

## Haftarah for Elul Week 2: Jeremiah 7:1-7

In this week's Elul selection, we continue to prepare for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. We engage in the work of *t'shuvah*, of return and repair. This brief text of Jeremiah is straightforward in its prescriptions: the key to living in peace in our land is through just actions and care for the oppressed. Of course, the beauty of this text is its simple assertion of truth. In reality, we know that enacting repair is both the work that we must do in order to care for our own souls, and communal work to ensure equity for all. Yet the challenges of this work do not mean we should shy from it, particularly in this moment, it is our responsibility to face it with renewed energy.

### Jeremiah 7

(1) The word which came to Jeremiah from the Eternal: (2) Stand at the gate of the House of the Eternal, and there proclaim this word: Hear the word of the Eternal, all you of Judah who enter these gates to worship the Eternal! (3) Thus said Adonai Tzva'ot, the God of Israel: Mend your ways and your actions, and I will let you dwell in this place. (4) Do not put your trust in illusions and say, "The Temple of the Eternal, the Temple of the Eternal, the Temple of the Eternal are these [buildings]." (5) No, if you really mend your ways and your actions; if you execute justice between one person and another; (6) if you do not oppress the stranger, the orphan, and the widow; if you do not shed the blood of the innocent in this place; if you do not follow other gods, to your own hurt— (7) then only will I let you dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers for all time.

### ירמיהו ז'

(א) הַדְּבַר אֲשֶׁר הָיָה אֶל־יִרְמְיָהוּ מֵאֵת יְהוָה לֵאמֹר: (ב) עֲמֹד בַּשַּׁעַר בַּיַּת יְהוָה וְקִרְאתָ שָׁם אֶת־הַדְּבַר הַזֶּה וְאָמַרְתָּ שְׁמַעוּ דְבַר־יְהוָה כָּל־יְהוּדָה הַבָּאִים בְּשַׁעְרֵי הָאֵלֶּה לְהִשְׁתַּחֲוֹת לַיהוָה: (ג) כֹּה־אָמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל הִיטִיבוּ דַרְכֵיכֶם וּמַעַלְלֵיכֶם וְאַשְׁכְּנָה אֶתְכֶם בְּמִקְוֵם הַזֶּה: (ד) אַל־תִּבְטְחוּ לָכֶם אֶל־דְּבַר־יְהוָה הַשֶּׁקֶר לֵאמֹר הִיכַל יְהוָה הִיכַל יְהוָה הִיכַל יְהוָה הִיכַל יְהוָה הִמָּה: (ה) כִּי אִם־הִיטִיב תִּיטִיבוּ אֶת־דַּרְכֵיכֶם וְאֶת־מַעַלְלֵיכֶם אִם־עָשׂוּ תַעֲשׂוּ מִשְׁפָּט בֵּין אִישׁ וּבֵין רֵעֵהוּ: (ו) גַּר יָתוּם וְאַלְמָנָה לֹא תַעֲשׂוּ וְדָם נָקִי אַל־תִּשְׁפְּכוּ בְּמִקְוֵם הַזֶּה וְאַחֲרֵי אֱלֹהִים אַחֲרָיִם לֹא תִלְכוּ לְרַע לָכֶם: (ז) וְשָׁכַנְתִּי אִתְּכֶם בְּמִקְוֵם הַזֶּה בְּאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר נָתַתִּי לְאֲבוֹתֵיכֶם לְמֹן־עוֹלָם וְעַד־עוֹלָם:

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