## Chukat, Haftarah, July 5, 2025

## Judges 11:1-33

(1) Jephthah the Gileadite was an able warrior, who was the son of a certain prostitute. Jephthah's father was Gilead; (2) but Gilead also had sons by his wife, and when the wife's sons grew up, they drove Jephthah out. They said to him, "You shall have no share in our father's property, for you are the son of an outsider." (3) So Jephthah fled from his brothers and settled in the Tob country. Men of low character gathered about Jephthah and went out raiding with him. (4) Some time later, the Ammonites went to war against Israel. (5) And when the Ammonites attacked Israel, the elders of Gilead went to bring Jephthah back from the Tob country. (6) They said to Jephthah,

שופטים י"א:א'-ל"ג

(א) וִיִּפְתֵּח הַגִּלְעָדִי הָיָה גִּבְּוֹר חַיִּל וְהָוּא בֶּן־אִשָּׁה זוֹנָה וַיִּוֹלֵד גִּלְעַד אָת־יִפְהָּח: (ב) וַתַּלֶד אֵשׁת־גּלִעֵד לְוֹ בָּנֵים וַיִּגִּדְלוּ בְנֵי־הָאִשָּׁה וַיִּגָרִשְׁוּ אָת־יִפְּתַּח וַיָּאמָרוּ לוֹ לא־תִנְחֵל בְּבֵית־אַבְּינוּ כֵּי בַּן־אִשַׁה אַחֵרֵת אַתָּה: (ג) וַיִּבְרָח יִפְתַּח מִפְּנֵי אֵחִיו וַיָּשֵׁב בָּאֲרֵץ טְוֹב וַיֶּתִלַּקּטָוּ אָל־יִפָּתַּח אָנַשִים רֵילִים וַיֵּצְאָוּ עָמָוֹ: {פּ}(ד) וַיָהֶי מִיָּמֵים וַיִּלְּחֲמִוּ יַהָּין (ה) וַיִּהָּי בְּנֵי־עַמְּוֹן עִם־יִשְׂרָאֱל: בַּאֵשֵׁר־נִלְחֲמְוּ בִנֵי־עַמְּוֹן עם־יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיַּלְכוּ זְקְנֵי גִּלְעַׁד לָקַחַת אֵת־יִפְתָּח מֵאֵרֵץ טְוֹב: (ו) וַיֹּאמְרָוּ לִיִפִּתְּח לִבֶּה וִהְיֵיתָה לָּנוּ לָקָצֶין וְנְלָחֲמֶה בִּבְנֵי עַמְּוֹן: (ז) וַיָּאמֶר יִפְתַּחֹ לְזִקְנֵי גִלְעַׂד הַלָּא

"Come be our chief, so that we can fight the Ammonites." (7) Jephthah replied to the elders of Gilead, "You are the very people who rejected me and drove me out of my father's house. How can you come to me now when you are in trouble?" (8) The elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, "Honestly, we have now turned back to you. If you come with us and fight the Ammonites, you shall be our commander over all the inhabitants of Gilead." (9) Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead, "[Very well,] if you bring me back to fight the Ammonites and GOD delivers them to me, I am to be your commander." (10) And the elders of Gilead answered Jephthah, "GOD shall be witness between us: we will do just as you have said." (11) Jephthah went with the elders of Gilead, and the people made him their commander and chief. And Jephthah repeated all these terms before GOD at Mizpah.

