

# Likkutei Sichos

# Volume 19 | Eikev | Sicha 1 Source Sheet

א.

#### 1. דברים ז':י"ב

וְהָיֶה I עֵקֶב תִּשְׁמְעוּוּ אֵת הַמִּשְׁפָּטִים הָאֵלֶּה וּשְׁמַרְתָּם וַעֲשִיתָם אֹתָם וְשָׁמַר יְהֹוָה אֱלֹהֶיךְ לְךָּ אֶת־הַבְּרִית ׁ וְאֶת־הַחֶּסָד אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁבַּע לַאֲבֹתֵיךִ:

רש"י: והיה עקב תשמעון .אָם הַמִּצְוֹוֹת קַלוֹת שַׁאָדָם דָשׁ בַּעֲקַבָיו תשמעון.

## **Deuteronomy 7:12**

And if you do obey these rules and observe them carefully, Hashem your G-d will maintain faithfully for you the covenant that He made on oath with your fathers:

Rashi: And it will be, because you will heed: Heb. עָקֶב, lit. heel. If you will heed the minor commandments which one [usually] tramples with his heels [i.e., which a person treats as being of minor importance].

## 2. מדרש תנחומא, עקב א':א'

וְּהָיָה עָקֶב. זֶה שָׁאָמֵּר הַכְּתוּב: לְּמָּה אִירָא בִּימִי רָע, עֲוֹן עֲקַבִי יְסוּבֵּנִי (תהלים מט, ו). יִתְבָּרֶךְ שְׁמוֹ שֻׁלְּחַ בְּרוּךְ הוּא שֻׁנְּתַן תּוֹרָה לְיִשְׁרָאֵל שֶׁיֵשׁ בָּהּ שֵׁשׁ מֵאוֹת וּשְׁלֹשׁ עֶשְׁרָה מִצְּוֹת, וְיֵשׁ בָּהֶן קַלּוֹת וַחָמוּרוֹת. וּמִפְּנֵי שֶׁיֵשׁ בָּהֶן מִצְּוֹת שְׁבָּרָהוֹן בְּנִי אָדָם מִשְׁגִּיחִין בְּהֶן אָנְתֹן הַמְּחָת עַקְבִיהָן, כְּלוֹמֵר שֶׁהָן קַלּוֹת, לְפִיכָךְ הָיָה דְּוִד מִתְיֵרָא מִיּוֹם הַדְּין וְאוֹמֵר: רַבּוֹנוֹ שֶׁל עוֹלְהָ, אֵינִי מִתְיֵרָא מִן מְצְּחֹר, שֶׁבָּתוֹרָה, שֶׁהַּתוֹרָה, שֶׁהָן חֲמוּרוֹת. מִמָּה אֲנִי מְתְיֵרָא. מִן הַמִּצְוֹת הַקְּלּוֹת, שֶׁמָּא עָבְרְתִּי עַל אַחָת מֵהֶן, אִם עְשִׁיתִי אִם לֹא עִּשְׁיתִי, מִפְּנֵי שָׁהְוָה קְלָה. וְאַתָּה אָמַרְתָּ, הָוֵי זְהִיר בְּמִצְּוֹה קַלְּה כְּבְמִּצְוֹה חָמוּרָה. לְכָךְ אָמֵר, לְמָה אִירְא בִּימִי רְע וְגוֹי וְהָיָה עַקְב רָב (שם מְּשִׁתְוּן. זֶה שֻׁאָמֵר הַכְּתוּב: הַנָּחֶמְדִים מִזְּהָב וּמִפְּז רָב וְגוֹ' (תהלים יט, יא). וּכְתִיב: גַּם עַבְדְּךְ נְזְהָר בָּהֶם בְּשְׁמְרם עַקְב רָב (שם מְּשִׁמְרם בְּלָבְי תִּוֹרָה בְּבָּי תִּוֹרָה חָבְּיִר תִּוֹרָה תָּבְּיוֹת הְעָבְּבְ וֹתְה בְּלָּת עָבְרְבּ וֹתְנִה הְבָּל מִינִי הַשְּּשְׁמִין מְתִּבְּי תִּוֹרָה חָבִּין מְתוּרְה חָבְּיב וּמְלְבְי תִּוֹבְי תְּוֹרָה חָבְּיִין מְמָרְב וּנְבְי תְּוֹרְה חָבְּבִי תִּוֹרְה חָבְּים מִדְּבָשׁ וְנְפֶת צוּפִים (שם פּסוּק יא). אִמְר רַבִּי בְּלְבְי מִּלְבְי מְשְׁבְּבְי וֹתְרָה בְּבָּי וְנִי הְבְּבְי תִּוֹרְת הְבָּב שְׁבְּבְּי מְנֹרְת בְּבִי תִּלְבְי מִבְּים מִינְבְים מִדְּבְשׁ וְנְבְּי מְנִבְי מְּוֹבְי מְנִבְי מְנִי הָבְעוֹת בְּבְי מְנִבּי מִבְּבְי מְנִי מְבְּבְי מְנִיתְ מְּבְּע עִבְּדְּךְ נְיְהָב מְיב מִבּת בְּם מִּבְּי תְּבְי מָבְיּת בְּב מְּבְי מְבְּי מְנִים בְּבְעוֹת בְּבְּי מְנִי מְרְב מִבְּי מְבְּי בְּמִים מְּבְּבְּי בְּנִב מְּבְי מְבְּי מְבְּי מְבְּי מְבְּי מְבְּי מְבְּים בְּי מְבְיֹם בְּי וְיִבְי מְבְּבְי מְבְּים בְּבְי מְּבְים בְּי מְנִיתְי בְּבְּם בְּבְי מְנִבְי בְּבְּבְּי בְּבְי בְּבְּת בְּבְי בְּבְי בְּבְי בְּבְּי בְּבְּי בְּבְי בְּבְּבְּי בְּבְית בְּבְּבְּי בְּבְי בְּבְית בְּבְי בְּים בְּבְי בְּבְּבְּב יִ

