

The Prophets and Psalmists as Exegetes - Class # 12

For Torah in Motion - by Menachem Leibtag

Yom Yerushalaim & Matan Torah?

Intro:

As today is Yom Yerushalayim & Shavuot is also approaching, this week we dedicate our shiur to the connection between them, in Chumash & Navi.

Intro:

Is there a mitzva to 'remember Matan Torah'?

If so, once a day, or once a year?

Is there a mitzvah to build the Temple in Jerusalem?

If so, who decided?

To answer these questions, we begin with a famous Ramban & Rambam

I. The commandment to build a Temple:

Rambam - Hilchot beit ha'Bechira 1:1

<p>1. It is a positive obligation to build a house for God where offerings may be brought and to make pilgrimage to it three times a year as it says</p> <p>"and they shall make Me a sanctuary."</p> <p>The tabernacle which Moses made in the desert has already been described in the Torah, but it was a temporary measure, as it says</p> <p>"for you have not yet reached, etc."</p>	<p>מִצְוֹת עֲשֵׂה לַעֲשׂוֹת בֵּית לַה' מוֹכֵן לְהִיּוֹת מִקְרִיבִים בּוֹ הַקְּרָבָנוֹת. וְחֹגְגִין אֵלָיו שְׁלֹשׁ פְּעָמִים בְּשָׁנָה שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר "וְעָשׂוּ לִי מִקְדָּשׁ". וְכִבֵּר נִתְפָּרֵשׁ בַּתּוֹרָה מִשְׁכַּן שֶׁעָשָׂה מֹשֶׁה רַבְּנּוּ. וְהָיָה לְפִי שְׁעָה שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר (דְּבָרִים יב ט"ו) (כִּי לֹא בָאתֶם עַד עֲתָה" וְגו':</p>
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As soon as the Israelites entered Eretz Yisrael, they set up the portable sanctuary (*Mishkan*) in Gilgal for the fourteen years during which they occupied and divided the land. From there they came to Shiloh and built a sanctuary of stones, over which they spread the curtains of the *Mishkan*, since it had no ceiling.

The sanctuary of Shiloh lasted three hundred and sixty-nine years. It was destroyed when Eli died, so they came to Nov and built a sanctuary there. It was destroyed when Samuel died, so they came to Gibeon and built a sanctuary there. From Gibeon they came to Jerusalem to build the permanent sanctuary. Nov and Gibeon lasted fifty-seven years.

As soon as the Temple was built in Jerusalem, it was prohibited to build a sanctuary for the Lord or to offer a sacrifice in any other place.

Only the Temple in Jerusalem, on Mount Moriah, was intended for all generations.— —

בִּיּוֹן שְׁנַנְכְּסוּ לְאֶרֶץ הָעֵמִידוֹ הַמְּשָׁכָן בְּגִלְגָּל
אַרְבַּע עָשָׂרָה שָׁנָה שִׁכְּבָשׁוּ וְשִׁחֲלְקוּ
וּמִשָּׁם בָּאוּ לְשִׁילָה וּבְנוּ שָׁם בַּיִת שֶׁל
אַבְנִים וּפָרְשׂוּ יְרִיעוֹת הַמְּשָׁכָן עָלָיו וְלֹא הָיְתָה
שָׁם תְּקָרָה... וְשֵׁם"ט שָׁנָה עָמַד מִשְׁכָּן
שִׁילָה וּכְשִׁמַּת עָלֶי חָרַב ו
בָּאוּ לְנֹב וּבְנוּ שָׁם מִקְדָּשׁ. וּכְשִׁמַּת שְׁמוּאֵל
חָרַב - וּבָאוּ לְגִבְעוֹן וּבְנוּ שָׁם מִקְדָּשׁ.
וּמִגִּבְעוֹן בָּאוּ לְבֵית הָעוֹלָמִים. וַיְמִי נֹב וּגִבְעוֹן
שִׁבְעַת וַחֲמִשִּׁים שָׁנָה :

בִּיּוֹן שְׁנַנְכְּנָה הַמִּקְדָּשׁ בִּירוּשָׁלַיִם נֶאֱסָרוּ כָּל
הַמְּקוֹמוֹת כֻּלָּן לְבָנוֹת בֵּית לַה' וְלִהְקָרִיב
בָּהֶן קֶרְבָּן. - וְאִין שָׁם בַּיִת לְדוֹרֵי הַדּוֹרוֹת
אֶלָּא בִירוּשָׁלַיִם בְּלִבָּד וּבְהַר הַמּוֹרְיָה שְׁבָה
נֶאֱמַר) דְּבַרֵי הַיָּמִים א כב א" (וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד
זֶה הוּא בַיִת ה' הָאֱלֹהִים וְזֶה מִזְבֵּחַ
לְעֹלָה לְיִשְׂרָאֵל" (וַאֲמַר) תְּהִלִּים קִלְב יד)
"זֹאת מִנוּחָתִי עַד־עַד:"

In our shiur, we will show how David ha'Melech understood the psukim that the Rambam is quoting!

i.e. Shmot 25:8-9, & Devarim 12:1-11

Then Divrei ha'Yamim chapters 21-22 & Tehillim 132

II. An outline of Trauma/Tzaveh : Shmot chapters 25->29:

Introduction - Donation of the materials (25:1-7) & the purpose of this project:

וַעֲשׂוּ לִי, מִקֹּדֶשׁ; וְשָׁכַנְתִּי, בְּתוֹכֶם (25:8)

Vessels in the Kodesh Kodashim (innermost sanctuary)

Aron & kaporet / housing the "luchot" (25:10-22) -

Vessels in the Kodesh (main sanctuary) /

Shulchan - the table for the show-BREAD (25:23-30) – weekly ritual; on shabbat

Menora – 7 branch candelabra (25:31-40) – man making 'light'

The Ohel Mo'ed [The tent housing these vessels] (26:1-37) – the COVER

YERIoT - The blankets that cover the structure

KRASHIM -The poles that support the blanket

PAROCHET -The curtain that divides the tent into two sections -

The Chatzer [The outer courtyard with Mizbeiach (27:1-8) - offering animal sacrifices

MIZBACH HA'OLAH -copper

AMUDIM -& KLA'IM poles & curtains that form the courtyard

Oil For The Menorah (27:20-21) /this s/b with the menorah.

