

Vayetzei, Torah, December 7, 2024

Genesis 31:17-32:3

(17) Thereupon Jacob put his children and wives on camels; (18) and he drove off all his livestock and all the wealth that he had amassed, the livestock in his possession that he had acquired in Paddan-aram, to go to his father Isaac in the land of Canaan. (19) Meanwhile Laban had gone to shear his sheep, and Rachel stole her father's household idols. (20) Jacob kept Laban the Aramean in the dark, not telling him that he was fleeing, (21) and fled with all that he had. Soon he was across the Euphrates and heading toward the hill country of Gilead. (22) On the third day, Laban was told that Jacob had fled. (23) So he took his kinsmen with him and pursued him a distance of seven days, catching up with him in the hill

בראשית ל"א:י"ז-ל"ב:ג'

(יז) וַיִּקַּם יַעֲקֹב וַיִּשָּׂא אֶת-בָּנָיו
וְאֶת-נָשָׁיו עַל-הַגְּמָלִים: (יח) וַיִּנְהַג
אֶת-כָּל-מִקְנֵהוּ וְאֶת-כָּל-רֶכֶשׁוֹ
אֲשֶׁר רָכַשׁ מִקְנֵה קְנִיזוֹ אֲשֶׁר רָכַשׁ
בְּפָדֵן אֲרָם לָבוֹא אֶל-יִצְחָק אָבִיו
אֶרְצָה כְּנָעַן: (יט) וְלָבָן הֵלֵךְ לְגִזּוֹ
אֶת-צֹאֲנוֹ וַתִּגְנֹב רָחֵל אֶת-הַתְּרָפִים
אֲשֶׁר לְאָבִיהָ: (כ) וַיִּגְנֹב יַעֲקֹב
אֶת-לֵב לָבָן הָאֲרָמִי עַל-בְּלִי הַגִּיד
לּוֹ כִּי בָרַח הוּא: (כא) וַיִּבְרַח הוּא
וְכָל-אֲשֶׁר-לוֹ וַיִּקַּם וַיַּעֲבֹר
אֶת-הַנָּהָר וַיִּשֶׂם אֶת-פָּנָיו הָרַ
הַגְּלָעָד: (כב) וַיִּגַּד לְלָבָן בַּיּוֹם
הַשְּׁלִישִׁי כִּי בָרַח יַעֲקֹב: (כג) וַיִּקַּח
אֶת-אֶחָיו עִמּוֹ וַיִּרְדֹּף אַחֲרָיו דְּרֹף
שִׁבְעַת יָמִים וַיִּדְבֹּק אֹתוֹ בְּהָר
הַגְּלָעָד: (כד) וַיָּבֹא אֱלֹהִים אֶל-לָבָן
הָאֲרָמִי בַחֲלֹם הַלַּיְלָה וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ

country of Gilead. (24) But God appeared to Laban the Aramean in a dream by night and said to him, “Beware of attempting anything with Jacob, good or bad.” (25) Laban overtook Jacob. Jacob had pitched his tent on the Height, and Laban with his kinsmen encamped in the hill country of Gilead. (26) And Laban said to Jacob, “What did you mean by keeping me in the dark and carrying off my daughters like captives of the sword? (27) Why did you flee in secrecy and mislead me and not tell me? I would have sent you off with festive music, with timbrel and lyre. (28) You did not even let me kiss my sons and daughters good-by! It was a foolish thing for you to do. (29) I have it in my power to do you harm; but the God of your father’s [house] said to me last night, ‘Beware of attempting anything with Jacob, good or bad.’ (30) Very well, you had to leave because you were

