

Genesis 21

21:1-8 Ascending

פרק כא

א וַיִּי פָקַד אֶת־שָׂרָה כַּאֲשֶׁר אָמַר וַיַּעַשׂ יְיָ לְשָׂרָה כַּאֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר: ב וַתֵּהָרֵי וַתֵּלֶד שָׂרָה לְאַבְרָהָם בֶּן לְזָקְנָיו לְמוֹעֵד אֲשֶׁר־דִּבֶּר אֲתוֹ אֱלֹהִים: ג וַיִּקְרָא אַבְרָהָם אֶת־שֵׁם־בְּנֵו הַנּוֹלָד לּוֹ אֲשֶׁר־יָלְדָהּ לּוֹ שָׂרָה יִצְחָק: ד וַיִּמַּל אַבְרָהָם אֶת־יִצְחָק בְּנֵו בֶן־שְׁמֹנֶת יָמִים כַּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּה אֲתוֹ אֱלֹהִים: [חמישין] ה וַאֲבָרָהָם בֶּן־מֵאָת שָׁנָה בָּהוּלָד לוֹ אֶת יִצְחָק בְּנֵו: ו וַתֹּאמֶר שָׂרָה צָחֵק עָשָׂה לִי אֱלֹהִים כָּל־הַשְּׁמַע יִצְחָק־לִי: ז וַתֹּאמֶר מִי מִלַּל לְאַבְרָהָם הַיְנִיקָהּ בָּנִים שָׂרָה כִּי־יֵלְדָתִי בֵן לְזָקְנָיו: ח וַיִּגְדַּל הַיֵּלֶד וַיִּגְמַל וַיַּעַשׂ אַבְרָהָם מִשְׁתָּה גָדוֹל בְּיוֹם הַגְּמֻל אֶת־יִצְחָק:

21:1) God took note of Sarah as promised, and God did for Sarah what had been announced. 2 Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken. 3 Abraham gave his newborn son, whom Sarah had borne him, the name of Isaac. 4 And when his son Isaac was eight days old, Abraham circumcised him, as God had commanded him. 5 Now Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. 6 Sarah said, "God has brought me laughter; everyone who hears will laugh with me." 7 And she added, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would suckle children! Yet I have borne a son in his old age." 8 The child grew up and was weaned, and Abraham held a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned.

"The nature of our people is that we are resilient. We somehow find a way to bounce back, no matter how unbelievably terrible a tragedy. We're in a moment now where we've dealt with a very terrible downturn in our narrative. [The Jewish Resilience Project shows] that the Jewish people can take an active role in determining what that narrative will be. What story will we pass onto future generations? Because, in fact, the story that we pass on will help them to be resilient and strong..." (Psychologist Dr. Marshall Duke, advisor on the Jewish Resilience Project)

<https://www.anumuseum.org.il/jewish-resilience-project-3/>

21:9-12 DEscending

ט וַתֵּרָא שָׂרָה אֶת־בֶּן־הַגֵּר הַמִּצְרִית אֲשֶׁר־יָלְדָה לְאַבְרָהָם גֵּרֶשׁ הָאֵמָה הַזֹּאת וְאֵת בְּנָהּ כִּי לֹא יִירֶשׁ בֶּן־הָאֵמָה הַזֹּאת עִם־בְּנֵי עַם־יִצְחָק: יא וַיֹּרַע הַדָּבָר מֵאֵד בְּעֵינֵי אַבְרָהָם עַל אֹדֹת בְּנֵו: יב וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים אֶל־אַבְרָהָם אֶל־יֹרַע בְּעֵינֶיךָ עַל־הַנָּעַר וְעַל־אִמָּתְךָ כֹּל אֲשֶׁר תֹּאמַר אֵלֶיךָ שָׂרָה שְׁמַע בְּקוֹלָהּ כִּי בִי־צָחֵק יִקְרָא לְךָ זֶרַע:

9 Sarah saw the son whom Hagar the Egyptian had borne to Abraham playing. 10 She said to Abraham, "Cast out that slave-woman and her son, for the son of that slave shall not share in the inheritance with my son Isaac." 11 The matter distressed Abraham greatly, for it concerned a son of his. 12 But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed over the boy or your slave; whatever Sarah tells you, do as she says, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be continued for you.

21:13 Ascending

יג וְגַם אֶת־בֶּן־הָאֵמָה לָגוּי אֲשִׁימְנו כִּי זֶרַעְךָ הוּא:

13 As for the son of the slave-woman, I will make a nation of him, too, for he is your seed."

21:14-16 DEscending

יד וַיִּשְׁכַּם אַבְרָהָם וַבִּבְקָר וַיִּסְחַח־לֶחֶם וְחָמַת מַיִם וַיִּתֵּן אֶל־הָגֵר שָׂם עַל־שִׁכְמָהּ וְאֵת־הַיֵּלֶד וַיִּשְׁלַחַהּ וַתֵּלֶךְ וַתֵּתַע בְּמִדְבַּר בְּאֵר שָׁבַע: טו וַיִּכְלוּ הַמַּיִם מִן־הַחֲמַת וַתִּשְׁלַךְ אֶת־הַיֵּלֶד תַּחַת אֶחָד הַשִּׁיחִים: טז וַתֵּלֶךְ וַתֵּשֶׁב לָהּ מִנְּגַד הַרְחֵק כַּמִּטְחָוִי קִשְׁת כִּי אָמְרָה אֶל־אֶרְאָה בְּמוֹת הַיֵּלֶד וַתֵּשֶׁב מִנְּגַד וַתִּשָּׂא אֶת־קֶלֶה וַתִּבְרַךְ:

14 Early next morning Abraham took some bread and a skin of water, and gave them to Hagar. He placed them over her shoulder, together with the child, and sent her away. And she wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba. 15 When the water was gone from the skin, she left the child under one of the bushes, 16 and went and sat down at a distance, a bowshot away; for she thought, "Let me not look on as the child dies." And sitting thus afar, she burst into tears.

21:17-20 & 22:1 Ascending

יז וישמע אלהים את־קול הנער ויקרא מלאך אלהים | אל־הגר מ־השמים ויאמר לה מה־לך הגר אל־תיראי
כי־שמע אלהים אל־קול הנער באשר הוא־שם: יח קומי שאי את־הנער והחזיקי את־ידך בו כי־לגוי גדול אשימנו:
יט ויפקח אלהים את־עיניה ותרא באר מים ותלך ותמלא את־החמת מים ותשק את־הנער: כ ויהי אלהים
את־הנער ויגדל וישב במדבר ויהי רבה קשת: כא וישב במדבר פארן ותקח־לו אמו אשה מארץ מצרים:
כב:א ויהי אחר הדברים האלה והאלהים נסה את־אברהם ויאמר אליו אברהם ויאמר הנני:

17 God heard the cry of the boy, and a messenger of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar? Fear not, for God has heeded the cry of the boy where he is. 18 Come, lift up the boy and hold him by the hand, for I will make a great nation of him." 19 Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went and filled the skin with water, and let the boy drink. 20 God was with the boy and he grew up; he dwelt in the wilderness and became skilled with a bow. 21 He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt. 22:1) Some time afterward, God put Abraham to the test, saying to him, "Abraham." He answered, "Here I am."

22:2-10 DDescending

ב ויאמר קח־נא את־בנך אשר־אהבת את־יחידך אשר־אהבת את־יִצְחָק וְלֶךְ־לְךָ אֶל־אֶרֶץ הַמֹּרְיָה וְהַעֲלֵהוּ שָׁם לַעֲלֹה עַל אֶחָד
הַהָרִים אֲשֶׁר אָמַר אֱלֹהֶיךָ: ג וישכם אברהם בבקר ויחבש את־חמורו ויקח את־שני נעריו אתו ואת יצחק בנו ויבקע
עצי־עלה ויקם וילך אל־המקום אשר־אמר־לו האלהים: ד ביום השלישי וישא אברהם את־עיניו וירא את־המקום
מרחק: ה ויאמר אברהם אל־נעריו שבו־לכם פה עם־החמור ואני והנער נלכה עד־כה ונשתחוה ונשובה אליכם:
ו ויקח אברהם את־עצי־העלה וישם על־יצחק בנו ויקח בידו את־האש ואת־המאכלת וילכו שניהם יחדו: ז ויאמר
יצחק אל־אברהם אביו ויאמר אבי ויאמר הנני בני ויאמר הננה האש והעצים ואיה השעה לעלה: ח ויאמר אברהם
אלהים וראה־לו השעה לעלה בני וילכו שניהם יחדו: ט ויבאו אל־המקום אשר־אמר־לו האלהים ויבן שם אברהם
את־המזבח ויערך את־העצים ויעקד את־יצחק בנו וישם אתו על־המזבח ממעל לעצים: י וישלח אברהם את־ידו
ויקח את־המאכלת לשחט את־בנו:

2 "Take your son, your favored one, Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the heights that I will point out to you." 3 So early next morning, Abraham saddled his ass and took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. He split the wood for the burnt offering, and he set out for the place of which God had told him. 4 On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place from afar. 5 Then Abraham said to his servants, "You stay here with the ass. The boy and I will go up there; we will worship and we will return to you." 6 Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and put it on his son Isaac. He himself took the firestone and the knife; and the two walked off together. 7 Then Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he answered, "Yes, my son." And he said, "Here are the firestone and the wood; but where is the sheep for the burnt offering?" 8 And Abraham said, "It is God who will see to the sheep for this burnt offering, my son." And the two of them walked on together. 9 They arrived at the place of which God had told him. Abraham built an altar there; he laid out the wood; he bound his son Isaac; he laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. 10 And Abraham picked up the knife to slay his son.

