

## Midrash *HaAzinu* ("Listen") Deuteronomy 32:1–52

This Portion concludes last week's vision from God  
The Exodus began with a song (Exodus 15:1-18)  
And ends with this song (Deuteronomy 31:1-43)

### The Song of Moses

**Deuteronomy 32:1-43**

This is poetry:

Western Poetry: Meter & Rhyming

Hebrew Poetry: Juxtaposition of Similar or Contrasting Ideas

### Who is God (verses 1-4)

"Give Ear" **הַאֲזִינוּ** *Ha'Azinu*

To heaven & earth – the same witnesses as last week

Deuteronomy 30:19-20

Teaching as the dew (for youth) & the driving rain (for the mature)

verse 2

The Names of God:

Greatness

The Rock:

"God is my Rock & Fortress"

"The Rock of my Salvation"

"The Rock of my Refuge"

"The Rock of your Strength"

"The Rock that is Higher than I"

"A Rock of Offense"

The Rock Struck in the Wilderness

II Sam 22:2; Psa 18:2 & 71:3

II Sam 22:47; Psa 62:2 & 89:26

Psalm 94:22

Isaiah 17:10

Psalm 61:2

Isa 8:14; Rom 9:33; I Pet 2:8

Exo 17 & Num 20:11

Perfect

Just

Truth

Righteous

Upright (*Jeshurun* - "upright")

### Who is Israel (verses 5 & 6)

Corrupted

"Not His children" **לֹא עַמִּי** "*lo ami*"

Hosea 1:9

Perverse & Crooked

### Israel's History (verses 7-14) - The End from the Beginning

Isaiah 46:9-10

God Divided their Inheritance:

After the Tower of Babel, 70 Languages & Nations

"according to the number of ~~children of Israel~~"

"according to the angels of Elohim" (LXX & DSS)

God chose Israel

...and "gave" the Nations to His *elohim*

Thus Israel became God's Portion

} Deuteronomy 32 Worldview

Exodus 19:5

God Nurtured Israel and carried them as on eagles' wings

Exodus 19:4

And He will again!!

Revelation 12:14

### Israel's Rebellion (verses 15-18)

Compare with Deut 31:16a

*Jeshurun* – **יֵשׁוּרוּן** related to **יָשָׁר** *yashar* "upright"

Endearing name for Israel describing her ideal character!

Deut 33:5 & 26; Isa 44:2

**Israel's Ideal: To Walk Upright and in Obedience!**

But they followed other gods & sacrificed to them

And forgot God Who created them

*“they sacrificed to demons, and no gods”* who are “new gods”

verse 17

אלֹהִים elohah .... Contains “allah”

**God Will “Forget” Israel & Hide His Face** (verses 19-27)

Compare with Deut 31:16b

Israel will embrace “no gods”

Today the world attributes Creation to “Evolution”, not to God

God will use a “no people” (אֵין עַם *lo am*) to provoke them

verse 21

...but He will change them to “sons of the Living God”

Hosea 1:9-10

*“But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people (sons) of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.”*

I Peter 2:9-10

God will use a “no nation” – literally, “foolish or vile”

Such as: Assyria, Babylon .... or perhaps Islam

God will “dash them to pieces” – The Diaspora of the Northern Kingdom

**Israel Will Realize God is Her Refuge** (verses 28-38)

Compare with Deut 31:17

But God could not let this stand:

For His Name's Sake

Same argument that Moses made to God at Golden Calf

Exo 32

Israel's enemies would misinterpret it

If destroyed, Israel could not be Light to the Nations

He will preserve a remnant – hidden among the Nations – for His Name's Sake

I Samuel 12:22

If Israel were wise, she would understand

If America were wise .....!

*“For the Lord will judge His people and have compassion on His servants”*

He allowed them to get into that situation

He insured that nobody (or thing) could get them out of it

**And God Will Restore Israel!** (verses 39-43)

Compare with Deut 31:21

*“I will render vengeance to My enemies and repay those who hate Me.”*

Israel's Enemies are God's Enemies

Psalms 83

*“And My sword shall devour flesh,”*

The Word of God devours flesh (our carnal nature)

**Moses' Final Instructions to Israel**

**Deuteronomy 32:44-47**

Moses taught this song to Joshua & all of Israel

The future of Israel depended on them keeping Torah

....through the words of this song

Proverbs 10:27

**Moses Dies on Mt. Nebo**

**Deuteronomy 32:48-52**

Pisgah is 2,740 ft above sea level

12 miles east of Dead Sea (1,292 ft below sea level)

Can see Mt Hermon (9,232 ft high) to the North

And The Promised Land to the West

He Views The Land from a Distance because:

He did not sanctify God at *Meribah*

....but gave in to his emotions and struck the Rock

**Haftarah:**

II Samuel 22:1-51

David's Song of Thanksgiving

**Brit Chadashah:**

Revelation 15:1-4

The Song of Moses