

Vayikra, Haftarah, March 23, 2024

I Samuel 15:2-34

(2) “Thus said the LORD of Hosts:

I am exacting the penalty for what Amalek did to Israel, for the assault he made upon them on the road, on their way up from Egypt. (3)

Now go, attack Amalek, and proscribe all that belongs to him. Spare no one, but kill alike men and women, infants and sucklings, oxen and sheep, camels and asses!”

(4) Saul mustered the troops and enrolled them at Telaim: 200,000 men on foot, and 10,000 men of Judah. (5) Then Saul advanced as far as the city of Amalek and lay in wait in the wadi. (6) Saul said to the Kenites, “Come, withdraw at once from among the Amalekites, that I may not destroy you along with them; for you showed kindness to all the Israelites when they left

שמואל א ט"ו:ב'-ל"ד

(ב) כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת פְּקֹדֹתַי

אֶת אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה עִמָּלֶק לְיִשְׂרָאֵל

אֲשֶׁר-שָׁם לוֹ בַדְרֹךְ בְּעֵלְתוֹ

מִמִּצְרַיִם: (ג) עֲתָה יְיָ וְהַכִּיתָהּ

אֶת-עִמָּלֶק וְהַחֲרַמְתָּם

אֶת-כָּל-אֲשֶׁר-לוֹ וְלֹא תַחֲמַל עָלָיו

וְהַמִּתָּה מֵאִישׁ עַד-אִשָּׁה מִנְעֻלָּה

וְעַד-יוֹנֵק מִשׁוֹר וְעַד-שֵׂה מִגָּמֶל

וְעַד-חֲמוֹר: (ד) {ס} וַיִּשְׁמַע שָׁאוּל

אֶת-הָעָם וַיִּפְקְדֵם בְּטַלָּאִים מְאֹתַיִם

אֶלֶף רִגְלֵי וְעֵשְׂרֵת אֲלָפִים אֶת-אִישׁ

יְהוּדָה: (ה) וַיָּבֹא שָׁאוּל עַד-עֵיר

עִמָּלֶק וַיָּרֵב בְּנַחֲל: (ו) וַיֹּאמֶר

שָׁאוּל אֶל-הַקֵּינִי לָכֹן סָרוּ רַדּוֹ

מִתּוֹךְ עִמָּלֶקִי פֶן-אֶסְפְּךָ עִמּוֹ וְאַתָּה

עָשִׂיתָה חֶסֶד עִם-כָּל-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל

בְּעֵלוֹתָם מִמִּצְרַיִם וַיִּסַּר קֵינִי מִתּוֹךְ

Egypt.” So the Kenites withdrew from among the Amalekites. (7) Saul destroyed Amalek from Havilah all the way to Shur, which is close to Egypt, (8) and he captured King Agag of Amalek alive. He proscribed all the people, putting them to the sword; (9) but Saul and the troops spared Agag and the best of the sheep, the oxen, the second-born, the lambs, and all else that was of value. They would not proscribe them; they proscribed only what was cheap and worthless. (10) The word of the LORD then came to Samuel: (11) “I regret that I made Saul king, for he has turned away from Me and has not carried out My commands.” Samuel was distressed and he entreated the LORD all night long. (12) Early in the morning Samuel went to meet Saul. Samuel was told, “Saul went to Carmel, where he erected a monument for himself; then he left and went on down to Gilgal.” (13)

עֲמָלֵק: (ז) וַיִּדָּו שָׂאוּל אֶת־עֲמָלֵק
מִחֻוּלָּה בְּאוֹרֵךְ שׁוּר אֲשֶׁר עַל־פְּנֵי
מִצְרַיִם: (ח) וַיִּתְּפֹשׂ אֶת־אַגָּג
מֶלֶךְ־עֲמָלֵק חַי וְאֶת־כָּל־הָעָם
הַחֲרִים לְפִי־חָרֵב: (ט) וַיִּחַמְלֵ
שָׂאוּל וְהָעָם עַל־אַגָּג וְעַל־מִיטֵב
הַצֹּאן וְהַבָּקָר וְהַמְּשָׁנִים
וְעַל־הַכְּרִים וְעַל־כָּל־הַטּוֹב וְלֹא
אָבוּ הַחֲרִימָם וְכָל־הַמְּלָאכָה
נִמְבָּזָה וְנָמַס אֹתָהּ הַחֲרִימוּ: (פ)
(י) וַיְהִי דְבַר־יְהוָה אֶל־שְׁמוּאֵל
לֵאמֹר: (יא) נִחַמְתִּי כִּי־הִמְלַכְתִּי
אֶת־שָׂאוּל לְמֶלֶךְ כִּי־שָׁב מֵאַחֲרַי
וְאֶת־דְּבָרִי לֹא הִקִּים וַיִּחַר
לְשְׁמוּאֵל וַיִּזְעַק אֶל־יְהוָה
כָּל־הַלַּיְלָה: (יב) וַיִּשְׁכַּם שְׁמוּאֵל
לְקִרְאֵת שָׂאוּל בַּבֹּקֶר וַיֵּגֶד
לְשְׁמוּאֵל לֵאמֹר בָּא־שָׂאוּל
הַכְּרַמְלָה וְהִנֵּה מַצִּיב לּוֹ יָד וַיִּסֵּב
וַיַּעֲבֹר וַיֵּרֶד הַגִּלְגָּל: (יג) וַיָּבֹא
שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל־שָׂאוּל וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ שָׂאוּל

