

*Send My People Out - or Let My People Go*  
*Re-examining the story of the Exdous - Part V*

**Three Days or Seven Weeks - Was Mt. Sinai the goal or a 'rest-stop'**

*Source sheet for TIM shiur by Menachem Leibtag/*

**Introduction /**

Over and over again, Moshe requests from Pharoah that the SEND the People out a 'three day distance into the desert' to worship their God. Finally, after ten plagues, Pharoah not only sends them out - he expels them to ensure that they will worship their God in the hope that this will finally put an end to the Plagues.

If indeed, Mt. Sinai is a 'three day distance' from Egypt, why does it take close to seven weeks for Am Yisrael to finally arrive at Mt. Sinai to worship Hashem.

In our final class of this series, we attempt to explain why.

[As an intro, discuss the 'three types of Passover Seder']

**I. Review - 'Three days distance to serve God' / Shmot 3:7-20**

י ועתה לכה, ואשלחך אל-פרעה; 10 Come now therefore, and I will send thee  
 והוצא את-עמי בני-ישראל, ממצרים. ... unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth My  
 ... people the children of Israel out of Egypt.'

יב ויאמר, כי-אהיה עמך, וזה-לך האות, כי אנכי 12 And He said: 'Certainly I will be with  
 שלחתיך: בהוציאך את-העם, ממצרים, thee; and this shall be the token unto thee,  
 תעבדון את-האלהים, על ההר הזה. that I have sent thee: when thou hast  
 ... brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye  
 ... shall serve God upon this mountain.'

**Rashbam vs. Rashi**

GO, I'm sending you to Pharoah	& TAKE My People out of Egypt
Who am I, to GO to Pharoah?	In what MERIT (or) HOW can I convince Pharoah to do so
The BUSH is the sign I'll be with you	Rashi - To receive the Torah Rashbam -Tell him we need to sacrifice to our God

## Moshe's 'double' mission - to the People & Pharaoh

טז לך ואספת את-זקני ישראל, ואמרת אליהם יהוה אלהי אבותיכם נראה אלי, אלהי אברהם ויעקב, לאמר: פקד פקדתי אתכם, ואת-העשוי לכם במצרים.

16 Go, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say unto them: The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, hath appeared unto me, saying: I have surely remembered you, and seen that which is done to you in Egypt.

יז ואמר, אעלה אתכם מעני מצרים, אל-ארץ הפנעני והחתי, והאמרי והפריזי והחוי והיבוסים--אל-ארץ זבת חלב, ודבש.

17 And I have said: I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt unto the land of the Canaanite, and the Hittite, and the Amorite, and the Perizzite, and the Hivite, and the Jebusite, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.

יח ושמעו, לקולך; ובאת אתה וזקני ישראל אל-מלך מצרים, ואמרתם אליו יהוה אלהי העבריים נקרה עלינו, ועתה נלכה-נא דרך שלשת ימים במדבר, ונזבחה ליהוה אלהינו.

18 And they shall hearken to thy voice. And thou shalt come, thou and the elders of Israel, unto the king of Egypt, and ye shall say unto him: The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, hath met with us. And now let us go, we pray thee, three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.

יט ואני ידעתי--כי לא-יתן אתכם מלך מצרים, להלך: ולא, ביד חזקה.

19 And I know that the king of Egypt will not give you leave to go, except by a mighty hand.

כ ושלחתי את-ידי, והפיתי את-מצרים, בכל נפלאתי, אשר אעשה בקרבן; ואחרי-כן, ישלח אתכם.

20 And I will put forth My hand, and smite Egypt with all My wonders which I will do in the midst thereof. And after that he will let you go.

## Moshe's first encounter with Pharaoh - chapter 5

ג ויאמרו, אלהי העבריים נקרא עלינו; נלכה נא דרך שלשת ימים במדבר, ונזבחה ליהוה אלהינו--פן-יפגענו, בדבר או בחרב.

3 And they said: 'The God of the Hebrews hath met with us. Let us go, we pray thee, three days' journey into the wilderness, and sacrifice unto the LORD our God; lest He fall upon us with pestilence, or with the sword.'

After NINE PLAGUES of Pharaoh saying NO !!

THE EXODUS \*- to freedom, or to worship Shmot 12:29-36

ל ויקם פרעה לילה, הוא וכל-עבדיו וכל-מצרים, ותהי צעקה גדלה, במצרים: כי-אין בית, אשר אין-שם מת.

30 And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt; for there was not a house where there was not one dead.

לא ויקרא למשה ולאהרן לילה, ויאמר קומו צאו מתוך עמי--גם-אתם, גם-בני ישראל; ולכו עבדו את-יהוה, כדברכם.

