

Parashah 45 Va'etchanan - וְאֶתְחַנֵּן "I Plead"



Torah: D'varim (Deuteronomy) 3:23-7:11

- Aliyah 1 - 3:23 - 4:4 Moshe can see, but not enter The Land; Yisra'el encouraged to follow God's law
Aliyah 2 - 4:5 - 4:40 Uniqueness of God's revelation to Yisra'el; the purpose of God's laws - for good!
Aliyah 3 - 4:41 - 49 Cities of refuge east of the Yarden, where Yisra'el had already been victorious
Aliyah 4 - 5:1-5:18(21) The Ten Words; not only for those present and Sinai, but all who follow.
Aliyah 5 - 5:19(22)-6:3 The people fear God, request Moshe as intermediary; God agrees
Aliyah 6 - 6:4 - 25 Sh'ma part 1; teach your children; obey carefully as ordered; remember Egypt
Aliyah 7 - 7:1 - 11 Instructions for sanctifying The Land, staying separate; a covenant keeping God

Haftarah: Yesha'yahu (Isaiah) 40:1-26

B'rit Hadashah: Mattiyahu (Matthew) 4:1-11; 22:33-40; Mark 12:28-34; Luke 4:1-13; 10:25-37; Acts 13:13-43; Romans 3:27-31; 1 Timothy 2:4-6; Ya'akov (James) 2:14-26; all readings for Parasha 17

1. (3:25) What was Moshe's plea to God? (3:27) What was God's answer to him? (3:23) What does this teach us about how God answers our prayers? (3:28) What is left for Moshe to do in his final days?
2. (4:6-7) What does this portion teach us about "evangelism?" Where do we see examples of this in the Torah and in the world today?
3. (4:19) What is idolatry? (4:26-28) What is the result of idolatry? (4:29-31) What promise is made to the children of Israel who fall into idolatry and the resulting exile?
4. (5:3) With whom was the covenant at Horev made? As the people stand at the Yarden, who is "alive today?" Are they the same people?
5. (5:19(22)) What two forms of communication did God use at Horev? What was the people's response to hearing God's voice? (5:28(31)) What are the Messianic implications of Moshe's position with God and the people?
6. (6:4-9) The Sh'ma is most recited prayer in Judaism. What does it mean to you?

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7. (6:10) What already exists in the land that the people will inherit? (6:12) What warning is given regarding this? Why?

Questions for reflection and application:

1. (3:23) Does God give you everything you ask? Do you have the freedom to express your desires to Him? Does He give freely? (Mat 7:7-11, Luk 11:13, Joh 1:16, Rom 8:32, Psa 1:1-3, Eph 1:7-14)
2. (4:5) Did Moshe and Yeshua teach the same things? Are you sure about what you have learned? Are you teaching them to others? (Eze 2:1-7, Mat 5:17-19, Heb 3:2-6, Heb 4:15, Mat 28:19-20, Tit 2:1-10)
3. (4:41) How are you at decision-making, and following through and taking action? (Isa 50:5-9, Luk 9:51, 12:50, Joh 17:4, acts 4:18-20)
4. (5:1) Learning and doing are two different things. Are you taking care to “do” what you learn? (Joh 14:14-15, Rom 2:13, Jam 1:22-26)
5. (5:19) Do you live your life based on every word spoken by God? (Mat 4:4, Mat 5:17-19, Rom 17:12, Isa 40:8, Deu 12:32, Pro 30:5-6, 1Ti 1:8, Jer 31:33, 2Co 3:2, 1Co 3:10-15, Rem 22:18-19)
6. (6:4) Has Adonai revealed Himself to you? Is He your God? Do you call on His Name? (Mat 11:27, Phil 2:10-11, Zep 3:9, Zec 13:2, 14:9, Joh 1:14, Joh 14:8-10, Rom 10:12-13)
7. (7:2) Are there things in your life that still need to be “driven out?” (Exo 33:21, Deu 20:16-17, Jos 11:11-15, Rom 6:1-2, 12-13, Col 3:8-10, Eph 4:17-24, 5:3)