V'Zot HaBrachah Deuteronomy 33:1-34:12

- (Deu 33:1 CJB) This is the blessing that Moshe, the man of God, spoke over the people of Isra'el before his death:
- (Deu 33:2 CJB) "Adonai came from Sinai; from Se`ir he dawned on his people, shone forth from Mount Pa'ran; and with him were myriads of holy ones; at his right hand was a fiery law for them.
- (Deu 33:3 CJB) He truly loves the peoples all his holy ones are in your hand; sitting at your feet, they receive your instruction,
- (Deu 33:4 CJB) the Torah Moshe commanded us as an inheritance for the community of Ya`akov.
- (Deu 33:5 CJB) Then a king arose in Yeshurun when the leaders of the people were gathered, all the tribes of Isra'el together.
- (Deu 33:6 CJB) "Let Re'uven live and not die out, even though his numbers grow few."
- (Deu 33:7 CJB) Of Y'hudah he said: "Hear, Adonai, the cry of Y'hudah! Bring him in to his people, let his own hands defend him; but you, help him against his enemies."
- (Deu 33:8 CJB) Of Levi he said: "Let your tumim and urim be with your pious one, whom you tested at Massah, with whom you struggled at M'rivah Spring.
- (Deu 33:9 CJB) Of his father and mother he said, 'I don't know them'; he didn't acknowledge his brothers or children. For he observed your word, and he kept your covenant.
- (Deu 33:10 CJB) They will teach Ya`akov your rulings, Isra'el your Torah. They will set incense before you and whole burnt offerings on your altar.
- (Deu 33:11 CJB) Adonai, bless his possessions, accept the work he does; but crush his enemies hip and thigh; may those who hate him rise no more."
- (Deu 33:12 CJB) Of Binyamin he said: "Adonai's beloved lives securely. He protects him day after day. He lives between his shoulders."
- (Deu 33:13 CJB) Of Yosef he said: "May Adonai bless his land with the best from the sky, for the dew, and for what comes from the deep beneath,
- (Deu 33:14 CJB) with the best of what the sun makes grow, with the best of what comes up each month,
- (Deu 33:15 CJB) with the best from the mountains of old, with the best from the eternal hills,

- (Deu 33:16 CJB) with the best from the earth and all that fills it, and the favor of him who lived in the [burning] bush. May blessing come on the head of Yosef, on the brow of the prince among his brothers.
- (Deu 33:17 CJB) His firstborn bull glory is his; his horns are those of a wild ox; With them he will gore the peoples, all of them, to the ends of the earth. These are the myriads of Efrayim; these are the thousands of M'nasheh."
- (Deu 33:18 CJB) Of Z'vulun he said: "Rejoice, Z'vulun, as you go forth, and you, Yissakhar, in your tents.
- (Deu 33:19 CJB) They will summon peoples to the mountain and there offer righteous sacrifices; for they will draw from the abundance of the seas and from the hidden treasures of the sand."
- (Deu 33:20 CJB) Of Gad he said: "Blessed is he who makes Gad so large; he lies there like a lion, tearing arm and scalp.
- (Deu 33:21 CJB) He chose the best for himself when the princely portion was assigned. When the leaders of the people came, he carried out Adonai's justice and his rulings concerning Isra'el."
- (Deu 33:22 CJB) Of Dan he said: "Dan is a lion cub leaping forth from Bashan."
- (Deu 33:23 CJB) Of Naftali he said: "You, Naftali, satisfied with favor and full of blessing from Adonai, take possession of the sea and the south."
- (Deu 33:24 CJB) Of Asher he said: "May Asher be most blessed of sons, may he be the favorite among his brothers and bathe his feet in oil.
- (Deu 33:25 CJB) May your bolts be of iron and bronze and your strength last as long as you live.
- (Deu 33:26 CJB) "Yeshurun, there is no one like God, riding through the heavens to help you, riding on the clouds in his majesty.
- (Deu 33:27 CJB) The God of old is a dwelling-place, with everlasting arms beneath. He expelled the enemy before you and he said, 'Destroy!'
- (Deu 33:28 CJB) So Isra'el lives in security; the fountain of Ya`akov is alone in a land of grain and new wine, where the skies drip with dew.
- (Deu 33:29 CJB) Happy are you, Isra'el! "Who is like you, a people saved by Adonai, your defender helping you and your sword of triumph? Your enemies will cringe before you, but you will trample down their high places."
- (Deu 34:1 CJB) Moshe ascended from the plains of Mo'av to Mount N'vo, to the summit of Pisgah, across from Yericho. There Adonai showed him all the land Gil`ad as far as Dan,

