

Eliyahu: Fire & Rain

(1) מל"א טז, כג-לד

(כג) בַּשָּׁנָה שְׁלֹשִׁים וְאַחַת שָׁנָה לְאַסָּא מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה מֶלֶךְ עַמְרִי עַל־יִשְׂרָאֵל שְׁתֵּים עָשָׂרָה שָׁנָה בְּתַרְצָה מֶלֶךְ שִׁשְׁ־שָׁנִים: (כד) וַיִּקֶן אֶת־הַהָר שְׁמֶרוֹן מֵאֵת שָׁמֶר בְּכַפְרִים בְּסוֹף וַיִּבֶן אֶת־הָהָר וַיִּקְרָא אֶת־שֵׁם הָעִיר אֲשֶׁר בָּנָה עַל שֵׁם־שָׁמֶר אֲדָנֵי הַהָר שְׁמֶרוֹן: (כה) וַיַּעֲשֶׂה עַמְרִי הָרַע בְּעֵינֵי ה' וַיִּדַע מִכֹּל אֲשֶׁר לִפְנָיו: (כו) וַיִּלְךְ בְּכָל־דֶּרֶךְ יָרֵבֶעַם בֶּן־נִבְט וּבַחֲטָאֲתוֹ אֲשֶׁר הִחֲטִיא אֶת־יִשְׂרָאֵל לְהַכְעִים אֶת־ה' אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּהַבְלִיָּהֶם: (כז) וַיִּתֵּר דְּבָרֵי עַמְרִי אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה וּגְבוּרָתוֹ אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה הֲלֹא־הֵם כְּתוּבִים עַל־סֵפֶר דְּבָרֵי הַיָּמִים לְמַלְכֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל: (כח) וַיִּשָּׁב עַמְרִי עִם־אֲבֹתָיו וַיִּקְבֹּר בְּשְׁמֶרוֹן וַיִּמְלֶךְ אַחָאָב בֶּן־תַּחְתָּיו: (כט) וַאֲחָאָב בֶּן־עַמְרִי מֶלֶךְ עַל־יִשְׂרָאֵל בַּשָּׁנָה שְׁלֹשִׁים וּשְׁמֹנֶה שָׁנָה לְאַסָּא מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה וַיִּמְלֶךְ אַחָאָב בֶּן־עַמְרִי עַל־יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּשְׁמֶרוֹן עֶשְׂרִים וּשְׁתֵּים־שָׁנָה: (ל) וַיַּעַשׂ אַחָאָב בֶּן־עַמְרִי הָרַע בְּעֵינֵי ה' מִכֹּל אֲשֶׁר לִפְנָיו: (לא) וַיְהִי הַנֶּקֶל לְכַתּוֹ בַּחֲטָאוֹת יָרֵבֶעַם בֶּן־נִבְט וַיִּקַּח אִשָּׁה אֶת־אִיזָבֵל בַּת־אֲתַבְעֵל מֶלֶךְ צִידֹנִים וַיִּלְךְ וַיַּעֲבֹד אֶת־הַבַּעַל וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוֶה לוֹ: (לב) וַיִּקַּם מִזִּבְחַ לַבַּעַל בֵּית הַבַּעַל אֲשֶׁר בָּנָה בְּשְׁמֶרוֹן: (לג) וַיַּעַשׂ אַחָאָב אֶת־הָאִשָּׁה וַיִּזְסַף אַחָאָב לַעֲשׂוֹת לְהַכְעִים אֶת־ה' אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל מִכֹּל מַלְכֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲשֶׁר הָיוּ לִפְנָיו: (לד) בִּימֵיו בָּנָה חֵיאל בֵּית הָאֱלֹהִים אֶת־יְרִיחָה בְּאֲבִירִים בְּכֹז וַיִּסְדֶּה וּבִשְׁגוּב צָעִירוֹ הַצִּיב דְּלֹתֶיהָ כְּדָבָר ה' אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר בְּיַד יְהוֹשֻׁעַ בֶּן־נוּן:

In the thirty-first year of King Asa of Judah, Omri became king over Israel — for twelve years. He reigned in Tirzah six years. Then he bought the hill of Samaria from Shemer for two talents of silver; he built [a town] on the hill and named the town which he built Samaria, after Shemer, the owner of the hill. Omri did what was displeasing to Hashem; he was worse than all who preceded him. He followed all the ways of Jeroboam son of Nebat and the sins which he committed and caused Israel to commit, vexing Hashem, the God of Israel, with their futilities. The other events of Omri's reign, [and] his actions, and the exploits he performed, are recorded in the Annals of the Kings of Israel. Omri slept with his fathers and was buried in Samaria; and his son Ahab succeeded him as king. Ahab son of Omri became king over Israel in the thirty-eighth year of King Asa of Judah, and Ahab son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria for twenty-two years. Ahab son of Omri did what was displeasing to Hashem, more than all who preceded him. Not content to follow the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, he took as wife Jezebel daughter of King Ethbaal of the Phoenicians, and he went and served Baal and worshiped him. He erected an altar to Baal in the temple of Baal which he built in Samaria. Ahab also made a sacred post. Ahab did more to vex Hashem, the God of Israel, than all the kings of Israel who preceded him. During his reign, Hiel the Bethelite fortified Jericho. He laid its foundations at the cost of Abiram his first-born, and set its gates in place at the cost of Segub his youngest, in accordance with the words that Hashem had spoken through Joshua son of Nun.

(א) וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהֵי הַתְּשֻׁבִי מִתְּשֻׁבֵי גִלְעָד אֶל־אֲחֵאֵב חִי־ה' אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲשֶׁר עֲמַדְתִּי לְפָנָיו אִם־יְהִיֶּה הַשָּׁנִים הָאֵלֶּה טַל וּמָטָר כִּי אִם־לְפִי דְבָרִי: (ב) וַיְהִי דְבַר־ה' אֵלָיו לֵאמֹר: (ג) לֵךְ מִזֶּה וּפְנִיתָ לְךָ קִדְמָה וְנִסְתַּרְתָּ בְּנַחַל כְּרִית אֲשֶׁר עַל־פְּנֵי הַיַּרְדֵּן; (ד) וְהָיָה מִהֲנַחַל תִּשְׁתָּה וְאֶת־הָעֵרְבִים צִוִּיתִי לְכַלְכֶּלְךָ שֵׁם: (ה) וַיֵּלֶךְ וַיַּעַשׂ כְּדִבְרֵי ה' וַיֵּלֶךְ וַיֵּשֶׁב בְּנַחַל כְּרִית אֲשֶׁר עַל־פְּנֵי הַיַּרְדֵּן; (ו) וְהָעֵרְבִים מְבִיאִים לוֹ לֶחֶם וּבִשָּׁר בְּבִקְרָה וּלְחֶם וּבִשָּׁר בְּעָרֵב וּמִן־הַנַּחַל יִשְׁתָּה: (ז) וַיְהִי מִקֵּץ יָמָיו וַיִּבֶשׂ הַנַּחַל כִּי לֹא־הָיָה גֶשֶׁם בְּאֶרֶץ: (ח) וַיְהִי דְבַר־ה' אֵלָיו לֵאמֹר: (ט) קוּם לֵךְ צִרְפָּתָה אֲשֶׁר לְצִידוֹן וַיִּשְׁבַּת שֵׁם הַנָּה צִוִּיתִי שֵׁם אִשָּׁה אֲלֻמָּנָה לְכַלְכֶּלְךָ: (י) וַיִּקְסוּ וַיֵּלֶךְ צִרְפָּתָה וַיָּבֵא אֶל־פֶּתַח הָעִיר וְהָנָה־שָׁם אִשָּׁה אֲלֻמָּנָה מְקֻשָּׁשֶׁת עֵצִים וַיִּקְרָא אֵלֶיהָ וַיֹּאמֶר קַח־נָא לִי מַעֲטָמִים בְּכִלֵּי וַאֲשַׁתָּה: (יא) וַתֵּלֶךְ לִקְחַת וַיִּקְרָא אֵלֶיהָ וַיֹּאמֶר לְקַח־נָא לִי פֶתֶלְחָם בִּידֶךָ: (יב) וַתֹּאמֶר חִי־ה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ אִם־יֵשׁ לִי מַעֲוֹג כִּי אִם־מִלֵּא כַרְקָמַח בְּכַד וּמַעֲטָשָׁמֹן בְּצִפְחַת וְהִנְנִי מְקֻשָּׁשֶׁת שָׁנִים עֵצִים וּבָאתִי וַעֲשִׂיתִיהוּ לִי וּלְבָנָי וְאֶכְלָנָהוּ וּמָתָנּוּ: (יג) וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהֵי אֱלֹהֵי אֶל־תִּירָאִי בָּאִי עֲשִׂי כְּדִבְרֶךָ אֲךָ עֲשִׂי־לִי מִשֵּׁם עֲגָה קִטְנָה כְּרֵאשְׁנָה וְהוֹצֵאת לִי וְלֶכְנֶךָ תַעֲשִׂי בְּאַחֲרֹנָה: (יד) כִּי כֹה אָמַר ה' אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל כְּדִבְרֵי הַקְּמַח לֹא תִכְלֶה וְצִפְחַת הַשָּׁמֶן לֹא תִחַסֵּר עַד יוֹם תַּת־ה' גֶּשֶׁם עַל־פְּנֵי הָאָדָמָה: (טו) וַתֵּלֶךְ וַתַּעֲשֶׂה כְּדִבְרֵי אֱלֹהֵי וַתֹּאכַל הִיא וְהוּא וּבֵיתָה יָמִים: (טז) כְּדִבְרֵי הַקְּמַח לֹא כָלְתָה וְצִפְחַת הַשָּׁמֶן לֹא חָסַר כְּדִבְרֵי ה' אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר בְּיַד אֱלֹהֵי: (יז) וַיְהִי אַחֲרֵי הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה חָלָה בֶן־הָאִשָּׁה בְּעֵלֶת הַבַּיִת וַיְהִי חָלָיו חֲזָק מְאֹד עַד אֲשֶׁר לֹא־נִוְתָרָה־בּוֹ נִשְׁמָה: (יח) וַתֹּאמֶר אֶל־אֱלֹהֵי מִה־לִּי וְלֶךְ אִישׁ הָאֱלֹהִים בָּאת אֵלַי לְהַזְכִּיר אֶת־עוֹנִי וְלְהַמִּית אֶת־בְּנִי: (יט) וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהֵי תִנִּי־לִי אֶת־בְּנֶךָ וַיִּקְחֵהוּ מִחִיקָה וַיַּעֲלֵהוּ אֶל־הָעֵלְיָה אֲשֶׁר־הוּא יֹשֵׁב שָׁם וַיִּשְׁכְּבֵהוּ עַל־מִטָּתוֹ: (כ) וַיִּקְרָא אֶל־ה' וַיֹּאמֶר ה' אֱלֹהֵי הִגַּם עַל־הָאֲלֻמָּנָה אֲשֶׁר־אֲנִי מִתְגֹּרֵר עִמָּה הִרְעוֹתָ לְהַמִּית אֶת־בְּנָהּ: (כא) וַיִּתְמַדַּד עַל־הַיָּלֶד שְׁלֹשׁ פְּעָמִים וַיִּקְרָא אֶל־ה' וַיֹּאמֶר ה' אֱלֹהֵי תִשָּׁב נָא נֶפֶשׁ־הַיָּלֶד הַזֶּה עַל־קִרְבּוֹ: (כב) וַיִּשְׁמַע ה' בְּקוֹל אֱלֹהֵי וַתִּשָּׁב נֶפֶשׁ־הַיָּלֶד עַל־קִרְבּוֹ וַיַּחֲיֵ: (כג) וַיִּקַּח אֱלֹהֵי אֶת־הַיָּלֶד וַיִּרְדֵּהוּ מִן־הָעֵלְיָה הַפְּיֹתָה וַיִּתְנָהוּ לְאִמּוֹ וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהֵי רְאֵי חַי בְּנֶךָ: (כד) וַתֹּאמֶר הָאִשָּׁה אֶל־אֱלֹהֵי עֲתָה זֶה יָדַעְתִּי כִּי אִישׁ אֱלֹהִים אַתָּה וּדְבַר־ה' בְּפִיךָ אָמַת:

Elijah the Tishbite, an inhabitant of Gilead, said to Ahab, "As Hashem lives, the God of Israel whom I serve, there will be no dew or rain except at my bidding." The word of Hashem came to him: "Leave this place; turn eastward and go into hiding by the Wadi Cherith, which is east of the Jordan. You will drink from the wadi, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there." He proceeded to do as Hashem had bidden: he went, and he stayed by the Wadi Cherith, which is east of the Jordan. The ravens brought him bread and meat every morning and every evening, and he drank from the wadi. After some time the wadi dried up, because there was no rain in the land. And the word of Hashem came to him: "Go at once to Zarephath of Sidon, and stay there; I have designated a widow there to feed you." So he went at once to Zarephath. When he came to the entrance of the town, a widow was there gathering wood. He called out to her, "Please bring me a little water in your pitcher, and let me drink." As she went to fetch it, he called out to her, "Please bring along a piece of bread for me." "As Hashem your God lives," she replied, "I have nothing baked, nothing but a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. I am just gathering a couple of sticks, so that I can go home and prepare it for me and my son; we shall eat it and then we shall die." "Don't be afraid," said Elijah to her. "Go and do as you have said; but first make me a small cake from what you have there, and bring it out to me; then make some for yourself and your son. For thus said Hashem, the God of Israel: The jar of flour shall not give out and the jug of oil shall not fail until the day that Hashem sends rain upon the ground." She

went and did as Elijah had spoken, and she and he and her household had food for a long time. The jar of flour did not give out, nor did the jug of oil fail, just as Hashem had spoken through Elijah. After a while, the son of the mistress of the house fell sick, and his illness grew worse, until he had no breath left in him. She said to Elijah, "What harm have I done you, O man of God, that you should come here to recall my sin and cause the death of my son?" "Give me the boy," he said to her; and taking him from her arms, he carried him to the upper chamber where he was staying, and laid him down on his own bed. He cried out to Hashem and said, "Hashem my God, will You bring calamity upon this widow whose guest I am, and let her son die?" Then he stretched out over the child three times, and cried out to Hashem, saying, "Hashem my God, let this child's life return to his body!" Hashem heard Elijah's plea; the child's life returned to his body, and he revived. Elijah picked up the child and brought him down from the upper room into the main room and gave him to his mother. "See," said Elijah, "your son is alive." And the woman answered Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of God and that the word of Hashem is truly in your mouth."

(א) ויהי ימים רבים ודבר-ה' היה אל-אליהו בשנה השלישית לאמר לך הראה אל-אחאב ואתנה מטר על-פני האדמה: (ב) וילך אליהו להראות אל-אחאב והרעב חזק בשמרון: (ג) ויקרא אחאב אל-עבדיו אשר על-הבית ועבדיו היה ירא את-ה' מאד: (ד) ויהי בהכרית איזבל את נביאי ה' ויקח עבדיו מאה נבאים ויחביאם חמשים איש במערה וכלכלם לחם ומים: (ה) ויאמר אחאב אל-עבדיו לך בארץ אל-כל-מעייני המים ואל כל-הנחלים אוליו נמצא חציר ונחיה סוס ופרד ולוא נכרית מהבהמה: (ו) ויחלקו להם את-הארץ לעבר-בה אחאב הלך בדרך אחד לבדו ועבדיו הלך בדרך-אחד לבדו: (ז) ויהי עבדיו בדרך והנה אליהו לקראתו ויפרהו ויפל על-פניו ויאמר האתה זה אדני אליהו: (ח) ויאמר לו אני לך אמר לאדניך הנה אליהו: (ט) ויאמר מה חטאתי כי-אתה נתן את-עבדך ביד-אחאב להמיתני: (י) חיו ה' אליהו איש-גוי וממלכה אשר לא-שלח אדני שם לבקשך ואמרו אין והשביע את-הממלכה ואת-הגוי כי לא ימצאכה: (יא) ועתה אתה אמר לך אמר לאדניך הנה אליהו: (יב) והיה אני אלך מאתך ורוח ה' ישאך על אשר לא-אדע ובאתי להגיד לאחאב ולא ימצאך והרגני ועבדך ירא את-ה' מנערי: (יג) הלא-הגד לאדני את אשר-עשיתי בהרג איזבל את נביאי ה' ואחאב מנביאי ה' מאה איש חמשים חמשים איש במערה וכלכלם לחם ומים: (יד) ועתה אתה אמר לך אמר לאדניך הנה אליהו והרגני: (טו) ויאמר אליהו חיו ה' עבאות אשר עמדתי לפניו כי היום אראה אליו: (טז) וילך עבדיו לקראת אחאב ויגדלו וילך אחאב לקראת אליהו: (יז) ויהי בראות אחאב את-אליהו ויאמר אחאב אליו האתה זה עכר ישראל: (יח) ויאמר לא עכרתני את-ישראל כי אס-אתה ובית אביך בעזבכם את-מצות ה' ותלך אחרי הבעלים: (יט) ועתה שלח קבץ אלי את-כל-ישראל אל-הר הפרמל ואת-נביאי הבעל ארבע מאות וחמשים ונביאי האשרה ארבע מאות אכלי שלחן איזבל: (כ) וישלח אחאב בכל-בני ישראל ויקבץ את-הנביאים אל-הר הפרמל: (כא) ויגש אליהו אל-כל-העם ויאמר עד-מתני אתם פסחים על-שתי הסעפים אס-ה' האלהים לכו אחריו ואס-הבעל לכו אחריו ולא-ענו העם אתו דבר: (כב) ויאמר אליהו אל-העם אני נותרתי נביא לה' לבדי ונביאי הבעל ארבע-מאות וחמשים איש: (כג) ויתנו-לנו שנים פרים ויבחרו להם הפר האחד וינתחוהו וישימו על-העצים ואש לא ישימו ואני אעשהו את-הפר האחד ונתתני על-העצים ואש לא אשים: (כד) וקראתם בשם אלהיכם ואני אקרא בשם-ה' והיה האלהים אשר-

וַעֲנֵה בְּאֵשׁ הוּא הָאֱלֹהִים וַיַּעַן כָּל־הָעָם וַיֹּאמְרוּ טוֹב הַדְּבָר: (כה) וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהֵי לִנְבִיאֵי הַפֶּעַל בַּחֲרוּ לָכֶם הַפֶּר הָאֶחָד
 וַעֲשׂוּ רֵאשִׁינָה כִּי אַתֶּם הָרַבִּים וְקִרְאוּ בְּשֵׁם אֱלֹהֵיכֶם וְאֵשׁ לֹא תִשְׂמוּ: (כו) וַיִּקְחוּ אֶת־הַפֶּר אֲשֶׁר־נָתַן לָהֶם וַיַּעֲשׂוּ
 וַיִּקְרְאוּ בְּשֵׁם־הַפֶּעַל מִהַפְּקָר וְעַד־הַצְּהָרִים לֵאמֹר הַפֶּעַל עֲנֵנוּ וְאִין קוֹל וְאִין עֲנֵה וַיִּפְסְחוּ עַל־הַמִּזְבֵּחַ אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה: (כז)
 וַיְהִי בַצְּהָרִים וַיְהִתֵּל בָּהֶם אֱלֹהֵי וַיֹּאמֶר קְרְאוּ בְּקוֹל־גְּדוֹל כִּי־אֱלֹהִים הוּא כִּי שִׁיחַ וְכִי־שִׁיג לוֹ וְכִי־דַרְדַּךְ לוֹ אוֹלֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל
 הוּא וַיִּקְרְאוּ בְּקוֹל גְּדוֹל וַיִּתְגַּדְּדוּ כַּמִּשְׁפָּטִים בַּחֲרָבוֹת וּבַרְמָחִים עַד־שִׁפְךָ־דָם עֲלֵיהֶם: (כט) וַיְהִי כַעֲבֹד
 הַצְּהָרִים וַיִּתְנַבְּאוּ עַד לַעֲלוֹת הַמִּנְחָה וַאֲיִן־קוֹל וַאֲיִן־עֲנֵה וַאֲיִן קִשָּׁב: (ל) וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהֵי לְכָל־הָעָם גִּשׁוּ אֵלַי וַיִּגְשׂוּ כָל־
 הָעָם אֵלָיו וַיִּרְפָּא אֶת־מִזְבֵּחַ ה' הַהָרוּס: (לא) וַיִּקַּח אֱלֹהֵי שְׁתֵּים עֶשְׂרֵה אַבְנִים כַּמִּסְפָּר שִׁבְטֵי בְנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל הָיָה
 דְּבַר־ה' אֵלָיו לֵאמֹר יִשְׂרָאֵל יְהִי שִׁמְךָ: (לב) וַיִּבְנֶה אֶת־הָאֲבָנִים מִזְבֵּחַ בְּשֵׁם ה' וַיַּעַשׂ תְּעֵלָה כְּבֵית סְאֵתִים זָרַע סָבִיב
 לַמִּזְבֵּחַ: (לג) וַיַּעֲרֹךְ אֶת־הָעֵצִים וַיִּנְתַּח אֶת־הַפֶּר וַיִּשֶׂם עַל־הָעֵצִים: (לד) וַיֹּאמֶר מֵלֹא אֲרַבְּעָה כְּדִים מַיִם וַיַּעֲקוּ עַל־
 הָעֵלָה וְעַל־הָעֵצִים וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁנוּ וַיִּשְׁנֹו וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁלֹשׁוּ וַיִּשְׁלֹשׁוּ: (לה) וַיִּלְכוּ הַמַּיִם סָבִיב לַמִּזְבֵּחַ וְגַם אֶת־הַתְּעֵלָה מֵלֹא־
 מַיִם: (לו) וַיְהִיו בַּעֲלוֹת הַמִּנְחָה וַיִּגֹּשׁ אֱלֹהֵי הַנְּבִיא וַיֹּאמֶר ה' אֱלֹהֵי אַבְרָהָם יִצְחָק וַיִּשְׂרָאֵל הַיּוֹם יוֹדַע כִּי־אַתָּה אֱלֹהִים
 בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל וְאֲנִי עַבְדְּךָ וּבְדַבְּרְךָ עֲשִׂיתִי אֵת כָּל־הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה: (לז) עֲנֵנִי ה' עֲנֵנִי וַיִּדְעוּ הָעָם הַזֶּה כִּי־אַתָּה ה' הָאֱלֹהִים
 וְאַתָּה הַסִּבַּת אֶת־לִבִּם אַחֲרַיִת: (לח) וַתִּפֹּל אִש־ה' וַתֹּאכַל אֶת־הָעֵלָה וְאֶת־הָעֵצִים וְאֶת־הָאֲבָנִים וְאֶת־הָעֶפְרָר וְאֶת־
 הַמַּיִם אֲשֶׁר־ בַּתְּעֵלָה לַחֲכָה: (לט) וַיֵּרָא כָּל־הָעָם וַיִּפְּלוּ עַל־פְּנֵיהֶם וַיֹּאמְרוּ ה' הוּא הָאֱלֹהִים ה' הוּא הָאֱלֹהִים: (מ)
 וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהֵי לָהֶם תִּפְשׂוּ אֶת־נְבִיאֵי הַפֶּעַל אִישׁ אֶל־יְמִלְט מֵהֶם וַיִּתְּפְשׂוּם וַיִּוֹרְדֵם אֱלֹהֵי אֶל־נַחַל קִישׁוֹן וַיִּשְׁחָטֵם
 שָׁם: (מא) וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהֵי לְאַחֲאָב עֲלֵה אֶכֶל וּשְׂתֵה כִּי־קוֹל הַמּוֹן הַגָּשָׁם: (מב) וַיַּעֲלֶה אַחֲאָב לֶאֱכֹל וּלְשִׁתּוֹת וְאֱלֹהֵי
 עָלָה אֶל־רֹאשׁ הַכְּרִמָּל וַיִּגְהַר אֲרֻצָּה וַיִּשֶׂם פָּנָיו בֵּין בְּרָכָיו: (מג) וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל־נַעֲרוֹ עֲלֵה־נָא הַבֵּט דְּרָךְ־יָם וַיַּעַל וַיִּפֹּט
 וַיֹּאמֶר אִין מְאוּמָה וַיֹּאמֶר שֶׁב שֶׁבַע פְּעָמִים: (מד) וַיְהִי בְּשִׁבְעֵית וַיֹּאמֶר הִנֵּה־עָב קָטְנָה כְּכַף־אִישׁ עָלָה מַיִם וַיֹּאמֶר
 עָלָה אֲמֹר אֶל־אַחֲאָב אֶסֹךְ וְרֹד וְלֹא יַעֲצֹרְכָה הַגָּשָׁם: (מה) וַיְהִיו עַד־כֹּה וְעַד־כֹּה וְהַשְּׂמַיִם הִתְקַדְּדוּ עֵבִים וְרוּחַ וַיְהִי
 גָשָׁם גְּדוֹל וַיִּרְכַּב אַחֲאָב וַיֵּלֶךְ יוֹדְעָאֵלָה: (מו) וַיֵּדֶה ה' הִיתָה אֶל־אֱלֹהֵי וַיִּשְׁנֶם מִתְנַוּוּ וַיִּדְרֹךְ לִפְנֵי אַחֲאָב עַד־בְּאֵכָה

Much later, in the third year, the word of Hashem came to Elijah: "Go, appear before Ahab; then I will send rain upon the earth." Thereupon Elijah set out to appear before Ahab. The famine was severe in Samaria. Ahab had summoned Obadiah, the steward of the palace. (Obadiah revered Hashem greatly. When Jezebel was killing off the prophets of Hashem, Obadiah had taken a hundred prophets and hidden them, fifty to a cave, and provided them with food and drink.) And Ahab had said to Obadiah, "Go through the land, to all the springs of water and to all the wadis. Perhaps we shall find some grass to keep horses and mules alive, so that we are not left without beasts." They divided the country between them to explore it, Ahab going alone in one direction and Obadiah going alone in another direction. Obadiah was on the road, when Elijah suddenly confronted him. [Obadiah] recognized him and flung himself on his face, saying, "Is that you, my lord Elijah?" "Yes, it is I," he answered. "Go tell your lord: Elijah is here!" But he said, "What wrong have I done, that you should hand your servant over to Ahab to be killed? As Hashem your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom to which my lord has not sent to look for you; and when they said, 'He is not here,' he made that kingdom or nation swear that you could not be found. And now you say, 'Go tell your lord: Elijah is here!' When I leave you, the spirit of Hashem will carry you off I don't know where; and when I come and tell Ahab and he does not find you, he will kill me. Yet your servant has revered Hashem from my youth. My lord has surely been told what I did when Jezebel was killing the prophets of Hashem, how I hid a

hundred of the prophets of Hashem, fifty men to a cave, and provided them with food and drink. And now you say, 'Go tell your lord: Elijah is here.' Why, he will kill me!" Elijah replied, "As Hashem of Hosts lives, whom I serve, I will appear before him this very day." Obadiah went to find Ahab, and informed him; and Ahab went to meet Elijah. When Ahab caught sight of Elijah, Ahab said to him, "Is that you, you troubler of Israel?" He retorted, "It is not I who have brought trouble on Israel, but you and your father's House, by forsaking the commandments of Hashem and going after the Baalim. Now summon all Israel to join me at Mount Carmel, together with the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who are maintained by Jezebel who eat at Jezebel's table." -Ahab sent orders to all the Israelites and gathered the prophets at Mount Carmel. Elijah approached all the people and said, "How long will you keep hopping on the two boughs." If Hashem is God, follow Him; and if Baal, follow him!" But the people answered him not a word. Then Elijah said to the people, "I am the only prophet of Hashem left, while the prophets of Baal are four hundred and fifty men. Let two young bulls be given to us. Let them choose one bull, cut it up, and lay it on the wood, but let them not apply fire; I will prepare the other bull, and lay it on the wood, and will not apply fire. You will then invoke your god by name, and I will invoke Hashem by name; "and it shall be the god who responds with fire, that one is God." And all the people answered, "Very good!" Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose one bull and prepare it first, for you are the majority; invoke your god by

name, but apply no fire." They took the bull that was given them; they prepared it, and invoked Baal by name from morning until noon, shouting, "O Baal, answer us!" But there was no sound, and none who responded; so they performed a hopping dance about the altar that had been set up. When noon came, Elijah mocked them, saying, "Shout louder! After all, he is a god. But he may be in conversation, he may be detained, or he may be on a journey, or perhaps he is asleep and will wake up." So they shouted louder, and gashed themselves with knives and spears, according to their practice, until the blood streamed over them. When noon passed, they kept raving until the hour of presenting the meal offering. Still there was no sound, and none who responded or heeded. Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come closer to me"; and all the people came closer to him. He repaired the damaged altar of Hashem. Then Elijah took twelve stones, corresponding to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob—to whom the word of Hashem had come: "Israel shall be your name" and with the stones he built an altar in the name of Hashem. Around the altar he made a trench large enough for two seahs of seed. He laid out the wood, and he cut up the bull and laid it on the wood. And he said, "Fill four jars with water and pour it over the burnt offering and the wood." Then he said, "Do it a second time"; and they did it a second time. "Do it a third time," he said; and they did it a third time. The water ran down around the altar, and even the trench was filled with water. When it was time to present the meal offering, the prophet Elijah came forward and said, "Hashem, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel! Let it

be known today that You are God in Israel and that I am Your servant, and that I have done all these things at Your bidding. Answer me, Hashem, answer me, that this people may know that You, Hashem, are God for You have turned their hearts backward." Then fire from Hashem descended and consumed the burnt offering, the wood, the stones, and the earth; and it licked up the water that was in the trench. When they saw this, all the people flung themselves on their faces and cried out: "Hashem alone is God, Hashem alone is God!" Then Elijah said to them, "Seize the prophets of Baal, let not a single one of them get away." They seized them, and Elijah took them down to the Wadi Kishon and slaughtered them there. Elijah said to Ahab, "Go up, eat and drink, for there is a rumbling of [approaching] rain," and Ahab went up to eat and drink. Elijah meanwhile climbed to the top of Mount Carmel, crouched on the ground, and put his face between his knees. And he said to his servant, "Go up and look toward the Sea." He went up and looked and reported, "There is nothing." Seven times [Elijah] said, "Go back," and the seventh time, [the servant] reported, "A cloud as small as a man's hand is rising in the west." Then [Elijah] said, "Go say to Ahab, 'Hitch up [your chariot] and go down before the rain stops you.'" Meanwhile the sky grew black with clouds; there was wind, and a heavy downpour fell; Ahab mounted his chariot and drove off to Jezreel. The hand of Hashem had come upon Elijah, he bound up his loins. and ran in front of Ahab all the way to Jezreel.

(א) וַיִּגַד אַחָאֵב לְאִיזָבֵל אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהֵיוּ וְאֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר הָרַג אֶת־כָּל־הַנְּבִיאִים בַּחֶרֶב: (ב) וַתִּשְׁלַח אִיזָבֵל מִלֶּאֱךָ אֶל־אֱלֹהֵיוּ לֵאמֹר כֹּה־יַעֲשֶׂון אֱלֹהִים וְכֹה יוֹסִפוּן כִּי־כַעַת מִחֹר אֲשִׁים אֶת־נַפְשְׁךָ כַּנֶּפֶשׁ אֶחָד מֵהֶם: (ג) וַיֵּרָא וַיִּקָּם וַיֵּלֶךְ אֶל־נַפְשׁוֹ וַיָּבֵא בְּאֵר שֶׁבַע אֲשֶׁר לִיהוּדָה וַיִּנַּח אֶת־נַעֲרֹ שָׁם: (ד) וְהוּא־הֵלֶךְ בַּמִּדְבָּר דֶּרֶךְ יוֹם וַיָּבֵא וַיֵּשֶׁב תַּחַת רֶתֶם אֶחָד וַיִּשְׁאַל אֶת־נַפְשׁוֹ לְמוֹת וַיֹּאמְרוּ רַב עֵתָה ה' קָח נַפְשִׁי כִּי־לֹא־טוֹב אֲנִכִּי מֵאֲבֹתַי: (ה) וַיִּשְׁכַּב וַיִּישָׁן תַּחַת רֶתֶם אֶחָד וְהִנֵּה־זֶה מִלֶּאֱךָ נֹגֵעַ בּוֹ וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ קוּם אֲכֹל: (ו) וַיִּבֹט וְהִנֵּה מִרְאֲשֹׁתָיו עֶגְת רַצָּפִים וַצִּפְחַת מַיִם וַיֹּאכַל וַיִּשְׁתַּ וַיִּשְׁכַּב וַיִּשְׁכַּב: (ז) וַיִּשָּׁב מִלֶּאֱךָ ה' שְׁנִית וַיִּגַּע־בּוֹ וַיֹּאמֶר קוּם אֲכֹל כִּי רַב מִמֶּךָ הַדֶּרֶךְ: (ח) וַיִּקָּם וַיֹּאכַל וַיִּשְׁתֶּה וַיֵּלֶךְ בְּכַחוֹ הָאֲכִילָה הֵחִיא אַרְבָּעִים יוֹם וְאַרְבָּעִים לַיְלָה עַד הַר הָאֱלֹהִים חֶרֶב: (ט) וַיָּבֵא־שָׁם אֶל־הַמְּעָרָה וַיִּלֶּן שָׁם וְהִנֵּה דְבַר־ה' אֵלָיו וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ מִה־לֶּךָ פֹּה אֱלֹהֵיו: (י) וַיֹּאמֶר קָנָא קָנָאתִי לְה' אֱלֹהֵי עֲבָאוֹת כִּי־עָזְבוּ בְרִיתְךָ בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶת־מִזְבְּחֹתֶיךָ הָרְסוּ וְאֶת־נְבִיאֶיךָ הָרְגוּ בַחֶרֶב וְאוֹתָר אֲנִי לְבָדִי וַיִּבְקְשׁוּ אֶת־נַפְשִׁי לְקַחְתָּהּ: (יא) וַיֹּאמֶר צֵא וְעַמְדַת בַּהֵר לִפְנֵי ה' וְהִנֵּה ה' עֹבֵר וְרוּחַ גְּדוּלָּה וְחֹזֶק מִפָּרֶק הָרִים וּמִשְׁבַּר סְלַעִים לִפְנֵי ה' לֹא בְרוּחַ ה' וְאֶחָד הָרוּחַ רָעֵשׁ לֹא בְרַעֲשׁ ה': (יב) וְאֶחָד הָרַעֲשׁ אֵשׁ לֹא בְאֵשׁ ה' וְאֶחָד הָאֵשׁ קוֹל דְּמָמָה דְקָה: (יג) וַיְהִי כִשְׁמַע אֱלֹהֵיו וַיִּלֵּט פָּנָיו בְּאֹדְרֹתָיו וַיֵּצֵא וַיַּעֲמֵד פֶּתַח הַמְּעָרָה וְהִנֵּה אֵלָיו קוֹל וַיֹּאמֶר מִה־לֶּךָ פֹּה אֱלֹהֵיו: (יד) וַיֹּאמֶר קָנָא קָנָאתִי לְה' אֱלֹהֵי עֲבָאוֹת כִּי־עָזְבוּ בְרִיתְךָ בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶת־מִזְבְּחֹתֶיךָ הָרְסוּ וְאֶת־נְבִיאֶיךָ הָרְגוּ בַחֶרֶב וְאוֹתָר אֲנִי לְבָדִי וַיִּבְקְשׁוּ אֶת־נַפְשִׁי לְקַחְתָּהּ: (טו) וַיֹּאמֶר ה' אֵלָיו לֶךְ שׁוּב לְדַרְכְּךָ מִדְּבָרָה דַּמְשֶׁק וּבָאת וּמִשְׁחַת אֶת־חֲזוֹאֵל לְמֶלֶךְ עַל־אֲרָם: (טז) וְאֵת יְהוּא בֶן־נִמְשִׁי תִמְשַׁח לְמֶלֶךְ עַל־יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאֶת־אֱלִישָׁע בֶּן־שַׁפְטַי מֵאֲבֵל מַחֻלָּה תִמְשַׁח לְנָבִיא תַחְתֶּיךָ: (יז) וְהִזָּה הַנְּמַלֵּט מִחֶרֶב חֲזוֹאֵל יָמִית יְהוּא וְהַנְּמַלֵּט מִחֶרֶב יְהוּא יָמִית אֱלִישָׁע: (יח) וְהִשְׁאֲרֹתַי בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל שֶׁבַעַת אֲלָפִים כָּל־הַבְּרָפִים אֲשֶׁר לֹא־כָרְעוּ לְבַעַל וְכָל־הַפָּה אֲשֶׁר לֹא־נָשַׁק לוֹ: (יט) וַיֵּלֶךְ מִשָּׁם וַיִּמְצָא אֶת־אֱלִישָׁע בֶּן־שַׁפְטַי וְהוּא חֹדֵשׁ שְׁנַיִם־עָשָׂר עֲמָדִים לִפְנָיו וְהוּא בְּשָׁנִים הָעָשָׂר וַיַּעֲבֹר אֵלָיו וַיִּשְׁלַךְ אֹדְרֹתָיו אֵלָיו: (כ) וַיַּעֲזֹב אֶת־הַבְּקָר וַיֵּרֶן אַחֲרָיו אֱלֹהֵיו וַיֹּאמֶר אֲשַׁקֶּה־נָּא לְאָבִי וּלְאִמִּי וְאֶלְכָה אַחֲרֶיךָ וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ לֶךְ שׁוּב כִּי מִה־עַשִׁיתִי לְךָ: (כא) וַיֵּשֶׁב מֵאַחֲרָיו וַיִּקַּח אֶת־צֶמֶד הַבְּקָר וַיִּזְבְּחֵהוּ וּבְכָלִי הַבְּקָר בְּשֵׁלֶם הַבָּשָׂר וַיִּתֵּן לָעַם וַיֹּאכְלוּ וַיִּקָּם וַיֵּלֶךְ אַחֲרָיו אֱלֹהֵיו וַיִּשְׁרַתָּהוּ:

When Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done and how he had put all the prophets to the sword, Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "Thus and more may the gods do if by this time tomorrow I have not made you like one of them." And he saw, and he fled at once for his life. He came to Beer-sheba, which is in Judah, and left his servant there; he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush and sat down under it, and prayed that he might die. "Enough!" he cried. "Now, Hashem, take my life, for I am no better than my fathers." He lay down and fell asleep under a broom bush. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Arise and eat." He looked about; and there, beside his head, was a cake baked on hot stones and a jar of water! He ate and drank, and lay down again. The angel of Hashem came a second time and touched him and said, "Arise and eat, or the journey will be too much for you." He arose and ate and drank; and with the strength from that meal he walked forty days and forty nights as far as the mountain of God at Horeb. There he went into a cave, and there he spent the night. Then the word of Hashem came to him. He said to him, "Why are you here, Elijah?" He replied, "I am moved by zeal for Hashem, the God of Hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and put Your prophets to the sword. I alone am left, and they are out to take my life." "Come out," He called, "and stand on the mountain before Hashem." And lo, Hashem passed by. There was a great and mighty wind, splitting mountains and shattering rocks by the power of Hashem; but Hashem was not in the wind. After the wind — an earthquake; but Hashem was not in the earthquake.

After the earthquake—fire; but Hashem was not in the fire. And after the fire—a soft murmuring sound. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his mantle about his face and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then a voice addressed him: “Why are you here, Elijah?” He answered, “I am moved by zeal for Hashem, the God of Hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and have put Your prophets to the sword. I alone am left, and they are out to take my life.” Hashem said to him, “Go back by the way you came, [and] on to the wilderness of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael as king of Aram. Also anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king of Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah to succeed you as prophet. Whoever escapes the sword of Hazael shall be slain by Jehu, and whoever escapes the sword of Jehu shall be slain by Elisha. I will leave in Israel only seven thousand—every knee that has not knelt to Baal and every mouth that has not kissed him.” He set out from there and came upon Elisha son of Shaphat as he was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah came over to him and threw his mantle over him. He left the oxen and ran after Elijah, saying: “Let me kiss my father and mother good-bye, and I will follow you.” And he answered him, “Go back. What have I done to you?” He turned back from him and took the yoke of oxen and slaughtered them; he boiled their meat with the gear of the oxen and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he arose and followed Elijah and became his attendant.