31 And he called for Moses and Aaron by night and said: 'Rise up, get you forth from among my people, both ye and the children of Israel; and go, serve the LORD, as ye have said.'

לב גם-צאנכם גם-בקרכם קחו פאשר דברתם, ולכו; וברכתם, גם-אתי.

32 Take both your flocks and your herds, as ye have said, and be gone; and bless me also.'

## Follow the THREE DAY JOURNEY:

### DAY ONE - From Raamses to Succot: Shmot 12:37

לז וַיִּסְעוּ בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל מִרַעַמְסֵס סִכְתָּה כְּשֵׁשׁ־מֵאוֹת אֶלֶף רִגְלִי...  
לט: . וַיֵּאָפוּ אֶת־הַבֶּצֶק אֲשֶׁר הוֹצִיאוּ מִמִּצְרַיִם עֵגֶת מִצּוֹת כִּי לֹא חֵמֵץ  
כִּי־גִרְשׁוּ מִמִּצְרַיִם וְלֹא יִכְלוּ לְהִתְמַהֵמֵה וְגַם־צָדָה...

### DAY TWO- From Succot to Eitam, & armed! Shmot 13:17-23

יז וַיְהִי, בְּשַׁלַּח פְּרַעְהָ אֶת־הָעָם יח וַיֵּסֶב אֱלֹהִים אֶת־הָעָם דָּרָךְ  
הַמִּדְבָּר, ים-סוף; וְחַמְשִׁים עָלוּ בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל, מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם .  
...כ. וַיִּסְעוּ מִסִּכְתָּה וַיַּחֲנוּ בְּאֵתֶם בְּקִצָּה הַמִּדְבָּר.

### DAY THREE- To the Desert, or Back to Egypt? Shmot 14:1-4

פֶּרֶק יד א וַיְדַבֵּר ה' אֶל־מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר: ב דַּבֵּר אֶל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיֵּשְׁבוּ וַיַּחֲנוּ  
לִפְנֵי פִי הַחִירֹת בֵּין מִגְדֵּל וּבֵין הַיָּם לִפְנֵי בַעַל צַפֹּן נֶכְחוּ תַחְנוּ עַל־הַיָּם

## II. The three day journey - to Mara? / Shmot 15:22-27

כב וַיִּסַּע מֹשֶׁה אֶת־יִשְׂרָאֵל מֵיַם־סוּף, וַיֵּצְאוּ  
אֶל־מִדְבַר־שׁוּר; וַיֵּלְכוּ שְׁלֹשֶׁת־יָמִים בְּמִדְבָּר,  
וְלֹא־מָצְאוּ מַיִם.

22 And Moses led Israel onward from the Red Sea, and they went out into the wilderness of Shur; and they went three days in the wilderness, and found no water.

כג וַיָּבֹאוּ מְרַתָּה--וְלֹא יָכְלוּ לְשִׁתּוֹת מֵיַם מְרַתָּה,  
כִּי מָרִים הֵם; עַל־כֵּן קָרָא שְׁמָהּ, מְרָה.

23 And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter. Therefore the name of it was called Marah.

כד וַיִּלְנוּ הָעָם עַל־מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר, מַה־נִּשְׁתָּה.

24 And the people murmured against Moses, saying: 'What shall we drink?'

כה וַיִּצְעַק אֶל־יְהוָה, וַיֹּרְהוּ יְהוָה עֵץ,  
וַיִּשְׁלַךְ אֶל־הַמַּיִם, וַיִּמְתְּקוּ הַמַּיִם;  
שָׁם שָׁם לֹו חֶק וּמִשְׁפָּט, וְשָׁם נִסָּהוּ.

25 And he cried unto the LORD; and the LORD showed him a tree, and he cast it into the waters, and the waters were made sweet. There He made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there He proved them;

כו וַיֹּאמֶר אִם־שָׁמוֹעַ תִּשְׁמַע לְקוֹל יְהוָה  
אֱלֹהֶיךָ, וְהִישָׁר בְּעֵינָיו תַּעֲשֶׂה,  
וְהֶאֱזַנְתָּ לְמִצְוֹתָיו, וְשָׁמַרְתָּ כָּל־חֻקָּיו־  
כָּל־הַמַּחֲלָה אֲשֶׁר־שִׁמְתִי בְּמִצְרַיִם, לֹא־אֲשִׁים  
עֲלֶיךָ, כִּי אֲנִי יְהוָה, רַפְּאֵךְ. {ס}

26 and He said: 'If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in His eyes, and wilt give ear to His commandments, and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases upon thee, which I have put upon the Egyptians; for I am the LORD that healeth thee.' {S}

כז וַיָּבֹאוּ אֵילִמָּה--וְשָׁם שְׁתַּיִם עֶשְׂרֵה עֵינֹת  
מַיִם, וְשִׁבְעִים תְּמָרִים; וַיַּחֲנוּ־שָׁם, עַל־הַמַּיִם.

27 And they came to Elim, where were twelve springs of water, and three score and ten palm-trees; and they encamped there by the waters.

### III. The theme of "nisayon" continues/ Shmot 16:1-4

**א** וַיִּסְעוּ, מֵאֵילָם, וַיָּבֹאוּ כָּל-עֵדֶת בְּנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶל-  
מִדְבַּר-סִין, אֲשֶׁר בֵּין-אֵילָם וּבֵין סִינַי--בַּחֲמִשָּׁה  
עָשָׂר יוֹם לַחֹדֶשׁ הַשְּׁנִי, לְצֵאתָם מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם.

1 And they took their journey from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came unto the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after their departing out of the land of Egypt.

**ב** וַיִּלִּינוּ (וַיִּלּוֹנוּ) כָּל-עֵדֶת בְּנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל,  
עַל-מִשָּׁה וְעַל-אֱהָרֹן--בַּמִּדְבָּר.

2 And the whole congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron in the wilderness;

**ג** וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֲלֵהֶם בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, מִי-יִתֵּן מוֹתָנוּ בְּיַד-  
יְהוָה בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם, בְּשִׁבְתֵּנוּ עַל-סִיר הַבָּשָׂר,  
בְּאֲכָלְנוּ לֶחֶם לֶשֶׁבַע: כִּי-הוֹצֵאתָם אֶתָנוּ אֶל-  
הַמִּדְבָּר הַזֶּה, לְהַמִּית אֶת-כָּל-הַקָּהָל הַזֶּה בָּרָעַב.

3 and the children of Israel said unto them: 'Would that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh-pots, when we did eat bread to the full; for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger.' {S}

**ד** וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה,  
הֲנִי מִמָּטִיר לָכֶם לֶחֶם מִן-הַשָּׁמַיִם;  
וַיֵּצֵא הָעָם וַלְקָטוּ דָבָר-יוֹם בְּיוֹמוֹ,  
לְמַעַן אֲנִסְנוּ הַיֶּלֶד בְּתוֹרַתִי אִם-לֹא.

4 Then said the LORD unto Moses: 'Behold, I will cause to rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in My law, or not.

**ה** וְהָיָה בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁשִׁי, וְהָכִינוּ אֶת אֲשֶׁר-יָבִיאוּ;  
וְהָיָה מִשְׁנָה, עַל אֲשֶׁר-יִלְקָטוּ יוֹם יוֹם.

5 And it shall come to pass on the sixth day that they shall prepare that which they bring in, and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily.'

#### Preparation for Har Sinai - or for living in Israel / see concluding verses:

**לג** וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה אֶל-אֱהָרֹן,  
קַח צְנֻפֶת אַחַת, וְתֵן-שָׁמָּה מְלֵא-  
הָעֶמֶר, מִן; וְהִנַּח אֹתוֹ לִפְנֵי יְהוָה,  
לְמִשְׁמֶרֶת לְדוֹרֹתֶיכֶם.

33 And Moses said unto Aaron: 'Take a jar, and put an omerful of manna therein, and lay it up before the LORD, to be kept throughout your generations.'

**לד** כַּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּה יְהוָה, אֶל-מֹשֶׁה;  
וַיִּנְחֵהוּ אֱהָרֹן לִפְנֵי הָעֵדֻת, לְמִשְׁמֶרֶת.

34 As the LORD commanded Moses, so Aaron laid it up before the Testimony, to be kept.

**לה** וּבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, אָכְלוּ אֶת-הַמָּן  
אַרְבָּעִים שָׁנָה--עַד-בְּאֵם, אֶל-אֶרֶץ  
נוֹשֶׁבֶת: אֶת-הַמָּן, אָכְלוּ--עַד-בְּאֵם,  
אֶל-קִצֵּה אֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן.

35 And the children of Israel did eat the manna forty years, until they came to a land inhabited; they did eat the manna, until they came unto the borders of the land of Canaan.

DISCUSS CONCEPT OF PREPARTION FOR BECOMING GOD'S NATION  
HOW TO FULFILL BRIT AVOT  
CONQUEST OF THE LAND VS. BEING A 'LIGHT TO OTHER NATIONS'

## IV. The "nisayon" at Refidim - chapter 17

**א** וַיִּסְעוּ כָּל-עֵדֶת בְּנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמִּדְבַּר-סִין, לְמִסְעֵיהֶם--עַל-פִּי יְהוָה; וַיַּחֲנוּ, בְּרִפְדִּים, וַאֲיֵן מַיִם, לְשֹׁתֵת הָעָם.