When Samuel came to Saul, Saul said to him, “Blessed are you of the LORD! I have fulfilled the LORD’s command.” (14) “Then what,” demanded Samuel, “is this bleating of sheep in my ears, and the lowing of oxen that I hear?” (15) Saul answered, “They were brought from the Amalekites, for the troops spared the choicest of the sheep and oxen for sacrificing to the LORD your God. And we proscribed the rest.” (16) Samuel said to Saul, “Stop! Let me tell you what the LORD said to me last night!” “Speak,” he replied. (17) And Samuel said, “You may look small to yourself, but you are the head of the tribes of Israel. The LORD anointed you king over Israel, (18) and the LORD sent you on a mission, saying, ‘Go and proscribe the sinful Amalekites; make war on them until you have exterminated them.’ (19) Why did you disobey the LORD and swoop down on the

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה לַיהוָה הַקִּיַּמְתִּי
אֶת־דְּבַר יְהוָה: (יד) וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל
וַיִּמָּה קוֹל־הַצֹּאן הַזֶּה בְּאָזְנִי וְקוֹל
הַבָּקָר אֲשֶׁר אָנֹכִי שֹׁמֵעַ: (טו)
וַיֹּאמֶר שְׂאוּל מֵעֲמֹלֵקֵי הַבְּיֵאוֹם
אֲשֶׁר חָמַל הָעָם עַל־מִיטֵב הַצֹּאן
וְהַבָּקָר לְמַעַן זָבַח לַיהוָה אֶל־הֵיחָד
וְאֶת־הַיּוֹתֵר הִחָרַמְנוּ: {פ} (טז)
וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל־שְׂאוּל הֲרָף
וְאֶגִּידָה לְךָ אֵת אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר יְהוָה
אֵלַי הַלַּיְלָה (וַיֹּאמְרוּ) [וַיֹּאמֶר] לוֹ
דְּבַר: {ס} (יז) וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל הֲלוֹא
אִם־קָטַן אַתָּה בְּעֵינַיִךְ רֹאשׁ שְׁבִטֵי
יִשְׂרָאֵל אַתָּה וַיִּמְשַׁחְךָ יְהוָה לְמֶלֶךְ
עַל־יִשְׂרָאֵל: (יח) וַיִּשְׁלַחְךָ יְהוָה
בְּדַרְךָ וַיֹּאמֶר לְךָ וְהִחָרַמְתָּהּ
אֶת־הַחֲטָאִים אֶת־עַמְּלֵק וְנִלְחַמְתָּ
בּוֹ עַד כְּלוֹתָם אַתֶּם: (יט) וְלָמָּה
לֹא־שָׁמַעְתָּ בְּקוֹל יְהוָה וַתַּעַט
אֶל־הַשָּׁלָל וַתַּעַשׂ הָרַע בְּעֵינַי יְהוָה:
{ס} (כ) וַיֹּאמֶר שְׂאוּל אֶל־שְׁמוּאֵל

spoil in defiance of the LORD's will?" (20) Saul said to Samuel, "But I did obey the LORD! I performed the mission on which the LORD sent me: I captured King Agag of Amalek, and I proscribed Amalek, (21) and the troops took from the spoil some sheep and oxen—the best of what had been proscribed—to sacrifice to the LORD your God at Gilgal." (22) But Samuel said: "Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obedience to the LORD's command? Surely, obedience is better than sacrifice, Compliance than the fat of rams. (23) For rebellion is like the sin of divination, Defiance, like the iniquity of teraphim. Because you rejected the LORD's command, He has rejected you as king." (24) Saul said to Samuel, "I did wrong to transgress the LORD's command and your instructions; but I was afraid of the troops and I yielded to

אֲשֶׁר שָׁמַעְתִּי בְּקוֹל יְהוָה וְאַלֶּיךָ
 בְּדַרְךָ אֲשֶׁר-שָׁלַחְנִי יְהוָה וְאַבִּיא
 אֶת-אַגַּג מֶלֶךְ מִלֶּךְ עַמְלֵק וְאֶת-עַמְלֵק
 הִחָרַמְתִּי: (כא) וַיִּקַּח הָעָם מֵהַשָּׁלַל
 צֹאן וּבָקָר רַאשֵׁי הַחֶרֶם לְזִבְחָה
 לַיהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּגִלְגָּל: {ס} (כב)
 וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁמוּאֵל הֲחִפְּץ לַיהוָה
 בַּעֲלֹת וּזְבָחִים כְּשֹׁמֵעַ בְּקוֹל יְהוָה
 הֲנֵה שֹׁמֵעַ מִזְבַּח טוֹב לְהִקְשִׁיב
 מִחֶלֶב אֵילִים: (כג) כִּי חָטְאת־קֶסֶם
 מִרִי וְאֹזֶן וּתְרָפִים הַפָּצָר יַעַן מְאַסְתָּ
 אֶת-דְּבַר יְהוָה וַיִּמְאַסֶּךָ מִמֶּלֶךְ: {ס}
 (כד) וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁאוּל אֶל-שָׁמוּאֵל
 חָטְאתִי כִּי-עֲבַרְתִּי אֶת-פִּי-יְהוָה
 וְאֶת-דְּבָרֶיךָ כִּי יָרֵאתִי אֶת-הָעָם
 וְאַשְׁמַע בְּקוֹלָם: (כה) וְעַתָּה שָׂא
 נָא אֶת-חַטָּאתִי וְשׁוּב עִמָּי
 וְאַשְׁתַּחֲוֶה לַיהוָה: (כו) וַיֹּאמֶר
 שָׁמוּאֵל אֶל-שָׁאוּל לֹא אָשׁוּב עִמָּךְ
 כִּי מְאַסְתָּה אֶת-דְּבַר יְהוָה וַיִּמְאַסֶּךָ
 יְהוָה מִהָיֹת מֶלֶךְ עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל: {ס}

them. (25) Please, forgive my offense and come back with me, and I will bow low to the LORD.” (26) But Samuel said to Saul, “I will not go back with you; for you have rejected the LORD’s command, and the LORD has rejected you as king over Israel.” (27) As Samuel turned to leave, Saul seized the corner of his robe, and it tore. (28) And Samuel said to him, “The LORD has this day torn the kingship over Israel away from you and has given it to another who is worthier than you. (29) Moreover, the Glory of Israel does not deceive or change His mind, for He is not human that He should change His mind.” (30) But [Saul] pleaded, “I did wrong. Please, honor me in the presence of the elders of my people and in the presence of Israel, and come back with me until I have bowed low to the LORD your God.” (31) So Samuel followed Saul back, and Saul bowed low to the

(כז) וַיִּסֹּב שְׁמוּאֵל לְלַכֵּת וַיִּחְזַק
בְּכֹנֶף־מְעִילוֹ וַיִּקְרָע: {ס} (כח)
וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו שְׁמוּאֵל קִרְעַת יְהוָה
אֶת־מַמְלְכוֹת יִשְׂרָאֵל מֵעַלְיָךְ הַיּוֹם
וַנִּתְּנָה לְרַעְיָה הַטּוֹב מִמֶּךָ: {ס} (כט)
וְגַם נִצַּח יִשְׂרָאֵל לֹא יִשְׁקַר וְלֹא
יִנָּחֵם כִּי לֹא אָדָם הוּא לְהִנָּחֵם: (ל)
וַיֹּאמֶר חֲטָאתִי עִתָּהּ כִּבְדֵנִי נָא וְנָגַד
זְקַנְי־עַמִּי וְנָגַד יִשְׂרָאֵל וְשׁוּב עִמָּי
וְהִשְׁתַּחֲוִיתִי לַיהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ: (לא)
וַיָּשָׁב שְׁמוּאֵל אַחֲרַי שְׂאוּל וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוּ
שְׂאוּל לַיהוָה: {ס} (לב) וַיֹּאמֶר
שְׁמוּאֵל הֲגִישׁוּ אֵלַי אֶת־אַגָּג מֶלֶךְ
עַמְלֵק וַיִּלְךָ אֵלָיו אַגָּג מֵעֵדְנָת
וַיֹּאמֶר אַגָּג אֲכֹן סָר מִרְהֻמוֹת: {ס}
(לג) וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל כַּאֲשֶׁר שָׁכַלְהָ
נָשִׁים חֲרָבָה כִּן־תִּשְׁכַּל מִנְּשִׁים
אָמַרְךָ וַיִּשְׁסֹף שְׁמוּאֵל אֶת־אַגָּג לִפְנֵי
יְהוָה בַּגִּלְגָּל: {ס} (לד) וַיִּלְךָ
שְׁמוּאֵל הָרָמָתָה וְשְׂאוּל עָלָהּ
אֶל־בֵּיתוֹ גִּבְעַת שְׂאוּל:

LORD. (32) Samuel said, "Bring forward to me King Agag of Amalek." Agag approached him with faltering steps; and Agag said, "Ah, bitter death is at hand!" (33) Samuel said: "As your sword has bereaved women, So shall your mother be bereaved among women." And Samuel cut Agag down before the LORD at Gilgal. (34) Samuel then departed for Ramah, and Saul went up to his home at Gibeah of Saul.