַיום מֵעם יִהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ לָלֶכֶת לַעַבֹּד אֲת־אֵלהֵי הַגּוֹיָם הָהָם פַּן־יָש בַכֶּם שַרֵש פרָה ראש ולַעַנָה:
 - Perchance there is among you some man or woman, or some clan or tribe, whose heart is even now turning away from our God הוהי to go and worship the gods of those nations—perchance there is among you a stock sprouting poison weed and wormwood.
- 18 והָיָה בִשַּמעוֹ אַת־דִבַרֵי הָאָלָה הַזֹּאת והתבַרֵּך בַּלְבַבוּ לֵאמר שַלְוֹם יָהיֵה־לִּי כֵי בְשַׁרְרָוּת לִבִי אֵלָךְ לִמַען סִפְּוֹת הָרָוָה אֵת־הַצִּמַאָה:
 - (In this verse and the next, grammatically masculine singular co-references with gender-inclusive force (cf. v. 17) are rendered in the plural.) When hearing the words of these sanctions, they may imagine a special immunity, thinking, "I shall be safe, though I follow my own willful heart"—to the utter ruin of moist and dry alike. (moist and dry alike I.e., everything.)

- 19 לא־יֹאבָה יְהוָהٌ סְלַּחְ לוֹ כֵּי אָז יֶעְשַׂן אַף־יְהוָה וְקְנְאָתוֹ בָּאְישׁ הַהוֹא וְרָבְצָה בּוֹ כָּל־הָאָלָה הַכְּתוּבָה בַּסָפֶּר הַזְּה וּמִחָה יְהוָהׁ אֶת־שִׁמֹוֹ מִתַחַת הַשָּמִיָם:
 - 19 הוהי will never forgive that party. (that party Moved up from v. 19 for clarity.) Rather, הוהי's anger and passion will rage against them, till every sanction recorded in this book comes down upon them, and הוהי blots out their name from under heaven.
 - וְהַבְּהִילָוֹ יְהוָה לְרָעָה מִכְּל שֹבְטַי יִשְׂרָאֵל כְּכֹל אָלַוֹת הַבְּרִית הכתובה בספר התורה הזה:
- 20 [As for such a clan or tribe,] הוהי will single it out from all the tribes of Israel for misfortune, in accordance with all the sanctions of the covenant recorded in this book of Teaching.
- וְאָמַר הַדִּוֹר הָאַחֲרוֹן בְּנֵיכֶם אֲשֶׁר יָלְוּמוּ מֵאְחֲרֵיכֶם וְהַּנָּכְרִי אֲשֶׁר יִבְאׁ מֵאֶרֶץ רְחוֹקָה וְּרָאוּ אֶת־מַכּוֹת הָאָרֶץ הַהוּאֹ וְאֶת־תְּחֲלָאֶיה אַשִּרּחַלָּה יְהֹוָה בַּה:
- 21 And later generations will ask—the children who succeed you, and foreigners who come from distant lands and see the plagues and diseases that הוהי has inflicted upon that land,