אַהֵּם שִׁנָאתֶם אוֹתִי וַתִּגַרִשִׁוּנִי מָבֵּית אָבֵי וּמַדּוּעַ בָּאתֵם אֵלַיֹּ עַׁתָּה בַּאֲשֶׁר צַר לְכֶם: (ח) וַיּאֹמִרוּ זִקְנֵי גּלְעָׁד אֶל־יִפְהָּח לָכֵן עַתָּה שַׁבִנוּ אֶלֶידְּ וְהַלַּכְתַּ עְמַּבוּ וְנִלְחַמְתַּ בִּבְנֵי עַמָּון וָהָיֶיתַ לַּנוּ לְרֹאשׁ לְכָל ישׁבֵי גַלְעֲד: (ט) וַיּאֹמֶר יִפְּתָּח אֵל־זִקְנֵי גַּלְעָׂד אִם־מְשִׁיבִּים אַתַּם אוֹתִי לָהַלָּחֵם בִּבְנֵי עַמֹּוֹן וְנָתַן יהוה אוֹתָם לְפַנֵי אַנֹבִּי אָהַיֶה לְכֵם לְרָאש: (י) וַיּאמְרָוּ זִקְנֵי־גִּלְעֵד אֶל־יִפְתָּח יהוה יְהְיֶה שֹׁמֵעַ בּינוֹתֵינוּ אָם־לָא כִדְבַרְךָּ כֵּן נַעֲשֶׂה: (יא) וַיַּלֶךְ יִפְתַּחֹ עִם־זְקְנֵי גִּלְעַׁד וַיָּשִּׁימוּ הָעָם אוֹתָוֹ עֲלֵיהֶם לְרָאשׁ וּלְקַצֵין וַיִדַבֶּר יִפְתַח אֵת־כַּל־דִּבָרֵיו לְפְגֵי יהוה בַּמִּצְפֶּה: {פ}(יב) וַיִּשְׁלַח יָפָתַּחֹ מַלְאַלִּים אֵל־מֵלֶךְ בְּגֵי־עַמְוֹן לֵאמֶר מַה־לֵּי וַלָּךְ כֵּי־בָאתַ אֵלֵי לָהָלָחֶם בִּאַרְצֵי: (יג) וַיּאֹמֶר מֶׁלֶךְ בְּנֵי־עַמוֹן אַל־מַלְאַכֵי יִפָּהַח

(12) Jephthah then sent messengers to the king of the Ammonites, saying, "What have you against me that you have come to make war on my country?" (13) The king of the Ammonites replied to Jephthah's messengers, "When Israel came from Egypt, they seized the land that is mine, from the Arnon to the Jabbok as far as the Jordan. Now, then, restore it peaceably." (14) Jephthah again sent messengers to the king of the Ammonites. (15) He said to him, "Thus said Jephthah: Israel did not seize the land of Moab or the land of the Ammonites. (16) When they left Egypt, Israel traveled through the wilderness to the Sea of Reeds and went on to Kadesh. (17) Israel then sent messengers to the king of Edom, saying, 'Allow us to cross your country.' But the king of Edom would not consent. They also sent a mission to the king of Moab, and he refused. So Israel,

בֶּי־לָלַח יִשָּׁרָאֵל אֵת־אַרִצִּיֹ בַּעַלוֹתְוֹ מָמִּצְרַיִם מֵאַרְנְוֹן וְעַד־הַיַּבְּק וְעַד־הַיַּרְדֵּן וְעַלְּה הְשִׁיבָה אֶּתְהֶן בִּשַׁלְוֹם: (יד) וַיִּוֹסֵף עוֹד יִפְתָּח וַיִּשָׁלַח מַלְאָבִים אֵל־מֵלֵךְ בְּגֵי עַמְּוֹן: (טו) וַיִּאֹמֶר לֹוֹ כָּה אָמֵר יִפְתָּח לְא־לָקַח יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶת־אֶבֶץ מוֹאָב וָאֶת־אֱרֶץ בָּגֵי עַמְּוֹן: (טז) כִּי בַּעֲלוֹתָם מִמִּצְרָיִם וַיֵּלֶדְ יִשְׂרָאֵל בַּמִּדְבָּר עַד־יַם־סוּף וַיַּבְא קָדֵשָה: ויז) וַיִּשְׁלַח יִשִּׂרָאֵל מַלְאַכֵים וּ אֶל־מֶּלֶךְ אֱדֹוֹם ו לֵאמֹר אֶעְבְּרָה־נָּא בְאַרְצֶּדְ וְלָא שְׁמַע' מֵלֶךְ אֱלוֹם וְגַֹם אֵל־מֵלֶךְ מוֹאֱב שָׁלַח וִלְא אָבָה וַיֵּשֵׁב יִשִּׁרָאֵל בָּקָדֵשׁ: (יח) וַיֵּלֵדְ בַּמִּדִבָּר וַיְּסָב אֶת־אֶּרֶץ אֱדוֹם וְאֶת־אֵרֵץ מוֹאָב וַיָּבָא מִמִּזְרַח־שֵּׁמֵשׁ לְאֵרֵץ מוֹאָב וַיַּחֲנְוּן בְּצֵבֶר אַרְנָוֹן וְלְא־בָּאוּ בִּגְבְוּל מוֹאָב כֵּי אַרְנְוֹן גִּבְוּל מוֹאָב: (יט) וַיִּשְׁלֵח יִשְׂרָאֵל מַלְאַבִּים

