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- 1 וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה וְאֶל־אַהֲרֹן לֵאמֹר:
פֶּה־אֲדַמָּה תְּמַיִמָּה אֲשֶׁר אֵיךְ־בָּהּ מוֹם אֲשֶׁר לֹא־עָלָה עָלֶיהָ עַל־
אֲשֶׁר־צִוָּה יְהוָה לֵאמֹר דִּבֶּר ׀ אֶל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיִּקְחוּ אֵלֶיהָ
זֹאת חֻקַּת הַתּוֹרָה
 - 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.
 - 3 You shall give it to Eleazar the priest. It shall be
taken outside the camp and slaughtered in his
presence.
 - 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.
 - 5 The cow shall be burned in his sight—its hide,
flesh, and blood shall be burned, its dung
included—
 - 6 and the priest shall take cedar wood, hyssop,
and crimson stuff, and throw them into the fire
consuming the cow.
 - 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.
 - 8 The one who performed the burning shall also
wash those garments in water, bathe in water,
and be impure until evening.
 - 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.
 - 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 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.
 - 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.
- וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה וְאֶל־אַהֲרֹן לֵאמֹר:
פֶּה־אֲדַמָּה תְּמַיִמָּה אֲשֶׁר אֵיךְ־בָּהּ מוֹם אֲשֶׁר לֹא־עָלָה עָלֶיהָ עַל־
אֲשֶׁר־צִוָּה יְהוָה לֵאמֹר דִּבֶּר ׀ אֶל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיִּקְחוּ אֵלֶיהָ
זֹאת חֻקַּת הַתּוֹרָה
- הַכֹּהֵן וְהוֹצִיא אֹתָהּ אֶל־מַחֲוֹץ לְמַחֲנֶה וּשְׁחַט אֹתָהּ לִפְנָיו:
וַיִּתֶּם אֹתָהּ אֶל־אֱלֶעָזָר
- בְּאַצְבָּעוֹ וְהִזָּה אֶל־נֶכַח פָּנָיו אֶחָד־מִדְּמָיו שִׁבְעַת פְּעָמִים:
וְלָקַח אֱלֶעָזָר הַכֹּהֵן מִדְּמָהּ
- לְעֵינָיו אֶת־עֵרָהּ וְאֶת־בִּשְׂרָהּ וְאֶת־הֵמָּה עַל־פִּתְשָׁהּ יִשְׂרָף:
וְשָׂרָף אֶת־הַפֶּה
- עַץ אֲרֹז וְאַזְבִּיחַ וְשֵׁנִי תוֹלַעַת וְהַשְׁלִיךְ אֶל־תּוֹךְ שַׂרְפַּת הַפָּרָה:
וְלָקַח הַכֹּהֵן
- בִּשְׂרָו בַּמַּיִם אַחֲרָיִם אֶל־הַמַּחֲנֶה וְטָמָא הַכֹּהֵן עַד־הָעֶרֶב:
וְכִכֵּס בְּגָדָיו הַכֹּהֵן וְרָחֵץ
- אֹתָהּ יְכַסֵּס בְּגָדָיו בַּמַּיִם וְרָחֵץ בִּשְׂרָו בַּמַּיִם וְטָמָא עַד־הָעֶרֶב:
וְהִשְׂרָף
- וְהִזְיָתָה לַעֲלֹת בְּנִי־יִשְׂרָאֵל לְמִשְׁמַרְתָּ לְמִי נָהָה חֻטְאֵת הָיָה:
אִישׁ טָהוֹר אֶת אִפְרֵי הַפָּרָה וְהִנִּית מַחֲוֹץ לְמַחֲנֶה בְּמָקוֹם טָהוֹר
וְאָסַף ׀
- עַד־הָעֶרֶב וְהִזְיָתָה לְבָנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְלִגְרָ הֵנָּה בְּתוֹכָם לְחֻקַּת עוֹלָם:
וְכִכֵּס הָאִסָּף אֶת־אִפְרֵי הַפָּרָה אֶת־בְּגָדָיו וְטָמָא
- הַנֶּנֶץ בְּמַת לְכָל־נֶפֶשׁ אָדָם וְטָמָא שְׁבַעַת יָמִים:
- יִטְהַר וְאִם־לֹא יִתְחַטֵּא בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁלִישִׁי וּבַיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי לֹא יִטְהַר:
הוֹי יִתְחַטֵּא־כּוּ בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁלִישִׁי וּבַיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי

- 32 Then Moses sent to spy out Jazer, and they captured its dependencies and dispossessed the Amorites who were there.
- 33 They marched on and went up the road to Bashan, and King Og of Bashan, with all his troops, came out to Edrei to engage them in battle.
- 34 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.”
- 35 They defeated him and his sons and all his troops, until no remnant was left him; and they took possession of his country.
- את־יעזר וַיִּלְכְּדוּ בְּנֵי־הָאֱמֹרִי אֲשֶׁר־שָׁם: וַיִּשְׁלַח מֹשֶׁה לְרַגֵּל
- וַיֵּצֵא עֹז מֶלֶךְ־הַבָּשָׁן לִקְרָאתָם הוּא וְכָל־עַמּוֹ לְמַלְחָמָה אֶדְרֵי:
- לֹא כֹאשֶׁר עָשִׂיתָ לְסִיחֹן מֶלֶךְ־הָאֱמֹרִי אֲשֶׁר יוֹשֵׁב בְּחֶשְׁבוֹן: אוֹתוֹ כִּי בִידְךָ נָתַתִּי אֹתוֹ וְאֶת־כְּלִיעָמוֹ וְאֶת־אֶרְצוֹ וְעָשִׂיתָ וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה אֶל־יָדְיָךָ
- וְאֶת־כְּלִיעָמוֹ עַד־בִּלְתִּי הַשְׁאִירְלוּ שָׂרֵיד וַיִּירָשׁוּ אֶת־אֶרֶץ:
- וַיַּכּוּ אוֹתוֹ וְאֶת־בָּנָיו

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- 1 The Israelites then marched on and encamped in the steppes of Moab, across the Jordan from Jericho.
- בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל נִתְּנוּ בְּעֶרְבוֹת מוֹאב מֵעֵבֶר לְיַרְדֵּן יְרִיחוֹ:

- 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.
- The community was without water, and they joined against Moses and Aaron.
- The people quarreled with Moses, saying, “If only we had perished when our brothers perished at the instance of הוהי !
- Why have you brought הוהי's congregation into this wilderness for us and our beasts to die there?
- 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!”
- Moses and Aaron came away from the congregation to the entrance of the Tent of Meeting, and fell on their faces. The Presence of הוהי appeared to them,
- and הוהי spoke to Moses, saying,
- “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.”
- Moses took the rod from before הוהי as he had been commanded.
- 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?”
- And Moses raised his hand and struck the rock twice with his rod. Out came copious water, and the community and their beasts drank.
- 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.”
- בַּחֲדָשׁ הָרִאשׁוֹן וַיָּשֻׁב הָעָם בְּקֶדֶשׁ וְתִמַּת שָׁם מִרְיָם וַתִּקְבֹּר שָׁם: וַיָּבֹאוּ בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל כָּל־הָעֵדָה מִקְדֶּשֶׁרֶצֶן
- וְלֹא־הָיָה מַיִם לָעֵדָה וַיִּקְהֲלוּ עַל־מֹשֶׁה וְעַל־אַהֲרֹן:
- הָעָם עִם־מֹשֶׁה וַיֹּאמְרוּ לֹא־מָרָנוּ וְלֹא גָנַעְנוּ בְּגֹעַז אֲחֵינוּ לִפְנֵי יְהוָה: וַיָּרֻב
- אֶת־יִקְהֵל יְהוָה אֶל־הַמִּדְבָּר הַזֶּה לְמוֹת שָׁם אֶנְחוּנוּ וּבְעֵינֵינוּ: וְלִמָּה הִבָּאתָם
- הָרַע הַזֶּה לֹא אֶל מִקְדָּשׁ וְתֹאנָה וְנָפֶן וְרִמּוֹן וּמִיָּם אֵין לְשִׁתּוֹת: וְלִמָּה תַעֲלִיתֵנוּ מִמִּצְלִים לְהִבָּיֵא אֲתָנוּ אֶל־הַמָּקוֹם
- אֶהְיֶה מוֹלֵד וַיִּפְּלוּ עַל־פְּנֵיהֶם וַיֹּאֲרָ כְבוֹד־יְהוָה אֲלֵיהֶם: וַיִּבֹּא מֹשֶׁה וְאַהֲרֹן מִפְּנֵי הַקּוֹל אֶל־פֶּתַח
- וַיִּדְבֹּר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר:
- וְהוֹצֵאתָ לָהֶם מַיִם מִן־הַסֶּלֶעַ וְהִשְׁקִיתָ אֶת־הָעֵדָה וְאֶת־בְּעִירָם: אֹתָהּ וְאֹתָהֶן אֲחֵיךָ וְדִבַּרְתָּם אֶל־הַסֶּלֶעַ לַעֲיִנֵיהֶם וְנָתַן מִיָּמִיו קַח אֶת־הַמַּטֶּה וְהִקְהֵל אֶת־הָעֵדָה
- וַיִּקַּח מֹשֶׁה אֶת־הַמַּטֶּה מִלִּפְנֵי יְהוָה כַּאֲשֶׁר צֻוָּה:
- לָהֶם שִׁמְעֵי־נָא הַמּוֹלִים הַמְרִיחֵסְלֵעַ הַזֶּה נֹדֵעִיא לָכֶם מַיִם: וַיִּקְהֲלוּ מֹשֶׁה וְאַהֲרֹן אֶת־הַקּוֹל אֶל־פְּנֵי הַסֶּלֶעַ וַיֹּאמֶר
- בְּמַטְהוֹ פַּעַמִּים וַיֵּצֵאוּ מַיִם רַבִּים וַתִּשֶׁת הָעֵדָה וּבְעִירָם: וַיֵּרָם מֹשֶׁה אֶת־יָדָיו וַיֶּךְ אֶת־הַסֶּלֶעַ
- לִכֵּן לֹא תִבְיֵאוּ אֶת־יִקְהֵל הַזֶּה אֶל־הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר־נָתַתִּי לָהֶם: וְאַל־אֲהָרֹן יָעַן לֹא־הֶאֱמַנְתֶּם בִּי לְהוֹקֵדִישָׁנִי לַעֲיִנִי בְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה

[illegible]

את־בגָדָיו וְהַלְבַּשְׁתָּם אֶת־אֵלְעָזָר בְּנֵי וְאַהֲרֹן יֶאֱסֹף וּמֵת שָׁם: וְהִפְשֹׁט אֶת־אֶהָרֹן

26 Strip Aaron of his vestments and put them on his son Eleazar. There Aaron shall be gathered unto the dead.”*unto the dead Lit. “and die.”

27 Moses did as הוּאִי had commanded. They ascended Mount Hor in the sight of the whole community.

28 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 the whole community knew that Aaron had breathed his last. All the house of Israel bewailed Aaron thirty days.

בְּנֵי אֶהָרֹן וַיִּבְכוּ אֶת־אֶהָרֹן שְׁלֹשִׁים יוֹם כֹּל בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל: וַיֵּרָאוּ כִּלְיֵהָרָה קִי

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1 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.

2 Then Israel made a vow הוּאִי 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.”

3 הוּאִי 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.”

4 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,

5 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.”

6 הוּאִי sent seraph*seraph Cf. Isa. 14.29; 30.6. Others “fiery”; exact meaning of Heb. seraph uncertain. Cf. Deut. 8.15. serpents against the people. They bit the people and many of the Israelites died.

בֹּא יִשְׂרָאֵל הָרֶגְ הָרֶגְ אֶת־הָאֲדָמִי וְיָלַחֵם בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל וַיִּשָּׁבּ וּמָמְנו שָׁבִי: וַיִּשְׁמַע הַכְּנַעֲנִי מִלִּיָּדָה יִשָּׁב הַנֶּגֶב קִי

וַיֹּאמֶר אֲמִינֹן תְּחַן אֶת־הָעָם הַזֶּה בְּיָדִי וְהִחַרְמֹתִי אֶת־עִרְיָהֶם: וַיֵּלֶךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל נֶדֶר לִיהֲנוֹה

וַיַּחֲרֹם אֶתְהֶם וְאֶת־עִרְיָהֶם וַיִּקְרָא שְׁמִי־הַמָּקוֹם חֶרְמָה: וַיִּשְׁמַע יְהוָה בְּקוֹל יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיִּתֵּן אֶת־הַכְּנַעֲנִי

הָרֶגְ יִסְרוּף לִסְבָּב אֶת־אֶרֶץ אֲדוֹם וַתִּקְצֹר נִפְשֵׁי־הָעָם בַּדֶּרֶךְ: וַיִּסְעוּ מִהָר הָהָר

בַּמִּדְבָּר כִּי אֵין לָחֶם וְאֵין מַיִם וַנִּפְשַׁנו לָצָה בְּלֶחֶם הַקֶּלֶקֶל: וַיִּדְבֹּר הָעָם בְּאַלֹהִים וּבַמֶּשֶׁה לֵּמָּה הִעֲלִיתָנוּ מִמִּצְרַיִם לָמוֹת

אֶת הַנִּחְשִׁים הַשָּׂרָפִים וַנִּנְשָׁכוּ אֶת־הָעָם וַיָּמָת עִסִּיב מִיִּשְׂרָאֵל: וַיִּשְׁלַח יְהוָה בָּעָם

