

# B"H

# Likkutei Sichos Source Sheet

# Volume 16 | Yisro | Sicha 1

# 1. מכילתא דרבי ישמעאל י״ח:א׳:

וישמע. מה שמועה שמע ובא, מלחמת עמלק שמע ובא, שהיא כתובה בצדו, דברי ר' יהושע. ר' אלעזר המודעי אומר, מתן תורה שמע ובא, שבשעה שנתנה תורה לישראל זעו כל מלכי האדמה בהיכליהם, שנאמר (תהלים כט) ובהיכלו כלו אומר כבוד... רבי אליעזר אומר, קריעת ים סוף שמע ובא, שבשעה שנקרע ים סוף נשמע מסוף העולם ועד סופו, שנא' (יהושע ה א) ויהי כשמוע כל מלכי האמורי...

## Mechilta d'Rabbi Yishmael 18:1

(Shemos 18:1) "And Yithro heard": What did he hear that caused him to come (and join Israel)? The war with Amalek, which is juxtaposed with this section. These are the words of R. Yehoshua. He heard of the (prospective) giving of the Torah and he came. For when the Torah was to be given to Israel, all the kings of the earth shook in their palaces, viz. (Psalms 29:9) "and (each king) in his palace accorded glory"... R. Eliezer says: Yithro heard the splitting of the sea and came (to join Israel). For the splitting of the sea was heard from one end of the world to the other, viz. (Joshua 5:1) "And it was, when all the kings of the Emori heard, etc." ...

#### 2. רש"י על שמות י״ח:א׳

:וישמע יתרו. מַה שְׁמוּעָה שָׁמַע וּבָא? קְרִיעַת יַם סוּף וּמִלְחֶמֶת עֲמָלֵק

יתרו. שָׁבַע שֵׁמוֹת נִקְרְאוּ לוֹ: רְעוּאֵל, יֶתֶר, יִתְרוֹ, חוֹבָב, חֶבֶר, קֵינִי, פּוּטִיאֵל; יֶתֶר, עַל שֵׁם שֶׁיִּתֵּר פָּרָשָׁה אַחַת בַּתּוֹרָה "וְאַתָּה תֶחֶזֶה"; יִתְרוֹ, לְכְשָׁנִּתְגַּיֵר וְקִיֵם הַמִּצְוּוֹת, הוֹסִיפּוֹ לוֹ אוֹת אֶחָד עַל שְׁמוֹ; חוֹבָב, שֶׁחִבֵּב אֶת הַתּוֹרָה; חוֹבָב הוּא יִתְרוֹ שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר "מִבְּנֵי חוֹבָב חֹתֵן משֶׁה" (שופטים ד'), וְיֵשׁ אוֹמְרִים רְעוּאֵל אָבִיו שֶׁל יִתְרוֹ, וּמַהוּ אוֹמֵר "וַתָּבֹאנָה אֶל רְעוּאֵל אֲבִיהֶן"? שֶׁהַתִּינוֹקוֹת קוֹרִין לַאֲבִי אֲבִיהֶן אַבָּא. בְּסְפְרֵי:

## Rashi on Shemos 18:1

**Now...Jethro...heard:** What news did he hear that [made such an impression that] he came? The splitting of the Red Sea and the war with Amalek. — [from Zev. 116a, and Mechilta, combining the views of Rabbi Joshua and Rabbi Eliezer]

Jethro: He was called by seven names: Reuel, Jether, Jethro [i.e., Yithro], Hobab, Heber, Keni, [and] Putiel (Mechilta). [He was called] Jether (יֶתָר) because he [caused] a section to be added (יְתֵר) to the Torah [namely]: "But you shall choose" (below verse 21). [He was called] Jethro (יִתֵר) [to indicate that] when he converted and fulfilled the commandments, a letter was added to his name. [He was called] Hobab (חֹבָר) [which means lover] because he loved (חִבָּר) the Torah. Hobab was indeed Jethro, as it is said: "of the children of Hobab, Moses' father-in-law" (Jud. 4:11). Others say that Reuel was Jethro's father. [If so,] what [is the meaning of] what it [Scripture] says [referring to the daughters of Jethro]: "They came to their father Reuel" (Exod. 2:18)? Because [young] children call their grandfather "Father." [This appears] in Sifrei (Beha'alothecha 10:29).