after staying at Kadesh, (18) traveled on through the wilderness, skirting the land of Edom and the land of Moab. They kept to the east of the land of Moab until they encamped on the other side of the Arnon; and, since Moab ends at the Arnon, they never entered Moabite territory. (19) "Then Israel sent messengers to Sihon king of the Amorites, the king of Heshbon. Israel said to him, 'Allow us to cross through your country to our homeland.' (20) But Sihon would not trust Israel to pass through his territory. Sihon mustered all his troops, and they encamped at Jahaz; he engaged Israel in battle. (21) But the ETERNAL, the God of Israel, delivered Sihon and all his troops into Israel's hands, and they defeated them; and Israel took possession of all the land of the Amorites, the inhabitants of that land. (22) Thus they possessed all the territory of the Amorites from

אַל־סִיחון מֵלֶדְ־הַאֵּמֹרֵי מֵלֶדְ חַשִּבְוֹן וַיָּאמֵר לוֹ יִשְׂרָאֵׁל נַעְבְּרָה־נָּא בְאַרְצְּךָּ עַד־מְקוֹמִי: (כ) וְלֹא־הָאֱמִין סִיחָוֹן אֱת־יִשְׂרָאֵל עֲבְר בָּגְבַלוֹ וַיָּאֱסָף סִיחוֹן אֵת־כַּל־עַמוֹ וַיַּחַנְוּ בִּיָהָצָה וַיִּלָּחֵם עִם־יִשְׂרָאֵל: (כא) ווימו יהוה אֱלֹהֵי־יִשְׂרְאֵׁל אַת־סִיחָוֹן וָאֵת־כָּל־עַמֵּוֹ בְּיֵד יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיַּכִּוּם וַיִּירַשׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל אֵת כְּל־אֶנֶרץ הָאֱמֹרִי יוֹשֵׁב הָאָרֵץ הַהָיא: (כב) וַיֵּירְשׁׁוּ אֲת כָּל־גִּבְוּל הָאֱמֹרֶי מֱאַרְנוֹן וִעַד־הַיַּבֹּק וֹמְלְיָה (כג) וְעַד־הַיַּרְבֵּן: (כג) וְעַהָּהָוֹי יהוה | אַלהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל הוֹרִישׁ אַת־הַאֱמֹרָי מִפָּנֵי עַמִּוֹ יִשְׂרַאֱלֹ וְאַתָּה תִּירָשֵׁנוּ: (כד) הַלֹּא אֵת אַשֵּר יוֹרִישִׁךְּ כִּמְוֹשׁ אֵלֹהֵיךְּ אוֹתְוֹ תִירֵשׁ וָאֵת בַּל־אֲשֵׁר הוֹרִישׁ יהוה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מִפְּגִינוּ אוֹתְוֹ נִירָשׁ: (כה) וְעַהָּה הַטְוֹב טוֹב אַהָּה מִבַּלֵק בֶּן־צִפָּוֹר מֵלֶךּ מוֹאָב הַרִוֹב רַב'

the Arnon to the Jabbok and from the wilderness to the Jordan. (23) "Now, then, the ETERNAL, the God of Israel, dispossessed the Amorites before this covenanted people Israel; and should you possess their land? (24) Do you not hold what Chemosh your god gives you to possess? So we will hold on to everything that the ETERNAL our God has given us to possess. (25) "Besides, are you any better than Balak son of Zippor, king of Moab? Did he start a quarrel with Israel or go to war with them? (26) "While Israel has been inhabiting Heshbon and its dependencies, and Aroer and its dependencies, and all the towns along the Arnon for three hundred years, why have you not tried to recover them all this time? (27) I have done you no wrong; yet you are doing me harm and making war on me. May GOD, who judges, decide today between the Israelites and the Ammonites!" (28) But the

