

Torah: D’varim (Deuteronomy) 26:1 - 29:8(9)
Haftarah: Yeshayahu (Isaiah) 60:1 - 22
B’rit Hadashah: Matityahu (Matthew) 4:13-24

	yr. 1 26:1-27:10	yr. 2 26:12-28:6	yr. 3 27:11-29:8
1	26:1 – 3	26:12 – 15	27:11 – 28:3
2	26:4 – 8	26:16 – 19	28:4 – 6
3	26:9 – 11	27:1 – 3	28:7 – 11
4	26:12 – 15	27:4 – 8	28:12 – 14
5	26:16 – 19	27:9 – 10	28:15 – 69
6	27:1 – 4	27:11 – 28:3	29:1 – 5
7	27:5 – 10	28:4 – 6	29:6 – 29:8

and it will be when you come to the land / that HaShem your God gives to you as an inheritance / and you take possession of it and you settle in it...	<p><i>v'hayah kiy-tavo el-ha'áretz ashér ADONÁI Elohéykha noten l'khá nakhalah viy'rishtáh v'yashávta báh</i></p>	<p>וְהָיָה כִּי־תָבֹא אֶל־הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ נָתַן לְךָ נַחֲלָה וּרְשָׁתָהּ וַיִּשְׁבַּתָּ בָּהּ:</p>
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Blessings or curses, the choice is ours. Yet, while the choice seems to be a "no brainer" many have been lead into error by supposing that the words written in Torah some how no longer apply to us because of the death & resurrection of Yeshua. In believing these types of teachings, many have unwittingly bypassed the promises of Adonai and have settled for lives that only know the vocabulary of what abundant life is supposed to be without much of the reality. The abundant life we all seek comes from the hand of the Master as we position ourselves and affirm that Adonai is our God and that we will walk in His ways. He in turn, affirms that we are His treasured and holy people!

The haftarah, the sixth Consolation of Isaiah, tells of the end of darkness and the return of light.

Year 1 Aliyah Highlights

- De. 26:1-3 The First-Fruits Ceremony:** This ceremony goes beyond acknowledging HaShem as the source of the land’s fertility and its true owner. It also shifts the focus of the participants from HaShem’s role in nature to emphasize his role in history; from the worshiper’s immediate experience to the larger picture. There is no specific date or frequency. First-fruits are brought, and a declaration is made in the first-person to the priest, recognizing the fulfilment of the promise of HaShem to the forefathers and the nation.
- De. 26:4-8** The phrase, “my father was an Aramean nomad” (*aramiy oved aviy* – אֲרָמִי אֹבֵד אָבִי) could refer to Avraham and/or Ya’aqov. In either case, the Exodus from Egypt is in view here.
- De. 26:9-11** Declaration that the first-fruits of the promised land, the land flowing with milk and honey, are celebrated in joyous fellowship meal – you, your household, the Levi, and the foreigner.
- De. 26:12-15 The Tithe Declaration:** A declaration is made after the third-year tithe is disbursed (see De. 14:28-29) to the Levite, foreigner, orphan and the widow. It is set aside throughout the year. This declaration emphasizes the effect that the obedience of the individual has on the entire nation.
- De. 26:16-19** Wholehearted obedience to these laws is the duty of all Israel. But they are not just a legal code. They define the mutual relationship established between HaShem and his people. History shows periodic rediscoveries of Torah, such as the days of King Josiah (639-609 BCE – 2Ki. 23:3)
- De. 27:1-4 Arrival in The Land:** Upon entering the land, large stone tablets were to be erected on Mt. ‘Eival, inscribed with “all the words of this teaching,” dramatizing Israel’s obligation to live by Torah.

7. **De. 27:5-10** A stone altar for peace offerings (shared) was to be erected. Joy was to be had in the presence of HaShem. It was on THIS day, this occasion, that Israel became the people of HaShem – when the Torah, the land, and the people were connected as one.

Thought Focus

“Write all the words of this Torah very clearly” (De. 27:8) It is ironic that what is meant by “clearly” (*ba'er* – בָּאֵר) is not clear! The noun form of this word means a “well” or “cistern” or “pit.” Maybe so that it can be read at a glance (Hab. 2:2)? Or maybe with commentary and explanation (De. 1:5)? And exactly what are “all the words” of this Torah? The Ten Commandments? The entire Torah? The sages understood this requirement to mean that the Torah was to be written in seventy languages so that it would be available for all the nations. Everyone could come and learn. No one could claim ignorance and escape the consequences for violating it.

“You are agreeing today...” (De. 26:17) The Hebrew word translated “you are agreeing” is the word “to say” but in a causative, active voice. This is the only time in all of the Bible that it is used this way. The difficulty with this verbal conjugation is apparent when comparing other translations: caused to promise, affirmed, agreeing, avouched, declared. All this over the simple verb “to say?” What’s happening here is the verbalization of a complex idea. At the end of Deuteronomy, HaShem’s teaching – his Torah – is being codified from an oral form into *literature*. From the beginning of Torah, HaShem spoke. “God says” and “there was.” A word becomes “light.” A word becomes plants, animals, etc. Now, words become actions, promises, obligations... covenant. This is what is happening here. Words becoming a binding relationship – on TWO sides. “Today,” a finite moment in time when something happens that changes the infinite. Both parties “say” something – declare, promise, avouch, affirm, agree – and the universe is changed.

Daily Devotional questions for reflection and application

1. (26:1) Where are you in the process of “dwelling” in God’s promises (you already possess them!)? (Luk 11:24-26, Rom 7:24-25, 1Jo 1:5-10, Hos 14:1-10)
2. (26:12) How do you feel about giving? Is there an “end” or “finish” to your giving? (Psa 112:1-9, Luk 14:13-14, Gal 6:10, 2Co 9:7, Jam 1:27, 2Co 9:6-15)
3. (26:16) Is God’s call on your life fresh and new every day? (Hos 6:1-3, Psa 30:1-5, Mat 6:34, Lam 3:22-23, Luk 9:62)
4. (27:1) Unity. Responsibility. Obedience. Where do you stand in your place in the Kingdom? (Deu 27:9, Deu 33:8-10, 1Co 11:16, 1Co 14:33, Joh 15:14-15, 1Co 3:9, Mar 16:20, 1Th 3:1-2, Mat 9:36-38)
5. (27:11) Command, charge, order. How do you respond to these words? (Rom 6:14, Rom 11:29, Exo 31:17, Mat 22:37-40, Deu 6:5, Lev 19:18, Mat 8:9-11, Joh 14:15, Joh 15:10, Joh 13:34, Mat 28:18-20, Rom 7:12, Mat 24:25-26)
6. (28:7) Who defeats your enemies? Do you view this a gift? (Mat 7:11, 1Co 12:31, 1Co 14:1, Jam 1:17, 1Jo 4:19, Amo 3:1-2, Heb 12:3-11)
7. (29:1) What have you seen God do in your life? (Deu 4:9, 1Jo 1:1-3, Act 4:20, 2Pe 1:16)