

Ki Tisa, Haftarah, March 15, 2025

I Kings 18:1-39

(1) Much later, in the third year, the word of GOD came to Elijah: “Go, appear before Ahab; then I will send rain upon the earth.” (2)

Thereupon Elijah set out to appear before Ahab. The famine was severe in Samaria. (3) Ahab had summoned Obadiah, the steward of the palace. (Obadiah revered GOD greatly. (4) When Jezebel was killing off the prophets of GOD, Obadiah had taken a hundred prophets and hidden them, fifty to a cave, and provided them with food and drink.) (5) And Ahab had said to Obadiah, “Go through the land, to all the springs of water and to all the wadis. Perhaps we shall find some grass to keep horses and mules alive, so that we are not left without beasts.” (6) They divided

מלכים א י"ח:א'-ל"ט

(א) וַיְהִי יָמִים רַבִּים וּדְבַר־יְהוָה
הָיָה אֶל־אֱלִיָּהוּ בַשָּׁנָה הַשְּׁלִישִׁית
לֵאמֹר לְךָ הִרְאָה אֶל־אֲחָאָב
וְאַתָּנָה מָטַר עַל־פְּנֵי הָאֲדָמָה: (ב)
וַיֵּלֶךְ אֱלִיָּהוּ לְהִרְאֹת אֶל־אֲחָאָב
וְהָרַעַב חָזַק בְּשֶׁמֶרֹון: (ג) וַיִּקְרָא
אֲחָאָב אֶל־עַבְדֵיהוּ אֲשֶׁר עַל־הַבַּיִת
וְעַבְדֵיהוּ הָיָה יֵרָא אֶת־יְהוָה מְאֹד:
(ד) וַיְהִי בְּהַכְרִית אֵיזֶבֶל אֶת נְבִיאֵי
יְהוָה וַיִּקַּח עַבְדֵיהוּ מֵאָה נְבִיאִים
וַיַּחְבִּיֵאֵם חֲמִשִּׁים אִישׁ בַּמְעָרָה
וְכָל־כֶּלֶם לָחֶם וּמַיִם: (ה) וַיֹּאמֶר
אֲחָאָב אֶל־עַבְדֵיהוּ לְךָ בְּאֶרֶץ
אֶל־כָּל־מַעְיְנֵי הַמַּיִם וְאֵל
כָּל־הַנְּחָלִים אוּלַי | נִמְצָא חֲצִיר
וַנְּחִיָּה סוּס וּפָרָד וְלוֹא נִכְרִית
מִהַבְּהֵמָה: (ו) וַיַּחְלְקוּ לָהֶם

the country between them to explore it, Ahab going alone in one direction and Obadiah going alone in another direction. (7) Obadiah was on the road, when Elijah suddenly confronted him.

[Obadiah] recognized him and flung himself on his face, saying, “Is that you, my lord Elijah?” (8) “Yes, it is I,” he answered. “Go tell your lord: Elijah is here!” (9) But he said, “What wrong have I done, that you should hand your servant over to Ahab to be killed? (10) As the ETERNAL your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom to which my lord has not sent to look for you; and when they said, ‘He is not here,’ he made that kingdom or nation swear that you could not be found. (11) And now you say, ‘Go tell your lord: Elijah is here!’ (12) When I leave you, the spirit of GOD will carry you off I don’t know where; and when I come and tell Ahab and he does not find you,

אֶת־הָאָרֶץ לְעֵבֶר־בָּהּ אַחְאָב הַלֵּךְ
בְּדֶרֶךְ אֶחָד לְבָדּוֹ וְעַבְדִּיהוּ הַלֵּךְ
בְּדֶרֶךְ־אֶחָד לְבָדּוֹ: (ז) וַיְהִי עֹבְדִלְהוּ
בְּדֶרֶךְ וַהֲגִה אֵלָיְהוּ לְקִרְאָתוֹ
וַיִּכְרְהוּ וַיִּפֹּל עַל־פָּנָיו וַיֹּאמֶר הֲאֵתָה
זֶה אֲדֹנָי אֵלֵיְהוּ: (ח) וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ אֲנִי
לֵךְ אֹמֵר לְאֲדֹנֶיךָ הֲגִיָּה אֵלָיְהוּ: (ט)
וַיֹּאמֶר מַה חָטָאתִי כִּי־אַתָּה נֹתֵן
אֶת־עַבְדְּךָ בְּיַד־אַחְאָב לְהַמִּיתָנִי: (י)
חַי | יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אִם־יִשְׁגֹּוי
וּמִמְלָכָה אֲשֶׁר לֹא־שָׁלַח אֲדֹנָי שֵׁם
לְבַקֶּשְׁךָ וְאָמְרוּ אֵין וְהַשְׁבִּיעַ
אֶת־הַמַּמְלָכָה וְאֶת־הַגֹּוי כִּי לֹא
יִמְצָאָכָה: (יא) וְעַתָּה אַתָּה אֹמֵר
לֵךְ אֹמֵר לְאֲדֹנֶיךָ הֲגִיָּה אֵלָיְהוּ: (יב)
וְהָיָה אֲנִי | אֵלֶיךָ מֵאַתָּךְ וְרוּחַ יְהוָה
| יִשָּׁאֶךָ עַל אֲשֶׁר לֹא־אָדַע וּבָאתִי
לְהַגִּיד לְאַחְאָב וְלֹא יִמְצָאֶךָ וְהָרַגְנִי
וְעַבְדְּךָ יֵרָא אֶת־יְהוָה מִנְעָרָי: (יג)
הֲלֹא־הִגַּד לְאֲדֹנָי אֵת אֲשֶׁר־עָשִׂיתִי
בְּהַרְגִי אֵיזֶבֶל אֵת נְבִיאֵי יְהוָה

