

Vayeshev, Torah, December 17, 2022

Genesis 37:1-36

(1) Now Jacob was settled in the land where his father had sojourned, the land of Canaan. (2) This, then, is the line of Jacob: At seventeen years of age, Joseph tended the flocks with his brothers, as a helper to the sons of his father's wives Bilhah and Zilpah. And Joseph brought bad reports of them to their father. (3) Now Israel loved Joseph best of all his sons—he was his “child of old age”; and he had made him an ornamented tunic. (4) And when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of his brothers, they hated him so that they could not speak a friendly word to him. (5) Once Joseph had a dream which he told to his brothers; and they hated him even more. (6) He said to them, “Hear this dream which I have

בראשית ל"ז:א'-ל"ו

(א) וַיָּשֶׁב יַעֲקֹב בְּאֶרֶץ מְגֹרֵי אָבִיו
בְּאֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן: (ב) אֵלֶּה | תְּלֻדֹת
יַעֲקֹב יוֹסֵף בֶּן-שִׁבְעֵ-עֶשְׂרֵה שָׁנָה
הָיָה רֹעֵה אֶת-אֶחָיו בְּצֹאן וְהוּא
נֹעַר אֶת-בְּנֵי בְלָהָה וְאֶת-בְּנֵי זִלְפָּה
וְנָשֵׂי אָבִיו וַיִּבְאֵר יוֹסֵף אֶת-דִּבְתָּם
רָעָה אֶל-אָבִיהֶם: (ג) וַיִּשְׂרָאֵל אֶהָב
אֶת-יוֹסֵף מִכָּל-בְּנָיו כִּי-בֶן-זִקְנִים
הוּא לוֹ וַעֲשָׂה לוֹ כְּתֻנֶּת פַּסִּים: (ד)
וַיִּרְאוּ אֶחָיו כִּי-אִתּוֹ אֶהָב אָבִיהֶם
מִכָּל-אֶחָיו וַיִּשְׂנְאוּ אֹתוֹ וְלֹא יָכְלוּ
דַּבְּרוֹ לְשָׁלֵם: (ה) וַיַּחְלֵם יוֹסֵף
חֲלוֹם וַיַּגִּד לְאֶחָיו וַיֹּסְפוּ עוֹד שִׁנְאָ
אֹתוֹ: (ו) וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵיהֶם שְׁמְעוּ-נָא
הַחֲלוֹם הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר חָלַמְתִּי: (ז)
וְהִנֵּה אֲנִי חֹנֵן מֵאֱלֹמִים אֱלֹמִים בְּתוֹךְ
הַשָּׁמַיִם וְהִנֵּה קָמָה אֵלַי

dreamed: (7) There we were binding sheaves in the field, when suddenly my sheaf stood up and remained upright; then your sheaves gathered around and bowed low to my sheaf.” (8) His brothers answered, “Do you mean to reign over us? Do you mean to rule over us?” And they hated him even more for his talk about his dreams. (9) He dreamed another dream and told it to his brothers, saying, “Look, I have had another dream: And this time, the sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me.” (10) And when he told it to his father and brothers, his father berated him. “What,” he said to him, “is this dream you have dreamed? Are we to come, I and your mother and your brothers, and bow low to you to the ground?” (11) So his brothers were wrought up at him, and his father kept the matter in mind. (12) One time, when his brothers had gone to pasture their father’s flock at

וּגְמֵל־נִצְבָה וְהִנֵּה תִסְבִּינָה
אֶל־מִתְיָכֶם וַתִּשְׁתַּחֲוּיֶן לְאֶלְמָתִי: (ח)
וַיֹּאמְרוּ לוֹ אָחִיו הַמִּלֶּךְ תִּמְלֹךְ
עָלֵינוּ אִם־מְשׁוֹל תִּמְשָׁל בָּנוּ וַיּוֹסֶפוּ
עוֹד שָׁנֵא אֹתוֹ עַל־חֲלֹמֹתָיו
וְעַל־דְּבָרָיו: (ט) וַיִּחַלְּם עוֹד חֲלוֹם
אַחֵר וַיְסַפֵּר אֹתוֹ לְאָחָיו וַיֹּאמֶר
הִנֵּה חֲלֹמְתִי חֲלוֹם עוֹד וְהִנֵּה
הַשֶּׁמֶשׁ וְהַיָּרֵחַ וְאַחַד עָשָׂר כּוֹכָבִים
מִשְׁתַּחֲוִים לִי: (י) וַיְסַפֵּר אֶל־אָבִיו
וְאֶל־אָחָיו וַיִּגְעַר־בּוֹ אָבִיו וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ
מָה הַחֲלוֹם הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר חֲלַמְתָּ
הֲבֹא נִבּוֹא אֲנִי וְאַמְתָּ וְאָחֶיךָ
לְהִשְׁתַּחֲוֹת לְךָ אֶרְצָה: (יא)
וַיִּקְנֹאוּ־בּוֹ אָחָיו וְאָבִיו שָׁמַר
אֶת־הַדְּבָר: (יב) וַיֵּלְכוּ אָחָיו לְרֻעוֹת
אֶת־צֹאן אֲבֵיהֶם בְּשָׂכָם: (יג) וַיֹּאמֶר
יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶל־יוֹסֵף הֲלוֹא אֶחָיֶךָ רַעִים
בְּשָׂכָם לָכֵה וְאַשְׁלַחְךָ אֵלֵיהֶם
וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ הַנְּנִי: (יד) וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ
לְךָ־נָא רְאֵה אֶת־שְׁלוֹם אֶחָיֶךָ

Shechem, (13) Israel said to Joseph, “Your brothers are pasturing at Shechem. Come, I will send you to them.” He answered, “I am ready.” (14) And he said to him, “Go and see how your brothers are and how the flocks are faring, and bring me back word.” So he sent him from the valley of Hebron. When he reached Shechem, (15) a man came upon him wandering in the fields. The man asked him, “What are you looking for?” (16) He answered, “I am looking for my brothers. Could you tell me where they are pasturing?” (17) The man said, “They have gone from here, for I heard them say: Let us go to Dothan.” So Joseph followed his brothers and found them at Dothan. (18) They saw him from afar, and before he came close to them they conspired to kill him. (19) They said to one another, “Here comes that dreamer! (20) Come now, let us kill him and throw him

וְאֶת־שְׁלוֹם הַצֵּאֵן וְהַשְׁבִּנִי דָבַר
וַיִּשְׁלַחֵהוּ מֵעֵמֶק חֶבְרוֹן וַיָּבֵא
שָׁכְמָה: (טו) וַיִּמְצְאֵהוּ אִישׁ וְהָיָה
תַּעֲהָ בַשָּׂדֶה וַיִּשְׁאַלֵהוּ הָאִישׁ
לֵאמֹר מַה־תִּבְקֹשׁ: (טז) וַיֹּאמֶר
אֶת־אֲחֵי אָנֹכִי מִבְּקֹשׁ הַגִּידָה־נָא לִּי
אֵיפֹה הֵם רְעִים: (יז) וַיֹּאמֶר הָאִישׁ
נִסְעוּ מִזֶּה כִּי שָׁמַעְתִּי אֲמָרִים
נִלְכָה דַתִּינָה וַיִּלְךָ יוֹסֵף אַחֲרָם
וַיִּמְצָאֵם בְּדוֹתָן: (יח) וַיִּרְאוּ אֹתוֹ
מִרְחֹק וּבְטָרֵם יִקְרַב אֲלֵיהֶם
וַיִּתְנַפְּלוּ אֹתוֹ לְהַמִּיתוֹ: (יט) וַיֹּאמְרוּ
אִישׁ אֶל־אָחִיו הֲנִיָּה בְּעַל הַחֲלָמוֹת
הַלְזָה בָּא: (כ) וַעֲתָה | לְכוּ
וְנַהַרְגֵהוּ וְנִשְׁלַכֵהוּ בְּאֶחָד הַבְּרוֹת
וְאֲמָרְנוּ חַיָּה רָעָה אֲכָלְתָהוּ וְנִרְאָה
מֵה־יְהוָה חֲלָמָתוֹ: (כא) וַיִּשְׁמַע
רְאוּבֵן וַיִּצְלָהוּ מִיָּדָם וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא
נִכְפְּנוּ נַפְשׁ: (כב) וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵיהֶם |
רְאוּבֵן אֶל־תִּשְׁפְּכוּ־דָם הַשְּׁלִיכוּ
אֹתוֹ אֶל־הַבּוֹר הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר בַּמְדְּבָר

into one of the pits; and we can say, 'A savage beast devoured him.' We shall see what comes of his dreams!" (21) But when Reuben heard it, he tried to save him from them. He said, "Let us not take his life." (22) And Reuben went on, "Shed no blood! Cast him into that pit out in the wilderness, but do not touch him yourselves"—intending to save him from them and restore him to his father. (23) When Joseph came up to his brothers, they stripped Joseph of his tunic, the ornamented tunic that he was wearing, (24) and took him and cast him into the pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it. (25) Then they sat down to a meal. Looking up, they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, their camels bearing gum, balm, and ladanum to be taken to Egypt. (26) Then Judah said to his brothers, "What do we gain by killing our brother and covering up his blood? (27) Come, let us sell him

