

Ki Tissa

Exodus 30:11 – 34:35

1 Kings 18:1 - 39

Luke 11:14 – 24, Acts 7:35 – 8:1, 1 Corinthians 10:1 – 13, 2 Corinthians 3:1 - 18

Complete Jewish Bible

Exodus 30:11 – 30:38

11 ADONAI said to Moshe, **12** "When you take a census of the people of Isra'el and register them, each, upon registration, is to pay a ransom for his life to ADONAI, to avoid any breakout of plague among them during the time of the census. **13** Everyone subject to the census is to pay as an offering to ADONAI half a shekel [one-fifth of an ounce of silver]- by the standard of the sanctuary shekel (a shekel equals twenty gerahs). **14** Everyone over twenty years of age who is subject to the census is to give this offering to ADONAI - **15** the rich is not to give more or the poor less than the half-shekel when giving ADONAI's offering to atone for your lives. **16** You are to take the atonement money from the people of Isra'el and use it for the service in the tent of meeting, so that it will be a reminder of the people of Isra'el before ADONAI to atone for your lives."

17 ADONAI said to Moshe, **18** "You are to make a basin of bronze, with a base of bronze, for washing. Place it between the tent of meeting and the altar, and put water in it. **19** Aharon and his sons will wash their hands and feet there **20** when they enter the tent of meeting - they are to wash with water, so that they won't die. Also when they approach the altar to minister by burning an offering for ADONAI, **21** they are to wash their hands and feet, so that they won't die. This is to be a perpetual law for them through all their generations."

22 ADONAI said to Moshe, **23** "Take the best spices - 500 shekels of myrrh [12 1/2 pounds], half this amount (250 shekels) of aromatic cinnamon [6 1/4 pounds], 250 shekels of aromatic cane, **24** 500 shekels of cassia (use the sanctuary standard), and one gallon of olive oil - **25** and make them into a holy anointing oil; blend it and perfume it as would an expert perfume-maker; it will be a holy anointing oil. **26** Use it to anoint the tent of meeting, the ark for the testimony, **27** the table and all its utensils, the menorah and all its utensils, the incense altar, **28** the altar for burnt offerings and all its utensils, and the basin with its base. **29** You are to consecrate them - they will be especially holy, and whatever touches them will be holy. **30** Then you are to anoint Aharon and his sons - you are to consecrate them to serve me in the office of cohen. **31** "Tell the people of Isra'el, 'This is to be a holy anointing oil for me through all your generations. **32** It is not to be used for anointing a person's body; and you are not to make any like it, with the same composition of ingredients - it is holy, and you are to treat it as holy. **33** Whoever makes any like it or uses it on any unauthorized person is to be cut off from his people.'" **34** ADONAI said to Moshe, "Take aromatic plant substances - balsam resin, sweet onycha root and bitter galbanum gum - these spices along with frankincense, all in equal quantities; **35** and make incense, blended and perfumed as would an expert perfume-maker, salted, pure and holy. **36** You are to grind up some of it very finely and put it in front of the testimony in the tent of meeting where I will meet with you; you are to regard it as especially holy. **37** You are not to make for your own use any incense like it, with the same composition of ingredients - you are to treat it as holy, for ADONAI. **38** Whoever makes up any like it to use as perfume is to be cut off from his people."

Exodus 31

1 ADONAI said to Moshe, **2** "I have singled out B'tzal'el the son of Uri the son of Hur, of the tribe of

Y'hudah. **3** I have filled him with the Spirit of God - with wisdom, understanding and knowledge concerning every kind of artisanry. **4** He is a master of design in gold, silver, bronze, **5** cutting precious stones to be set, woodcarving and every other craft. **6** "I have also appointed as his assistant Oholi'av the son of Achisamakh, of the tribe of Dan. Moreover, I have endowed all the craftsmen with the wisdom to make everything I have ordered you - **7** the tent of meeting, the ark for the testimony, the ark-cover above it, all the furnishings of the tent, **8** the table and its utensils, the pure menorah and all its utensils, the incense altar, **9** the altar for burnt offerings and all its utensils, the basin and its base, **10** the garments for officiating, the holy garments for Aharon the cohen and the garments for his sons, so that they can serve in the office of cohen, **11** the anointing oil and the incense of aromatic spices for the Holy Place: they are to make everything just as I have ordered you."

