

# Beha'alotcha, Torah

Numbers 10:35-12:16

(35) When the Ark was to set out, Moses would say: Advance, O יהוה ! May Your enemies be scattered, And may Your foes flee before You!

(36) And when it halted, he would say: Return, O יהוה, You who are Israel's myriads of thousands! (1) The people took to complaining bitterly before יהוה. יהוה heard and was incensed: a fire of יהוה broke out against them, ravaging the outskirts of the camp. (2) The people cried out to Moses. Moses prayed to יהוה, and the fire died down. (3) That place was named Taberah, because a fire of יהוה had broken out against them. (4) The riffraff in their midst felt a gluttonous craving; and then the Israelites wept and said, "If only we had meat to eat! (5) We remember

במדבר י"ל"ה-י"ב:ט"ז

(לה) ז וַיְהִי בְּנִסְעַ הָאָרֶן וַיֹּאמֶר  
מֹשֶׁה קוּמָה | יְהוָה וַיִּפְצֹוּ אֹיְבֵיךָ  
וַיִּנָּסוּ מִשְׁנֵאֵיךָ מִפְּנֵיךָ: (לו) וּבִנְחָה  
יֹאמֶר שׁוּבָה יְהוָה רַבְּבוֹת אֲלֵפֵי  
יִשְׂרָאֵל: ז {פ} (א) וַיְהִי הָעָם  
כְּמִתְאַנְּנִים רַע בְּאַזְנֵי יְהוָה וַיִּשְׁמַע  
יְהוָה וַיִּחַר אָפוֹ וַתִּבְעַר-בָּם אֵשׁ  
יְהוָה וַתֹּאכַל בְּקִצָּה הַמַּחֲנֶה: (ב)  
וַיִּצְעַק הָעָם אֶל-מֹשֶׁה וַיִּתְפַּלֵּל  
מֹשֶׁה אֶל-יְהוָה וַתִּשְׁקַע הָאֵשׁ: (ג)  
וַיִּקְרָא שֵׁם-הַמָּקוֹם הַהוּא תִּבְעָרָה  
כִּי-בִעַרָה בָּם אֵשׁ יְהוָה: (ד)  
וְהָאִסְפָּסִף אֲשֶׁר בְּקִרְבּוֹ הִתְאַוּוּ  
תַּאֲוָה וַיֵּשְׁבוּ וַיִּבְכּוּ גַם בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל  
וַיֹּאמְרוּ מִי יֹאכְלֵנוּ בֶּשֶׂר: (ה)  
זָכַרְנוּ אֶת-הַדָּגָה אֲשֶׁר-נֹאכַל  
בְּמִצְרַיִם חֲנָם אֶת הַקִּשְׁאִים וְאֶת

the fish that we used to eat free in Egypt, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic. (6) Now our gullets are shriveled. There is nothing at all! Nothing but this manna to look to!” (7) Now the manna was like coriander seed, and in color it was like bdellium. (8) The people would go about and gather it, grind it between millstones or pound it in a mortar, boil it in a pot, and make it into cakes. It tasted like rich cream. (9) When the dew fell on the camp at night, the manna would fall upon it. (10) Moses heard the people weeping, every clan apart, at the entrance of each tent. יהוה was very angry, and Moses was distressed. (11) And Moses said to יהוה, “Why have You dealt ill with Your servant, and why have I not enjoyed Your favor, that You have laid the burden of all this people upon me? (12) Did I produce all this people, did I

הָאֲבֹתָיִם וְאֶת־הַחֲצִיר  
וְאֶת־הַבָּצְלִים וְאֶת־הַשּׁוּמִים: (ו)  
וְעַתָּה נִפְשָׁנוּ יְבֹשָׁה אֵין כָּל בְּלֹתֵי  
אֶל־הַמָּן עֵינֵינוּ: (ז) וְהַמָּן כְּזֶרַע־גֹּד  
הוּא וְעֵינֵנו כְּעֵין הַבְּדֹלָח: (ח) נְשֻׁטוּ  
הָעַם וְלִקְטוּ וּטְחָנוּ בְרִחִים אֹ דָכּוּ  
בַמֶּלֶכָה וּבִשְׁלוֹ בַפָּרוֹר וְעָשׂוּ אֹתוֹ  
עֲגוֹת וְהָיָה טַעְמוֹ כְּטַעַם לֶשֶׁד  
הַשָּׁמֶן: (ט) וּבִרְדַת הַטֹּל  
עַל־הַמַּחֲנֶה לַיְלָה יֵרֵד הַמָּן עָלָיו:  
(י) וַיִּשְׁמַע מֹשֶׁה אֶת־הָעַם בִּכְהָ  
לְמִשְׁפַּחְתּוֹ אִישׁ לְפִתַח אֹהֶלוֹ  
וַיַּחֲרֹאֲף יְהוָה מְאֹד וּבְעֵינֵי מֹשֶׁה  
רָע: (יא) וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה אֶל־יְהוָה  
לָמָּה הִרְעִיתָ לְעַבְדְּךָ וְלָמָּה  
לֹא־מָצַתִּי חַן בְּעֵינֶיךָ לְשׁוֹם  
אֶת־מִשְׁאֵה כָּל־הָעַם הַזֶּה עָלָי: (יב)  
הֲאֵנֹכִי הָרִיתִי אֶת כָּל־הָעַם הַזֶּה  
אִם־אֵנֹכִי יִלְדֹתִיהוּ כִּי־תֹאמַר אֵלָי  
שָׂאֵהוּ בְחִיקְךָ כַּאֲשֶׁר יִשָּׂא הָאָמִן  
אֶת־הַיֶּנֶק עַל הָאֲדָמָה אֲשֶׁר