- נְּפְרֶית וָמֶּלָחٌ שֹׁרֵפָה כָל־אַרְצָה לָא תּזָרַעׁ וְלָא תַצְלַחַ וְלֹא־יַצְעֶּה בָה כָּל־עֲשֶׂב כְּמַהְפֵּלֵּת סְדָם וַעֲמֹרָה אַדְמָה)וצביים(]וּצְבוֹיִם[אֲשֶׁרֹ הִפְּךְ יְהֹוָה בְּאָפָוֹ וּבַחֲמַתְוֹ:
- 22 all its soil devastated by sulfur and salt, beyond sowing and producing, no grass growing in it, just like the upheaval of Sodom and Gomorrah, Admah and Zeboiim, which הוהי overthrew in fierce anger—
- וְאָמֶרוּ כָּל־הַגּוֹיִם עַל־מֶּה עָשָׂה יְהֹנָה כָּכָה לָאַרֶץ הַזָּאת מֶה חֵרֶי הָאָף הַנָּדְוֹל הַזָּה:
- all nations will ask, "Why did הוהי do thus to this land? Wherefore that awful wrath?"
- וְאָמְרוּ עָל אֲשֶׂר עִזְבוּ אֶת־בְּרָית יְהֹוָה אֱלֹהָי אֲבֹתְם אֲשֶׂר כָּרָת עִמְם בָּהוֹצִיאוֹ אֹתַם מַאָרֵץ מַצַרִים:
 - 24 They will be told, "Because they forsook the covenant that הוהי, God of their ancestors, made with them upon freeing them from the land of Egypt;
 - 25 וַיֵּלְכוּ וַיָּעַבְדוּ אֱלֹהִים אֲחַרִים וַיְּשְׂתַחֲווּ לְהַם אֱלֹהִים אֲשֶׂר לָא־יִדְעוּם וָלָא חַלָּק לָהַם:
 - 25 they turned to the service of other gods and worshiped them, gods whom they had not experienced (whom they had not experienced See note at 11.28.) and whom [God] had not allotted (allotted See 4.19–20.) to them.
- וַיִּחַר־אָף יְהֹוָה בָּאָרֶץ הַהְוא לְהָבִיא עַלֶּיהָ אֶת־כְּל־הַקְלְלָה הַכְתוּבְה בַּסַפַּר הַזָּה:
 - 26 So הוהי was incensed at that land and brought upon it all the curses recorded in this book.
 - 27 נִיִּתְשָּׁם יְהֹנָהׁ מֵעֶל אַדְמִתָּם בְאָף וּבְחֵמָה וּבְקָצֶף נָּדְוֹל נַיַשְׂלְכֶם אֶל־אָרֶץ אַחֶרֶת כַּיְוֹם הָזֶה:
 - 27 הוהי uprooted them from their soil in anger, fury, and great wrath, and cast them into another land, as is still the case."
 - הַנִּסְתָּלֹת לַיהֹוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְהַנִּגְלֹת לָנוֹ וּלְבָנֵינוּ עָד־עוֹלָם לַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת־כָּל־דִבְרֶי הַתּוֹרָה הַזְּאת:
- 28 Concealed acts concern our God הוה; but with overt acts, it is for us and our children ever to apply all the provisions of this Teaching.

