

Va'etchanan 2024

Va'etchanan, Deuteronomy 3:23-7:11, is the second parshah of Deuteronomy (Devarim) composed of the final speech of Mosheh to the children of Israel as they stand at the threshold of their inheritance and promise! It includes a reiteration of the 10 Commandments, as well as the Shema' and the Ve'ahavta, foundational texts of our faith. A powerful reminder of the might of Yahweh and His promises that He fulfills on behalf of His people! The words echo through the ages and resound in our ears today as another generation that has been raised up "in the wilderness" of the nations as we await the fulfillment of the long-expected promise of our return as well!

Deuteronomy 3:23-26

From the English translations it would seem Mosheh is relaying his own thoughts and conversation regarding his inability to enter the Promised Land, yet the Hebrew reveals something quite different! The opening phrase Va'etchanan is translated as "And I pleaded" inferring Moses. Yet that would be va'ani chanan if following the normal Hebrew structure as 'et does not mean "I"! Instead it is written as va'etchanan literally translated as "And the Aleph Tav (the Messiah) pleaded"! It seems then we're being given insight into a conversation of the Aleph Tav/Messiah regarding Israel's right to enter the Land!

Pleaded: Strong's #2603 chanan חָנַן to be gracious, show favor, or pity; to be inclined towards, to give someone anything graciously, to make acceptable or receive favor; connected to the root #2583 חָנַן to decline, to incline, to pitch one's tent, to encamp or inhabit; and is related to the term chen meaning grace or favor.

*When breaking the root of this down it begins to paint an interesting picture! ח fence, wall, protection, or separation; נ = picture of a sprouting seed, posterity, has the sense of to continue, as in the sense of continuing on a lineage, or one who is the heir of the house; so one of the pictures that seems to be conveyed is that of a wall of protection that surrounds and separates the seed within it in order to allow it to grow, continue, and reproduce with the goal in mind of producing an heir of the house or more specifically - that Word! One capable of handling the manifestation and fullness of that word responsibly and seeing it continue on in the lives of future generations!

It seems the Aleph Tav has arrived to inspect and see if the generation that stands at the threshold is in fact capable of being considered as an heir of the house and continuing the Name! To handle the manifestation of the promises they've been given! In fact, the land of their inheritance is called the "Promised Land" - Promised being the Hebrew word Dabar, the same term translated as the Word!

Chanan/"being gracious", is not based on emotions or a feeling of pity, or even "unmerited favor" as the English translation and mindset seems to infer. It is something administered

and given based solely on the presence of His WORD! He will surround and protect His Word that has been released! And if the actions and obedience of the one seeking His favor is in alignment with the word that they've been entrusted with then they will receive Chanan!

In fact, throughout the Scriptures continually the term chanan seems to be connected with the proclaiming or revealing of the Name of Yahweh. Why? Because His Word once released becomes an extension of who He is – it embodies His identity, character, and authority just as His very Name does!

Numbers 6:25 – “Yahweh make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious/chanan unto thee:” – Part of the Priestly Blessing, which closes in **vs. 27** – “And they shall put my name upon the children of Israel; and I will bless them.”

Exodus 33:19 – “And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of Yahweh before thee; and will be gracious/chanan to whom I will be gracious/chanan, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy.”

Pass: Strong's #5674 'abar עָבַר to pass over, by or through, to bring, carry, or cause to pass by, or to go beyond; the root of the term Hebrew/'ivriy! 'Abar is covenant code language! It is seen in **Gen. 15:17** - “And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed/'abar between those pieces.”

*It's the terminology used to describe one walking between the pieces when cutting a covenant!

From this same root stem ('abar) comes ma'abar מַעְבָּר ford, passing, a place of passing over; it's describing a method/location to cross through something safely that could be detrimental otherwise.

Could it be revealing that Chanan/gracious favor is based on terms that have been set in a Covenant that deals specifically with the Name of Yahweh? He has sworn by His Name that He will be gracious towards, show favor to, inhabit among, and act as a wall of protection around those who He sees as trustworthy of being carriers of His Name –heirs of His House, who function as a place of safe crossing for His WORD/Seed on the earth!

*If you've been given a promised Word from Yahweh (**2 Peter 1:4** – “Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises...”), He considered you then the best “ark” for that Word, one that would guard it, watch over it, ensure it wasn't compromised or aborted prior to its due season. You are the 'ivriy like Abram regarding the word you've been given. In turn, Yahweh promises to be gracious/Chanan, to ensure that you are guarded, protected, and have a place of refuge while you wait on the manifestation of that very word you've been entrusted with! All of this for the purpose of revealing and proclaiming His Name!

2 Kings 13:23 – “And Yahweh was gracious/chanan unto them, and had compassion on them, and had respect unto them, **because of his covenant** with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and would not destroy them, neither cast he them from his presence as yet.”

Every time we receive a true word from Yahweh, a Dabar/Promised Word, it is once again a covenant of the pieces moment! It's a Covenant being cut! **Hebrews 4:12** – “For the word of Yahweh is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” His Word cuts the pieces (carves the path) that He walks between sealing the Covenant promise regarding that Word that has been released!

***Isaiah 55:11** – “So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.”

We see this exact scenario referenced here in this Torah portion! **Deuteronomy 3:26-27**
The English translation completely conceals what's being revealed in the Hebrew language!
Wroth: Strong's #5674 'abar עָבַר to cross over, to pass over by or through! Same Covenant cutting language! This changes the context of this verse! The Aleph Tav is here at the threshold “Chanan” - providing a place of refuge to ensure those who have been entrusted to carry the WORD will see it come to fruition. And He 'abar – He crosses over or through – He walks between the pieces to ensure and seal the Covenant regarding His Promises! This is what Mosheh is reminding Israel regarding!

They are exiting the wilderness – Midbar מִדְבָּר the mouth where the Dabar/Word has been spoken and declared in their hearing for 40 years. If they have listened and been obedient to that word (Shema' Yisra'el!) then they have no need to worry or fear regarding what lies ahead of them because Yahweh will move in regard to and based on His Word!

Pisgah: Strong's #6449 Pisgah פִּסְגָּה Cleft; from the root #6448 pasag פָּסַג to pass between or within, to cut up or to divide.

*Mosheh's name מֹשֶׁה is the mirror image of HaShem הַשֵּׁם the Name! If you are an heir of the NAME, a carrier/dwelling place of His Name, then the promise to you is that He will place you in the cleft of the Rock as He passes between the cut pieces to ensure the Promised Word is made manifest in your life!

Breaking down Pisgah even further, the 2 letter root forms Strong's #6446 pas פָּ richly ornamented, a highly esteemed garment, first seen describing Joseph's Coat of Many Colors – the garment that acknowledged him as the one who had the right of the firstborn, the heir of the house, King and Priest, pointing towards the Melchizedek High Priest role of Messiah Yahshua! This is the end goal of the Covenant of the Pieces!

*That the one who enters this Covenant in a compromised fallen state, incapable of walking between the pieces or ensuring that the Covenant Word is kept and comes to fruition experiences a change of garments with the One who is! We are garmented by Messiah in order to become a proper helpmeet capable of ruling and reigning alongside Him under the mantle of Kings and Priests, and now seen as an heir to this promise alongside Him!

The root attached here in the name Pisgah (פג) comes from the stem (#1456) Gehah גִּהַּא a cure, healing; seen only in **Proverbs 17:22** (Brenda's message!) – “A merry heart doeth good like a medicine (gehah): but a broken spirit drieth the bones.”

*The cure for the dry bones Ezekiel saw in chapter 37, the scattered broken house of Israel awaiting their return to the land of their promise, the pieces waiting to be walked between by the one who can breathe life into them, is to be clothed in this garment!

Chanan is also the root of Chen (#2580) חֵן favor, grace, charm; first seen in **Gen. 6:8** – “But Noah found grace/chen in the eyes of Yahweh.” Vs. 9 goes onto relay how this “grace” was attained. Noah is described as “iysh tsaddiq tamim” a man who is just and perfect.

Just: Strong's #6662 tsadiq צַדִּיק just, lawful, righteous; tsadiq is often paralleled with Yashar (upright – the same root stem of Israel Yashar'El) which helps to define the true meaning of this term – one who is straight and does not depart from the way of Yahweh!

***John 14:6** – “I am the way, the truth, and the life...” Tsadiq also directly links to the Melkhitzedek, the King of righteousness! Noah is one who follows the way of the Melkhitzedek, he does not waver or depart!

The first part of the phrase אִישׁ צַדִּיק “Iysh Tsaddiq” = 515, the same value as Va'etchanan! It is also the same value as yerushah (#3425) יְרֻשָׁה possession, inheritance; from the root yarash (#3423) יָרַשׁ to possess, seize, to disinherit another, to occupy, or to be an heir– an 'iysh tsaddiq is the only one capable of taking possession of the promised inheritance! Yet at Sinai Israel rejected the mantle of the Melkhitzedek Priesthood (**Ex. 19:6** – “And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation.”)

The only one capable of entering, crossing through the pieces, is the Iysh Tsaddiq, and so Va'etchanan! The Aleph Tav is on the scene, at the threshold, and declares that He will 'abar, He will cross over on their behalf. He will walk through the pieces, and exchange His garments of Heir, King, and Priest to see His Bride restored, healed, and empowered!

