

Invention of the Seven-Day Week,  
Lecture 3

*How does the Torah's description of the first Shabbat observed by Israel fit in the larger narrative of the Exodus and the theological doubts that Israel expresses?*

**Source 1:**

**Pay Attention! Shabbat/Week is a Divine Gift!**

**Exodus 16:28-30**

(28) And the Lord said to Moses, "How long will you all refuse to obey My commandments and My teachings?"

(29) Observe that it is the Lord who is giving the sabbath/week to/for you, that is why He is giving you two days' food on the sixth day. You (all) must sit, each man, under it! No man should leave his place on the seventh day."

(30) And the people sabbathed on the seventh day.

**שמות ט"ז:כ"ח-ל'**

(כח) וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה עַד־אַנְהִי מֵאַנְהֶם לְשֹׁמֵר מִצְוֹתַי וְתוֹרֹתַי: (כט) רָאוּ כִּי־יְהוָה נָתַן לָכֶם הַשַּׁבָּת עַל־כֵּן הוּא נָתַן לָכֶם בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁשִׁי לֶחֶם יוֹמִים שְׁבֹו אִישׁ תְּהַלְּיוּ אֶל־יַצֵּא אִישׁ מִמְּקוֹמוֹ בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי: (ל) וַיִּשְׁבְּתוּ הָעָם בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי:

**Source 2:**

**A mysterious treasure from the king's treasury**

מדרש לקח טוב, שמות ט"ז:כ"ט:ב'

כי הי נתן לכם השבת. (קכו) אמר לו הקב"ה למשה, משה מתנה טובה יש לי בבית גנזי ושבת שמה ואני מבקש ליתנה לישראל לך והודיעם.

Midrash Lekah Tov on Exodus 16:29

"For God has given you the Shabbat." The Holy One Blessed Be He said to Moses, "Moses! I have a good gift in my treasure house, whose name is Shabbat. I'd like to give it to the children of Israel. Go and tell them!"

**Source 3:**  
**"Sitting under it" as "Taste of the World to Come"**

**Micah 4:1-5**

(1) In the days to come, The Mount of the LORD's House shall stand Firm above the mountains; And it shall tower above the hills. The peoples shall gaze on it with joy, (2) And the many nations shall go and shall say: "Come, Let us go up to the Mount of the LORD, To the House of the God of Jacob; That He may instruct us in His ways, And that we may walk in His paths." For instruction shall come forth from Zion, The word of the LORD from Jerusalem. (3) Thus He will judge among the many peoples, And arbitrate for the multitude of nations, However distant; And they shall beat their swords into plowshares And their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not take up Sword against nation; They shall never again know war; (4) **But every man shall sit under his grapevine or fig tree With no one to disturb him.** For it was the LORD of Hosts who spoke. (5) Though all the peoples walk Each in the names of its gods, We will walk In the name of the LORD our God Forever and ever.

**מיכה ד':א-ה'**

(א) וְהָיָה ׀ בְּאַחֲרֵית הַיָּמִים ׀ הָיְיָה הַר בֵּית־יְהוָה נֶכֶד ׀ בְּרֵאשׁ הַהָרִים וְנִשָּׂא הוּא מִגְבְּעוֹת וְנִהְרָו עָלָיו עַמִּים׃ (ב) וְהָלְכוּ גוֹיִם רַבִּים וְאָמְרוּ לְכוּ ׀ וְנַעֲלֶה אֶל־הַר־יְהוָה וְאֶל־בֵּית אֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב וַיֹּרְנוּ מִדְרָכָיו וְנִלְכֶה בְּאַרְחֻתָיו כִּי מִצִּיּוֹן תֵּצֵא תוֹרָה וְדִבְרֵי־יְהוָה מִירוּשָׁלַם׃ (ג) וְשָׁפַט בֵּין עַמִּים רַבִּים וְהוֹכִיחַ לְגוֹיִם עֲצָמִים עַד־רָחֹק וְכָתְתוּ חֲרֻבֵיהֶם לְאֵתִים וְחֲנִיתֵיהֶם לְמִזְמֵרוֹת לֹא־יִשְׂאוּ גֹי אֶל־גֹּי חֶרֶב וְלֹא־יִלְמְדוּן עוֹד מִלְחָמָה׃ (ד) וְשָׁבוּ אִישׁ תַּחַת גִּפְנוֹ וְתַחַת תְּאֲנָתוֹ וְאֵין מִחְרִיד כִּי־כִי יְהוָה צָכָאוֹת דְּבָר׃ (ה) כִּי כָל־הָעַמִּים יִלְכוּ אִישׁ בְּשֵׁם אֱלֹהָיו וְאֲנַחְנוּ נִלְכֶה בְּשֵׁם־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ לְעוֹלָם וָעַד׃ {פ}

## Source 4:

"Sitting under it" as rare moment of perfect monarchy, even in this world

## I Kings 5:1-5

(1) Solomon's rule extended over all the kingdoms from the Euphrates to the land of the Philistines and the boundary of Egypt. They brought Solomon tribute and were subject to him all his life. (2) Solomon's daily provisions consisted of 30 *kors* of semolina, and 60 *kors* of [ordinary] flour, (3) 10 fattened oxen, 20 pasture-fed oxen, and 100 sheep and goats, besides deer and gazelles, roebucks and fatted geese.<sup>a</sup> (4) For he controlled the whole region west of the Euphrates—all the kings west of the Euphrates, from Tiphseh to Gaza—and he had peace on all his borders round about. (5) **All the days of Solomon, Judah and Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba dwelt in safety, everyone under his own vine and under his own fig tree.**

## מלכים א ה:א-ה

(א) ושלמה היה מושל בכל הממלכות  
 מזוהנהר ארץ פלשתים ועד גבול מצרים  
 מגשים מנתה ועבדים את שלמה כל ימי  
 חייו: (ב) {פ} ויהי לחם שלמה ליום אחד  
 שלשים כר סלת וששים כר קמח: (ג) עשרה  
 בקר בראים ועשרים בקר רעי ומאה צאן לבד  
 מאיל וצביל ויחמור וברברים אבוסים: (ד)  
 כיהוא רעהו בכל עבר הנהר מתפסח  
 ועד עזה בכל מלכי עבר הנהר ושלום היה לו  
 מכל עבריו מסביב: (ה) **וישב יהודה וישראל  
 לבטח איש תחת גפנו ותחת תאנתו מדן  
 ועד באר שבע כל ימי שלמה: {ס}**

**Source 5:**  
**An Unaccountable Panic**

**Exodus 16:1-3**

(1) Setting out from Elim, the whole Israelite community came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after their departure from the land of Egypt. (2) In the wilderness, the whole Israelite community grumbled against Moses and Aaron. (3) The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of יהוה in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots, when we ate our fill of bread! For you have brought us out into this wilderness to **starve** this whole congregation to **death**."

**שמות ט"ז:א-ג'**

(א) וַיִּסְעוּ מֵאֵילִם וַיָּבֹאוּ כָּל־עֵדַת בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל  
אֶל־מִדְבַּר־סִין אֲשֶׁר בֵּין־אֵילִם וּבֵין סִינַי  
בַּחֹמֶשֶׁת עָשָׂר יוֹם לַחֹדֶשׁ הַשֵּׁנִי לְצֵאתָם מִמִּצְרָיִם  
מִצְרַיִם: (ב) (וַיְלִינוּ) [וַיִּלְוֹנוּ] כָּל־עֵדַת  
בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל עַל־מֹשֶׁה וְעַל־אַהֲרֹן בַּמִּדְבָּר: (ג)  
וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֲלֵהֶם בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל מִי־יִתֵּן מוֹתָנוּ  
כִּי־דִי־יָהוּהוּ בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם בְּשִׁבְתָּנוּ עַל־סֵדֶר  
הַבָּשָׂר בְּאֶכְלֵנוּ לֶחֶם לְשֹׁבַע כִּי־הוֹצֵאתָם אֶתָּנוּ  
אֶל־הַמִּדְבָּר הַזֶּה לְהָמִית לָּךְ אֶת־כָּל־הַקְּהָל הַזֶּה  
בְּרָעַב: {ס}

**Source 6:**

**"Hand of God" should be a positive, no?**

**Exodus 9:1-4**

(1) יהוה said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and say to him, 'Thus says יהוה, the God of the Hebrews: Let My people go to worship Me. (2) For if you refuse to let them go, and continue to hold them, (3) then the **hand of יהוה** will strike your livestock in the fields—the horses, the asses, the camels, the cattle, and the sheep—with a very severe pestilence. (4) But יהוה will make a distinction between the livestock of Israel and the livestock of the Egyptians, so that nothing shall die of all that belongs to the Israelites.

