

# Chayei Sara, Haftarah, November 11, 2023

I Kings 1:1-31

(1) King David was now old, advanced in years; and though they covered him with bedclothes, he never felt warm. (2) His courtiers said to him, “Let a young virgin be sought for my lord the king, to wait upon Your Majesty and be his attendant; and let her lie in your bosom, and my lord the king will be warm.” (3) So they looked for a beautiful young woman throughout the territory of Israel. They found Abishag the Shunammite and brought her to the king. (4) This young woman was exceedingly beautiful. She became the king’s attendant and waited upon him; but the king was not intimate with her. (5) Now Adonijah son of Haggith went about boasting, “I will be king!” He provided himself

מלכים א א'א'-ל"א

(א) וְהַמֶּלֶךְ דָּוִד זָקֵן בָּא בַיָּמִים  
וַיִּכְסֹהוּ בַבְּגָדִים וְלֹא יָחַם לוֹ: (ב)  
וַיֹּאמְרוּ לוֹ עֲבָדָיו יִבְקֹשׂוּ לְאִדְנֵי  
הַמֶּלֶךְ נַעֲרָה בְּתוּלָה וְעַמְדָּה לְפָנָי  
הַמֶּלֶךְ וְתֵהִי־לוֹ סִכְנֵת וְשָׁכְבָה  
בְּחִיקוֹ וְחָם לְאִדְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ: (ג)  
וַיִּבְקֹשׂוּ נַעֲרָה יָפָה בְּכָל גְּבוּל  
יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיִּמְצְאוּ אֶת־אֲבִישָׁג  
הַשֻּׁנַמִּית וַיָּבֵאוּ אֹתָהּ לְמֶלֶךְ: (ד)  
וְהַנַּעֲרָה יָפָה עַד־מְאֹד וְתֵהִי לְמֶלֶךְ  
סִכְנֵת וְתֵשְׁרֹתֶהּ וְהַמֶּלֶךְ לֹא יָדָעָה:  
(ה) וַאֲדֹנִיָּה בֶן־חַגִּית מִתְנַשֵּׂא  
לֵאמֹר אֲנִי אֶמְלֹךְ וַיַּעַשׂ לוֹ רֶכֶב  
וּפָרָשִׁים וְחֲמֻשִׁים אִישׁ רָצִים  
לְפָנָיו: (ו) וְלֹא־עֲצָבוּ אָבִיו מִיָּמָיו  
לֵאמֹר מְדוּעַ כָּכָה עָשִׂיתָ וְגַם־הוּא  
טוֹב־תֵּאֵר מֵאֵד וְאִתּוֹ יִלְדָה אַחֲרָי

with chariots and horses, and an escort of fifty outrunners. (6) His father had never scolded him: “Why did you do that?” He was the one born after Absalom and, like him, was very handsome. (7) He conferred with Joab son of Zeruiah and with the priest Abiathar, and they supported Adonijah; (8) but the priest Zadok, Benaiah son of Jehoiada, the prophet Nathan, Shimei and Rei, and David’s own warriors did not side with Adonijah. (9) Adonijah made a sacrificial feast of sheep, oxen, and fatlings at the Zoheleth stone that is near En-rogel; he invited all his brother princes and all the king’s courtiers of the tribe of Judah; (10) but he did not invite the prophet Nathan, or Benaiah, or the warriors, or his brother Solomon. (11) Then Nathan said to Bathsheba, Solomon’s mother, “You must have heard that Adonijah son of Haggith has assumed the

אֲבִשְׁלוֹם: (ז) וַיְהִי דְבָרָיו עִם יוֹאָב  
בֶּן־צְרוּיָה וְעִם אֲבִיתָר הַכֹּהֵן וַיַּעֲזֹרוּ  
אֹחָיו אֲדֹנִיָּה: (ח) וְצָדוֹק הַכֹּהֵן  
וּבְנֵיהוּ בֶן־יְהוֹיָדָע וְנָתָן הַנָּבִיא  
וְשִׁמְעִי וְרֵעִי וְהַגְּבוּרִים אֲשֶׁר לְדָוִד  
לֹא הָיוּ עִם־אֲדֹנִיָּהוּ: (ט) וַיִּזְבַּח  
אֲדֹנִיָּהוּ צֹאן וּבָקָר וּמְרִיא עִם אֲבָן  
הַזֹּחֶלֶת אֲשֶׁר־אֶצֶל עַיִן רֹגֵל וַיִּקְרָא  
אֶת־כָּל־אֹחָיו בְּנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ  
וּלְכָל־אֲנָשֵׁי יְהוּדָה עֲבָדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ: (י)  
וְאֶת־נָתָן הַנָּבִיא וּבְנֵיהוּ  
וְאֶת־הַגְּבוּרִים וְאֶת־שְׁלֹמֹה אָחִיו  
לֹא קָרָא: (יא) וַיֹּאמֶר נָתָן  
אֶל־בֵּת־שֶׁבַע אִם־שְׁלֹמֹה לֹא־אָמַר  
הֲלוֹא שָׁמַעְתָּ כִּי מֶלֶךְ אֲדֹנִיָּהוּ  
בֶּן־חַגִּית וְאֲדֹנֵינוּ דָּוִד לֹא יָדַע: (יב)  
וַעֲתָה לְכִי אִיעָצֶךָ נָא עֲצֵה וּמְלִטִי  
אֶת־נַפְשִׁי וְאֶת־נַפְשׁ בְּנֵךְ שְׁלֹמֹה:  
(יג) לְכִי וּבְאִי | אֶל־הַמֶּלֶךְ דָּוִד  
וְאָמַרְתְּ אֵלָיו הֲלֹא־אַתָּה אֲדֹנִי  
הַמֶּלֶךְ נִשְׁבַּעְתָּ לְאִמְתֶּךָ לֹא־אָמַר

