חוּמָּשׁ עִם רַשִׁ"י · ויגש · שִׁשִּׁי

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

VAYIGASH · 6TH ALIYAH

📖 CHAPTER PREVIEW

In this aliyah, Yaakov Avinu makes his way to Mitzrayim, sending Yehudah ahead to set up a place of learning and prepare Goshen. The holy reunion between Yaakov and Yosef follows, bringing years of deep pain to a close as Yaakov beholds his son alive. Yosef then strategically instructs his family on how to present themselves to Pharaoh so that they will be settled separately in Goshen, away from the Egyptian culture.

Yosef brings a delegation of his brothers, along with Yaakov Avinu, to meet Pharaoh. Yaakov gives his berachah to the king, answers his questions about his age, and the family is granted permission to dwell in the prime land of Goshen, ensuring their spiritual separation and livelihood during the remaining years of the famine.

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

פָּסוּק א

Pasuk 1

וְאֶת יְהוּדָה שָׁלַח לְפָנָיו אֶל יוֹסֵף לְהוֹרֹת לְפָנָיו גֹּשְׁנָה וַיָּבֹאוּ אַרְצָה
And — Yehudah he sent before him to Yosef to instruct before him to Goshen and they came to the land of

גֹּשֶׁן׃
Goshen

רַשִׁ"י

להורת לפניו. כְּתַרְגּוּמוֹ, לְפַנּוֹת לוֹ מָקוֹם, וּלְהוֹרוֹת הֵיאַךְ יִתְיַשֵּׁב בָּהּ׃
To direct before him like its Targum to prepare for him a place and to show how he should settle in it

רַשִׁ"י

לפניו. קֹדֶם שֶׁיַּגִּיעַ לְשָׁם. וּמִדְרַשׁ אַגָּדָה לְהוֹרוֹת לְפָנָיו – לְתַקֵּן לוֹ בֵּית תַּלְמוּד שֶׁמִּשָּׁם תֵּצֵא הוֹרָאָה׃
Before him that he arrive there And a Midrashic exposition to teach before him to establish for him a house of study that from there shall go forth instruction

פָּסוּק ב

Pasuk 2

וַיֶּאְסֹר יוֹסֵף מֶרְכַּבְתּוֹ וַיַּעַל לִקְרַאת יִשְׂרָאֵל אָבִיו גֹּשְׁנָה וַיֵּרָא
And he harnessed Yosef his chariot and went up to meet Yisrael his father to Goshen and he appeared

אֵלָיו וַיִּפֹּל עַל צַוָּארָיו וַיֵּבְךְּ עַל צַוָּארָיו עוֹד׃
to him and he fell upon his neck and he wept upon his neck further

רַשְׁ"י

וַיֶּאְסֹר יוֹסֵף מֶרְכַּבְתּוֹ. הוּא עַצְמוֹ אָסַר אֶת הַסּוּסִים לַמֶּרְכָּבָה לְהִזְדָּרֵז לְכְבוֹד אָבִיו:

And he harnessed Yosef his chariot. He himself harnessed — the horses to the chariot to be eager for the honor of his father

רַשְׁ"י

וַיֵּרָא אֵלָיו. יוֹסֵף נִרְאָה אֶל אָבִיו:

And he appeared to him. Yosef appeared to his father

רַשְׁ"י

וַיִּבְךְּ עַל צַוָּארָיו עוֹד. לְשׁוֹן הַרְבּוֹת בְּכִיָּה, וְכֵן כִּי לֹא עַל אִישׁ יָשִׂים עוֹד more will He place a man upon not for and so weeping increasing an expression of continually his neck on and he wept

אִיּוֹב ל"ד , לְשׁוֹן רִבּוּי הוּא – אֵינוֹ שָׂם עָלָיו עֲלִילוֹת נוֹסָפוֹת עַל חַטָּאָיו:

his sins over additional accusations upon him place He does not it is abundance an expression of 34 Iyov

אַף כָּאן הִרְבָּה וְהוֹסִיף בִּבְכִי יוֹתֵר עַל הָרָגִיל; אֲבָל יַעֲקֹב לֹא נָפַל עַל צַוָּארֵי

the neck of upon fall did not Yaakov however the usual than more in weeping and added he increased here also

