

Nosh & Learn with Mindy, Parshat Ki Tavo, TBH-BE, 9/3/2020

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ
בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ לְעִסּוֹק בְּדִבְרֵי תוֹרָה.

*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 Ki Tavo - Devarim 26:1 – 30:20 – A Promise is a Promise

Deuteronomy 28:10

וְרָאוּ כָּל-עַמֵּי הָאָרֶץ כִּי יֵשֶׁם יְהוָה נִקְרָא עָלֶיךָ וַיִּרְאוּ מִמֶּךָ:

And all the peoples of the earth shall see that the LORD's name is proclaimed over
you, and they shall stand in fear of you.

Deuteronomy 28:14

וְלֹא תִסּוּר מִכָּל-הַדְּבָרִים אֲשֶׁר אָנֹכִי מְצַוֶּה אֶתְכֶם הַיּוֹם יָמִין וּשְׂמֹאל לְלַקֵּת אַחֲרַי אֱלֹהִים אַחֲרַיִם לְעַבְדָּם:

and do not deviate to the right or to the left from any of the commandments that I
enjoin upon you this day and turn to the worship of other gods.

Deuteronomy 29:8

וּשְׁמַרְתֶּם אֶת-דְּבָרֵי הַבְּרִית הַזֹּאת וַעֲשִׂיתֶם אֹתָם לְמַעַן תִּשְׁכְּלִי אֶת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר תַּעֲשׂוּן:

Therefore, observe faithfully all the terms of this **covenant**, that you may succeed
in all that you undertake.

Other Covenant texts:

Genesis 9:11-13

I will maintain My **covenant** with you: never again shall all flesh be cut off by the
waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” God
further said, “This is the sign that I set for the **covenant** between Me and you, and
every living creature with you, for all ages to come. I have set My bow in the
clouds, and it shall serve as a sign of the covenant between Me and the earth.

Genesis 17:4 - 7

G: As for Me, this is My covenant with you: You shall be the father of a multitude of nations. I will maintain My covenant between Me and you, and your offspring to come, as an everlasting **covenant** throughout the ages, to be God to you and to your offspring to come. I assign the land you sojourn in to you and your offspring to come, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting holding. I will be their God.”

Exodus 19:4-6

‘You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to Me. Now then, if you will obey Me faithfully and keep My **covenant**, you shall be My treasured possession among all the peoples. Indeed, all the earth is Mine, but you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the children of Israel.”

Judges 2:1-3

An angel of the LORD came up from Gilgal to Bochim and said, “I brought you up from Egypt and I took you into the land which I had promised on oath to your fathers. And I said, ‘I will never break My **covenant** with you. And you, for your part, must make no **covenant** with the inhabitants of this land; you must tear down their altars.’ But you have not obeyed Me—look what you have done! Therefore, I have resolved not to drive them out before you; they shall become your oppressors, and their gods shall be a snare to you.”

Ki Hinei KaChomer/Yome Kippur Piyyut

If we are the clay in the potter’s hand,
may we mould of ourselves a vessel
in which to hold Your love.

If we are the stone in the mason’s hand,
may we build of ourselves a sanctuary
that You may dwell within.

If we are the iron in the blacksmith’s hand,
may we forge of ourselves a foundation
upholding truth and peace.

If we are the tiller in the helmsman's hand,
 may we steer the ship to safety
 across tempestuous seas.

If we are the glass in the glazier's hand,
 may we make of ourselves a mirror,
 to reflect Your boundless light.

If we are the cloth in the weaver's hand,
 may we make of ourselves a tapestry
 to beautify Your world.

If we are the silver in the silversmith's hand,
 may we shed our dross in the crucible,
 yet our purest essence retain.

Source: Tropper, Elizabeth. Parasha Poems.

<https://parashapoems.wordpress.com/2014/09/30/yom-kippur-if-we-are-the-clay/>

Other transactional promises in the Bible:

Samuel 1:11

And she made this vow: "O LORD of Hosts, if You will look upon the suffering of Your maidservant and will remember me and not forget Your maidservant, and if You will grant Your maidservant a male child, I will dedicate him to the LORD for all the days of his life; and no razor shall ever touch his head."

Ruth 1:16-17

But Ruth replied, "Do not urge me to leave you, to turn back and not follow you. For wherever you go, I will go; wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. Thus and more may the LORD do to me if anything but death parts me from you."

Isaiah 14:1

But the LORD will pardon Jacob, and will again choose Israel, and will settle them on their own soil. And strangers shall join them and shall cleave to the House of Jacob.