he will kill me. Yet your servant has revered GOD from my youth. (13) My lord has surely been told what I did when Jezebel was killing the prophets of GOD, how I hid a hundred of the prophets of GOD, fifty to a cave, and provided them with food and drink. (14) And now you say, 'Go tell your lord: Elijah is here.' Why, he will kill me!" (15) Elijah replied, "As GOD of Hosts lives, whom I serve, I will appear before him this very day." (16) Obadiah went to find Ahab, and informed him; and Ahab went to meet Elijah. (17) When Ahab caught sight of Elijah, Ahab said to him, "Is that you, you troubler of Israel?" (18) He retorted, "It is not I who have brought trouble on Israel, but you and your father's House, by forsaking the commandments of GOD and going after the Baalim. (19) Now summon all Israel to join me at Mount Carmel, together with the four hundred and fifty prophets

וְאַחַבָּא מִנְבִיאֵי יְהוָה מֵאָה אִישׁ
חֲמִשִּׁים חֲמִשִּׁים אִישׁ בַּמְעָרָה
וְאָכְלִים לֶחֶם וּמַיִם: (יד) וְעַתָּה
אַתָּה אָמַר לֵךְ אָמַר לְאֲדֹנָיךָ הִנֵּה
אֵלֶיךָ וְהִרְגֵנִי: {ס} (טו) וַיֹּאמֶר
אֵלֶיךָ חַי יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת אֲשֶׁר
עִמָּדְתִּי לִפְנֵי כִּי הַיּוֹם אֶרְאֶה אֵלֶיךָ:
(טז) וַיֵּלֶךְ עֲבָדֶיךָ לְקַרְאֵת אַחָב
וַיַּגִּדְלוּ וַיֵּלֶךְ אַחָב לְקַרְאֵת
אֵלֶיךָ: (יז) וַיְהִי כִּרְאוֹת אַחָב
אֶת־אֵלֶיךָ וַיֹּאמֶר אַחָב אֵלֶיךָ
הֲאַתָּה זֶה עֹכֵר יִשְׂרָאֵל: (יח)
וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא עֹכֵרְתִּי אֶת־יִשְׂרָאֵל כִּי
אִם־אַתָּה וּבֵית אָבִיךָ בַּעֲזֹבְכֶם
אֶת־מִצְוֹת יְהוָה וַתֵּלֶךְ אַחֲרַי
הַבְּעָלִים: (יט) וְעַתָּה שְׁלַח קִבְּץ
אֵלַי אֶת־כָּל־יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶל־הַר
הַכַּרְמֶל וְאֶת־נְבִיאֵי הַבְּעַל אַרְבַּע
מֵאוֹת וְחֲמִשִּׁים וּנְבִיאֵי הָאֱשֵׁרָה
אַרְבַּע מֵאוֹת אֲכֹלֵי שֶׁלֶחַן אֵיזֹבָל:
(כ) וַיִּשְׁלַח אַחָב בְּכָל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל

of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table.” (20) Ahab sent orders to all the Israelites and gathered the prophets at Mount Carmel. (21) Elijah approached all the people and said, “How long will you keep hopping between two opinions? If the ETERNAL is God, then follow [the ETERNAL]; and if Baal, follow [Baal]!” But the people answered him not a word. (22) Then Elijah said to the people, “I am the only prophet of GOD left, while the prophets of Baal number four hundred and fifty. (23) Let two young bulls be given to us. Let them choose one bull, cut it up, and lay it on the wood, but let them not apply fire; I will prepare the other bull, and lay it on the wood, and will not apply fire. (24) You will then invoke your god by name, and I will invoke GOD by name; and let us agree: the god who responds with fire, that one is

וַיִּקְבְּצוּ אֶת־הַנְּבִיאִים אֶל־הָרֶם
הַכַּרְמֶל: (כא) וַיֹּאשׁ אֱלֹהֵהוּ
אֶל־כָּל־הָעָם וַיֹּאמֶר עַד־מַתִּי אַתֶּם
פֹּסְחִים עַל־שְׁתֵּי הַסַּעֲפִים אִם־יְהוָה
הָאֱלֹהִים לָכוּ אַחֲרָיו וְאִם־הַבַּעַל
לָכוּ אַחֲרָיו וְלֹא־עָנּוּ הָעָם אֹתוֹ
דָּבָר: (כב) וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהֵהוּ אֶל־הָעָם
אֲנִי נֹתֵרֶתִי נְבִיא לַיהוָה לְבַדִּי
וְנְבִיאֵי הַבַּעַל אַרְבַּע־מֵאוֹת
וְחַמֵּשִׁים אִישׁ: (כג) וַיִּתְּנוּ־לָנוּ שְׁנַיִם
פָּרִים וַיִּבְחָרוּ לָהֶם הַפָּר הָאֶחָד
וַיִּנְתְּחֵהוּ וַיִּשְׁלִמוּ עַל־הָעֵצִים וְאֵשׁ
לֹא יִשְׁלִמוּ וְאֲנִי אֶעֱשֶׂה | אֶת־הַפָּר
הָאֶחָד וַיִּנְתְּתִי עַל־הָעֵצִים וְאֵשׁ לֹא
אָשִׂים: (כד) וַקְּרָאתֶם בְּשֵׁם
אֱלֹהֵיכֶם וְאֲנִי אֶקְרָא בְּשֵׁם־יְהוָה
וְהָיָה הָאֱלֹהִים אֲשֶׁר־יַעֲנֶנּוּ בְּאֵשׁ
הוּא הָאֱלֹהִים וַיַּעַן כָּל־הָעָם
וַיֹּאמְרוּ טוֹב הַדָּבָר: (כה) וַיֹּאמֶר
אֱלֹהֵהוּ לְנְבִיאֵי הַבַּעַל בַּחֲרוּ לָכֶם
הַפָּר הָאֶחָד וַעֲשׂוּ רֵאשִׁינָה כִּי אַתֶּם

God.” And all the people answered, “Very good!” (25) Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, “Choose one bull and prepare it first, for you are the majority; invoke your god by name, but apply no fire.” (26) They took the bull that was given them; they prepared it, and invoked Baal by name from morning until noon, shouting, “O Baal, answer us!” But there was no sound, and no one who responded; so they performed a hopping dance about the altar that had been set up. (27) When noon came, Elijah mocked them, saying, “Shout louder! After all, he is a god. But he may be in conversation, he may be detained, or he may be on a journey, or perhaps he is asleep and will wake up.” (28) So they shouted louder, and gashed themselves with knives and spears, according to their practice, until the blood streamed over them. (29) When noon passed, they kept raving until the hour of

הַרְבֵּים וְקָרְאוּ בְּשֵׁם אֱלֹהֵיכֶם וְאַשׁ
לֹא תִשְׁמְעוּ: (כו) וַיִּקְחוּ אֶת־הַפָּר
אֲשֶׁר־נָתַן לָהֶם וַיַּעֲשׂוּ וַיִּקְרְאוּ
בְּשֵׁם־הַבַּעַל מִהַבֹּקֶר וְעַד־הַצֹּהָרִים
לֵאמֹר הַבַּעַל עֲנֵנוּ וְאִין קוֹל וְאִין
עֲנָה וַיִּפְסְחוּ עַל־הַמִּזְבֵּחַ אֲשֶׁר
עָשָׂה: (כז) וַיְהִי בַצֹּהָרִים וַיְהִי־תֵל
בֵּיהֶם אֱלֹהֵיהוּ וַיֹּאמֶר קָרְאוּ
בְּקוֹל־גָּדוֹל כִּי־אֱלֹהִים הוּא כִּי שִׁיחַ
וְכִי־שָׁיג לוֹ וְכִי־דַרְדַּר לוֹ אוֹלֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל
הוּא וַיִּקְצֹץ: (כח) וַיִּקְרְאוּ בְּקוֹל גָּדוֹל
וַיִּתְגַּדְדוּ כַּמְשַׁפְּטִים בַּחֲרָבוֹת
וּבַרְמָחִים עַד־שִׁפְך־דָּם עֲלֵיהֶם:
(כט) וַיְהִי כַעֲבַר הַצֹּהָרִים וַיִּתְנַבְּאוּ
עַד לַעֲלוֹת הַמִּנְחָה וְאִין־קוֹל
וְאִין־עֲנָה וְאִין קוֹשֵׁב: (ל) וַיֹּאמֶר
אֱלֹהֵיהוּ לְכָל־הָעָם גִּישׁוּ אֵלַי וַיִּגְשׂוּ
כָל־הָעָם אֵלָיו וַיִּרְפֹּא אֶת־מִזְבֵּחַ
יְהוָה הַהָרוּס: (לא) וַיִּקַּח אֱלֹהֵיהוּ
שְׁתֵּים עָשָׂרָה אֲבָנִים כַּמִּסְפָּר
שִׁבְטֵי בְנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲשֶׁר הָיָה