#### 3. ברכות ח׳ א

וְהַיִינוּ דְּאָמַר רַבִּי חָיָּיא בַּר אַמֵּי מִשְׁמֵיהּ דְּעוּלָא: מִיּוֹם שֶׁחָרַב בֵּית הַמִּקְדָּשׁ אֵין לו לְהַקֶּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךָ הוּא בְּעוֹלָמוֹ אֶלָא אַרְבַּע אַמּוֹת שֶׁל הֲלָכָה בִּלְבַד.

#### Berachot 8a

And this concept, that *halakha* is the most sublime pursuit, is expressed in that which **Rabbi Hiyya bar Ami said in the name of Ulla: Since the day the Temple,** where the Divine Presence rested in this world, **was destroyed, the Holy One, Blessed be He, has only** one place **in His world** where he reveals His presence exclusively; **only the four cubits** where the study **of** *halakha* is undertaken.

#### 4. .הקדמת הרמב"ם למשנה ט״ז:מ״א

ואמרו (פ"ק דברכות דף ח.) אין להקב"ה בעולמו אלא ארבע אמות של הלכה בלבד והשב לבך לזה הדבר שאם תסתכל אותו על פשוטו תמצאנו רחוק מאד מן האמת כאילו ארבע אמות של הלכה בלבד היא התכונה הנדרשת ושאר החכמות והדעות מושלכות אחר גויו. ובזמן שם ועבר ואחריו שלא היתה שם הלכה הנוכל לומר שאין להקב"ה חלק בעולם כלל. (עיי"ש בארוכה)

#### Rambam Introduction to the Mishnah 16:41

And they said (Berachot 8a), "The Holy One, blessed be He, only has in His world the four cubits of the law (halakha) alone." And put your heart to this thing – since if you examine it according to its simple meaning, you will find it very far from the truth; as if the four cubits of the law alone are the appropriate focus and the other wisdoms and traits are thrown behind His back. And at the time of Shem and Ever and after it, when there was no halakha, can we say the there is no share in the world to the Holy One, blessed be He, at all?

# 5. ברכות ל״א א:י״ב

ּוְכֵן לֹא יִפָּטֵר אָדָם מֵחֲבֵרוֹ לֹא מִתּוֹךְ שִׂיחָה, וְלֹא מִתּוֹךְ שְׂחוֹק, וְלֹא מִתּוֹךְ קַלּוּת רֹאשׁ, וְלֹא מִתּוֹךְ דְּבָרִים בְּטֵלִים, אֶלָא מִתּוֹךְ דְּבַר הֶלָכָה. שֶׁכֵן מָצִינוּ בַּנְּבִיאִים הָרִאשׁוֹנִים, שֶׁסִּייְמוּ דִּבְרֵיהֶם בְּדִבְרֵי שֶׁבַח

#### Berachot 31a:12

Similarly, a person should neither take leave of another from an atmosphere of conversation, nor from an atmosphere of laughter, nor from an atmosphere of frivolity, nor from an atmosphere of purposeless matters. Rather, one should take leave of another from involvement in a matter of halakha. As we found in the books of the Bible dealing with the early prophets, that they would conclude their talks with words of praise and consolation.

#### 6. שמות ט״ז:כ״ט

#### Shemos 16:29

See that the Lord has given you the Sabbath. Therefore, on the sixth day, He gives you bread for two days. Let each man remain in his place; let no man leave his place on the seventh day

#### 7. רש"י על שמות ט״ז:כ״ט

שבו איש תחתיו. מִכָּאן סָמְכוּ חֲכָמִים ד' אַמּוֹת לַיּוֹצֵא חוּץ לַתְּחוּם (ערובין נ"א):

#### Rashi on Shemos 16:29:2

Let each man remain in his place: From here the Sages supported [the law of] four cubits for one who leaves the Sabbath limits [i.e., the 2,000 cubits from one's city that one is permitted to

walk and no more than four cubits from one's place], three [cubits] for his body and one [cubit] to stretch his hands and feet. — [from Er. 51b]