The 'Bigdei Kehuna' - (28:1-43) Six paragraphs describing the priestly garments

The Seven-Day Inaugural Dedication Ceremony (29:1-37)

Olat Tamid (29:38-46) The daily offering on the altar (after its dedication)

מִדֵּי וְקֹדֶשְׁתֵּי אֶת-אֹהֶל מוֹעֵד, וְאֶת-הַמִּזְבֵּחַ;
וְאֶת-אֹהֶל הָאֵרוֹן וְאֶת-בְּנֵי אֶקֶדֶשׁ, לְכַהֵן לִי.

מֵה וְשָׁכַנְתִּי, בְּתוֹךְ בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל;
וְהָיִיתִי לָהֶם, לְאֱלֹהִים.

*In theory, this may only be a commandment for the generation coming out of Egypt
- to continue receiving the Torah-*

How do we know it's a commandment for all generations?

Next source, Laws in Devarim 5->26 given w/ the Dibrot

III. Outline of the main speech in Sefer Devarim, and its key sections:

Chapter 5 Moshe Rabeinu retells the story of Maamad Har Sinai,

and how he received at that time - the laws that he is about to teach

Chapters 6->11 - The "mitzvah" section , the love & fear of God

/ From "shema" to "v'haya im shmoah"

Chapters 12->26 - The "chukim u'mishpatim" section

/ The Laws that will establish God's nation

IV. Devarim chapter 12

א אלה החקים והמשפטים, אשר תשמרון לעשות, בארץ, אשר נתן יהוה אלהי אבותיך לך לרשתה: כל הימים--אשר אתם חיים, על-האדמה.

1 These are the statutes and the ordinances, which ye shall observe to do in the land which the LORD, the God of thy fathers, hath given thee to possess it, all the days that ye live upon the earth.

ב אבד ותאבדון את-כל-המקמות אשר עבדו-שם הגוים, אשר אתם ירשים אתם--את-אלהיהם: על-ההרים הרמים ועל-הגבעות, ותחת כל-עץ רענן.

2 Ye shall surely destroy all the places, wherein the nations that ye are to dispossess served their gods, upon the high mountains, and upon the hills, and under every leafy tree.

ג ונתצתם את-מזבחתם, ושברתם את-מצבתם, ואשריהם תשרפון באש, ופסילי אלהיהם תגדעו; ואבדתם את-שם, מן-המקום ההוא.

3 And ye shall break down their altars, and dash in pieces their pillars, and burn their Asherim with fire; and ye shall hew down the graven images of their gods; and ye shall destroy their name out of that place.

ד לא-תעשון כן, ליהוה אלהיכם.

4 Ye shall not do so unto the LORD your God.

ה כי אם-אל-המקום אשר-יבחר יהוה אלהיכם, מכל-שבטיכם, לשום את-שמו, שם--לשכנו תדרשו, ובאת שמה.

5 But unto the place which the LORD your God shall choose out of all your tribes to put His name there, even unto His habitation shall ye seek, and thither thou shalt come;

ו והבאתם שמה, עלתיכם וזבחיכם, ואת מעשרתיכם, ואת תרומת ידכם; ונדריכם, ונדבתיכם, ובכרת בקרכם, וצאנכם.

6 and thither ye shall bring your burnt-offerings, and your sacrifices, and your tithes, and the offering of your hand, and your vows, and your freewill-offerings, and the firstlings of your herd and of your flock;

ז ואכלתם-שם, לפני יהוה אלהיכם, ושמתם בכל משלח ידכם, אתם ובתיכם--אשר ברכך, יהוה אלהיך.

7 and there ye shall eat before the LORD your God, and ye shall rejoice in all that ye put your hand unto, ye and your households, wherein the LORD thy God hath blessed thee.

ח לא תעשון--ככל אשר אנחנו עשים פה, היום: איש, כל-הישר בעיניו.

8 Ye shall not do after all that we do here this day, every man whatsoever is right in his own eyes;

ט כי לא-באתם, עד-עתה--אל-המנוחה, ואל-הנחלה, אשר-יהוה אלהיך, נתן לך.

9 for ye are not as yet come to the rest and to the inheritance, which the LORD your God giveth thee.

י ועברתם, את-הירדן, וישבתם בארץ, אשר-יהוה אלהיכם מנחיל אתכם; והנית לכם מכל-איביכם מסביב, וישבתם בטח.

10 But when ye go over the Jordan, and dwell in the land which the LORD your God causeth you to inherit, and He giveth you rest from all your enemies round about, so that ye dwell in safety;

יא וְהָיָה הַמָּקוֹם, אֲשֶׁר-יִבְחַר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם בּוֹ לְשֹׁכֵן שְׁמוֹ שָׁם-- שָׁמָּה תָבִיאוּ, אֶת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי מְצַוֶּה אֶתְכֶם: עוֹלֹתֵיכֶם וְזִבְחֵיכֶם, מַעֲשֵׂי־רְתִיכֶם וּתְרִמַת יָדְכֶם, וְכֹל מִבְּחַר נְדָרֵיכֶם, אֲשֶׁר תִּדְרוּ לַיהוָה.

11 then it shall come to pass that the place which the LORD your God shall choose to cause His name to dwell there, thither shall ye bring all that I command you: your burnt-offerings, and your sacrifices, your tithes, and the offering of your hand, and all your choice vows which ye vow unto the LORD.

יב וּשְׂמַחְתֶּם, לִפְנֵי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם--אֲתֶם וּבְנֵיכֶם וּבָנוֹתֵיכֶם, וְעַבְדֵיכֶם וְאִמָּהֲתֵיכֶם; וְהָלוּי אֲשֶׁר בְּשַׁעְרֵיכֶם, כִּי אֵין לוֹ חֵלֶק וְנַחֲלָה אֶתְכֶם.

12 And ye shall rejoice before the LORD your God, ye, and your sons, and your daughters, and your men-servants, and your maid-servants, and the Levite that is within your gates, forasmuch as he hath no portion nor inheritance with you

Then three times/ year -based on Devarim chapter 16

And Shmot 23:14-17

How David ha'Melech understood the verses in Devarim 12

Shmuel bet chapter 7

א וַיְהִי, כִּי-יָשָׁב הַמֶּלֶךְ בְּבֵיתוֹ; וַיְהִי הַנִּיח-לוֹ מִסָּבִיב, מִכָּל-אִיבָיו.

1 And it came to pass, when the king dwelt in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies round about,

ב וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶל-נָתָן הַנָּבִיא, רְאֵה נָא, אֲנֹכִי יוֹשֵׁב בְּבַיִת אֲרָזִים; וְאֲרוֹן, הָאֱלֹהִים, יֹשֵׁב, בְּתוֹךְ הִירִיעָה.

2 that the king said unto Nathan the prophet: 'See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwelleth within curtains.'

ג וַיֹּאמֶר נָתָן אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, כָּל אֲשֶׁר בְּלִבְבְּךָ לַעֲשֹׂה: כִּי יְהוָה, עִמָּךְ.

3 And Nathan said to the king: 'Go, do all that is in thy heart; for the LORD is with thee.'

ד וַיְהִי, בַּלַּיְלָה הַהוּא; {ס} וַיְהִי, דְּבַר-יְהוָה, אֶל-נָתָן, לֵאמֹר.

4 And it came to pass the same night, {S} that the word of the LORD came unto Nathan, saying:

ה לֵךְ וְאָמַרְתָּ אֶל-עַבְדֵי אֶל-דָּוִד, {ס} כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה: הַאֲתָה תִּבְנֶה-לִּי בַיִת, לְשֹׁבְתִי.

5 'Go and tell My servant David: {S} Thus saith the LORD: Shalt thou build Me a house for Me to dwell in?

ו כִּי לֹא יָשַׁבְתִּי, בְּבַיִת, לְמִיּוֹם הָעֲלֵתִי אֶת-בְּנֵי
יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמִּצְרַיִם, וְעַד הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה; וְנֹאֲהִיָּה,
מִתְהַלֵּךְ, בְּאֹהֶל, וּבְמִשְׁכָּן.

6 for I have not dwelt in a house since the day that I brought up the children of Israel out of Egypt, even to this day, but have walked in a tent and in a tabernacle.

ז בְּכֹל אֲשֶׁר-הִתְהַלַּכְתִּי, בְּכָל-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל,
הַדָּבָר דְּבַרְתִּי אֶת-אֶחָד שְׁבִטֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֲשֶׁר
צִוִּיתִי לְרַעוּת אֶת-עַמִּי אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל
לֵאמֹר: לָמָּה לֹא-בְנִיתָם לִי, בַּיִת אֲרָזִים.

7 In all places wherein I have walked among all the children of Israel, spoke I a word with any of the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to feed My people Israel, saying: Why have ye not built Me a house of cedar?

ח וְעַתָּה כֹּה-תֹאמַר לְעַבְדִּי דָּוִד, כֹּה אָמַר
יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת, אֲנִי לְקַחְתִּיךָ מִן-הַנֶּזֶוֹה, מֵאַחַר
הַצֹּאֵן--לְהִיּוֹת נָגִיד, עַל-עַמִּי עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל.

8 Now therefore thus shalt thou say unto My servant David: Thus saith the LORD of hosts: I took thee from the sheepcote, from following the sheep, that thou shouldest be prince over My people, over Israel.

ט וְנֹאֲהִיָּה עִמָּךְ, בְּכֹל אֲשֶׁר הִלַּכְתָּ, וְנֹאֲכַרְתָּה
אֶת-כָּל-אִיְבֹיֶיךָ, מִפְּנֵיךָ; וְעָשִׂיתִי לְךָ שֵׁם גָּדוֹל,
כְּשֵׁם הַגְּדֹלִים אֲשֶׁר בָּאָרֶץ.

9 And I have been with thee whithersoever thou didst go, and have cut off all thine enemies from before thee; and I will make thee a great name, like unto the name of the great ones that are in the earth.

י וְשִׁמַּתִּי מְקוֹם לְעַמִּי לְיִשְׂרָאֵל וְנִטְעַתִּיו, וְשָׁכַן
תַּחְתָּיו, וְלֹא יִרְגֹז, עוֹד; וְלֹא-יִסִּיפוּ בְנֵי-עוֹלָה
לְעַנּוֹתוֹ, כְּאֲשֶׁר בְּרִאשׁוֹנָה.

10 And I will appoint a place for My people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in their own place, and be disquieted no more; neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more, as at the first,

יא וּלְמִן-הַיּוֹם, אֲשֶׁר צִוִּיתִי שְׁפָטִים עַל-עַמִּי
יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְהִנִּיחֵתִי לְךָ, מִכָּל-אִיְבֹיֶיךָ; וְהִגִּיד לְךָ
יְהוָה, כִּי-בַיִת יַעֲשֶׂה-לְךָ יְהוָה.

11 even from the day that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel; and I will cause thee to rest from all thine enemies. Moreover the LORD telleth thee that the LORD will make thee a house.

יב כִּי יִמְלְאוּ יָמֶיךָ, וְשָׁכַבְתָּ אֶת-אֲבֹתֶיךָ,
וְהִקִּימְתִי אֶת-זֶרְעֶךָ אַחֲרֶיךָ, אֲשֶׁר יֵצֵא
מִמֶּעֶיךָ; וְהִכִּינֹתִי, אֶת-מַמְלַכְתּוֹ.

12 When thy days are fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, that shall proceed out of thy body, and I will establish his kingdom.

יג הוּא יִבְנֶה-בַּיִת, לְשִׁמִּי; וְכִנְנֹתִי אֶת-כִּסֵּא
מַמְלַכְתּוֹ, עַד-עוֹלָם.

13 He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever.

יד אֲנִי אֶהְיֶה-לוֹ לְאָב, וְהוּא יְהִיָּה-לִּי לְבֵן--
אֲשֶׁר, בְּהַעֲוֹתוֹ, וְהִכַּחֲתִיו בְּשִׁבְט אַנְשִׁים, וּבְנִגְעֵי
בְּנֵי אָדָם.

14 I will be to him for a father, and he shall be to Me for a son; if he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men;

טו וְחַסְדִּי, לֹא-יִסּוּר מִמֶּנּוּ, כְּאֲשֶׁר הִסְרֹתִי
מֵעַם שָׂאוּל, אֲשֶׁר הִסְרֹתִי מִלְּפָנֶיךָ.

15 but My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee.

טז וְנִאֲמַן בַּיִתְךָ וּמַמְלַכְתְּךָ עַד-עוֹלָם,
לְפָנֶיךָ: כִּסֵּאֲךָ, יְהִיָּה נָכוֹן עַד-עוֹלָם.

16 And thy house and thy kingdom shall be made sure for ever before thee; thy throne shall be established for ever.'

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- ז** וַיִּרַע בְּעֵינָי הָאֱלֹהִים, עַל-הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה; וַיִּדָּ, אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל. {ס}
- 7 And God was displeased with this thing; therefore He smote Israel. {S}
- ח** וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד, אֶל-הָאֱלֹהִים, חָטָאתִי מְאֹד, אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתִי אֶת-הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה; וְעַתָּה, הֶעֱבַר-נָא אֶת-עֲוֹנוֹן עַבְדְּךָ, כִּי נִסְפַלְתִּי, מְאֹד. {פ}
- 8 And David said unto God: 'I have sinned greatly, in that I have done this thing; but now, put away, I beseech Thee, the iniquity of Thy servant; for I have done very foolishly.' {P}
- ט** וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה אֶל-גָּד, חִזָּה דָּוִד לֵאמֹר.
- 9 And the LORD spoke unto Gad, David's seer, saying:
- י** לֵךְ וְדַבֵּרְתָּ אֶל-דָּוִד לֵאמֹר, כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה, שְׁלוֹשׁ, אֲנִי נֹטֶה עֲלֶיךָ: בְּחַר-לְךָ אַחַת מֵהֲנֹה, וְאֶעֱשֶׂה-לְךָ.
- 10 'Go and speak unto David, saying: Thus saith the LORD: I offer thee three things; choose thee one of them, that I may do it unto thee.'
- יא** וַיָּבֹא גָד, אֶל-דָּוִד; וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ כֹּה-אָמַר יְהוָה, קַבֵּל-לְךָ.
- 11 So Gad came to David, and said unto him: 'Thus saith the LORD: Take which thou wilt:
- יב** אִם-שְׁלוֹשׁ שָׁנִים רָעָב, וְאִם-שְׁלֹשָׁה חֳדָשִׁים נִסְפָּה מִפְּנֵי-צָרִיד וְחָרָב אוֹיְבֶיךָ לְמִשְׁגַּת, וְאִם-שְׁלֹשֶׁת יָמִים חָרָב יְהוָה וְדַבֵּר בְּאֶרֶץ, וּמְלֹאךָ יְהוָה מִשְׁחִית בְּכָל-גְּבוּל יִשְׂרָאֵל: וְעַתָּה רְאֵה, מֵה-אֲשִׁיב אֶת-שְׁלַחִי דָּבָר. {ס}
- 12 either three years of famine; or three months to be swept away before thy foes, while the sword of thine enemies overtaketh thee; or else three days the sword of the LORD, even pestilence in the land, and the angel of the LORD destroying throughout all the borders of Israel. Now therefore consider what answer I shall return to Him that sent me.' {S}
- יג** וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-גָּד, צַר-לִי מְאֹד; אֶפְלֶה-נָא בְּיַד-יְהוָה, כִּי-רַבִּים רַחֲמָיו מְאֹד, וּבְיַד-אָדָם, אֶל-אֶפְלָ.
- 13 And David said unto Gad: 'I am in a great strait; let me fall now into the hand of the LORD, for very great are His mercies; and let me not fall into the hand of man.'
- יד** וַיִּתֵּן יְהוָה דָּבָר, בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיִּפֹּל, מִיִּשְׂרָאֵל, שִׁבְעִים אֶלֶף, אִישׁ.
- 14 So the LORD sent a pestilence upon Israel; and there fell of Israel seventy thousand men.
- טו** וַיִּשְׁלַח הָאֱלֹהִים מַלְאָךְ לִירוּשָׁלַם, לְהַשְׁחִיתָהּ, וַיַּכְהֶשְׁחִית רָאָה יְהוָה וַיִּנְחָם עַל-הָרָעָה, וַיֹּאמֶר לְמַלְאָךְ הַמְשַׁחִית רַב עֲתָה הֶרְף יָדְךָ; וּמְלֹאךָ יְהוָה לֵמַד, עִם-גֵּרֹן אֲרָנוֹ הַיְבוּסִי. {ס}
- 15 And God sent an angel unto Jerusalem to destroy it; and as he was about to destroy, the LORD beheld, and He repented Him of the evil, and said to the destroying angel: 'It is enough; now stay thy hand.' And the angel of the LORD was standing by the threshing-floor of Ornan the Jebusite. {S}
- טז** וַיִּשָּׂא דָּוִד אֶת-עֵינָיו, וַיִּרְא אֶת-מַלְאָךְ יְהוָה לֵמַד בֵּין הָאֶרֶץ וּבֵין הַשָּׁמַיִם, וַחֲרָבוֹ שְׁלֹפָה בְּיָדוֹ, נְטוּיָה עַל-יְרוּשָׁלַם; וַיִּפֹּל דָּוִד וְהַזְּקֵנִים מִכִּסֵּי בִשְׁקִים, עַל-פְּנֵיהֶם.
- 16 And David lifted up his eyes, and saw the angel of the LORD standing between the earth and the heaven, having a drawn sword in his hand stretched out over Jerusalem. Then David and the elders, clothed in sackcloth, fell upon their faces.

יז וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-הָאֱלֹהִים הֲלֹא אֲנִי אָמַרְתִּי
לְמִנּוֹת בָּעַם, וְאֲנִי-הוּא אֲשֶׁר-חָטְאֵתִי וְהִרַע
הִרְעוֹתִי, וְאֵלֶּה הַצֹּאן, מָה עָשׂוּ; יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי,
תְּהִי נָא יְדָדָךְ בִּי וּבְבֵית אָבִי, וּבְעַמֶּךָ, לֹא
לְמַגִּפָּה. {ס}

17 And David said unto God: 'Is it not I that commanded the people to be numbered? even I it is that have sinned and done very wickedly; but these sheep, what have they done? let Thy hand, I pray Thee, O LORD my God, be against me, and against my father's house; but not against Thy people, that they should be plagued.' {S}

יח וּמִלֶּאֲדָךְ יְהוָה אָמַר אֶל-גָּד, יֹאמֶר
לְדָוִד: כִּי יַעֲלֶה דָוִד, לְהַקִּים מִזְבֵּחַ לַיהוָה,
בְּגֵרֹן, אֲרֹנֹן הַיְבֻסִי.

18 Then the angel of the LORD commanded Gad to say to David, that David should go up, and rear an altar unto the LORD in the threshing-floor of Ornan the Jebusite.

יט וַיַּעַל דָּוִד בְּדַבַּר-גָּד, אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר בְּשֵׁם יְהוָה.

19 And David went up at the saying of Gad, which he spoke in the name of the LORD.

כ וַיִּשָּׁב אֲרֹנֹן, וַיִּרְא אֶת-הַמִּלְאָךְ, וְאֶרְבַּעַת
בָּנָיו עִמּוֹ, מִתַּחַבָּאִים; וְאֲרֹנֹן, דָּשׁ חֲטִיִּם.

20 And Ornan turned back, and saw the angel; and his four sons that were with him hid themselves. Now Ornan was threshing wheat.

כא וַיָּבֵא דָוִד, עַד-אֲרֹנֹן; וַיִּבֶט אֲרֹנֹן, וַיִּרְא
אֶת-דָּוִד, וַיֵּצֵא מִן-הַגֵּרֹן, וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ לְדָוִד
אֲפָיִם אֲרָצָה.

21 And as David came to Ornan, Ornan looked and saw David, and went out of the threshing-floor, and bowed down to David with his face to the ground.

כב וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-אֲרֹנֹן, תִּנְה-לִי מְקוֹם
הַגֵּרֹן, וְאֶבְנֶה-בּוֹ מִזְבֵּחַ, לַיהוָה; בְּכֶסֶף מָלֵא
תִּנְהוּ לִי, וְתַעֲצֵר הַמַּגִּפָּה מֵעַל הָעָם.

22 Then David said to Ornan: 'Give me the place of this threshing-floor, that I may build thereon an altar unto the LORD; for the full price shalt thou give it me; that the plague may be stayed from the people.'

כג וַיֹּאמֶר אֲרֹנֹן אֶל-דָּוִד קַח-לְךָ, וַיַּעַשׂ אֲדָנָי,
הַמֶּלֶךְ הַטוֹב בְּעֵינָיו; רָאָה נָתַתִּי הַבֶּקֶר לְעֹלוֹת,
וְהַמּוֹרְגִים לְעֻצִּים וְהַחֲטִיִּם לַמִּנְחָה--הַכֹּל
נָתַתִּי.

23 And Ornan said unto David: 'Take it to thee, and let my lord the king do that which is good in his eyes; lo, I give thee the oxen for burnt-offerings, and the threshing-instruments for wood, and the wheat for the meal-offering; I give it all'

כד וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ דָּוִד, לְאֲרֹנֹן, לֹא, כִּי-קָנָה
אֶקְנֶה בְּכֶסֶף מָלֵא: כִּי לֹא-אֲשָׂא אֲשֶׁר-לְךָ,
לַיהוָה, וְהָעֹלוֹת עוֹלָה, חִנָּם.

24 And king David said to Ornan: 'Nay, but I will verily buy it for the full price; for I will not take that which is thine for the LORD, nor offer a burnt-offering without cost.'

כה וַיִּתֵּן דָּוִד לְאֲרֹנֹן, בַּמָּקוֹם, שְׁקָלֵי זָהָב,
מֵשֶׁקֶל שֵׁשׁ מֵאוֹת.

25 So David gave to Ornan for the place six hundred shekels of gold by weight.

כו וַיִּבֶן שָׁם דָּוִד מִזְבֵּחַ לַיהוָה, וַיַּעַל עֹלוֹת
וּשְׁלָמִים; וַיִּקְרָא, אֶל-יְהוָה, וַיַּעֲנֶהוּ בְּאֵשׁ מִן-
הַשָּׁמַיִם, עַל מִזְבֵּחַ הָעֹלָה. {ס}

26 And David built there an altar unto the LORD, and offered burnt-offerings and peace-offerings, and called upon the LORD; and He answered him from heaven by fire upon the altar of burnt-offering. {S}

כז וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה לַמַּלְאָךְ, וַיִּשֶׁב חֶרְבוֹ אֶל-
נִדְנָה.

27 And the LORD commanded the angel; and he put up his sword back into the sheath thereof.

כח בַּעֲת הַהִיא--בְּרֵאוֹת דָּוִד כִּי-עָנָהוּ יְהוָה,
בְּגֶרֶן אֲרֹנָן הַיְבוּסִי; וַיִּזְבַּח, שָׁם.

28 At that time, when David saw that the LORD had answered him in the threshing-floor of Ornan the Jebusite, then he sacrificed there.

כט וּמִשְׁכַּן יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה מֹשֶׁה בַּמִּדְבָּר,
וּמִזְבֵּחַ הָעֹלֹה--בַּעֲת הַהִיא: בַּבְּמָה, בְּגִבְעוֹן.

29 For the tabernacle of the LORD, which Moses made in the wilderness, and the altar of burnt-offering, were at that time in the high place at Gibeon.

ל וְלֹא-יָכַל דָּוִד לָלֶכֶת לִפְנֵיו, לְדַרְשׁ
אֱלֹהִים: כִּי נִבְעַת--מִפְּנֵי, חֶרֶב מַלְאָךְ
יְהוָה. {ס}

30 But David could not go before it to inquire of God; for he was terrified because of the sword of the angel of the LORD.

א וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד--זֶה הוּא, בַּיִת יְהוָה
הָאֱלֹהִים; וְזֶה-מִזְבֵּחַ לְעֹלָה, לְיִשְׂרָאֵל. {פ}

1 Then David said: 'This is the house of the LORD God, and this is the altar of burnt-offering for Israel.' {P}

ב וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד--לְכַנוֹס אֶת-הַגֵּרִים, אֲשֶׁר
בְּאֶרֶץ יִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיַּעֲמֵד חֲצָבִים, לַחֲצוֹב אֲבָנֵי
גִזִּית, לְבָנוֹת, בַּיִת הָאֱלֹהִים.

2 And David commanded to gather together the strangers that were in the land of Israel; and he set masons to hew wrought stones to build the house of God.

ג וַיַּרְזֵל לָרֹב לְמַסְמְרִים לְדַלְתוֹת הַשְּׁעָרִים,
וְלַמְחַבְרוֹת--הַכִּיּוֹן דָּוִד; וַנְּחַשֵּׁת לָרֹב, אֵין
מִשְׁקָל.

3 And David prepared iron in abundance for the nails for the doors of the gates, and for the couplings; and brass in abundance without weight;

ד וַעֲצֵי אֲרָזִים, לְאֵין מִסְפָּר: כִּי-הֵבִיאוּ
הַצִּידוֹנִים וְהַצָּרִים עֲצֵי אֲרָזִים, לָרֹב--
לְדָוִד. {פ}

4 and cedar-trees without number; for the Zidonians and they of Tyre brought cedar-trees in abundance to David. {P}

ה וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד, שְׁלֹמֹה בְנִי נַעַר וְרַךְ, וְהַבַּיִת
לְבָנוֹת לַיהוָה לְהַגְדִּיל לְמַעְלָה לְשֵׁם וּלְתִפְאֶרֶת
לְכָל-הָאֲרָצוֹת, אֲכִינָה נָא לוֹ; וַיִּכֶן דָּוִד לָרֹב,
לְפָנָי מוֹתוֹ.

5 And David said: 'Solomon my son is young and tender, and the house that is to be builded for the LORD must be exceeding magnificent, of fame and of glory throughout all countries; I will therefore make preparation for him.' So David prepared abundantly before his death.

ו וַיִּקְרָא, לְשְׁלֹמֹה בְּנוֹ; וַיִּצְוֵהוּ לְבָנוֹת בַּיִת,
לַיהוָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל. {ס}

6 Then He called for Solomon his son, and charged him to build a house for the LORD, the God of Israel. {S}

ז וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד, לְשְׁלֹמֹה: בְּנוּ (בְּנִי)--אֲנִי הָיָה
עִם-לְבָבִי, לְבָנוֹת בַּיִת לְשֵׁם יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי.

7 And David said to Solomon: 'My son, as for me, it was in my heart to build a house unto the name of the LORD my God.

ח וַיְהִי עָלַי דְּבַר-יְהוָה, לֵאמֹר, דָּם לָרֹב
שָׁפַכְתָּ, וּמִלְחָמוֹת גְּדֹלוֹת עָשִׂיתָ: לֹא-תִבְנֶה

8 But the word of the LORD came to me, saying: Thou hast shed blood abundantly, and hast made great wars; thou shalt not build a house unto My name, because thou hast shed much blood upon the earth in My sight.

בֵּית, לְשָׁמַי-- כִּי דָמִים רַבִּים, שְׁפַכְתָּ אֶרְצָה
לְפָנָי.

ט הִנֵּה-בֶן נֹלָד לָךְ, הוּא יִהְיֶה אִישׁ מְנוּחָה,
וְהִנִּיחוּתִי לוֹ מִכָּל-אוֹיְבָיו, מִסְבִּיב: כִּי שְׁלָמָה
יִהְיֶה שְׁמוֹ, וְשָׁלוֹם וְשָׁקֵט אֶתֵּן עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל
בְּיָמָיו.

9 Behold, a son shall be born to thee, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies round about; for his name shall be Solomon, and I will give peace and quietness unto Israel in his days.

י הוּא-יִבְנֶה בַּיִת, לְשָׁמַי, וְהוּא יִהְיֶה-לִּי לְבֵן,
וְאָנִי-לוֹ לְאָב; וְהִכִּינוּתִי כִּסֵּא מַלְכוּתוֹ, עַל-
יִשְׂרָאֵל--עַד-עוֹלָם.

10 He shall build a house for My name; and he shall be to Me for a son, and I will be to him for a father; and I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel for ever.

יא עֲתָה בְנִי, יְהִי יְהוָה עִמָּךְ; וְהִצַּלְתָּ,
וּבְנִיתָ בַּיִת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ, כַּאֲשֶׁר, דִּבֶּר עֲלֶיךָ.

11 Now, my son, the LORD be with thee; and prosper thou, and build the house of the LORD thy God, as He hath spoken concerning thee.

יב אַךְ יִתֵּן-לָךְ יְהוָה שֵׁכֶל וּבִינָה, וַיְצוּךָ עַל-
יִשְׂרָאֵל, וּלְשִׁמּוֹר, אֶת-תּוֹרַת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ.

12 Only the LORD give thee discretion and understanding, and give thee charge concerning Israel; that so thou mayest keep the law of the LORD thy God.

יג אִז תִּצְלִיחַ--אִם-תִּשְׁמָר לַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת-
הַחֻקִּים וְאֶת-הַמִּשְׁפָּטִים, אֲשֶׁר צִוָּה יְהוָה
אֶת-מֹשֶׁה עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל; חֲזֵק וְאַמֵּץ, אַל-תִּירָא
וְאַל-תַּחַת... .

13 Then shalt thou prosper, if thou observe to do the statutes and the ordinances which the LORD charged Moses with concerning Israel; be strong, and of good courage; fear not, neither be dismayed.

יד וַיְצַו דָּוִד לְכָל-שָׂרֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, לַעְזֹר לְשָׁלְמָה
בְּנֹו. { ס }

17 David also commanded all the princes of Israel to help Solomon his son: {S}

יח הֲלֹא יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם עִמָּכֶם, וְהִנִּיחַ לָכֶם
מִסְבִּיב: כִּי נָתַן בְּיָדִי, אֶת יִשְׁבֵי הָאָרֶץ,
וְנִכְבְּשָׁה הָאָרֶץ לְפָנָי יְהוָה, וּלְפָנָי עָמוֹ.

18 'Is not the LORD your God with you? and hath He not given you rest on every side? for He hath delivered the inhabitants of the land into my hand; and the land is subdued before the LORD, and before His people.

יט עֲתָה, תָּנוּ לְבַבְכֶם וְנַפְשְׁכֶם, לְדְרוֹשׁ,
לִיהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם; וְקוּמוּ, וּבְנוּ אֶת-מִקְדָּשׁ
יְהוָה הָאֱלֹהִים,
לְהָבִיא אֶת-אֲרוֹן בְּרִית-יְהוָה וְכֵלֵי קֹדֶשׁ
הָאֱלֹהִים, לְבַיִת הַנִּבְנֶה לְשֵׁם-יְהוָה.

19 Now set your heart and your soul to seek after the LORD your God; arise therefore, and build ye the sanctuary of the LORD God, to bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and the holy vessels of God, into the house that is to be built to the name of the LORD.'

V. What was main event at Maamad Har Sinai?

Matan Torah - receiving the Torah

Brit Sinai - Covenant - taking upon ourselves a commitment

Hitgalut - [Revelation] - experiencing God's presence

[compare to 'gap-year' programs in Israel]

Let's see famous psukim in Devarim & Ramban

ה רֵאֵה לְמַדְתִּי אֶתְכֶם, חֻקִּים וּמִשְׁפָּטִים, כַּאֲשֶׁר צִוִּי, יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי: לַעֲשׂוֹת כֵּן--בְּקֶרֶב הָאָרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם בָּאִים שָׁמָּה לְרִשְׁתָּהּ.

5 Behold, I have taught you statutes and ordinances, even as the LORD my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the midst of the land whither ye go in to possess it.

ו וּשְׂמַרְתֶּם, וַעֲשִׂיתֶם--כִּי הוּא חֻכְמַתְכֶם וּבִינְתְּכֶם, לְעֵינֵי הָעַמִּים: אֲשֶׁר יִשְׁמְעוּן, אֵת כָּל-הַחֻקִּים הָאֵלֶּה, וְאָמְרוּ רַק עִם-חֻכְם וְנָבוֹן, הַגּוֹי הַגָּדוֹל הַזֶּה.

6 Observe therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, that, when they hear all these statutes, shall say: 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.'

ז כִּי מִי-גּוֹי גָדוֹל, אֲשֶׁר-לוֹ אֱלֹהִים קְרֹבִים אֵלָיו, כִּי־הוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ, בְּכֹל-קְרָאנוּ אֵלָיו?

7 For what great nation is there, that hath God so nigh unto them, as the LORD our God is whensoever we call upon Him?

ח וּמִי גּוֹי גָדוֹל, אֲשֶׁר-לוֹ חֻקִּים וּמִשְׁפָּטִים צְדִיקִים, כָּל־הַתּוֹרָה הַזֹּאת, אֲשֶׁר אָנֹכִי נֹתֵן לְפָנֶיכֶם הַיּוֹם.

8 And what great nation is there, that hath statutes and ordinances so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?

ט רַק הַשָּׁמֶר לָךְ וּשְׂמֹר נַפְשְׁךָ מְאֹד, פֶּן-תִּשְׁכַּח אֶת-הַדְּבָרִים אֲשֶׁר-רָאוּ עֵינֶיךָ וּפְנֵי-יָסוּרוּ מִלְּבָבְךָ, כֹּל, יְמֵי חַיֶּיךָ; וְהוֹדַעְתָּם לְבָנֶיךָ, וּלְבְנֵי בָנֶיךָ.

9 Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes saw, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life; but make them known unto thy children and thy children's children;

י יוֹם, אֲשֶׁר עָמַדְתָּ לְפָנַי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּחָרֵב, בְּאָמַר יְהוָה אֵלַי הִקְהַל-לִי אֶת-הָעָם, וְאִשְׁמַעַם אֶת-דְּבָרֵי: אֲשֶׁר יִלְמְדוּן לְיִרְאָה אֹתִי, כָּל-הַיָּמִים אֲשֶׁר הֵם חַיִּים עַל-הָאָדָמָה, וְאֶת-בְּנֵיהֶם, יִלְמְדוּן.

10 the day that thou stoodest before the LORD thy God in Horeb, when the LORD said unto me: 'Assemble Me the people, and I will make them hear My words that they may learn to fear Me all the days that they live upon the earth, and that they may teach their children.'

יא וַתִּקְרְבוּן וַתַּעֲמְדוּן, תַּחַת הָהָר; וְהָהָר בָּעַר בְּאֵשׁ, עַד-לֵב הַשָּׁמַיִם--חֹשֶׁךְ, עָנָן וְעַרְפָּל.

11 And ye came near and stood under the mountain, and the mountain burned with fire unto the heart of heaven, with darkness, cloud, and thick darkness.

יב וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה אֲלֵיכֶם, מִתּוֹךְ הָאֵשׁ: קוֹל דְּבָרִים אַתֶּם שֹׁמְעִים, וְתִמוּנָה אֵינְכֶם רֹאִים זִוְלָתִי קוֹל.

12 And the LORD spoke unto you out of the midst of the fire; ye heard the voice of words, but ye saw no form; only a voice.

יג וַיַּגִּד לְכֶם אֶת-בְּרִיתוֹ, אֲשֶׁר צִוָּה אֶתְכֶם לַעֲשׂוֹת--עֲשָׂרֹת, הַדְּבָרִים; וַיִּכְתְּבֵם, עַל-שְׁנֵי לְחֹת אֲבָנִים.

13 And He declared unto you His covenant, which He commanded you to perform, even the ten words; and He wrote them upon two tables of stone.

יד וְאֶתִּי צִוָּה יְהוָה, בְּעֵת הַהוּא, לְלַמֵּד אֶתְכֶם, חֻקִּים וּמִשְׁפָּטִים: לַעֲשׂוֹתְכֶם אֹתָם-- בְּאֶרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם עֹבְרִים שָׁמָּה לְרִשְׁתָּהּ.

14 And the LORD commanded me at that time to teach you statutes and ordinances, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go over to possess it.

Ramban

(ט-י) רק השמר לך פן תשכח את כל הדברים האלה – אז כשלא תשכחם ותעשום על אמתתם תחשבו חכמים ונבונים, ואם תעותו אותם מתוך שכחה תחשבו שוטים. לשון רבינו שלמה.

ואינו נכון כלל. אבל הכתוב הזה לדעתי מצות לא תעשה, הזהיר בה מאד, כי כאשר אמר שנזהר בכל המצות ונשמור החקים והמשפטים לעשותם, חזר ואמר: רק אני מזהירך מאד להשמר ולשמור עצמך מאד מאד לזכור מאין באו אליך המצות, שלא תשכח מעמד הר סיני מכל הדברים אשר ראו שם עיניך, הקולות והלפידים, את כבודו ואת גדלו ודבריו אשר שמעת שם מתוך האש, ותודיע כל הדברים אשר ראו עיניך במעמד הנכבד ההוא לבניך ולבני בניך עד עולם. ופירש הטעם: כי השם עשה המעמד ההוא כדי שתלמדו ליראה אותו כל הימים ואת בניכם תלמדון לדורות עולם. אם כן, עשו אתם ככה ואל תשכחו אותו.