

## Balak, Torah

Numbers 22:39-25:9

(39) Balaam went with Balak and they came to Kiriath-huzoth. (40) Balak sacrificed oxen and sheep, and had them served to Balaam and the dignitaries with him. (41) In the morning Balak took Balaam up to Bamoth-baal. From there he could see a portion of the people. (1) Balaam said to Balak, "Build me seven altars here and have seven bulls and seven rams ready here for me." (2) Balak did as Balaam directed; and Balak and Balaam offered up a bull and a ram on each altar. (3) Then Balaam said to Balak, "Stay here beside your offerings while I am gone. Perhaps יהוה will grant me a manifestation, and whatever is revealed to me I will tell you." And he went off alone. (4) God became manifest to

במדבר כ"ב:ל"ט-כ"ה:ט'  
(לט) וַיֵּלֶךְ בְּלָעָם עִם-בָּלָק וַיָּבֹאוּ  
קִרְיַת חֲצוֹת: (מ) וַיִּזְבַּח בָּלָק בָּקָר  
וַצֹּאן וַיִּשְׁלַח לְבָלָעָם וְלַשָּׂרִים  
אֲשֶׁר אִתּוֹ: (מא) וַיְהִי בַבֹּקֶר וַיִּקַּח  
בָּלָק אֶת-בְּלָעָם וַיַּעֲלֵהוּ בַמּוֹת  
בָּעַל וַיֵּרָא מַשֶּׁם קִצֵּה הָעָם: (א)  
וַיֹּאמֶר בְּלָעָם אֶל-בָּלָק בְּנֵה-לִי  
בָזֶה שִׁבְעָה מִזְבְּחֹת וְהִכֵּן לִי בָזֶה  
שִׁבְעָה פָרִים וְשִׁבְעָה אֵילִים: (ב)  
וַיַּעַשׂ בָּלָק כַּאֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר בְּלָעָם  
וַיַּעַל בָּלָק וּבְלָעָם פָּר וְאֵיל  
בַּמִּזְבֵּחַ: (ג) וַיֹּאמֶר בְּלָעָם לְבָלָק  
הֲתִיצֵב עַל-עֹלְתֶךָ וְאֵלְכָה אִילֵי  
יִקְרָה יְהוָה לְקִרְאָתִי וְדַבֵּר  
מֵה-יִרְאֵנִי וְהִגַּדְתִּי לְךָ וַיֵּלֶךְ שָׁפִי:  
(ד) וַיִּקַּר אֱלֹהִים אֶל-בְּלָעָם וַיֹּאמֶר  
אֵלָיו אֶת-שִׁבְעַת הַמִּזְבְּחֹת עָרְכָתִי

Balaam, who stated, “I have set up the seven altars and offered up a bull and a ram on each altar.” (5) And יהוה put a word in Balaam’s mouth and said, “Return to Balak and speak thus.” (6) So he returned to him and found him standing beside his offerings, and all the Moabite dignitaries with him. (7) He took up his theme, and said: From Aram has Balak brought me, Moab’s king from the hills of the East: Come, curse me Jacob, Come, tell Israel’s doom! (8) How can I damn whom God has not damned, How doom when יהוה has not doomed? (9) As I see them from the mountain tops, Gaze on them from the heights, There is a people that dwells apart, Not reckoned among the nations, (10) Who can count the dust of Jacob, Number the dust-cloud of Israel? May I die the death of the upright, May my fate be like theirs! (11) Then Balak said to Balaam, “What