presenting the grain offering. Still there was no sound, and no one who responded or heeded. (30) Then Elijah said to all the people, “Come closer to me”; and all the people came closer to him. He repaired the damaged altar of GOD. (31) Then Elijah took twelve stones, corresponding to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob—to whom the word of GOD had come: “Israel shall be your name”— (32) and with the stones he built an altar in the name of GOD. Around the altar he made a trench large enough for two *seahs* of seed. (33) He laid out the wood, and he cut up the bull and laid it on the wood. (34) And he said, “Fill four jars with water and pour it over the burnt offering and the wood.” Then he said, “Do it a second time”; and they did it a second time. “Do it a third time,” he said; and they did it a third time. (35) The water ran down around the altar, and even

דְּבַר־יְהוָה אֵלָיו לֵאמֹר יִשְׂרָאֵל
 יְהִי שְׁמִי: (לב) וַיִּבְנֶה
 אֶת־הָאֲבָנִים מִזִּבְחַ בְּשֵׁם יְהוָה
 וַיַּעַשׂ תְּעֹלָה כְּבֵית סֹאֲתִים זָרַע
 סָבִיב לְמִזְבֵּחַ: (לג) וַיַּעֲרֹךְ
 אֶת־הָעֵצִים וַיִּנְתַּח אֶת־הַפָּר וַיִּשֶׂם
 עַל־הָעֵצִים: (לד) וַיֹּאמֶר מְלֹאוּ
 אַרְבַּעָה כַדִּים מַיִם וַיִּצְקוּ
 עַל־הָעֹלָה וְעַל־הָעֵצִים וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁנוֹ
 וַיִּשְׁנוּ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁלֹשׁוּ וַיִּשְׁלֹשׁוּ: (לה)
 וַיִּלְכוּ הַמַּיִם סָבִיב לְמִזְבֵּחַ וְגַם
 אֶת־הַתְּעֹלָה מְלֵא־מַיִם: (לו) וַיְהִי |
 בַּעֲלֹת הַמִּנְחָה וַיִּגַּשׂ אֵלָיָהּ הַנָּבִיא
 וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי אַבְרָהָם יִצְחָק
 וַיִּשְׂרָאֵל הַיּוֹם יוֹדַע כִּי־אַתָּה
 אֱלֹהִים בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל וְאֲנִי עַבְדְּךָ
 (וּבְדַבְרֶיךָ) [וּבְדַבְרֶיךָ] עָשִׂיתִי אֵת
 כָּל־הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה: (לז) עָנְנִי יְהוָה
 עָנְנִי וַיִּדְעוּ הָעָם הַזֶּה כִּי־אַתָּה
 יְהוָה הָאֱלֹהִים וְאַתָּה הַסֹּבֵת
 אֶת־לְבָבָם אַחֲרֵי־נִי: (לח) וַתִּפֹּל

the trench was filled with water.
(36) When it was time to present the grain offering, the prophet Elijah came forward and said, “O ETERNAL One, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel! Let it be known today that You are God in Israel and that I am Your servant, and that I have done all these things at Your bidding. (37) Answer me, O ETERNAL One, answer me, that this people may know that You, O ETERNAL One, are God; for You have turned their hearts backward.”
(38) Then fire from GOD descended and consumed the burnt offering, the wood, the stones, and the earth; and it licked up the water that was in the trench. (39) When they saw this, all the people flung themselves on their faces and cried out: “the ETERNAL One alone is God, the ETERNAL One alone is God!”

אֲשֶׁיְהוָה וְתֹאכַל אֶת־הָעֹלָה
וְאֶת־הָעֵצִים וְאֶת־הָאֲבָנִים
וְאֶת־הָעֶפֶר וְאֶת־הַמַּיִם
אֲשֶׁר־בַּתְּעֹלָה לְחֹכָה: (לט) וַיֵּרָא
כָּל־הָעָם וַיִּפְּלוּ עַל־פְּנֵיהֶם וַיֹּאמְרוּ
יְהוָה הוּא הָאֱלֹהִים יְהוָה הוּא
הָאֱלֹהִים: