

חומש עם רש"י • מטות-מסעי • שלישי

Complete Word-for-Word Interlinear • Navy & Gold Edition

MATOT-MASEI • 3RD ALIYAH

CHAPTER PREVIEW

In this aliyah, we learn about the request of the Bnei Reuven and Bnei Gad, who possessed immense herds of cattle. Recognizing that the fertile lands of Yazer and Gilad on the eastern side of the Yarden were perfectly suited for livestock, they approached Moshe Rabbeinu, Elazar HaKohen, and the leaders of the community with a request to receive this territory as their permanent inheritance instead of crossing over the Yarden.

Moshe Rabbeinu immediately objects to their request with great warmth and concern for the rest of Klal Yisrael. He rebukes them, asking if their brothers should go to war while they remain behind in comfort, and warns them that their reluctance could demoralize the nation, comparing their actions to the tragic sin of the Meraglim at Kadesh-barnea.

All introductions, summaries, and contextual notes are the editor's commentary and are not part of the original text.

פסוק א

Pasuk 1

וּמִקְנֵה רַב הָיָה לְבְנֵי רְאוּבֵן וּלְבְנֵי גָד עֲצוּם מְאֹד
very vast Gad and to the children of Reuven to the children of there was abundant And livestock

וַיֵּרְאוּ אֶת אֶרֶץ יַעֲזֵר וְאֶת אֶרֶץ גִּלְעָד וְהִנֵּה הַמָּקוֹם מְקוֹם מִקְנֵה:
livestock was a place of the place and behold Gilead the land of and — Yazer the land of — and they saw

פסוק ב

Pasuk 2

וַיָּבֹאוּ בְנֵי גָד וּבְנֵי רְאוּבֵן וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֶל מֹשֶׁה וְאֶל אֶלְעָזָר
Elazar and to Moshe to and they said Reuven and the children of Gad the children of And they came

הַכֹּהֵן וְאֶל נְשִׂיائֵי הָעֵדָה לֵאמֹר:
saying the congregation the princes of and to the Kohen

פסוק ג

Pasuk 3

עֲטָרוֹת וְדִיבֹן וַיַּעֲזֵר וְנִמְרָה וְחֶשְׁבּוֹן וְאֶלְעֵלָה וּשְׁבָם וְנֶבֹ וְבֶעֶן:
and Beon and Nevo and Sevam and Elaleh and Cheshbon and Nimrah and Yazer and Divon Ataros

רש"י

עטרות ודיבן וגו'. מארץ סיחון ועוג היו:
they were and Og Sichon from the land of etc. and Dibon Ataroth

פסוק ד

הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר הִכָּה יְהוָה לִפְנֵי עֵדֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶרֶץ מִקְנָה הִוא

it is livestock a land of Yisrael the congregation of before Hashem smote that the land

וְלַעֲבָדֶיךָ מִקְנָה:

there is livestock and to your servants

פסוק ה

וַיֹּאמְרוּ אִם מָצָאנוּ חֵן בְּעֵינֶיךָ יִתֵּן אֶת הָאָרֶץ הַזֹּאת לַעֲבָדֶיךָ

to your servants this the land — let be given in your eyes favor we have found if And they said

לְאַחֲזָהּ אֶל תַּעֲבִרְנוּ אֶת הַיַּרְדֵּן:

the Jordan — bring us across do not for a possession

פסוק ו

וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה לְבָנֵי גָד וּלְבָנֵי רְאוּבֵן הָאֲחִיכֶם יָבֹאוּ לְמִלְחָמָה

to the war go shall your brothers Reuven and to the children of Gad to the children of Moshe And said

וְאַתֶּם תֵּשְׁבוּ פֹה:

here will dwell and you

רש"י

האחִיכֶם. לְשׁוֹן תְּמִימָה הִוא:

it is wonderment an expression of Shall your brethren

פסוק ז

וְלָמָּה תִּנּוּאוּן אֶת לֵב בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל מֵעֵבֵר אֶל הָאָרֶץ

the land to from crossing Yisrael the children of the heart of — will you turn will you turn and why

אֲשֶׁר נָתַן לָהֶם יְהוָה:

Hashem to them gave that

רש"י

וְלָמָּה תִּנּוּאוּן. תְּסִירוּ וְתִמְנִיעוּ לָבָם מֵעֵבֵר, שִׁיחִיו סְבוּרִים שְׂאֵתָם

that you thinking that they will be from passing over their heart and you will withhold you will remove will you turn aside and why

יִרְאִים לַעֲבֹר מִפְּנֵי הַמִּלְחָמָה וְחֹזֶק הָעָרִים וְהָעָם:

and the people the cities and the strength of the war because of to pass over are afraid

פסוק ח

כֹּה עָשׂוּ אֲבֹתֵיכֶם בְּשַׁלְּחִי אֹתָם מִקַּדֵּשׁ בְּרִנֵּעַ לִרְאוֹת אֶת הָאָרֶץ:

the land — to see Barnea from Kadesh them when I sent your fathers did Thus

רש"י

מקדש ברנע. כה שמה, ושתי קדש היו:
there were places named Kadesh and two was its name so Barnea From Kadesh

פסוק ט

Pasuk 9

ויעלו עד נחל אשכול ויראו את הארץ ויניאו את לב
the heart of — and they turned the land — and they saw Eshcol the valley of until And they went up
בני ישראל לבלתי בא אל הארץ אשר נתן להם יהוה:
Hashem to them gave which the land into to enter not Yisrael the children of

פסוק י

Pasuk 10

ויחר אף יהוה ביום ההוא וישבע לאמר:
saying and He swore that on the day Hashem the anger of And was incensed

פסוק יא

Pasuk 11

אם יראו האנשים העלים ממצרם מבין עשרים שנה ומעלה את
— and upward years twenty from a son of from Mitzrayim who came up the men they shall see If
האדמה אשר נשבעתי לאברהם ליצחק וליעקב כי לא מלאו
they followed fully not because and to Yaakov to Yitzchak to Avraham I swore that the land
אחרי:
after Me

פסוק יב

Pasuk 12

בלתי כלב בן יפנה הקנזי ויהושע בן נון כי מלאו אחרי יהוה:
Hashem after they fulfilled for Nun son of and Yehoshua the Kenizzite Yefuneh son of Calev except

רש"י

הקנזי. חורגו של קנז היתה וילדה לו אמו של כלב את עתניאל סוטה י"א:
11b Sotah Othniel — Caleb of the mother to him and she bore he was Kenaz of the stepson The Kenezite

פסוק יג

Pasuk 13

ויחר אף יהוה בישראל וינעם במדבר ארבעים שנה
years forty in the wilderness and He made them against Yisrael Hashem the anger of And was kindled
עד תם כל הדור העשה הרע בעיני יהוה:
Hashem in the eyes of the evil that did the generation all the end of until

רש"י

וינעם. ויטלטלם, מן "נע ונד" בראשית ד :
four Bereishis and a vagabond a wanderer from and He wandered them and He moved them

פסוק יד

Pasuk 14

והנה קמתם תחת אבותיכם תרבות אנשים חטאים לספות עוד על
upon still more to add sinful men a breed of your fathers in place of you have arisen and behold
חרון אף יהיה אל ישראל:
Yisrael toward Hashem the anger of the wrath of

רש"י

לספות. כמו "ספו שנה על שנה" ישעיהו כ"ט , "עלותיכם ספו" וגו' ירמיהו ז' ,
7 Yirmeyahu and soon add your burnt-offerings 29 Yeshayahu year upon year add like to add
לשון תוספת:
addition an expression of

פסוק טו

Pasuk 15

כי תשובן מאחרי ויסף עוד להניחו במדבר ושחתם
and you will destroy in the wilderness to leave them again and He will continue from after Him you turn back If
לכל העם הזה:
this the people · all

פסוק טז

Pasuk 16

ויגשו אליו ויאמרו גדרת צאן נבנה למקננו פה וערים
and cities here for our livestock we will build flocks pens of and they said him And they approached
לטפנו:
for our children

רש"י

נבנה למקננו פה. חסים היו על ממונם יותר מבניהם ובנותיהם,
and their daughters than their sons more their property upon they were sparing here for our cattle We will build
שהקדימו מקניהם לטפם. אמר להם משה "לא כן, עשו העקר עקר
primary the primary make so not Moshe to them said to their children their cattle since they preceded
והטפל טפל, בנו לכם תחלה ערים לטפכם ואחר כן גדרות לצאנכם"
for your sheep pens so and after for your children cities first for yourselves build secondary and the secondary
תנחומא:
Tanchuma

פסוק יז

וַאֲנַחֲנוּ נַחֲלִיץ חַשִּׁים לְפָנֵי בְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל עַד אֲשֶׁר אָם הִבִּיאֲנָם אֶל
 to we have brought them · that until Yisrael the children of before quickly will arm and we
 מְקוֹמָם וַיָּשָׁב טַפּוֹנוּ בְּעָרֵי הַמְּבָצָר מִפְּנֵי יֹשְׁבֵי הָאָרֶץ:
 the land the inhabitants of because of the fortification in the cities of our children and shall dwell their place

