



It has been told to you, what is good, and what Adonai requires of you
Only to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8)

Genesis 50 בראשית

- 18** יח ויִלְכוּ גַם־אָחָיו וַיִּפְּלוּ לְפָנָיו וַיֹּאמְרוּ הֲנֵנוּ לְךָ לַעֲבָדִים : **18** His brothers also prostrated themselves before him and said, “Here we are, your slaves!”
- 19** יט וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵהֶם יוֹסֵף אֶל־תִּירְאוּ כִּי הֲתַחַת אֵלֵהִים אָנִי : **19** Joseph said to them, “Have no fear, for am I in place of God?”
- 20** כ וְאַתֶּם חֲשַׁבְתֶּם עָלַי רָעָה אֱלֹהִים חֲשַׁבָה לְטֹבָה לְמַעַן עֲשֶׂה כִּי־וַיִּזְכֶּה הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה לְהַחֲלִית עַם־רַב : **20** Though you intended me harm, God intended it for good, in order to accomplish what is now the case, to keep alive a numerous people.
- 21** כא וְעַתָּה אֶל־תִּירְאוּ אֲנֹכִי אֶכְלָל אֶתְכֶם וְאֶת־טַפְּכֶם וַיְנַחֵם אוֹתָם וַיְדַבֵּר עַל־לִבָּם : **21** Now, therefore, have no fear—I will provide for you and your little ones.” Thus did he comfort them and speak straight to their hearts.
- 22** יג וַיֵּשֶׁב יוֹסֵף בְּמִצְרַיִם הוּא וּבֵית אָבִיו וַיְחִי יוֹסֵף מֵאָה וָעֶשֶׂר שָׁנִים : **22** Joseph dwelt in Egypt, he and his father’s household, and Joseph lived 110 years.
- 23** כג וַיִּרְא יוֹסֵף לְאֶפְרַיִם בְּנֵי שְׁלֹשִׁים גִּם בְּנֵי מַכִּיר בְּרִמְנַשֶּׁה יְלָדָיו עַל־בְּרֵכֵי יוֹסֵף : **23** Joseph saw Ephraim’s grandchildren; the children of Machir, too, Manasseh’s son, were born on Joseph’s knees.
- 24** כד וַיֹּאמֶר יוֹסֵף אֶל־אָחָיו אֲנֹכִי מֹת וְאֱלֹהִים פִּקְדוּ פִּקְדוֹ אֶתְכֶם וְהָעֵלָה אֶתְכֶם מִן־הָאָרֶץ הַזֹּאת אֱלֹהֵי אֲרָץ אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁבַּע לְאַבְרָהָם לְיִצְחָק וּלְיַעֲקֹב : **24** Joseph then said to his kin, “I am dying, but God will surely take care of you and bring you up out of this land to the land that [God] promised to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”
- 25** כה וַיִּשְׁבַּע יוֹסֵף אֶת־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לֵאמֹר פִּקְדוּ אֱלֹהִים אֶתְכֶם וְהָעֵלְתֶם אֶת־עַצְמוֹתַי מִזֶּה : **25** Joseph adjured Israel’s children, saying, “God will surely take care of you; bring my bones up from this place!”
- 26** כו וַיָּמָת יוֹסֵף בְּרִמְאָה וָעֶשֶׂר שָׁנִים וַיַּחְנְטוּ אוֹתוֹ וַיִּשְׂמוּ בָאָרוֹן בְּמִצְרַיִם : **26** Joseph died aged 110 years. They embalmed him and he was put into a coffin in Egypt.

Haftarah for Vayechi: Proverbs 4:1-18

In parashat Vayechi, Jacob blesses his children before his death. Yet some of his blessings do not seem to be hopeful or positive, rather they are simple descriptors. We wonder what makes a blessing a blessing? Is it a wish for the future, or rather, words of truth, or even something else?

This selection from Proverbs introduces us to another type of blessing from a parent: wisdom. What wisdom is passed down in this proverb? How does it compare to the blessings in the text?