וַאֲעֵל פָּר וְאֵיל בַּמִּזְבֵּחַ: (ה) וַיִּשָּׂם  
 יְהוָה דְּבַר בְּפִי בְלָעָם וַיֹּאמֶר שׁוּב  
 אֶל-בָּלָק וְכֹה תִדְבֹר: (ו) וַיָּשָׁב  
 אֵלָיו וְהִנֵּה נֹצֵב עַל-עֲלֹתוֹ הוּא  
 וְכָל-שָׂרֵי מוֹאָב: (ז) וַיִּשָּׂא מִשְׁלוֹ  
 וַיֹּאמֶר מִן-אֲרָם יִנְחֲנִי בָלָק  
 מֶלֶךְ-מוֹאָב מֵהַרְרֵי-קָדֶם לְכֹה  
 אָרָה-לִּי יַעֲקֹב וּלְכֹה זַעֲמָה  
 יִשְׂרָאֵל: (ח) מָה אֶקְבֹּל לֹא קָבָה  
 אֵל וּמָה אֶזְעָם לֹא זַעֲם יְהוָה: (ט)  
 כִּי-מֵרֹאשׁ צָרִים אָרְאֶנּוּ וּמִגְבְּעוֹת  
 אֲשׁוּרָנּוּ הַן-זַעֲם לְבָדָד יִשְׁכֹּן וּבְגוֹיִם  
 לֹא יִתְחַשְּׁב: (י) מִי מִנָּה עֲפָר  
 יַעֲקֹב וּמִסֶּפֶר אֶת-רִבְעַת יִשְׂרָאֵל  
 תָּמַת נִפְשֵׁי מוֹת יִשְׂרָאֵל וּתְהִי  
 אַחֲרֵיתִי כִמֹּהוּ: (יא) וַיֹּאמֶר בָּלָק  
 אֶל-בְּלָעָם מָה עָשִׂיתָ לִּי לְקָב  
 אֵיבִי לְקַחְתִּיךָ וְהִנֵּה בִּרְכָתְךָ בְּרִיךְ:  
 (יב) וַיַּעַן וַיֹּאמֶר הֲלֹא אֵת אֲשֶׁר  
 יִשְׂרָאֵל יְהוָה בְּפִי אֶתוֹ אֲשַׁמֵּר  
 לְדַבֵּר: (יג) וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו בָּלָק (יד)

have you done to me? Here I brought you to damn my enemies, and instead you have blessed them!” (12) He replied, “I can only repeat faithfully what יהוה puts in my mouth.” (13) Then Balak said to him, “Come with me to another place from which you can see them—you will see only a portion of them; you will not see all of them—and damn them for me from there.” (14) With that, he took him to Sedehzophim, on the summit of Pisgah. He built seven altars and offered a bull and a ram on each altar. (15) And [Balaam] said to Balak, “Stay here beside your offerings, while I seek a manifestation yonder.” (16) יהוה became manifest to Balaam and put a word in his mouth, saying, “Return to Balak and speak thus.” (17) He went to him and found him standing beside his offerings, and the Moabite dignitaries with him. Balak asked him, “What did

[לְכָה-] וְנָא אֶתִּי אֶל-מָקוֹם אַחֵר  
אֲשֶׁר תִּרְאֶנּוּ מִשָּׁם אֶפְסָ קִצְהוּ  
תִרְאֶה וְכֻלּוֹ לֹא תִרְאֶה וְקִבְנוֹ-לִי  
מִשָּׁם: (יד) וַיִּקְחֵהוּ שָׂדֵה צְפִים  
אֶל-רֹאשׁ הַפְּסִגָּה וַיְבִן שִׁבְעָה  
מִזְבְּחֹת וַיַּעַל פָּר וְאֵיל בְּמִזְבְּחָהּ:  
(טו) וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-בָּלָק הֲתִיַּצֵּב כָּה  
עַל-עֲלֹתֶיךָ וְאֲנֹכִי אֶקְרָה כָּה: (טז)  
וַיִּקַּר יְהוָה אֶל-בְּלָעָם וַיִּשֶׂם דָּבָר  
בְּפִיו וַיֹּאמֶר שׁוּב אֶל-בָּלָק וְכֹה  
תִּדְבֹר: (יז) וַיָּבֵא אֵלָיו וְהֵנּוּ נֹצֵב  
עַל-עֲלֹתָו וְשָׂרֵי מוֹאָב אִתּוֹ וַיֹּאמֶר  
לוֹ בָלָק מַה-דְּבַר יְהוָה: (יח) וַיִּשָּׂא  
מִשָּׁלוֹ וַיֹּאמֶר קוּם בָּלָק וּשְׂמָע  
הָאֲזִינָה עָדִי בְּנֹו צִפֹּר: (יט) לֹא  
אִישׁ אֵל וַיִּכְזֹּב וּבֶן-אָדָם וַיִּתְנַחֵם  
הֵהוּא אָמַר וְלֹא יַעֲשֶׂה וְדָבָר וְלֹא  
יִקְיַמְנָה: (כ) הִנֵּה בָרַךְ לְקַחְתִּי  
וּבָרַךְ וְלֹא אֲשִׁיבָנָה: (כא)  
לֹא-הֵבִיט אָוֶן בְּיַעֲקֹב וְלֹא-רָאָה  
עֲמָל בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל יְהוָה אֱלֹהָיו עִמּוֹ

