**Jews = Sedom?! The Haftara of Chazon/Devarim**

Rabbi Jonathan Ziring: jziring@torontotorah.com

1. **Time:**
	1. **Ri Kara, Malbim**: End of Uziyahu’s life;
	2. **Rashi**: End of Yeshayahu’s life – a retrospective
2. **Invoking Moshe’s Final Warning – Haazinu –**
	1. The children have sinned – now is the time for reckoning.
3. **Development**

(ג) מִֽי־יַעֲלֶ֥ה בְהַר־ה' וּמִי־יָ֝קוּם בִּמְק֥וֹם קָדְשֽׁוֹ׃ (ד) נְקִ֥י כַפַּ֗יִם וּֽבַר־לֵ֫בָ֥ב אֲשֶׁ֤ר ׀ לֹא־נָשָׂ֣א לַשָּׁ֣וְא נַפְשִׁ֑י וְלֹ֖א נִשְׁבַּ֣ע לְמִרְמָֽה׃

 (3) Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in His holy place?— (4) He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who has not taken a false oath by My life or sworn deceitfully.

1. **Why Avraham was Chosen: Bereishit 18**

(יח) וְאַ֨בְרָהָ֔ם הָי֧וֹ יִֽהְיֶ֛ה לְג֥וֹי גָּד֖וֹל וְעָצ֑וּם וְנִ֨בְרְכוּ־ב֔וֹ כֹּ֖ל גּוֹיֵ֥י הָאָֽרֶץ: (יט) כִּ֣י יְדַעְתִּ֗יו לְמַעַן֩ אֲשֶׁ֨ר יְצַוֶּ֜ה אֶת־בָּנָ֤יו וְאֶת־בֵּיתוֹ֙ אַחֲרָ֔יו וְשָֽׁמְרוּ֙ דֶּ֣רֶךְ יְקֹוָ֔ק לַעֲשׂ֥וֹת צְדָקָ֖ה וּמִשְׁפָּ֑ט לְמַ֗עַן הָבִ֤יא יְקֹוָק֙ עַל־אַבְרָהָ֔ם אֵ֥ת אֲשֶׁר־דִּבֶּ֖ר עָלָֽיו:

Abraham will become a great and populous nation and all the nations of the earth will bless themselves by him? For I have singled him out, that he may instruct his children and his posterity to keep the way of the Lord by doing what is just and right, in order that the Lord may bring about for Abraham what He has promised him.

1. **Justice, then Jerusalem**
	1. This is why Mishpatim comes before Terumah
	2. The blessings of the amida follow this order: Bring back judges, get rid of evil, bless the righteous, Jerusalem, Mashiach