הַשָּׁמַר לְךָ פֶּן־תִּדְבַר עִם־יַעֲקֹב
מְטוֹב עַד־רָע: (כה) וַיִּשָּׁג לְבֹן
אֶת־יַעֲקֹב וַיַּעֲקֹב תִּקַּע אֶת־אָזְנוֹ
בְּהָר וּלְבֹן תִּקַּע אֶת־אָזְנוֹ בְּהָר
הַגְּלָעָד: (כו) וַיֹּאמֶר לְבֹן לִיַּעֲקֹב
מַה עָשִׂיתָ וַתִּגְנֹב אֶת־לִבִּי וַתִּנְהַג
אֶת־בְּנוֹתַי כַּשְּׂבִיּוֹת חָרָב: (כז) לָמָּה
נִחַבְתָּ לְבָרְחַ וַתִּגְנֹב אֹתִי
וְלֹא־הִגַּדְתָּ לִּי וַאֲשַׁלַּחְךָ בְּשִׁמְחָה
וּבְשָׂרִים בְּתֹף וּבְכִנּוֹר: (כח) וְלֹא
נִטַּשְׁתָּנִי לְנִשְׁק לְבָנַי וּלְבָנוֹתַי עִתָּה
הַסְּכַלְתָּ עֲשׂוֹ: (כט) יֵשׁ־לְאֵל יָדַי
לַעֲשׂוֹת עִמָּכֶם רָע וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבִיכֶם
אָמַשׁ | אָמַר אֵלַי לֵאמֹר הַשָּׁמַר
לְךָ מִדְּבַר עִם־יַעֲקֹב מְטוֹב עַד־רָע:
(ל) וְעִתָּה הֲלֵךְ הָלַכְתָּ כִּי־נִכְסָף
נִכְסַפְתָּה לְבַיִת אָבִיךָ לָמָּה גִּנַּבְתָּ
אֶת־אֱלֹהֵי: (לא) וַיַּעַן יַעֲקֹב וַיֹּאמֶר
לְלִבֹּן כִּי יֵרְאֵתִי כִּי אֲמַרְתִּי פֶּן־תִּגְזֹל
אֶת־בְּנוֹתַי מֵעַמִּי: (לב) עִם אֲשֶׁר
תִּמְצָא אֶת־אֱלֹהֶיךָ לֹא יִחַיֶּה נֶגֶד

longing for your father's house; but why did you steal my gods?" (31) Jacob answered Laban, saying, "I was afraid because I thought you would take your daughters from me by force. (32) But anyone with whom you find your gods shall not remain alive! In the presence of our kin, point out what I have of yours and take it." Jacob, of course, did not know that Rachel had stolen them. (33) So Laban went into Jacob's tent and Leah's tent and the tents of the two maidservants; but he did not find them. Leaving Leah's tent, he entered Rachel's tent. (34) Rachel, meanwhile, had taken the idols and placed them in the camel cushion and sat on them; and Laban rummaged through the tent without finding them. (35) For she said to her father, "Let not my lord take it amiss that I cannot rise before you, for I am in a womanly way." Thus he searched, but could not find the household idols. (36)

אֲחִינוּ הִכְרַלְתָּ מָה עָמְדֵי וְקַחֲלֶךָ
וְלֹא־יָדַע יַעֲקֹב כִּי רָחֵל גָּנְבָתָם:
(לג) וַיָּבֵא לְבֹן בְּאֵהָל יַעֲקֹב |
וּבְאֵהָל לְאָה וּבְאֵהָל שְׁתֵּי הָאֲמָהוֹת
וְלֹא מָצָא וַיֵּצֵא מֵאֵהָל לְאָה וַיָּבֵא
בְּאֵהָל רָחֵל: (לד) וַרְחֵל לְקַחְתָּ
אֶת־הַתְּרָפִים וְתִשְׁמֹם בְּכַר הַגָּמֶל
וְתֵשֶׁב עֲלֵיהֶם וַיִּמְשָׁשׁ לְבֹן
אֶת־כָּל־הָאֵהָל וְלֹא מָצָא: (לה)
וַתֹּאמֶר אֶל־אָבִיהָ אֶל־יֹחֵר בְּעֵינַי
אֲדֹנָי כִּי לֹא אוֹכַל לְקוֹם מִפְּנֵיךָ
כִּי־דָרְדַר נָשִׁים לִי וַיַּחֲפֹשׂ וְלֹא מָצָא
אֶת־הַתְּרָפִים: (לו) וַיִּיחַר לְיַעֲקֹב
וַיִּרַב בְּלִבּוֹ וַיַּעַן יַעֲקֹב וַיֹּאמֶר לְלֵבֹן
מִה־פָּשַׁעַי מָה חָטָאתִי כִּי דָלַקְתָּ
אֶחָרִי: (לז) כִּי־מִשְׁשַׁתָּ אֶת־כָּל־כְּלִי
מִה־מְצָאתָ מִכָּל כְּלֵי־בֵיתְךָ שֵׁים
כֹּה נִגַּד אֲחִי וְאֶחָיֶךָ וַיֹּכִיחוּ בֵּין
שְׁנֵינוּ: (לח) זֶה עֲשָׂרִים שָׁנָה אָנֹכִי
עֹמֵךְ רַחֲלִיךָ וְעַזְיֶיךָ לֹא שָׁכְלוּ וְאֵילִי
צֵאנֶיךָ לֹא אָכַלְתִּי: (לט) טָרַפָּה