(Deu 34:2 CJB) all Naftali, the land of Efrayim and M'nasheh, the land of Y'hudah all the way to the sea beyond,

(Deu 34:3 CJB) the Negev and the plain, including the valley where Yericho the City of Date-Palms is, as far away as Tzo`ar.

(Deu 34:4 CJB) Adonai said to him, "This is the land concerning which I swore to Avraham, Yitz'chak and Ya`akov, 'I will give it to your descendants.' I have let you see it with your eyes, but you will not cross over there."

(Deu 34:5 CJB) So Moshe, the servant of Adonai, died there in the land of Mo'av, as Adonai had said.

(Deu 34:6 CJB) He was buried in the valley across from Beit-P`or in the land of Mo'av, but to this day no one knows where his grave is.

(Deu 34:7 CJB) Moshe was 120 years old when he died, with eyes undimmed and vigor undiminished.

(Deu 34:8 CJB) The people of Isra'el mourned Moshe on the plains of Mo'av for thirty days; after this, the days of crying and mourning for Moshe ended.

(Deu 34:9 CJB) Y'hoshua the son of Nun was full of the Spirit of wisdom, for Moshe had laid his hands on him, and the people of Isra'el heeded him and did what Adonai had ordered Moshe.

(Deu 34:10 CJB) Since that time there has not arisen in Isra'el a prophet like Moshe, whom Adonai knew face to face.

(Deu 34:11 CJB) What signs and wonders Adonai sent him to perform in the land of Egypt upon Pharaoh, all his servants and all his land!

(Deu 34:12 CJB) What might was in his hand! What great terror he evoked before the eyes of all Isra'el!

Hazak, hazak, v'nit'chazek!

Be strong, be strong, and let us be strengthened!

Haftarah V'zot HaBrachah: Y'hoshua (Joshua) 1:1-18 (A); 1:1-9 (S)

Joshua 1:1-18(A)

(Jos 1:1 CJB) After the death of Moshe the servant of Adonai, Adonai said to Y'hoshua the son of Nun, Moshe's assistant,

- (Jos 1:2 CJB) "Moshe my servant is dead. So now, get up and cross over this Yarden, you and all the people, to the land I am giving to them, the people of Isra'el.
- (Jos 1:3 CJB) I am giving you every place you will step on with the sole of your foot, as I said to Moshe.
- (Jos 1:4 CJB) All the land from the desert and the L'vanon to the great river, the Euphrates River all the land of the Hitti and on to the Great Sea in the west will be your territory.
- (Jos 1:5 CJB) No one will be able to withstand you as long as you live. Just as I was with Moshe, so I will be with you. I will neither fail you nor abandon you.
- (Jos 1:6 CJB) "Be strong, be bold; for you will cause this people to inherit the land I swore to their fathers I would give them.
- (Jos 1:7 CJB) Only be strong and very bold in taking care to follow all the Torah which Moshe my servant ordered you to follow; do not turn from it either to the right or to the left; then you will succeed wherever you go.
- (Jos 1:8 CJB) Yes, keep this book of the Torah on your lips, and meditate on it day and night, so that you will take care to act according to everything written in it. Then your undertakings will prosper, and you will succeed.
- (Jos 1:9 CJB) Haven't I ordered you, 'Be strong, be bold'? So don't be afraid or downhearted, because Adonai your God is with you wherever you go."
- (Jos 1:10 CJB) Y'hoshua instructed the officials of the people
- (Jos 1:11 CJB) to go through the camp and order the people, "Prepare provisions, because in three days you will cross this Yarden to go in and take possession of the land Adonai your God is giving you."
- (Jos 1:12 CJB) To the Re'uveni, the Gadi and the half-tribe of M'nasheh Y'hoshua said,
- (Jos 1:13 CJB) "Remember what Moshe the servant of Adonai ordered you: 'Adonai your God has let you rest and will give you this land.'
- (Jos 1:14 CJB) Your wives, your little ones and your livestock will stay in the land Moshe gave you on the east side of the Yarden; but you are to cross over armed as a fighting force ahead of your brothers, to help them;
- (Jos 1:15 CJB) until Adonai allows your brothers to rest, as he has allowed you; and they too have taken possession of the land Adonai your God is giving them. At that point, you will return to the land which is yours and possess it, the land Moshe the servant of Adonai gave you in `Ever-HaYarden to the east, toward the sunrise."

- (Jos 1:16 CJB) They answered Y'hoshua, "We will do everything you have ordered us to do, and we will go wherever you send us.
- (Jos 1:17 CJB) Just as we listened to everything Moshe said, so will we listen to you. Only may Adonai your God be with you as he was with Moshe.
- (Jos 1:18 CJB) If anyone rebels against your order and doesn't heed what you say in every detail of your order, he will be put to death. Just be strong, be bold!"

1:1-9(S)

- (Jos 1:1 CJB) After the death of Moshe the servant of Adonai, Adonai said to Y'hoshua the son of Nun, Moshe's assistant,
- (Jos 1:2 CJB) "Moshe my servant is dead. So now, get up and cross over this Yarden, you and all the people, to the land I am giving to them, the people of Isra'el.
- (Jos 1:3 CJB) I am giving you every place you will step on with the sole of your foot, as I said to Moshe.
- (Jos 1:4 CJB) All the land from the desert and the L'vanon to the great river, the Euphrates River all the land of the Hitti and on to the Great Sea in the west will be your territory.
- (Jos 1:5 CJB) No one will be able to withstand you as long as you live. Just as I was with Moshe, so I will be with you. I will neither fail you nor abandon you.
- (Jos 1:6 CJB) "Be strong, be bold; for you will cause this people to inherit the land I swore to their fathers I would give them.
- (Jos 1:7 CJB) Only be strong and very bold in taking care to follow all the Torah which Moshe my servant ordered you to follow; do not turn from it either to the right or to the left; then you will succeed wherever you go.
- (Jos 1:8 CJB) Yes, keep this book of the Torah on your lips, and meditate on it day and night, so that you will take care to act according to everything written in it. Then your undertakings will prosper, and you will succeed.
- (Jos 1:9 CJB) Haven't I ordered you, 'Be strong, be bold'? So don't be afraid or downhearted, because Adonai your God is with you wherever you go."

B'rit Hadashah suggested readings for Parashah V'zot HaBrachah: Mattityahu (Matthew) 17:1-9; Mark 9:2-10; Luke 9:28-36; Y'hudah (Jude) 3-4, 8-10

Matthew 17:1-19

- (Mat 17:1 CJB) Six days later, Yeshua took Kefa, Ya`akov and his brother Yochanan and led them up a high mountain privately.
- (Mat 17:2 CJB) As they watched, he began to change form his face shone like the sun, and his clothing became as white as light.
- (Mat 17:3 CJB) Then they looked and saw Moshe and Eliyahu speaking with him.
- (Mat 17:4 CJB) Kefa said to Yeshua, "It's good that we're here, Lord. I'll put up three shelters if you want one for you, one for Moshe and one for Eliyahu."
- (Mat 17:5 CJB) While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them; and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love, with whom I am well pleased. Listen to him!"
- (Mat 17:6 CJB) When the talmidim heard this, they were so frightened that they fell face down on the ground.
- (Mat 17:7 CJB) But Yeshua came and touched them. "Get up!" he said, "Don't be afraid."
- (Mat 17:8 CJB) So they opened their eyes, looked up and saw only Yeshua by himself.
- (Mat 17:9 CJB) As they came down the mountain, Yeshua ordered them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."
- (Mat 17:10 CJB) The talmidim asked him, "Then why do the Torah-teachers say that Eliyahu must come first?"
- (Mat 17:11 CJB) He answered, "On the one hand, Eliyahu is coming and will restore all things;
- (Mat 17:12 CJB) on the other hand, I tell you that Eliyahu has come already, and people did not recognize him but did whatever they pleased to him. In the same way, the Son of Man too is about to suffer at their hands."
- (Mat 17:13 CJB) Then the talmidim understood that he was talking to them about Yochanan the Immerser.

(Mat 17:14 CJB) As they came up to the crowd, a man approached Yeshua, kneeled down in front of him,

(Mat 17:15 CJB) and said, "Sir, have mercy on my son, because he is an epileptic and has such terrible fits that he often falls into the fire or into the water.

(Mat 17:16 CJB) I brought him to your talmidim, but they couldn't heal him."

(Mat 17:17 CJB) Yeshua answered, "Perverted people, without any trust! How long will I be with you? How long must I put up with you? Bring him here to me!"

(Mat 17:18 CJB) Yeshua rebuked the demon, and it came out of the boy, so that from that moment he was healed.

(Mat 17:19 CJB) Then the talmidim went to him privately and said, "Why couldn't we drive it out?"

Mark 9:2-10

(Mar 9:2 CJB) Six days later, Yeshua took Kefa, Ya`akov and Yochanan and led them up a high mountain privately. As they watched, he began to change form,

(Mar 9:3 CJB) and his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than anyone in the world could possibly bleach them.

(Mar 9:4 CJB) Then they saw Eliyahu and Moshe speaking with Yeshua.

(Mar 9:5 CJB) Kefa said to Yeshua, "It's good that we're here, Rabbi! Let's put up three shelters — one for you, one for Moshe and one for Eliyahu."

(Mar 9:6 CJB) (He didn't know what to say, they were so frightened.)

(Mar 9:7 CJB) Then a cloud enveloped them; and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"

(Mar 9:8 CJB) Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Yeshua.

(Mar 9:9 CJB) As they came down the mountain, he warned them not to tell anyone what they had seen until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

(Mar 9:10 CJB) So they kept the matter to themselves; but they continued asking each other, "What is this 'rising from the dead'?"

Luke 9:28-36

- (Luk 9:28 CJB) About a week after Yeshua said these things, he took Kefa, Yochanan and Ya`akov with him and went up to the hill country to pray.
- (Luk 9:29 CJB) As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed; and his clothing became gleaming white.
- (Luk 9:30 CJB) Suddenly there were two men talking with him Moshe and Eliyahu!
- (Luk 9:31 CJB) They appeared in glorious splendor and spoke of his exodus, which he was soon to accomplish in Yerushalayim.
- (Luk 9:32 CJB) Kefa and those with him had been sound asleep; but on becoming fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him.
- (Luk 9:33 CJB) As the men were leaving Yeshua, Kefa said to him, not knowing what he was saying, "It's good that we're here, Rabbi! Let's put up three shelters one for you, one for Moshe and one for Eliyahu."
- (Luk 9:34 CJB) As he spoke, a cloud came and enveloped them. They were frightened as they entered the cloud;
- (Luk 9:35 CJB) and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen. Listen to him!"
- (Luk 9:36 CJB) When the voice spoke, Yeshua was alone once more. They kept quiet at that time they told no one anything of what they had seen.

Jude 3-4, 8-10

- (Jud 1:3 CJB) Dear friends, I was busily at work writing to you about the salvation we share, when I found it necessary to write, urging you to keep contending earnestly for the faith which was once and for all passed on to God's people.
- (Jud 1:4 CJB) For certain individuals, the ones written about long ago as being meant for this condemnation, have wormed their way in ungodly people who pervert God's grace into a license for debauchery and disown our only Master and Lord, Yeshua the Messiah.
- (Jud 1:8 CJB) Likewise, these people, with their visions, defile their own flesh, despise godly authority and insult angelic beings.
- (Jud 1:9 CJB) When Mikha'el, one of the ruling angels, took issue with the Adversary, arguing over the body of Moshe, he did not dare bring against him an insulting charge, but said, "May Adonai rebuke you."

(Jud 1:10 CJB) However, these people insult anything they don't understand; and what they do understand naturally, without thinking, like animals — by these things they are destroyed!