Class # 37– Parshat Devarim – “Have I become my parents?”

Advanced Fellowship Parsha Class - Sponsored in memory of Alice Toby Barbanel Z”l Rabbi Pinny Rosenthal

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kiXUWMwqrxU>

1. Why do some people feel that they have become their parents?
2. How does that happen?
3. Why does that it happen?

***Introduction of Devarim***

1:1 These are the words that Moses spoke [to all Israel](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3707) on the [east bank](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3708) of the Jordan, [in](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3709) [the desert](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3710) [and] in the [Aravah](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3711), near [Suf](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3712), in the [vicinity of](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3713) [Paran](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3714), [Tofel](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3715), [Lavan](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3716), [Chatzeroth](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3717) and [Di Zahav](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3718). 1:2 [[This is in the area](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3719)] which is an [eleven day journey](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3720) from [Horeb](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3721) to [Kadesh Barnea](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3722) by way of the Seir highlands. 1:3 On the [first of the eleventh month](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3723) in the fortieth year, Moses [[also](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3724)] spoke to the Israelites regarding all that God had commanded him for them. 1:4 This was after he had defeated [Sichon king of the Amorites who lived in Cheshbon](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3725), and [Og, king of the Bashan](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3726), who lived in Ashtaroth, [[who was defeated in](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3727)] [Edre'i](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3728). 1:5 Moses [began](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3729) to explain this law on the east bank of the Jordan, in the [land of Moab](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=5&CHAPTER=1#C3730), saying:

Rashi:

**These are the words:** Since these are words of rebuke and he [Moses] enumerates here all the places where they angered the Omnipresent, therefore it makes no explicit mention of the incidents [in which they transgressed], but rather merely alludes to them, [by mentioning the names of the places] out of respect for Israel (cf. Sifrei).

**to all Israel:** If he had rebuked only some of them, those who were in the marketplace [i.e., absent] might have said, “You heard from [Moses] the son of Amram, and did not answer a single word regarding this and that; had we been there, we would have answered him!” Therefore, he assembled all of them, and said to them, “See, you are all here; if anyone has an answer, let him answer!” - [from Sifrei]

**And it came to pass in the fortieth year, in the eleventh month, on the first of the month** [… Moses spoke]: This teaches us that he rebuked them only a short while before his death. From whom did he learn [to do] this? From Jacob, who rebuked his sons only a short while before his death. He said, “Reuben, my son, I will tell you why I have not reproved you [for your shortcomings] during all these years: So that you would not leave me and join my brother, Esau.” And for four reasons, one should not reprimand a person except shortly before one’s death: So that one should not rebuke and again have to rebuke him, so as not to cause his friend to feel ashamed when he sees him; etc. These appear in Sifrei . And similarly, Joshua rebuked Israel only shortly before his death (cf. [Joshua 24:1](http://www.chabad.org/15808#v1)-29), and so, Samuel, as it is said, “Behold, testify against me” ([I Sam. 12:3)](http://www.chabad.org/15841#v3) and so, also, David rebuked his son Solomon only shortly before his death (see [I Kings 2:1](http://www.chabad.org/15886#v1)-10).

Jeremiah 9:12-13

The LORD replied: Because they forsook the Teaching I had set before them. They did not obey Me and they did not follow it, but followed their own willful heart and followed the Baalim, as their fathers had taught them.