1 And all the congregation of the children of Israel journeyed from the wilderness of Sin, by their stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and encamped in Rephidim; and there was no water for the people to drink.

**ב** וַיִּרְבּוּ הָעָם, עִם-מֹשֶׁה, וַיֹּאמְרוּ, תִּנּוּ-לָנוּ מַיִם וְנִשְׁתֶּה; וַיֹּאמֶר לָהֶם, מֹשֶׁה, מֵה-תִּרְיבוּן עִמָּדִי, מֵה-תִּנְסוּן אֶת-יְהוָה.

2 Wherefore the people strove with Moses, and said: 'Give us water that we may drink.' And Moses said unto them: 'Why strive ye with me? wherefore do ye try the LORD?'

**ג** וַיִּצְמָא שָׁם הָעָם לַמַּיִם, וַיִּלְוּ הָעָם עַל-מֹשֶׁה; וַיֹּאמֶר, לָמָּה זֶה הֶעֱלִיתָנוּ מִמִּצְרַיִם, לְהָמִית אֹתִי וְאֶת-בְּנֵי וְאֶת-מִקְנֵי, בְּצָמָא.

3 And the people thirsted there for water; and the people murmured against Moses, and said: 'Wherefore hast thou brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?'

**ד** וַיִּצְעַק מֹשֶׁה אֶל-יְהוָה לֵאמֹר, מָה אֶעֱשֶׂה לָעָם הַזֶּה; עוֹד מְעַט, וּסְקִלְנִי.

4 And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying: 'What shall I do unto this people? they are almost ready to stone me.'

**ה** וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה, עֲבֵר לִפְנֵי הָעָם, וְקַח אֶת־רֹדְף, מִזִּקְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל; וּמִטָּדָ, אֲשֶׁר הִכִּיתָ בּוֹ אֶת-הַיָּאֵר--קַח בְּיָדְךָ, וְהִלַּכְתָּ.

5 And the LORD said unto Moses: 'Pass on before the people, and take with thee of the elders of Israel; and thy rod, wherewith thou smotest the river, take in thy hand, and go.

**ו** הִנְנִי עֹמֵד לִפְנֶיךָ שָׁם עַל-הַצּוּר, בְּחָרֵב, וְהִכִּיתָ בַּצּוּר וַיֵּצְאוּ מִמֶּנּוּ מַיִם, וְשָׁתָה הָעָם; וַיַּעַשׂ כֵּן מֹשֶׁה, לְעֵינֵי זִקְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל.

6 Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink.' And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.

**ז** וַיִּקְרָא שָׁם הַמָּקוֹם, מַסָּה וּמְרִיבָה; עַל-רִיב בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְעַל נִסְתֵּם אֶת-יְהוָה לֵאמֹר, הֲיֵשׁ יְהוָה בְּקִרְבָּנוּ, אִם-אֵין. {פ}

7 And the name of the place was called Massah, and Meribah, because of the striving of the children of Israel, and because they tried the LORD, saying: 'Is the LORD among us, or not?' {P}

**ח** וַיָּבֵא, עֲמֶלֶק; וַיִּלָּחֶם עִם-יִשְׂרָאֵל, בְּרִפְדִּים.

8 Then came Amalek, and fought with Israel in Rephidim.

**ט** וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה אֶל-יְהוֹשֻׁעַ בְּחַר-לָנוּ אַנְשִׁים, וַיָּא הִלָּחֶם בְּעֲמֶלֶק; מָחָר, אֲנֹכִי נֹצֵב עַל-רֹאשׁ הַגְּבָעָה, וּמִטָּה הָאֱלֹהִים, בְּיָדִי.

9 And Moses said unto Joshua: 'Choose us out men, and go out, fight with Amalek; tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand.'

### Note from Refidim, next stop is Har Sinai/ Shmot 19:1-2:

**א** בַּחֹדֶשׁ, הַשְּׁלִישִׁי, לְצֵאת בְּנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל, מִמִּצְרַיִם--בַּיּוֹם הַזֶּה, בָּאוּ מִדְבַּר סִינַי.

1 In the third month after the children of Israel were gone forth out of the land of Egypt, the same day came they into the wilderness of Sinai.

**ב** וַיִּסְעוּ מִרִפְדִּים, וַיָּבֵאוּ מִדְבַּר סִינַי, וַיַּחֲנוּ, בְּמִדְבַּר; וַיַּחֲנוּ-שָׁם יִשְׂרָאֵל, נֶגֶד הָהָר, וַיִּחַנּוּ עֲבָרֵי הַמֶּוֹט.

2 And when they were departed from Rephidim, and were come to the wilderness of Sinai, they encamped in the wilderness; and there Israel encamped before the mount.



## V. Three days of preparation at Har Sinai:

- ג וּמֹשֶׁה עָלָה, אֶל-הָאֱלֹהִים; וַיִּקְרָא אֵלָיו יְהוָה, מִן-הַהָר לֵאמֹר, כֹּה תֹאמַר לְבֵית יַעֲקֹב, וְתִגִּיד לְבָנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל.
- 3 And Moses went up unto God, and the LORD called unto him out of the mountain, saying: 'Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel:
- ד אַתֶּם רְאִיתֶם, אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתִי לְמִצְרַיִם; וְאַשָּׂא אֶתְכֶם עַל-כַּנְּפֵי נְשָׁרִים, וְאַבֵּא אֶתְכֶם אֵלַי.
- 4 Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto Myself.
- ה וְעַתָּה, אִם-שָׁמוּעַ תִּשְׁמְעוּ בְקֹלִי, וּשְׁמַרְתֶּם, אֶת-בְּרִיתִי-וְהֵייתֶם לִי סֻגָּלָה מִכָּל-הָעַמִּים, כִּי-לִי כָל-הָאָרֶץ.
- 5 Now therefore, if ye will hearken unto My voice indeed, and keep My covenant, then ye shall be Mine own treasure from among all peoples; for all the earth is Mine;
- ו וְאַתֶּם תִּהְיוּ-לִי מַמְלַכְתַּת כֹּהֲנִים, וְגוֹי קְדוֹשׁ: אֱלֹהִים, הַדְּבָרִים, אֲשֶׁר תִּדְבֹר, אֶל-בָּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל.
- 6 and ye shall be unto Me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.'
- ז וַיָּבֹא מֹשֶׁה, וַיִּקְרָא לְזִקְנֵי הָעָם; וַיָּשֶׂם לִפְנֵיהֶם, אֵת כָּל-הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה, אֲשֶׁר צִוָּהוּ, יְהוָה.
- 7 And Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and set before them all these words which the LORD commanded him.
- ח וַיַּעֲנוּ כָל-הָעָם יַחְדָּו וַיֹּאמְרוּ, כָּל אֲשֶׁר-דִּבֶּר יְהוָה נַעֲשֶׂה; וַיֹּשֶׁב מֹשֶׁה אֶת-דְּבָרֵי הָעָם, אֶל-יְהוָה.
- 8 And all the people answered together, and said: 'All that the LORD hath spoken we will do.' And Moses reported the words of the people unto the LORD.
- ט וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה, הִנֵּה אָנֹכִי בֹא אֵלֶיךָ בְּעָבַת הָעָנָן, בְּעִבּוֹר יִשְׁמַע הָעָם בְּדִבְרֵי עֲמֹד, וְגַם-בֶּדָד יֶאֱמִינוּ לְעוֹלָם; וַיַּגֵּד מֹשֶׁה אֶת-דְּבָרֵי הָעָם, אֶל-יְהוָה.
- 9 And the LORD said unto Moses: 'Lo, I come unto thee in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with thee, and may also believe thee for ever.' And Moses told the words of the people unto the LORD.
- י וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה לֵךְ אֶל-הָעָם, וְקִדְשָׁתָם הַיּוֹם וּמָחָר; וְכַבְּסוּ, שְׂמֹלֹתָם.
- 10 And the LORD said unto Moses: 'Go unto the people, and sanctify them to-day and to-morrow, and let them wash their garments,
- יא וְהָיוּ נֹכְחִים, לַיּוֹם הַשְּׁלִישִׁי: כִּי בַיּוֹם הַשְּׁלִישִׁי, יֵרֵד יְהוָה לְעִיְנֵי כָל-הָעָם--עַל-הַר סִינַי.
- 11 and be ready against the third day; for the third day the LORD will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai.
- ....
- טז וַיְהִי בַיּוֹם הַשְּׁלִישִׁי בְהִלַּת הַבֶּקָר, וַיְהִי קֹלֵת וּבָרְקִים וְעָנָן כָּבֵד עַל-הָהָר, וְקוֹל שֹׁפָר, חֲזָק מְאֹד; וַיַּחַרֵּד כָּל-הָעָם, אֲשֶׁר בַּמַּחֲנֶה.
- 16 And it came to pass on the third day, when it was morning, that there were thunders and lightnings and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of a horn exceeding loud; and all the people that were in the camp trembled.

## Discussion

Why did Hashem leave Moshe on Har Sinai for 40 days...

Was "chet ha'Egel" another test for readiness?

Sin of the Spies –

Underlying question –

why is first generation not ready for the conquest:

## Conclusion of Mishkan unit – Shmot 29:44-46

44 **מד** וְקִדְשֵׁתִי אֶת-אֹהֶל מוֹעֵד, וְאֶת-הַמִּזְבֵּחַ; וְאֶת-אַהֲרֹן וְאֶת-בָּנָיו אֶקְדָּשׁ, לְכַהֵן לִי. 44 And I will sanctify the tent of meeting, and the altar; Aaron also and his sons will I sanctify, to minister to Me in the priest's office.

45 **מה** וְשָׁכַנְתִּי, בְּתוֹךְ בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל; וְהִיִּיתִי לָהֶם, לֵאלֹהִים. 45 And I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will be their God.

46 **מו** וַיֵּדְעוּ, כִּי אֲנִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיהֶם, אֲשֶׁר הוֹצֵאתִי אֶתְכֶם מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם, לְשָׁכְנִי **בְּתוֹכָם**: אֲנִי, יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיהֶם. {פ} 46 And they shall know that I am the LORD their God, that brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, that I may dwell among them. I am the LORD their God. {P}

## VI. Tehillim 78:

**א** מִשְׁכִּיל, לְאַסָּף: הֲאֲזִינָה עֲמִי, תוֹרַתִּי; הִטּוּ אָזְנוֹכֶם, לְאִמְרֵי-פִי. 1 Maschil of Asaph. {N} Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

**ב** אֶפְתָּחָה בְּמִשְׁלַל פִּי; אֲבִיעָה חִידוֹת, מִנִּי-קִדְּם. 2 I will open my mouth with a parable; I will utter dark sayings concerning days of old;

**ג** אֲשֶׁר שָׁמַעְנוּ, וַיִּגְדְּעוּ; וְאֲבוֹתֵינוּ, סִפְרוּ-לָנוּ. 3 That which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us,

**ד** לֹא נִכְחַד, מִבְּנֵיהֶם-- לְדוֹר אַחֲרוֹן, מִסִּפְרֵים תְּהִלּוֹת יְהוָה; וַעֲזוּזוֹ וּנְפִלְאוֹתָיו, אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה. 4 We will not hide from their children, telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, {N} and His strength, and His wondrous works that He hath done.

**ה** וַיִּקַּם עֲדוּת, בְּיַעֲקֹב, וַתּוֹרָה, שָׁם בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל: אֲשֶׁר צִוָּה, אֶת-אֲבוֹתֵינוּ- לְהוֹדִיעַם, לְבְנֵיהֶם. 5 For He established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, {N} which He commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children;

**ו** לְמַעַן יֵדְעוּ, דוֹר אַחֲרוֹן-בְּנֵים יוֹלְדוּ; וַיִּקְמוּ, וַיִּסְפְּרוּ לְבְנֵיהֶם. 6 That the generation to come might know them, even the children that should be born; who should arise and tell them to their children,

**ז** וַיִּשְׂמְעוּ בְּאֱלֹהִים, כְּסֻלָּם; וְלֹא יִשְׁכַּחוּ, מַעֲלָלֵי-אֵל; וּמִצְוֹתָיו יִנְצְרוּ. 7 That they might put their confidence in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments;

**ח** וְלֹא יִהְיוּ, כְּאֲבוֹתָם-דוֹר, סוֹרֵר וּמָרָה: 8 And might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation; {N} a generation that set not their heart aright, and whose spirit was not stedfast with God.

**דוֹר, לֹא-הֵכִין לְבוֹ; וְלֹא-נֶאֱמְנָה אֶת-אֵל רוּחוֹ.**

Continuation of the Psalm explains the eternal lesson of the makkot  
 [note how it explains the Midrash of 250 plagues]

לו וַיִּפְתּוּהוּ בִּפְיָהֶם; וַיִּבְלְשׁוּנֶם, יִכְזְבוּ-לוֹ. 36 But they beguiled Him with their mouth, and lied unto Him with their tongue.

לז וְלִבָּם, לֹא-נִכּוֹן עִמּוֹ; וְלֹא נֶאֱמְנוּ, בְּבְרִיתוֹ. 37 For their heart was not stedfast with Him, neither were they faithful in His covenant.

לח וְהוּא רַחוּם, יִכַּפֵּר עוֹן-- וְלֹא-יִשְׁחִית: וְהִרְבֵּה, לְהִשִּׁיב אָפוֹ; וְלֹא-יַעִיר, כָּל-חַמָּתוֹ. 38 But He, being full of compassion, forgiveth iniquity, and destroyeth not; {N} yea, many a time doth He turn His anger away, and doth not stir up all His wrath.

לט וַיִּזְכֹּר, כִּי-בֶשֶׂר הֵמָּה; רוּחַ הוֹלֵךְ, וְלֹא יָשׁוּב. 39 So He remembered that they were but flesh, a wind that passeth away, and cometh not again.

מ כַּמָּה, יִמְרוּהוּ בַּמִּדְבָּר; יַעֲצִיבוּהוּ, בְּיַשִּׁימוֹן. 40 How oft did they rebel against Him in the wilderness, and grieve Him in the desert!

מא וַיִּשׁוּבוּ וַיִּנְסוּ אֵל; וַקְדּוֹשׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל הִתּוֹ. 41 And still again they tried God, and set bounds to the Holy One of Israel.

מב לֹא-זָכְרוּ אֶת-יָדוֹ; יוֹם, אֲשֶׁר-פָּדַם מִנִּי-צָר. 42 They remembered not His hand, nor the day when He redeemed them from the adversary.

מג אֲשֶׁר-שָׂם בְּמִצְרַיִם, אֶתֹתָיו; וּמוֹפְתָיו, בְּשַׂדֵּה-צֹעַן. 43 How He set His signs in Egypt, and His wonders in the field of Zoan;

מד וַיַּהֲפֹךְ לָדָם, יְאֲרִיחֵם; וַנִּזְלִיחֵם, בַּל-יִשְׁתִּיּוּן. 44 And turned their rivers into blood, so that they could not drink their streams.

מה יִשְׁלַח בָּהֶם עָרָב, וַיֹּאכְלֵם; וַצִּפְרִדֵּעַ, וַתִּשְׁחִיתֵם. 45 He sent among them swarms of flies, which devoured them; and frogs, which destroyed them.

מו וַיִּתֵּן לַחֲסִיל יְבוּלָם; וַיִּגַּעֵם, לְאֲרָבָה. 46 He gave also their increase unto the caterpillar, and their labour unto the locust.

מז יַהֲרֹג בַּבָּרָד גִּפְנֵם; וְשִׁקְמוֹתָם, בַּחֲנָמַל. 47 He destroyed their vines with hail, and their sycamore-trees with frost.

מח וַיִּסְגֹּר לַבָּרָד בְּעֵינֵם; וּמִקְנֵיהֶם, לְרִשְׁפִּים. 48 He gave over their cattle also to the hail, and their flocks to fiery bolts.

מט יִשְׁלַח-בָּם, חֲרוֹן אָפוֹ-- עֲבָרָה וְזַעַם וְצָרָה; מִשְׁלַחַת, מִלְּאֲכֵי רָעִים. 49 He sent forth upon them the fierceness of His anger, wrath, and indignation, and trouble, a sending of messengers of evil.

נ יִפְלֹס נְתִיב, לְאָפוֹ: לֹא-חֲשַׁךְ מִמָּוֶת נַפְשָׁם; וַחֲיִתָּם, לְדָבָר הַסְּגִיר. 50 He levelled a path for His anger; He spared not their soul from death, but gave their life over to the pestilence;

נא וַיִּךְ כָּל-בְּכוֹר בְּמִצְרַיִם; רֵאשִׁית אוֹנִים, בְּאֶהֱלֵי-חָם. 51 And smote all the first-born in Egypt, the first-fruits of their strength in the tents of Ham;

נב וַיַּסַּע כְּצֹאן עֹמּוֹ; 52 But He made His own people to go forth like sheep, and guided them in the wilderness like a



- וַיִּנְהֲגֵם בְּעֶדְרָה, בַּמִּדְבָּר. flock.
- נג** וַיִּנְחֵם לְבַטַח, וְלֹא פָחַדוּ; וְאֶת-  
אֹיְבֵיהֶם, כָּסָה הַיָּם. 53 And He led them safely, and they feared not;  
but the sea overwhelmed their enemies.
- נד** וַיְבִיֵאֵם, אֶל-גְּבוּל קְדְשׁוֹ;  
הַר-זֶה, קָנְתָה יְמִינוֹ. 54 And He brought them to His holy border, to  
the mountain, which His right hand had gotten.
- נה** וַיִּגְרֹשׁ מִפְּנֵיהֶם, גּוֹיִם-  
וַיַּפְּיֵלֵם, בְּחֻבְל נְחָלָה;  
וַיִּשְׁכֵּן בְּאֹהֲלֵיהֶם, שְׁבֵטֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל. 55 He drove out the nations also before them,  
and allotted them for an inheritance by line, {N}  
and made the tribes of Israel to dwell in their  
tents.
- נו** וַיִּנְסוּ וַיִּמְרוּ, אֶת-אֱלֹהִים עֲלֵיוֹן;  
וַיַּעֲדוּתָיו, לֹא שָׁמְרוּ. 56 Yet they tried and provoked God, the Most  
High, and kept not His testimonies;
- נז** וַיִּסְגּוּ וַיִּבְגְּדוּ, כְּאֲבוֹתָם;  
נִהְפְּכוּ, כְּקֶשֶׁת רְמִיָּה. 57 But turned back, and dealt treacherously like  
their fathers; they were turned aside like a  
deceitful bow.
- נח** וַיִּכְעִיסוּהוּ בְּבִמּוֹתָם;  
וּבִפְסִילֵיהֶם, יִקְנִיאוּהוּ. 58 For they provoked Him with their high  
places, and moved Him to jealousy with their  
graven images.
- נט** שָׁמַע אֱלֹהִים, וַיִּתְעַבֵּר;  
וַיִּמְאַס מְאֹד, בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל. 59 God heard, and was wroth, and He greatly  
abhorred Israel;
- ס** וַיִּטְּשׁ, מִשְׁכַּן שְׁלוֹ; אֹהֶל, שְׁכֵן בְּאֲדָם. 60 And He forsook the tabernacle of Shiloh, the  
tent which He had made to dwell among men;
- סא** וַיִּתֵּן לְשָׁבִי עֵזוֹ; וַתִּפְאַרְתּוּ בְּיַד-צָר. 61 And delivered His strength into captivity,  
and His glory into the adversary's hand.
- סב** וַיִּסְגַּר לַחֲרֹב עֲמוֹ; וּבִנְחָלְתוֹ, הִתְעַבֵּר. 62 He gave His people over also unto the sword;  
and was wroth with His inheritance.
- סג** בַּחוּרָיו אָכְלָה-אֵשׁ;  
וּבַתּוּלְתָיו, לֹא הוּלְלוּ. 63 Fire devoured their young men; and their  
virgins had no marriage-song.
- סד** כָּהֲנָיו, בַּחֲרֹב נָפְלוּ;  
וְאֵלְמֹנְתָיו, לֹא תִבְכְּיָנָה. 64 Their priests fell by the sword; and their  
widows made no lamentation.
- סה** וַיִּקְצַץ כְּיָשׁוּן אֲדָנִי;  
כְּגִבּוֹר, מִתְרוֹנֵן מֵיַיִן. 65 Then the Lord awaked as one asleep, like a  
mighty man recovering from wine.
- סו** וַיִּךְ-צָרָיו אָחוֹר;  
חֲרֻפַּת עוֹלָם, נָתַן לָמוֹ. 66 And He smote His adversaries backward; He  
put upon them a perpetual reproach.
- סז** וַיִּמְאַס, בְּאֹהֶל יוֹסֵף;  
וּבְשֵׁבֶט אֶפְרַיִם, לֹא בָחַר. 67 Moreover He abhorred the tent of Joseph,  
and chose not the tribe of Ephraim;
- סח** וַיִּבְחַר, אֶת-שֵׁבֶט יְהוּדָה;  
אֶת-הַר צִיּוֹן, אֲשֶׁר אָהֵב. 68 But chose the tribe of Judah, the mount Zion  
which He loved.
- סט** וַיְבִן כְּמוֹ-רָמִים, מִקְדָּשׁוֹ; 69 And He built His sanctuary like the heights,

כְּאֶרֶץ, יִסְדָּהּ לְעוֹלָם.

like the earth which He hath founded for ever.

ע וַיִּבְחַר, בְּדָוִד עֶבְדּוֹ;  
וַיִּקְחֵהוּ, מִמְּכָלֵאת צֹאן.

70 He chose David also His servant, and took him from the sheepfolds;

לְרֵעוֹת, בְּיַעֲקֹב

עא מֵאַחַר עֲלוֹת, הֶבְיֵאוּ:  
עֲמוֹ; וּבִישְׂרָאֵל, נִחְלָתוֹ.

71 From following the ewes that give suck He brought him, to be shepherd over Jacob His people, and Israel His inheritance.

עב וַיִּרְעֵם, כְּתֵם לִבּוֹ;  
וּבְתַבּוּנוֹת כְּפָיו יִנְחֵם.

72 So he shepherded them according to the integrity of his heart; and lead them by the skilfulness of his hands. {P}