יוֹסֵף וְלֹא נְשָׁקוֹ, וְאָמְרוּ רַבּוֹתֵינוּ, שֶׁהָיָה קוֹרֵא אֶת שְׁמַע:

Shema — reciting that he was our Rabbis and said kiss him and did not Yosef

פָּסוּק ג

Pasuk 3

וַיֹּאמֶר יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶל יוֹסֵף אָמוּתָה הַפָּעַם אַחֲרֵי רְאוֹתִי אֶת פָּנֶיךָ כִּי עוֹדְךָ חָי:

you are still that your face — my seeing after this time I will die Yosef to Yisrael And he said alive

רַשְׁ"י

אמותה הפעם. פְּשׁוּטוֹ כְּתַרְגּוּמוֹ. וּמִדְרָשׁוֹ סָבוּר הָיִיתִי לָמוּת שְׁתֵּי

this time I will die its plain meaning is like its Targum and its Midrashic explanation under the impression I was to die two

מִיתוֹת, בָּעוֹלָם הַזֶּה וְלָעוֹלָם הַבָּא, שֶׁנִּסְתַּלְּקָה מִמֶּנִּי שְׁכִינָה, וְהָיִיתִי אוֹמֵר

deaths in the world this and in the world to come because departed the Divine Presence from me and I was saying

שֶׁיִּתְבָּעֵנִי הַקָּבָ"ה מִיתָתְךָ, עַכְשָׁו שֶׁעוֹדְךָ חַי, לֹא אָמוּת אֶלָּא פַּעַם

that will demand from me the Holy One blessed be He your death now that you are still alive I will not die except time

אֶחָת:

one

פָּסוּק ד

Pasuk 4

וַיֹּאמֶר יוֹסֵף אֶל אֶחָיו וְאֶל בֵּית אָבִיו אֶעֱלֶה וְאַגִּידָה לְפַרְעֹה

to Pharaoh and I will tell I will go up his father the household of and to his brothers to Yosef And he said

וְאֹמְרָה אֵלָיו אַחַי וּבֵית אָבִי אֲשֶׁר בְּאֶרֶץ כְּנַעַן בָּאוּ

and I will say to him My brothers and the household of my father who were in the land of Kenaan have come

אֵלָי׃

to me

רַ״שִׁ״י

ואמרה אליו אחי וגו׳. וְעוֹד אֹמַר לוֹ, והאנשים רועי צאן וגו׳ :

and I will say to him my brothers etc. and further I will say to him and the men are shepherds of flocks etc.

פָּסוּק ה

Pasuk 5

וְהָאֲנָשִׁים רֹעֵי צֹאן כִּי אַנְשֵׁי מִקְנֶה הָיוּ וְצֹאנָם וּבְקָרָם וְכָל

and the men are shepherds of flocks for men of livestock they were and their flocks and their cattle and all

אֲשֶׁר לָהֶם הֵבִיאוּ׃

that is theirs they brought

פָּסוּק ו

Pasuk 6

וְהָיָה כִּי יִקְרָא לָכֶם פַּרְעֹה וְאָמַר מַה מַּעַשֵּׂיכֶם׃

And it will be when calls to you Pharaoh and says what is your occupation

פָּסוּק ז

Pasuk 7

וַאֲמַרְתֶּם אַנְשֵׁי מִקְנֶה הָיוּ עֲבָדֶיךָ מִנְּעוּרֵינוּ וְעַד עַתָּה גַּם אֲנַחְנוּ

And you shall say men of livestock have been your servants from our youth and until now both we

גַּם אֲבֹתֵינוּ בַּעֲבוּר תֵּשְׁבוּ בְּאֶרֶץ גֹּשֶׁן כִּי תוֹעֲבַת מִצְרַיִם כָּל

and both our fathers so that you may dwell in the land of Goshen for an abomination of Mitzrayim is every

רֹעֵה צֹאן׃

shepherd of flocks

רַ״שִׁ״י

בעבור תשבו בארץ גשן. וְהִיא צְרִיכָה לָכֶם שֶׁהִיא אֶרֶץ מִרְעֶה, וּכְשֶׁתֹּאמְרוּ

in order that you may dwell in the land of Goshen and it is needed for you for it is a land of pasture and when you say

לוֹ שֶׁאֵין אַתֶּם בְּקִיאִין בִּמְלָאכָה אַחֶרֶת, יְרַחִיקְכֶם מֵעָלָיו וְיוֹשִׁיבְכֶם שָׁם:

to him that not you are expert in work other he will distance you from upon him and settle you there

רַ״שִׁ״י

כי תועבת מצרים כל רועה צאן. לְפִי שֶׁהֵם לָהֶם אֱלֹהוּת:

for an abomination of Mitzrayim every shepherd of flock because that they to them are deities

פָּסוּק ח

Pasuk 8

וַיָּבֹא יוֹסֵף וַיַּגֶּד לְפַרְעֹה וַיֹּאמֶר אָבִי וְאַחַי וְצֹאנָם וּבְקָרָם וְכָל

and all and their cattle and their flocks and my brothers my father and said to Pharaoh and reported Yosef and came

אֲשֶׁר לָהֶם בָּאוּ מֵאֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן וְהִנָּם בְּאֶרֶץ גֹּשֶׁן׃

Goshen are in the land of and behold they Kenaan from the land of have come theirs that is

פָּסוּק ט

Pasuk 9

וּמִקְצֵה אֶחָיו לָקַח חֲמִשָּׁה אֲנָשִׁים וַיַּצִּגֵם לִפְנֵי פַרְעֹה׃

Paroh before and presented them men five he took his brothers and from the edge of

רַשׁ"י

ומקצה אחיו. מִן הַפְּחוּתִים שֶׁבָּהֶם לִגְבוּרָה, שֶׁאֵין נִרְאִים גִּבּוֹרִים, שֶׁאִם

for if strong men seen as that are not for strength that are among them the inferior ones from his brothers and from the end of

יִרְאֶה אוֹתָם גִּבּוֹרִים יַעֲשֶׂה אוֹתָם אַנְשֵׁי מִלְחַמְתּוֹ, וְאֵלֶּה הֵם: רְאוּבֵן, שִׁמְעוֹן,

Shimon Reuven they are and these his war men of them he would make strong men them he would see

לֵוִי, יִשָּׂשכָר וּבִנְיָמִין – אוֹתָן שֶׁלֹּא כָּפַל מֹשֶׁה שְׁמוֹתָם כְּשֶׁבֵּרְכָן; אֲבָל שְׁמוֹת

the names of but when he blessed them their names Moshe repeat that did not them and Binyamin Yissachar Levi

הַגִּבּוֹרִים כָּפַל וְזֹאת לִיהוּדָה שְׁמַע ה' קוֹל יְהוּדָה; וּלְגָד אָמַר בָּרוּךְ

blessed is he said and of Gad Yehudah the voice of Hashem hear for Yehudah and this he repeated the strong ones

מַרְחִיב גָּד; וּלְנַפְתָּלִי אָמַר נַפְתָּלִי, וּלְדָן אָמַר דָּן, וְכֵן לִזְבוּלוּן, וְכֵן לְאָשֵׁר; זֶהוּ

this is for Asher and so for Zevulun and so Dan he said and of Dan Naftali he said and of Naftali Gad He who expands

לְשׁוֹן בְּ"רַ, שֶׁהִיא אַגָּדַת אֶרֶץ יִשְׂרָאֵל. אֲבָל בְּתַלְמוּד בַּבְלִית שֶׁלָּנוּ בבא

of ours Babylonian in the Talmud but Yisrael the Land of an Agadah of which is Rabbah Bereshit the wording of

קמא צ"ב מָצִינוּ, שֶׁאוֹתָן שֶׁכָּפַל מֹשֶׁה שְׁמוֹתָן הֵם הַחַלָּשִׁים, וְאוֹתָן הֵבִיא

the weak ones they are their names Moshe whose names he repeated that those we found b 92 Kamma Bava

לִפְנֵי פַרְעֹה, וִיהוּדָה שֶׁהֻכְפַּל שְׁמוֹ לֹא הֻכְפַּל מִשּׁוּם חַלָּשׁוּת, אֶלָּא

because of was it repeated not his name whose name was repeated and Yehudah Paroh before he brought and those

טַעַם יֵשׁ בַּדָּבָר, כִּדְאִיתָא בְּבָ"ק וּבְבָרַיְתָא דְּסִפְרֵי שָׁנִינוּ בָּהּ בְּוֹאת הַבְּרָכָה,

we learned of Sifrei and in the Baraitha Kamma in Bava as it is in the matter there is a reason rather weakness