רש"י

ואנחנו נחליץ חשים. נזדיין מהירים, כמו "מהר שָׁלַל חַשׁ בּוֹ" ישעיהו ח',
 eight Yeshayahu prey speedeth spoil hasteth like speeding we shall arm speedily shall arm and we
 "ימהר יחיש" שם ה':
 five there let Him speed let Him make haste

רש"י

לפני בני ישראל. בראשי גיסות, מתוך שגבורים היו, שכן נאמר בגד
 of Gad it is said for so they were that mighty men because the troops at the heads of Yisrael the children of Before
 דברים ל"ג "וְטָרַף זָרוּעַ אֵף קִדְקִד"; וְאֵף מֹשֶׁה חֹזֵר וּפִרַשׁ לָהֶם בְּאֵלָהּ
 in These to them and explained returned Moshe and also the crown of head also the arm and he tears 33 Devarim
 הַדְּבָרִים דְּבָרִים ג' "וְאֵצֻ" אֲתָכֶם בְּעֵת הַהוּא וְגו' תְּלוּצִים תַּעֲבֹרוּ לְפָנֵי
 before you shall pass armed etcetera that at the time you And I commanded 3 Devarim the Words
 אֲחֵיכֶם בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל כָּל בְּנֵי חֵיל, וּבִירִיחוֹ כְּתִיב יְהוֹשֻׁעַ ו' "וְהָחֲלוּץ
 and the armed force 6 Yehoshua it is written And in Yericho valour men of all Yisrael the children of your brothers
 עוֹבֵר הָלַךְ לִפְנֵיהֶם" — זֶה רְאוּבֵן וְגַד שִׁקְיָמוֹ תְּנָאָם:
 their condition who fulfilled and Gad Reuven this before them went passing

רש"י

וישב טפנו. בעודנו אצל אחינו:
 our brethren with while we are our little ones and shall stay

רש"י

בערי המבצר. שנבנה עכשו:
 now that we will build the fortification in the cities of

פסוק יח

לֹא נָשׁוּב אֶל בְּתִינוּנוֹ עַד הַתְּנַחֵל בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אִישׁ נַחֲלָתוֹ:
 his inheritance each man Yisrael the children of have inherited until our homes to we will return not

פסוק יט

כִּי לֹא נִנְחַל אִתָּם מֵעַכְרָ לִירְדֵן וְהָלָא כִּי בָּאָה נַחֲלָתֵנוּ אֵלֵינוּ
 to us our inheritance has come for and beyond of the Jordan from the side with them we will inherit not for
 מֵעַכְרָ הִירְדֵן מִזְרָחָה:
 eastward of the Jordan from the side

מעבר לירדן והלאה. בְּעֶבֶר הַמַּעֲרָבִי:

the western on the side and yonder of the Jordan From the side

כי באה נחלתנו. כָּבֵר קִבְּלָנוּהָ בְּעֶבֶר הַמַּזְרָחִי:

eastern on the side we have received it already our inheritance has come for

CHAPTER SUMMARY

After Moshe Rabbeinu warns them that repeating the sins of their fathers would bring Hashem's wrath and cause the entire nation to perish in the wilderness, the Bnei Gad and Bnei Reuven draw near to offer a compromise. They propose to build sheepfolds for their livestock and fortified cities for their young children, while they themselves will arm quickly and serve as the vanguard, leading the rest of Klal Yisrael into battle. They pledge not to return to their homes on the east side of the Yarden until every single Yid has successfully received his inheritance on the west side.

למעשה WHAT TO TAKE HOME

Look at the order of priorities the Bnei Gad and Bnei Reuven present to Moshe Rabbeinu. They step forward and say, "We will build here sheepfolds for our flocks, and towns for our children." Rashi immediately points out their mistake: they put their money before their souls, caring more for their cattle than for their own sons and daughters. Moshe has to gently correct them, telling them to build "towns for your children" first, and only then "folds for your sheep."

It is so easy to fall into this exact same trap in our own lives. We get so caught up in the daily grind of making a living, securing our finances, and managing our physical assets that we accidentally put our "cattle" before our children. We spend our best energy on our businesses and careers, leaving only the leftovers for our families, our Torah learning, and our relationship with Hashem.

Today, take a honest look at your schedule and your focus. Make sure you are putting the main thing first. Before you invest your heart into your material assets, invest it into your home, your children's chinuch, and your own spiritual growth.