

Shemot “Names”

Torah: Exodus 1:1-6:1
Haftarah: Isaiah 27:6-28:13 & 29:22-23
Brit Chadasha: Acts 3:12-15; 5:27-32; 7:17-36; 22:12-16; 24:14-16

All verses are from the Tree of Life Bible

TORAH:

Exodus 1

Oppression in Egypt

1 Now these are the names of *Bnei-Yisrael* who came into Egypt with Jacob, each man with his family:

2 Reuben, Simeon, Levi and Judah;

3 Issachar, Zebulun and Benjamin;

4 Dan, Naphtali, Gad and Asher.

5 The souls that came out of the line of Jacob numbered 70 in all, while Joseph was already in Egypt.

6 Then Joseph died, as did all his brothers and all that generation.

7 Yet *Bnei-Yisrael* were fruitful, increased abundantly, multiplied and grew extremely numerous—so the land was filled with them.

8 Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph.

9 He said to his people, “Look, the people of *Bnei-Yisrael* are too numerous and too powerful for us.

10 Come, we must deal shrewdly with them, or else they will grow even more numerous, so that if war breaks out, they may join our enemies, fight against us, and then escape from the land.”

11 So they set slave masters over them to afflict them with forced labor, and they built Pithom and Raamses as storage cities for Pharaoh.

12 But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and the more they spread. So the Egyptians dreaded the presence of *Bnei-Yisrael*.

13 They worked them harshly,

14 and made their lives bitter with hard labor with mortar and brick, doing all sorts of work in the fields. In all their labors they worked them with cruelty.

15 Moreover the king of Egypt spoke to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah,

16 and said, “When you help the Hebrew women during childbirth, look at the sex. If it’s a son, then kill him, but if it’s a daughter, she may live.”

17 Yet the midwives feared God, so they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but let the boys live.

18 So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this—let the boys live?”

19 The midwives told Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not like Egyptian women. They are like animals, and give birth before the midwife comes to them.”

20 So God was good to the midwives, and the people multiplied, growing very numerous.

21 Because the midwives feared God, He gave them families of their own.

22 But Pharaoh charged all his people saying, “You are to cast every son that is born into the river, but let every daughter live.”

Exodus 2

Young Moses

1 Now a man from the house of Levi took as his wife a daughter of Levi.

2 The woman conceived and gave birth to a son. Now when she saw that he was delightful, she hid him for three months.

3 But when she could no longer hide him, she took a basket of papyrus reeds, coated it with tar and pitch, put the child inside, and laid it in the reeds by the bank of the Nile.

4 His sister stood off at a distance to see what would happen to him.

5 Then the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe, while her maidens walked along by the riverside. When she saw the basket among the reeds, she sent her handmaiden to fetch it.

6 When she opened it, she saw the child—look, a baby boy crying! She had compassion on him and said, “This is one of the Hebrew children.”

7 Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, “Should I go and call a nurse from the Hebrews to nurse the child for you?”

8 Pharaoh’s daughter told her, “Go!” So the girl went and called the child’s mother.

9 Then Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Take this child and nurse him for me, and I will pay you your wages.” So the woman took the child and nursed him.

10 After the boy grew older she brought him to Pharaoh’s daughter and he became her son. So she named him Moses saying, “Because I drew him out of the water.”

11 Now it happened in those days, after Moses had grown up, that he went out to his brothers and saw their burdens. He noticed an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his own people.

12 So he looked around and when he saw that there was nobody, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.

13 Then he went out the following day, and saw two Hebrew men fighting. So he said to the guilty one, “Why are you beating your companion?”

14 But the man answered, “Who made you a ruler and a judge over us? Are you saying you’re going to kill me—just as you killed the Egyptian?” Then Moses was afraid, and thought, “For sure the deed had become known.”

15 When Pharaoh heard about this, he tried to kill Moses. But Moses fled from Pharaoh and settled in the land of Midian, where he sat down by a well.

16 Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters who came and drew water. They filled the troughs to water their father’s flock.

17 But shepherds came and drove them away, so Moses stood up, helped them and watered their flock.

18 When they came to Reuel their father, he said, “How come you’ve returned so soon today?”

19 So they told him, "An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds. He also drew water for us and watered the flock."

20 "Where is he then?" he said to his daughters. "Why did you leave the man behind? Invite him to have some food to eat!"

21 Moses was content to stay on with the man. Later he gave Moses his daughter Zipporah.

22 She gave birth to a son and he named him Gershom, saying, "I have been an outsider in a foreign land."

23 Now it came about over the course of those many days that the king of Egypt died. *Bnei-Yisrael* groaned because of their slavery. They cried out and their cry from slavery went up to God.

24 God heard their sobbing and remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

25 God saw *Bnei-Yisrael*, and He was concerned about them.

Exodus 3

Angel of Adonai in a Burning Bush

1 Now Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian. So he led the flock to the farthest end of the wilderness, coming to the mountain of God, Horeb.

2 Then the angel of *Adonai* appeared to him in a flame of fire from within a bush. So he looked and saw the bush burning with fire, yet it was not consumed.

3 Moses thought, "I will go now, and see this great sight. Why is the bush not burnt?"

4 When *Adonai* saw that he turned to look, He called to him out of the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" So he answered, "*Hineni.*"

5 Then He said, "Come no closer. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy ground."

6 Moreover He said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob." So Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

7 Then *Adonai* said, “I have surely seen the affliction of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their slave masters, for I know their pains.

8 So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, to bring them up out of that land into a good and large land, a land flowing with milk and honey, into the place of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites.

9 Now behold, the cry of *Bnei-Yisrael* has come to Me. Moreover I have seen the oppression that the Egyptians have inflicted on them.

10 Come now, I will send you to Pharaoh, so that you may bring My people *Bnei-Yisrael* out from Egypt.”

11 But Moses said to God, “Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring *Bnei-Yisrael* out of Egypt?”

12 So He said, “I will surely be with you. So that will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you. When you have brought the people out of Egypt: you will worship God on this mountain.”

13 But Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to *Bnei-Yisrael* and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is His Name?’ What should I say to them?”

14 God answered Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” Then He said, “You are to say to *Bnei-Yisrael*, ‘I AM’ has sent me to you.”

15 God also said to Moses: “You are to say to *Bnei-Yisrael*, *Adonai*, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My Name forever, and the Name by which I should be remembered from generation to generation.

16 “Go now, gather the elders of Israel together, and say to them: ‘*Adonai*, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob—has appeared to me, saying, I have been paying close attention to you and have seen what is done to you in Egypt.

17 So I promise I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt, into the land of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites, to a land flowing with milk and honey.’

18 “They will listen to your voice. So you will go, you along with the elders of Israel, to the king of Egypt, and say to him: ‘*Adonai*, the God of the Hebrews, has met with us. Now please let us take a three-day journey into the wilderness, so that we may sacrifice to *Adonai* our God.’

19 Nevertheless, I know that the king of Egypt will not let you go, except by a mighty hand.

20 So I will stretch out My hand and strike Egypt with all My wonders that I will do in the midst of it. After that, he will let you go.

21 “Then I shall grant these people favor in the eyes of the Egyptians. So it will happen that when you go, you will not leave empty-handed.

22 Every woman is to ask her neighbor and the woman who lives in her house for silver and gold jewelry and clothing. You will put them on your sons and your daughters. So you will plunder the Egyptians.”

Exodus 4

Objections and Excuses

1 Then Moses said, “But look, they will not believe me or listen to my voice. They will say, ‘*Adonai* has not appeared to you.’”

2 So *Adonai* said to him, “What is that in your hand?” “A staff,” he said.

3 Then He said, “Cast it on the ground.” When he cast it to the ground, it became a serpent, so Moses fled from before it.

4 Then *Adonai* said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand, and take it by the tail.” So he put out his hand, laid hold of it, and it became a staff in his hand.

5 “This is so that they may believe *Adonai*, the God of their fathers—the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob—has appeared to you.”

6 *Adonai* also said to him, “Now put your hand within your cloak.” So he put his hand inside, and when he took it out, his hand had *tza'arat*—white as snow.

7 Then He said, “Put your hand back into your cloak.” So he put his hand back in, and when he took it out it was restored again as the rest of his skin.

8 Then He said, “If they do not believe you, or listen to the voice of the first sign, they will believe the message of the latter sign.

9 But if they do not believe even these two signs nor listen to your voice, you are to take the water of the river and pour it on the dry land. The water which you take out of the river will become blood on the ground.”