**שמות ט:א-ד'**

(א) וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה בֹּא אֶל־פַּרְעֹה  
וְדַבַּרְתָּ אֵלָיו כֹּה־אָמַר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי הָעִבְרִים שְׁלַח  
אֶת־עַמִּי וַיַּעֲבֹדֵנִי: (ב) כִּי אִם־מֵאֵן אַתָּה לְשַׁלַּח  
וְעוֹדָה מַחֲזִיק בָּם: (ג) הִנֵּה יַד־יְהוָה הַזֹּאת  
בְּמִקְנֶהְךָ אֲשֶׁר בַּשָּׂדֶה בְּסוֹסִים בְּחֻמְרִים בְּגִמְלִים  
בְּבָקָר וּבְצֹאן דָּבָר כִּבְד מְאֹד: (ד) וְהַפְלָה יְהוָה  
בֵּין מִקְנֵה יִשְׂרָאֵל וּבֵין מִקְנֵה מִצְרַיִם וְלֹא יָמוּת  
מִכָּל־לֶבְבֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל דָּבָר:

## Source 7:

Just a couple of weeks ago, they were channeling Joseph in singing prophetic visions of "God's mighty hand" as working in their favor?

## Exodus 14:30-15:19

(30) Thus יהוה delivered Israel that day from the **hand** of Egypt. Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the shore of the sea.

(31) And when Israel saw the great **hand** which יהוה had wielded against the Egyptians, the people feared יהוה; they had faith in יהוה and in God's servant Moses.

(1) Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to יהוה. They said: I will sing to יהוה, for He has triumphed gloriously; Horse and driver He has hurled into the sea.

(2) יהוה is my strength and might; He is become my deliverance. This is my God and I will enshrine Him; The God of my father's [house], and I will exalt Him.

(3) יהוה, the Warrior — יהוה is His name!

(4) Pharaoh's chariots and his army He has cast into the sea; And the pick of his officers

Are drowned in the Sea of Reeds. (5) The deeps covered them; They went down into the depths like a stone. (6)

Your right **hand**, יהוה, glorious in power, Your right **hand**, יהוה, shatters the foe! (7) In Your great triumph You break Your opponents;

You send forth Your fury, it consumes them like straw. (8) At the blast of Your nostrils the waters piled up, The floods stood straight like a wall; The deeps

## שמות י"ד-ל"ט-י"ט

(ל) וַיֹּשַׁע יְהוָה בַּיּוֹם אֶת־יִשְׂרָאֵל מִיַּד מִצְרַיִם וַיִּרְא יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶת־מִצְרַיִם מֵת עַל־שֵׁפֶת הַיָּם. (לא) וַיִּרְא יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶת־הַיָּד הַגְּדֹלָה אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה יְהוָה בְּמִצְרַיִם וַיִּירָאוּ הָעָם אֶת־יְהוָה וַיֵּאמְרוּ בְּיַהּוָה וּבְמֹשֶׁה עֲבָדָיו. {פ} (א) אָז שָׁיֵר־מִשֵּׁה וּבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶת־הַשִּׁירָה הַזֹּאת לַיהוָה וַיֹּאמְרוּ לֵאמֹר אֲשִׁירָה לַיהוָה כִּי־גָאָה גָאָה סוֹס וּרְכָבוֹ רָמָה בָּיָם. (ב) עָנִי וּזְמַרְתָּ לַיהוָה לִישׁוּעָה זֶה אֱלֹהֵי וְאֵלֵינוּ אֱלֹהֵי אָבִי וְאֶרְמְנֵהוּ. (ג) יהוה אֵישׁ מְלַחֵמָה יהוה שְׁמוֹ. (ד) מִרְכַּבֹת פָּרָעָה וַחֲיָלוֹ יָרָה בָּיָם וּמִבְּתָר שְׁלֹשֵׁי טַבָּעוֹ בָּיָם־סוּף. (ה) תַּהֲמַת יְכַסְּימוּ יָרְדוּ בַמַּצּוֹלֹת כְּמוֹ־אֲבָן. (ו) מִיַּמִּינֶךָ יהוה נֶאֱדָרִי בַפֶּחַח מִיַּמִּינֶךָ יהוה תִּרְעַץ אוֹיְבִי. (ז) וּבִרְבַּ גְּאוּנֶךָ תִּתְהַרֵם קַמִּי תִשְׁלַח חַרְבְּךָ לֵאכַלְמוֹ כַּקֶּשׁ. (ח) וּבְרוּחַ אַפִּיךָ גַּעַרְמוּ מַיִם נִצְבּוּ כְּמוֹ־גִיד נִזְלִים קָפְאוּ תַהֲמַת בְּלִבָּיָם. (ט) אָמַר אוֹיְבִי אֲרָדָף אֲשִׁיג אַחֲלֶק שְׁלָל תִּמְלֹאמוּ נַפְשֵׁי אַרְיֵק חַרְבֵי תוֹרִישְׁמוּ יָדֵי. (י) נִשְׁפָּת בְּרוּחֶךָ כַּסְּמוּ יָם צָלְלוּ כַּעוֹפְרֹת בָּמַיִם אֲדִירִים. (יא) מִי־כַמְכָה בָּאֵלֶם יהוה מִי כַמְכָה נֶאֱדָר בַּקֶּדֶשׁ נוֹרָא תַהֲלֹת עָשָׂה פְּלֵא. (יב) נְטִיתָ מִיַּמִּינֶךָ תִּבְלַעְמוּ אֶרֶץ. (יג) נְתִיתָ בַחֲסֶדֶךָ עִם־נְוֹ גָאֵלְתָּ גִהֲלֹתָ בְּעֵזָה אֶל־גִּנְהָ קִדְשֶׁךָ. (יד) שָׁמְעוּ עַמִּים יִרְגָזוּן חֵיל אֲחֵזִי יִשְׁבִי פְלִשְׁתִּי. (טו) אָז נִבְהָלוּ אֱלוֹפֵי אֲדוֹם אֵילֵי מוֹאָב יֶאֱחָזְמוּ רֵעַד נִמְגְנוּ כָּל יִשְׁבֵי כְנָעַן. (טז) תִּפְּלַעַלְתָּם אֵימָתָה וּפָחַד בַּגְּדָל וְרוּעָה יִדְמּוּ כַּאֲבָן עַד־יִעָבֵר עִמָּךָ יהוה עַד־יִעָבֵר עִם־נְוֹ קִנִּיתִי. (יז) תִּבְאָמוּ וְתִטְעַמְנוּ בְּהַר נִחְלָתְךָ מִכּוֹן לִשְׁבָתֶךָ פַּעֲלֹתָ יהוה מִקֶּדֶשׁ אֲדָנִי כּוֹנְנוּ יָדֶיךָ. (יח) יהוה וּמְלָךְ לְעַלְמֵי וָעַד. (יט) כִּי בָּא סוֹס פָּרָעָה בָּרְכָבוֹ וּבְכַפְרָשׁוֹ בָּיָם וַיֵּשֶׁב יהוה עֲלֵהֶם אֶת־מֵי הַיָּם וּבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל

froze in the heart of the sea. (9) The foe said, “I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil; My desire shall have its fill of them. I will bare my sword— My **hand** shall subdue them.” (10) You made Your wind blow, the sea covered them; They sank like lead in the majestic waters. (11) Who is like You, יהוה, among the celestials; Who is like You, majestic in holiness, Awesome in splendor, working wonders! (12) You put out Your right **hand**, The earth swallowed them. (13) In Your loyalty You lead the people You redeemed; In Your strength You guide them to Your holy abode. (14) The peoples hear, they tremble; Agony grips the dwellers in Philistia. (15) Now are the clans of Edom dismayed; The tribes of Moab—trembling grips them; All the dwellers in Canaan are aghast. (16) Terror and dread descend upon them; Through the might of Your **arm** they are still as stone—Till Your people cross over, יהוה, Till Your people cross whom You have ransomed. (17) You will bring them and plant them in Your own mountain, the place You made to dwell in, יהוה, the sanctuary, O my lord, which Your **hands** established. (18) יהוה **will reign for ever and ever!** (19) For the horses of Pharaoh, with his chariots and riders, went into the sea; and יהוה turned back on them the waters of the sea; but the Israelites marched on dry ground in the midst of the sea.

הִלְכוּ בַיַּבְשָׁה בְּתוֹךְ הַיָּם: {פ}

## Source 8: Joseph on our Minds

### Exodus 13:18-20

(18) So God led the people round about, by way of the wilderness at the Sea of Reeds. Now the Israelites went up armed out of the land of Egypt. (19) And Moses took with him the bones of Joseph, who had exacted an oath from the children of Israel, saying, “God will be sure to take notice of you: then you shall carry up my bones from here with you.” (20) They set out from Succoth, and encamped at Etham, at the edge of the wilderness.