יהוה say?” (18) And he took up his theme, and said: Up, Balak, attend, Give ear unto me, son of Zippor! (19) God is not human to be capricious, Or mortal to have a change of heart. Would [God] speak and not act, Promise and not fulfill? (20) My message was to bless: When [God] blesses, I cannot reverse it. (21) No harm is in sight for Jacob, No woe in view for Israel. Their God יהוה is with them, And their King’s acclaim in their midst. (22) God who freed them from Egypt Is for them like the horns of the wild ox. (23) Lo, there is no augury in Jacob, No divining in Israel: Jacob is told at once, Yea Israel, what God has planned. (24) Lo, a people that rises like a lioness, Leaps up like a lion, Rests not till it has feasted on prey And drunk the blood of the slain. (25) Thereupon Balak said to Balaam, “Don’t curse them and don’t bless them!” (26) In reply,

ותרועַת מַלְךְ בּוֹ: (כב) אֵל מוֹצִיאֵם  
 מִמִּצְרַיִם כְּתוּעַפֹת רְאִים לוֹ: (כג)  
 כִּי לֹא-נִחַשׁ בִּיעֶקֶב וְלֹא-קִסַּם  
 בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל כָּעֵת יֹאמֶר לְיַעֲקֹב  
 וּלְיִשְׂרָאֵל מִה-פָּעַל אֵל: (כד)  
 הַנְּעִים כָּל־בִּיא יָקוּם וְכֹאֲרֵי יִתְנַשֵּׂא  
 לֹא יִשְׁכַּב עַד-יֵאכֹל טֹרֶף  
 וְדַם-חֲלָלִים יִשְׁתֶּה: (כה) וַיֹּאמֶר  
 בָּלָק אֶל-בְּלָעָם גַּם-קָב לֹא תִקְבְּנוּ  
 גַם-בְּרֹךְ לֹא תִבְרַכְנוּ: (כו) וַיַּעַן  
 בְּלָעָם וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-בָּלָק הֲלֹא  
 דִבַּרְתִּי אֵלֶיךָ לֵאמֹר כֹּל  
 אֲשֶׁר-יִדְבַר יְהוָה אֶתוֹ אֶעֱשֶׂה: (כז)  
 וַיֹּאמֶר בָּלָק אֶל-בְּלָעָם לְכֹה-נָא  
 אֶקְחֶנּוּ אֶל-מָקוֹם אַחֵר אוֹלֵי יִישׂרָאֵל  
 בְּעֵינַי הָאֱלֹהִים וְקִבַּתוּ לִי מִשָּׁם:  
 (כח) וַיִּקַּח בָּלָק אֶת-בְּלָעָם רֹאשׁ  
 הַפְּעֹר הַנְּשָׁקָף עַל-פְּנֵי הַיְשִׁימוֹ:  
 (כט) וַיֹּאמֶר בְּלָעָם אֶל-בָּלָק  
 בְּנֵה-לִי בֹזֶה שְׂבַעַה מִזְבַּחַת וְהִכּוּ  
 לִי בֹזֶה שְׂבַעַה פָּרִים וְשְׂבַעַה

Balaam said to Balak, “But I told you: Whatever יהוה says, that I must do.” (27) Then Balak said to Balaam, “Come now, I will take you to another place. Perhaps God will deem it right that you damn them for me there.” (28) Balak took Balaam to the peak of Peor, which overlooks the wasteland. (29) Balaam said to Balak, “Build me here seven altars, and have seven bulls and seven rams ready for me here.” (30) Balak did as Balaam said: he offered up a bull and a ram on each altar. (1) Now Balaam, seeing that it pleased יהוה to bless Israel, did not, as on previous occasions, go in search of omens, but turned his face toward the wilderness. (2) As Balaam looked up and saw Israel encamped tribe by tribe, the spirit of God came upon him. (3) Taking up his theme, he said: Word of Balaam son of Beor, Word of the man whose eye is true, (4) Word of one who hears