engender them, that You should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom as a caregiver carries an infant,’ to the land that You have promised on oath to their fathers? (13) Where am I to get meat to give to all this people, when they whine before me and say, ‘Give us meat to eat!’ (14) I cannot carry all this people by myself, for it is too much for me. (15) If You would deal thus with me, kill me rather, I beg You, and let me see no more of my wretchedness!” (16) Then יהוה said to Moses, “Gather for Me seventy of Israel’s elders of whom you have experience as elders and officers of the people, and bring them to the Tent of Meeting and let them take their place there with you. (17) I will come down and speak with you there, and I will draw upon the spirit that is on you and put it upon them; they shall share the burden of the people with you, and you shall not bear it alone. (18)

וְשִׁבְעָתָ לְאַבְתָּיו: (יג) מֵאֵין לִי  
בָּשָׂר לָתֵת לְכָל־הָעָם הַזֶּה  
כִּי־יִבְכוּ עָלַי לֵאמֹר הֲנִה־לָנוּ בָּשָׂר  
וְנֹאכְלָה: (יד) לֹא־אוּכַל אֲנֹכִי לְבַדִּי  
לְשַׂאת אֶת־כָּל־הָעָם הַזֶּה כִּי כָבֵד  
מִמֶּנִּי: (טו) וְאִם־כִּכָּה | אֶת־עֲשֵׂה  
לִי הֲרֹגְנִי נָא הֲרֹג אִם־מְצָאתִי חַן  
בְּעֵינֶיךָ וְאִל־אֶרְאֶה בְּרַעְתִּי: {פ}  
(טז) וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה  
אֶסְפֶּה־לִּי שִׁבְעִים אִישׁ מִזִּקְנֵי  
יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲשֶׁר יֹדְעֵת כִּי־הֵם זִקְנֵי  
הָעָם וְשֹׁטְרָיו וְלִקְחָתָ אִתָּם  
אֶל־אֹהֶל מוֹעֵד וְהִתְיַצְבוּ שָׁם  
עִמָּךְ: (יז) וַיְרַדְתִּי וְדַבַּרְתִּי עִמָּךְ שָׁם  
וְאֶצְלָתִי מִן־הָרוּחַ אֲשֶׁר עָלֶיךָ  
וְשָׁמַתִּי עֲלֵיהֶם וְנָשְׂאוּ אִתְּךָ בְּמִשְׁאֵ  
הָעָם וְלֹא־תִשָּׂא אִתָּהּ לְבַדְּךָ: (יח)  
וְאֶל־הָעָם תֹּאמֶר הִתְקַדְּשׁוּ לְמַחֲרָ  
וְאֶכְלְתֶם בָּשָׂר כִּי בְכִיתֶם בְּאָזְנִי  
יְהוָה לֵאמֹר מִי יֶאֱכֹלְנוּ בָּשָׂר  
כִּי־טוֹב לָנוּ בְּמִצְרַיִם וְנָתַן יְהוָה

And say to the people: Purify yourselves for tomorrow and you shall eat meat, for you have kept whining before יהוה and saying, ‘If only we had meat to eat! Indeed, we were better off in Egypt!’ יהוה will give you meat and you shall eat. (19) You shall eat not one day, not two, not even five days or ten or twenty, (20) but a whole month, until it comes out of your nostrils and becomes loathsome to you. For you have rejected יהוה who is among you, by whining before [God] and saying, ‘Oh, why did we ever leave Egypt!’” (21) But Moses said, “The people who are with me number six hundred thousand foot soldiers; yet You say, ‘I will give them enough meat to eat for a whole month.’ (22) Could enough flocks and herds be slaughtered to suffice them? Or could all the fish of the sea be gathered for them to suffice them?” (23) And יהוה answered Moses, “Is there a limit