### שמות י"ג:י"ח-כ'

(יח) וַיֹּסֶב אֱלֹהִים אֶת־הָעָם בְּדֶרֶךְ הַמִּדְבָּר יַם־סוּף וְחַמְשִׁים עָלוּ בְנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרָיִם: (יט) וַיִּקַּח מֹשֶׁה אֶת־עַצְמוֹת יוֹסֵף עִמּוֹ כִּי הִשְׁבַּע הַשָּׂבִיעַ אֶת־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לֵאמֹר פֶּקֶד יִפְקֹד אֱלֹהִים אֶתְכֶם וְהֵעֲלִיתֶם אֶת־עַצְמוֹתַי מִנְּהָ אֶתְכֶם: (כ) וַיִּסְעוּ מִסּוּכֹת וַיַּחֲנוּ בְּאֶתְמֹת בְּקֶצֶה הַמִּדְבָּר:

## Source 9: Marah

### They learn some reasons to fear God!

### Exodus 15:22-26

(22) Then Moses caused Israel to set out from the Sea of Reeds. They went on into the wilderness of Shur; they traveled three days in the wilderness and found no water. (23) They came to Marah, but they could not drink the water of Marah because it was bitter; that is why it was named Marah. (24) And the people grumbled against Moses, saying, “What shall we drink?” (25) So he cried out to יהוה, and יהוה showed him a piece of wood; he threw it into the water and the water became sweet. **There [God] made for them a fixed rule; there they were put to the test.** (26) [God] said, “**If you will heed your God יהוה diligently**, doing what is upright in God’s sight, giving ear to

### שמות ט"ו:כ"ב-כ"ו

(כב) וַיֹּסֶע מֹשֶׁה אֶת־יִשְׂרָאֵל מִיַּם־סוּף וַיֵּצְאוּ אֶל־הַמִּדְבָּר־שׁוּר וַיֵּלְכוּ שְׁלֹשֶׁת־יָמִים בַּמִּדְבָּר וְלֹא־מָצְאוּ מַיִם: (כג) וַיָּבֹאוּ מַרְתָּה וְלֹא יָכְלוּ לִשְׁתֹּת מַיִם מִמַּרְתָּה כִּי מְרִים הָיָה עֲלֵהֶן קָרָא־שְׁמָהּ מַרְהָ: (כד) וַיֵּלְנוּ הָעָם עַל־מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר מַה־נִּשְׁתַּתָּה: (כה) וַיִּצְעַק אֶל־יְהוָה וַיֹּרְהוּ יְהוָה עֵץ וַיִּשְׁלַח אֶל־הַמַּיִם וַיִּמְתְּקוּ הַמַּיִם **שָׁם** **אִם־שָׁמוּעַ תִּשְׁמָע לְקוֹל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ וְהִישָׁר בְּעֵינֶיךָ תַעֲשֶׂה וְהִאֲזַנְתָּ לְמִצְוֹתַי וְשָׁמַרְתָּ כָּל־חֻקָּיו כָּל־הַמִּחֲלָה אֲשֶׁר־שָׁמַתִּי בְּמִצְרָיִם לֹא־אֲשִׁים עֲלֶיךָ כִּי אֲנִי יְהוָה רַפְּאֵה: {ס}**

God's commandments and keeping all God's laws, then **I will not bring upon you any of the diseases that I brought upon the Egyptians**, for I יהוה am your healer."

### Sources 10a-10b: Moshe twice sheds light on this dynamic

#### Deuteronomy 7:12-16

**(12) And if you do hearken to these rules and observe them carefully, your God יהוה will maintain faithfully for you the covenant** made on oath with your fathers: (13) [God] will favor you and bless you and multiply you—blessing your issue from the womb and your produce from the soil, your new grain and wine and oil, the calving of your herd and the lambing of your flock, in the land sworn to your fathers to be assigned to you. (14) You shall be blessed above all other peoples: there shall be no sterile male or female among you or among your livestock. (15) יהוה will ward off from you all **sickness; [God] will not bring upon you any of the dreadful diseases of Egypt**, about which you know, but will inflict them upon all your enemies. (16) You shall destroy all the peoples that your God יהוה delivers to you, showing them no pity. And you shall not worship their gods, for that would be a snare to you.

#### דברים ז: י"ב-ט"ז

(יב) וְהָיָה | עָקֹב תִּשְׁמְעוּן אֶת הַמִּשְׁפָּטִים  
הָאֵלֶּה וּשְׁמַרְתֶּם וְעִשִּׂיתֶם אֹתָם וּשְׁמַר יְהוָה  
אֱלֹהֵיךָ לָךְ אֶת-הַבְּרִית וְאֶת-הַחֹסֶד אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁבַּע  
לְאַבְתָּיִךְ: (יג) וְאֶהְבֶּךָ וּבִרְכֶךָ וְהִרְבֶּךָ וּבִרְךָ  
פְּרִי-בִטְנְךָ וּפְרִי-אֲדָמָתְךָ דִּגְנֶךָ וְתִירְשֶׁךָ וְיִצְהָרְךָ  
שְׁגֵר-אֶלְפֵיךָ וְעִשְׂתִּירֶת צֹאנֶךָ עַל הָאֲדָמָה  
אֲשֶׁר-נִשְׁבַּע לְאַבְתָּיִךְ לָתֵת לָךְ: (יד) בְּרוּךְ  
תִּהְיֶה מִכָּל-הָעַמִּים לֹא-יְהִי בְּךָ עָקֹר וְעִקְרָה  
וּבְבִהֶמְתֶּךָ: (טו) וְהִסִּיר יְהוָה מִמֶּךָ כָּל-תְּלִי  
וְכָל-מִדּוֹי מִצְרִים הָרָעִים אֲשֶׁר יִזְעַת לֹא  
יִשִּׁימֶם בָּךְ וּנְתַנֶּם בְּכָל-שְׁנָאֵיךָ: (טז) וְאַכַּלְתָּ  
אֶת-כָּל-הָעַמִּים אֲשֶׁר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיךָ נָתַן לָךְ  
לֹא-תִחוּס עֵינֶךָ עֲלֵיהֶם וְלֹא תַעֲבֹד אֶת-אֱלֹהֵיהֶם  
כִּי-מוֹקֵשׁ הוּא לָךְ: {ס}



## Source 10b

## Deuteronomy 28:58-62

**(58) If you fail to observe faithfully all the terms of this Teaching that are written** in this book, to reverence this honored and awesome Name, your God יהוה (59) will inflict extraordinary plagues upon you and your offspring, strange and lasting plagues, malignant and chronic diseases— (60) bringing back upon you all the **sicknesses of Egypt that you dreaded so**, and they shall cling to you. (61) Moreover, יהוה **will bring upon you all the other diseases and plagues** that are not mentioned in this book of Teaching, until you are wiped out. (62) You shall be left a scant few, after having been as numerous as the stars in the skies, **because you did not hearken to the command of your God יהוה.**

## דברים כ"ח:נ"ח-ס"ב

(נח) אִם-לֹא תִשְׁמָר לַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת-כָּל-דִּבְרֵי הַתּוֹרָה הַזֹּאת הַכְּתוּבִים בְּסֵפֶר הַזֶּה לְיִרְאַה אֶת-הַשֵּׁם הַנּוֹכָד וְהַנּוֹרָא הַזֶּה אֶת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ: (נט) וְהִפְלֵא יְהוָה אֶת-מִכְתָּבְךָ וְאֶת מִכּוֹת זְרַעְךָ מִכּוֹת גְּדֹלֹת וּנְאֻמָּנוֹת וְחִלָּים רָעִים וּנְאֻמָּנִים: (ס) וְהִשִּׁיב בְּךָ אֶת כָּל-מִדְּוָה מִצְרַיִם אֲשֶׁר יָגִדְתָּ מִפְּנֵיהֶם וְדָבַקוּ בְּךָ: (סא) גַּם כָּל-חִלֵּי וְכָל-מַכָּה אֲשֶׁר לֹא כָתוּב בְּסֵפֶר הַתּוֹרָה הַזֹּאת יַעֲלֶם יְהוָה עָלֶיךָ עַד הַשְׁמָדָה: (סב) וְנִשְׁאַרְתֶּם בְּמִתֵּי מְעֻט תַּחַת אֲשֶׁר הָיִיתֶם כְּכּוֹכְבֵי הַשָּׁמַיִם לָרֹב כִּי-לֹא שָׁמַעְתָּ בְּקוֹל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ:

**Source 11: But he also gives comfort (accessible law), which was missing at Marah!**

**Deuteronomy 30:10-16**

(10) since you will be heeding your God יהוה and keeping the divine commandments and laws that are recorded in this book of the Teaching—once you return to your God יהוה with all your heart and soul.

(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, “Who among us can go up to the heavens and get it for us and impart it to us, that we may observe it?”

(13) 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?”

(14) **No, the thing is very close to you, in your mouth and in your heart, to observe it.** (15) See, I set before you this day life and prosperity, death and adversity.

(16) For I command you this day, to love your God יהוה, 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 יהוה may bless you in the land that you are about to enter and possess.