אֵלִים: (ל) וַיַּעַשׂ בְּלֶקַךְ כַּאֲשֶׁר אָמַר  
בְּלָעָם וַיַּעַל פֶּר וְאֵיל בַּמִּזְבֵּחַ: (א)  
וַיֵּרָא בְּלָעָם כִּי טוֹב בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה  
לְבָרְךָ אֶת־יִשְׂרָאֵל וְלֹא־הָלַךְ  
כַּפְעֵם־בְּכַפְעֵם לְקַרְאֵת נְחָשִׁים  
וַיֵּשֶׁת אֶל־הַמְּדַבֵּר פָּנָיו: (ב) וַיֵּשֶׂא  
בְּלָעָם אֶת־עֵינָיו וַיֵּרָא אֶת־יִשְׂרָאֵל  
שֹׁכֵן לְשִׁבְטָיו וְתָהִי עָלָיו רוּחַ  
אֱלֹהִים: (ג) וַיֵּשֶׂא מִשָּׁלוֹ וַיֹּאמֶר  
נָאִם בְּלָעָם בְּנֹו בְעֹר וּנְאֻם הַגֹּבֵר  
שְׁתֵּם הָעֵינַי: (ד) נְאֻם שְׁמַעַ  
אֲמַר־יֵאָל אֲשֶׁר מַחֲזֶה שְׂדֵי יַחֲזֶה  
נִפְל וּגְלוֹי עֵינָיִם: (ה) מִה־טָבוֹ  
אֶהְלִיךָ יַעֲקֹב מִשְׁכַּנְתֶּיךָ יִשְׂרָאֵל:  
(ו) כְּנַחֲלִים נָטְיוֹ כְּגִנַת עָלִי נָהַר  
כַּאֲהָלִים נָטַע יְהוָה כַּאֲרוֹזִים  
עַל־יַמִּים: (ז) יִזְל־מַיִם מִדְּלִיּוֹ וְזָרְעוּ  
בְּמַיִם רַבִּים וַיֵּרֶם מֵאֲגַג מִלְכוֹ  
וְתַנְשֵׂא מִלְכָתּוֹ: (ח) אֵל מוֹצִיאֹ  
מִמִּצְרַיִם כְּתוֹעַפֶת רָאֵם לוֹ יֹאכֵל  
גּוֹיִם צָרְיוֹ וְעַצְמֹתֵיהֶם יִגְרֶם וְחֻצְיוֹ

God's speech, Who beholds visions from the Almighty, Prostrate, but with eyes unveiled: (5) How fair are your tents, O Jacob, Your dwellings, O Israel! (6) Like palm-groves that stretch out, Like gardens beside a river, Like aloes planted by יהוה, Like cedars beside the water; (7) Their boughs drip with moisture, Their roots have abundant water. Their ruler shall rise above Agag, Their sovereignty shall be exalted. (8) God who freed them from Egypt Is for them like the horns of the wild ox. They shall devour enemy nations, Crush their bones, And smash their arrows. (9) They crouch, they lie down like a lion, Like a lioness; who dares rouse them? Blessed are they who bless you, Accursed they who curse you! (10) Enraged at Balaam, Balak struck his hands together. "I called you," Balak said to Balaam, "to damn my enemies, and instead you have blessed them these three

יִמְחִיץ: (ט) כָּרַע שָׁכַב פְּאָרִי  
 וּכְלָבִיא מִי יְקִימֵנוּ מְבָרְכֶיךָ בְּרוּךְ  
 וְאֲרָרֶיךָ אָרוּר: (י) וַיִּחַר-אַף בְּלֶק  
 אֶל-בְּלָעָם וַיִּסְפֹּק אֶת-כַּפָּיו וַיֹּאמֶר  
 בְּלֶק אֶל-בְּלָעָם לָקַב אֲיָבִי  
 קָרָאתִיךָ וְהִנֵּה בִּרְכַת בְּרֹךְ זֶה  
 שְׁלֹשׁ פְּעָמִים: (יא) וַעֲתָה בְּרַח-לְךָ  
 אֶל-מְקוֹמְךָ אֲמַרְתִּי כִּבְד אֲכַבְדְּךָ  
 וְהִנֵּה מְנַעֶךָ יְהוָה מִכְבוֹד: (יב)  
 וַיֹּאמֶר בְּלָעָם אֶל-בְּלֶק הֲלֹא גַם  
 אֶל-מְלֹאכֶיךָ אֲשֶׁר-שָׁלַחְתָּ אֵלַי  
 דִּבַּרְתִּי לֵאמֹר: (יג) אִם-יִתְּנוּ-לִי  
 בְּלֶק מְלֹא בֵיתוֹ כֶּסֶף וְזָהָב לֹא  
 אוֹכֵל לַעֲבֹר אֶת-פִּי יְהוָה לַעֲשׂוֹת  
 טוֹבָה אוֹ רָעָה מִלְּבִי אֲשֶׁר-יִדְבֹּר  
 יְהוָה אִתּוֹ אֲדַבֵּר: (יד) וַעֲתָה הֲנִנִּי  
 הוֹלֵךְ לְעַמִּי לָכֵה אֵי עֵצְךָ אֲשֶׁר  
 יַעֲשֶׂה הָעָם הַזֶּה לְעַמְּךָ בְּאַחֲרִית  
 הַיָּמִים: (טו) וַיִּשָּׂא מְשָׁלוֹ וַיֹּאמֶר  
 נָאִם בְּלָעָם בְּנֹו בְעֹר וְנָאִם הַגָּבֵר  
 שְׁתֵּם הָעֵינַי: (טז) נָאִם שְׁמַעַ

