

Torah Reading for Bo

Parshat Bo

Shabbat, 6 Shevat, 5780
1 February, 2020

SELECT A PORTION:

1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th Haftarah Complete

1st Portion: (Exodus 10:1-11)

SHOW CONTENT IN:

Both English Hebrew

HIDE RASHI'S COMMENTARY

Exodus Chapter 10

1. The Lord said to Moses: "Come to Pharaoh, for I have hardened his heart and the heart of his servants, in order that I may place these signs of Mine in his midst,

The Lord said to Moses: Come to Pharaoh: and warn him.

that I may place: Heb. שַׁתִּי, lit., My placing, that I may place. — [after the targumim]

2. and in order that you tell into the ears of your son and your son's son how I made a mockery of the Egyptians, and [that you tell of] My signs that I placed in them, and you will know that I am the Lord."

I made a mockery: Heb. הַתַּעֲלַלְתִּי, I mocked, like "Because you mocked" (הַתַּעֲלַלְתִּי) me" (Num. 22:29); "Will it not be just as He mocked" (הַתַּעֲלַל) them" (I Sam. 6:6), stated in regard to Egypt. It is not an expression meaning a "deed and acts," however, for were that so, He would have written, עֲלָלָתִי (עֲלָלִים), "but" (עֲלָלִים) however, for were that so, He would have written, like "and deal with them as You have dealt (עֲלָלָת) with me" (Lam. 1:22); "which has been dealt (עֲלָל) to me" (Lam. 1:12).

א וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה בָּא אֶל-פְּרָעָה כִּי-אַנְּיִ הַכֹּבֵד תִּי אֶת-לְבָבֶךָ וְאֶת-לְבֶן עָבְדָיו לְמַעַן שְׁתִּי אֶת-תִּי אֶלְהָה בְּקָרְבָּו:

וַיֹּאמֶר ה' אֶל מֹשֶׁה בָּא אֶל פְּרָעָה: וְהַתֵּר בָּו:

שְׁתִּי: שְׁמֵי שָׁאשִׁית אֲנֵי:

ב וְלֹמְעֵן תְּסִפְרֵ בָּא אֶזְנִי בְּנָךְ וּבְנָנָךְ אֶת אֲשֶׁר הַתִּעְלַלְתִּי בְּמִצְרָיִם וְאֶת-אֶת-תִּי אֲשֶׁר-שְׁמָתִי בָּם וִידְעַתָּם כִּי-אַנְּנִי יְהוָה:

הַתִּעְלַלְתִּי: שְׁחַקְתִּי, כְּמו (בָּמְדִבָּר כְּבָבְכָט) כִּי הַתִּעְלַלְתִּי בָּי, (שְׁמוֹאֵל א' 10) הַלָּא כִּאֲשֶׁר הַתִּעְלַל בָּהֶם, הָאָמָר בְּמִצְרָיִם. וְאַנְּנוּ לְשׁוֹן פּוּעַל וּמְעַלְלָם, שָׁם כְּנָהִיה לְוַכְתּוֹב עַוְלָתִי, כְּמו (אִיכָּה א' כְּבָב) וּעוֹלָל לְמוֹ כִּאֲשֶׁר עַוְלָתִי לִי, (שְׁם כְּבָב) אֲשֶׁר עַוְלָל לִי:

3. So Moses and Aaron came to Pharaoh and said to him, "So said the Lord, the God of the Hebrews, How long will you refuse to humble yourself before Me? Let My people go, and they will worship Me.

to humble yourself: Heb. *לענות*, as the Targum [Onkelos] renders, *לא-אתכטעה*, and it is derived from *ענ* (*uni*). You have refused to be humble and meek before Me.

4. For if you refuse to let [them] go, behold, tomorrow I am going to bring locusts into your borders.

5. And they will obscure the view of the earth, and no one will be able to see the earth, and they will eat the surviving remnant, which remains for you from the hail, and they will eat all your trees that grow out of the field.

the view of the earth: Heb. *עין הארץ*, the view of the earth.

and no one will be able: Heb. *יכל* lit., and will not be able. The seer [will not be able] to see the earth, but [the text] speaks briefly.

6. And your houses and the houses of all your servants and the houses of all the Egyptians will be filled, which your fathers and your fathers' fathers did not see since the day they were on the earth until this day.' " [Therewith,] he turned and left Pharaoh.

7. Pharaoh's servants said to him, "How long will this one be a stumbling block to us? Let the people go and they will worship their God. Don't you yet know that Egypt is lost?"

