

Sefer Devarim- the most misunderstood book in the Bible

/Class # 7 For Torah in Motion - by Menachem Leibtag

The Torah reading for Tisha b'Av – 4:25->4:40

I. Intro Our custom is to read Devarim 4:25-40 on Tisha b'Av morning. In today's shiur we will try to better understand the meaning of Tisha b'Av in light of this section in Sefer Devarim.

Underlying question: What does Tisha b'Av commemorate?

Destruction of Temple or EXILE

Devarim chapter 4

כה כִּי-תוֹלִיד בָּנִים וּבְנֵי בָנִים, וְנוֹשַׁנְתֶם בְּאֶרֶץ; וְהִשְׁחַתֶּם, וְעִשִׂיתֶם פֶּסֶל תְּמוּנַת כָּל, וְעִשִׂיתֶם הָרַע בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה-אֱלֹהֵיךָ, לְהַכְעִיסוֹ. **25** When thou shalt beget children, and children's children, and ye shall have been long in the land, and shall deal corruptly, and make a graven image, even the form of any thing, and shall do that which is evil in the sight of the LORD thy God, to provoke Him;

כו כֹּו הָעִידוּתִי בְּכֶם הַיּוֹם אֶת-הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת-הָאָרֶץ, כִּי-אֲבַד תֵּאבְדוּן מִהָר, מֵעַל הָאָרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם עֹבְרִים אֶת-הַיַּרְדֵּן שָׁמָּה לְרִשְׁתָּהּ - לֹא-תֵאָרִיכוּ יָמִים עָלֶיהָ, כִּי הַשָּׁמַיִם תִּשְׁמְדוּן. **26** I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that ye shall soon utterly perish from off the land whereunto ye go over the Jordan to possess it; ye shall not prolong your days upon it, but shall utterly be destroyed.

כז וְהִפִּיץ יְהוָה אֶתְכֶם, בְּעַמִּים; וְנִשְׁאַרְתֶּם, מִתֵּי מִסְפָּר, בְּגוֹיִם, אֲשֶׁר יִנְהַג יְהוָה אֶתְכֶם שָׁמָּה. **27** And the LORD shall scatter you among the peoples, and ye shall be left few in number among the nations, whither the LORD shall lead you away.

כח וְעַבַדְתֶּם-שָׂם אֱלֹהִים, מַעֲשֵׂה יְדֵי אָדָם: עֵץ וָאֶבֶן-אֲשֶׁר לֹא-יִרְאוּן וְלֹא יִשְׁמְעוּן, וְלֹא יֵאָכְלוּ וְלֹא יִרְיחוּ. **28** And there ye shall serve gods, the work of men's hands, wood and stone, which neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell.

כט וּבַקְשֶׁתֶם מִשָּׂם אֶת-יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיךָ, וּמָצְאתָ: כִּי תִדְרֹשׁנוּ, בְּכָל-לִבְבְּךָ וּבְכָל-נַפְשְׁךָ. **29** But from thence ye will seek the LORD thy God; and thou shalt find Him, if thou search after Him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.

II. What causes Exile - one sin, or a progression of sin:

...וְהִשְׁחַתְתֶּם, וְעִשִּׂיתֶם פֶּסֶל תְּמוּנַת כָּל, וְעִשִּׂיתֶם הָרַע בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה-אֱלֹהֵיךָ, לְהַכְעִיסוֹ.

Ibn Ezra's commentary to 4:25

כה(כי תוליד בנים....-ועשיתם הרע –בשאר המצות, כמו: לרצוח ולנאוף).

25) AND YOU SHALL DEAL CORRUPTLY - With regard to the rest of the commandments such as to murder or to commit adultery

What leads Ibn Ezra to this conclusion - i.e. not only idol worship

הִשְׁחַתְתֶּם – note parallel to the reason for the Flood

Breishit chapter 6 - corruption

יא וַיִּשְׁחַת הָאָרֶץ, לְפָנָי הָאֱלֹהִים; וַתִּמְלֵא הָאָרֶץ, חָמָס. 11 And the earth was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.

יב וַיִּרְא אֱלֹהִים אֶת-הָאָרֶץ, וַהֲנִיחַ נִשְׁחָתָהּ: כִּי-הִשְׁחִית כָּל-בָּשָׂר אֶת-דַּרְכּוֹ, עַל-הָאָרֶץ. {ס} 12 And God saw the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth. {S}

יג וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים לְנֹחַ, קֵץ כָּל-בָּשָׂר בָּא לְפָנָי--כִּי-מָלְאָה הָאָרֶץ חָמָס, מִפְּנֵיהֶם; וַהֲנִי מִשְׁחִיתָם, אֶת-הָאָרֶץ. 13 And God said unto Noah: 'The end of all flesh is come before Me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

Devarim chapter 6 - what is evil in the EYES OF GOD

טז לֹא תִנְסוּ, אֶת-יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם, כַּאֲשֶׁר נִסִּיתֶם, בְּמִסָּה. 16 Ye shall not try the LORD your God, as ye tried Him in Massah.

יז שְׂמֹר תִּשְׁמְרוּן, אֶת-מִצְוֹת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם, וְעֵדוּתָיו וְחֻקָּיו, אֲשֶׁר צִוְּךָ. 17 Ye shall diligently keep the commandments of the LORD your God, and His testimonies, and His statutes, which He hath commanded thee.

יח וְעָשִׂיתָ הַיָּשָׁר וְהַטּוֹב,
בְּעֵינַי יְהוָה-- לְמַעַן, יִיטֵב לְךָ,
וּבָאתָ וְיָרַשְׁתָּ אֶת-הָאָרֶץ הַטְּבָה,
אֲשֶׁר-נִשְׁבַּע יְהוָה לְאַבְתָּיִךְ.

18 And thou shalt do that
which is right and good in
the sight of the LORD;
that it may be well with
thee, and that thou mayest
go in and possess the good
land which the LORD
swore unto thy fathers,

Most likely source for Ibn Ezra's specific example - Yirmiyahu 7

יְרֵמְיָהוּ 7 Chapter Jeremiah

א הַדְּבָר אֲשֶׁר הָיָה אֵל-יְרֵמְיָהוּ, מֵאֵת
יְהוָה לֵאמֹר.

1 The word that came to Jeremiah
from the LORD, saying:

ב עֲמֹד, בְּשַׁעַר בַּיִת יְהוָה, וּקְרֵאתָ שָׁם,
אֶת-הַדְּבָר הַזֶּה; וְאָמַרְתָּ שְׁמֵעוּ דְבַר-
יְהוָה, כָּל-יְהוּדָה הַבָּאִים בְּשַׁעְרֵים
הָאֵלֶּה, לְהִשְׁתַּחֲוֹת, לַיהוָה. {ס}

2 Stand in the gate of the LORD'S
house, and proclaim there this
word, and say: Hear the word of
the LORD, all ye of Judah, that
enter in at these gates to worship
the LORD. {S}

ג כֹּה-אָמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת, אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל,
הִיטִיבוּ דַרְכֵיכֶם, וּמַעַלְלֵיכֶם; וְאֲשַׁכְנָה
אֶתְכֶם, בְּמָקוֹם הַזֶּה.

3 Thus saith the LORD of hosts,
the God of Israel: Amend your
ways and your doings, and I will
cause you to dwell in this place.

ד אַל-תִּבְטְחוּ לָכֶם, אֶל-דְּבָרֵי הַשָּׁקֶר
לֵאמֹר: הֵיכַל יְהוָה הֵיכַל יְהוָה, הֵיכַל
יְהוָה הִמָּה.

4 Trust ye not in lying words,
saying: 'The temple of the LORD,
the temple of the LORD, the
temple of the LORD, are these.'

ה כִּי אִם-הִיטִיב תִּיטִיבוּ, אֶת-דַּרְכֵיכֶם
וְאֶת-מַעַלְלֵיכֶם: אִם-עָשׂוּ תַעֲשׂוּ מִשְׁפָּט,
בֵּין אִישׁ וּבֵין רֵעֵהוּ.

5 Nay, but if ye thoroughly amend
your ways and your doings; if ye
thoroughly execute justice
between a man and his neighbour;

ו גַּר יִתּוֹם וְאַלְמָנָה, לֹא תַעֲשׂוּקוּ, וְדָם נָקִי, אַל-תִּשְׁפְּכוּ בַּמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה; וְאַחֲרֵי אֱלֹהִים אַחֲרִים לֹא תִלְכוּ, לְרַע לָכֶם.

6 if ye oppress not the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, and shed not innocent blood in this place, neither walk after other gods to your hurt;

ז וְשִׁכַנְתִּי אִתְּכֶם, בַּמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה--בְּאֶרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר נָתַתִּי לְאֲבוֹתֵיכֶם: לְמֶן-עוֹלָם, וְעַד-עוֹלָם.

7 then will I cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers, for ever and ever.

ח הִנֵּה אַתֶּם בֹּטְחִים לָכֶם, עַל-דְּבָרַי הַשָּׁקֵר--לְבַלְתִּי, הוֹעִיל.

8 Behold, ye trust in lying words, that cannot profit.

ט הֲגָנַב רָצַח וְנָאֵף, וְהִשָּׁבַע לְשָׁקֵר וְקִטֵּר לְבַעַל; וְהִלְךְ, אַחֲרֵי אֱלֹהִים אַחֲרִים--אֲשֶׁר לֹא-יִדְעֶתֶם.

9 Will ye steal, murder, and commit adultery, and swear falsely, and offer unto Baal, and walk after other gods whom ye have not known,

י וּבֹאתֶם וְעַמְדֹתֶם לְפָנַי, בְּבַיִת הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר נִקְרָא-שְׁמִי עָלָיו, וְאַמַּרְתֶּם, נִצַּלְנוּ--לְמַעַן עֲשׂוֹת, אֵת כָּל-הַתּוֹעֵבוֹת הָאֵלֶּה.

10 and come and stand before Me in this house, whereupon My name is called, and say: 'We are delivered', that ye may do all these abominations?

יא הַמְּעַרַת פְּרָצִים, הֲיֵה הַבַּיִת הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר-נִקְרָא-שְׁמִי עָלָיו--בְּעֵינֵיכֶם; גַּם אֲנֹכִי הִנֵּה רָאִיתִי, נֹאֵם-יְהוָה.

11 Is this house, whereupon My name is called, become a den of robbers in your eyes? Behold, I, even I, have seen it, saith the LORD.

יב כִּי לָכוּ-נָא, אֶל-מְקוֹמִי אֲשֶׁר בְּשִׁילוֹ, אֲשֶׁר שִׁכַנְתִּי שְׁמִי שָׁם, בְּרֵאשׁוֹנָה; וּרְאוּ, אֵת אֲשֶׁר-עָשִׂיתִי לוֹ, מִפְּנֵי, רָעַת עַמִּי יִשְׂרָאֵל.

12 For go ye now unto My place which was in Shiloh, where I caused My name to dwell at the first, and see what I did to it for the wickedness of My people Israel.

יג וְעַתָּה, יַעַן עֲשׂוֹתְכֶם אֶת-כָּל-הַמַּעֲשִׂים הָאֵלֶּה--נֹאֵם-יְהוָה; וְאַדְבַּר

13 And now, because ye have done all these works, saith the LORD, and I spoke unto you, speaking betimes and often, but ye heard

אֲלֵיכֶם הַשְׁכֵּם וְדַבֵּר, וְלֹא שָׁמַעְתֶּם,
וְאָקְרָא אֶתְכֶם, וְלֹא עָנִיתֶם.

not, and I called you, but ye answered not;

יָד וְעָשִׂיתִי לְבַיִת אֲשֶׁר נִקְרָא-שְׁמִי עָלָיו,
אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם בֹּטְחִים בּוֹ,
וְלַמָּקוֹם, אֲשֶׁר-נָתַתִּי לָכֶם וְלְאֲבוֹתֵיכֶם-
כַּאֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתִי, לְשָׁלוֹ.

14 therefore will I do unto the house, whereupon My name is called, wherein ye trust, and unto the place which I gave to you and to your fathers, as I have done to Shiloh.

טו וְהִשְׁלַכְתִּי אֶתְכֶם, מֵעַל פָּנָי, כַּאֲשֶׁר
הִשְׁלַכְתִּי אֶת-כָּל-אֲחֵיכֶם, אֶת כָּל-זָרַע
אֶפְרַיִם....

15 And I will cast you out of My sight, as I have cast out all your brethren, even the whole seed of Ephraim. {P}

כא כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת, אֱלֹהֵי
יִשְׂרָאֵל: עַלֹּתֵיכֶם סִפּוּ עַל-זִבְחֵיכֶם,
וְאָכְלוּ בָשָׂר.

21 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Add your burnt-offerings unto your sacrifices, and eat ye flesh.

כב כִּי לֹא-דַבַּרְתִּי אֶת-אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם, וְלֹא
צִוִּיתִים, בְּיוֹם הוֹצִיא (הוֹצִיאִי) אוֹתְם,
מִמִּצְרַיִם--עַל-דַּבְּרֵי עוֹלָה, וְזָבַח.

22 For I spoke not unto your fathers, nor commanded them in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt-offerings or sacrifices;

כג כִּי אִם-אֶת-הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה צִוִּיתִי אוֹתְם
לֵאמֹר, שָׁמְעוּ בְּקוֹלִי--וְהָיִיתִי לָכֶם
לֵאלֹהִים, וְאַתֶּם תִּהְיוּ-לִי לְעָם;
וְהִלַּכְתֶּם, בְּכָל-הַדֶּרֶךְ אֲשֶׁר אֲצַוֶּה
אֶתְכֶם, לְמַעַן, יֵיטֵב לָכֶם.

23 but this thing I commanded them, saying: 'Hearken unto My voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be My people; and walk ye in all the way that I command you, that it may be well with you.'

כד וְלֹא שָׁמְעוּ, וְלֹא-הִטּוּ אֶת-אָזְנָם,
וַיִּלְכוּ בְּמַעֲצוֹת, בְּשִׁרְרוֹת לִבָּם הָרָע;
וַיִּהְיוּ לְאָחוֹר, וְלֹא לְפָנִים.

24 But they hearkened not, nor inclined their ear, but walked in their own counsels, even in the stubbornness of their evil heart, and went backward and not forward,

III. In the context of chapter 4 - & all of Sefer Devarim:

General, keeping the laws to be worthy of Hashem's help,

א וְעַתָּה יִשְׂרָאֵל, שְׁמַע אֶל-הַחֻקִּים וְאֶל-
הַמִּשְׁפָּטִים, אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי מְלַמֵּד אֶתְכֶם, לַעֲשׂוֹת--
לְמַעַן תַּחֲיוּ, וּבֵאתֶם וִירִשְׁתֶּם אֶת-הָאָרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר
יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי אֲבֹתֵיכֶם, נָתַן לָכֶם.

The purpose of the laws – light to the nations

ה רְאֵה לְמַדְתֵּי אֶתְכֶם, חֻקִּים וּמִשְׁפָּטִים, כַּאֲשֶׁר צִוֵּנִי,
יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי: לַעֲשׂוֹת כֵּן--בְּקֶרֶב הָאָרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם בָּאִים
שָׁמָּה לְרִשְׁתָּהּ....

ו וּשְׁמַרְתֶּם, וַעֲשִׂיתֶם--כִּי הוּא חֻכְמַתְכֶם וּבִינַתְכֶם, לְעֵינֵי
הָעַמִּים: אֲשֶׁר יִשְׁמְעוּן, אֶת כָּל-הַחֻקִּים הָאֵלֶּה, וְאָמְרוּ
רַק עִם-חֻכְם וְנִבּוֹן, הַגּוֹי הַגָּדוֹל הַזֶּה. ז כִּי מִי-גּוֹי גָּדוֹל,
אֲשֶׁר-לוֹ אֱלֹהִים קְרֹבִים אֵלָיו, כִּי־הוּא אֱלֹהֵינוּ, בְּכָל-
קְרָאֵנוּ אֵלָיו. ח וּמִי גּוֹי גָּדוֹל, אֲשֶׁר-לוֹ חֻקִּים וּמִשְׁפָּטִים
צְדִיקִים, כָּל־הַתּוֹרָה הַזֹּאת, אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי נָתַן לְפָנֶיכֶם
הַיּוֹם.

ט רַק הַשְּׁמֶר לָךְ וּשְׁמֹר נִפְשֶׁךָ מְאֹד, פֶּן-תִּשְׁכַּח אֶת-
הַדְּבָרִים אֲשֶׁר-רָאוּ עֵינֶיךָ וּפֶן-יִסּוּרוּ מִלְּבָבְךָ, כֹּל, יְמֵי
חַיֶּיךָ; וְהוֹדַעְתֶּם לְבַנְיָד, וּלְבַנֵּי בְנֵיךָ. י יוֹם, אֲשֶׁר עָמַדְתָּ
לְפָנַי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּחָרֵב...

יב וְאֵתִי צֹוֶה יְהוָה, בְּעֵת הַהוּא, לְלַמֵּד אֶתְכֶם,
חֻקִּים וּמִשְׁפָּטִים: לַעֲשׂוֹתְכֶם אִתְּם--בְּאָרֶץ,
אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם עֹבְרִים שָׁמָּה לְרִשְׁתָּהּ

Danger of idol worship – even with good intentions

טו וְנִשְׁמַרְתֶּם מְאֹד, לְנַפְשֵׁיכֶם : כִּי לֹא רְאִיתֶם, כָּל-
תְּמוּנָה, בַּיּוֹם דְּבַר יְהוָה אֵלֵיכֶם בְּחָרֵב, מִתּוֹךְ הָאֵשׁ
טז פֶּן-תִּשְׁחַתּוּן--וַעֲשִׂיתֶם לָכֶם פֶּסֶל, תְּמוּנַת כָּל-סָמֶל :

- תִּבְנִית זָכָר, אוֹ נִקְבָּה . יז
 - תִּבְנִית, כָּל-בְּהֵמָה אֲשֶׁר בְּאֶרֶץ ;
 - תִּבְנִית כָּל-צִפּוֹר כָּנָף, אֲשֶׁר תִּעוֹף
בְּשָׁמַיִם . יח
 - תִּבְנִית, כָּל-רֶמֶשׂ בְּאֲדָמָה ; תִּבְנִית כָּל-דָּגָה
אֲשֶׁר-בַּמַּיִם, מִתַּחַת לָאָרֶץ .
 - יט וּפֶן-תִּשָּׂא עֵינֶיךָ הַשָּׁמַיְמָה, וְרָאִיתָ אֶת-
הַשָּׁמַשׁ וְאֶת-הַיָּרֵחַ וְאֶת-הַכּוֹכָבִים כֹּל צִבְא
הַשָּׁמַיִם, וְנִדְחַתָּ וְהִשְׁתַּחֲוִיתָ לָהֶם,
וַעֲבַדְתֶּם--אֲשֶׁר חָלַק יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ, אֶתֶם,
לְכָל הָעַמִּים, תַּחַת כָּל-הַשָּׁמַיִם .
- כ וְאֶתְכֶם לָקַח יְהוָה, וַיּוֹצֵא אֶתְכֶם מִכּוּר
הַבְּרָזָל מִמִּצְרַיִם, לְהִיּוֹת לוֹ לְעַם נְחֻלָּה, כַּיּוֹם
הַזֶּה .

IV The theme of the Temple and national center in Devarim

See chapter 12

Concept of "knowing God – in Yirmiyahu [today's Haftara]

See Yirmiyahu chapters 9 in light of chapter 7

יְרֵמְיָהוּ Chapter 9

- א** מִי-יִתְנַנֵּי בַמִּדְבָּר, מִלּוֹן אֲרָחִים,
וְאֶעֱזְבָה אֶת-עַמִּי, וְאֶלְכָה מֵאַתָּם: כִּי
כֻלָּם מְנַאֲפִים, עֹצְרֵת בְּגִדִים.
- 1** Oh that I were in the wilderness, in a lodging-place of wayfaring men, that I might leave my people, and go from them! For they are all adulterers, an assembly of treacherous men.
- ב** וַיִּדְרְכוּ אֶת-לְשׁוֹנָם קִשְׁתָּם שֶׁקֶר, וְלֹא
לְאַמּוֹנָה גָּבְרוּ בְּאֶרֶץ: כִּי מִרְעָה אֶל-רְעָה
יֵצְאוּ וְאֹתִי לֹא-יִדְעוּ, נְאֻם-יְהוָה.
- 2** And they bend their tongue, their bow of falsehood; and they are grown mighty in the land, but not for truth; for they proceed from evil to evil, and Me they know not, saith the LORD.
- ג** אִישׁ מִרְעֵהוּ הִשְׁמֵרוּ, וְעַל-כָּל-אָח אֶל-
תִּבְטְחוּ: כִּי כָל-אָח עֹקוֹב יַעֲקֹב, וְכָל-רֵעַ
רְכִיל יִהְלֹךְ.
- 3** Take ye heed every one of his neighbour, and trust ye not in any brother; for every brother acteth subtly, and every neighbour goeth about with slanders.
- ד** וְאִישׁ בְּרֵעֵהוּ יִהְתָּלוּ, וְאִמַּת לֹא יִדְבְּרוּ;
לְמַדּוֹ לְשׁוֹנָם דִּבְרֵי-שֶׁקֶר, הִעֲוָה נִלְאוּ.
- 4** And they deceive every one his neighbour, and truth they speak not; they have taught their tongue to speak lies, they weary themselves to commit iniquity.
- ה** שְׁבִתְךָ, בְּתוֹךְ מְרָמָה; בְּמְרָמָה מְאֲנוּ
דַעַת-אוֹתִי, נְאֻם-יְהוָה. {ס}
- 5** Thy habitation is in the midst of deceit; through deceit they refuse to know Me, saith the LORD. {S}
- ו** לָכֵן, כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת, הִנְנִי
צוֹרֵפִם, וּבַחֲנֻתִים: כִּי-אֵיךְ אֶעֱשֶׂה, מִפְּנֵי
בֵת-עַמִּי.
- 6** Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts: behold, I will smelt them, and try them; for how else should I do, because of the daughter of My people?
- ז** חֵץ שׁוֹחֵט (שְׁחוּט) לְשׁוֹנָם, מְרָמָה דִּבְרֵי;
בְּפִיו, שָׁלוֹם אֶת-רֵעֵהוּ יִדְבֵר, וּבִקְרָבוֹ,
יִשִּׁים אֲרָבוֹ.
- 7** Their tongue is a sharpened arrow, it speaketh deceit; one speaketh peaceably to his neighbour with his mouth, but in his heart he layeth wait for him.

ח הַעֲלֵ-אֵלֶּה לֹא-אֶפְקֹד-בָּם, נְאֻם-יְהוָה;
אִם בְּגוֹי אֲשֶׁר-כָּזָה, לֹא תִתְנַקֵּם
נַפְשִׁי. {ס}

8 Shall I not punish them for these things? saith the LORD; shall not My soul be avenged on such a nation as this? {S}

ט עַל-הַהָרִים אֶשָּׂא בְכִי וְנָהִי, וְעַל-נְאוֹת
מִדְבָּר קִינָה--כִּי נִצַּתוּ מִבְּלִי-אִישׁ עֹבֵר,
וְלֹא שָׁמְעוּ קוֹל מִקְנֵה; מֵעוֹף הַשָּׁמַיִם
וְעַד-בְּהֵמָה, נִדְּדוּ הַלְּכוּ.

9 For the mountains will I take up a weeping and wailing, and for the pastures of the wilderness a lamentation, because they are burned up, so that none passeth through. And they hear not the voice of the cattle; both the fowl of the heavens and the beast are fled, and gone.

י וְנִתְּתִי אֶת-יְרוּשָׁלַם לְגִלְיָם, מֵעוֹן
תַּנִּיִּם; וְאֶת-עָרֵי יְהוּדָה אֶתֵּן שְׁמָמָה,
מִבְּלִי יוֹשֵׁב. {ס}

10 And I will make Jerusalem heaps, a lair of jackals; and I will make the cities of Judah a desolation, without an inhabitant. {S}

יא מִי-הָאִישׁ הַחֲכָם וַיֵּבֶן אֶת-זֹאת,
וְאֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר פִּי-יְהוָה אֵלָיו וַיִּגְדָּה; עַל-מָה
אֲבָדָה הָאָרֶץ, נִצַּתָּה כַּמִּדְבָּר מִבְּלִי
עֹבֵר. {ס}

11 Who is the wise man, that he may understand this? And who is he to whom the mouth of the LORD hath spoken, that he may declare it? Wherefore is the land perished and laid waste like a wilderness, so that none passeth through? {S}

יב וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה--עַל-עֲזָבֶם אֶת-תּוֹרֹתַי,
אֲשֶׁר נָתַתִּי לִפְנֵיהֶם; וְלֹא-שָׁמְעוּ בְקוֹלִי,
וְלֹא-הֲלִכוּ בָּהּ.

12 And the LORD saith: Because they have forsaken My law which I set before them, and have not hearkened to My voice, neither walked therein;

יג וַיִּלְכוּ, אַחֲרֵי שְׁרָרוֹת לְבָבָם--וְאַחֲרֵי,
הַבְּעָלִים, אֲשֶׁר לְמַדּוּם, אֲבוֹתָם. {פ}

13 But have walked after the stubbornness of their own heart, and after the Baalim, which their fathers taught them. {P}

יד לָכוּ, כֹּה-אָמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת אֱלֹהֵי
יִשְׂרָאֵל, הִנְנִי מֵאֲכִילֶם אֶת-הָעֵס הַזֶּה,
לְעֵנָה; וְהִשְׁקִיתִים, מִי-רֹאשׁ.

14 Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I will feed them, even this people, with wormwood, and give them water of gall to drink.

טו וְהִפְצוּתִים, בְּגוֹיִם, אֲשֶׁר לֹא יָדְעוּ, הִמָּה וְאֲבוֹתָם; וְשַׁלַּחְתִּי אַחֲרֵיהֶם אֶת-הַחֶרֶב, עַד כִּלֹּתִי אוֹתָם. {פ}

15 I will scatter them also among the nations, whom neither they nor their fathers have known; and I will send the sword after them, till I have consumed them. {P}

....

כב כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה, אֵל-יִתְהַלַּל חָכָם בְּחָכְמָתוֹ, וְאֵל-יִתְהַלַּל הַגִּבּוֹר, בְּגִבּוֹרָתוֹ; אֵל-יִתְהַלַּל עֲשִׂיר, בְּעֶשְׂרוֹ.

22 Thus saith the LORD: Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches;

כג כִּי אִם-בִּזְאת יִתְהַלַּל הַמֵּתְהַלֵּל, הַשֶּׁכֶל וַיֵּדַע אוֹתִי--כִּי אֲנִי יְהוָה, עֹשֶׂה חֶסֶד מִשְׁפָּט וְצְדָקָה בְּאֶרֶץ: כִּי-בְאֵלֶּה חִפְצָתִי, נֶאֱמַר-יְהוָה. {ס}

23 But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth, and knoweth Me, that I am the LORD who exercise mercy, justice, and righteousness, in the earth; for in these things I delight, saith the LORD. {S}

Knowing God in Sefer Shmuel - the sons of Eli - chapter 2

יא וַיֵּלֶךְ אֶלְקָנָה הָרֹמֵתָה, עַל-בֵּיתוֹ; וְהִנְעַר, הָיָה מְשָׁרֵת אֶת-יְהוָה, אֶת-פְּנֵי, עָלֵי הַכֹּהֵן.

11 And Elkanah went to Ramah to his house. And the child did minister unto the LORD before Eli the priest.

יב וּבְנֵי עֵלִי, בְּנֵי בְלִיעַל: לֹא יָדְעוּ, אֶת-יְהוָה.

12 Now the sons of Eli were base men; they knew not the LORD.

יג וּמִשְׁפַּט הַכֹּהֲנִים, אֶת-הָעַם--כָּל-אִישׁ זֶבַח זָבַח, וּבָא נֶעַר הַכֹּהֵן כְּבִשָּׁל הַבָּשָׂר, וְהַמְזִלֵּג שְׁלֹשׁ הַשָּׁנִים, בְּיָדוֹ.

13 And the custom of the priests with the people was, that, when any man offered sacrifice, the priest's servant came, while the flesh was in seething, with a flesh-hook of three teeth in his hand;

יד וְהִכָּה בְּכִיּוֹר אוֹ בַדּוּד, אוֹ בַקְּלַחַת אוֹ בַפְּרוּר--כֹּל אֲשֶׁר יַעֲלֶה הַמְזִלֵּג, יִקַּח הַכֹּהֵן בּוֹ; כִּכָּה יַעֲשׂוּ לְכָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, הַבָּאִים שָׁם בְּשִׁלָּה.

14 and he struck it into the pan, or kettle, or caldron, or pot; all that the flesh-hook brought up the priest took therewith. So they did unto all the Israelites that came thither in Shiloh.

טו גם, בְּטָרִם יִקְטְרוּן אֶת-הַחֶלֶב, וּבֹא
נַעַר הַכֹּהֵן וְאָמַר לְאִישׁ הַזֹּבֵחַ, תִּנְהַבְּשֵׁר
לְצִלוֹת לִפְנֵי; וְלֹא-יִקַּח מִמֶּדָּבָר בְּשֵׁר מִבְּשָׂל,
כִּי אִם-חַי.
15 Yea, before the fat was made to smoke, the priest's servant came, and said to the man that sacrificed: 'Give flesh to roast for the priest; for he will not have sodden flesh of thee, but raw.'

טז וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהֵי הָאִישׁ, קֶטֶר יִקְטִירוּן
כִּיּוֹם הַחֶלֶב, וְקַח-לָדָבָר, כַּאֲשֶׁר תִּתְאוּהוּ נַפְשָׁדָבָר;
וְאָמַר לוֹ (לֹא), כִּי עֲתָה תִתֶּן--וְאִם-לֹא,
לְקַחְתִּי בְחֹזֶקָה.
16 And if the man said unto him: 'Let the fat be made to smoke first of all, and then take as much as thy soul desireth'; then he would say: 'Nay, but thou shalt give it me now; and if not, I will take it by force.'

יז וַתְּהִי חַטָּאת הַנְּעָרִים גְּדוֹלָה מְאֹד,
אֶת-פְּנֵי יְהוָה: כִּי נֶאֱצְוּ הָאֲנָשִׁים, אֶת
מִנְחַת יְהוָה.
17 And the sin of the young men was very great before the LORD; for the men dealt contemptuously with the offering of the LORD.

Returning to Yirmiyahu chapter 22

יג הוּי בִּנְה בֵּיתוֹ בְּלֹא-צְדָקָה,
וְעֲלִיּוֹתָיו בְּלֹא מִשְׁפָּט; בְּרַעְיָהוּ
יַעֲבֹד חֲנָם, וּפְעָלוֹ לֹא יִתֶּן-לוֹ.
13 Woe unto him that buildeth his house by unrighteousness, and his chambers by injustice; that useth his neighbour's service without wages, and giveth him not his hire;

יד הָאֵמַר, אֲבַנֶּה-לִּי בַּיִת מְדוֹת,
וְעֲלִיּוֹת, מְרוּחִים; וְקָרַע לוֹ,
חֲלוֹנֵי, וְסָפוּן בְּאֶרֶז, וּמִשׁוֹחַ
בְּשֵׁשׁ.
14 That saith: 'I will build me a wide house and spacious chambers', and cutteth him out windows, and it is ceiled with cedar, and painted with vermilion.

טו הֲתִמְלֹךְ, כִּי אֲתָה מִתְחַרָּה
בְּאֶרֶז; אֲבִידָה הֲלֹא אָכַל וְשָׁתָה,
וְעָשָׂה מִשְׁפָּט וְצְדָקָה--אֲזַי, טוֹב
לוֹ.
15 Shalt thou reign, because thou strivest to excel in cedar? Did not thy father eat and drink, and do justice and righteousness? Then it was well with him.

טז הֲדָן דִּין-עֲנִי וְאֶבְיוֹן, אֲזַי טוֹב;
הֲלֹא-הִיא הַדַּעַת אֶתִּי
נְאֻם-יְהוָה.
16 He judged the cause of the poor and needy; then it was well. Is not this to know Me? saith the LORD.

נְאֻם-יְהוָה.

V. Remainder of the Torah reading - and connection to Alienu

כט וּבְקִשְׁתֶּם מִשָּׁם אֶת־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיךָ, וּמְצֹאתָ: כִּי תִדְרֹשֶׁנּוּ, בְּכָל־לִבְבְּךָ וּבְכָל־נַפְשְׁךָ.

29 But from thence ye will seek the LORD thy God; and thou shalt find Him, if thou search after Him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.

ל בְּצָר לְךָ--וּמְצֹאוֹךָ, כָּל הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה; בְּאַחֲרִית, הַיָּמִים, וְשָׁבַת עַד־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיךָ, וְשָׁמַעַתָּ בְּקוֹלוֹ.

30 In thy distress, when all these things are come upon thee, in the end of days, thou wilt return to the LORD thy God, and hearken unto His voice;

לא כִּי אֵל רַחוּם יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיךָ, לֹא יִרְפֶּךָ וְלֹא יִשְׁחִיתֶךָ; וְלֹא יִשְׁכַּח אֶת־בְּרִית אֲבֹתֶיךָ, אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁבַּע לָהֶם.

31 for the LORD thy God is a merciful God; He will not fail thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which He swore unto them.

לב כִּי שְׁאַל־נָא לְיָמִים רִאשֹׁנִים אֲשֶׁר־הָיוּ לְפָנֶיךָ, לְמֶן־הַיּוֹם אֲשֶׁר בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים אָדָם עַל־הָאָרֶץ, וּלְמַקְצֵה הַשָּׁמַיִם, וְעַד־קִצָּה הַשָּׁמַיִם: הִנְהִיָּה, כַּדָּבָר הַגָּדוֹל הַזֶּה, אוֹ, הַנִּשְׁמָע כְּמֹהוּ.

32 For ask now of the days past, which were before thee, since the day that God created man upon the earth, and from the one end of heaven unto the other, whether there hath been any such thing as this great thing is, or hath been heard like it?

לג הֲשָׁמַע עָם קוֹל אֱלֹהִים מִדְּבַר מִתּוֹךְ־הָאֵשׁ, כַּאֲשֶׁר־שָׁמַעַתָּ אֹתָהּ--וַיְחִי.

33 Did ever a people hear the voice of God speaking out of the midst of the fire, as thou hast heard, and live?

לד אוֹ הִנֵּסָה אֱלֹהִים, לָבוֹא לְקַחַת לוֹ גּוֹי מִקְרֹב גּוֹי, בְּמִסַּת בְּאֹתוֹת וּבְמוֹפְתִים וּבְמִלְחָמָה וּבְיָד חֲזָקָה וּבְזְרוּעַ נְטוּיָה, וּבְמוֹרָאִים גְּדֹלִים: כָּל־אֲשֶׁר־עָשָׂה לָכֶם יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם, בְּמִצְרַיִם--לְעֵינֶיךָ.

34 Or hath God assayed to go and take Him a nation from the midst of another nation, by trials, by signs, and by wonders, and by war, and by a mighty hand, and by an outstretched arm, and by great terrors, according to all that the LORD your God did for you in Egypt before thine eyes?

לה אֹתָהּ הִרְאִיתָ לְדַעַת, כִּי יְהוָה הוּא הָאֱלֹהִים: אֵין עוֹד, מִלְּבַדּוֹ.

35 Unto thee it was shown, that thou mightest know that the LORD, He is God; there is none else beside Him.

לו מִן־הַשָּׁמַיִם הִשְׁמִיעַךָ אֶת־קוֹלוֹ, לְיִסְרְךָ; וְעַל־הָאָרֶץ, הִרְאִיתָ אֶת־אֵשׁוֹ הַגָּדוֹלָה, וּדְבָרָיו שָׁמַעַתָּ, מִתּוֹךְ הָאֵשׁ.

36 Out of heaven He made thee to hear His voice, that He might instruct thee; and upon earth He made thee to see His great fire; and thou didst hear His words out of the midst of the fire.

לֹא וַתַּחַת, כִּי אָהַב אֶת-אַבְתֵּיךָ,
וַיִּבְחַר בְּזָרְעוֹ, אַחֲרָיו; וַיּוֹצֵאֲךָ בְּכַחוֹ
בְּכַחוֹ הַגָּדֹל, מִמִּצְרָיִם.

37 And because He loved thy fathers,
and chose their seed after them, and
brought thee out with His presence,
with His great power, out of Egypt,

לֹחַ לְהוֹרִישׁ, גּוֹיִם גְּדֹלִים וְעַצְמִים
מִמֶּךָ--מִפְּנֵיךָ; לְהַבְיֵאֲךָ, לְתֵת-לְךָ
אֶת-אֲרָצָם נַחֲלָה--כִּיּוֹם הַזֶּה.

38 to drive out nations from before
thee greater and mightier than thou,
to bring thee in, to give thee their land
for an inheritance, as it is this day;

לֹט וַיִּדְעַתָּ הַיּוֹם, וְהַשְּׁבֹת
אֶל-לִבְבְּךָ, כִּי יְהוָה הוּא
הָאֱלֹהִים, בְּשָׁמַיִם מִמַּעַל וְעַל-
הָאָרֶץ מִתַּחַת: אֵין, עוֹד.

39 know this day, and lay it to thy
heart, that the LORD, He is God in
heaven above and upon the earth
beneath; there is none else.

מ וְשָׁמַרְתָּ אֶת-חֻקָּיו וְאֶת-מִצְוֹתָיו, אֲשֶׁר
אֲנֹכִי מְצַוֶּה הַיּוֹם, אֲשֶׁר יֵיטֵב לְךָ, וּלְבָנֶיךָ
אַחֲרֶיךָ--וּלְמַעַן תִּאָּרִיךְ יָמֶיךָ עַל-
הָאָרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ נָתַן לְךָ כָּל-
הַיָּמִים. {פ}

40 And thou shalt keep His statutes,
and His commandments, which I
command thee this day, that it may go
well with thee, and with thy children
after thee, and that thou mayest
prolong thy days upon the land,
which the LORD thy God giveth
thee, for ever. {P}

The concept of 'preventive medicine'

i.e. what is 'bound to happen' vs. what will happen

in order so that it WILL NOT happen!