kingship without the knowledge of our lord David. (12) Now take my advice, so that you may save your life and the life of your son Solomon. (13) Go immediately to King David and say to him, ‘Did not you, O lord king, swear to your maidservant: “Your son Solomon shall succeed me as king, and he shall sit upon my throne”? Then why has Adonijah become king?’ (14) While you are still there talking with the king, I will come in after you and confirm your words.” (15) So Bathsheba went to the king in his chamber.—The king was very old, and Abishag the Shunammite was waiting on the king.— (16) Bathsheba bowed low in homage to the king; and the king asked, “What troubles you?” (17) She answered him, “My lord, you yourself swore to your maidservant by the ETERNAL your God: ‘Your son Solomon shall succeed me as king, and he shall sit upon my

כִּי־שָׁלַמָּה בְּנִי יִמְלֹךְ אַחֲרַי וְהוּא  
 יֵשֵׁב עַל־כִּסֵּאִי וּמִדּוּעַ מֶלֶךְ  
 אֲדֹנָיָהוּ: (יב) הֲנִיָּה עֹדֶךָ מְדַבֶּרֶת  
 שֵׁם עִם־הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאֲנִי אָבּוֹא אַחֲרָיִךְ  
 וּמְלִאתִי אֶת־דְּבָרֶיךָ: (יג) וְתָבֵא  
 בַּת־שֶׁבַע אֶל־הַמֶּלֶךְ הַחֲדָרָה  
 וְהַמֶּלֶךְ זָקֵן מְאֹד וְאַבִּישָׁג  
 הַשְּׁוֹנַמִּית מְשַׁרֶּת אֶת־הַמֶּלֶךְ: (יד)  
 וְתִקְדְּ בַת־שֶׁבַע וְתִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה לַמֶּלֶךְ  
 וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ מַה־לָּךְ: (טו) וְתֹאמֶר  
 לֹו אֲדֹנָי אַתָּה נִשְׁבַּעְתָּ בַיהוָה  
 אֶלְהֵיךָ לֵאמֹתְךָ כִּי־שָׁלַמָּה בְּנִי  
 יִמְלֹךְ אַחֲרַי וְהוּא יֵשֵׁב עַל־כִּסֵּאִי:  
 (טז) וְעַתָּה הֲנִיָּה מֶלֶךְ וְעַתָּה  
 אֲדֹנָי הַמֶּלֶךְ לֹא יָדַעְתָּ: (יז) וַיִּזְבַּח  
 שׁוֹר וּמְרִיא־וְצֹאֵן לָרֶבֶץ {פ} וַיִּקְרָא  
 לְכָל־בְּנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ וּלְאַבְיָתָר הַכֹּהֵן  
 וּלְיָאֵב שֶׁר הַצֹּבָא וּלְשָׁלַמָּה עַבְדָּךָ  
 לֹא קָרָא: (יח) וְאַתָּה אֲדֹנָי הַמֶּלֶךְ  
 עֵינַי כָּל־יִשְׂרָאֵל עָלֶיךָ לְהַגִּיד לָהֶם  
 מִי יֵשֵׁב עַל־כִּסֵּא אֲדֹנָי־הַמֶּלֶךְ

throne.’ (18) Yet now Adonijah has become king, and you, my lord the king, know nothing about it. (19) He has prepared a sacrificial feast of a great many oxen, fatlings, and sheep, and he has invited all the king’s sons and Abiathar the priest and Joab commander of the army; but he has not invited your servant Solomon. (20) And so the eyes of all Israel are upon you, O lord king, to tell them who shall succeed my lord the king on the throne. (21) Otherwise, when my lord the king rests with his ancestors, my son Solomon and I will be regarded as traitors.” (22) She was still talking to the king when the prophet Nathan arrived. (23) They announced to the king, “The prophet Nathan is here,” and he entered the king’s presence. Bowing low to the king with his face to the ground, (24) Nathan said, “O lord king, you must have said, ‘Adonijah shall succeed me as king and he shall sit

