

Parashah 51 Nitzavim - נִצָּבִים
“Standing”



Torah: D'varim (Deuteronomy) 29:9(10)-30:20

Aliyah 1 - 29:9 - 11	Moshe's last day with the people; gathers all to enter into a covenant with God
Aliyah 2 - 29:12 - 14	Establish them as God's people, all those past, present, and future
Aliyah 3 - 29:15 - 28	Warning not to turn away to other 'gods'; individual and corporate responsibility
Aliyah 4 - 30:1 - 6	Sin leads to exile, then repentance, then return to the land; circumcised hearts
Aliyah 5 - 30:7 - 10	Curses fall on enemies, promise of abundance when in loving obedience
Aliyah 6 - 30:11 - 14	The law is not far away, but close; in your mouth/heart - you can do it!
Aliyah 7 - 30:15 - 20	Free Choice test: life or death, blessing or curse; Moshe recommends life

Haftarah: Yesha'yahu (Isaiah) 61:10-63:9

B'rit Hadashah: Romans 9:30-10:13; Messianic Jews (Hebrews) 12:14-15

1. (29:9) Whom is “standing” before Adonai? For what purpose? Why does Moshe mention those who are not present?

2. How is covenantal responsibility addressed both individually and corporately?

3. (30:1-2) What is repentance? Where does it begin? Where does it lead?

4. (30:3) From a Jewish perspective, what are the requirements of the Messiah?

5. (30:4) One of the results of the “curses” from last week’s portion is exile. How is this addressed in this week’s portion?

6. (30:6) According to our portion, when does “circumcision of the heart” occur? Who does it?

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7. It is often said that the Torah is too difficult to keep. What do you think?

8. (30:19-20) What two options are the people given? How significant is the result of their choice?

Questions for reflection and application:

1. (29:9) Do stand alone, or are you a member of His people? With whom do you join your voice? (Exo 19:8, Exo 24:3, Jos 24:1, Eze 10:7, Neh 9:1, Mat 23:39, Isa 62:1,6, Eze 3:17-21)
2. (29:12) How do you view others that are culturally different? Are you different? (Isa 56:6-7, Rev 5:9-10, Rev 14:6, 2Pe 3:9, Col 1:5-6, Joh 10:14-16)
3. (30:7) Do you bless Israel today? Why or why not? If you do, how do you do it? (Gen 12:3, Gal 3:7-8, Zec 2:8, Psa 122:6-7, Dan 9:16-19, 1Jo 3:14-16)
4. (30:8) Is there anything in your life for which you should repent? (Mat 3:2, 4:17, Isa 30:15, Act 3:19-20, Joe 2:12-14, Rom 2:4)
5. (30:15) Choices always have consequences. What choices are you facing today? What are the consequences? (Phil 2:12, Eze 33:18-19, Isa 66:3-4, Mat 16:25-26)