7 אֶל־יְהוָה וַיֹּסֶר מִעֲלֵינוּ אֶת־הַנִּחְשׁ וַיִּתְּפֹל מֶשֶׁה בְּעַד הָעָם: הָעָם אֶל־מֹשֶׁה וַיֹּאמְרוּ חֲטָאנוּ כִּי־דִבַּרְנוּ בַּיהוָה וְנָבֹךְ הַתְּפֹל וַיָּבֹא

8 לֵךְ שֶׁרָף וְשִׂים אֹתוֹ עַל־נֶסֶךְ וְהָיָה כִּלְיֵהנִשׁוֹךְ וְרָאָה אֹתוֹ וְחָיָ: וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה עֲשֵׂה

9 וְהָיָה אֲסִינִשׁוֹךְ הַנִּחְשׁ אֶת־אִישׁ וְהִבִּיט אֶל־נֶחֶשׁ הַנִּחְשׁ וְחָיָ: וַיַּעַשׂ מֹשֶׁה כַּחַשׁ נִחְשֵׁת וַיִּשְׁמְהוּ עַל־הַנֶּסֶךְ

10 וַיִּסְעוּ בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיַּחֲנוּ בְּאַבְתָּ:

11 בְּעֵי הָעֲבָרִים בַּמִּדְבָּר אֲשֶׁר עַל־פְּנֵי מוֹאָב מִמִּזְרַח הַשָּׁמֶשׁ: וַיִּסְעוּ מֵאַבְתָּ וַיַּחֲנוּ

12 מִשָּׁם נִסְעוּ וַיַּחֲנוּ בְּנָחַל זֶרֶד:

13 מִנָּחַל הָאֲמֹרִי כִי אֲרֻנוֹ גְּבוּל מוֹאָב כִּין מוֹאָב וּבִין הָאֲמֹרִי: מִשָּׁם נִסְעוּ וַיַּחֲנוּ מַעְבַּר אֲרֻנוֹ אֲשֶׁר בַּמִּדְבָּר הַיָּצֵא

14 בַּסֶּפֶר מִלְחָמוֹת יְהוָה אֶת־יִתְבָּב בַּסּוּפָה וְאֶת־הַנִּחְשִׁים אֲרֻנוֹ: עַל־כֵּן יֹאמֶר

15 וְאֲשֶׁר הַנִּחְשִׁים אֲשֶׁר נָטָה לִשְׁבֹּת עַר וַנִּשְׁעֹן לִגְבוּל מוֹאָב:

16 אֲשֶׁר אָמַר יְהוָה לְמֹשֶׁה אֶסֶף אֶת־הָעָם וְאֶתְנָה לָהֶם מַיִם: וּמִשָּׁם בְּאֶרֶה תּוֹא הַבְּאֵר

17 אֲזִי יִשִּׁיר יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶת־הַשִּׁירָה הַזֹּאת עָלַי בְּאֶר עֲנִירָלָה:

18 שְׂרִים כְּרוֹת נְדִיבֵי הָעָם בַּמַּחֲקָה בַּמִּשְׁעָנֶתֶם וּמִמִּדְבָּר מִתְנָה: בְּאֶר חֶפְרִיָה

19 וּמִמִּתְנָה נַחְלִיָּאֵל וּמִנַּחְלִיָּאֵל בְּמוֹת: וּמִנַּחְלִיָּאֵל בְּמוֹת,

The people came to Moses and said, “We sinned by speaking against הוּאִי and against you. Interceded with הוּאִי to take away the serpents from us!” And Moses interceded for the people.

Then הוּאִי said to Moses, “Make a seraph*seraph See note at v. 6. figure and mount it on a standard. And anyone who was bitten who then looks at it shall recover.”

Moses made a copper serpent and mounted it on a standard; and when bitten by a serpent, anyone who looked at the copper serpent would recover.

The Israelites marched on and encamped at Oboth.

They set out from Oboth and encamped at Iye-abarim, in the wilderness bordering on Moab to the east.

From there they set out and encamped at the wadi Zered.

From there they set out and encamped beyond 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.

Therefore the Book of the Wars of הוּאִי speaks of*The quotation that follows is a fragment; its text and meaning are uncertain. “...Waheb in Suphah, and the wadis: the Arnon

with its tributary wadis, stretched along the settled country of Ar, hugging the territory of Moab...”

And from there to Beer,*Beer Lit. “well.” which is the well where הוּאִי said to Moses, “Assemble the people that I may give them water.”

Then Israel sang this song:Spring up, O well—sing to it—

The well which the chieftains dug,Which the nobles of the people startedWith maces, with their own staffs. And from Midbar*Midbar Septuagint “the well” (= Beer); cf. v. 16. to Mattanah,

and from Mattanah to Nahaliel, and from Nahaliel to Bamoth,