

#33, B'Chukotai: Confess, Humble, Accept

Torah

- **Leviticus (VaYikra) 26.3-27.34**

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- **Leviticus 26.3-13: Blessings of walking in God's statutes and obeying his commandments.**
 - The ultimate blessing:
 - Lev 26:11-13 TLV I will set My Tabernacle among you, and My soul will not abhor you. (12) I will walk among you and will be your God, and you will be My people. (13) I am Adonai your God, who brought you forth out of the land of Egypt, so that you would not be their slaves, and I have broken the bars of your yoke and made you walk upright.

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- **Leviticus 26.24-39: Punishment for disobedience.**
 - God chastening is progressive.
 - Anyone who thinks a believer can sin has not really understood the nature of God's chastening.
 - God's chastening is designed to correct our walk. God know how to effectively correct us.

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- Pro 3:11-12 TLV My son, never despise Adonai's discipline or dread His correction. (12) For Adonai loves those He reproveth, even as a father, the son in whom he delights.
- Heb 12:5-7 TLV Have you forgotten the warning addressed to you as sons? "My son, do not take lightly the discipline of Adonai or lose heart when you are corrected by Him, (6) because Adonai disciplines the one He loves and punishes every son He accepts." (7) It is for discipline that you endure. God is treating you as sons—for what son does a father not discipline?

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- **Leviticus 26.40-46: Our response to God's correction.**

- (1) Confess their iniquity and that of their fathers.
 - Lev 26:40-41a TLV “But if they confess their iniquity and that of their fathers, in the treachery they committed against Me, and how they walked contrary to Me (41) —in return I walked contrary to them and brought them into the land of their enemies.
 - We are not judged for our father's sins, but we need to confess that it was their sins that preceded us to bring US to the place of sin.

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- **Leviticus 26.40-46: Our response to God's correction.**

- (2) Humble their uncircumcised heart.

- Lev 26:41b TLV —and if at that time their uncircumcised heart becomes humbled, so that they accept the punishment for their iniquity,
- Humility is the first quality that we need to approach God.
- Acceptance of the chastening is a demonstration of humility.

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- Jas 4:5-6 TLV Or do you think that in vain the Scripture says, “He yearns jealously over the spirit which He made to dwell in us”? (6) But He gives greater grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.”

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Haftarah

- **Jeremiah (Yirmiyahu) 16.19-17.14.**

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- **God's promise that the Gentiles shall know him.**
 - Jer 16:19-21 TLV Adonai, my strength, my stronghold, my refuge in the day of affliction, to You will the nations come from the ends of the earth and say: "Our fathers have inherited nothing but lies, futility and useless things."
(20) Will man make gods for himself? Yet they are not gods. (21) So I will surely make them know—this time I make them know My hand and My might—they will know that My Name is Adonai."

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- **The Gentiles know, but Judah has departed.**
- Some of the ways Judah had sinned:
 - Jer 17:1-4 TLV Judah's sin is written with an iron pen and with a point of a diamond, engraved on the tablet of their heart and on the horns of your altars. (2) So their children remember their altars and their Asherah poles by leafy trees on the high hills. (3) My mountain in the country, your wealth and all your treasures I will give away as plunder, along with your high places for sin within all your borders. (4) So you, on your own, let go of your heritage that I gave you. So I will make you serve your enemies in a land that you do not know. For you have kindled a fire in My nose that will burn forever.”

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- **A curse for trusting in your own strength:**
 - Jer 17:5-6 TLV Thus says Adonai: “Cursed is the one who trusts in man, and depends on flesh as his arm, and whose heart turns from Adonai. (6) For he will be like a bush in the desert. He cannot see goodness when it comes, but will dwell in parched places in the wilderness—a salt land where no one lives.

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- **A blessing for trusting in Adonai:**

- Jer 17:7-8 TLV Blessed is the one who trusts in Adonai, whose confidence is in Adonai. (8) For he will be like a tree planted by the waters, spreading out its roots by a stream. It has no fear when heat comes, but its leaves will be green. It does not worry in a year of drought, nor depart from yielding fruit.

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- **God searches the hearts:**

- Jer 17:9-10 TLV “The heart is deceitful above all things, and incurable—who can know it? (10) I, Adonai, search the heart, I try the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds.

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- **Unjust gain ultimately fails to reward:**

- Jer 17:11 TLV As a partridge that broods over young that she did not lay, so is one who gets wealth, unjustly. In the middle of his days it will abandon him, so at his end he will be a fool.

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- **Adonai, You are the hope of Israel!**

- Jer 17:12-13 TLV Throne of glory on high from the beginning! Place of our sanctuary, (13) Adonai, You are the hope of Israel! All who forsake You will be ashamed. Those who depart from You will be written in the dirt, for they have forsaken Adonai, the fountain of living waters.

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- **The only healing and salvation are from Adonai:**

- Jer 17:14 TLV Heal me, Adonai, and I will be healed. Save me, and I will be saved. For You are my praise.

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- **The Good News of the Kingdom delivered the Thessalonians:**

- 1Th 1:5-10 TLV (5) because our Good News did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Ruach ha-Kodesh and with complete certainty—just as you know what kind of men we proved to be while among you for your sake. (6) You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, having accepted the message in much tribulation, with the joy of the Ruach ha-Kodesh. (7) So you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.

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- 1Th 1:5-10 TLV (8) For the word of the Lord rang out from you—not just in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faithfulness toward God has gone out, so that we have no need to say anything. (9) For they themselves bring news about what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve the living and true God, (10) and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead—Yeshua, the One delivering us from the coming wrath.