

Haftarah for Be-har

Jeremiah 32:6-27

This translation was taken from the JPS Tanakh

⁶ Jeremiah said: The word of the Lord came to me: ⁷ Hanamel, the son of your uncle Shallum, will come to you and say, "Buy my land in Anathoth, for you are next in succession to redeem it by purchase." ⁸ And just as the Lord had said, my cousin Hanamel came to me in the prison compound and said to me, "Please buy my land in Anathoth, in the territory of Benjamin; for the right of succession is yours, and you have the duty of redemption. Buy it." Then I knew that it was indeed the word of the Lord.

⁹ So I bought the land in Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel. I weighed out the money to him, seventeen shekels of silver. ¹⁰ I wrote a deed, sealed it, and had it witnessed; and I weighed out the silver on a balance. ¹¹ I took the deed of purchase, the sealed text and the open one according to rule and law, ¹² and gave the deed to Baruch son of Neriah son of Mahseiah in the presence of my kinsman Hanamel, of the witnesses who were named in the deed, and all the Judeans who were sitting in the prison compound. ¹³ In their presence I charged Baruch as follows: ¹⁴ Thus said the Lord of Hosts, the God of Israel: "Take these documents, this deed of purchase, the sealed text and the open one, and put them into an earthen jar, so that they may last a long time." ¹⁵ For thus said the Lord of Hosts, the God of Israel: "Houses, fields, and vineyards shall again be purchased in this land."

¹⁶ But after I had given the deed to Baruch son of Neriah, I prayed to the Lord: ¹⁷ "Ah, Lord God! You made heaven and earth with Your great might and outstretched arm. Nothing is too wondrous for You! ¹⁸ You show kindness to the thousandth generation, but visit the guilt of the fathers upon their children after them. O great and mighty God whose name is Lord of Hosts, ¹⁹ wondrous in purpose and mighty in deed, whose eyes observe all the ways of men, so as to repay every man according to his ways, and with the proper fruit of his deeds! ²⁰ You displayed signs and marvels in the land of Egypt with lasting effect, and won renown in Israel and among mankind to this very day. ²¹ You freed Your people Israel from the land of Egypt with signs and marvels, with a strong hand and an outstretched arm, and with great terror. ²² You gave them this land that You had sworn to their fathers to give them, a land flowing with milk and honey, (*some congregations end here*) ²³ and they came and took possession of it. But they did not listen to You or follow Your Teaching; they did nothing of what You commanded them to do. Therefore you have caused all this misfortune to befall them. ²⁴ Here are the siegemounds, raised against the city to storm it; and the city, because of sword and famine and pestilence, is at the mercy of the Chaldeans who are attacking it. What You threatened has come to pass — as You see. ²⁵ Yet You, Lord God, said to me: Buy the land for money and call in witnesses — when the city is at the mercy of the Chaldeans!"

²⁶ Then the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah:

²⁷ "Behold I am the Lord, the God of all flesh. Is anything too wondrous for Me?"

Haftarah for Be-hukkotai

Jeremiah 16:19 - 17:14

This translation was taken from the JPS Tanakh

¹⁹ O Lord, my strength and my stronghold,
My refuge in a day of trouble,
To You nations shall come
From the ends of the earth and say:
Our fathers inherited utter delusions,
Things that are futile and worthless.
²⁰ Can a man make gods for himself?
No-gods are they!
²¹ Assuredly, I will teach them,
Once and for all I will teach them
My power and My might.
And they shall learn that My name is Lord.

Chapter 17

¹ The guilt of Judah is inscribed
With a stylus of iron,
Engraved with an adamant point
On the tablet of their hearts,
And on the horns of their altars,
² While their children remember
Their altars and sacred posts,
By verdant trees,
Upon lofty hills.
³ Because of the sin of your shrines
Throughout your borders,
I will make your rampart a heap in the field,
And all your treasures a spoil.
⁴ You will forfeit, by your own act,
The inheritance I have given you;
I will make you a slave to your enemies
In a land you have never known.
For you have kindled the flame of My wrath
Which shall burn for all time.
⁵ Thus said the Lord:
Cursed is he who trusts in man,
Who makes mere flesh his strength,
And turns his thoughts from the Lord.
⁶ He shall be like a bush in the desert,
Which does not sense the coming of good:
It is set in the scorched places of the wilderness,
In a barren land without inhabitant.
⁷ Blessed is he who trusts in the Lord,
Whose trust is the Lord alone.
⁸ He shall be like a tree planted by waters,

Sending forth its roots by a stream:
It does not sense the coming of heat,
Its leaves are ever fresh;
It has no care in a year of drought,
It does not cease to yield fruit.

⁹ Most devious is the heart;
It is perverse — who can fathom it?

¹⁰ I the Lord probe the heart,
Search the mind —
To repay every man according to his ways,
With the proper fruit of his deeds.

¹¹ Like a partridge hatching what she did not lay,
So is one who amasses wealth by unjust means;
In the middle of his life it will leave him,
And in the end he will be proved a fool.

¹² O Throne of Glory exalted from of old,
Our Sacred Shrine!

¹³ O Hope of Israel! O Lord!
All who forsake You shall be put to shame,
Those in the land who turn from You
Shall be doomed men,
For they have forsaken the Lord,
The Fount of living waters.

¹⁴ Heal me, O Lord, and let me be healed;
Save me, and let me be saved;
For You are my glory.