

THE TORAH OF LEADERSHIP

Finding a Way Forward | Erica Brown | March 24, 2022



James Tissot, "Moses Smite the Rock in the Desert," Jewish Museum, New York

Numbers 10: 29-34

וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה לְחַבֵּב בֶּן־רְעֻוָּאֵל הַמְדִינִי חֲתָן מֹשֶׁה נֹסְעִים | אֲנַחְנוּ אֶל־הַמָּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר אָמַר יְהוָה אֵתָּו אַתָּו לָכֶם לָכֶה
אֶתְנֶנּוּ וְהַטְּבָנוּ לָךְ כִּי־יִהְיֶה דְבַר־טוֹב עַל־יִשְׂרָאֵל:

וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו לֹא אֵלָךְ כִּי אִם־אֶל־אַרְצִי וְאֶל־מוֹלְדֹתַי אֵלָךְ:

וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל־גָּאֵר תַּעֲזֹב אֶתְנֶנּוּ כִּי | עַל־כֵּן יִלְעָת חֲתַנְתְּנוּ בַמִּדְבָּר וְהִנִּיתָ לָנוּ לְעֵינָיִם:

וְהָיָה כִּי־תִלְקֶה עִמָּנוּ וְהָיָה | הַטּוֹב הַהוּא אֲשֶׁר יִיטִיב יִהְיֶה עִמָּנוּ וְהַטְּבָנוּ לָךְ:

וַיִּסְעוּ מִהָר יְהוָה דָּרָךְ שְׁלִשְׁתַּיִם יָמִים וְאֶרְוֹן בְּרִית־יְהוָה נִסַּע לַפְּנִימָה דָרָךְ שְׁלִשְׁתַּיִם יָמִים לְתוֹר לָהֶם מִבְּרִיתֵהּ:

וַיְהִי בַנִּסָּע הָאֵרוֹן וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה קוֹמָה | יְהוָה וְנִפְצוּ אִבְיָדָה וַיִּגְסוּ מִשָּׁנְאֵיךְ מִפְּגִידָה:

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Moses said to Hobab son of Reuel the Midianite, Moses' father-in-law, "We are setting out for the place of which the Lord has said, 'I will give it to you.' Come with us and we will be generous with you; for the Lord has promised to be generous to Israel." "I will not go," he replied to him, "but will return to my native land." He said, "Please do not leave us, inasmuch as you know where we should camp in the wilderness and can be our guide. So if you come with us, we will extend to you the same bounty that the Lord grants us." They marched from the mountain of the Lord a distance of three days. The Ark of the Covenant of the Lord traveled in front of them on that three days' journey to seek out a resting place for them. When the Ark was to set out, Moses would say: Advance, O Lord! May Your enemies be scattered, and may Your foes flee before You!

Reflective Question

Describe a moment when you felt overwhelmed and you couldn't figure out a way forward.

Leadership Challenge

Who seems overwhelmed in your leadership circles right now? Who could use your counsel?