

TARGUM ONQELOS

Beshalach – Sipra d'Mapkana (Exodus) 13-17 – כשלה

¶ And it was when Pharaoh had sent the people away, that MarYah did not lead them by the way of the land of the Philistaeae because it was the nearest: for MarYah said, Lest the people be terrified at the seeing of war, and return to Mizraim. But MarYah led the people toward the way of the desert to the sea of Suph; and the sons of Israel went up out of the land of Mizraim harnessed (or girded). And Mosheh brought up the bones of Joseph with him; for he had adjured the sons of Israel with an oath, saying, Remembering, MarYah will remember you, and you shall carry up my bones from here. And they journeyed from Sukkoth, and encamped in Etham, which is beside the desert.

¶ And MarYah went before them by day in the column of the cloud to lead them in the way, and by night in the column of fire to enlighten them, that they might go in the day and in the night. Neither the column of the cloud by day, nor the column of the fire by night, departed from before the people.

¶ And MarYah spoke to Mosheh, saying, Speak with the sons of Israel that they return and encamp before Pum Hiratha, between Migdol and the sea, before Beel Zephon: you shall encamp before it by the sea. And Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, They are bewildered in the land, the desert has consumed them.¹ And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he will pursue them; and I will be glorified in Pharaoh and in all his host; and the Mizraee shall know that I am MarYah. And they did so.

¶ And it was seen by the king of Mizraim that the people had gone. And the heart of Pharaoh and

of his servants was turned to the people; and they said, What is this that we have done, that we have sent Israel away from serving us? And he set his chariot in order, and took his people with him. He also took six hundred select chariots, and all the chariots of the Mizraee, and appointed strong men over them. And MarYah hardened the heart of Pharaoh a king of Mizraim, and he pursued after the children of Israel.

¶ But the children of Israel went forth with uncovered head. And the Mizraee followed after them, and overtook them while encamping by the sea; all the chariot horses of Pharaoh, and his horsemen, and his army, by Pum Hiratha which is before Beel Zephon. And Pharaoh drew near, and the sons of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Mizraee were coming after them: and they were greatly afraid, and the children of Israel cried before MarYah. But to Mosheh they said, Was it because there were no graves in Mizraim that you have taken us to die in the wilderness? What is this that you have done to bring us out of Mizraim? Was this not the word which we spoke with you in Mizraim, saying, Let us alone, and we will serve the Mizraee? for better would it have been for us to serve the Mizraee, than to die in the wilderness.

¶ And Mosheh said to the people, Fear not, stand still (or, be ready) and see the deliverance of MarYah which He will work for you this day; for as you have seen the Mizraee this day, you will see them no more for ever: MarYah will fight the battle for you, and you shall be quiet.

¶ And MarYah said to Mosheh, I have heard your prayer. Speak to the children of Israel that they

go onward: and you, take your staff and stretch forth your hand over the sea, and divide it, and the children of Israel shall go in the midst of the sea on dry ground. And I, behold, I will harden the hearts of the Mizraee, and they will go in after them; and I will be glorified by Pharaoh and by all his army, by his chariots and his horsemen;² and the Mizraee shall know that I am MarYah, when I have been glorified by Pharaoh and his chariots and his horsemen.³

¶ And the Angel of MarYah who went before the camp of Israel passed by and came behind them; and the column of the cloud passed from before them and remained (or abode) behind them. And it entered between the camp of the Mizraee and the camp of Israel; and was a cloud and darkness to the Mizraee, but to Israel a light all the night: and neither came near each other throughout the night.

¶ And Mosheh stretched forth his hand over the sea; and MarYah drove the sea by a mighty east wind throughout the night, and caused the sea to be dry, and the waters were separated; and the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon dry ground; and the waters were like a wall⁴ to them on their right hand and on their left.

¶ And the Mizraee followed and entered in after them, all the horses of Pharaoh, and his chariots and horsemen, into the midst of the sea.

¶ And it was in the morning watch that MarYah looked upon the armies of the Mizraee from the column of fire and cloud, and disturbed the army of the Mizraee. And he removed the wheels of the chariots, so that they drove them by strength;⁵ and the Mizraee said, Let us flee from before Israel; for this is the power of MarYah which has done battle for them against Mizraim.

¶ And MarYah said to Mosheh, Stretch forth your hand over the sea, and the waters shall return upon the Mizraee, upon their chariots and their horsemen. And Mosheh stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned, at the time of the morning, to its strength; and the Mizraee fled before it; and MarYah drowned the Mizraee in the midst of the sea. And the waters returned and covered the chariots and horsemen and all the armies of Pharaoh who had gone after them into the sea, and not one of them remained.

¶ But the children of Israel walked on dry land in the midst of the sea; and the waters were like a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

¶ And MarYah delivered Israel that day from the Mizraee, and Israel saw the Mizraee dead upon the shore of the sea. And Israel saw the Power of the Great Hand which MarYah had made to appear in Mizraim; and the people feared before MarYah, and believed in the Memra of MarYah, and in the prophetic work of Mosheh His servant.

¶ Then Mosheh and the children of Israel began to sing this hymn before MarYah; and they spoke, saying:

¶ We will sing and give thanks before MarYah, because He is magnified upon the mighty, and the power is His own; the horse and his rider has He cast into the sea. My strength and my song⁶ is the awesome MarYah; He has said by His Memra that He will be mine to redeem.

¶ This is my Alaha, and I will build Him a sanctuary; Alaha of my fathers, and I will worship before Him. MarYah is the Master of Victory in battles, MarYah is His Name.

¶ The chariots of Pharaoh and his horses He has cast into the sea, his chosen warriors are drowned in the sea of Suph. The depths covered them over, they went

down to the bottom as a stone. Your right hand, O MarYah, is illustrious in power; Your right hand, O MarYah, shatters the adversary; and in the greatness of Your might You have broken down them who arose against Your people. Thou sent forth Your wrath, and it consumed them as stubble in the flame, and by the word of Your mouth the waters, (as if) wise, stood up like a wall; the depths were congealed in the heart of the sea.

¶ The adversary said, I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil; my soul shall be satisfied upon them; I will draw my sword, and my hand shall destroy them.

¶ You spoke by Your Memra, the sea covered them over, they sunk (to the depths) like lead in the mighty waters.

¶ There is none beside You, O Alaha, who are glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders.

¶ Thou uplifted Your right hand, the earth swallowed them up. You have led forth in goodness Your people whom You have redeemed; You will bring them by Your strength to the dwelling of Your holiness.

¶ The nations will hear it, and be moved; terror will seize on the inhabitants of Pelasheth; then will the princes of Edom be alarmed, the strong ones of Moab will be seized with trembling and they who dwell in Kenaan will be broken down. Fear and dread will fall upon them, by the greatness of Your power they will be silent as a stone, until Your people, O Lord, pass over Arnona, until Your people whom You have redeemed pass over Jardena.

¶ You will bring them in, and cause them to dwell in the mountain of Your inheritance, in the place which You have ordained for the house of Your Shekina, the sanctuary which Your hands, O MarYah, have prepared.

¶ The kingdom of MarYah endures for ever, and for ever, evermore! Because, when the horses of Pharaoh with his chariots and his horsemen had entered into the sea, MarYah caused the waters of the sea to return upon them, and the children of Israel walked upon dry land in the midst of the sea.

¶ And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aharon, took the timbrel in her hand, and all the women followed after her with timbrels and choruses. And Miriam answered them:

¶ Sing and give thanks before MarYah, for He has magnified Himself upon the proud: and the majesty belongs only to Him; the horse and his rider has He cast into the sea.

¶ And Mosheh caused Israel to remove from the sea of Suph, and they went forth into the desert of Chagra, and went three days in the desert, but found no water. And they came to Marah, and could not drink the waters of Marah because they were bitter; therefore he called the name of it Marah.