וַיָּד אֶל־תְּשֻׁלְחוּבוֹ לְמַעַן הַצִּיל
 אֹתוֹ מִיָּדָם לְהַשִּׁיבוֹ אֶל־אָבִיו: (כג)
 וַיְהִי כַּאֲשֶׁר־בָּא יוֹסֵף אֶל־אֶחָיו
 וַיִּפְשְׁטוּ אֶת־יוֹסֵף אֶת־כַּתְּנֹתָו
 אֶת־כַּתְּנֹת הַפְּסִים אֲשֶׁר עָלָיו: (כד)
 וַיִּקְחֵהוּ וַיִּשְׁלְכוּ אֹתוֹ הַבְּרָה וְהַבּוֹר
 רֶק אֵין בּוֹ מַיִם: (כה) וַיִּשְׁבוּ
 לֶאֱכֹל־לֶחֶם וַיִּשְׂאוּ עֵינֵיהֶם וַיִּרְאוּ
 וְהִנֵּה אַרְחַת יִשְׁמַעֲאֵלִים בָּאָה
 מִגְּלָעַד וּגְמָלֵיהֶם נֹשְׂאִים נֹכָחַת
 וַצִּרֵי וְלֹט הוֹלְכִים לְהוֹרִיד
 מִצְרַיִמָּה: (כו) וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוּדָה
 אֶל־אֶחָיו מִה־בְּצַע כִּי נִהְרַג
 אֶת־אֶחָינוּ וְכִסִּינוּ אֶת־דָּמּוֹ: (כז)
 לָכוּ וְנִמְכְּרֵנוּ לְיִשְׁמַעֲאֵלִים וַיִּדְּנוּ
 אֶל־תְּהַיְיְבוֹ כִּי־אֶחָינוּ בְּשָׂרְנוּ הוּא
 וַיִּשְׁמְעוּ אֶחָיו: (כח) וַיַּעֲבְרוּ אַנְשֵׁים
 מִדִּינָיִם סַחְרִים וַיִּמְשְׁכוּ וַיַּעֲלוּ
 אֶת־יוֹסֵף מִן־הַבּוֹר וַיִּמְכְּרוּ אֶת־יוֹסֵף
 לְיִשְׁמַעֲאֵלִים בְּעֶשְׂרִים כֶּסֶף וַיָּבִיאוּ
 אֶת־יוֹסֵף מִצְרַיִמָּה: (כט) וַיֵּשֶׁב

to the Ishmaelites, but let us not do away with him ourselves. After all, he is our brother, our own flesh.”

His brothers agreed. (28) When Midianite traders passed by, they pulled Joseph up out of the pit.

They sold Joseph for twenty pieces of silver to the Ishmaelites, who brought Joseph to Egypt. (29) When Reuben returned to the pit and saw that Joseph was not in the pit, he rent his clothes. (30) Returning to his brothers, he said, “The boy is gone! Now, what am I to do?” (31)

Then they took Joseph’s tunic, slaughtered a kid, and dipped the tunic in the blood. (32) They had the ornamented tunic taken to their father, and they said, “We found this. Please examine it; is it your son’s tunic or not?” (33) He

recognized it, and said, “My son’s tunic! A savage beast devoured him! Joseph was torn by a beast!” (34)

Jacob rent his clothes, put sackcloth on his loins, and observed

רֹאוּבֵן אֶל־הַבּוֹר וְהִגִּיד אֶינִי־יוֹסֵף
בַּבּוֹר וַיִּקְרַע אֶת־בְּגָדָיו: (ל) וַיֵּשֶׁב
אֶל־אֶחָיו וַיֹּאמֶר הַיֵּלֶד אֵינָנוּ וְאָנִי
אָנֹכִי אֲנִי־בָא: (לא) וַיִּקְחוּ אֶת־כֶּתֶנֶת
יוֹסֵף וַיִּשְׁחָטוּ שְׂעִיר עִזִּים וַיִּטְבְּלוּ
אֶת־הַכֶּתֶנֶת בַּדָּם: (לב) וַיִּשְׁלְחוּ
אֶת־כֶּתֶנֶת הַפְּסִים וַיְבִיאוּ
אֶל־אָבִיהֶם וַיֹּאמְרוּ זֹאת מִצָּאֵנוּ
הַכֶּרֶז־נָא הַכֶּתֶנֶת בְּנֶךָ הוּא אִם־לֹא:
(לג) וַיִּכְרַה וַיֹּאמֶר כֶּתֶנֶת בְּנֵי חַיָּה
רָעָה אֲכַלְתֶּהוּ טָרֵף טָרֵף יוֹסֵף: (לד)
וַיִּקְרַע יַעֲקֹב שְׂמֹלְתוֹ וַיִּשֶׂם שָׂק
בְּמַתְּנוֹ וַיִּתְאַבֵּל עַל־בְּנוֹ יָמִים
רַבִּים: (לה) וַיִּקְמוּ כָל־בְּנָיו
וְכָל־בְּנֹתָיו לְנַחֲמוֹ וַיִּמְאֵן לְהִתְנַחֵם
וַיֹּאמֶר כִּי־אֲרֹד אֶל־בְּנֵי אָבִל
שְׂאֵלָה וַיִּבֶךְ אֹתוֹ אָבִיו: (לו)
וְהַמְּדַנִּים מָכְרוּ אֹתוֹ אֶל־מִצְרַיִם
לְפוֹטִיפָר סָרִיס פְּרֹעֶה שֹׁר
הַטְּבָּקִים: {פ}

mourning for his son many days.

(35) All his sons and daughters sought to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted, saying, “No, I will go down mourning to my son in Sheol.” Thus his father bewailed him. (36) The Midianites, meanwhile, sold him in Egypt to Potiphar, a courtier of Pharaoh and his prefect.