

Vayetzei, Torah, November 25, 2023

Genesis 30:14-31:16

(14) Once, at the time of the wheat harvest, Reuben came upon some mandrakes in the field and brought them to his mother Leah. Rachel said to Leah, “Please give me some of your son’s mandrakes.” (15) But she said to her, “Was it not enough for you to take away my husband, that you would also take my son’s mandrakes?” Rachel replied, “I promise, he shall lie with you tonight, in return for your son’s mandrakes.” (16) When Jacob came home from the field in the evening, Leah went out to meet him and said, “You are to sleep with me, for I have hired you with my son’s mandrakes.” And he lay with her that night. (17) God heeded Leah, and she conceived and bore him a fifth son. (18) And Leah said, “God

בראשית ל':י"ד-ל"א:ט"ז
(יד) וַיֵּלֶךְ רְאוּבֵן בְּיַמֵּי קְצִיר־חֹטִים
וַיִּמְצָא דוּדָאִים בַּשָּׂדֶה וַיָּבֵא אֹתָם
אֶל־לֵאָה אִמּוֹ וַתֹּאמֶר רָחֵל
אֶל־לֵאָה תְּנִי־נָא לִי מִדוּדָאֵי בְנִי:
(טו) וַתֹּאמֶר לָהּ הֲמַעַט קִחְתְּךָ
אֶת־אִישִׁי וְלָקַחַת גַּם אֶת־דוּדָאֵי
בְנִי וַתֹּאמֶר רָחֵל לָכֵן יִשְׁכַּב עִמָּךְ
הַלַּיְלָה תַּחַת דוּדָאֵי בְנִי: (טז) וַיָּבֵא
יַעֲקֹב מִן־הַשָּׂדֶה בָּעֶרְבַּ וַתֵּצֵא לֵאָה
לְקָרְאָתוֹ וַתֹּאמֶר אֵלַי תָּבוֹא כִּי
שָׂכַר שְׂכָרְתִּיךָ בְּדוּדָאֵי בְנִי וַיִּשְׁכַּב
עִמָּה בַּלַּיְלָה הַהוּא: (יז) וַיִּשְׁמַע
אֱלֹהִים אֶל־לֵאָה וַתֵּהָרֶה וַתֵּלֶד
לְיַעֲקֹב בֶּן חַמִּישִׁי: (יח) וַתֹּאמֶר
לֵאָה נָתַן אֱלֹהִים שְׂכָרִי אֲשֶׁר־נָתַתִּי
שִׁפְחָתִי לְאִישִׁי וַתִּקְרָא שְׁמוֹ
יִשְׁשֻׁכָּר: (יט) וַתֵּהָרֶה עוֹד לֵאָה וַתֵּלֶד

has given me my reward for having given my maid to my husband.” So she named him Issachar. (19) When Leah conceived again and bore Jacob a sixth son, (20) Leah said, “God has given me a choice gift; this time my husband will exalt me, for I have borne him six sons.” So she named him Zebulun. (21) Last, she bore him a daughter, and named her Dinah. (22) Now God remembered Rachel; God heeded her and opened her womb. (23) She conceived and bore a son, and said, “God has taken away my disgrace.” (24) So she named him Joseph, which is to say, “May יהוה add another son for me.” (25) After Rachel had borne Joseph, Jacob said to Laban, “Give me leave to go back to my own homeland. (26) Give me my wives and my children, for whom I have served you, that I may go; for well you know what services I have rendered you.” (27) But Laban said to him, “If you will

בֶּן־שֵׁשִׁי לַיַּעֲקֹב: (כ) וַתֹּאמֶר לְאֵה זְבֻלָּנִי אֱלֹהִים | אֶתִּי זָבַד טוֹב הַפֶּעַם יְזַבְּלֵנִי אִישִׁי כִּי־יִלְדֹתִי לוֹ שֵׁשֶׁה בָּנִים וַתִּקְרָא אֶת־שְׁמוֹ זְבֻלֹן: (כא) וְאַחֵר יִלְדָה בֵּת וַתִּקְרָא אֶת־שְׁמָהּ דִּינָה: (כב) וַיִּזְכֹּר אֱלֹהִים אֶת־רַחֵל וַיִּשְׁמַע אֲלֶיהָ אֱלֹהִים וַיִּפְתַּח אֶת־רַחֲמָהּ: (כג) וַתֵּהָר וַתֵּלֶד בֵּן וַתֹּאמֶר אִסָּף אֱלֹהִים אֶת־חַרְפְּתִי: (כד) וַתִּקְרָא אֶת־שְׁמוֹ יוֹסֵף לְאָמֵר יוֹסֵף יֵהוּה לִי בֶן אַחֵר: (כה) וַיְהִי כַּאֲשֶׁר יִלְדָה רַחֵל אֶת־יוֹסֵף וַיֹּאמֶר יַעֲקֹב אֶל־לָבָן שְׁלַחֲנִי וְאַלֶּכָה אֶל־מְקוֹמִי וְלְאָרְצִי: (כו) תָּנֵה אֶת־נַשְׁי וְאֶת־יְלָדֵי אֲשֶׁר עִבַּדְתִּי אִתְּךָ בְּהֵן וְאַלֶּכָה כִּי אַתָּה יָדַעְתָּ אֶת־עִבְדְּתִי אֲשֶׁר עִבַּדְתִּיךָ: (כז) וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו לָבָן אִם־נָא מַצְאֵתִי חֵן בְּעֵינֶיךָ נְחַשְׁתִּי וַיְבָרַכְנִי יְהוָה בְּגִלְלוֹךָ: (כח) וַיֹּאמֶר נִקְבָה שְׂכָרְךָ עָלַי וְאַתָּנָה:

indulge me, I have learned by divination that יהוה has blessed me on your account.” (28) And he continued, “Name the wages due from me, and I will pay you.” (29) But he said, “You know well how I have served you and how your livestock has fared with me. (30) For the little you had before I came has grown to much, since יהוה has blessed you wherever I turned. And now, when shall I make provision for my own household?” (31) He said, “What shall I pay you?” And Jacob said, “Pay me nothing! If you will do this thing for me, I will again pasture and keep your flocks: (32) let me pass through your whole flock today, removing from there every speckled and spotted animal—every dark-colored sheep and every spotted and speckled goat. Such shall be my wages. (33) In the future when you go over my wages, let my honesty toward you testify for me: if there are among my goats

(כט) וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו אַתָּה יָדַעְתָּ אֵת
אֲשֶׁר עֲבַדְתִּיךָ וְאֵת אֲשֶׁר-הָיָה
מִקְנֶךָ אֵתִי: (ל) כִּי מֵעַט אֲשֶׁר-הָיָה
לִּי לְפָנַי וַיִּפְרֹץ לְרֹב וַיִּבְרַךְ יְהוָה
אֶתְךָ לְרִגְלֵי וְעַתָּה מָתִי אֶעֱשֶׂה
גַם-אֲנֹכִי לְבֵיתִי: (לא) וַיֹּאמֶר מַה
אֶתֶּן-לָךְ וַיֹּאמֶר יַעֲקֹב לֹא-תַתּוּן-לִי
מֵאֹמָה אִם-תַּעֲשֶׂה-לִּי הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה
אֲשׁוּבָה אֶרְעֶה צֹאנֶךָ אֲשֶׁמֶר: (לב)
אֶעֱבֹר בְּכָל-צֹאנֶךָ הַיּוֹם הַסֵּר מִשָּׁם
כָּל-שֵׁה | נִקְד וּטְלוּא
וְכָל-שֵׁה-חֹום בְּפִשְׁבִּים וּטְלוּא
וְנִקְד בְּעֵזִים וְהָיָה שְׂכָרִי: (לג)
וְעַנְתָּה-בִּי צְדָקְתִּי בַיּוֹם מִחֵר
כִּי-תָבוֹא עַל-שְׂכָרִי לְפָנֶיךָ כֹּל
אֲשֶׁר-אֵינְנִי נִקְד וּטְלוּא בְּעֵזִים
וְחֹום בְּפִשְׁבִּים גָּנוּב הוּא אֵתִי: (לד)
וַיֹּאמֶר לָבֵן הֲלוֹ לֹו יְהִי כְדָבְרֶךָ: (לה)
וַיִּסֵּר בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא אֶת-הַתִּישִׁים
הָעֹקְדִים וְהַטְּלָאִים וְאֵת כָּל-הָעֵזִים
הַנִּקְדוֹת וְהַטְּלָאֵת כֹּל אֲשֶׁר-לָבֵן בּוֹ

any that are not speckled or spotted or any sheep that are not dark-colored, they got there by theft.”

(34) And Laban said, “Very well, let it be as you say.” (35) But that same day he removed the streaked and spotted he-goats and all the speckled and spotted she-goats—every one that had white on it—and all the dark-colored sheep, and left them in the charge of his sons.

