

Nosh & Learn with Mindy, Parshat Bereishit, TBH-BE, 10/15/2020

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו
במצוותיו, וצונו לעסוק בדברי תורה.

*Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav
v'tzivanu laasok b'divrei Torah.*

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who hallows us with mitzvot,
commanding us to engage with words of Torah.

*Parshat **Bereishit** - Genesis 1:1-6:8*

Genesis 1:26-27

וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים נַעֲשֶׂה אָדָם בְּצַלְמֵנוּ כְּדֹמֹתֵינוּ וַיְרַדּוּ בְדִגְתַּת הַיָּם וּבְעוֹף הַשָּׁמַיִם וּבַבְּהֵמָה וּבְכָל־הָאָרֶץ וּבְכָל־הַרְמֵשׁ הָרֹמֵשׁ עַל־הָאָרֶץ: וַיִּבְרָא אֱלֹהִים אֱת־הָאָדָם בְּצַלְמוֹ בְּצַלְמֵ אֱלֹהִים בָּרָא אֹתוֹ זָכָר וּנְקֵבָה בָּרָא אֹתָם:

And God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. They shall rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the cattle, the whole earth, and all the creeping things that creep on earth.” And God created man in His image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Gen 2:7

וַיִּצְרֶה יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים אֱת־הָאָדָם עָפָר מִן־הָאֲדָמָה וַיִּפַּח בְּאַפָּיו נְשִׁמַת חַיִּים וַיְהִי הָאָדָם לְגִפְשׁ חַיָּה:

the LORD God formed man from the dust of the earth. He blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living being.

Gen 5:1-2

זֶה סֵפֶר תּוֹלְדֹת אָדָם בְּיוֹם בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים אָדָם בְּדְמוּת אֱלֹהִים עָשָׂה אֹתוֹ: זָכָר וּנְקֵבָה בָּרָאם וַיְבָרֶךְ אֹתָם וַיִּקְרָא אֶת־שְׁמֵם אָדָם בְּיוֹם הַבְּרָאָה:

This is the record of Adam's line.—When God created man, He made him in the likeness of God; male and female He created them. And when they were created, He blessed them and called them Man.—

Gen 3:5

כִּי יִדְעַע אֱלֹהִים כִּי בַיּוֹם אֲכַלְכֶם מִמֶּנּוּ וְנִפְקְחוּ עֵינֵיכֶם וְהִייתֶם כְּאֱלֹהִים יֹדְעֵי טוֹב וָרָע:

but God knows that as soon as you eat of it your eyes will be opened and you will be like divine beings who know good and bad.”

Genesis 3:8

וַיִּשְׁמְעוּ אֶת-קוֹל יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים מְתַהַלֵּךְ בְּגֶן לְרוּחַ הַיּוֹם וַיִּתְחַבְּאוּ הָאָדָם וְאִשְׁתּוֹ מִפְּנֵי יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים בְּתוֹךְ עֵץ הָאֵז:

They heard the sound of the LORD God moving about in the garden at the breezy time of day; and the man and his wife hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

Genesis 3:21

וַיַּעַשׂ יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים לְאָדָם וּלְאִשְׁתּוֹ כַּתְּנוֹת עוֹר וַיַּלְבִּשֵׁם:

And the LORD God made garments of skins for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.

Midrash Tanchuma, Vayishlach 10:5

Deeds of loving-kindness are mentioned at the beginning of the Torah, in its middle, and at its conclusion. At the beginning of the Torah, the naked are clothed, as it is said: *The Lord God made for Adam and his wife garments of skin, and He clothed them (Gen. 3:21)*; in the middle of the Torah, the ailing are visited, as it is said: *And God appeared unto him in the grove of Mamre (ibid. 18:1)*; and at the conclusion of the Torah, the dead are buried, as is said: *And he was buried in the valley in the land of Moab (Deut. 34:6)*. In this way you must walk in the ways of the Holy One, blessed be He.

Genesis 4:6-8

וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-קַיִן לָמָּה תָרָה לָךְ וְלָמָּה נָפְלוּ פְנֵיךָ: הֲלוֹא אִם-תֵּיטִיב שְׂאֵת וְאִם לֹא תֵיטִיב לַפֶּתַח חַטָּאת רֹבֵץ וְאֵלֶיךָ תִּשְׁוֹקָתוֹ וְאַתָּה תִּמְשָׁל-בּוֹ: וַיֹּאמֶר קַיִן אֶל-הֶבֶל אָחִיו וַיְהִי בִּהְיוֹתָם בַּשָּׂדֶה וַיִּקָּם קַיִן אֶל-הֶבֶל אָחִיו וַיַּהַרְגֵהוּ:

And the LORD said to Cain, “Why are you distressed, And why is your face fallen? Surely, if you do right, There is uplift. **But if you do not do right Sin couches at the door; Its urge is toward you, Yet you can be its master.**” Cain said to his brother Abel ... and when they were in the field, Cain set upon his brother Abel and killed him.

Bereshit Rava 22:6

Said rabbi Akiva: in the beginning it looks like a thread of a spider, and at the end it becomes like the rope of a boat, since it is written: 'Oy to those who draw iniquity with cords of vanity, and as the ropes of a cart, sin' ([Isaiah 5:18](#)).

Rashi: רשאי: לפתח חטאת רובץ SIN CROUCHETH AT THE ENTRANCE — Right up to the door of your grave (until your death) your sin will be preserved.

Gen 6:1-8

וַיְהִי כִּי־הִחַל הָאָדָם לָרֹב עַל־פְּנֵי הָאֲדָמָה וּבָנֹת יִלְדוּ לָהֶם: וַיֵּרְאוּ בְנֵי־הָאֱלֹהִים אֶת־בָּנוֹת הָאָדָם כִּי טֹבֹת הֵנָּה וַיִּקְחוּ לָהֶם נָשִׁים מִכָּל אֲשֶׁר בָּחָרוּ: וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה לֹא־יִלְדוּן רוּחִי בָאָדָם לְעֹלָם בְּשָׂגֵם הוּא כְּשֶׁר וְהָיוּ יָמָיו מִצָּה וְעֲשָׂרִים שָׁנָה: הַנִּפְלָאִים הָיוּ בְּאָרֶץ כִּימֵי הָהֵם וְגַם אַחֲרֵי־כֵן אֲשֶׁר יָבֹאוּ בְנֵי הָאֱלֹהִים אֶל־בָּנוֹת הָאָדָם וַיִּלְדוּ לָהֶם הַגִּבּוֹרִים אֲשֶׁר מְעוֹלָם אֲנִישֵׁי הַשָּׁמַיִם: וַיֵּרָא יְהוָה כִּי רָבָה רַעַת הָאָדָם בְּאָרֶץ וְכָל־יֶלֶד מִחֻשְׁבֹּת לְבָבוֹ רָק רַע כָּל־הַיּוֹם: וַיִּנָּחֵם יְהוָה כִּי־עָשָׂה אֶת־הָאָדָם בְּאָרֶץ וַיִּתְעַצֵּב אֶל־לְבוֹ: וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֲמַחֶה אֶת־הָאָדָם אֲשֶׁר־בָּרָאתִי מֵעַל פְּנֵי הָאֲדָמָה מֵאָדָם עַד־בְּהֵמָה עַד־רֶמֶשׂ וְעַד־עוֹף הַשָּׁמַיִם כִּי נַחֲמָתִי כִּי עָשִׂיתֶם: וְנָח מִצָּא חַן בְּעֵינַי יְהוָה

When men began to increase on earth and daughters were born to them, the divine beings saw how beautiful the daughters of men were and took wives from among those that pleased them.—

Midrash Tanchuma, Balak 2:1 It would have been better for the wicked if they had been blind, for their eyes bring a curse to the world.

The LORD said, “My breath shall not abide in man forever, since he too is flesh; let the days allowed him be one hundred and twenty years.”—

It was then, and later too, that the Nephilim appeared on earth—when the divine beings cohabited with the daughters of men, who bore them offspring. They were the heroes of old, the men of renown.

Name	View in short
Fallen angels view	Satan and/or his fallen angels bred with human women and had offspring that were called Nephilim.
Fallen angels overtook men view	Fallen angels and/or Satan possessed men and caused them to breed with women.
Sethite view	The sons of God were the godly line from Adam to Seth down to Noah, and the Nephilim were fallen children who sought after false gods.
Fallen men view	Godly men (sons of God) took ungodly wives, and their descendants (Nephilim) followed after the false gods, rejected God, and fell far from God in wickedness.

The LORD saw how great was man's wickedness on earth, and how every plan devised by his mind was nothing but evil all the time. And the LORD regretted that He had made man on earth, and His heart was saddened. The LORD said, "I will blot out from the earth the men whom I created—men together with beasts, creeping things, and birds of the sky; for I regret that I made them."

Midrash Sefer HaYashar: And at that time all the sons of man, as they increased and multiplied begetting sons and daughters upon the face of the earth, turned from the ways of the Lord. And they taught one another their wickedness, and they grew more and more refractory and rebellious against the Lord. And every man manufactured his own god, and they plundered and robbed and persecuted every man his neighbors and his relatives, and they corrupted the earth, and all the earth was full of violence.

But Noah found favor with the LORD.

Sefer HaYashar (midrash), Book of Genesis, Bereshit 15

And when Lamech was one hundred and eighty-one years of age, he went and took Ashmia, the daughter of Elisha, son of Enoch his uncle, to wife, and she conceived. At that time the sons of man sowed and had somewhat of a harvest in return. But the people did not turn from their evil ways and they revolted against their masters. And after a year came around the wife of Lamech bare a son, and Methuselah called his name Noah, saying: The earth has ceased in his days to destroy the seed. But Lamech his father called him Menachem, saying: This one will comfort us concerning our work and the toil of our hands, because of the ground which the Lord hath cursed. And the boy grew up and was weaned, and he walked in the paths of his sire Methuselah, ever upright and perfect with the Lord. And at that time all the sons of man, as they increased and multiplied begetting sons and daughters upon the face of the earth, turned from the ways of the Lord. And they taught one another their wickedness, and they grew more and more refractory and rebellious against the Lord. And every man manufactured his own god, and they plundered and robbed and persecuted every man his neighbors and his relatives, and they corrupted the earth, and all the earth was full of violence. And even their judges and overseers would go among all the daughters of man, and take them to wives by force even from the sides of their husbands, if so they chose. And also of the cattle and of the beasts of the fields, and of the birds of the air, the sons of man would bring together and train them to mate each other, one kind with another kind, in order to provoke the Lord with such transgressions. And God saw the whole earth and behold it was corrupt, for all flesh hath perverted its ways upon the earth, all men as well as all the animals. And the Lord said, I will wipe out the man whom I have created from the entire face of the earth, all flesh, even from man unto the fowl of heaven, the cattle and the beast of the field; for it repenteth me having made them. And the few good men that still remained upon the earth died in those days, before the Lord was to bring about the evil which he resolved to do unto all flesh, for it so pleased the Lord that they should not live to see the great curse which the Lord had pronounced, to come over the sons of man. Noah and his sons however found grace in the eyes of God, and the Lord selected them to preserve through them seed upon the whole earth.