Don't you yet know: Heb. *הטרם תַּדַּע*, do you not know yet that Egypt is lost?-[Rashi and Rashbam from targumim]

8. [Thereupon,] Moses and Aaron were brought back to Pharaoh, and he said to them, "Go, worship the Lord your God. Who and who are going?"

were brought back: They were brought back by a messenger, whom they [the Egyptians] sent after them, and they returned them to Pharaoh.

ג. וַיָּבֹא מֹשֶׁה וְאַהֲרֹן אֶל־פְּרָעָה וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֶלָּיו בַּהֲאָמָר יְהוָה אֱלֹהִי הָעָבָרִים עַד־מָתִי מָנָת לְעֵנֶת מִפְנֵי שְׁלָחْ עַמִּי וַיַּעֲבֹדָנִי:

לענת: כתרגום ל'אתכנעה', והוא מגורת עני, מאנת להיות עני ושפלו מפני:

ד. בְּאִם־מָאֵן אַתָּה לְשַׁלֵּח אֶת־עַמִּי הַנִּגְנִי מִבֵּיא מַחְרָא אַרְבָּה בְּגַבְלָךְ:

ה. וּכְסֶל אֶת־עֵינֵי הָאָרֶץ וְלֹא יוּכֶל לְרֹאֶת אֶת־הָאָרֶץ וְאֶכְלָל | אֶת־יִתְהָר הַפְּלַתָּה הַנְּשָׁאָרָת לְכָם מִזְהָבָרְדָן וְאֶכְלָל אֶת־כְּפָלָהָעָז הַצְמָח לְכָם מִזְהָשָׁדָה:

את עין הארץ: את מראה הארץ;

ולא יכול וגוי: הרואה לראות את הארץ, ולשון קצרה דבר:

ו. וּמְלָאֹו בְּתִיקָדָה וּבְתִיקָּה כָּל־עַבְדָּיִךְ וּבְתִיקָּה כָּל־מִצְרָיִם אֲשֶׁר לְאָרְאָו אֶבְתִּיקָדָה וְאֶבְתִּיקָּה מִזְמָרָה הַיּוֹתֶם עַל־הָאָדָמָה עַד הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה וַיַּפְּנֵן וַיַּצְאֵן מִעֵם פְּרָעָה:

ז. וַיֹּאמְרוּ עַבְדֵי פְּרָעָה אֶלָּיו עַד־מָתִי יְהִי זֶה לְנָנוּ לְמוֹקֵשׁ שְׁלָחָא אֶת־הָאָנָשִׁים וַיַּעֲבֹדוּ אֶת־יְהֹוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם הַטְּרִם תְּדַע בְּאַבְדָּה מִצְרָיִם:

הטרם תדע: העוד לא ידעת כי אבדה מצרים:

ח. וַיֹּשֶּׁב אֶת־מֹשֶׁה וְאֶת־אַהֲרֹן אֶל־פְּרָעָה וַיֹּאמֶר אֶלָּהֶם לְכָו עַבְדָּיו אֶת־יְהֹוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם מַיְּמִינֵיכֶם הַהְלָכִים:

וישב: הושבו על ידי שליח שלחו אחריהם והשיבו אל פרעה:

9. Moses said, "With our youth and with our elders we will go, with our sons and with our daughters, with our flocks and with our cattle we will go, for it is a festival of the Lord to us."

10. So he [Pharaoh] said to them, "So may the Lord be with you, just as I will let you and your young children out. See that evil is before your faces.

just as I will let you... out: and surely I will not let the flocks and the cattle out as you said.

See that evil is before your faces: [Understand this] as the Targum [Onkelos] renders it. I have [also] heard an Agadic midrash, however [which explains the passage as follows]: There is a star named Ra'ah [i.e., meaning evil]. Pharaoh said to them [Moses and Aaron], "With my astrology I see that star ascending toward you in the desert [where you would like to go], and that is a sign of blood and slaughter." When the Israelites sinned with the calf, and the Holy One, blessed be He, sought to kill them, Moses said in his prayer, "Why should the Egyptians say, 'With Ra'ah He took them out...?'" (Exod. 32:12) This is what he [Pharaoh] said to them, "See that Ra'ah [evil] is opposite your faces," [implying that their blood would be shed in the desert]. Immediately, "The Lord repented of the Ra'ah [the sign of the star]" (Exod. 32:14), and He turned the bloodshed [symbolized by this star] into the blood of the circumcision, for Joshua [in fact] circumcised them. This is the meaning of what is said: "This day I have rolled away the reproach of the Egyptians from you" (Josh. 5:9), for they were saying to you, "We see blood over you in the desert." -[from Midrash Shir Hashirim, Wertheimer 1:2]

11. Not so; let the men go now and worship the Lord, for that is what you request." And he chased them out from before Pharaoh.