(36) And he put a distance of three days’ journey between himself and Jacob, while Jacob was pasturing the rest of Laban’s flock. (37) Jacob then got fresh shoots of poplar, and of almond and plane, and peeled white stripes in them, laying bare the white of the shoots. (38) The rods that he had peeled he set up in front of the goats in the troughs, the water receptacles, that the goats came to drink from. Their mating occurred when they came to drink, (39) and since the goats mated by the rods, the goats brought forth

וְכָל־חֹוֹם בַּכְּשָׁבִים וַיִּתֵּן בְּיַד־בְּנָיו:
(לו) וַיִּשֶׂם דָּרֶךְ שְׁלֹשֶׁת יָמִים בֵּינוֹ
וּבֵין יַעֲקֹב וַיַּעֲקֹב רָעָה אֶת־צֹאן
לָבָן הַנּוֹתֶרֶת: (לז) וַיִּקַּח־לוֹ יַעֲקֹב
מִקָּל לְבָנָה לָח וְלוֹז וְעֶרְמוֹן וַיַּפְצֵל
בֵּהֶן פְּצָלוֹת לְבָנוֹת מִחֲשֵׁף הַלָּבָן
אֲשֶׁר עַל־הַמְּקָלוֹת: (לח) וַיַּצַּג
אֶת־הַמְּקָלוֹת אֲשֶׁר פָּצַל בְּרֹהֲטִים
בְּשִׁקְתוֹת הַיָּמִים אֲשֶׁר תָּבֵאן הַצֹּאן
לְשִׁתוֹת לְנֹכַח הַצֹּאן וַיַּחֲמֶנָה בְּבֹאֵן
לְשִׁתוֹת: (לט) וַיִּתְּמוּ הַצֹּאן
אֶל־הַמְּקָלוֹת וַתִּלְדֶּן הַצֹּאן עֲקָדִים
נֶקְדִים וְטֹלָאִים: (מ) וְהַכְּשָׁבִים
הַפְּרִיד יַעֲקֹב וַיִּתֵּן פְּנֵי הַצֹּאן
אֶל־עֲקָד וְכָל־חֹוֹם בְּצֹאן לָבָן
וַיִּשֶׁת־לוֹ עֲדָרִים לְבָדוֹ וְלֹא שָׂתֵם
עַל־צֹאן לָבָן: (מא) וְהָיָה בְּכָל־יָחֵם
הַצֹּאן הַמְּקָשְׁרוֹת וְשֵׁם יַעֲקֹב
אֶת־הַמְּקָלוֹת לְעֵינֵי הַצֹּאן בְּרֹהֲטִים
לְיַחֲמֶנָה בַּמְּקָלוֹת: (מב) וּבְהָעֵטִיף
הַצֹּאן לֹא יִשְׂגִים וְהָיָה הָעֵטָפִים

streaked, speckled, and spotted young. (40) But Jacob dealt separately with the sheep; he made these animals face the streaked or wholly dark-colored animals in Laban's flock. And so he produced special flocks for himself, which he did not put with Laban's flocks. (41) Moreover, when the sturdier animals were mating, Jacob would place the rods in the troughs, in full view of the animals, so that they mated by the rods; (42) but with the feebler animals he would not place them there. Thus the feeble ones went to Laban and the sturdy to Jacob. (43) So the man grew exceedingly prosperous, and came to own large flocks, maidservants and menservants, camels and asses. (1) Now he heard the things that Laban's sons were saying: "Jacob has taken all that was our father's, and from that which was our father's he has built up all this wealth." (2) Jacob also saw that Laban's manner

לְלָבָן וְהַקְּשָׁרִים לְיַעֲקֹב: (מג) וַיִּפְרֹץ
הָאִישׁ מְאֹד מְאֹד וַיְהִי־לוֹ צֹאן
רְבֹות וּשְׁפָחוֹת וְעִבְדִים וְגַמְלִים
וְחֹמְרִים: (א) וַיִּשְׁמַע אֶת־דְּבָרֵי
בְנֵי־לָבָן לְאֹמֶר לָקַח יַעֲקֹב אֶת
כָּל־אֲשֶׁר לְאָבִינוּ וּמֵאֲשֶׁר לְאָבִינוּ
עָשָׂה אֵת כָּל־הַכָּבֵד הַזֶּה: (ב)
וַיֵּרָא יַעֲקֹב אֶת־פְּנֵי לָבָן וְהִנֵּה
אֵינָנו עִמּוֹ כְּתַמּוֹל שְׁלֹשׁוֹם: (ג)
וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל־יַעֲקֹב שׁוּב
אֶל־אָרֶץ אַבְרָהָם וְלִמְוֹלָדְתָּךְ
וְאֵהְיָה עִמָּךְ: (ד) וַיִּשְׁלַח יַעֲקֹב
וַיִּקְרָא לְרַחֵל וּלְלֵאָה הַשָּׂדֶה
אֶל־צֹאנָו: (ה) וַיֹּאמֶר לָהֶן רְאֵה
אֲנֹכִי אֶת־פְּנֵי אָבִיכֶן כִּי־אֵינָנו אֵלַי
כְּתַמּוֹל שְׁלֹשָׁם וְאֵלֵהִי אָבִי הֲיִה
עִמָּדִי: (ו) וְאַתְנָה יִדְעֶתְנוּ כִּי
בְכָל־כַּחֲסֵי עֲבָדְתִי אֶת־אָבִיכֶן: (ז)
וְאָבִיכֶן הֵתֵל בִּי וְהֵחֱלַף
אֶת־מִשְׁכַּבְתִּי עִשְׂרֵת מַנִּים
וְלֹא־נָתַנוּ אֵלֵהִים לְהִרְעֵ עִמָּדִי: (ח)

