

The Failure of the First Generation - Part #2

The sin of the 'spies' - not what you thought

For Torah in Motion - by Menachem Leibtag

Intro:

We are all familiar with the famous sin of the spies, yet it is not at all clear what was so terrible about their actions, for they did pretty much exactly what they instructed to do.

In today's shiur, we approach this question from a different perspective.

Review: . Tehillim chapter 78 - core problem of the people

א מְשָׁכִיל, לְאָסֹף; הֶאֱזִינָה עָמִי,
תּוֹרָתִי; 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.

ח וְלֹא יְהִיוּ, כְּאֲבוֹתָם—
דּוֹר, סוֹרֵר וּמָרָה;
דּוֹר, לֹא-הִכִּין לְבוֹ;
וְלֹא-נִאֲמְנָה אֶת-אֵל רוּחוֹ.

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

I. The logic of sending a national 'fact finding' mission:

א וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה, אֶל-מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר.

1 And the LORD spoke unto Moses,
saying:

ב שְׁלַח-לְךָ אַנְשִׁים, וַיִּתְּרוּ אֶת-אֶרֶץ
כְּנָעַן, אֲשֶׁר-אֲנִי נֹתֵן, לְבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל:
אִישׁ אֶחָד אִישׁ אֶחָד לְמִטֵּה אֲבֹתָיו,
תְּשַׁלְּחוּ--כֹּל, נָשִׂיא בְהֵם.

2 'Send thou men, that they may spy
out the land of Canaan, which I give
unto the children of Israel; of every
tribe of their fathers shall ye send a
man, every one a prince among them.'

ג וַיִּשְׁלַח אֹתָם מֹשֶׁה מִמִּדְבַּר פָּאֲרָן,
עַל-פִּי יְהוָה: כָּלֵם אַנְשִׁים, רָאשֵׁי
בְנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל הֵמָּה.

3 And Moses sent them from the
wilderness of Paran according to the
commandment of the LORD; all of
them men who were heads of the
children of Israel.

II. The questions - & what should have happened

Is the land worth the effort & is it feasible?

- יח וּרְאִיתֶם אֶת-הָאָרֶץ, מֵה-הוּא;** 18 and see the land, what it is; and the people that dwelleth therein, whether they are strong or weak, whether they are few or many;
- וְאֶת-הָעָם, הִיֵּשֶׁב עָלֶיהָ--הַחֹזֵק הוּא הַרְפָּה, הַמְעֵט הוּא אִם-רַב.**
- יט וּמָה הָאָרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר-הוּא יוֹשֵׁב בָּהּ--** 19 and what the land is that they dwell in, whether it is good or bad; and what cities they are that they dwell in, whether in camps, or in strongholds;
- הַטּוֹבָה הוּא, אִם-רָעָה; וּמָה הָעָרִים, אֲשֶׁר-הוּא יוֹשֵׁב בָּהֶנָּה--**
- הַבְּמַחְנִים, אִם בְּמִבְצָרִים.**
- כ וּמָה הָאָרֶץ הַשְּׂמֵנָה הוּא אִם-רְזָה,** 20 and what the land is, whether it is fat or lean, whether there is wood therein, or not. And be ye of good courage, and bring of the fruit of the land.'--Now the time was the time of the first-ripe grapes.--
- הִישׁ-בָּהּ עֵץ אִם-אֵין, וְהִתְחַזְּקוּתֶם, וּלְקַחְתֶּם מִפְּרֵי הָאָרֶץ; וְהֵימִים--יָמִי, בְּכוֹרֵי עֲנָבִים.**

III. Their report:

- כו וַיֵּלְכוּ וַיָּבֹאוּ אֶל-מֹשֶׁה וְאֶל-אַהֲרֹן וְאֶל-כָּל-עֵדַת בְּנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֶל-מִדְבַּר פָּאֲרָן--קַדְשָׁה; וַיֹּשִׁיבוּ אֲתָם דְּבַר וְאֶת-כָּל-הָעֵדָה, וַיִּרְאוּם אֶת-פְּרֵי הָאָרֶץ.** 26 And they went and came to Moses, and to Aaron, and to all the congregation of the children of Israel, unto the wilderness of Paran, to Kadesh; and brought back word unto them, and unto all the congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land.
- כז וַיֹּסְפֹרוּ-לוֹ, וַיֹּאמְרוּ, בְּאָנּוּ, אֶל-הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר שָׁלַחְתָּנוּ; וְגַם זָבַת חֶלֶב וּדְבַשׁ, הוּא--וְזֹה-פְרִיָּהּ.** 27 And they told him, and said: 'We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it.
- כח אִפְסֵי כִּי-עַז הָעָם, הִישָׁב בְּאָרֶץ; וְהָעָרִים, בְּצֻרוֹת גְּדֹלַת מְאֹד, וְגַם-יְלָדֵי הָעֵנָק, רָאִינוּ שָׁם.** 28 Howbeit the people that dwell in the land are fierce, and the cities are fortified, and very great; and moreover we saw the children of Anak there.
- כט עַמְלֵק יוֹשֵׁב, בְּאָרֶץ הַנֶּגֶב; וְהַחִתִּי וְהִיבוּסִי וְהָאֱמֹרִי, יוֹשֵׁב בְּהָר, וְהַכְּנַעֲנִי יוֹשֵׁב עַל-הַיָּם, וְעַל יַד הַיַּרְדֵּן.** 29 Amalek dwelleth in the land of the South; and the Hittite, and the Jebusite, and the Amorite, dwell in the mountains; and the Canaanite dwelleth by the sea, and along by the side of the Jordan.'

ל וַיִּהְיֶה כָּלֵב אֶת-הָעָם, אֶל-מֹשֶׁה; וַיֹּאמֶר, עֲלֵה נַעֲלֵה וַיִּרְשְׁנוּ אֶתְּהָ--כִּי-יָכוֹל נוֹכַל, לָהּ. 30 And Caleb stilled the people toward Moses, and said: 'We should go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.'

לא וְהָאֲנָשִׁים אֲשֶׁר-עָלוּ עִמּוֹ, אָמְרוּ, לֹא נוֹכַל, לַעֲלוֹת אֶל-הָעָם: כִּי-חֲזָק הוּא, מִמֶּנּוּ. 31 But the men that went up with him said: 'We are not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we.'

לב וַיִּצִיאוּ דִבַּת הָאָרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר תָּרוּ אֶתְּהָ, אֶל-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, לֵאמֹר: הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר עָבְרָנוּ בָּהּ לְתוֹר אֶתְּהָ, אָרֶץ אֲכָלֶת יוֹשְׁבֵיהָ הוּא, וְכָל-הָעָם אֲשֶׁר-רָאִינוּ בְּתוֹכָהּ, אֲנָשִׁי מַדּוֹת. 32 And they spread an evil report of the land which they had spied out unto the children of Israel, saying: 'The land, through which we have passed to spy it out, is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are men of great stature.'

לג וַשָּׂם רָאִינוּ, אֶת-הַנְּפִילִים בְּנֵי עֲנָק--מִן-הַנְּפִילִים; וַנְּהִי בְּעֵינֵינוּ כַּחֲגָבִים, וְכֵן הָיִינוּ בְּעֵינֵיהֶם. 33 And there we saw the Nephilim, the sons of Anak, who come of the Nephilim; and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.'

IV. Moshe Rabeinu's similar message / 40 years later:

Devarim chapter 9

א שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֶתְּהָ עֲבַר הַיּוֹם אֶת-הַיַּרְדֵּן, לְבֹא לְרִשְׁתָּ גּוֹיִם, גְּדֹלִים וְעֲצָמִים מִמֶּנָּךְ--עָרִים גְּדֹלֹת וּבְצֻרֹת, בַּשָּׁמַיִם. 1 Hear, O Israel: thou art to pass over the Jordan this day, to go in to dispossess nations greater and mightier than thyself, cities great and fortified up to heaven,

ב עַם-גְּדוֹל וָרָם, בְּנֵי עֲנָקִים: אֲשֶׁר אֶתְּהָ יָדַעְתָּ, וְאֶתְּהָ שָׁמַעְתָּ--מִי יִתְיַצֵּב, לִפְנֵי בְנֵי עֲנָק. 2 a people great and tall, the sons of the Anakim, whom thou knowest, and of whom thou hast heard say: 'Who can stand before the sons of Anak?'

ג וַיִּדְעַתָּ הַיּוֹם, כִּי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ הוּא--הָעֹבֵר לִפְנֵיךָ אֵשׁ אֲכָלָה--הוּא יִשְׁמִידֶם וְהוּא יִכְנִיעֶם, לִפְנֵיךָ; וְהוֹרִשְׁתָּם וְהִאֲבַדְתָּם מִהֵרָ, כַּאֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר יְהוָה לְךָ. 3 Know therefore this day, that the LORD thy God is He who goeth over before thee as a devouring fire; He will destroy them, and He will bring them down before thee; so shalt thou drive them out, and make them to perish quickly, as the LORD hath spoken unto thee.

The conditional promise: -- Shmot 23:20 & Devarim chapter 11

כ הִנֵּה אֲנֹכִי שֹׁלַח מַלְאָךְ, לְפָנֶיךָ, לְשַׁמְרֶךָ, בְּדַרְךְ; וְלִהְבִּיאֲךָ, אֶל-הַמָּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר הִכְנַתִּי.

20 Behold, I send an angel before thee, to keep thee by the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared.

כא הִשָּׁמֶר מִפְּנֵיו וּשְׁמַע בְּקוֹלוֹ, אֶל-תִּמְרָבוּ: כִּי לֹא יִשָּׂא לְפִשְׁעֵיכֶם, כִּי שְׁמִי בְּקִרְבּוֹ.

21 Take heed of him, and hearken unto his voice; be not rebellious against him; for he will not pardon your transgression; for My name is in him.

כב כִּי אִם-שָׁמוֹעַ תִּשְׁמַע, בְּקוֹלוֹ, וַעֲשִׂיתָ, כֹּל אֲשֶׁר אֲדַבֵּר--וְאֵיבַתִּי, אֶת-אֵיבֶיךָ, וְצַרְתִּי, אֶת-צַרְרֶיךָ.

22 But if thou shalt indeed hearken unto his voice, and do all that I speak; then I will be an enemy unto thine enemies, and an adversary unto thine adversaries.

כג כִּי-יֵלֶךְ מַלְאָכִי, לְפָנֶיךָ, וְהִבִּיאֲךָ אֶל-הָאֱמֹרִי וְהַחִתִּי, וְהַפְּרִזִּי וְהַכְּנַעֲנִי הַחֹיִי וְהִיבּוֹסִי; וְהִכְחַדְתִּיו.

23 For Mine angel shall go before thee, and bring thee in unto the Amorite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, and the Canaanite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite; and I will cut them off.

Devarim chapter 8

א כָּל-הַמִּצְוָה, אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי מִצְוֶיךָ הַיּוֹם--תִּשְׁמְרוּן לַעֲשׂוֹת: לְמַעַן תַּחֲיוּן וְרַבִּיתֶם, וּבִאתֶם וִירִשְׁתֶּם אֶת-הָאָרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר-נִשְׁבַּע יְהוָה, לְאֲבֹתֵיכֶם.

1 All the commandment which I command thee this day shall ye observe to do, that ye may live, and multiply, and go in and possess the land which the LORD swore unto your fathers.

Devarim chapter 11

כב כִּי אִם-שָׁמַר תִּשְׁמְרוּן אֶת-כָּל-הַמִּצְוָה הַזֹּאת, אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי מִצְוֶיךָ אֶתְכֶם--לַעֲשׂוֹתָהּ: לְאַהֲבָה אֶת-יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם, לְלַכֵּת בְּכָל-דַּרְכָיו--וּלְדַבְּקָהּ-בּוֹ.

22 For if ye shall diligently keep all this commandment which I command you, to do it, to love the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways, and to cleave unto Him,

כג וְהוֹרִישׁ יְהוָה אֶת-כָּל-הַגּוֹיִם הָאֵלֶּה, מִלְּפָנֶיכֶם; וַיִּרְשְׁתֶּם גּוֹיִם, גְּדֹלִים וַעֲצֻמִּים מִכֶּם. **23** then will the LORD drive out all these nations from before you, and ye shall dispossess nations greater and mightier than yourselves.

כד כָּל-הַמְּקוֹם, אֲשֶׁר תִּדְרֹךְ כַּף-רַגְלְךָ בּו--לָכֶם יִהְיֶה: מִן-הַמִּדְבָּר וְהַלְּבָנוֹן מִן-הַנָּהָר נְהַר-פָּרַת, וְעַד הַיָּם הָאֲחֵרוֹן--יִהְיֶה, גְּבֻלְכֶם. **24** Every place whereon the sole of your foot shall tread shall be yours: from the wilderness, and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the hinder sea shall be your border.

See also Yehoshua 1:1-9

V. Am Yisrael's reaction:

Devarim chapter 1

יח וְאֶצְוָה אֶתְכֶם, בְּעֵת הַהוּא, אֵת כָּל-הַדְּבָרִים, אֲשֶׁר תַּעֲשׂוּן. **18** And I commanded you at that time all the things which ye should do.

יט וַנִּסַּע מִחֹרֵב, וַנֵּלֶךְ אֵת כָּל-הַמִּדְבָּר הַגָּדוֹל וְהַנּוֹרָא הַהוּא אֲשֶׁר רָאִיתֶם דֶּרֶךְ הַר הָאֱמֹרִי, כַּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ, אֲתָנוּ; וַנָּבֵא, עַד קַדֵּשׁ בַּרנֶעַ. **19** And we journeyed from Horeb, and went through all that great and dreadful wilderness which ye saw, by the way to the hill-country of the Amorites, as the LORD our God commanded us; and we came to Kadesh-barnea.

כ וְאָמַר, אֵלְכֶם: בְּאֶתֶם עַד-הַר הָאֱמֹרִי, אֲשֶׁר-יִהְיֶה אֱלֹהֵינוּ נָתַן לָנוּ. **20** And I said unto you: 'Ye are come unto the hill-country of the Amorites, which the LORD our God giveth unto us.

כא רְאֵה נָתַן יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ, לְפָנֶיךָ--אֶת-הָאָרֶץ: עָלֶה רֵשׁ, כַּאֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי אֲבֹתֶיךָ לָךְ--אֶל-תִּירָא, וְאֶל-תַּחַת. **21** Behold, the LORD thy God hath set the land before thee; go up, take possession, as the LORD, the God of thy fathers, hath spoken unto thee; fear not, neither be dismayed.'

כב וַתִּקְרְבוּן אֵלַי, כָּלְכֶם, וַתֹּאמְרוּ נִשְׁלַחְהָ אֲנָשִׁים לְפָנֵינוּ, וַיַּחְפְּרוּ-לָנוּ אֶת-הָאָרֶץ; וַיָּשְׁבוּ אֲתָנוּ, דִּבַּר--אֶת- **22** And ye came near unto me every one of you, and said: 'Let us send men before us, that they may search the land for us, and bring us back word of

הַדֶּרֶךְ אֲשֶׁר נֵעְלָה-בָּהּ, וְאֵת הָעָרִים
אֲשֶׁר נָבֵא אֵלֶיךָ.

the way by which we must go up, and
the cities unto which we shall come.'

כג וַיִּיטֵב בְּעֵינַי, הַדָּבָר; וְאָקַח מִכֶּם
שְׁנַיִם עָשָׂר אַנְשִׁים, אִישׁ אֶחָד לְשִׁבְט.

23 And the thing pleased me well; and
I took twelve men of you, one man for
every tribe;

כד וַיִּפְּנוּ וַיַּעֲלוּ הָהָרָה, וַיָּבֹאוּ עַד-
נַחַל אֶשְׁכּוֹל; וַיִּרְגְּלוּ, אֹתָהּ.

24 and they turned and went up into the
mountains, and came unto the valley of
Eshcol, and spied it out.

כה וַיִּקְחוּ בְיָדָם מִפְּרֵי הָאָרֶץ, וַיֹּרְדוּ
אֵלֵינוּ; וַיֵּשְׁבוּ אֹתָנוּ דָּבָר, וַיֹּאמְרוּ,
טוֹבָה הָאָרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר-יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ נָתַן
לָנוּ.

25 And they took of the fruit of the
land in their hands, and brought it
down unto us, and brought us back
word, and said: 'Good is the land
which the LORD our God giveth unto
us.'

כו וְלֹא אָבִיתֶם, לַעֲלֹת; וַתִּמְרוּ, אֶת-
פִּי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם.

26 Yet ye would not go up, but rebelled
against the commandment of the
LORD your God;

כז וַתִּרְגְּנוּ בְּאֹהֲלֵיכֶם, וַתֹּאמְרוּ,
בְּשִׁנְאֵת יְהוָה אֹתָנוּ, הוֹצִיאָנוּ מֵאֶרֶץ
מִצְרַיִם--לְתֵת אֹתָנוּ בְּיַד הָאֲמֹרִי,
לְהַשְׁמִידָנוּ.

27 and ye murmured in your tents, and
said: 'Because the LORD hated us, He
hath brought us forth out of the land of
Egypt, to deliver us into the hand of
the Amorites, to destroy us.

כח אַנְּהָ אֲנַחְנוּ עֲלִים, אַחִינוּ הִמָּסוּ
אֶת-לִבְבָנוּ לֵאמֹר עִם גְּדוֹל וָרָם
מִמֶּנּוּ, עָרִים גְּדֹלֹת וּבְצוּרֹת, בְּשָׂמַיִם;
וְגַם-בְּנֵי עֲנָקִים, רָאִינוּ שָׁם.

28 Whither are we going up? our
brethren have made our heart to melt,
saying: The people is greater and taller
than we; the cities are great and
fortified up to heaven; and moreover
we have seen the sons of the Anakim
there.'

כט וְאָמַר, אֵלֵיכֶם: לֹא-תִעַרְצוּן
וְלֹא-תִירָאוּ, מֵהֶם.

29 Then I said unto you: 'Dread not,
neither be afraid of them.

ל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם הֵהֱלִיךְ לִפְנֵיכֶם,
הוּא יִלָּחֵם לָכֶם: כָּכָל אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה
אֹתְכֶם, בְּמִצְרַיִם--לְעֵינֵיכֶם.

30 The LORD your God who goeth
before you, He shall fight for you,
according to all that He did for you in
Egypt before your eyes;

לא וּבַמִּדְבָּר, אֲשֶׁר רָאִיתָ, אֲשֶׁר
נִשְׂאָדָּךְ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ, כְּאִשׁ יִשְׂאֵ-
אִישׁ אֶת-בְּנוֹ--בְּכָל-הַדֶּרֶךְ אֲשֶׁר
הִלַּכְתֶּם, עַד-בְּאֲכֹס עַד-הַמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה.

31 and in the wilderness, where thou
hast seen how that the LORD thy God
bore thee, as a man doth bear his son,
in all the way that ye went, until ye
came unto this place.

לב וּבְדַבֵּר, הִזָּה--אֵינְכֶם, מֵאֲמִינִם,
בִּיהוָה, אֱלֹהֵיכֶם. **32** Yet in this thing ye do not believe
the LORD your God,

לג הַהֲלִיךְ לִפְנֵיכֶם בַּדֶּרֶךְ, לְתוֹר לָכֶם
מְקוֹם--לְחַנְתְּכֶם: בָּאֵשׁ לַיְלָה,
לְרֹאֲתֶכֶם בַּדֶּרֶךְ אֲשֶׁר תֵּלְכוּ-בָהּ,
וּבַעֲנָן, יוֹמָם. **33** Who went before you in the way, to
seek you out a place to pitch your tents
in: in fire by night, to show you by
what way ye should go, and in the
cloud by day.'

לד וַיִּשְׁמַע יְהוָה, אֶת-קוֹל דְּבָרֵיכֶם;
וַיִּקְצַף, וַיִּשָּׁבַע לֵאמֹר. **34** And the LORD heard the voice of
your words, and was wroth, and swore,
saying:

לה אִם-יִרְאֶה אִישׁ בְּאַנְשֵׁים הָאֵלֶּה,
הַדּוֹר הַרְעֵה הִזָּה--אֶת, הָאָרֶץ הַטּוֹבָה,
אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁבַּעְתִּי, לָתֵת לְאֲבֹתֵיכֶם. **35** 'Surely there shall not one of these
men, even this evil generation, see the
good land, which I swore to give unto
your fathers,

Bamidbar chapter 14

א וַתִּשָּׂא, כָּל-הָעֵדָה, וַיִּתְּנוּ, אֶת-
קוֹלָם; וַיִּבְכּוּ הָעָם, בַּלַּיְלָה הַהוּא. **1** And all the congregation lifted up
their voice, and cried; and the people
wept that night.

ב וַיִּלְנוּ עַל-מֹשֶׁה וְעַל-אַהֲרֹן, כָּל בְּנֵי
יִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֲלֵהֶם כָּל-הָעֵדָה,
לוּ-מָתָנוּ בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם, אוֹ בַּמִּדְבָּר
הַזֶּה, לוּ-מָתָנוּ. **2** And all the children of Israel
murmured against Moses and against
Aaron; and the whole congregation
said unto them: 'Would that we had
died in the land of Egypt! or would
we had died in this wilderness!

ג וְלָמָּה יְהוָה מְבִיא אֶתָּנוּ אֶל-הָאָרֶץ
הַזֹּאת, לְנַפֵּל בַּחֶרֶב--נָשִׁינוּ וְטַפָּנוּ,
יְהִיו לְבַז; הֲלוֹא טוֹב לָנוּ, שׁוּב
מִצְרָיִמָּה. **3** And wherefore doth the LORD
bring us unto this land, to fall by the
sword? Our wives and our little ones
will be a prey; were it not better for
us to return into Egypt?'

ד וַיֹּאמְרוּ, אִישׁ אֶל-אָחִיו: נָתַנָּה
רֹאשׁ, וְנָשׁוּבָה מִצְרָיִמָּה. **4** And they said one to another: 'Let
us make a captain, and let us return
into Egypt.'

ה וַיִּפֹּל מֹשֶׁה וְאַהֲרֹן, עַל-פְּנֵיהֶם,
לִפְנֵי, כָּל-קְהַל עֵדֹת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל. **5** Then Moses and Aaron fell on their
faces before all the assembly of the
congregation of the children of Israel.

ו וַיְהוֹשֻׁעַ בֶּן-נּוּן, וְכָלֵב בֶּן-יִפְנֶה, מִן-
הַתְּרַיִם, אֶת-הָאָרֶץ--קָרְעוּ, בְּגָדֵיהֶם. **6** And Joshua the son of Nun and
Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who
were of them that spied out the land,
rent their clothes.

ז וַיֹּאמְרוּ, אֶל-כָּל-עֵדֶת בְּנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל
לֵאמֹר: הָאָרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר עָבַרְנוּ בָּהּ לְתוֹר
אֹתָהּ--טוֹבָה הָאָרֶץ, מְאֹד מְאֹד.
7 And they spoke unto all the
congregation of the children of Israel,
saying: 'The land, which we passed
through to spy it out, is an exceeding
good land.

ח אִם-חִפְּץ בָּנוּ, יְהוָה--וְהֵבִיא אֶתְנוּ
אֶל-הָאָרֶץ הַזֹּאת, וּנְתַנָּה לָנוּ: אָרֶץ,
אֲשֶׁר-הוּא זָבֵת חֶלֶב וְדָבָשׁ.
8 If the LORD delight in us, then He
will bring us into this land, and give it
unto us--a land which floweth with
milk and honey.

ט אַךְ בִּיהוָה, אֶל-תִּמְרְדוּ, וְאַתֶּם אֶל-
תִּירְאוּ אֶת-עַם הָאָרֶץ, כִּי לַחֲמִנּוּ הֵם;
סָר צִלְמָם מֵעֲלֵיהֶם וַיהוָה אִתָּנוּ, אֶל-
תִּירְאֵם.
9 Only rebel not against the LORD,
neither fear ye the people of the land;
for they are bread for us; their
defence is removed from over them,
and the LORD is with us; fear them
not.'

י וַיֹּאמְרוּ, כָּל-הָעֵדָה, לְרַגֹּם אֹתָם,
בְּאֲבָנִים; וַיִּכְבֹּד יְהוָה, נִרְאָה בְּאֹהֶל
מוֹעֵד, אֶל-כָּל-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל. {פ}
10 But all the congregation bade
stone them with stones, when the
glory of the LORD appeared in the
tent of meeting unto all the children
of Israel. {P}

יא וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה, עַד-אַנָּה
יִנְאַצְנִי הָעָם הַזֶּה; וְעַד-אַנָּה, לֹא-
יֶאֱמִינוּ בִּי, בְּכָל הָאֵתוֹת, אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתִי
בְּקִרְבּוֹ.
11 And the LORD said unto Moses:
'How long will this people despise
Me? and how long will they not
believe in Me, for all the signs which
I have wrought among them?

יב אֶפְנֹו בַדָּבָר, וְאוֹרְשָׁנוּ; וְאַעֲשֶׂה,
אֹתְךָ, לְגוֹי-גָדוֹל וְעָצוּם, מִמֶּנּוּ.
12 I will smite them with the
pestilence, and destroy them, and will
make of thee a nation greater and
mightier than they.'

יג וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה, אֶל-יְהוָה: וְשָׁמְעוּ
מִצְרַיִם, כִּי-הֵעֲלִיתָ בְּלַחֲדָךְ אֶת-הָעָם
הַזֶּה מִקִּרְבּוֹ.
13 And Moses said unto the LORD:
'When the Egyptians shall hear--for
Thou broughtest up this people in
Thy might from among them--