**דברים ל:י-ט"ז**

(י) כִּי תִשְׁמַע בְּקוֹל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ לְשָׁמֵר מִצְוֹתָיו וְחָקְתָיו הַכְּתוּבָה בְּסֵפֶר הַתּוֹרָה הַזֶּה כִּי תָשׁוּב אֶל־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּכָל־לִבְבְּךָ וּבְכָל־נַפְשֶׁךָ: {ס} (יא) כִּי הַמִּצְוָה הַזֹּאת אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי מְצַוֶּה הַיּוֹם לֹא־נִפְלְאת הוּא מִמֶּךָ וְלֹא רְחֹקָה הוּא: (יב) לֹא בַשָּׁמַיִם הוּא לֵאמֹר מִי יַעֲלֶה־לָנוּ הַשָּׁמַיְמָה וְיִקְחֶהָ לָנוּ וְיִשְׁמַעֵנוּ אֹתָהּ וְנַעֲשֶׂנָה: (יג) וְלֹא־מֵעֵבֶר לַיָּם הוּא לֵאמֹר מִי יַעֲבֹר־לָנוּ אֶל־עֵבֶר הַיָּם וְיִקְחֶהָ לָנוּ וְיִשְׁמַעֵנוּ אֹתָהּ וְנַעֲשֶׂנָה: (יד) **כִּי־קְרוֹב אֵלֶיךָ הַדְּבָר מְאֹד בְּפִיךָ וּבְלִבְבְּךָ לַעֲשׂוֹתוֹ:** {ס} (טו) רְאֵה נָתַתִּי לְפָנֶיךָ הַיּוֹם אֶת־הַחַיִּים וְאֶת־הַטּוֹב וְאֶת־הַמָּוֶת וְאֶת־הָרָע: (טז) אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי מְצַוֶּה הַיּוֹם לַאֲהַבָּה אֶת־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ לְלַכֵּת בְּדַרְכָּיו וּלְשָׁמֵר מִצְוֹתָיו וְחָקְתָיו וּמִשְׁפָּטָיו וְחֻמֹּתָיו וְרִבְיֹתָיו וּבְרַכָּהּ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּאֶרֶץ אֲשֶׁר־אַתָּה בֹּא־שָׂמָה לְרִשְׁתָּהּ:

## Sources 12a-c: More reminders of Joseph's regime! Positive, negative, or mixed?

### Exodus 15:27

(27) And they came to Elim, where there were twelve springs of water and seventy palm trees; and they encamped there beside the water.

שמות ט"ו:כ"ז

(כז) וַיָּבֹאוּ אֵילֶמָּה וְשָׁם שְׁתַּיִם עֲשָׂרָה עֵינֹת מַיִם וְשִׁבְעִים תְּמָרִים וַיַּחֲנוּ-שָׁם עַל-הַמַּיִם:

### Source 12b: Seventy souls went down to Egypt

### Genesis 46:27

(27) And Joseph's sons who were born to him in Egypt were two in number. Thus the total of Jacob's household who came to Egypt was **seventy persons**.

בראשית מ"ו:כ"ז

(כז) וּבְנֵי יוֹסֵף אֲשֶׁר-יָלְדוּ-לוֹ בְּמִצְרַיִם גָּפֶשׁ שְׁנַיִם כָּל-הַנֶּפֶשׁ לְבֵית-יַעֲקֹב הַבָּאָה מִצְרַיִמָּה שְׁבַעִים: {ס}

### Source 12c:

### 12 Tribes compose Israel in Egypt

### Genesis 49:28

(28) **All these were the tribes of Israel, twelve in number**, and this is what their father said to them as he bade them farewell, addressing to each a parting word appropriate to him.

בראשית מ"ט:כ"ח

(כח) כָּל-אֵלֶּה שְׁבַטֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל שְׁנַיִם עָשָׂר וְזֹאת אֲשֶׁר-דִּבֶּר לָהֶם אָבִיהֶם וַיְבָרֶךְ אוֹתָם אִישׁ אִשֶּׁר כִּבְרָכְתּוֹ בְּרַךְ אֹתָם:

**Source 13: Joseph's Genius**  
**Storage to defeat famine and extend plenty on behalf of Pharaoh**

**Genesis 41:29-38**

(29) Immediately ahead are seven years of **great abundance** in all the land of Egypt. (30) After them will come seven years of famine, and all **the abundance** in the land of Egypt will be forgotten. As the land is ravaged by **famine**, (31) no trace of the **abundance** will be left in the land because of the famine thereafter, for it will be very severe. (32) As for Pharaoh having had the same dream twice, it means that the matter has been determined by God, and that God will soon carry it out. (33) “Accordingly, let Pharaoh find someone who’s discerning and wise, whom you can set over the land of Egypt. (34) And let Pharaoh take steps to appoint overseers over the land, and organize the land of Egypt in the **seven years of plenty**. (35) Let all the food of these good years that are coming be gathered, and let the grain be collected under Pharaoh’s authority as food to be stored in the cities. (36) Let that food be a reserve for the land for the **seven years of famine** which will come upon the land of Egypt, so that the land may not perish in the famine.” (37) The plan pleased Pharaoh and all his courtiers. (38) And Pharaoh said to his courtiers, “Could we find another like him—a man with the divine

**בראשית מ"א:כ"ט-ל"ח**

(כט) הנה שבע שנים באות **שבע גדול** בכל־ארץ מצרים: (ל) וְקָמוּ שִׁבַע שָׁנֵי רָעַב אַחֲרֵיהֶן וְנִשְׁבַּח כָּל־הַשָּׁבַע בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרָיִם וְכָל־הָרָעַב אֶת־הָאָרֶץ: (לא) וְלֹא־יִוָדַע הַשָּׁבַע בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרָיִם הָרָעַב הַהוּא אַחֲרֵי־כֵן כִּי־כָבֵד הוּא מֵאָדָּ: (לב) וְעַל הַשָּׁנֹת הַחֲלוּם אֶל־פַּרְעֹה פִּעֲמִים כִּי־נִכּוֹן הַדְּבָר מֵעַם הָאֱלֹהִים וּמִמֶּהָר הָאֱלֹהִים לַעֲשׂוֹתוֹ: (לג) וְעַתָּה יֵרָא פַרְעֹה אִישׁ נָכוֹן וְחָכָם וַיִּשְׁיֹתָהוּ עַל־אֶרֶץ מִצְרָיִם: (לד) יַעֲשֶׂה פַרְעֹה וַיִּפְקֹד פְּקָדִים עַל־הָאָרֶץ וְחָמַשׁ אֶת־אֶרֶץ מִצְרָיִם **בְּשִׁבַע שָׁנֵי הַשָּׁבַע**: (לה) וַיִּקְבְּצוּ אֶת־כָּל־אֹכֶל הַשָּׁנִים הַטֹּבוֹת הַבָּאֹת הָאֵלֶּה וַיִּצְבְּרוּ־בָר תַּחַת יַד־פַּרְעֹה אֹכֶל בְּעָרִים וּשְׁמָרוּ: (לו) וְהָיָה הָאֹכֶל לְפָקֶדוֹן לְאֶרֶץ לְשִׁבַע שָׁנֵי הָרָעַב אֲשֶׁר תִּהְיֶינָה בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרָיִם וְלֹא־תִכָּרֵת הָאֶרֶץ בְּרָעַב: (לז) וַיִּיטֹב הַדְּבָר בְּעֵינֵי פַרְעֹה וּבְעֵינֵי כָּל־עַבְדָּיו: (לח) וַיֹּאמֶר פַּרְעֹה אֶל־עַבְדָּיו הֲנִמְצָא כָּזֶה אִישׁ אֲשֶׁר רוּחַ אֱלֹהִים בּוֹ:

spirit?”