אֶחָרָיו: (כא) וְהָיָה כְּשֹׁכֵב  
אֲדֹנֵי-הַמֶּלֶךְ עִם-אֲבֹתָיו וְהָיִיתִי אֲנִי  
וּבְנֵי שְׁלֹמֹה חֲטָאִים: (כב) וְהָיָה  
עֹדֶנָּה מְדַבֶּרֶת עִם-הַמֶּלֶךְ וְנָתַן  
הַנְּבִיא בָּא: (כג) וַיִּגִּידוּ לַמֶּלֶךְ  
לֵאמֹר הִנֵּה נָתַן הַנְּבִיא וַיָּבֵא לְפָנָי  
הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוּ לַמֶּלֶךְ עַל-אֶפְרוֹ  
חַרְצָה: (כד) וַיֹּאמֶר נָתַן אֲדֹנֵי  
הַמֶּלֶךְ אַתָּה אֲמַרְתָּ אֲדֹנֵיהוּ יְמִלֶךְ  
אֶחָרִי וְהוּא יֵשֵׁב עַל-כִּסְאִי: (כה)  
כִּי | יֵרֵד הַיּוֹם וַיִּזְבַּח שׁוֹר  
וּמְרִיא-וּצֹאֵן לָרֶבֶךְ וַיִּקְרָא לְכָל-בְּנֵי  
הַמֶּלֶךְ וְלַשָּׂרֵי הַצָּבָא וְלְאֲבִיתָר  
הַכֹּהֵן וְהַנָּשִׂים אֲכָלִים וְשִׂתִּים לְפָנָיו  
וַיֹּאמְרוּ יַחֲי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲדֹנֵיהוּ: (כו) וְלִי  
אֲנִי-עֹבֶדְךָ וְלְצֹדֵק הַכֹּהֵן וְלְבָנָיהוּ  
בְּוַיְהוֹדַע וְלְשֹׁלֹמֹה עֹבֶדְךָ לֹא  
קָרָא: (כז) אִם מֵאֵת אֲדֹנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ  
נָהְיָה הַדְּבָר הַזֶּה וְלֹא הוֹדַעְתָּ  
אֶת- [עֹבֶדְךָ] (עבדֶיךָ) מִי יֵשֵׁב  
עַל-כִּסֵּא אֲדֹנֵי-הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶחָרָיו: {ס}

upon my throne.’ (25) For he has gone down today and prepared a sacrificial feast of a great many oxen, fatlings, and sheep. He invited all the king’s sons and the army officers and Abiathar the priest. At this very moment they are eating and drinking with him, and they are shouting, ‘Long live King Adonijah!’ (26) But he did not invite me your servant, or the priest Zadok, or Benaiah son of Jehoiada, or your servant Solomon. (27) Can this decision have come from my lord the king, without your telling your servant who is to succeed to the throne of my lord the king?” (28) King David’s response was: “Summon Bathsheba!” She entered the king’s presence and stood before the king. (29) And the king took an oath, saying, “As GOD lives, who has rescued me from every trouble: (30) The oath I swore to you by the ETERNAL, the God of Israel, that your son Solomon should succeed

(כח) וַיַּעַן הַמֶּלֶךְ דָּוִד וַיֹּאמֶר  
קָרָאוּ-לִי לְבַת-שֶׁבַע וַתָּבֵא לְפָנַי  
הַמֶּלֶךְ וַתַּעֲמֵד לְפָנַי הַמֶּלֶךְ: (כט)  
וַיִּשְׁבַּע הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיֹּאמֶר חַי-יְהוָה  
אֲשֶׁר-פָּדָה אֶת-נַפְשִׁי מִכָּל-צָרָה:  
(ל) כִּי כַּאֲשֶׁר נִשְׁבַּעְתִּי לָךְ בַּיהוָה  
אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לֵאמֹר כִּי-שְׁלֹמֹה  
בְּנִי יִמְלֹךְ אַחֲרָי וְהוּא יֵשֵׁב  
עַל-כִּסְאִי תַחְתָּי כִּי כֵן אֶעֱשֶׂה הַיּוֹם  
הַזֶּה: (לא) וַתִּקַּד בַּת-שֶׁבַע אַפָּיִם  
אָרְצָה וַתִּשְׁתַּחוּ לַמֶּלֶךְ וַתֹּאמֶר יְחִי  
אֲדֹנָי הַמֶּלֶךְ דָּוִד לְעֹלָם: {פ}

me as king and that he should sit upon my throne in my stead, I will fulfill this very day!” (31) Bathsheba bowed low in homage to the king with her face to the ground, and she said, “May my lord King David live forever!”