Now Jacob became incensed and took up his grievance with Laban. Jacob spoke up and said to Laban, “What is my crime, what is my guilt that you should pursue me? (37) You rummaged through all my things; what have you found of all your household objects? Set it here, before my kin and yours, and let them decide between us two. (38) “These twenty years I have spent in your service, your ewes and she-goats never miscarried, nor did I feast on rams from your flock. (39) That which was torn by beasts I never brought to you; I myself made good the loss; you exacted it of me, whether snatched by day or snatched by night. (40) Often, scorching heat ravaged me by day and frost by night; and sleep fled from my eyes. (41) Of the twenty years that I spent in your household, I served you fourteen years for your two daughters, and six years for your flocks; and you

לֹא־הִבֵּאתִי אֵלָיךָ אֶחְטֹנָה
מִיָּדִי תִבְקַשְׁנָה גְּנֹבְתִי יוֹם וּגְנֹבְתִי
לַיְלָה: (מ) הֵייתִי בַיּוֹם אֹכְלָנִי חָרֵב
וּקְרַח בַּלַּיְלָה וַתִּדְד שְׁנָתִי מֵעֵינָי:
(מא) זֶה־לִּי עֲשָׂרִים שָׁנָה בְּבֵיתְךָ
עַבְדְּתִיךָ אַרְבַּע־עֶשְׂרֵה שָׁנָה בְּשֵׂתִי
בְּנֹתֶיךָ וְשֵׁשׁ שָׁנִים בְּצֹאנְךָ וַתַּחַלֵּךְ
אֶת־מְשַׁכְּרֹתַי עֲשָׂרַת מָנִים: (מב)
לוֹלִי אֱלֹהֵי אָבִי אֱלֹהֵי אַבְרָהָם
וּפְחַד יִצְחָק הָיָה לִי כִי עָתָה רִיקָם
שְׁלַחְתָּנִי אֶת־עֵנָי וְאֶת־יָגִיעַ כַּפִּי
רָאָה אֱלֹהִים וַיֹּכַח אֹמֶשׁ: (מג)
וַיַּעַן לָבוֹן וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל־יַעֲקֹב הַבְּנוֹת
בְּנֹתַי וְהַבָּנִים בְּנֵי וְהַצֹּאן צֹאנִי וְכֹל
אֲשֶׁר־אַתָּה רֹאָה לִי־הוּא וְלִבְנֹתַי
מִה־אֲעֹשֶׂה לְאֵלֶּה הַיּוֹם אוֹ לְבָנִיחָן
אֲשֶׁר יִלְדוּ: (מד) וְעָתָה לָכֵה
נִכְרַתָּה בְרִית אֲנִי וְאַתָּה וְהָיָה לְעֵד
בֵּינִי וּבֵינֶךָ: (מה) וַיִּקַּח יַעֲקֹב אֶבֶן
וַיְרִימָהּ מִצֵּבָה: (מו) וַיֹּאמֶר יַעֲקֹב
לְאָחִיו לְקַטְו אֲבָנִים וַיִּקְחוּ אֲבָנִים

changed my wages time and again. (42) Had not the God of my father's [house]—the God of Abraham and the Fear of Isaac—been with me, you would have sent me away empty-handed. But it was my plight and the toil of my hands that God took notice of—and gave judgment on last night.” (43) Then Laban spoke up and said to Jacob, “The daughters are my daughters, the children are my children, and the flocks are my flocks; all that you see is mine. Yet what can I do now about my daughters or the children they have borne? (44) Come, then, let us make a pact, you and I, that there may be a witness between you and me.” (45) Thereupon Jacob took a stone and set it up as a pillar. (46) And Jacob said to his kinsmen, “Gather stones.” So they took stones and made a mound; and they partook of a meal there by the mound. (47) Laban named it Yegar-sahadutha, but Jacob named it Gal-