# 8. עירובין מ״ח א

כּדְתַנְיָא: ״שִׁבוּ אִישׁ תַּחְתָּיו״ — כְּתַחְתָּיו. [וְכַמָּה תַּחְתָּיו] גּוּפּוֹ שָׁלשׁ אַמּוֹת, וְאַמָּה כְּדֵי לִפְשׁוֹט יָדָיו וְרַגְלָיו — דִּבְרֵי רַבִּי מֵאִיר. רַבִּי יְהוּדָה אוֹמֵר: גּוּפּוֹ שָׁלשׁ אַמּוֹת, וְאַמָּה כְּדֵי שֶׁיּטוֹל חֵפֶץ מִתַּחַת מַרְגְלוֹתָיו וּמַנִּיחַ תַּרַאֲשׁוֹתָיו.

#### Eruvin 48a

The Gemara answers: As it was taught in a *baraita*: The verse "Remain every man in his place; let no man go out of his place on the seventh day" (Shemos 16:29), means one must restrict his movement to an area equal to his place. And how much is the area of his place? A person's body typically measures three cubits, and an additional cubit is needed in order to allow him to spread out his hands and feet, this is the statement of Rabbi Meir. Rabbi Yehuda says: A person's body measures three cubits, and an additional cubit is needed in order to allow him to pick up an object from under his feet and place it under his head, meaning, to give him room to maneuver.

#### 9. שבת פ״ח א:ד׳

דְּרַשׁ הַהוּא גָּלִילָאָה עֲלֵיהּ דְּרַב חִסְדָּא: בְּרִיךְ רַחֶמָנָא דִּיהַב אוֹרְיָאן תְּלִיתַאי, לְעַם תְּלִיתַאי, עַל יְדֵי תְּלִיתַאי, בְּיוֹם תְּלִיתַאי, בְּיַרְחָא תְּלִיתַאי. כְּמַאן — כְּרַבָּנַן.

#### Shabbos 88a

A Galilean taught, while standing above Rav Hisda: Blessed is the all-Merciful One, Who gave the three-fold Torah: Torah, Prophets, and Writings, to the three-fold nation: Priests, Levites, and Israelites, by means of a third-born: Moses, who followed Aaron and Miriam in birth order, on the third day of the separation of men and women, in the third month: Sivan. On whose opinion is this homily based? It is based on the opinion of the Rabbis, who hold that the Torah was given on the third day of separation and not on the fourth day.

## 10. זוהר א׳:ק״ל ב

ַמַאי לִמְחַכֵּה לוֹ, כְּמָא דְאַתְּ אָמֵר (איוב ל״ב:ד׳) חִכָּה אֶת אִיּוֹב בִּדְבָרִים. וְאַלֵּין אִינוּן דְּדָחֲקִין לְמִלָּה דְחָכְמְתָא, וְדָיִיקִין לָהּ, וּמְחַכָּאן לָהּ לְמִנְדַע בְּרִירָא דְמִלֶה, וְאִשְׁתְּמוֹדְעָא לְמָאֵרֵיהוֹן, אָלֵין אִינוּן דְּמָארֵיהוֹ אִינוּן דְּעָאלִין בֵּין עִלָּאִין קַדִּישִׁין, וְאִלֵין עָאלִין כָּל תַּרְעֵי דִלְעֵילָא וְלֵית מַאן דְּיִמְחֵי בִּידֵהוֹן, זַכָּאָה חוּלָקֵיהוֹן בְּעַלְמָא דֵין וּבְעַלְמָא דְאָתֵי.

## Zohar 1:130b

What is meant by, "For him that waits for Him?" He replies that it is similar to the verse, "waited to speak to Job" (Iyov 32:4). This refers to those who are anxious to fully understand some words of wisdom, thereby better understanding their Master. In them, the Master takes pride daily. They enter the upper gates and come among the supernal saints without meeting any obstacles. Happy is their portion in this world and the World to Come.

\*\*\*