### Source 14: Joseph's Regime.

**Who benefits? Who sets laws? Who gives seed and bread? Who decides on life and death?**

#### Genesis 47:11-28

(11) So Joseph settled his father and his brothers, giving them holdings in the choicest part of the land of Egypt, in the region of Rameses, as Pharaoh had commanded. (12) **Joseph sustained his father, and his brothers, and all his father's household with bread, down to the little ones.** (13) **Now there was no bread in all the world, for the famine was very severe; both the land of Egypt and the land of Canaan languished because of the famine.** (14) Joseph **gathered** in all the money that was to be found in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan, as payment for the rations that were being procured, and Joseph brought the money into Pharaoh's palace. (15) And when the money gave out in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan, all the Egyptians came to Joseph and said, "Give us **bread!** **what purpose is there in our dying** before your very eyes; for the money is gone!" (16) And Joseph said, "Bring your livestock, and I will sell to you against your livestock, if the money is gone." (17) So they brought their livestock to Joseph, and Joseph gave them **bread** in exchange for the horses, for the stocks of sheep and cattle, and the asses; thus he provided them with **bread** that year in exchange for all their livestock. (18) And when that year was ended, they came to him the next year and said to him, "We cannot hide from my lord that, with all the money and animal stocks consigned to my lord, **nothing is left** at my lord's disposal save **our carcasses** and our farmland. (19) **Why should we perish** before your eyes, both we

#### בראשית מ"ז:א-כ"ח

(יא) וַיּוֹשֶׁב יוֹסֵף אֶת-אָבִיו וְאֶת-אֶחָיו וַיִּתֵּן לָהֶם אֶחְזָה בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם בְּמִיטֵב הָאָרֶץ בְּאֶרֶץ רַעַמְסֵס כַּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּה פַּרְעֹה. (יב) וַיִּכְלְל יוֹסֵף אֶת-אָבִיו וְאֶת-אֶחָיו וְאֶת כָּל-בֵּית אָבִיו לֶחֶם לְפִי הַטֶּף: (יג) וַלְחֵם אֵין בְּכָל-הָאָרֶץ כִּי-כָבַד הָרָעָב מְאֹד וַתִּלַּח אֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם וְאֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן מִפְּנֵי הָרָעָב: (יד) וַיִּלְקַט יוֹסֵף אֶת-כָּל-הַכֶּסֶף הַנּוֹמָצָא בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם וּבְאֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן בַּשָּׂבָר אֲשֶׁר-הֵם שֹׂבְרִים וַיָּבֵא יוֹסֵף אֶת-הַכֶּסֶף בֵּיתָה פַּרְעֹה: (טו) וַיְהִי הַכֶּסֶף מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם וּמֵאֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן וַיָּבֵאוּ כָל-מִצְרַיִם אֶל-יוֹסֵף לֵאמֹר הִבֵּה-לָנוּ לֶחֶם וְלֶמְה נִמּוֹת נִגְדָה כִּי אִפְס כֶּסֶף: (טז) וַיֹּאמֶר יוֹסֵף הֲבֵן מִקְנֵיכֶם וְאֶתְנֶה לָכֶם בְּמִקְנֵיכֶם אִם-אִפְס כֶּסֶף: (יז) וַיָּבִיאוּ אֶת-מִקְנֵיהֶם אֶל-יוֹסֵף וַיִּתֵּן לָהֶם יוֹסֵף לֶחֶם בְּסוֹסִים וּבְמִקְנֵה הַצֹּאן וּבְמִקְנֵה הַבְּקָר וּבְחֻמְרִים וַיִּנְהַלֵם בַּלְחֵם בְּכָל-מִקְנֵיהֶם בַּשָּׁנָה הַהִוא: (יח) וַתִּתֵּם הַשָּׁנָה הַהִוא וַיָּבֵאוּ אֵלָיו בַּשָּׁנָה הַשְּׁנִיית וַיֹּאמְרוּ לוֹ לֹא-נִכְתַּד מֵאֲדָנֶי כִּי אִם-תֵּתֵם הַכֶּסֶף וּמִקְנֵה הַבְּהֵמָה אֶל-אֲדֹנָי לֹא נִשְׂאָר לִפְנֵי אֲדֹנָי בְּלִתי אִם-גּוֹיְתָנוּ וְאֲדָמְתָנוּ: (יט) לֶמְה נִמּוֹת לְעֵינֶיךָ גַם-אֲנַחְנוּ גַם אֲדָמְתָנוּ קָנָה-אֲתָנוּ וְאֶת-אֲדָמְתָנוּ בַלְחֵם וְנִהְיֶה אֲנַחְנוּ וְאֲדָמְתָנוּ עַבְדִּים לַפַּרְעֹה וְתוֹ-זָרַע וְנִחְיֶה וְלֹא נִמּוֹת וְהֵאֲדָמָה לֹא תִשֵּׁם: (כ) וַיִּקֶן יוֹסֵף אֶת-כָּל-אֲדָמַת מִצְרַיִם לַפַּרְעֹה כִּי-מָכְרוּ מִצְרַיִם אִישׁ שָׂדֵהוּ כִּי-חֲזַק עֲלֵהֶם הָרָעָב וַתְּהִי הָאֶרֶץ לַפַּרְעֹה: (כא) וְאֶת-הָעָם הָעֹבֵר אֹתוֹ לְעָרִים מִקְצֵה גְבוּל-מִצְרַיִם וְעַד-קִצְהוּ: (כב) בָּק אֲדָמַת הַכֹּהֲנִים לֹא קָנָה כִּי חֵק לַכֹּהֲנִים מֵאֵת פַּרְעֹה וְאָכְלוּ אֶת-חֲקֵמָם אֲשֶׁר נָתַן לָהֶם פַּרְעֹה

and our land. Take us and our land in exchange for **bread**, and we with our land will be serfs to Pharaoh; provide **the seed, that we may live and not die**, and that the land may not become a waste.” (20) So Joseph gained possession of all the farm land of Egypt for Pharaoh, all the Egyptians having sold their fields because the **famine** was too much for them; thus the land passed over to Pharaoh. (21) **And he moved the population to the cities, from one end of Egypt’s border to the other.** (22) Only the land of the priests he did not take over, for the priests had an allotment from Pharaoh, and they lived off the allotment which Pharaoh had made to them; therefore they did not sell their land. (23) Then Joseph said to the people, “Whereas I have this day acquired you and your land for Pharaoh, here is **seed** for you to **sow** the land. (24) And when harvest comes, you shall give one-fifth to Pharaoh, and four-fifths shall be yours as seed for the fields and as **food** for you and those in your households, and as nourishment for your children.” (25) And they said, **“You have saved our lives!** We are grateful to my lord, and we shall be serfs to Pharaoh.” (26) **And Joseph made it into a land law in Egypt, which is still valid, that a fifth should be Pharaoh’s; only the land of the priests did not become Pharaoh’s.** (27) **Thus Israel settled in the country of Egypt, in the region of Goshen; they acquired holdings in it, and were fertile and increased greatly.**

על־כֵּן לֹא מָכְרוּ אֶת־אֲדָמָתָם: (כג) וַיֹּאמֶר יוֹסֵף  
אֶל־הָעָם הִן קָנִיתִי אֶתְכֶם הַיּוֹם וְאֶת־אֲדָמָתְכֶם  
לַפְרֹעָה הֵאֱלָכֶם זֶרַע וְזָרַעְתֶּם אֶת־הָאֲדָמָה:  
(כד) וְהָיָה בְתַבּוּאֹת וּנְתַתֶּם חֲמִישִׁית לַפְרֹעָה  
וְאַרְבַּע הַיְדֹת יִהְיֶה לְכֶם לְזֶרַע הַשָּׂדֶה  
וְלֹאֲכַלְכֶם וְלֹאֲשֹׂר בְּבִתְיֶכֶם וְלֹאֲכֹל לְטַפְכֶם:  
(כה) וַיֹּאמְרוּ הִיחַיֵּנוּ נִמְצָא־חַן בְּעֵינֵי אֲדֹנָי  
וְהִינּוּ עֲבָדִים לַפְרֹעָה: (כו) וַיִּשָּׂם אֹתָהּ יוֹסֵף  
לְחֹק עַד־הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה עַל־אֲדָמַת מִצְרַיִם לַפְרֹעָה  
לְחֹמֶשׁ רֶק אֲדָמַת הַכֹּהֲנִים לְבָדִם לֹא הִיְתָה  
לַפְרֹעָה: (כז) וַיָּשָׁב יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם  
בְּאֶרֶץ גֹּשֶׁן וַיֵּאחָזְזוּ כָּה וַיִּכְרוּ וַיִּרְבוּ מְאֹד:

**Source 15: A New Regime.**  
**Israel reaping what they sowed**

**Exodus 1:1-9**

(1) These are the names of the sons of Israel who came to Egypt with Jacob, each coming with his household: (2) Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah; (3) Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin; (4) Dan and Naphtali, Gad and Asher. (5) The total number of persons that were of Jacob's issue came to seventy, Joseph being already in Egypt. (6) Joseph died, and all his brothers, and all that generation. (7) But the Israelites were fertile and prolific; they multiplied and increased very greatly, so that the land was filled with them. (8) A new king arose over Egypt who did not know Joseph. (9) And he said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are much too numerous for us.