כְּמוֹ תַלְמוּד שֶׁלָּנוּ׃

HaBerachah in VeZot in it

פָּסוּק י

Pasuk 10

וַיֹּאמֶר פַּרְעֹה אֶל אֶחָיו מַה מַּעֲשֵׂיכֶם וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֶל פַּרְעֹה רֹעֵה צֹאן

flocks shepherds of Paroh to and they said your occupation What is his brothers to Paroh And he said

עֲבָדֶיךָ גַּם אֲנַחְנוּ גַּם אֲבוֹתֵינוּ׃

our fathers and also we both are your servants

פָּסוּק יא

Pasuk 11

וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֶל פַּרְעֹה לָגוּר בָּאָרֶץ בָּאנוּ כִּי אֵין מִרְעֶה לַצֹּאן אֲשֶׁר
and they said to Paroh to sojourn in the land we have come for there is no pasture for the sheep which

לַעֲבָדֶיךָ כִּי כָבֵד הָרָעָב בְּאֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן וְעַתָּה יֵשְׁבוּ נָא עֲבָדֶיךָ
belong to your servants for is severe the famine in the land of Kenaan and now let dwell please your servants

בְּאֶרֶץ גֹּשֶׁן׃
in the land of Goshen

פָּסוּק יב

Pasuk 12

וַיֹּאמֶר פַּרְעֹה אֶל יוֹסֵף לֵאמֹר אָבִיךָ וְאַחֶיךָ בָּאוּ אֵלֶיךָ׃
And he said to Pharaoh to Yosef saying your father and your brothers have come to you

פָּסוּק יג

Pasuk 13

אֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם לְפָנֶיךָ הִוא בְּמֵיטַב הָאָרֶץ הוֹשֵׁב אֶת אָבִיךָ וְאֶת אַחֶיךָ
the land of Mitzrayim before you it is in the best of the land settle — your father and — your brothers

יֵשְׁבוּ בְּאֶרֶץ גֹּשֶׁן וְאִם יָדַעְתָּ וְיֶשׁ בָּם אַנְשֵׁי חַיִל וְשַׂמְתָּם
let them settle in the land of Goshen and if you know and there are among them men of ability then appoint them

שָׂרֵי מִקְנֶה עַל אֲשֶׁר לִי׃
officers of livestock over that which is mine

רַשִׁ"י

אנשי חיל. בְּקִיאִין בְּאָמָנוּתָן לִרְעוֹת צֹאן׃
men of accomplishment expert in their craft to shepherd flocks

רַשִׁ"י

על אשר לי. עַל צֹאן שֶׁלִּי׃
Over that which is mine over the sheep of mine

פָּסוּק יד

Pasuk 14

וַיָּבֵא יוֹסֵף אֶת יַעֲקֹב אָבִיו וַיַּעֲמִדֵהוּ לִפְנֵי פַּרְעֹה וַיְבָרֶךְ יַעֲקֹב אֶת
And he brought Yosef — Yaakov his father and presented him before Paroh and blessed Yaakov —

פַּרְעֹה׃
Paroh

רַשִׁ"י

ויברך יעקב. הִיא שְׁאֵילַת שָׁלוֹם כְּדֶרֶךְ כָּל הַנִּרְאִים לִפְנֵי הַמְּלָכִים לִפְרָקִים,
And blessed Yaakov it is the asking of peace as the way of all those appearing before the kings at intervals

שלו"איר בְּלַעַז׃
saluer in foreign language

פָּסוּק טו

Pasuk 15

וַיֹּאמֶר פַּרְעֹה אֶל יַעֲקֹב כַּמָּה יְמֵי שְׁנֵי חַיֶּיךָ׃

And said to Pharaoh Yaakov How many are the days of the years of your life

פָּסוּק טז

Pasuk 16

וַיֹּאמֶר יַעֲקֹב אֶל פַּרְעֹה יְמֵי שְׁנֵי מְגוּרַי שְׁלֹשִׁים וּמְאַת שָׁנָה מְעַט

And he said Yaakov to Pharaoh the days of the years of my sojourning are thirty and a hundred years few

וְרָעִים הָיוּ יְמֵי שְׁנֵי חַיַּי וְלֹא הִשִּׂיגוּ אֶת יְמֵי שְׁנֵי חַיֵּי

and bad were the days of the years of my life and not did they reach — the days of the years of the life of

אֲבֹתַי בִּימֵי מְגוּרֵיהֶם׃

my fathers in the days of their sojourning

רַשִׁ"י

שני מגורי. יְמֵי גֵּרוּתִי; כָּל יָמַי הָיִיתִי גֵּר בָּאָרֶץ׃

the years of my dwelling the days of my sojourning all my days I was a stranger in the land

רַשִׁ"י

ולא השיגו. בְּטוֹבָה׃

and not they attained in happiness

פָּסוּק יז

Pasuk 17

וַיְבָרֶךְ יַעֲקֹב אֶת פַּרְעֹה וַיֵּצֵא מִלִּפְנֵי פַּרְעֹה׃

and blessed Yaakov — Pharaoh and he went out from before Pharaoh

רַשִׁ"י

ויברך יעקב. כְּדַרְכּוֹ כָּל הַנִּפְטָרִים מִלִּפְנֵי שָׂרִים מְבָרְכִים אוֹתָם וְנוֹטְלִים רְשׁוּת,

And blessed Yaakov like the way of all those departing from before officials they bless them and take leave

וּמַה בְּרָכָה בֵּרְכוֹ? שֶׁיַּעֲלֶה נִילוּס לְרַגְלָיו, לְפִי שֶׁאֵין מִצְרַיִם שׁוֹתָה מֵי

and what blessing did he bless him? that should rise the Nile at his feet because that not Mitzrayim drinks water of

גְּשָׁמִים אֶלָּא נִילוּס עוֹלֶה וּמַשְׁקֶה, וּמִבִּרְכָתוֹ שֶׁל יַעֲקֹב וָאֵילָךְ הָיָה פַּרְעֹה בָּא

rains rather the Nile rises and irrigates and from the blessing of · Yaakov and onward was Paroh coming

אֶל נִילוּס וְהוּא עוֹלֶה לִקְרָאתוֹ וּמַשְׁקֶה אֶת הָאָרֶץ תַּנְחוּמָא׃

to the Nile and it rose towards him and irrigated — the land Tanchuma

CHAPTER SUMMARY

This aliyah describes Yaakov Avinu's arrival in Goshen after Yehudah prepares the way, followed by his emotional reunion with Yosef. Yosef coaches his brothers to explain to Pharaoh that they are lifelong shepherds so they will be assigned to live isolated in Goshen, as shepherds were detested by Egyptians. Yosef presents a select group of brothers and then his father Yaakov before Pharaoh; Yaakov blesses Pharaoh, recounts his hundred and thirty difficult years of life, and Pharaoh grants the family the finest land in Goshen to settle.

לְמַעֲשֶׂה WHAT TO TAKE HOME

Lichoira, when a Yid enters the big world, the natural yetzer is to try to fit in, to show how useful and sophisticated we are to the people around us. Look at what Yosef HaTzaddik does here. He is the ruler of Egypt, yet when bringing his family before Pharaoh, he tells them explicitly to state that they are simple shepherds, a trade that was a to'evah to the Mitzrim! He b'davka brings the brothers who did not look like powerful warriors, so Pharaoh wouldn't try to recruit them into his army. Yosef wasn't looking for honor in Egypt; he was setting up a boundary to keep his family pure in Goshen, completely separated from the tumah of Mitzrayim.

This is a major chiddush in how we have to look at our place in galus. We often worry about what the outside world thinks, thinking we need to impress them or adopt their ways to succeed. But the Torah is teaching us that our protection and our true chashuvus come precisely from staying distinct, from proudly owning who we are without trying to blend in or put on a show for the street. Yaakov Avinu leaves Canaan during a harsh famine, yet when he stands before the king of Egypt, he doesn't bow or try to play the politician; he gives Pharaoh a berachah and stays entirely grounded in his identity as a Yid.

When you go out into the world today, whether at work, in business, or just walking down the street, don't be afraid to look and act like a Yid. Don't hide your Yiddishkeit or compromise on your standards just to look impressive in the eyes of outsiders. Be proud of the boundaries Hashem gave us, because those exact boundaries are what keep us and our neshamos safe.

Today, take one small, conscious action that clearly marks your identity as a Yid, whether that means being meticulous about a berachah out loud in public, or holding firm on a standard of tzniush or kashrus without making excuses.