toward him was not as it had been in the past. (3) Then יהוה said to Jacob, “Return to your ancestors’ land—where you were born—and I will be with you.” (4) Jacob had Rachel and Leah called to the field, where his flock was, (5) and said to them, “I see that your father’s manner toward me is not as it has been in the past. But the God of my father’s [house] has been with me. (6) As you know, I have served your father with all my might; (7) but your father has cheated me, changing my wages time and again. God, however, would not let him do me harm. (8) If he said thus, ‘The speckled shall be your wages,’ then all the flocks would drop speckled young; and if he said thus, ‘The streaked shall be your wages,’ then all the flocks would drop streaked young. (9) God has taken away your father’s livestock and given it to me. (10) “Once, at the mating time of the flocks, I had a

אִם-כֹּה יֹאמֶר נְקֻדִים יְהִיֶה שְׁכָרְךָ
וְיִלְדוּ כָל-הַצֹּאן נְקֻדִים וְאִם-כֹּה
יֹאמֶר עֶקְדִים יְהִיֶה שְׁכָרְךָ וְיִלְדוּ
כָל-הַצֹּאן עֶקְדִים: (ט) וַיִּצַּל אֱלֹהִים
אֶת-מִקְנֵה אֲבִיכֶם וַיִּתֶן-לִי: (י) וַיְהִי
בַעַת יַחַם הַצֹּאן וְאִשָּׁא עֵינַי וָאֶרְאָה
בַּחֲלוֹם וְהִנֵּה הָעֶתְדִים הָעֲלִים
עַל-הַצֹּאן עֶקְדִים נְקֻדִים וּבְרֻדִים:
(יא) וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלַי מִלְאָךְ הָאֱלֹהִים
בַּחֲלוֹם יַעֲקֹב וָאֹמַר הַנְּנִי: (יב)
וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂא-נָא עֵינֶיךָ וּרְאֵה
כָּל-הָעֶתְדִים הָעֲלִים עַל-הַצֹּאן
עֶקְדִים נְקֻדִים וּבְרֻדִים כִּי רָאִיתִי
אֵת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר לָבֵן עָשָׂה לָךְ: (יג)
אֲנֹכִי הָאֵל בֵּית-אֵל אֲשֶׁר מְשַׁחֵת
שָׂם מִצִּבָּה אֲשֶׁר נִדְרַתְּ לִי שָׂם
נִדֵּר עֲתָה קֹום צֵא מִן-הָאָרֶץ
הַזֹּאת וְשׁוּב אֶל-אָרֶץ מִוְלַדְתְּךָ:
(יד) וַתַּעַן רָחֵל וְלֵאמֹר וַתֹּאמְרָנָה לוֹ
הָעוֹד לָנוּ חֶלֶק וְנַחֲלָה בְּבֵית
אֲבִינוּ: (טו) הֲלוֹא נְכַרְיֹת נַחֲשָׁבְנוּ

dream in which I saw that the he-goats mating with the flock were streaked, speckled, and mottled. (11) And in the dream a messenger of God said to me, 'Jacob!' 'Here,' I answered. (12) And the messenger said, 'Note well that all the he-goats which are mating with the flock are streaked, speckled, and mottled; for I have noted all that Laban has been doing to you. (13) I am the God of Bethel, where you anointed a pillar and where you made a vow to Me. Now, arise and leave this land and return to your native land.'" (14) Then Rachel and Leah answered him, saying, "Have we still a share in the inheritance of our father's house? (15) Surely, he regards us as outsiders, now that he has sold us and has used up our purchase price. (16) Truly, all the wealth that God has taken away from our father belongs to us and to our children. Now then, do just as God has told you."

לֹא כִּי מִכְרָנוּ וַיֹּאכֵל גַּם-אֶכּוֹל
אֶת-כֶּסֶפֵּנוּ: (טז) כִּי כָל-הָעֹשֶׂר
אֲשֶׁר הֶצֵּיל אֱלֹהִים מֵאֲבִינוּ לָנוּ
הוּא וּלְבָנֵינוּ וְעַתָּה כָּל־אֲשֶׁר אָמַר
אֱלֹהִים אֵלֶיךָ עֲשֵׂה:

