

Erev Yom Kippur

Mishkan haNefesh page 18

Num. 30:3 If a man makes a vow to the ETERNAL or takes an oath imposing an obligation on himself, he shall not break his pledge; he must carry out all that has crossed his lips.

Judg. 11:29 Then the spirit of the LORD came upon Jephthah. He marched through Gilead and Manasseh, passing Mizpeh of Gilead; and from Mizpeh of Gilead he crossed over [to] the Ammonites. 30 And Jephthah made the following vow to the LORD: “If you deliver the Ammonites into my hands, 31 then whatever comes out of the door of my house to meet me on my safe return from the Ammonites shall be the LORD’s and shall be offered by me as a burnt offering.”

32 Jephthah crossed over to the Ammonites and attacked them, and the LORD delivered them into his hands. 33 He utterly routed them—from Aroer as far as Minnith, twenty towns—all the way to Abel-cheramim. So the Ammonites submitted to the Israelites.

34 When Jephthah arrived at his home in Mizpah, there was his daughter coming out to meet him, with timbrel and dance! She was an only child; he had no other son or daughter. 35 On seeing her, he rent his clothes and said, “Alas, daughter! You have brought me low; you have become my troubler! For I have uttered a vow to the LORD and I cannot retract.” 36 “Father,” she said, “you have uttered a vow to the LORD; do to me as you have vowed, seeing that the LORD has vindicated you against your enemies, the Ammonites.”

Yom Kippur Morning

Ta-Nahisi Coates: The Case for Reparations
<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2014/06/the-case-for-reparations/361631/>

Erev Rosh haShanah Sermon

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'No Man is an Island' – John Donne
No man is an island entire of itself; every man
is a piece of the continent, a part of the main;
if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe
is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as
well as any manner of thy friends or of thine
own were; any man's death diminishes me,
because I am involved in mankind.
And therefore never send to know for whom
the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.

Genesis 22:1 Some time afterward, God put Abraham to the test. He said to him, "Abraham," and he answered, "Here I am."

Genesis 22:7 Then Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he answered, "Here I am, my son."

Genesis 22:11 Then an angel of the LORD called to him from heaven: "Abraham! Abraham!" And he answered, "Here I am."

Genesis 27:1 When Isaac was old and his eyes were too dim to see, he called his older son Esau and said to him, "My son." He answered, "Here I am."

Genesis 31:11 And in the dream an angel of God said to me, 'Jacob!' 'Here I am,' I answered.

Genesis 46:2 God called to Israel in a vision by night: "Jacob! Jacob!" He answered, "Here I am."

Exodus 3:4 When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to look, God called to him out of the bush: "Moses! Moses!" He answered, "Here I am."

Rosh haShanah Morning

Bavli Rosh haShanah 16b – from Sefaria.org

Rabbi Kruspedai said that Rabbi Yoḥanan said: Three books are opened on Rosh HaShana: One of wholly wicked, and one of wholly righteous, and one of middling. Wholly righteous are immediately written and sealed for life; wholly wicked are immediately written and sealed for death; middling are left suspended from Rosh HaShana until Yom Kippur. If they merit, they are written for life; if they do not merit, they are written for death.

Rabbi Judith Hauptman's essay

<https://zeramim.org/past-issues/volume-ii-issue-3-spring-2018-5778/a-talmudic-reading-of-the-high-holiday-prayer-untaneh-tokef/>

Resource Material to Accompany the Rabbi's Sermons

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