וַיַּעֲשׂוּ-גַל וַיֹּאכְלוּ שָׁם עַל-הַגָּל:
 (מז) וַיִּקְרָא-לוֹ לָבֵן יָגַר שְׁהַדוּתָא
 וַיַּעֲקֹב קָרָא לוֹ גַלְעָד: (מח) וַיֹּאמֶר
 לָבֵן הַגָּל הַזֶּה עֵד בֵּינִי וּבֵינָהּ הַיּוֹם
 עַל-כֵּן קָרָא-שְׁמוֹ גַלְעָד: (מט)
 וְהַמְצַפָּה אֲשֶׁר אָמַר יִצְחָק יְהוּה
 בֵּינִי וּבֵינָהּ כִּי נִסְתָּר אִישׁ מֵרְעֵהוּ:
 (נ) אִם-תִּתְעַנֶּה אֶת-בָּנֹתַי וְאִם-תִּתְקַח
 נָשִׁים עַל-בָּנֹתַי אֵין אִישׁ עִמָּנוּ
 רְאֵה אֱלֹהִים עֵד בֵּינִי וּבֵינָהּ: (נא)
 וַיֹּאמֶר לָבֵן לִיַּעֲקֹב הִנֵּה | הַגָּל
 הַזֶּה וְהִנֵּה הַמְצַבָּה אֲשֶׁר יָרִיתִי
 בֵּינִי וּבֵינָהּ: (נב) עֵד הַגָּל הַזֶּה
 וְעַדָּה הַמְצַבָּה אִם-אֲנִי לֹא-אֶעְבֹּר
 אֵלֶיךָ אֶת-הַגָּל הַזֶּה וְאִם-אֲתָה
 לֹא-תַעְבֹּר אֵלַי אֶת-הַגָּל הַזֶּה
 וְאֶת-הַמְצַבָּה הַזֹּאת לְרָעָה: (נג)
 אֱלֹהֵי אַבְרָהָם וְאֱלֹהֵי נָחוֹר יִשְׁפְּטוּ
 בֵּינֵנוּ אֱלֹהֵי אֲבֹתֵינוּ וַיִּשְׁבַּע יַעֲקֹב
 בְּפָחַד אָבִיו יִצְחָק: (נד) וַיִּזְבַּח
 יַעֲקֹב זֶבַח בָּהָר וַיִּקְרָא לְאָחִיו

ed. (48) And Laban declared, “This mound is a witness between you and me this day.” That is why it was named Gal-ed; (49) and [it was called] Mizpah, because he said, “May יהוה watch between you and me, when we are out of sight of each other. (50) If you ill-treat my daughters or take other wives besides my daughters—though no one else be about, remember, it is God who will be witness between you and me.” (51) And Laban said to Jacob, “Here is this mound and here the pillar which I have set up between you and me: (52) this mound shall be witness and this pillar shall be witness that I am not to cross to you past this mound, and that you are not to cross to me past this mound and this pillar, with hostile intent. (53) May the God of Abraham’s [house] and the god of Nahor’s [house]”—their ancestral deities—“judge between us.” And Jacob swore by the Fear of

לְאָכַל-לֶחֶם וַיֹּאכְלוּ לֶחֶם וַיְלִינוּ
בַּהֲרָ: (א) וַיִּשְׁכְּמוּ לְבָן בַּבֶּקֶר וַיִּנְשְׂקוּ
לְבָנָיו וּלְבָנוֹתָיו וַיְבָרְכוּ אֶתְהֶם וַיֵּלְדוּ
וַיֵּשֶׁב לְבָן לְמִקְמוֹ: (ב) וַיַּעֲקֹב הָלְדוֹ
לְדַרְכּוֹ וַיִּפְגְּעוּ-בּוֹ מִלְאֲכֵי אֱלֹהִים:
(ג) וַיֹּאמֶר יַעֲקֹב כִּפְאֲשֶׁר רָאִים
מִחַנְיָה אֱלֹהִים זֶה וַיִּקְרָא
שְׁמֵהּ-מְקוֹם הַהוּא מְחַנְיָם: {פ}

his father Isaac's [house]. (54) Jacob then offered up a sacrifice on the Height, and invited his kinsmen to partake of the meal. After the meal, they spent the night on the Height.

(1) Early in the morning, Laban kissed his sons and daughters and bade them good-by; then Laban left on his journey homeward. (2) Jacob went on his way, and messengers of God encountered him. (3) When he saw them, Jacob said, "This is God's camp." So he named that place Mahanaim.