12 ADONAI said to Moshe, **13** "Tell the people of Isra'el, 'You are to observe my Shabbats; for this is a sign between me and you through all your generations; so that you will know that I am ADONAI, who sets you apart for me. **14** Therefore you are to keep my Shabbat, because it is set apart for you. Everyone who treats it as ordinary must be put to death; for whoever does any work on it is to be cut off from his people. **15** On six days work will get done; but the seventh day is Shabbat, for complete rest, set apart for ADONAI. Whoever does any work on the day of Shabbat must be put to death. **16** The people of Isra'el are to keep the Shabbat, to observe Shabbat through all their generations as a perpetual covenant. **17** It is a sign between me and the people of Isra'el forever; for in six days ADONAI made heaven and earth, but on the seventh day he stopped working and rested.'" **18** When he had finished speaking with Moshe on Mount Sinai, ADONAI gave him the two tablets of the testimony, tablets of stone inscribed by the finger of God.

Exodus 32

1 When the people saw that Moshe was taking a long time to come down from the mountain, they gathered around Aharon and said to him, "Get busy; and make us gods to go ahead of us; because this Moshe, the man that brought us up from the land of Egypt - we don't know what has become of him." **2** Aharon said to them, "Have your wives, sons and daughters strip off their gold earrings; and bring them to me." **3** The people stripped off their gold earrings and brought them to Aharon. **4** He received what they gave him, melted it down, and made it into the shape of a calf. They said, "Isra'el! Here is your god, who brought you up from the land of Egypt!" **5** On seeing this, Aharon built an altar in front of it and proclaimed, "Tomorrow is to be a feast for ADONAI." **6** Early the next morning they got up and offered burnt offerings and presented peace offerings. Afterwards, the people sat down to eat and drink; then they got up to indulge in revelry.

7 ADONAI said to Moshe, "Go down! Hurry! Your people, whom you brought up from the land of Egypt, have become corrupt! **8** So quickly they have turned aside from the way I ordered them to follow! They have cast a metal statue of a calf, worshipped it, sacrificed to it and said, 'Isra'el! Here is your god, who brought you up from the land of Egypt!'" **9** ADONAI continued speaking to Moshe: "I have been watching these people; and you can see how stiffnecked they are. **10** Now leave me alone, so that my anger can blaze against them, and I can put an end to them! I will make a great nation out of you instead." **11** Moshe pleaded with ADONAI his God. He said, "ADONAI, why must your anger blaze against your own people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and a strong hand? **12** Why let the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intentions that he led them out, to slaughter them in the hills and wipe them off the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce anger! Relent! Don't bring such disaster on your people!" **13** Remember Avraham, Yitz'chak and Isra'el, your servants, to whom you swore by your very self. You promised them, 'I will make your descendants as many as the stars in the sky; and I will give all this land I have spoken about to your descendants; and they will possess it forever.'" **14** ADONAI then changed his mind about the disaster he had planned for his people.

15 Moshe turned and went down from the mountain with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand, tablets inscribed on both sides, on the front and on the back. **16** The tablets were the work of God; and the writing was the writing of God, engraved on the tablets. **17** When Y'hoshua heard the noise of the

people shouting he said to Moshe, "It sounds like war in the camp!" **18** He answered, "That is neither the clamor of victory nor the wailings of defeat; what I hear is the sound of people singing." **19** But the moment Moshe got near the camp, when he saw the calf and the dancing, his own anger blazed up. He threw down the tablets he had been holding and shattered them at the base of the mountain. **20** Seizing the calf they had made, he melted it in the fire and ground it to powder, which he scattered on the water. Then he made the people of Isra'el drink it.

21 Moshe said to Aharon, "What did these people do to you to make you lead them into such a terrible sin?" **22** Aharon replied, "My lord shouldn't be so angry. You know what these people are like, that they are determined to do evil. **23** So they said to me, 'Make us gods to go ahead of us; because this Moshe, the man that brought us up from the land of Egypt - we don't know what has become of him.' **24** I answered them, 'Anyone with gold, strip it off!' So they gave it to me. I threw it in the fire, and out came this calf!" **25** When Moshe saw that the people had gotten out of control - because Aharon had allowed them to get out of control, to the derision of their enemies - **26** Moshe stood at the entrance to the camp and shouted, "Whoever is for ADONAI, come to me!" All the descendants of Levi rallied around him. **27** He told them, "Here is what ADONAI, the God of Isra'el, says: 'Each of you, put his sword on his side; and go up and down the camp, from gate to gate; and every man is to kill his own kinsman, his own friend and his own neighbor!" **28** The sons of Levi did what Moshe said, and that day three thousand of the people died. **29** Moshe said, "You have consecrated yourselves today to ADONAI, because every one of you has been against his own son and against his own kinsman, in order to bring a blessing on yourselves today."

30 The next day Moshe said to the people, "You have committed a terrible sin. Now I will go up to ADONAI ; maybe I will be able to atone for your sin." **31** Moshe went back to ADONAI and said, "Please! These people have committed a terrible sin: they have made themselves a god out of gold. **32** Now, if you will just forgive their sin! But if you won't, then, I beg you, blot me out of your book which you have written!" **33** ADONAI answered Moshe, "Those who have sinned against me are the ones I will blot out of my book. **34** Now go and lead the people to the place I told you about; my angel will go ahead of you. Nevertheless, the time for punishment will come; and then I will punish them for their sin." **35** ADONAI struck the people with a plague because they had made the calf, the one Aharon made.

Exodus 33

1 ADONAI said to Moshe, "Leave, you and the people you brought up from the land of Egypt; and move on from here toward the land of which I swore to Avraham, Yitz'chak and Ya'akov, 'I will give it to your descendants.' **2** I will send an angel ahead of you; and I will drive out the Kena'ani, Emori, Hitti, P'rizi, Hivi and Y'vusi. **3** You will go to a land flowing with milk and honey; but I myself will not go with you, because you are such a stiffnecked people that I might destroy you on the way." **4** When the people heard this bad news, they went into mourning; and no one wore his ornaments. **5** ADONAI said to Moshe, "Tell the people of Isra'el, 'You are a stiffnecked people! If I were to go up with you for even one moment, I would exterminate you! Now, keep your ornaments off; then I will decide what to do to you.'" **6** So from Mount Horev onward, the people of Isra'el stripped themselves of their ornaments.

7 Moshe would take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, far away from the camp. He called it the tent of meeting. Everyone who wanted to consult ADONAI would go out to the tent of meeting, outside the camp. **8** Whenever Moshe went out to the tent, all the people would get up and stand, each man at his tent door, and look at Moshe until he had gone into the tent. **9** Whenever Moshe entered the tent, the column of cloud would descend and station itself at the entrance to the tent; and ADONAI would speak with Moshe. **10** When all the people saw the column of cloud stationed at the entrance to the tent, they would get up and prostrate themselves, each man at his tent door. **11** ADONAI would speak to Moshe face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. Then he would return to the camp; but the young man who was his assistant, Y'hoshua the son of Nun, never left the inside of the tent.

12 Moshe said to ADONAI, "Look, you say to me, 'Make these people move on!' But you haven't let me

know whom you will be sending with me. Nevertheless you have said, 'I know you by name,' and also, 'You have found favor in my sight.' **13** Now, please, if it is really the case that I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways; so that I will understand you and continue finding favor in your sight. Moreover, keep on seeing this nation as your people." **14** He answered, "Set your mind at rest - my presence will go with you, after all." **15** Moshe replied, "If your presence doesn't go with us, don't make us go on from here. **16** For how else is it to be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, other than by your going with us? That is what distinguishes us, me and your people, from all the other peoples on earth." **17** ADONAI said to Moshe, "I will also do what you have asked me to do, because you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." **18** But Moshe said, "I beg you to show me your glory!" **19** He replied, "I will cause all my goodness to pass before you, and in your presence I will pronounce the name of ADONAI. Moreover, I show favor to whomever I will, and I display mercy to whomever I will. **20** But my face," he continued, "you cannot see, because a human being cannot look at me and remain alive. **21** Here," he said, "is a place near me; stand on the rock. **22** When my glory passes by, I will put you inside a crevice in the rock and cover you with my hand, until I have passed by. **23** Then I will remove my hand, and you will see my back, but my face is not to be seen."

Exodus 34

1 ADONAI said to Moshe, "Cut yourself two tablets of stone like the first ones; and I will inscribe on the tablets the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke. **2** Be ready by morning; in the morning you are to ascend Mount Sinai and present yourself to me on the top of the mountain. **3** No one is to come up with you, and no one is to be seen anywhere on the mountain; don't even let the flocks or herds feed in front of this mountain." **4** Moshe cut two stone tablets like the first. Then he got up early in the morning and, with the two stone tablets in his hands, ascended Mount Sinai, as ADONAI had ordered him to do.

5 ADONAI descended in the cloud, stood with him there and pronounced the name of ADONAI. **6** ADONAI passed before him and proclaimed: "YUD-HEH-VAV-HEH!!! Yud-Heh-Vav-Heh [ADONAI] is God, merciful and compassionate, slow to anger, rich in grace and truth; **7** showing grace to the thousandth generation, forgiving offenses, crimes and sins; yet not exonerating the guilty, but causing the negative effects of the parents' offenses to be experienced by their children and grandchildren, and even by the third and fourth generations." **8** At once Moshe bowed his head to the ground, prostrated himself **9** and said, "If I have now found favor in your view, Adonai, then please let Adonai go with us, even though they are a stiffnecked people; and pardon our offenses and our sin; and take us as your possession."

10 He said, "Here, I am making a covenant; in front of all your people I will do wonders such as have not been created anywhere on earth or in any nation. All the people around you will see the work of ADONAI. What I am going to do through you will be awesome! **11** Observe what I am ordering you to do today. Here! I am driving out ahead of you the Emori, Kena'ani, Hitti, P'rizi, Hivi and Y'vusi. **12** Be careful not to make a covenant with the people living in the land where you are going, so that they won't become a snare within your own borders. **13** Rather, you are to demolish their altars, smash their standing-stones and cut down their sacred poles; **14** because you are not to bow down to any other god; since ADONAI - whose very name is Jealous - is a jealous God. **15** Do not make a covenant with the people living in the land. It will cause you to go astray after their gods and sacrifice to their gods. Then they will invite you to join them in eating their sacrifices, **16** and you will take their daughters as wives for your sons. Their daughters will prostitute themselves to their own gods and make your sons do the same! **17** "Do not cast metal gods for yourselves.

18 "Keep the festival of matzah by eating matzah, as I ordered you, for seven days during the month of Aviv; for it was in the month of Aviv that you came out from Egypt. **19** "Everything that is first from the womb is mine. Of all your livestock, you are to set aside for me the males, the firstborn of cattle and flock. **20** The firstborn of a donkey you must redeem with a lamb; if you won't redeem it, break its neck. All the firstborn of your sons you are to redeem, and no one is to appear before me empty-handed. **21** "Six days

you will work, but on the seventh day you are to rest - even in plowing time and harvest season you are to rest. **22** "Observe the festival of Shavu'ot with the first-gathered produce of the wheat harvest, and the festival of ingathering at the turn of the year. **23** Three times a year all your men are to appear before the Lord, ADONAI, the God of Isra'el. **24** For I am going to expel nations ahead of you and expand your territory, and no one will even covet your land when you go up to appear before ADONAI your God three times a year. **25** You are not to offer the blood of my sacrifice with leavened bread, and the sacrifice of the feast of Pesach is not to be left until morning. **26** You are to bring the best firstfruits of your land into the house of ADONAI your God. "You are not to boil a young goat in its mother's milk." **27** ADONAI said to Moshe, "Write these words down, because they are the terms of the covenant I have made with you and with Isra'el."

28 Moshe was there with ADONAI forty days and forty nights, during which time he neither ate food nor drank water. [ADONAI] wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the Ten Words. **29** When Moshe came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand, he didn't realize that the skin of his face was sending out rays of light as a result of his talking with [ADONAI]. **30** When Aharon and the people of Isra'el saw Moshe, the skin of his face was shining; and they were afraid to approach him. **31** But Moshe called to them; then Aharon and all the community leaders came back to him, and Moshe spoke to them. **32** Afterwards, all the people of Isra'el came near; and he passed on to them all the orders that ADONAI had told him on Mount Sinai. **33** Once Moshe had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face. **34** But when he went in before ADONAI for him to speak, he would take the veil off until he came out; then, when he came out, he would tell the people of Isra'el what he had been ordered. **35** But when the people of Isra'el saw Moshe's face, that the skin of Moshe's face shone, he would put the veil back over his face until he went in again to speak with [ADONAI].

1 Kings 18:1 – 39

1 A long time passed. Then, in the third year, the word of ADONAI came to Eliyahu: "Go, present yourself to Ach'av, and I will send rain down on the land." **2** When Eliyahu went to present himself to Ach'av, the famine in Shomron had become severe. **3** Ach'av called 'Ovadyah, who was in charge of the palace. Now 'Ovadyah greatly revered ADONAI; **4** for example, when Izevel was murdering ADONAI's prophets, 'Ovadyah took a hundred prophets, hid them in two caves, fifty in each, and supplied them with food and water. **5** Ach'av said to 'Ovadyah, "Go throughout the land, and check all the springs and vadis; maybe we can find grass somewhere, so that we can keep the horses and mules alive and not lose all the animals." **6** So they divided between them the territory to be visited; Ach'av went one way by himself, and 'Ovadyah went another way by himself. **7** 'Ovadyah was on the road when suddenly Eliyahu encountered him. 'Ovadyah recognized him, fell on his face and said, "Is it really you, my lord Eliyahu?" **8** He answered, "Yes, it is I; go, tell your master, 'Eliyahu is here.'" **9** 'Ovadyah replied, "How have I sinned, that you would hand your servant over to Ach'av to kill me? **10** As ADONAI your God lives, there can't be a single nation or kingdom where my master hasn't sent to search you out; and in each kingdom or nation where they said, 'He isn't here,' he made them take an oath that they hadn't found you. **11** Now you say, 'Go tell your master, "Eliyahu is here.'" **12** But as soon as I leave you, the Spirit of ADONAI will carry you off to I don't know where; so that when I come and tell Ach'av, and he can't find you, he will kill me. But I your servant have revered ADONAI from my youth - **13** wasn't my lord told what I did when Izevel killed ADONAI's prophets, how I hid a hundred of ADONAI's prophets by fifties in caves and supplied their food and water? **14** Now you say, 'Go tell your master, "Look, Eliyahu is here." Why, he'll kill me!" **15** Eliyahu said, "As ADONAI-Tzva'ot lives, before whom I stand, I will present myself to him today." **16** So 'Ovadyah went, found Ach'av and told him; and Ach'av went to meet Eliyahu.

17 When Ach'av saw Eliyahu, Ach'av said to him, "Is it really you, you troubler of Isra'el?" **18** He answered, "I haven't troubled Isra'el, you have, you and your father's house, by abandoning ADONAI's mitzvot and following the ba'alim. **19** Now order all Isra'el to assemble before me on Mount Karmel, along with the 450 prophets of Ba'al and the 400 prophets of the asherah who eat at Izevel's table." **20** Ach'av sent word to all the people of Isra'el and assembled the prophets together on Mount Karmel.

21 Eliyahu stepped forward before all the people and said, "How long are you going to jump back and forth between two positions? If ADONAI is God, follow him; but if it's Ba'al, follow him!" The people answered him not a word. **22** Then Eliyahu said to the people, "I, I alone, am the only prophet of ADONAI who is left, while Ba'al's prophets number 450. **23** Let them give us two young bulls, and they can choose the bull they want for themselves. Then let them cut it in pieces and lay it on the wood but put no fire under it. I will prepare the other bull, lay it on the wood and put no fire under it. **24** Then, you, call on the name of your god; and I will call on the name of ADONAI; and the God who answers with fire, let him be God!" All the people answered, "Good idea! Agreed!" **25** Then Eliyahu said to the prophets of Ba'al, "Choose one bull for yourselves, and prepare it first; because there are many of you. Then call on the name of your god, but put no fire under it." **26** They took the bull that was given to them, prepared it and called on the name of Ba'al from morning till noon - "Ba'al! Answer us!" But no voice was heard; and no one answered, as they jumped around on the altar they had made. **27** Around noon Eliyahu began ridiculing them: "Shout louder! After all, he's a god, isn't he? Maybe he's daydreaming, or he's on the potty, or he's away on a trip. Maybe he's asleep, and you have to wake him up." **28** So they shouted louder and slashed themselves with swords and knives, as their custom was, until blood gushed out all over them. **29** By now it was afternoon, and they went on ranting and raving until it was time for the evening offering. But no voice came, no one answered, no one paid any attention. **30** Then Eliyahu said to all the people, "Come here to me." All the people came up to him, as he set about repairing the altar of ADONAI that had been broken down. **31** Eliyahu took twelve stones, in keeping with the number of tribes of the sons of Ya'akov, to whom the word of ADONAI had come, saying, "Your name is to be Isra'el." **32** With the stones he built an altar in the name of ADONAI. Then he dug a trench around the altar large enough for half a bushel of grain. **33** He arranged the wood, cut up the bull and laid it on the wood. **34** Then he said, "Fill four pots with water, and pour it on the burnt offering and on the wood." They did it. "Do it again," he said, and they did it again. "Do it a third time," he said, and they did it a third time. **35** By now the water was flowing around the altar, and it had filled the trench. **36** Then, when it came time for offering the evening offering, Eliyahu the prophet approached and said, "ADONAI, God of Avraham, Yitz'chak and Isra'el, let it be known today that you are God in Isra'el, and that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your word. **37** Hear me, ADONAI, hear me, so that this people may know that you, ADONAI, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back to you." **38** Then the fire of ADONAI fell. It consumed the burnt offering, the wood, the stones and the dust; and it licked up the water in the trench. **39** When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, "ADONAI is God! ADONAI is God!"

Luke 11:14 – 24

14 He was expelling a demon that was mute. When the demon had gone out, the man who had been mute spoke; and the people were astounded. **15** But some of them said, "It is by Ba`al-Zibbul" -- the ruler of the demons -- "that he expels the de mons." **16** And others, trying to trap him, demanded from him a sign from Heaven. **17** But he, knowing what they were thinking, said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, with one house collapsing on another. **18** So if the Adversary too is divided against himself, how can his kingdom survive? I'm asking because you claim it is by Ba`al-Zibbul that I drive out the demons. **19** If I drive out demons by Ba`al-Zibbul, by whom do your people drive them out? So, they will be your judges! **20** But if I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the Kingdom of God has come upon you! **21** "When a strong man who is fully equipped for battle guards his own house, his possessions are secure. **22** But when someone stronger attacks and defeats him, he carries off all the armor and weaponry on which the man was depending, and divides up the spoils. **23** Those who are not with me are against me, and those who do not gather with me are scattering. **24** "When an unclean spirit comes out of a person, it travels through dry country seeking rest. On finding none, it says, 'I will return to the house I left.'

Acts 7:35 – 60

35 "This Moshe, whom they rejected, saying, 'Who made you a ruler and judge?' is the very one whom God sent as both ruler and ransom by means of the angel that appeared to him in the thorn bush. **36** This man led them out, performing miracles and signs in Egypt, at the Red Sea and in the wilderness for forty years. **37** This is the Moshe who said to the people of Isra'el, 'God will raise up a prophet like me from among your brothers' **38** This is the man who was in the assembly in the wilderness, accompanied by the angel that had spoken to him at Mount Sinai and by our fathers, the man who was given living words to pass on to us. **39** "But our fathers did not want to obey him. On the contrary, they rejected him and in their hearts turned to Egypt, **40** saying to Aharon, 'Make us some gods to lead us; because this Moshe, who led us out of Egypt - we don't know what has become of him.'a **41** That was when they made an idol in the shape of a calf and offered a sacrifice to it and held a celebration in honor of what they had made with their own hands.

42 So God turned away from them and gave them over to worship the starsb - as has been written in the book of the prophets, 'People of Isra'el, it was not to me that you offered slaughtered animals and sacrifices for forty years in the wilderness! No, you carried the tent of Molekh and the star of your god Reifan, the idols you made so that you could worship them. Therefore, I will send you into exile beyond Bavel.' **44** "Our fathers had the Tent of Witness in the wilderness. It had been made just as God, who spoke to Moshe, had ordered it made, according to the pattern Moshe had seen. **45** Later on, our fathers who had received it brought it in with Y'hoshua when they took the Land away from the nations that God drove out before them. "So it was until the days of David. **46** He enjoyed God's favor and asked if he might provide a dwelling place for the God of Ya'akov **47** and Shlomo did build him a house. **48** But Ha'Elyon does not live in places made by hand! As the prophet says, **49** 'Heaven is my throne,' says ADONAI, 'and the earth is my footstool. What kind of house could you build for me? What kind of place could you devise for my rest? **50** Didn't I myself make all these things?' **51** "Stiffnecked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You continually oppose the Ruach HaKodesh! You do the same things your fathers did! **52** Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? They killed those who told in advance about the coming of the Tzaddik, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers! - **53** you! - who receive the Torah as having been delivered by angels - but do not keep it!" **54** On hearing these things, they were cut to their hearts and ground their teeth at him. **55** But he, full of the Ruach HaKodesh, looked up to heaven and saw God's Sh'khinah, with Yeshua standing at the right hand of God. **56** "Look!" he exclaimed, "I see heaven opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" **57** At this, they began yelling at the top of their voices, so that they wouldn't have to hear him; and with one accord, they rushed at him, **58** threw him outside the city and began stoning him. And the witnesses laid down their coats at the feet of a young man named Sha'ul. **59** As they were stoning him, Stephen called out to God, "Lord Yeshua! Receive my spirit!" **60** Then he kneeled down and shouted out, "Lord! Don't hold this sin against them!" With that, he died;