10 But Moses said to *Adonai*, “*Adonai*, I am not a man of words—not yesterday, nor the day before, nor since You have spoken to Your servant—because I have a slow mouth and a heavy tongue.”

11 So *Adonai* said to him, “Who made man’s mouth? Or who makes a man mute or deaf, seeing or blind? Is it not I, *Adonai*?

12 Now go! I will be with your mouth and teach you what to say.”

13 But he said, “Please, please, send it by another hand.”

14 Then the anger of *Adonai* was kindled against Moses, so He said, “In fact, Aaron the Levite is your brother. I know that he can speak well. Moreover, he is on his way to meet you! When he sees you, he will be glad in his heart.

15 You are to speak to him and put the words in his mouth. I will be with your mouth and with his, and teach you what to do.

16 He will be your spokesman to the people, so that he may act as a mouthpiece for you, and it will be as if you were as God for him.

17 Now then, you must take this staff in your hand to do the signs.”

Moses Returns to Egypt

18 So Moses went, returned to his father-in-law Jethro and said to him, “Please let me go, so I may return to my kinsmen who are in Egypt and see whether they are still alive.” Jethro said to Moses, “Go in peace.”

19 Then *Adonai* said to Moses in Midian, “Go, return to Egypt, for all the men that sought your life are dead.”

20 So Moses took his wife and his sons, set them on a donkey and returned to the land of Egypt. Moses took the staff of God in his hand.

21 *Adonai* said to Moses, “When you go back to Egypt, see that you do all the wonders before Pharaoh that I have put in your hand. Still, I will harden his heart, and he will not let the people go.

22 You are to say to Pharaoh, “This is what *Adonai* says: ‘Israel is My son, My firstborn.

23 So I have said to you, Let My son go, that he may serve Me, but you have refused to let him go. Behold, I will slay your son, your firstborn.’”

24 It happened along the way, at a lodging place, that *Adonai* met him and sought to kill him!

25 But Zipporah took a flint, cut off the foreskin of her son, and threw it at his feet, saying, "You are surely a bridegroom of blood to me."

26 She said, "A bridegroom of blood" because of the circumcision. Then He let him alone.

27 Now *Adonai* said to Aaron, "Go into the wilderness to meet Moses." So he went and met him at the mountain of God, and kissed him.

28 Then Moses told Aaron all the words of *Adonai* with which He had been sent, along with all the signs that He had commanded him to do.

29 Then Moses and Aaron went and assembled all the elders of *Bnei-Yisrael*.

30 Aaron spoke all the words that *Adonai* had spoken to Moses and did the signs in the sight of the people.

31 So the people believed. When they heard that *Adonai* had remembered *Bnei-Yisrael* and had seen their affliction, they bowed their heads and worshipped.

Exodus 5

Pharaoh Will Not Let Israel Go

1 Afterward, Moses and Aaron went and said to Pharaoh, "This is what *Adonai*, God of Israel, says: Let My people go, so that they may hold a feast for Me in the wilderness."

2 But Pharaoh said, "Who is *Adonai*, that I should listen to His voice and let Israel go? I do not know *Adonai*, and besides, I will not let Israel go."

3 They answered, "The God of the Hebrews has met with us. Please let us take a three-day journey into the wilderness, so we may sacrifice to *Adonai* our God, or else He may strike us with pestilence or with the sword."

4 But the king of Egypt said to them, "Why do you, Moses and Aaron, make the people break loose from their work? Go to your labors!"

5 Then Pharaoh said, "Look, the people of the land are now so numerous, yet you would have them rest from their labors?"

6 Then on the same day Pharaoh commanded the slave masters of the people and their foremen saying,

7 “You are not to give the people any more straw to make bricks, as before. Let them go and gather straw for themselves.

8 But impose on them the quota of bricks that they made previously; don’t reduce it. For they are lazy—that’s why they cry out saying, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to our God.’

9 Let even heavier work be laid upon the men, so that they must labor, paying no attention to deceptive words.”

10 Then the slave masters of the people went out, along with their officers, and they spoke to the people saying: “This is what Pharaoh says: I will not give you straw.

11 Go and get straw for yourselves wherever you can find it, for there will be no reduction of your work.”

12 So the people were scattered throughout all the land of Egypt to gather stubble for straw.

13 But the slave masters pressured, saying, “Fulfill your work, your daily amount, just as when there was straw.”

14 Moreover the foremen of *Bnei-Yisrael*, whom Pharaoh’s slave masters had set over them, were beaten and asked, “Why haven’t you met your quota of bricks, both yesterday and today like before?”

15 The foremen of *Bnei-Yisrael* came and cried out to Pharaoh saying, “Why do you deal this way with your servants?

16 No straw is given to your servants, yet they say to us, ‘Make bricks!’ and look, your servants are beaten. But it is your own people at fault.”

17 But he said, “Lazy! You’re lazy! That’s why you were saying, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to *Adonai*.’

18 So go now and work! No straw will be given to you—but you must deliver the quota of bricks.”

19 So the foremen of *Bnei-Yisrael* saw that they were in trouble when they were told, “You are not to reduce the number of bricks from day to day.”

20 Then they met Moses and Aaron, who were waiting for them as they came from Pharaoh.

21 So they said to them, “May *Adonai* look on you and judge, because you have made us a stench in the eyes of Pharaoh and in the eyes of his servants—putting a sword in their hand to kill us!”

22 So Moses returned to *Adonai* and said, “*Adonai*, why have You brought evil on these people? Is this why You sent me?”

23 Ever since I came to Pharaoh to speak in Your Name, he has brought evil on these people. You have not delivered Your people at all.”

Exodus 6:1

How Will Pharaoh Listen?

1 *Adonai* said to Moses, “Now you will see what I am going to do to Pharaoh. By way of a strong hand he will let them go, and drive them out of his land.”

HAFTARAH

Isaiah 27:6-13

Israel Will Blossom Again

6 In days to come Jacob will take root, Israel will blossom and bud and fill the face of the world with fruit.

7 Did He strike Israel as He struck those who struck them? Or were they slain as their slayers were slain?

8 You contended with her by banishing her, by driving her away. With His fierce wind He expelled them on the day of the east wind.

9 So by this will Jacob's sin be atoned and this the full price to remove his sin: When he makes all the altar stones like shattered chalk stones, so that the Asherah poles and incense rise no more.

10 The fortified city is a lonely habitation, forlorn and forsaken like the desert. There the calf will graze, there lie down and consume its branches.

11 When the boughs are withered, they will be broken off. Women come and set them on fire, for it is a people of no understanding. Therefore their Maker will show them no mercy—He who formed them will give them no grace.

12 It will come about in that day, *Adonai* will thresh from the channel of the River to the Wadi of Egypt, and you will be gathered one by one, *Bnei-Yisrael*.

13 It will also come about in that day, a great *shofar* will be blown. Those perishing in the land of Assyria and the exiles in the land of Egypt will come and worship *Adonai* on the holy mountain in Jerusalem.

Isaiah 28:1-13

A Cornerstone of Zion

1 O ye, the proud crown of Ephraim's drunks! Its glorious beauty is a fading flower, which is at the head of the fertile valleys of those overcome with wine!

2 Behold, *Adonai* is strong and mighty, like a hailstorm, a destructive tempest, like a downpour of overflowing water, He hurls it down to earth with His hand.

3 The proud crown of Ephraim's drunks will be trampled underfoot.
4 The glorious beauty is a fading flower which is at the head of the fertile valley, like a first-ripe fig before summer— whoever sees it, swallows it up while it is still in his palm.
5 In that day *Adonai-Tzva'ot* will be a crown of glory, a diadem of beauty to the remnant of His people,
6 a spirit of judgment for him who sits on the judgment seat, and strength for those turning back the battle at the gate.
7 But these also reel from wine and stagger from strong drink —the *kohen* and the prophet reel from strong drink— are confused because of wine, they stagger because of strong drink, they are muddled in vision, they stumble in judgment.
8 Since all the tables are full of the filth of vomit, no place is left.
9 To whom will He teach knowledge? To whom will He explain the message? Those just weaned from milk? Those just taken from the breast?
10 For it must be 'precept upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little, there a little.'
11 For through stammering lips and a foreign tongue He will speak to this people,
12 To whom He said, "Here is rest, give rest to the weary, here is repose" — but they would not listen.
13 So the word of *Adonai* is to them 'precept on precept, precept on precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little, there a little.' So they walk, and fall backward, and are broken, trapped, and captured.

Isaiah 29:22-23

22 Therefore, thus says *Adonai*, Redeemer of Abraham, concerning the house of Jacob: "Jacob will no longer be ashamed, no longer will his face grow pale;
23 for when he sees his children, the work of My hands in his midst, they will sanctify My Name; they will sanctify the Holy One of Jacob, and stand in awe of the God of Israel.

BRIT CHADASHA

Acts 3:12-15

12 But when Peter saw, he responded to the people, “Men of Israel, why are you amazed at this? Why do you stare at us—as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk?”

13 The God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified His Servant *Yeshua*—the One you handed over and disowned before Pilate, though he had decided to release Him.

14 But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked for a murderer to be granted to you.

15 You killed the Author of life—the One God raised from the dead! We are witnesses of it.

Acts 5:27-32

27 When they had brought them, they placed them before the Sanhedrin.

The *kohen gadol* questioned them,

28 saying, “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name—and look, you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring on us the blood of this Man!”

29 Peter and the emissaries replied, “We must obey God rather than men.

30 The God of our fathers raised up *Yeshua*, whom you seized and had crucified.

31 This One God exalted at His right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and removal of sins.

32 And we are witnesses of these events—as is the *Ruach ha-Kodesh*, whom God has given to those who obey Him.”

Acts 7:17-36

17 “But as the time drew near for the promise God had sworn to Abraham, the people increased and multiplied in Egypt—

18 until ‘there arose another king over Egypt who knew nothing about Joseph.’

19 Dealing with our people with cruel cunning, this king mistreated our fathers and forced them to abandon their infants so they would not survive.

20 “At this time Moses was born—extraordinary before God. For three months he was nurtured in his father’s house.

21 And when he was set outside, Pharaoh’s daughter took him and raised him as her own son.

22 Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and he was powerful in his words and deeds.

23 “When he was approaching forty years of age, it came into his heart to visit his brothers, *Bnei-Yisrael*.

24 When he saw one of them being treated unjustly, he went to the defense of the oppressed man and avenged him by striking down the Egyptian.

25 He was assuming that his brothers understood that by his hand God was delivering them, but they did not understand.

26 So on the next day he appeared to them as they were fighting. He tried to reconcile them in *shalom*, saying, ‘Men, you are brothers. Why do you wrong one another?’

27 “But the one doing wrong to his neighbor pushed him away, saying, ‘Who appointed you ruler and judge over us?’

28 You don’t want to kill me as you killed the Egyptian yesterday, do you?’

29 At this remark, Moses fled and became an exile in the land of Midian, where he became the father of two sons.

30 “When forty years had passed, an angel appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai in the flame of a burning bush.

31 When Moses saw it, he was amazed at the sight. But when he came up to look, there came the voice of *Adonai*:

32 ‘I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob.’

“Moses trembled in fear and did not dare to look.

33 But *Adonai* said to him, 'Take the sandals off your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.

34 I have surely seen the oppression of my people in Egypt and have heard their groaning, and I have come down to deliver them. Now come—let Me send you to Egypt.'

35 "This Moses—whom they rejected, saying, 'Who appointed you as ruler and judge?'—is the one whom God sent as both ruler and redeemer, by the hand of the angel who appeared to him in the bush.

36 This man led them out, performing wonders and signs in the land of Egypt, and at the Red Sea, and in the wilderness for forty years.

Acts 22:12-16

12 Then a certain Ananias—a devout man according to the *Torah*, well spoken of by all the Jewish people living there—

13 came to me. Standing before me, he said to me, 'Brother Saul, look up!' In that very moment, I looked and saw him!

14 "And he said, 'The God of our fathers handpicked you to know His will—to see the Righteous One and to hear an utterance from His mouth.

15 For you will be a witness for Him to all people of what you have seen and heard.

16 Now why are you waiting? Get up and be immersed, and wash away your sins, calling on His Name.'

Acts 24:14-16

14 "But this I confess to you, that according to the Way (which they call a sect), I worship the God of our fathers, believing everything written in the *Torah* and the Prophets.

15 In God I have a hope—which these men also wait for—that there will surely be a resurrection of both the righteous and the unrighteous.

16 "Therefore I do my best always to have a clear conscience before both God and men.