# 2. Midrash Tanchuma, Eikev 1:1

(Deut. 7:12:) "And it shall come to pass if (literally, in the heel of)." This text is related (to Ps. 49:6), "Why should I fear in the evil days, when the iniquity of my heels encompass me?" May the name of the Holy One, blessed be He, be blessed because He has given a Torah to Israel in which there are six hundred and thirteen commandments, some of which are light and some weighty. But because some of the commandments are light, people pay no attention to them. Instead they cast them under their heels [while] saying they are light. For that reason David was afraid of the Day of Judgment and said, "Master of the world, I am not afraid of the weighty commandments which are in the Torah, because they are weighty. Of what am I afraid? Of the light commandments, lest I have transgressed one of them, [not knowing] whether I have fulfilled it or not fulfilled it, because it is light; for you have said, 'Be as mindful of the light commandments as of the weighty commandments." It therefore says (in Ps. 49:6), "Why should I fear in the evil days?" (Deut. 7:12:) "And it shall come to pass if (ekev) you heed [these statutes]." This text is related (to Ps. 19:11-12), "More delightful are they than gold, than much fine gold; [sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the comb]. Also by them is Your servant warned; [in keeping them there is great reward (ekev)]. Come and see how David glorified the words of Torah, where it is stated (ibid.), "More delightful are they than gold, than much fine gold." And not only that, but among all the kinds of grains, none is more precious than pure semolina, which floats upon the [sieve] (zafah benapah); but the words of Torah are more precious than that, as stated (ibid., vs. 11), "sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the comb (nofet zufim)." R. Hanina said, "If you say that among all the beverages none is sweeter than honey, the words of Torah are [even] sweeter than honey." David said to the Holy One, blessed be He, "Master of the universe, if You say that they (the commandments) of the Torah are sweet, Heaven forbid that I should have missed them. Rather (according to vs. 12), 'Also by them is Your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward," [meaning] the light commandments. Therefore it is written (in Ps. 31:20), "How abundant is the good which You have laid up [for those who fear You]...." This is the reward for the light commandments.