לְכֶם בָּשָׂר וְאֹכְלֹתֶם: (יט) לֹא יוֹם  
אֶחָד תֹּאכְלוּ וְלֹא יוֹמִים וְלֹא |  
חֲמִשָּׁה יָמִים וְלֹא עֶשְׂרֵה יָמִים  
וְלֹא עֶשְׂרִים יוֹם: (כ) עַד | חֹדֶשׁ  
יָמִים עַד אֲשֶׁר-יֵצֵא מֵאַפְכֶם וְהָיָה  
לְכֶם לְזָרָא יַעַן כִּי-מָאַסְתֶּם  
אֶת-יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר בְּקִרְבְּכֶם וַתִּבְכּוּ  
לְפָנָיו לֵאמֹר לָמָּה זֶה יֵצְאוּ  
מִמִּצְרַיִם: (כא) וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה  
יְשׁוּ-מֵאוֹת אֵלָי רַגְלֵי הָעָם אֲשֶׁר  
אֲנֹכִי בְּקִרְבּוֹ וְאַתָּה אֹמֵר בָּשָׂר  
אֶתֶּן לָהֶם וְאָכְלוּ חֹדֶשׁ יָמִים: (כב)  
הֵצֵאוּ וּבְקָר יִשְׁחָט לָהֶם וּמֵצֵא  
לָהֶם אִם אֶת-כָּל-דְּגֵי הַיָּם יֵאָסֶף  
לָהֶם וּמֵצֵא לָהֶם: {פ} (כג) וַיֹּאמֶר  
יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה הֲיֵד יְהוָה תִּקְצֹר  
עֲתָה תִרְאֶה הֲיִקְרָה דְבָרִי אִם-לֹא:  
(כד) וַיֵּצֵא מֹשֶׁה וַיְדַבֵּר אֶל-הָעָם  
אֵת דְּבָרֵי יְהוָה וַיֵּאָסֶף שְׁבַעַיִם  
אִישׁ מִזִּקְנֵי הָעָם וַיַּעֲמֵד אֹתָם  
סְבִיבֹת הָאֹהֶל: (כה) וַיֵּרֶד יְהוָה |

to יהוה's power? You shall soon see whether what I have said happens to you or not!" (24) Moses went out and reported the words of יהוה to the people. He gathered seventy of the people's elders and stationed them around the Tent. (25) Then, after coming down in a cloud and speaking to him, יהוה drew upon the spirit that was on him and put it upon the seventy participating elders. And when the spirit rested upon them, they spoke in ecstasy, but did not continue. (26) Two of the participants, one named Eldad and the other Medad, had remained in camp; yet the spirit rested upon them—they were among those recorded, but they had not gone out to the Tent—and they spoke in ecstasy in the camp. (27) An assistant ran out and told Moses, saying, "Eldad and Medad are acting the prophet in the camp!" (28) And Joshua son of Nun, Moses' attendant from his

בְּעֵנָו וַיְדַבֵּר אֵלָיו וַיֹּאצֵּל מִן־הָרוּחַ  
אֲשֶׁר עָלָיו וַיִּתֵּן עַל־שִׁבְעִים אִישׁ  
הַזְקֵנִים וַיְהִי כְּנֹחַ עֲלֵיהֶם הָרוּחַ  
וַיִּתְנַבְּאוּ וְלֹא יָסֹפוּ: (כו) וַיִּשְׁאַרוּ  
שְׁנַי־אֲנָשִׁים | בַּמַּחֲנֶה שֵׁם הָאֶחָד  
| אֶלְדָּד וְשֵׁם הַשֵּׁנִי מֵדָד וַתִּנַּח  
עֲלֵהֶם הָרוּחַ וְהִמָּה בְּכַתְּבִים וְלֹא  
יָצְאוּ הָאֲהֻלָּה וַיִּתְנַבְּאוּ בַּמַּחֲנֶה:  
(כז) וַיִּרְץ הַנַּעַר וַיִּגֵּד לְמֹשֶׁה  
וַיֹּאמֶר אֶלְדָּד וּמֵדָד מִתְנַבְּאִים  
בַּמַּחֲנֶה: (כח) וַיַּעַן יְהוֹשֻׁעַ בֶּן־נוּן  
מִשָּׁרֵת מֹשֶׁה מִבְּחָרָיו וַיֹּאמֶר אֶדְנִי  
מֹשֶׁה כָּלָאִם: (כט) וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ מֹשֶׁה  
הֲמִקְנֵא אַתָּה לִּי וּמִי יִתֵּן כָּל־עַם  
יְהוָה נְבִיאִים כִּי־יִתֵּן יְהוָה  
אֶת־רוּחוֹ עֲלֵיהֶם: (ל) וַיֹּאסֶף מֹשֶׁה  
אֶל־הַמַּחֲנֶה הוּא וְזִקְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל:  
(לא) וְרוּחַ נָסַע | מֵאֵת יְהוָה וַיִּגָּז  
שְׁלוֹמִים מִן־הַיָּם וַיִּטֹּשׂ עַל־הַמַּחֲנֶה  
כְּדָרָף יוֹם כֹּה וּכְדָרָף יוֹם כֹּה  
סָבִיבוֹת הַמַּחֲנֶה וּכְאֻמָּתִים עַל־פְּנֵי

youth, spoke up and said, “My lord Moses, restrain them!” (29) But Moses said to him, “Are you wrought up on my account? Would that all יהוה’s people were prophets, that יהוה put [the divine] spirit upon them!” (30) Moses then reentered the camp together with the elders of Israel. (31) A wind from יהוה started up, swept quail from the sea and strewed them over the camp, about a day’s journey on this side and about a day’s journey on that side, all around the camp, and some two cubits deep on the ground. (32) The people set to gathering quail all that day and night and all the next day—even the one who gathered least had ten *homer*s—and they spread them out all around the camp. (33) The meat was still between their teeth, not yet chewed, when the anger of יהוה blazed forth against the people and יהוה struck the people with a very severe plague. (34) That place

הָאָרֶץ: (לב) וַיִּקָּם הָעָם כָּל־הַיּוֹם  
הָהוּא וְכָל־הַלַּיְלָה וְכָל | יוֹם  
הַמַּחֲרָת וַיֹּאסְפוּ אֶת־הַשְּׁלֹו  
הַמְּלֵיט אֶסְף עֲשָׂרָה חֲמָרִים  
וַיִּשְׁטְחוּ לָהֶם שְׁטוֹחַ סְבִיבוֹת  
הַמַּחֲנֶה: (לג) הַבָּשָׂר עוֹדְנוּ בֵּין  
שְׁנֵיהֶם טָרֵם יִכָּרֵת וְאִף יְהוֹה חָרָה  
בָּעָם וַיִּף יְהוֹה בָּעָם מִכָּה רַבָּה  
מֵאֲד: (לד) וַיִּקְרָא אֶת־שֵׁם־הַמָּקוֹם  
הַהוּא קִבְרוֹת הַתְּאוּה כִּי־שָׁם  
קִבְרוּ אֶת־הָעָם הַמֵּתֵאוּיִם: (לה)  
מִקִּבְרוֹת הַתְּאוּה נִסְעוּ הָעָם  
חֲצֵרוֹת וַיְהִי בַחֲצֵרוֹת: {פ} (א)  
וַתִּדְבֹר מְרִים וְאֶהְרֵן בְּמִלְשָׁה  
עַל־אֲדוֹת הָאִשָּׁה הַכֹּשִׁית אֲשֶׁר  
לָקַח כִּי־אִשָּׁה כֹּשִׁית לָקַח: (ב)  
וַיֹּאמְרוּ הֲרֹק אִךְ־בְּמִלְשָׁה דִבֶּר  
יְהוֹה הֲלֹא גַם־בָּנוּ דִבֶּר וַיִּשְׁמַע  
יְהוֹה: (ג) וְהָאִישׁ מִלְשָׁה עָנּוּ מֵאֲד  
מִכָּל הָאָדָם אֲשֶׁר עַל־פְּנֵי  
הָאָדָמָה: {ס} (ד) וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוֹה

was named Kibroth-hattaavah, because the people who had the craving were buried there. (35) Then the people set out from Kibroth-hattaavah for Hazeroth. When they were in Hazeroth, (1) Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Cushite woman he had taken [into his household as his wife]: “He took a Cushite woman!” (2) They said, “Has יהוה spoken only through Moses? Has [God] not spoken through us as well?” יהוה heard it. (3) Now Moses himself was very humble, more so than any other human being on earth. (4) Suddenly יהוה called to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, “Come out, you three, to the Tent of Meeting.” So the three of them went out. (5) יהוה came down in a pillar of cloud, stopped at the entrance of the Tent, and called out, “Aaron and Miriam!” The two of them came forward; (6) and [God] said,

פְּתַאֲם אֶל־מֹשֶׁה וְאֶל־אַהֲרֹן  
וְאֶל־מִרְיָם צְאוּ שְׁלֹשְׁתֵּיכֶם  
אֶל־אֹהֶל מוֹעֵד וַיֵּצְאוּ שְׁלֹשָׁתָם:  
(ה) וַיֵּרֶד יְהוָה בְּעַמֻּד עָנָן וַיַּעֲמֵד  
פֶּתַח הָאֹהֶל וַיִּקְרָא אֶהֱרֹן וּמִרְיָם  
וַיֵּצְאוּ שְׁנֵיהֶם: (ו) וַיֹּאמֶר שְׂמַעוּנָא  
דְּבַרִי אִם־יְהִיֶּה נְבִיאֵכֶם יְהוָה  
בְּמִרְאָה אֵלָיו אֶתְוֹדַע בְּחִלּוֹם  
אֲדַבְּרֶבּוֹ: (ז) לֹא־כֵן עַבְדֵי מֹשֶׁה  
בְּכָל־בֵּיתִי נֹאמְנָן הוּא: (ח) פֹּה  
אֶל־פֹּה אֲדַבְּרֶבּוֹ וּמִרְאָה וְלֹא  
בְּחִידָת וּתְמִנַת יְהוָה יִבִּיט וּמִדּוּעַ  
לֹא יֵרְאוּם לְדַבֵּר בְּעַבְדֵי בְּמֹשֶׁה:  
(ט) וַיַּחֲרֹאֲף יְהוָה בָּם וַיִּלֶּךְ: (י)  
וְהָעָנָן סָר מֵעַל הָאֹהֶל וְהִגִּיה מִרְיָם  
מִצַּרְעַת כַּשָּׁלֵג וַיִּפֹּן אֶהֱרֹן  
אֶל־מִרְיָם וְהִגִּיה מִצַּרְעַת: (יא)  
וַיֹּאמֶר אֶהֱרֹן אֶל־מֹשֶׁה בִּי אֲדֹנָי  
אֶל־נָא תִשֶׁת עָלֵינוּ חֲטָאת אֲשֶׁר  
נֹאֲלָנוּ וְאֲשֶׁר חָטָאנוּ: (יב) אֶל־נָא  
תְּהִי כַּמֵּת אֲשֶׁר בְּצִאתוֹ מִרְחֹם

“Hear these My words: When prophets of יהוה arise among you, I make Myself known to them in a vision, I speak with them in a dream. (7) Not so with My servant Moses; he is trusted throughout My household. (8) With him I speak mouth to mouth, plainly and not in riddles, and he beholds the likeness of יהוה. How then did you not shrink from speaking against My servant Moses!” (9) Still incensed with them, יהוה departed. (10) As the cloud withdrew from the Tent, there was Miriam stricken with snow-white scales! When Aaron turned toward Miriam, he saw that she was stricken with scales. (11) And Aaron said to Moses, “O my lord, account not to us the sin which we committed in our folly. (12) Let her not be like a stillbirth which emerges from its mother’s womb with half its flesh eaten away!” (13) So Moses cried out to יהוה, saying,

אֲמֹן וַיֵּאכֶל חֲצִי בְשָׂרוֹ: (יג) וַיִּצְעַק  
מִשָּׁה אֶל־יְהוָה לֵאמֹר אֵל נָא  
רַפָּא נָא לָהּ: {פ} (יד) וַיֹּאמֶר  
יְהוָה אֶל־מִשָּׁה וְאַבְיָהּ יִרְק יִרְק  
בְּפָנֶיהָ הֲלֹא תִכְלֹם שְׁבַעַת יָמִים  
תִּסָּגֵר שְׁבַעַת יָמִים מִחֻץ לַמַּחֲנֶה  
וְאַחַר תֵּאֱסֹף: (טו) וַתִּסָּגֵר מֵרִים  
מִחֻץ לַמַּחֲנֶה שְׁבַעַת יָמִים וְהָעַם  
לֹא נָסַע עַד־הָאֶסֶף מֵרִים: (טז)  
וְאַחַר נָסְעוּ הָעָם מִחֲצֵרוֹת וַיִּחַנּוּ  
בְּמִדְבַר פָּאָרָן: {פ}



“O God, pray heal her!” (14) But יהוה said to Moses, “If her father spat in her face, would she not bear her shame for seven days? Let her be shut out of camp for seven days, and then let her be readmitted.”

(15) So Miriam was shut out of camp seven days; and the people did not march on until Miriam was readmitted. (16) After that the people set out from Hazeroth and encamped in the wilderness of Paran.