

חומש עם רש"י • ואתחנן • תמישי

Complete Word-for-Word Interlinear • Navy & Gold Edition

VAETCHANAN • 5TH ALIYAH

CHAPTER PREVIEW

In this aliyah, Moshe Rabbeinu continues recounting the awe-inspiring events of Ma'amad Har Sinai. He reminds the Bnei Yisrael how they heard the voice of Hashem speaking from the midst of the fire and the thick cloud, and how they received the Aseres HaDibros. Moshe describes the immense fear that gripped the nation upon hearing the voice of Hashem directly, which led them to approach him with a heartfelt request.

Fearing they would perish from the intensity of the divine revelation, the heads of the tribes and the elders begged Moshe to act as an intermediary. They asked that Moshe go close to hear Hashem's words and then transmit them back to the nation, promising they would faithfully listen and perform all that was commanded. Hashem agreed to their request, praising their yiras Shamayim and expressing a desire that this pure fear of Heaven remain in their hearts forever.

All introductions, summaries, and contextual notes are the editor's commentary and are not part of the original text.

פסוק א

Pasuk 1

אֶת הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה דִּבֶּר יְהוָה אֶל כָּל קְהִלָּתְכֶם בְּהָר מִתּוֹךְ הָאֵשׁ
the fire from the midst of at the mountain your congregation all of to Hashem spoke these the words —
הָעֲנֹן וְהָעֲרָפֶל קוֹל גָּדוֹל וְלֹא יָסָף וַיִּכְתְּבֵם עַל שְׁנֵי לַחַת
tablets of two of upon and He wrote them cease and did not great a voice and the thick darkness the cloud
אֲבָנִים וַיִּתֵּן אֵלַי:
to me and He gave them stone

רש"י

וְלֹא יִסַּף. מִתְּרַגְּמִינוּ "וְלֹא פָּסִיק" וּלְפִי שְׁמֵדַת בָּשָׂר וְדָם אֵינָן יְכוּלִּין
able they are not and blood flesh that the trait of and because He ceased "and not we translate He added and not
לְדַבֵּר כָּל דְּבָרֵיהֶם בְּנִשְׁמָה אַחַת וּמֵדַת הַקֹּדֶשׁ אֵינוֹ כֵּן — לֹא הָיָה פֹּסֵק,
pause He did not so is not the Holy One and the trait of one in a breath their words all of to speak
וּמִשְׁלָל הָיָה פֹּסֵק לֹא הָיָה מוֹסִיף כִּי קוּלוֹ חֲזָק וְזָקָם לְעוֹלָם סְנֵהדְרִין י"ז;
17 Sanhedrin forever and endures is strong His voice for to resume did He need not pause He did and since not
ד"א — וְלֹא יִסַּף הוֹסִיף לְהֵרָאוֹת בְּאוֹתוֹ פְּמָבִי:
publicity in that to appear did He continue not He added and not another explanation

פסוק ב

Pasuk 2

וַיְהִי כְשֶׁמַּעַתְּכֶם אֶת הַקּוֹל מִתּוֹךְ הַחֹשֶׁךְ וְהָהָר בֹּעֵר בָּאֵשׁ
with fire was burning and the mountain the darkness from the midst of the voice — when you heard And it was

וַתִּקְרְבוּן אֵלַי כָּל רָאשֵׁי שְׁבִטֵיכֶם וְזִקְנֵיכֶם:

and your elders your tribes the heads of all of to me and you approached

פסוק ג

Pasuk 3

וַתֹּאמְרוּ הֵן הִרְאָנוּ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ אֶת כְּבוֹדוֹ וְאֶת גְּדֻלּוֹ וְאֶת קוֹלוֹ

His voice and — His greatness and — His glory — our God Hashem has shown us Behold And you said

שָׁמַעְנוּ מִתּוֹךְ הָאֵשׁ הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה רָאִינוּ כִּי יִדְבֵּר אֱלֹהִים אֶת הָאָדָם

man with God speaks that we have seen this the day the fire from the midst of we heard

וְחַי:

and he lives

פסוק ד

Pasuk 4

וְעַתָּה לָמָּה נָמוּת כִּי תֹאכְלֵנוּ הָאֵשׁ הַגְּדֹלָה הַזֹּאת אִם יִסְפִּים אֲנַחְנוּ

we continue if this great the fire will consume us for should we die why And now

לִשְׁמַע אֶת קוֹל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ עוֹד וּמָתָנוּ:

then we will die any longer our God Hashem the voice of — to hear

פסוק ה

Pasuk 5

כִּי מִי כָל בָּשָׂר אֲשֶׁר שָׁמַע קוֹל אֱלֹהִים חַיִּים מִדְּבַר מִתּוֹךְ הָאֵשׁ

the fire from the midst of speaking living God the voice of heard that flesh of all who For

כַּמָּנוּ וַיְחִי:

and lived like us

פסוק ו

Pasuk 6

קִרְב אֲתָה וּשְׁמַע אֶת כָּל אֲשֶׁר יֹאמַר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאַתָּה תִּדְבֹּר אֵלֵינוּ

to us shall speak and you our God Hashem will say that all — and hear you Draw near

אֶת כָּל אֲשֶׁר יִדְבֹּר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ אֵלֶיךָ וְשָׁמַעְנוּ וְעָשִׂינוּ:

and we will do and we will hear to you our God Hashem will speak that all —

רש"י

וְאַתָּה תִּדְבֹּר אֵלֵינוּ. הַתְּשָׁתֶּם אֶת כַּחֲמִי כַּנְּקֵבָה, שֶׁנִּצְטַעַרְתִּי עֲלֵיכֶם וּרְפִיתֶם

and you weakened because of you for I was distressed like a female my strength — you weakened to us shall speak And you

אֶת יָדַי כִּי רָאִיתִי שְׁאִינְכֶם חֲרָדִים לְהִתְקַרֵּב אֵלָיו מֵאַהֲבָה, וְכִי לֹא הָיָה יָפָה

for you better not and is it out of love to Him to approach anxious that you are not I saw since my hands —

לָכֶם לְלַמֵּד מִפִּי הַגְּבוּרָה וְלֹא לְלַמֵּד מִמֶּנִּי:

from me to learn and not the Almighty from the mouth of to learn

פסוק ז

וַיִּשְׁמַע יְהוָה אֶת קוֹל דְּבָרֵיכֶם בְּדַבְּרְכֶם אֵלַי וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֵלַי
 to me Hashem and said to me when you spoke your words the sound of — Hashem And Hashem heard
 שָׁמַעְתִּי אֶת קוֹל דְּבָרֵי הָעָם הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר דִּבְּרוּ אֵלַיָּהּ הֵיטִיבוּ כָּל
 all they did well to you they spoke which this the nation the words of the sound of — I have heard
 אֲשֶׁר דִּבְּרוּ:
 they spoke that

פסוק ח

מִי יִתֵּן וְהָיָה לְבַבְכֶם זֶה לָהֶם לִירְאָה אֶתִּי וְלִשְׁמֹר אֶת כָּל
 all of — and to keep Me to fear to them this their heart and it would be would give Who
 מִצְוֹתַי כָּל הַיָּמִים לְמַעַן יֵיטֵב לָהֶם וּלְבָנֵיהֶם לְעֹלָם:
 forever and for their children for them it will go well so that the days all My commandments

פסוק ט

לֵךְ אָמַר לָהֶם שׁוּבוּ לָכֶם לְאֹהֲלֵיכֶם:
 to your tents for yourselves return to them say Go

פסוק י

וְאַתָּה פֹּה עֹמֵד עִמָּדִי וְאִדְבַּרְהָ אֵלַיָּהּ אֶת כָּל הַמִּצְוָה וְהַחֲקִים
 and the statutes the commandment all of — to you and I will speak with Me stand here and you
 וְהַמִּשְׁפָּטִים אֲשֶׁר תִּלְמְדֵם וַעֲשׂוּ בְּאֶרֶץ אֲשֶׁר אֲנִכִּי נִתֵּן לָהֶם
 to them am giving I that in the land and they shall perform you shall teach them that and the ordinances
 לְרִשְׁתָּהּ:
 to possess it

פסוק יא

וּשְׁמַרְתֶּם לַעֲשׂוֹת כַּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם אֹתְכֶם לֹא תִסְרוּ
 shall you turn aside not you your God Hashem commanded as to do And you shall guard
 יָמִין וּשְׂמָאל:
 and left right

פסוק יב

בְּכָל הַדֶּרֶךְ אֲשֶׁר צִוָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם אֹתְכֶם תֵּלְכוּ לְמַעַן תִּחְיִיו
 you may live so that you shall walk — you your God Hashem commanded which the path In all

וְטוֹב לָכֶם וְהֶאֱרַכְתֶּם יָמִים בְּאֶרֶץ אֲשֶׁר תִּירְשׁוּן:

you shall possess which in the land days and you prolong for you and it be good

פסוק יג

Pasuk 13

וְזֹאת הַמִּצְוָה הַחֲקִים וְהַמִּשְׁפָּטִים אֲשֶׁר צִוָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם לְלַמֵּד

to teach your God Hashem commanded which and the laws the decrees the commandment And this is

אֶתְכֶם לַעֲשׂוֹת בְּאֶרֶץ אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם עֹבְרִים שָׁמָּה לְרִשְׁתָּהּ:

to possess it there are crossing over you which in the land to perform you

פסוק יד

Pasuk 14

לְמַעַן תִּירָא אֶת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ לְשֹׁמֵר אֶת כָּל חֻקֹּתָיו וּמִצְוֹתָיו אֲשֶׁר

which and His His statutes all of — to keep your God Hashem — you will fear so that commandments

אֲנִכִּי מִצְוֶךָ אַתָּה וּבְנֶךָ וּבֶן בְּנֶךָ כָּל יְמֵי חַיֶּיךָ וּלְמַעַן

and so that your life days of all the your son and the son of and your son you command you I

יִאָּרְכּוּ יְמֵיךָ:

your days they will be prolonged

פסוק טו

Pasuk 15

וְשָׁמַעַתְּ יִשְׂרָאֵל וְשָׁמְרָתָּ לַעֲשׂוֹת אֲשֶׁר יֵיטֵב לָּךְ וְאַשֶׁר

and that with you it may go well that to do and you shall observe Yisrael And you shall hear

תִּרְבּוֹן מְאֹד כִּאֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי אֲבֹתֶיךָ לָּךְ אֶרֶץ זָבַת חֶלֶב

milk flowing with a land to you your fathers the God of Hashem spoke as greatly you may increase

וּדְבָשׁ:

and honey

CHAPTER SUMMARY

The aliyah concludes with Hashem instructing the Bnei Yisrael to return to their tents, while Moshe is told to remain on the mountain to receive the rest of the Torah, including the mitzvos, chukim, and mishpatim. Moshe charges the nation to be meticulous in keeping these commandments, warning them not to turn aside to the right or to the left. By maintaining this deep yiras Shamayim and walking in the ways of Hashem, they and their children will merit to live long, thrive, and multiply in the land flowing with milk and honey.

The parsha describes the incredible moment of Kabbalas HaTorah, where Klal Yisrael heard the voice of Hashem out of the fire and were filled with such an overwhelming yiras Shamayim that they begged Moshe Rabbeinu to receive the rest of the Torah on their behalf. Hashem responds with a beautiful, moving expression: "Mi yiten v'hayah levavam zeh lahem l'yirah osi...", if only their hearts would remain this way, to fear Me and keep My mitzvos all the days. Lichoira, we must ask, why does Hashem say "if only"? Hashem runs the entire world, so if He wants us to keep this high level of inspiration, why doesn't He just make it last?

The yeshivish sevara here is fundamental to our entire avodah. Hashem is teaching us that while He will open the heavens and give us a massive burst of inspiration, a spiritual high where everything is clear and our neshama is on fire, He will not make that feeling last forever. If He did, we would have no bechirah, no free will. The work of keeping that fire burning, of translating that great "voice out of the fire" into the quiet, daily routine of our lives, is davka left to us. Hashem gives us the spark, but we have to build the vessel to keep it alive.

We all experience moments of high inspiration. Maybe it is a beautiful, warm Shabbos, an inspiring shiur, a heartfelt tefillah on Yom Kippur, or a moment of deep clarity in our learning. But then, the next morning, Hashem says, "Shuvu lachem l'oholeichem", go back to your tents, back to the mundane, everyday world. The nisayon is not whether we can feel inspired when the mountain is burning with fire, but whether we can carry that yirah into our regular, daily schedule when the fire is no longer visible.

Today, take one small, concrete kabbalah (resolution) to anchor a spiritual moment you recently felt. If you had an inspiring thought during davening or learning this week, don't let it fade away; write down one practical, daily action, like learning for five minutes straight without looking at your phone, or saying one brachah slowly with kavanah, to keep that fire burning in your "tent."