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#### 3. שבת פ״ח א-ב

אָמַר רַבִּי אֶלְעָזָר: בְּשָׁעָה שֶׁהַקְדִּימוּ יִשְׂרָאֵל ״נַעֲשֶׂה״ לְ״נִשְׁמִע״ יָצְתָה בַּת קוֹל וְאָמְרָה לָהֶן: מִי גּלָה לְבָנִי רָז זֶה שֶׁמַּלְאֲכֵי הַשְּׁרֵת מְשְׁתִּמְשִׁין בּוֹ? דְּכְתִיב: ״בְּרְכוּ ה׳ מַלְאָכָיו גִּבֹּרֵי כֹחַ עשִׁי דְבָרוֹ לִשְׁמעַ בְּקוֹל דְּבָרוֹ״ — בְּרִישָׁא ״עשִׁי״, וַהָדַר ״לִשְׁמע״. אָמַר רַבִּי חָמָא בְּרָבִּי חָנִינָא: מַאי דְּכְתִיב ״כְּתַפּוּחַ בַּעֲצֵי הַיַּעַר וְגוֹ״ — לְמָה נִמְשְׁלוּ יִשְׁרָאֵל לְתַפּוּחַ, לוֹמֵר לְךְ: מָה תַּפּוּחַ זֶּה פְּרְיוֹ קוֹדֶם לְעָלָיו, אַף יִשְׂרָאֵל הְקְדִּימוּ ״נַצְשֶּׁה״ לְ״נִשְׁמְע״. הָהוּא מִינָא דְּחַזְיֵיִהּ לְרָבָא דְּקָא מְעַיֵּין בְּשְׁמַעְהָּא, וְיָתְבָה אֶצְבְּעָתָא דִידִיהּ תּוּתִי כַּרְעָא וְקָא מְיֵיץ הְיִלְּהָל הָקְדִּימוּ ״נְבְשֶׁה״ לְ״נִשְׁמְע״. הָהוּא מִינָא דְּחַזְיֵיה לְרָבָא דְּקָא מְעַיֵּין בְּשְׁמַעְהָּא, וְיָתְבָה אֶצְבְּעָתָא דִידִיהּ תּוּתִי כַּרְעָא וְקְא מִיֵּיץ הְבָּבְעָי, וְבִייְב בְּן אֶבְּבְעָתָא דִּקִייִם תּוּב בְּן הָעִימִיתוּ. בְּנִיְיכוּ לְּקוֹים לְּנִייִלוּ בְּבְּעָלִיתוּ בְּבָּוֹיתוּ בְּקִימִיתוּ בְּנִייְלוּ בְּעְלִימוּת כְּתִיב בַּן: ״תַּמַּת יְשָׁרִים תַּנְחָם יִשְׁדָם יִּלְּהָי בְּנְיִים הְּנְּמִיתוּ בְּיִלְימוּ הְשָׁבְילִיתוּ, וְאִי לָא — לָא קְבְּלִיתוּ. אֲמַר לֵיה: אֲנֵן דְּסְגִּין בְּשְׁלִימוּתָא כְּתִיב בַּן: ״תֻּמַת יְשָׁרִים תִּעָּח שִּיּבְים יִשְׁדָם יִשְׁדָם.

#### Shabbat 88a-b

Rabbi Elazar said: When the Jewish people accorded precedence to the declaration "We will do" over "We will hear," a Divine Voice emerged and said to them: Who revealed to my children this secret that the ministering angels use? As it is written: "Bless Hashem, you angels of His, you mighty in strength, that fulfill His word, hearkening unto the voice of His word" (Psalms 103:20). At first, the angels fulfill His word, and then afterward they hearken. Rabbi Ḥama, son of Rabbi Ḥanina, said: What is the meaning of that which is written: "As an apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved

among the sons. Under its shadow I delighted to sit and its fruit was sweet to my taste" (Song of Songs 2:3)? Why were the Jewish people likened to an apple tree? It is to tell you that just as this apple tree, its fruit grows before its leaves, so too, the Jewish people accorded precedence to "We will do" over "We will hear." The Gemara relates that a heretic saw that Rava was immersed in studying halakha, and his fingers were beneath his leg and he was squeezing them, and his fingers were spurting blood. Rava did not notice that he was bleeding because he was engrossed in study. The heretic said to Rava: You impulsive nation, who accorded precedence to your mouths over your ears. You still bear your impulsiveness, as you act without thinking. You should listen first. Then, if you are capable of fulfilling the commands, accept them. And if not, do not accept them. He said to him: About us, who proceed wholeheartedly and with integrity, it is written: "The integrity of the upright will guide them" (Proverbs 11:3), whereas about those people who walk in deceit, it is written at the end of the same verse: "And the perverseness of the faithless will destroy them."

#### 4. ישעיהו מ״ב:י״ט

ָמִי עוַרֹ כִּי אִם־עַבְדִּי וְחֵרֵשׁ כְּמַלְאָכִי אֶשְׁלֶח מֵי עוַרֹ כִּמְשַׁלֶּם וְעוַּר כְּעֵבֶד יְהוָה:

#### Isaiah 42:19

Who is so blind as My servant, So deaf as the messenger I send? Who is so blind as the chosen one, So blind as the servant of Hashem?