**שמות א':א-ט'**

(א) ואלה שמות בני ישראל הבאים מצרימה  
את יעקב איש וביתו באו: (ב) ראובן שמעון לוי  
ויהודה: (ג) יששכר זבולן ובנימין: (ד) דן  
ונפתלי גד ואשר: (ה) ויהי כל־גפּשׁ יצא־י  
ירד־יעקב שבועים גפּשׁ ויוסף הנה במצרים: (ו)  
וימת יוסף וכל־אחיו וכל הדור ההוא: (ז) ובני  
ישראל פרו וישרצו וירבו ויעצמו במאד מאד  
ותמלא הארץ אתם: {פ}  
(ח) ויקם מלך־חדש על־מצרים אשר לא־יָדע  
את־יוסף: (ט) ויאמר אל־עמו הִזֵּה עם בני  
ישראל רב ועצום ממנו:

**Source 16: The original "flesh pots"**  
**Another moment of greatness that's uncomfortable in retrospect!**

**Exodus 12:21-22**

(21) Moses then summoned all the elders of Israel and said to them, "Go, pick out lambs for your families, and slaughter the passover offering. (22) Take a bunch of hyssop, dip it in the **blood that is in the basin**, and apply some of the **blood that is in the basin** to the lintel and to the two doorposts. None of you shall go outside the door of your house until morning.

**שמות י"ב:כ"א-כ"ב**

(כא) וַיִּקְרָא מֹשֶׁה לְכָל־זִקְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיֹּאמֶר  
 אֲלֵהֶם מִשְׁכוּ וּקְחוּ לָכֶם צֹאן לְמִשְׁפַּחְתֵּיכֶם  
 וְשַחֲטוּ הַפֶּסַח: (כב) וּלְקַחְתֶּם אֶגְדַּת אֵזוֹב  
 וּטְבַלְתֶּם בָּדָם אֲשֶׁר־בַּפֶּה וְהִגַּעְתֶּם  
 אֶל־הַמִּשְׁקוֹף וְאֶל־שְׁתֵי הַמְּזוּזוֹת מִזֵּדֵם הָאֲשֶׁר  
 בַּפֶּה וְאַתֶּם לֹא תֵצְאוּ אִישׁ מִמִּפְתַּח־בֵּיתוֹ  
 עַד־בֹּקֶר:

**Source 17: Pots as Tools for Sacrificial Cult**

**Exodus 27:1-3**

(1) You shall make the altar of acacia wood, five cubits long and five cubits wide—the altar is to be square—and three cubits high. (2) Make its horns on the four corners, the horns to be of one piece with it; and overlay it with copper. (3) **Make the pails for removing its ashes**, as well as its scrapers, basins, flesh hooks, and fire pans—make all its utensils of copper.

**שמות כ"ז:א'-ג'**

(א) וַעֲשִׂיתָ אֶת־הַמִּזְבֵּחַ עֲצֵי שִׁטִּים חֲמֵשׁ אַמּוֹת  
 אָרְזָה וְחֲמֵשׁ אַמּוֹת רֹחַב רְבוע יְהִי־הַמִּזְבֵּחַ  
 וְשִׁלֵּשׁ אַמּוֹת קִמְתּוֹ: (ב) וַעֲשִׂיתָ קַרְנֹתָיו עַל־  
 אַרְבַּע פְּנֵיָיו מִמֶּנּוּ תִהְיֶינן קַרְנֹתָיו וְצִפִּיתָ אֹתוֹ  
 נְחֹשֶׁת: (ג) וַעֲשִׂיתָ סִירֹתָיו לְדֹשְׁנוֹ וְעֵינֵי  
 וּמִזְרְקָתָיו וּמִזְלָגָתָיו וּמַחְתָּתָיו לְכָל־כֵּלָיו תַעֲשֶׂה  
 נְחֹשֶׁת:



### Source 18: God's Response to the Panic Provider and Parent/Trainer

#### Exodus 16:4-5

(4) And יהוה said to Moses, “I will rain down bread for you from the sky, and the people shall go out and gather each day that day’s portion—that I may thus test them, to see whether they will follow My instructions or not. (5) But on the sixth day, when they apportion what they have brought in, it shall prove to be double the amount they gather each day.”

#### שמות ט"ז:ד-ה'

(ד) וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה הַנִּנְי מִמַּטֵּיר לָכֶם לֶחֶם מִן־הַשָּׁמַיִם וַיֵּצֵא הָעָם וַלְקָטוּ דְבַר־יוֹם בְּיוֹמוֹ לְמַעַן אֲנַסְנוּ הַיָּלֶד בְּתוֹרַתִי אִם־לֹא: (ה) וְהָיָה בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁשִׁי וַהֲכִינוּ אֶת אֲשֶׁר־יָבִיאוּ וְהָיָה מִשְׁנָה עַל אֲשֶׁר־לְקָטוּ יוֹם וַיּוֹם:

### Source 19: Rashb"i delves into the logic

#### Yoma 76a:2

Furthermore, with regard to the manna: The **students of Rabbi Shimon ben Yohai asked him: Why didn't the manna fall for the Jewish people just once a year** to take care of all their needs, instead of coming down every day? **He said to them: I will give you a parable: To what does this matter compare? To a king of flesh and blood who has only one son. He granted him an allowance for food once a year and the son greeted his father only once a year,** when it was time for him to receive his allowance. **So he arose and granted him his food every day, and his son visited him every day.**

#### יומא ע"ו א:ב'

שְׁאֵלוּ תַלְמִידָיו אֶת רַבִּי שְׁמַעוֹן בֶּן יוֹחִי: מַפְנֵי מָה לֹא יָרַד לָהֶם לְיִשְׂרָאֵל מִן פַּעַם אַחַת בְּשָׁנָה? אָמַר לָהֶם: אֲמַשּׁוּל לָכֶם מִשָּׁל: לָמָּה הַדְּבָר דּוּמָה? לְמַלְךָ בְּשָׂר וְדָם שָׁיֵשׁ לוֹ בֶּן אֶחָד, פֶּסֶק לוֹ מְזוֹנוֹתָיו פַּעַם אַחַת בְּשָׁנָה, וְלֹא הָיָה מְקַבֵּיל פְּנֵי אָבִיו אֶלָּא פַּעַם אַחַת בְּשָׁנָה. עָמַד וּפֶסֶק מְזוֹנוֹתָיו בְּכָל יוֹם, וְהָיָה מְקַבֵּיל פְּנֵי אָבִיו כָּל יוֹם.

## Source 20: Moshe delves into the logic and points to critique of Joseph's Regime

### Deuteronomy 8:1-18

(1) You shall faithfully observe all the Instruction that I enjoin upon you today, that you may thrive and increase and be able to possess the land that יהוה promised on oath to your fathers. (2) Remember the long way that your God יהוה has made you travel in the wilderness these past forty years, **in order to test you by hardships** to learn what was in your hearts: whether you would keep the divine commandments or not. (3) **[God] subjected you to the hardship of hunger and then gave you manna to eat, which neither you nor your ancestors had ever known, in order to teach you that a human being does not live on bread alone, but that one may live on anything that יהוה decrees.** (4) The clothes upon you did not wear out, nor did your feet swell these forty years. (5) **And you took to heart that your God יהוה disciplines you just as a householder disciplines his son.** (6) Therefore keep the commandments of your God יהוה: walk in God's ways and show reverence. (7) For your God יהוה is bringing you into a good land, a land with streams and springs and fountains issuing from plain and hill; (8) a land of wheat and barley, of vines, figs, and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and

### דברים ח:א'-י"ח

(א) כָּל־הַמְצוּהָ אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי מְצַוֶּה הַיּוֹם תִּשְׁמְרוּן לַעֲשׂוֹת לְמַעַן תִּחְיֶינָה וְרַבִּיתֶם וּבִאתֶם וְיִרְשַׁתֶּם אֶת־הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר־נִשְׁבַּע יְהוָה לְאַבְתִּיכֶם. (ב) וְזָכַרְתָּ אֶת־כָּל־הַדְּרֹךְ אֲשֶׁר הוֹלִיכָה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ גַּם אַרְבָּעִים שָׁנָה בַּמִּדְבָּר לְמַעַן עֲנִתְךָ לְנִסְתָּךְ לְדַעַת אֶת־אֲשֶׁר בְּלִבְכֶם הִתְשַׁמֵּר מְצוּתוֹ אִם־לֹא. (ג) וַיַּעֲנֶה וַיִּרְעַבְהוּ וַיֵּאֲכֶלֶה אֶת־הַמָּן אֲשֶׁר לֹא־יָדַעְתָּ וְלֹא יָדַעְוּ אֲבֹתֶיךָ לְמַעַן הוֹדִיעֶךָ כִּי לֹא עַל־הַלֶּחֶם לִבְדוֹ יַחֲיֶה הָאָדָם כִּי עַל־כָּל־מוֹצֵא פִי־יְהוָה יַחֲיֶה הָאָדָם. (ד) שָׁמַלְתָּ לֹא בָלַתָּה מֵעֲלִיָּה וּרְגִלְךָ לֹא כִצְקָה זֶה אַרְבָּעִים שָׁנָה. (ה) וַיִּדְעַתָּ עִם־לִבְבְּךָ כִּי כֹאֲשֶׁר יִיטֵר אִישׁ אֶת־בְּנוֹ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ מִיִּסְרָה: (ו) וַשְׁמַרְתָּ אֶת־מְצוֹת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ לֵלְכַת בְּדַרְכָיו וְלִירְאָה אֹתוֹ. (ז) כִּי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ מִבְּיַאֵה אֶל־אָרֶץ טוֹבָה אָרֶץ גִּחְלִי מַיִם עֵינַת וְתַהֲלֹמֹת יִצְאִים בְּבִקְעָה וּבְהָרִ: (ח) אָרֶץ חֹטֵה וְשַׁעֲרָה וְגִפּוֹן וְתַאֲנָה וְרִמּוֹן אֲרָז־גִּית שָׁמֶן וְדִבְשׁ: (ט) אָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר לֹא בְּמִסְכַּנְתָּ תֹאכַל־לֶחֶם לֶחֶם לֹא־תִחַסֵּר כֹּל בָּהּ אָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר אֲבֹנֶיהָ בְּרוֹזֵל וּמְהַרְרֶיהָ תִּחְצֹב נְחֹשֶׁת. (י) וְאָכַלְתָּ וְשִׂבַּעְתָּ וּבִרְכַתְּ אֶת־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ עַל־הָאָרֶץ הַטֹּבָה אֲשֶׁר נָתַן־לְךָ. (יא) הִשְׁמַר לְךָ פֶּן־תִּשְׁכַּח אֶת־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ לְבַלְתִּי שָׁמֵר מְצוֹתָיו וּמִשְׁפָּטָיו וְחֻקֹּתָיו אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי מְצַוֶּה הַיּוֹם. (יב) פֶּן־תֹּאכַל וְשִׂבַּעְתָּ וּבִתִּים טֹבִים תִּבְנֶה וַיִּשְׂבַּחְתָּ: (יג) וּבִקְרָךְ וּצְאֻנָּה יִרְבְּזוּ וּבִסָּר וְזָהַב יִרְבֶּה־לְךָ וְכָל אֲשֶׁר־לְךָ יִרְבֶּה: (יד) וְגַם לִבְבְּךָ וּשְׂכַחְתָּ אֶת־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ הַמוֹצִיאֶנֶךָ מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם מִבְּיַת עֲבָדִים: (טו) הַמּוֹלִיכָךָ בַּמִּדְבָּר וְהַגִּדֵל וְהַנּוֹרָא נְחֹשׁ וְשָׂרָף וְעַקְרָב וְצִמְאוֹן אֲשֶׁר אִין־מַיִם הַמוֹצִיא לְךָ מֵיַם מִצְוֹר הַחֹלְמִישׁ: (טז) הַמֵּאֲכִלֶךָ מִן בַּמִּדְבָּר אֲשֶׁר לֹא־יָדַעְוּ אֲבֹתֶיךָ לְמַעַן עֲנִתְךָ וּלְמַעַן

honey; (9) a land where you may eat food without stint, where you will lack nothing; a land whose rocks are iron and from whose hills you can mine copper. **(10) When you have eaten your fill**, give thanks to your God יהוה for the good land given to you. (11) Take care lest you forget your God יהוה and fail to keep the divine commandments, rules, and laws which I enjoin upon you today. (12) When you have eaten your fill, and have built fine houses to live in, (13) and your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold have increased, and everything you own has prospered, **(14) beware lest your heart grow haughty and you forget your God יהוה —who freed you from the land of Egypt**, the house of bondage; (15) who led you through the great and terrible wilderness with its *seraph* serpents and scorpions, a parched land with no water in it, who brought forth water for you from the flinty rock; (16) who fed you in the wilderness with manna, which your ancestors had never known, in order to test you by hardships only to benefit you in the end— (17) and you say to yourselves, “My own power and the might of my own hand have won this wealth for me.” (18) Remember that it is your God יהוה who gives you the power to get wealth, in fulfillment of the covenant made on oath with your fathers, as is still the case.

נִסְתָּהּ לְהִיטֵבָהּ בְּאַחֲרִיתָהּ: (יז) וְאָמַרְתָּ בְּלִבְבָהּ  
 כַּחֲלֵי וְעֵצִים קָדִי עָשָׂה לִי אֶת־הַתֵּיִל הַזֶּה: (יח)  
 וְזָכַרְתָּ אֶת־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ כִּי הוּא הִנְתָּנוּ לָבָח  
 לַעֲשׂוֹת תֵּיִל לְמַעַן הָקִים אֶת־בְּרִיתוֹ  
 אֲשֶׁר־נִשְׁבַּע לְאַבְרָהָם כִּי־וּמָה: {פ}

### Source 21a-b: Joseph's mouth as source of bread/life

#### Genesis 41:40

(40) You shall be in charge of my court, and by **your mouth** shall all my people be directed; only with respect to the throne shall I be superior to you.”

#### בראשית מ"א:מ'

(מ) אֶתְּהָ תִּהְיֶה עַל־בֵּיתִי וְעַל־פִּיהַ יִשְׁקָ  
כָּל־עַמִּי רַק הַכִּסֵּא אֲגִדֵּל מִמֶּנּוּ׃

#### Genesis 47:12-13

(12) **Joseph sustained** his father, and his brothers, and all his father's household with bread, **bread into the mouths** of each child. (13) Now there **was no bread** in all the world, for the famine was very severe; both the land of Egypt and the land of Canaan languished because of the famine.

#### בראשית מ"ז:י"ב-י"ג

(יב) וַיִּכְלֹל יוֹסֵף אֶת־אָבִיו וְאֶת־אֶחָיו וְאֶת־כָּל־בְּיַת אָבִיו לֶחֶם לָפִי הַטָּף׃ (יג) וְלֶחֶם אֵין בְּכָל־הָאָרֶץ כִּי־כָבַד הָרָעָב מְאֹד וַתִּלְהַ אֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם וְאֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן מִפְּנֵי הָרָעָב׃

### Source 21c: Joseph as bestower of divine/kingly gifts

#### Genesis 45:11-20

(11) There I will provide for you—for there are yet five years of famine to come—that you and your household and all that is yours may not suffer want.’ (12) You can see for yourselves, and my brother Benjamin for himself, that it is indeed **my mouth** that is speaking to you. (13) And you must tell my father everything about my high station in Egypt and all that you have seen; and bring my father here with all speed.” (14) With that he embraced his brother Benjamin around the neck and

#### בראשית מ"ה:י"א-כ'

(יא) וְכִלְפִלְתִּי אֶתְּהָ שָׂם כִּי־עוֹד חֲמֵשׁ שָׁנִים רָעָב פְּנוֹתֹרֵשׁ אֶתְּהָ וּבֵיתְהָ וְכָל־אֲשֶׁר־לָהּ׃ (יב) וְהִנֵּה עֵינֵיכֶם רְאוֹת וְעֵינַי אֶתִּי בְּנִימִין כִּי־פִי הַמְדַבֵּר אֲלֵיכֶם׃ (יג) וְהִגַּדְתֶּם לְאָבִי אֶת־כָּל־כְּבוֹדִי בְּמִצְרַיִם וְאֶת־כָּל־אֲשֶׁר רְאִיתֶם וּמְהֵרָתֶם וְהוֹרַדְתֶּם אֶת־אָבִי הִנֵּה׃ (יד) וַיִּפֹּל עַל־צוּאְרֵי בְּנֵימִין־אֶחָיו וַיִּבְּךָ וּבְנֵימִין בְּכֶה עַל־צוּאְרָיו׃ (טו) וַיִּנְשֶׁק לְכָל־אֶחָיו וַיִּבְּךָ עַל־הֶמֶט וְאֶחָדִי כֹן דַּבְּרוּ אֶחָיו אִתּוֹ׃ (טז) וְהִקְלִ גִּשְׁמַע בֵּית פְּרָעֹה לְאֹמֶר בָּאוּ אֶתִּי יוֹסֵף וַיִּיטֵב בְּעֵינַי פְּרָעֹה וּבְעֵינַי עֲבָדָיו׃ (יז) וַיֹּאמֶר פְּרָעֹה אֶל־יוֹסֵף אֲמַר אֶל־אֶחָיְהָ זֹאת עֲשׂוּ טַעֲנוּ אֶת־בְּעֵינֵיכֶם וּלְכוּ־בָאוּ אֶרְצָה כְּנָעַן׃ (יח) וַיִּקְחוּ

wept, and Benjamin wept on his neck. (15) He kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; only then were his brothers able to talk to him. (16) The news reached Pharaoh's palace: "Joseph's brothers have come." Pharaoh and his courtiers were pleased. (17) And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Say to your brothers, 'Do as follows: load up your beasts and go at once to the land of Canaan. (18) Take your father and your households and come to me; **I will give you the best of the land of Egypt and you shall live off the fat of the land.**' (19) And you are bidden [to add], 'Do as follows: take from the land of Egypt wagons for your children and your wives, and bring your father here. (20) And never mind your belongings, **for the best of all the land of Egypt shall be yours.**'"