Perfect: Strong's #8549 tamim תָּמִים complete, whole, sound, entire; from the root #8552 tamam תָּמַם to be complete, finished, at an end, to be completely crossed over; Noah was one who had finished/completed the season necessary to be seen as one who was a fit heir and representative of the Melchizedek Authority. One who would not depart from the way! Therefore he receives chen/grace and favor! Even when there was no physical evidence of why an ark was needed, Noah was obedient to listen and act on the word he was given.

*Can the same be said of Israel at the end of their wilderness journey? Are they truly Yashar'el – Tsaddiq Ones who have completed (tamim) the journey to learn and mature in order to walk in the meaning and mantle of that name? It was the intent that they would enter the land of inheritance functioning as King and Priests! Every promise we've been given requires the same journey as it too must be handled maturely by one who understands the role of kings and priests.

Continuing to look in this parshah, as Mosheh continues to both encourage and admonish Israel regarding the significance of what they are about to undertake, there is an interesting sidenote mentioned.

Deuteronomy 4:41-43 – 3 of the 6 cities of Refuge!

The cities of refuge were 6 chosen cities (3 on one side of the Jordan River, 3 on the other) where someone who accidentally killed another Israelite was to flee from their closest relative who had the right to avenge the death. This relative was called the Go'el Hadam גאל הדם. Literally translates as the avenger or the redeemer of blood!

The responsibilities of the Go'el Hadam were as follows:

- 1) Repurchase property sold in time of need (buy back the property – Lev. 25:25) redeeming the land
- 2) Free an Israelite slave who sold himself in time of need (Lev. 25:48) redeeming the people
- 3) Avenge the blood for a murdered close relative – the payment of life for life

Isaiah 43:1 – “But now thus saith Yahweh that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed (go'el) thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.”

Isaiah 49:7-8 – “Thus saith Yahweh, the Redeemer (go'el) of Israel, and his Holy One, to him whom man despiseth, to him whom the nation abhorreth, to a servant of rulers, Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of Yahweh that is faithful, and the Holy One of Israel, and he shall choose thee. Thus saith Yahweh, In an acceptable time have I heard thee, and in a day of salvation have I helped thee: and I will preserve thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, to establish the earth, to cause to inherit the desolate heritages;”

Yahshua is our Go'el Hadam! As Israel stands at the threshold, this role is highlighted! He has avenged the blood (life for life) as he dealt with Pharaoh and all of Egypt. He has redeemed the people from their bondage. And now they wait to see if He too will redeem the land and restore it back!

Let's look at the specific cities chosen!

Bezer: Strong's #1221 Betsar בֶּצֶר gold ore or remote fortress; from the root #1219 batsar בָּצַר to gather, restrain, fence, fortify, make inaccessible, enclose; to cut off or cut away
*This is located in Reuben's territory – Reuben means “Behold a Son”, the firstborn of Jacob who loses his birthright and place as heir!

Ramoth: Strong's #7216 Ramot רָאמוֹת heights; breaking this term apart it indicates “Behold” (רא root) and “Death” (מות)

Gilead: Strong's #1568 Gil'ad גִּלְעָד rocky region; witness heap; deals with a witness regarding a covenant cut as well is connected to the roots meaning redemption and the work of the go'el/redeemer!

*This is located in the territory of Gad – whose name indicates an invasive troublesome cut/effort made in order to expose something of value

Golan: Strong's #1474 Golan גֹּלָן their captivity/their rejoicing; from the root #1473 golah גֹּלָה exiles, captivity; once again same root as the go'el – the redeemer and avenger!

Bashan: Strong's #1316 Bashan בָּשָׁן fruitful

*This is located in the territory of Manasseh – whose name means causing to forget (Joseph), can also indicate to forgive a debt

The word picture of the above names in the Hebrew language declares – Behold the son who will be cut off and taste death to restore the birthright and the inheritance. He will become the go'el/redeemer as a Covenant is cut, He will walk between the pieces to restore the exiles from their captivity causing them to rejoice and be fruitful again. The ones who had been forgotten, (who were called lo'ammi, not my people **Hosea 2:23, 1 Peter 2:10**) will have their debt forgiven and will be called my people again!

As we stand at the threshold of our promises, we are reminded as well of this powerful name – the Go'el Hadam. He redeems His people and He redeems the inheritance and promises that seemed lost forever. The moment He spoke and released the word a covenant was initiated, and He bound Himself to see that word come to fruition. The question you and I must ask ourselves is what have we done with the word we were given? Have we functioned as the ark to preserve it and carry it, or have we allowed the years of exile to abort it?