יָם־יִשְׂרָאֶל אָם־נִלְחָם נִלְחָם בַּם: (כו) בִּשֵׁבֶת יִּשִׂרָאֵל בִּחֲשְׁבּוֹן וּבִבנוֹתֵיהָ וּבִעַרעוֹר וּבִבנוֹתֵיהָ וּבְכָל־הֵעָרִים אֲשֵׁר עַל־יִדֵי אַרְנוֹן שָׁלְשׁ מֵאְוֹת שָׁנָה וּמַדְּוּעַ לְא־הָצַּלְתֶּם בְּעֵת הַהְיא: (כז) וָאֲנֹכִי לֹא־חָטָאתִי לָּךְ וָאַתָּה עֹשֵׁה אָתֵי רָעָה לְהָלֶחֶם בֵּי יִשְׁפֿט יהוה הַשֹּׁפֵטֹ הַיּוֹם בֵּין בְּגֵי יִשְׂרָאֵׁל וּבֵין בְּנֵי עַמְּוֹן: (כח) וְלָא שַׁמַע מֵלֶךְ בְּנֵי עַמָּון אֵל־דִּבְרֵי יִפִּהָּח אֲשֵׁר שָׁלַח אַלֵיו: {פ}(כט) וַתְּהֵי עַל־יִפְתָּח ֹרְוּחַ יהוה וַיַּעֲבְר אֵת־הַגִּלִעֲד וָאָת־מִנַשֵּׁה וַיַּעַבר אַת־מִצְפָּה גַלְעָד וּמִמִּצְפֵּה גִלְעָׂד עָבַר בְּגֵי עַמְוֹן: (ל) וַיִּדַּר יִפְתָּח גָבֵר לַיהוה וַיֹּאׁמֻר אָם־נָתְוֹן תִּתֵּן אֶת־בְּגֵי עַמְוֹן בַּיָדֵי: (לא) וְהָיָה הַיּוֹצֵא אֲשֶׁר יֵצְא מִדַּלְתֵי בֵיתִי לִקְרָאתִי בְּשׁוּבֵי בִשָּׁלְוֹם מִבְּנֵי עַמָּוֹן וִהָיָה לֵיהוה וָהַעַלִיתֵיהוּ עֹלֵה: {פּ}(לב) וַיַּעֲבָר

king of the Ammonites paid no heed to the message that Jephthah sent him. (29) Then the spirit of GOD came upon Jephthah. He marched through Gilead and Manasseh, passing Mizpeh of Gilead; and from Mizpeh of Gilead he crossed over [to] the Ammonites. (30) And Jephthah made the following vow to GOD: "If You deliver the Ammonites into my hands, (31) then whatever comes out of the door of my house to meet me on my safe return from the Ammonites shall be GOD's and shall be offered by me as a burnt offering." (32) Jephthah crossed over to the Ammonites and attacked them, and GOD delivered them into his hands. (33) He utterly routed them—from Aroer as far as Minnith, twenty towns—all the way to Abel-cheramim. So the Ammonites submitted to the Israelites.

יִפְתָּח אֶל־בְּגִי עַמָּוֹן לְהִלְּחֶם בְּם וַיִּתְּגִם יהוה בְּיִדְוֹ: (לג) וַיַּבֶּם מֵעֲרוֹעֵר וְעַד־בּאֲךְ מִנִּית עֶשְׂרִים עִיר וְעַד אָבֵל כְּרָמִים מַכֶּה גְּדוֹלְה מְאָד וַיִּבְּנְעוֹּ בְּגִי עַמֹּוֹן מִפְּגֵי בְּגִי מְאָד וַיִּבְּנְעוֹּ בְּגִי עַמֹּוֹן מִפְּגֵי בְּגִי יִשְׂרָאֵל: {פּ}