Proverbs 4:1-18

(1) Children, heed a parent's discipline; listen and learn discernment, (2) For I give you good instruction; do not forsake my teaching. (3) Once I was a child to my father, the tender darling of my mother. (4) He instructed me and said to me, "Let your mind hold on to my words; keep my commandments and you will live. (5) Acquire wisdom, acquire discernment; Do not forget and do not veer from my words. (6) Do not forsake her [wisdom] and she will guard you; love her and she will protect you. (7) The beginning of wisdom is—acquire wisdom; with all your acquisitions, acquire discernment. (8) Hug her to you and she will exalt you; she will bring you honor if you embrace her. (9) She will adorn your head with a graceful wreath; crown you with a glorious diadem." (10) My child, heed and take in my words, and you will have many years of life. (11) I instruct you in the way of wisdom; I guide you in straight courses. (12) You will walk without breaking stride; when you run, you will not stumble. (13) Hold fast to discipline; do not let go; keep it; it is your life. (14) Do not enter the path of the wicked; do not walk the way of evil people. (15) Avoid it; do not pass through it; turn away from it; pass it by. (16) For they cannot sleep unless they have done evil; unless they make someone fall they are robbed of sleep. (17) They eat the bread of wickedness and drink the wine of lawlessness. (18) But the path of the righteous is like radiant sunlight, ever brightening until noon.

משלי ד' א'-י"ח

(א) שְׁמְעוּ בָנִים מְיוֹסֵר אָב וְהִקְשִׁיבוּ לְדַעַת בִּינָה:
(ב) כִּי לֶקַח טוֹב נָתַתִּי לָכֶם תְּנוּרָתִי אֲלִתְעַזְבוּ: (ג) כִּי־בָן הֵייתִי לְאָבִי רַךְ וְיָחִיד לְפָנַי אִמִּי: (ד) וְיָרַנִּי וְיֵאמֶר לִי יִתְמָד־דְּבָרֵי לִבִּי שְׁמֹר מִצְוֹתַי וְחַיָּה:
(ה) קַנְיָה חֲכָמָה קַנְיָה בִּינָה אֲלִתְשַׁבַּח וְאֲלִתֵּט מֵאִמְרֵי־פִי: (ו) אֲלִתְעַזְבֶּה וְתִשְׁמְרֵד אֶהְבֶּה וְתִצְרֹד: (ז) רֵאשִׁית חֲכָמָה קַנְיָה חֲכָמָה וּבְכֹל־קִנְיָנֶיךָ קַנְיָה בִּינָה:
(ח) סִלְסִלָּה וְתָרוּמָמֶךָ תִּכְבְּדֶךָ כִּי תַחֲבִקְנָה: (ט) תִּתֵּן לְרֵאשִׁיף לְוִיתֶחַן עֲטֹרַת תִּפְאָרֶת תִּמְגַּנֶּךָ: (י) שְׁמַע בְּנִי וְקַח אִמְרֵי וִירְבוּ לְךָ שָׁנוֹת חַיִּים: (יא) בְּדַרְךָ חֲכָמָה הִרְתִּיךָ הִדְרִכְתִּיךָ בְּמַעְגְלֵי־יֹשֶׁר:
(יב) בְּלִכְתֶּךָ לֹא־יֵצֵר צַעֲדֶךָ וְאִם־תִּירוֹץ לֹא תִפְשֵׁל: (יג) הַחֲזֹק בְּמוֹסֵר אֲלִתְרַף נִצְרָה כִּי־הִיא חַיִּיךָ: (יד) בְּאֶרֶח רְשָׁעִים אֲלִתְבֹּא וְאֲלִתְאֲשֵׁר בְּדַרְךָ רָעִים: (טו) פָּרַעְהוּ אֶל־תַּעֲבֹרְבוּ שָׁטָה מַעְלֵיו וְעִבּוּר: (טז) כִּי לֹא יִשְׁנוּ אִם־לֹא יָרְעוּ וְנִגְזְלָה שְׁנֹתָם אִם־לֹא יִכְשׁוּלוּ [יִכְשִׁילוּ]: (יז) כִּי לַחְמוֹ לֶחֶם רָשָׁע וַיִּין חֲמָסִים יִשְׁתּוּ: (יח) וְאֶרֶח צְדִיקִים כְּאֹר נֹגַהּ הוֹלֵךְ וְאֹר עַד־נֶכּוֹן הַיּוֹם:

Refuah Shleimah

Emily Alpern-Fisch, Alan Appel, Ronni Behar, Ira Berlin, Daniel Booth, Michael Brenner, Ellen Buckley, Judith Chisholm, Barbara Cleveland, Netanel Felber, Chelo Fournier, Golda bat Yaakova uVelvel, Richard Greenfield, Ezra Mac Grossman, David Hahn, Andrea Hamos, Judy Hurvitz, Jennifer Jaye, Joan Kupferberg, Wasu Lawal, Philip Levine, Stu Levine, Sam Levinson, Ken Liberstein, Dan Lutenegger, Mitch Karas, Mildred Marin, Pam Marks, Stephanie Mendez, Sophie Meyers, Robin Parry, Rachel bat Chava, Rivkah Emet Miriam bat Daniel v'Taejin, Lois Rosen, Eric Rosenberg, Rabbi Steve Sager, Sarah Golde bat Shifrah, David Scheever, Charles Schusheim, Cynthia Seymour, Sam Sinkler, Betty Ustun, Heather Weisman, Mimi Wolf, Ze'ev Chaim ben Golda v'Brian

We Remember a Few of Far Too Many Lives Lost to COVID-19

Gerallt Davies, 51, paramedic, Swansea, Wales
Janie Marie Ponciano, 48, family peacemaker who appreciated a dance party, Blackfoot, Idaho
Tyler Spickard, 23, mechanic and parent, Salem, Virginia

We Remember Those Lost to Violence in Washington, DC

Marquise Blackwell, 29, NE DC; Davon Child, 34, Hyattsville, MD; Jacques Russ, 44, NE DC

Shiva

Bill Stephens, husband of Barbara Stephens; Hartley Zamore, father of Joanne Zamore

Shloshim

Alex Schiffman-Shilo, Steven Sondheim

Yahrzeit

Helen Bachorik, Eva Blatt, James Blumberg, Guy H. Bodor, Beatrice Braun, Norman K. Brenner, Frances Chisholm, Kathleen Claffey, Paul Corbett, Harold Eder, George Fox, Eileen Friedman, Marc Bennett Gamble, Stephen Gaymont, Maurice Horowitz, Irene Kadis, Moses Kinstejn, Ceyl Kurzman, Samuel Laver, Richard Levenson, Eli Levitan, Kurt Liebenau, Michael Lipczenko, Ruth Lipstein, Preston Munter, Jerry Ransohoff, Simon Rockower, Doris Rosenberger Salus, Jacqueline Q. Russler, Phyllis Schotz Salzberg, Harold Sharlin, Joseph Shor, Charles Smith, Jeanne Talpers, Harriet Wagner Appleton, May Weinstein, Sylvia Wisotzky White

Temple Micah acknowledges our synagogue stands on the traditional territory of the Piscataway and Nacotchtank (Anacostan) peoples. We pay respect to their elders past and present and recognize their stewardship of this land and the vital contribution of indigenous peoples to this nation we share.

DANIEL G. ZEMEL, Rabbi

JOSHUA BERAHA, Associate Rabbi | **STEPHANIE CRAWLEY**, Associate Rabbi

BETH WERLIN, Executive Director | **DEBRA WINTER**, Director of Spiritual Arts

SHARON TASH, Education Director

2829 Wisconsin Ave., NW Washington, DC 20007 | (202) 342-9175 | www.templemicah.org