ה.

#### 5. קהלת ד':י"ג

ָטוֹב יֵלֵד מִסְכֵּן וְחָכֶם מִמֵּלֵךְ זָקֵן וּכְסִיל אֲשֵׁר לֹא־יַדַע לְהִזָּהַר עוֹד:

**רש"י: מִמֶּלֶךְ זָקֵן וּכְסִיל** .זֶה יֵצֶר הָרַע, שֶׁהוּא שַׁלִּיט עַל כָּל־הָאֵבָרִים .זָקֵן .שֶׁמִשְׁעָה שֶׁנּוֹלֶד הַוְּלֶד, הוּא נָתוּן בּוֹ, שֶׁנֶּאֶמַר, "לַפֶּתַח חַטָּאת רֹבֵץ :"וּכְסִיל .שֶׁמַתְעַהוּ בְּדֶרֶךְ רָעָה, כַּךְ נִדְרָשׁ בַּמִּדְרָשׁ:

#### **Ecclesiastes 4:13**

Better a poor but wise youth than an old but foolish king who no longer has the sense to heed warnings.

**Rashi: Than an old and foolish king.** This is the evil inclination, which rules over all the limbs. "Old," for when a child is born, it comes to him, as it is stated, "sin rests at the opening." **And foolish.** Because it misleads him in the way of evil. It is expounded in the Midrash in this manner.

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#### 6. מדרש תנחומא, תולדות ה':ג'

ָּהָמָן בָּקֵשׁ לְהַשְּמִיד אֶת כָּל הַיְּהוּדִים, וַה' לֹא בָּקֵשׁ, וְנַהָפּוֹךְ הוּא אֲשֶׁר יִשְׁלְטוּ הַיְּהוּדִים וְגוֹ' (אסתר ט, א). בָּלָק וּבִּלְעָם בָּקְשׁוּ לְקַצֵּל אָת יִשְׂרָאֵל, וַה' לֹא בָקֵשׁ, שֶׁנֶּאֲמַר: וְלֹא אָבָה ה' אֱלֹהֶיךְ לְשְׁמֹעַ אֶל בִּלְעָם וְגוֹ' (דברים כג, ו). לְפִיכְךְ כְּתִיב: מִי זֶה אָמַר וַתָּהִי, ה' לֹא צָּוָה. הָוֵי, כָּל כְּלִי יוּצַר עְלַיִּךְ לֹא יִצְלָח. אַדְריָּאנוֹס אָמַר לְרַבִּי יְהוֹשֻׁעַ, גְּדוֹלָה הַכִּבְשָׂה הָעוֹמֶדֶת בֵּין שָׁבְעִים זְאַבִים. אָמַר לוֹ: גָּדוֹל הוּא הָרוֹעָה שְׁמַצִילָה וְשׁוֹמְרָה וְשׁוֹבְרָן לְפָנֵיהָ. הָוֵי, כָּל כִּלִי יוּצַר עְלַיִּךְ לֹא יִצְלָח.

## Midrash Tanchuma, Toldot 5:3

Haman wanted to destroy all the Jews, but the Holy One, blessed be He, did not desire it, and therefore: Whereas it was turned to the contrary, that the Jews ruled over them that hated them (Est. 9:1). Balaam and Balak wanted to curse Israel, but the Holy One, blessed be He, did not agree, as it is said: Nevertheless,

Hashem thy G-d will not hearken unto Balaam (Deut. 23:6). Hence it is said: Who is he that saith, and it came to pass, when Hashem commandeth it not? (Lam. 3:37). Hadrian said to R. Joshua: "Mighty is the lamb that can survive among seventy wolves." And he replied: "Mighty is the shepherd who can save and protect the lamb, and destroy the

7. תהילים כ"ג:א"-ב"

ַמִזְמָוֹר לְדָוֶד יְהוֶה רֹעִי לְא אֶחְסֵר: בִּנְאָוֹת דֶּשֶׁא יַרְבִּיצֵנִי עַל־מֵי מְנַחַוֹת יְנַהֲלֵנִי:

## Psalms 23:1-2

A psalm of David. Hashem is my shepherd; I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside the still waters.