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- ְהְזָה כִי־זָבֵּאוּ עָלֶיךָ כָל־הַדְּבָרֵים הָאֵלֶה הַבְּרָכָה וְהַקּלְלָה אֲשֶׁר נָתָתִי לִפְנֵיךָ וַהֲשֵּבֹתָ אֶל־לִבְבֶּךָ בְּלָל־הַגּוֹיִם אֲשֶׁר הִהִּיחֲךָ יְהֹנָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ שִׂמַה:
- 1 When all these things befall you—the blessing and the curse that I have set before you—and you take them to heart amidst the various nations to which your God הוהי has banished you,

- וְשַׂבְתְּ עָד־יְהֹוָה אֱלֹהֶיּךְ וְשָׂמֵעְתַּ בְקְלוֹ כְּכֶל אֲשֶׁר־אָנֹכֶי מְצַוְּךָ הַיִּוֹם אַתָּה וּבְנֶיךָ בְּכָל־לְבַבְךָ וּבְכָל־נַפְשֶׂךָ:
- 2 and you return to your God הוהי, and you and your children heed God's command with all your heart and soul, just as I enjoin upon you this day,
- וְשָּׂב יְהֹוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֶת־שְׁבוּתְךָ וְרִחֲמַךָ וְשָׂב וְקבֶּצְךָ מִכְּל־הַעַמִּים אֲשֵׂר הֵפִיצִךְ יִהוָה אֱלֹהֵיךָ שַׂמַה:
- then your God הוהי will restore your fortunes (fortunes Others "captivity.") and take you back in love. (and take you back in love More precisely, "take you in; restore your standing." The image is of a (typically male) householder, who has the authority to determine the standing of his household's members, especially as heirs. Cf. Hos. 1.6; 2.6; 2.25; 14.4; Isa. 54.8; Ps. 103.13. See the Dictionary under "householder.") [God] will bring you together again from all the peoples where your God הוהי has scattered you.
- 4 אָם־יִהְיֶה נְהַחֲךָ בִּקצֶה הַשָּׁמִיִם מִשָּׁם יְקבֶּצְךְ יְהֹוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ וּמִשָּׂם יִקחֵרֵ:
- 4 Even if your outcasts are at the ends of the world, (world Lit. "sky.") from there your God יהוה will gather you, from there [God] will fetch you.
 - ָנֶהֶבִיאֲךֶ יְהֹנָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֶלֹ־הִאָּרֶץ אֲשֶׂר־יָרְשִׂוּ אֲבֹתָיךָ וְיִרְשִּׂתְּה וַהִיטִבְדָ וַהִּרְבָּךָ מַאֲבֹתַיִּךָ:
- 5 And your God הוהי will bring you to the land that your fathers possessed, and you shall possess it; and [God] will make you more prosperous and more numerous than your ancestors.
- וּמַּל יְהֹוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֶת־לְבִבְּךָ וְאֶת־לְבָב זַרְעְּךָ לְאַהֲבָּה אֶת־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בַּכָל־לִבְבַךָ וּבִכָל־נַפַּשִׁךְ לִמַען חַיֵּיךָ:
- 6 Then your God הוהי will open up (open up Others "circumcise.") your heart and the hearts of your offspring—to love your God אוהי with all your heart and soul, in order that you may live.
- ַוְנָתַן יְהֹוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֶת כָּל־הָאָלָוֹת הָאֱלֶּה עַל־אֹיְבֶיךָ וְעַל־שֹנְאֶיךָ אֲשֶׁר רְדָפָּוּךָ:
- 7 Your God הוהי will inflict all those curses upon the enemies and foes who persecuted you.
- וְאַתַּה תִשׁוּב וְשִּׁמַעְתָּ בְּקוֹל יְהֹוֶה וְעָשֵׂיתָּ אֶת־כָּל־מִצְוֹתִּיו אֲשֶׁר אָנֹכִי מִצִּוּךָ הַיָּוֹם:
- 8 You, however, will again heed הוהי and obey all the divine commandments that I enjoin upon you this day.
- וְהוֹתִירְךֶּ יְהוֹה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּכִל וּ מַעֲשָׂה יָדֶּךְ בִּפְרִי בִּטְגְךָ וּבִפְּרִי בְהֶמְתְךָ וּבִפְּרָי אַדְמִתְךָ לְטֹבֶה כֵּי וּ יָשַוּב יְהוֹה לִשִּׁוּשׁ עָלֶּיךָ לְטוֹב כַּאֲשֶׁרִ־שִׂשׁ עַל־אֲבֹתֵיךָ:
- 9 And your God הוהי will grant you abounding prosperity in all your undertakings, in your issue from the womb, the offspring of your cattle, and your produce from the soil. For הוהי will again delight in your well-being as in that of your ancestors,
- 10 כִּי תִשְׂמֵע בְּקוֹל יְהוֹה אֱלֹהֶיךָ לִשְׁמִר מִצְוֹתִיוֹ וְחֻקְּתִּיו הַכְּתוּבְּה בְּסָפֶר הַתוֹרָה הַזָּה כִּי תִשוּבֹ אֶל־יְהוֹה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּכָל־לְבִבְךָ וּבַכִלּינַפִּשֵׁרֵ:
- 10 since you will be heeding your God הוהי and keeping the divine commandments and laws that are recorded in this book of the Teaching—once you return to your God הוהי with all your heart and soul.
- 11 כִּי הַמִצְוָה הַזֹּאת אֲשֶׂר אָנֹכֶי מְצַוְּךָ הַיִּוֹם לֹא־נִפְּלָאת הוּאֹ מִמְךָ וְלְא רִחֹקָה הִוּא:
- 11 Surely, this Instruction which I enjoin upon you this day is not too baffling for you, nor is it beyond reach.

- 12 It is not in the heavens, that you should say, לא בַשַּׁמַיִם הָוֹא לֵאמֹר מִי יַעֲלֵה־לָנוּ הַשַּׁמַיִמָה וִיִּקְחֶהְ לְנוּ וישמענו אתה ונעשנה:
 - "Who among us can go up to the heavens and get it for us and impart it to us, that we may observe
- 13 ולא־מֵעֶבֵר לַיָּם הָוא לֵאמֹר מֵי יַעַבָר־לָנוּ אֵל־עָבֵר הַיָּם וִיִּקְחָהָ לְנוּ וישמענו אתה ונעשנה:
 - Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, "Who among us can cross to the other side of the sea and get it for us and impart it to us, that we may observe it?"

 - ובּלְבַבַּךְ לַעשׁתוֹ: אַלִּיךַ הַדָּבַר מַאָד בַפִּיךְ וּבַלְבַבַךְ לַעשׁתוֹ: No, the thing is very close to you, in your mouth and in your heart, to observe it.
- יאַת־הַמָּוַת וְאֵת־הַתָּיִם וְאֵת־הַמָּוֹב וְאֵת־הַמָּוֹת וְאֵת־הַתְּיָם וְאֵת־הַמָּוֹב וְאֵת־הַמָּוַת וְאֵת־הַרָע: See, I set before you this day life and
- prosperity, death and adversity.
 - 16 אַשַּׂר אַנכִי מצוּךָ הַיום לאָהבָה אַת־יָהוָה אַלהִיךָ לַלְכַת בַּדְרַכִּיו וִלְשַׂמֵר מִצוּתִיו וִחָקתִיו וּמִשַּׁפַטִיו וְחַיֻיתַ וִרַבִּיתַ וּבַרַכַךָּ יְהוַה אַלהֵיךָ בַאַבץ אַשר־אַתָה בַא־שַמַה לַרְשַׁתַה:
 - For (For Septuagint reads "If you obey the commandments of your God הוהי, which.") I command you this day, to love your God הוהי, to walk in God's ways, and to keep God's commandments, God's laws, and God's rules, that you may thrive and increase, and that your God הוהי may bless you in the land that you are about to enter and possess.
 - ואָם־יִפּנָה לִבָבַךָ וִלְּא תִשֹׁמַע וִנִדַּחִתְּ וִהְשַׂתַחַוַיִּתְ לֵאלֹהֵים אַחֵרִים וַעַבַדתַם:
- But if your heart turns away and you give no heed, and are lured into the worship and service of other gods,
- הּגָּדְתִי לָכֶם הַיֹּוֹם כָּי אָבִד תֹאבֵדְוּן לֹא־תַאַרִיכָן יָמִים על־הַאַדַּמַה אַשֵּׂר אַתָה עֹבֶר אֵת־הַיַּרְהֵּן לַבְוֹא שַׁמַה לַרְשִׁתָה:
- 18 I declare to you this day that you shall certainly perish; you shall not long endure on the soil that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.
- 19 הַעַלְתִי בַכֶם הַיִּוֹם אַת־הַשַּׁמִים וָאַת־הַאַּבֶץ הַחַיַים וְהַמַּוֹת נַתַתִי לפניך הברכה והקללה ובחרת בחלים למען תחיה אתה

וַזַרִעֶךָ:

- I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day: I have put before you life and death, blessing and curse. Choose life—if you and your offspring would live—
- לִאָהַבָּה אֵת־יִהוָה אֵלהֵיךָ לִשִּׁמְעַ בַּקְלוּ וּלִדָבַקְה־בָוּ כֵּי הָוּא חַיֵּיךָ וְאַכֶּךְ יָמֶּיךָ לָשָּׁבֶת עַל־הָאֲדָמָה אֲשֶׁר נִשְׂבַּע יְהוָה לַאֲבֹתֶיךָ לְאַבְרָהָם ליצחק וליעקב לתת להם:
- by loving your God הוהי, heeding God's commands, and holding fast to [God]. For thereby you shall have life and shall long endure upon the soil that swore to your fathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give to them.