Not so: as you said [that you want] to take the young children with you, but let the men go and worship the Lord. — [from Jonathan]

for that is what you request: ([meaning] that worship) you have requested until now, [telling me,] "Let us offer and sacrifice to our God" (Exod. 5:8), and young children do not usually offer up sacrifices. — [from Exod. Rabbah 13:5]

And he chased them out: This is elliptical, for it does not specify who the chaser was.

ט וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה בְּנֵרִינוּ וּבְזָקְנוּנוּ גָּלֹךְ בְּבָנֵינוּ וּבְבָנוֹתֵנוּ בְּצָאָנוּ וּבְבָקְרֵנוּ גָּלֹךְ בְּיַחְיָה לֹאֵנוֹ:

וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים יְהִי כֵּן יְהֹוָה עַמְּכֶם כַּאֲשֶׁר אָשֶׁלֶח אֶתְכֶם וְאֶתְטַפְּכֶם רָאוּ בְּרָעָה וְגַד פְּנֵיכֶם:

כַּאֲשֶׁר אָשֶׁלֶח אֶתְכֶם וְאֶתְטַפְּכֶם: אָف כִּי אָשֶׁלֶח גָּם אֶת הַצָּאן וְאֶת הַבָּקָר כַּאֲשֶׁר אָמַרְתֶּם:

רָאוּ כִּי רָעָה נֶגֶד פְּנֵיכֶם: כַּתְּרָגְוָמוֹ. וּמְדֻרְשָׁ אֶגְדָּה שְׁמַעְתִּי כּוֹכֵב אֶחָד יִשְׁשָׁמֶנוּ רָעָה. אָמַר לְהָם פְּרָעָה רְוָא אֲנִי בְּאִיצְטָגְנִינִיּוֹת שְׁלִי אָוֹתָו כּוֹכֵב עֹלָה לְקַרְאָתֶכֶם בְּמִדְבָּר, וּוֹא סִימָן דָם וְהַרְיָה וּכְשַׁחֲתָאוּ יִשְׁרָאֵל בְּעַגֵּל וּבְקַשְׁתָה הַקְּבָבָה לְהַרְגָּם אָמַר מֹשֶׁה בְּתַפְלָתוֹ (שְׁמוֹת לְבָבָי) לִמְהִיא מִצְרָיִם לְאָמַר בְּרָעָה הַזִּיאָם, זֹה הִיא שָׁמַר לְהָם רָאוּ כִּי רָעָה נֶגֶד פְּנֵיכֶם, מִיד (שֵׁם יְדֵי) וַיְנַחַם הָעַלְלָה הַרְעָה וְהַפְּךָ אֶת הַדָּם לְדָם מִילָה, שְׁמֵלָה יְהֹוָשָׁע אֹתָם, וְזֹהוּ שָׁנָאָמֵר (הַיּוֹשָׁע הַט) הַיּוֹם גָּלוֹתִי אֶת חִרְפָת מִצְרָיִם מַעֲלֵיכֶם, שַׁהְיִוְאָמַרְתֶּם לְכָם דָם אָנוּ רְוָאֵין עַלְכֶם בְּמִדְבָּר:

יא לֹא כִּי לְכֹו נָא הַגְּבָרִים וּעַבְדוּ אֶת־יְהָהָה כִּי אַתָּה אֶתְכֶם מַבְקָשִׁים וַיִּגְרַשׁ אֶתְכֶם מִאַתְּ פְּנֵי פְּרָעָה:

לא כָּה: כַּאֲשֶׁר אָמַרְתֶּם לְהַולְיךְ הַטָּף עַמְּכֶם אֶלָּא לְכֹו נָא הַגְּבָרִים וּעַבְדוּ אֶת הָהָר:

כִּי אַתָּה אֶתְכֶם מַבְקָשִׁים: כִּי אָוֹתָה בְּקַשְׁתָם עַד הַנֶּהָה (שְׁמוֹת הַח) נִזְבָּח לְאֱלֹהִינוּ, וְאַזְן דָרְךְ הַטָּף לִזְבֹּח:

וַיִּגְרַשׁ אֶתְכֶם: הַרְיִי זֶה לְשׁוֹן קַצְרָה וְלֹא פִּרְשׁ מֵהַמְגָרָשׁ: