

Vayechi, Haftarah

I Kings 2:1-12

When David's life was drawing to a close, he instructed his son Solomon as follows:

“I am going the way of all the earth; be strong and show yourself a man.

Keep the charge of the LORD your God, walking in His ways and following His laws, His commandments, His rules, and His admonitions as recorded in the Teaching of Moses, in order that you may succeed in whatever you undertake and wherever you turn.

מלכים א ב' א'-י"ב

וַיִּקְרְבוּ יְמֵי־דָוִד לָמוּת וַיֵּצֵא

אֶת־שְׁלֹמֹה בְּנוֹ לֵאמֹר:

אֲנֹכִי הַלֵּךְ בְּדַרְךְ כָּל־הָאָרֶץ

וְחִזְקָתָ וְהָיִיתָ לְאִישׁ:

וְשִׁמְרָתָ אֶת־מִשְׁפָּטֵי הַיְהוָה

אֲלֵהֶיךָ לָלֶכֶת בְּדַרְכֵי לְשֹׁמֵר

חֻקֹּתָי מִצֻּוֹתָי וּמִשְׁפָּטָי

וְעִדּוֹתָי כִּפְתוּב בְּתוֹרַת מֹשֶׁה

לְמַעַן תִּשְׁכִּיל אֶת־כָּל־אֲשֶׁר

תַּעֲשֶׂה וְאֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר תִּפְנֶה

שָׁם:

לְמַעַן יִקִּים יְהוָה אֶת־דְּבָרֹוֹ

אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר עָלַי לֵאמֹר׃

Then the LORD will fulfill the promise that He made concerning me: 'If your descendants are scrupulous in their conduct, and walk before Me faithfully, with all their heart and soul, your line on the throne of Israel shall never end!'

“Further, you know what Joab son of Zeruah did to me, what he did to the two commanders of Israel’s forces, Abner son of Ner and Amasa son of Jether: he killed them, shedding blood of war in peacetime, staining the girdle of his loins and the sandals on his feet with blood of war.

So act in accordance with your wisdom, and see that his white

אִם-יִשְׁמְרוּ בְנֵיךָ אֶת-דְּרֹכֶם
לֵלֶכֶת לְפָנַי בְּאֵמֶת
בְּכָל-לְבָבָם וּבְכָל-נַפְשָׁם
לֹא-אֶמַר לֹא-יִכָּרֵת לְךָ אִישׁ
מֵעַל כִּסֵּא יִשְׂרָאֵל:
וְגַם אֶתָּה יָדַעְתָּ אֵת
אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה לִי יוֹאָב בֶּן-צְרוּיָה
אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה לְשְׁנֵי-שָׂרֵי צְבָאוֹת
יִשְׂרָאֵל לְאַבְנֵר בֶּן-נֵר
וּלְעֶמְשָׂא בֶן-יֶתֶר וַיַּהַרְגֵם
וַיִּשְׂם דַּמִּי-מִלְחָמָה בְּשָׁלֹם
וַיִּתֵּן דַּמִּי מִלְחָמָה בַּחֲגֹרְתוֹ
אֲשֶׁר בְּמַתְנָיו וּבִנְעָלוֹ אֲשֶׁר
בְּרִגְלָיו:
וַעֲשִׂיתָ כְּחַכְמָתְךָ וְלֹא-תוֹרֵד
שִׁיבְתוּ בְּשָׁלֹם שְׂאֵל:
וּלְבָנִי בְרוּזִי הַגִּלְעָדִי
תַּעֲשֶׂה-חֶסֶד וְהָיוּ בְּאֶכְלִי

hair does not go down to Sheol in peace.

“But deal graciously with the sons of Barzillai the Gileadite, for they befriended me when I fled from your brother Absalom; let them be among those that eat at your table.

“You must also deal with Shimei son of Gera, the Benjaminite from Bahurim. He insulted me outrageously when I was on my way to Mahanaim; but he came down to meet me at the Jordan, and I swore to him by the LORD: ‘I will not put you to the sword.’

So do not let him go unpunished; for you are a wise man and you will know how to deal with him and send his

שְׁלֹחֲנֶיךָ כִּי־כֹן קָרְבוּ אֵלַי
בְּבִרְחֵי מִפְּנֵי אֲבִשְׁלוֹם אֶחָיִךָ:
וְהִנֵּה עִמָּךָ שְׁמַעִי בֶן־גֵּרָא
בֶן־הַיְמִינִי מִבְּחָרִים וְהוּא
קָלְלָנִי קָלְלָה נְמוֹצֶת בַּיּוֹם
לְכַתִּי מַחֲנִים וְהוּא־יֵרֵד
לְקָרְאֵתִי הַיַּרְדֵּן וְאֶשָּׁבַע לּוֹ
בַּיהוָה לֵאמֹר אִם־אֶמְיָתָךְ
בְּחָרְבִּי:
וְעַתָּה אֶל־תִּנְקֶהוּ כִּי אִישׁ
חָכָם אַתָּה וַיֵּדְעָתָּ אֵת אֲשֶׁר
תַּעֲשֶׂה־לּוֹ וְהוֹרַדְתָּ אֶת־שִׁיבְתּוֹ
בְּדָם שְׂאוֹל:
וַיִּשְׁכַּב דָּוִד עִם־אֲבֹתָיו וַיִּקְבֹּר
בְּעִיר דָּוִד: {פ}
וְהַיָּמִים אֲשֶׁר מָלַךְ דָּוִד
עַל־יִשְׂרָאֵל אַרְבָּעִים שָׁנָה
בְּחֶבְרוֹן מָלַךְ שִׁבְעַת שָׁנִים

gray hair down to Sheol in blood.”

So David slept with his fathers, and he was buried in the City of David.

The length of David’s reign over Israel was forty years: he reigned seven years in Hebron, and he reigned thirty-three years in Jerusalem.

And Solomon sat upon the throne of his father David, and his rule was firmly established.

וּבִירוּשָׁלַם מֶלֶךְ שְׁלֵשִׁים

וְשָׁלֹשׁ שָׁנִים:

וּשְׁלֹמֹה יָשָׁב עַל־כִּסֵּא דָוִד

אָבִיו וַתִּכֶן מַלְכָּתוֹ מְאֹד: {ס}