אֶת־אֲבִיכֶם וְאֶת־בְּתִיכֶם וּבָאוּ אֵלַי וְאָתְנָה לָכֶם  
 אֶת־טוֹב אֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם וְאָכְלוּ אֶת־חֶלֶב הָאָרֶץ:  
 (יט) וְאָתְנָה צְוִיתָהּ זֹאת עֲשׂוּ קַחוּ־לָכֶם מֵאֶרֶץ  
 מִצְרַיִם עֲגָלוֹת לְטַפְכֶם וּלְנִשְׁיָכֶם וּנְשֵׂאתֶם  
 אֶת־אֲבִיכֶם וּבָאתֶם: (כ) וְעֵינֹכֶם אֶל־תִּהְיוּ  
 עַל־כְּלִיכֶם כִּי־טוֹב כָּל־אֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם לָכֶם הוּא:

## Source 22: Where Joseph's regime led-- storehouses and torment

### Exodus 1:9-13

(9) And he said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are much too numerous for us. (10) Let us deal shrewdly with them, so that they may not increase; otherwise in the event of war they may join our enemies in fighting against us and rise from the ground." (11) So they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor; and they **built garrison cities** for Pharaoh: Pithom and Raamses. (12) But the more they were **oppressed**, the more they increased and spread out, so that the [Egyptians] came to dread the Israelites. (13) The Egyptians ruthlessly imposed upon the Israelites

### שמות א': ט'-י"ג

(ט) וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל־עַמּוֹ הַזֶּה עִם בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל רַב  
 וְעֲצוּם מִמֶּנּוּ: (י) הִבֵּה נְתַחֲכֶמָה לּוֹ פִּן־יִרְבֶּה  
 וְהָיָה כִּי־תִקְרָאנָה מִלְחָמָה וְנוֹסַף גַּם־הוּא  
 עַל־שְׂנְאֵינוּ וְנִלְחַם־בָּנוּ וְעָלָה מִן־הָאָרֶץ: (יא)  
 וַיַּשְׁימוּ עָלָיו שָׂרֵי מִסִּים לְמַעַן עֲנֹתוֹ בְּסִבְלָתָם  
 וַיִּבְנוּ עָרֵי מִסְכָּנוֹת לְפָרְעֹה אֶת־פִּתּוֹם  
 וְאֶת־רַעַמְסֵס: (יב) וּכְאֲשֶׁר יַעֲנֶה אֹתוֹ כֵּן יִרְבֶּה  
 וְכֵן יִפְרֹץ וַיִּקְצֹו מִפְּנֵי בְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל: (יג) וַיַּעֲבְדוּ  
 מִצְרַיִם אֶת־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּפִרְוֹ:

### Source 23: A New Meaning for Hand of God

#### Numbers 11:21-23

(21) But Moses said, “The people who are with me number six hundred thousand foot soldiers; yet You say, ‘I will give them enough meat to eat for a whole month.’ (22) Could enough flocks and herds be slaughtered to suffice them? Or could all the fish of the sea be gathered for them to suffice them?” (23) And יהוה answered Moses, “Is there a limit to **יהוה’s hand**? You shall soon see whether what I have said happens to you or not!”

#### במדבר י"א:כ"א-כ"ג

(כא) וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה שְׁש־מֵאוֹת אֱלֹהֵי רַגְלֵי הָעָם  
 אֲשֶׁר אֲנִכִּי בְקִרְבּוֹ וְאַתָּה אֹמְרַת בְּשֵׁר אֲתָנוּ לָהֶם  
 וְאֶכְלוּ חֹדֶשׁ יָמִים: (כב) הֲצֹאן וּבְקָר יִשְׁתַּט לָהֶם  
 וּמִצֹּא לָהֶם אִם אֶת־כָּל־דְּגֵי הַיָּם יֵאָסֵף לָהֶם  
 וּמִצֹּא לָהֶם: {פ} (כג) וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה  
 הֲבַד יְהוָה תִּקְצָר עֲתָה תִרְאֶה הַיְקִרְוָה דְבַר־  
 אִם־לֹא:

### Source 24: Miriam Hinting a Critique?

#### Exodus 15:20-21

(20) Then Miriam the prophet, Aaron’s sister, picked up a hand-drum, and all the women went out after her in dance with hand-drums. (21) And Miriam chanted for them:  
 Sing to יהוה, for He has triumphed gloriously;  
 Horse and driver He has hurled into the sea.

#### שמות ט"ו:כ"א-כ"ב

(כ) וַתִּקַּח מִרְיָם הַנְּבִיאָה אֶתֹת אֶהֱרֹן אֶת־הַתֶּף  
 בְּיָדָהּ וַתִּצְאֶן כָּל־הַנְּשִׂיִם אַחֲרֶיהָ בְּתַפִּים  
 וּבְמַחֲלֹת: (כא) וַתַּעַן לָהֶם מִרְיָם שִׁירוּ לַיהוָה  
 כִּי־גָאָה גָאָה סוּס וּרְכָבוֹ רָמָה בַיָּם: {ס}

## Source 25:

They even got wrong the role of God and human hands in war (and against whom)!

## Exodus 17:8-16

(8) Amalek came and fought with Israel at Rephidim. (9) Moses said to Joshua, “Pick some troops for us, and go out and do battle with Amalek. Tomorrow I will station myself on the top of the hill, with the rod of God in my **hand**.” (10) Joshua did as Moses told him and fought with Amalek, while Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. (11) Then, whenever Moses held up his **hand**, Israel prevailed; but whenever he let down his **hand**, Amalek prevailed. (12) But Moses’ **hands** grew heavy; so they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it, while Aaron and Hur, one on each side, supported his **hands**; thus his **hands** remained steady until the sun set. (13) And Joshua overwhelmed the people of Amalek with the sword. (14) Then יהוה said to Moses, “Inscribe this in a document as a reminder, and read it aloud to Joshua: I will utterly blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven!” (15) And Moses built an altar and named it Adonai-**nissi**. (16) He said, “It means, ‘**Hand** upon the throne of יהוה!’ יהוה will be at war with Amalek throughout the ages.”

## שמות י"ז:ח-ט"ז

(ח) וַיָּבֹא עֲמֹלֵק וַיִּלָּחֶם עִם־יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּרֶפְדִּים׃  
 (ט) וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה אֶל־יְהוֹשֻׁעַ בְּחַר־לָנוּ אַנְשִׁים  
 וְצֵא הִלָּחֶם בְּעֲמֹלֵק מֵחָר אֲנֹכִי נֹצֵב עַל־רֹאשׁ  
 הַגִּבְעָה וּמָטָה הָאֱלֹהִים בְּיָדִי׃ (י) וַיַּעַשׂ יְהוֹשֻׁעַ  
 כַּאֲשֶׁר אָמַר־לוֹ מֹשֶׁה לְהִלָּחֶם בְּעֲמֹלֵק וּמֹשֶׁה  
 אָהָרָן וְחֹזֵר עָלוּ רֹאשׁ הַגִּבְעָה׃ (יא) וְהָיָה כַּאֲשֶׁר  
 יָרִים מֹשֶׁה יָדוֹ וַיִּגְבַּר יִשְׂרָאֵל וּכְאֲשֶׁר יִגִּיחַ יָדוֹ  
 וַיִּגְבַּר עֲמֹלֵק׃ (יב) וַיִּדְּי מֹשֶׁה כַּבָּדִים וַיִּקְחוּ־אָבִן  
 וַיִּשְׁימוּ תַחְתָּיו וַיָּשֵׁב עָלֶיהָ וְאָהָרָן וְחֹזֵר תָּמְכוּ  
 בְּיָדָיו מִזֶּה אֶחָד וּמִזֶּה אֶחָד וַיְהִי יָדָיו אֲמוּנָה  
 עַד־בָּא הַשָּׁמֶשׁ׃ (יג) וַיַּחֲלֵשׁ יְהוֹשֻׁעַ אֶת־עֲמֹלֵק  
 וְאֶת־עַמּוֹ לְפַי־חַרְבּ׃ {פ} (יד) וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה  
 אֶל־מֹשֶׁה כָּתֹב זֹאת זְכָרוֹן בְּסֵפֶר וְשִׂים בְּאָזְנִי  
 יְהוֹשֻׁעַ כִּי־מָחָה אֶת־זְכָר עֲמֹלֵק מִתַּחַת  
 הַשָּׁמַיִם׃ (טו) וַיִּבֶן מֹשֶׁה מִזְבֵּחַ וַיִּקְרָא שְׁמוֹ  
 יְהוָה וַיִּסְּי׃ (טז) וַיֹּאמֶר כִּי־יָד עַל־כַּסּ לְהַ  
 מְלַחְמָה לַיהוָה בְּעֲמֹלֵק מִדֹּר דָּר׃ {פ}

*Source Sheet created on Sefaria by Ezra Zuckerman Sivan*