¶ And the people were irritable against Mosheh, saying, What shall we drink? And he prayed before MarYah; and MarYah instructed him (in the properties of) a tree, and he cast it into the waters, and the waters became sweet. There He decreed a statute, and a judgment, and there He tried him. And He said, If you will give heed, heeding the Memra of MarYah your Alaha, and will do what is right in His eyes, and will listen to His precepts and keep all His statutes, none of the maladies which I have set upon Mizraim will I put upon you; for I am MarYah your Healer.

¶ And they came to Elim, and there were twelve wells of water and seventy palm trees; and they encamped there before the waters. And they journeyed from Elim, and came, the whole assembly of the sons of Israel, to the desert of Sir,

which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month from their outgoing from the land of Mizraim.

¶ And all of the children of Israel were troublesome before Mosheh and Aharon in the desert; and the children of Israel said to them, If only we had died before MarYah in the land of Mizraim, when we sat by the cauldrons of flesh, and could eat bread and be satisfied! Why have you brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with famine?

¶ And MarYah said to Mosheh, Behold, I will cause bread to come down to you from heaven; and the people shall go out and collect the matter of the day for the day; that I may prove them whether they will walk in My law, or not. And in the sixth day, when they prepare that which they bring in, it shall be double upon what they collect from day to day.

¶ And Mosheh and Aharon said to all the children of Israel, In the evening you shall know that MarYah brought you out of the land of Mizraim, and in the morning shall you see the Glory of MarYah; for your complaints are heard before MarYah: and concerning (the two of) us, how is it that you are impatient with us?

¶ And Mosheh said, When MarYah will give you at evening flesh to eat, and bread in the morning to satisfy, (even) while your complaints to Him are heard before MarYah! For what are we? your complaints are not against us, but against the Memra of MarYah.

¶ And Mosheh said to Aharon, Bid all the congregation of the sons of Israel to come together before MarYah, [and say to them], for your complaints are heard before MarYah.⁷

¶ And it was, while Aharon was speaking with all the congregation of the sons of Israel, that they turned towards the desert, and, behold, the glory of MarYah was revealed in the cloud.

¶ And MarYah spoke with Mosheh, saying, The complaints of the children of Israel are heard before Me. Speak with them and say, Between the evenings you shall eat flesh, and in the morning be satisfied with bread, and you shall know that I am MarYah your Alaha.

¶ And it was in the evening that quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning a dew descended upon (or round about) the camp; and when the dew which had fallen had risen, behold, upon the face of the desert, a small (substance) without covering,⁸ small like frost, heaped on the earth.

¶ And the sons of Israel saw, and said to each other, Mana-hu (what is this)! for they did not know what it was. And Mosheh said to them, This is the bread which MarYah will give you to eat. This is the word that MarYah has commanded: Let every man gather of it according to his eating⁹ an omer for every head according to the number of your souls, a man for those of his tent shall you take.

¶ And the sons of Israel did so, and gathered, some more, (others) less; and they measured with an omer, and he who had (gathered) much had not more, and he who had (gathered) little had not less; every man according to his eating they gathered.

¶ And Mosheh said to them, No man shall leave any of it (remaining) till the morning. But they did not listen to Mosheh, but some left some over for the morning, and it swarmed with worms and became decayed. And Mosheh was angry with them. And they gathered it from morning to

morning a man according to his eating; and when the sun grew hot on that which remained upon the face of the field, it melted. And it was that on the sixth day they gathered a double (quantity) of bread, two omers for one: and all the chiefs of the congregation came and showed Mosheh. And he said to them, Tomorrow is the rest of the holy Shabbat before MarYah. That which you prepare by baking, bake, and that which you prepare by boiling, boil, and anything that remains store it up for the morning.

¶ And they stored it up till the morning, as Mosheh had instructed; and it did not decay, neither were there worms in it.

¶ And Mosheh said, Eat that today, for this day is Shabbat before MarYah; this day you will not find it in the field. Six days you shall collect it; but on the seventh day, the Shabbat, there will be none.

¶ And it was on the seventh day that some of the people went out to gather, but they did not find it.

¶ And MarYah said to Mosheh, How long will you be unwilling to keep My commandments and My laws? See, because MarYah has given you the Shabbat He has therefore given you on the sixth day the bread for two days; let every man dwell in his resting, and not go out from his place on the seventh day.

¶ And the people reposed on the seventh day. And the house of Israel called the name of it Manna; and it was as the seed of Gida¹⁰ white, and its taste was like cake broiled with honey.

¶ And Mosheh said, This is the word which MarYah has commanded. Fill an omer of it to be kept for your generations, that they may see the bread which I made you eat in the desert when I

brought you forth from the land of Mizraim.

¶ And Mosheh said to Aharon, Take one vase, and put an omer full of manna within it, and store it up before MarYah to be preserved for your generations. As MarYah commanded, so did Mosheh; and Aharon stored it up before the Ark of Testimony, to keep.

¶ And the children of Israel ate the manna forty years, until they came to the land inhabited; they did eat the manna till they came to the confines of the land of Kanaan. And one omer is the tenth of three seahs.

¶ And all the congregation of the children of Israel journeyed from the desert of Sin, according to their itinerations by the Memra of MarYah; and they encamped in Rephidim: but the people had no water to drink; and the people were contentious with Mosheh, and said, Give us water that we may drink. And Mosheh said, Why do you contend with me? why do you tempt before MarYah? But the people were thirsting there for water, and the people were turbulent against Mosheh, and said, Why is this, (that you) have brought us from Mizraim, to kill me and my children and my cattle with thirst?

¶ And Mosheh prayed before MarYah, saying, What shall I do with this people? Yet a little, and they will stone me! And MarYah said to Mosheh, Pass over before the people, and take with you of the elders of Israel, and your staff which you struck the river, take in your hand, and go. Behold, I will stand before you there, upon the rock in Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, that the people may drink.

¶ And Mosheh did so in the eyes of the elders of Israel. And he called the name of the place, Temptation and Strife, because of the striving of

the sons of Israel, and because they tempted before MarYah, saying, Is the Majesty of MarYah among us, or not?

¶ And Amaleq came, and warred battle with Israel in Rephidim. And Mosheh said to Jehoshua, Choose for us men, and go forward and do battle with Amaleq. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill, and the staff with which the miracles are brought from before MarYah shall be in my hand.

¶ And Jehoshua did as Mosheh had said to him, and he did battle with Amaleq. And Mosheh, Aharon, and Hur ascended to the top of the hill. And it was that when Mosheh lifted up his hand, the house of Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, the house of Amaleq prevailed.

¶ But the hands of Mosheh became heavy, and they took a stone and placed it under him, and he

sat upon it, and Aharon and Hur held up his hands, here one, and there one; and thus were his hands stretched out in prayer until the going of the sun.

¶ And Jehoshua shattered Amaleq and his people with the edge of the sword.

¶ And MarYah said to Mosheh: Write this memorial in the Book, and set it before Jehoshua, -That blotting, I will blot out the memorial of Amaleq from under the heavens. And Mosheh constructed an altar, and ministered upon it before MarYah who had brought such miracles for him. And he said, With an oath has this been declared from before the Fearful One whose Shekinah is upon His glorious throne; that war shall be waged with the house of Amaleq, to destroy it from the generations of the world.

Notes

1 Sam. Vers., "has covered them."

2 Sam. Vers., "footmen."

3 Sam. Vers., "footmen."

4 Sam. Vers., "a mution."

5 Or, "with difficulty."

6 Sam. Vers., "my portion."

7 Other copies, "before Him."

8 Or, "peeled." Sam. Vers., "shining."

9 Or, "the mouth of his eating."

10 Or, coriander, rice

TARGUM ONQELOS

Version Bibliotheca Aramaica

EDITED BY YA'AQUB YOUNAN-LEVINE
and ARAN YA'AQUB YOUNAN-LEVINE

Being a Revised Edition of J. W. Etheridge's
The Targums of Onkelos and Jonathan Ben Uzziel on the Pentateuch

Published by
BIBLIOTHECA ARAMAICA

www.Aramaica.org

Copyright ©2009 by Ya'aqub Younan-Levine.

January 2009 Edition.