Acts 8:1

1 and Sha'ul gave his approval to his murder. Starting with that day, there arose intense persecution against the Messianic Community in Yerushalayim; all but the emissaries were scattered throughout the regions of Y'hudah and Shomron.

1 Corinthians 10:1 – 13

1 For, brothers, I don't want you to miss the significance of what happened to our fathers. All of them were guided by the pillar of cloud, and they all passed through the sea, **2** and in connection with the cloud and with the sea they all immersed themselves into Moshe, **3** also they all ate the same food from the Spirit, **4** and they all drank the same drink from the Spirit - for they drank from a Spirit-sent Rock which followed them, and that Rock was the Messiah. **5** Yet with the majority of them God was not pleased, so their bodies were strewn across the desert.

6 Now these things took place as prefigurative historical events, warning us not to set our hearts on evil things as they did. **7** Don't be idolaters, as some of them were - as the Tanakh puts it, "The people sat down to eat and drink, then got up to indulge in revelry." **8** And let us not engage in sexual immorality, as some of them did, with the consequence that 23,000 died in a single day. **9** And let us not put the Messiah to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by snakes. **10** And don't grumble, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the Destroying Angel. **11** These things happened to them as prefigurative historical events, and they were written down as a warning to us who are living in the acharit-hayamim. **12** Therefore, let anyone who thinks he is standing up be careful not to fall! **13** No temptation has seized you beyond what people normally experience, and God can be trusted not to allow you to be tempted beyond what you can bear. On the contrary, along with the temptation he will also provide the way out, so that you will be able to endure.

2 Corinthians 3:1 – 18

1 Are we starting to recommend ourselves again? Or do we, like some, need letters of recommendation either to you or from you? **2** You yourselves are our letter of recommendation, written on our hearts, known and read by everyone. **3** You make it clear that you are a letter from the Messiah placed in our care, written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on stone tablets but on human hearts. **4** Such is the confidence we have through the Messiah toward God. **5** It is not that we are competent in ourselves to count anything as having come from us; on the contrary, our competence is from God.

6 He has even made us competent to be workers serving a New Covenant, the essence of which is not a written text but the Spirit. For the written text brings death, but the Spirit gives life. **7** Now if that which worked death, by means of a written text engraved on stone tablets, came with glory - such glory that the people of Isra'el could not stand to look at Moshe's face because of its brightness, even though that brightness was already fading away - **8** won't the working of the Spirit be accompanied by even greater glory? **9** For if there was glory in what worked to declare people guilty, how much more must the glory abound in what works to declare people innocent! **10** In fact, by comparison with this greater glory, what was made glorious before has no glory now. **11** For if there was glory in what faded away, how much more glory must there be in what lasts.

12 Therefore, with a hope like this, we are very open - **13** unlike Moshe, who put a veil over his face, so that the people of Isra'el would not see the fading brightness come to an end. **14** What is more, their minds were made stonelike; for to this day the same veil remains over them when they read the Old Covenant; it has not been unveiled, because only by the Messiah is the veil taken away. **15** Yes, till today, whenever Moshe is read, a veil lies over their heart. **16** "But," says the Torah, "whenever someone turns to ADONAI, the veil is taken away."a **17** Now, "ADONAI" in this text means the Spirit. And where the Spirit of ADONAI is, there is freedom. **18** So all of us, with faces unveiled, see as in a mirror the glory of the Lord; and we are being changed into his very image, from one degree of glory to the next, by ADONAI the Spirit.