times! (11) Back with you at once to your own place! I was going to reward you richly, but יהוה has denied you the reward.” (12) Balaam replied to Balak, “But I even told the messengers you sent to me, (13) ‘Though Balak were to give me his house full of silver and gold, I could not of my own accord do anything good or bad contrary to יהוה’s command. What יהוה says, that I must say.’ (14) And now, as I go back to my people, let me inform you of what this people will do to your people in days to come.” (15) He took up his theme, and said: Word of Balaam son of Beor, Word of the man whose eye is true, (16) Word of one who hears God’s speech, Who obtains knowledge from the Most High, And beholds visions from the Almighty, Prostrate, but with eyes unveiled: (17) What I see for them is not yet, What I behold will not be soon: A star rises from Jacob, A

אִמְרֵי־אֵל וַיִּדְעַ דְּעַת עֲלִיּוֹן מִחֲזֵה  
 שְׂדֵי יַחֲזֵה נִפְל וּגְלוֹי עֵינַיִם: (יז)  
 אֲרֹאנוּ וְלֹא עֲתָה אֲשׁוּרנוּ וְלֹא  
 קָרוֹב דְּרֹף כּוֹכַב מִיַּעֲקֹב וְקָם  
 שְׂבֹט מִיִּשְׂרָאֵל וּמַחֲלַן פְּאֲתֵי מוֹאָב  
 וְקָרָקַר כָּל־בְּנֵי־שֵׁת: (יח) וְהָיָה  
 אֲדוֹם יִרְשָׁה וְהָיָה יִרְשָׁה שְׁעִיר  
 אֵיבֵיו וַיִּשְׂרָאֵל עֲשֵׂה חֵיל: (יט)  
 וַיֵּרֶד מִיַּעֲקֹב וְהֶאֱבִיד שָׂרִיד מֵעִיר:  
 (כ) וַיֵּרָא אֶת־עַמְלֵק וַיִּשָּׂא מְשָׁלוֹ  
 וַיֹּאמֶר רֵאשִׁית גּוֹיִם עַמְלֵק  
 וְאַחֲרֵיתוֹ עַדֵי אֲבָד: (כא) וַיֵּרָא  
 אֶת־הַקִּינִי וַיִּשָּׂא מְשָׁלוֹ וַיֹּאמֶר  
 אֵיתָן מוֹשְׁבֶךָ וְשֵׁים בְּסֹלַע קִנְיָ:  
 (כב) כִּי אִם־יִהְיֶה לְבַעַר קִינִי  
 עַד־מָה אֲשׁוּר תִּשְׁבֶּךָ: (כג) וַיִּשָּׂא  
 מְשָׁלוֹ וַיֹּאמֶר אֹי מִי יַחֲזִיחַ מִשְׁמֹ  
 אֵל: (כד) וְצִיִּם מִיַּד כְּתִים וְעַנּוּ  
 אֲשׁוּר וְעַנּוּ־עֶבֶר וְגַם־הוּא עַדֵי  
 אֲבָד: (כה) וַיִּקָּם בְּלָעַם וַיִּלְךָ וַיֵּשֶׁב  
 לְמַקְמוֹ וְגַם־בָּלַק הָלַךְ לְדַרְכּוֹ: {פ}

scepter comes forth from Israel; It smashes the brow of Moab, The foundation of all children of Seth. (18) Edom becomes a possession, Yea, Seir a possession of its enemies; But Israel is triumphant. (19) A victor issues from Jacob To wipe out what is left of Ir. (20) He saw Amalek and, taking up his theme, he said: A leading nation is Amalek; But its fate is to perish forever. (21) He saw the Kenites and, taking up his theme, he said: Though your abode be secure, And your nest be set among cliffs, (22) Yet shall Kain be consumed, When Asshur takes you captive. (23) He took up his theme and said: Alas, who can survive except God has willed it! (24) Ships come from the quarter of Kittim; They subject Asshur, subject Eber. They, too, shall perish forever. (25) Then Balaam set out on his journey back home; and Balak also went his way. (1) While Israel was staying at

(א) וַיֵּשֶׁב יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּשֹׁטִים וַיַּחַל  
הָעָם לְזִנּוֹת אֶל-בָּנוֹת מוֹאָב: (ב)  
וַתִּקְרְאוּן לָעָם לְזִבְחֵי אֱלֹהֵיהֶן  
וַיֹּאכַל הָעָם וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲווּ לֵאלֹהֵיהֶן:  
(ג) וַיִּצְמַד יִשְׂרָאֵל לְבַעַל פְּעוֹר  
וַיַּחֲרֹאֲף יְהוָה בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל: (ד)  
וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-מִשְׁנֵה קַח  
אֶת-כָּל-רְאשֵׁי הָעָם וְהוֹקֵעַ אוֹתָם  
לִיהוָה נִגַּד הַשָּׁמַיִם וַיֵּשֶׁב חֶרֶוֹן  
אֶף-יְהוָה מִיִּשְׂרָאֵל: (ה) וַיֹּאמֶר  
מִשְׁנֵה אֶל-שֹׁפְטֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל הֲרִגוּ  
אִישׁ אֲנָשָׁיו הַנּוֹצְמִים לְבַעַל  
פְּעוֹר: (ו) וְהִנֵּה אִישׁ מִבְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל  
בָּא וַיִּקְרַב אֶל-אֲחִיו אֶת-הַמְּדִינִית  
לְעֵינָי מִשְׁנֵה וּלְעֵינָי כָּל-עַדַּת  
בְּנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל וְהִמָּה בָלָיִם פָּתַח  
אֶהָל מוֹעֵד: (ז) וַיֵּרָא פִּינְחָס  
בֶּן-אֶלְעָזָר בֶּן-אֶהֱרֹן הַכֹּהֵן וַיִּקָּם  
מִתּוֹךְ הָעֵדָה וַיִּקַּח רֶמֶחַ בְּיָדוֹ: (ח)  
וַיָּבֹא אַחַר אִישׁ-יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶל-הַקֶּבֶה  
וַיִּדְקַר אֶת-שְׁנֵיהֶם אֶת אִישׁ



Shittim, the menfolk profaned themselves by whoring with the Moabite women, (2) who invited the menfolk to the sacrifices for their god. The menfolk partook of them and worshiped that god. (3) Thus Israel attached itself to Baal-peor, and יהוה was incensed with Israel. (4) יהוה said to Moses, “Take all the ringleaders and have them publicly impaled before יהוה, so that יהוה’s wrath may turn away from Israel.” (5) So Moses said to Israel’s officials, “Each of you slay those of his men who attached themselves to Baal-peor.” (6) Just then a certain Israelite man came and brought a Midianite woman over to his companions, in the sight of Moses and of the whole Israelite community who were weeping at the entrance of the Tent of Meeting. (7) When Phinehas, son of Eleazar son of Aaron the priest, saw this, he left the assembly and, taking a spear in his hand, (8)

יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאֶת־הָאִשָּׁה אֶל־קִבְּתָהּ  
וַתַּעֲצֹר הַמִּגִּפָּה מֵעַל בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל:  
(ט) וַיְהִי הַיּוֹם הַמֵּתִים בַּמִּגִּפָּה אַרְבַּעַה  
וְעֶשְׂרִים אָלֶף: {פ}

he followed the Israelite man into the chamber and stabbed both of them, the Israelite man and the woman, through the belly. Then the plague against the Israelites was checked. (9) Those who died of the plague numbered twenty-four thousand.