22:11-18 Ascending

יא ויקרא אליו מלאך יי מ־השמים ויאמר אברהם | אברהם ויאמר הנני: יב ויאמר אל־תשלח ידך אל־הנער
ואל־תעש לו מאומה כי | עתה ידעתי כי־ירא אלהים אתה ולא חשכת את־בנך את־יחידך ממני: יג וישא אברהם
את־עיניו וירא והנה־איל אחר נאחו בסבך בקרניו וילך אברהם ויקח את־האיל ויעלהו לעלה תחת בנו: יד ויקרא
אברהם שם־המקום ההוא יי | וראה אשר־יאמר היום בהר יי וראה: טו ויקרא מלאך יי אל־אברהם שנית

מִן־הַשָּׁמַיִם: טז וַיֹּאמֶר בִּי נִשְׁבַּעְתִּי נְאֻם־יְיָ כִּי יֵעָן אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתָ אֶת־הַדְּבָר הַזֶּה וְלֹא חִשַּׁבְתָּ אֶת־בְּנֶךְ אֶת־יְחִידְךָ: יז כִּי־בָרַךְ אֲבָרְכֶךָ וְהִרְבָּה אֲרַבְּהָ אֶת־זַרְעֶךָ כְּכֹכְבֵי הַשָּׁמַיִם וְכַחֲלוֹל אֲשֶׁר עַל־שֵׁפֶת הַיָּם וַיִּרְשׁ זַרְעֶךָ אֶת־שַׁעַר אֵיבָיו: יח וְהִתְבָּרְכוּ בְּזַרְעֶךָ כָּל־גּוֹיֵי הָאָרֶץ עֲקֵב אֲשֶׁר שָׁמַעְתָּ בְּקִלִּי:

11 Then a messenger of God called to him from heaven: "Abraham! Abraham!" And he answered, "Here I am." 12 "Do not raise your hand against the boy, or do anything to him. For now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your favored one, from Me." 13 When Abraham looked up, his eye fell upon a ram, caught in the thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering in place of his son. 14 And Abraham named that site Adonai-yireh, whence the present saying, "On the mount of God there is vision." 15 The messenger of God called to Abraham a second time from heaven, 16 and said, "By Myself I swear, God declares: Because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your favored one, 17 I will bestow My blessing upon you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars of heaven and the sands on the seashore; and your descendants shall seize the gates of their foes. 18 All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, because you have obeyed My command."

22:19 ??

יט וַיָּשָׁב אֲבָרְהָם אֶל־נַעֲרָיו וַיִּקְמוּ וַיֵּלְכוּ יַחְדָּו אֶל־בְּאֵר שָׁבַע וַיֵּשֶׁב אֲבָרְהָם בְּבְאֵר שָׁבַע:

Abraham then returned to his servants, and they departed together for Beer-sheba; and Abraham stayed in Beer-sheba.



Moshe Shah Mizrahi (b. Tehran, d. Israel) c. 1887.

BaShanah HaBa'ah (Next Year), by Ehud Manor and Nurit Hirsh

*Bashanah haba'ah neishev al hamirpeset
V'nispor tziporim nod'dot
Y'ladim b'chufsha y'shachaku tofeset
Bein habayit l'vein hasadot*

**Od tir'eh od tir'eh
Kama tov yihiyeh
Bashanah bashanah haba'ah**

*Anavim adumim yav'shilu ad ha'erev
V'yug'shu tson'nim lashulchan
V'ruchot r'dumim yis'u el eim haderech
Itonim y'shanim v'anan*

Od tir'eh od tir'eh ...

*Bashanah haba'ah nifros kapot yadayim
Mul ha'or hanigar halavan
Anafa l'vana tifros ka'or k'nafayim
V'hashemesh tizrach b'tochan*

Od tir'eh od tir'eh ...

בְּשָׁנָה הַבָּאָה נֵשֵׁב עַל הַמִּרְפֶּסֶת
וְנִסְפּוֹר צִפּוֹרִים נוֹדְדוֹת.
יְלָדִים בְּחוֹפְשָׁה יִשְׁחָקוּ תוֹפְסֵת
בֵּין הַבַּיִת לְבֵין הַשָּׂדוֹת.

עוֹד תִּרְאֶה, עוֹד תִּרְאֶה
כַּמָּה טוֹב יִהְיֶה
בְּשָׁנָה, בְּשָׁנָה הַבָּאָה.

עֲנָבִים אֲדוּמִים יִבְשִׁילוּ עַד הָעֶרֶב
וְיִגָּשׁוּ צוּנָנִים לְשׁוֹלְחָן.
וְרוּחוֹת רְדוּמִים יִשְׂאוּ אֶל אִם הַדָּרָד
עֲתוּנִים יִשְׁנִים וְעָנָן.

עוֹד תִּרְאֶה, עוֹד תִּרְאֶה...

בְּשָׁנָה הַבָּאָה נִפְרוֹשׁ כְּפוֹת יָדַיִם
מוֹל הָאוֹר הַנִּיגָר, הַלָּבָן
אֲנָפָה לְבָנָה תִּפְרוֹשׁ בְּאוֹר כְּנָפֵי
וְהַשֶּׁמֶשׁ תִּזְרַח בְּתוֹכָן.

עוֹד תִּרְאֶה, עוֹד תִּרְאֶה...

Next year we will sit on the balcony and count migrating birds.
Children on vacation will play catch between the house and the fields.

You'll see, you'll see how good it will be next year.

Red grapes will ripen by evening and will be served chilled at the table.
And languid winds will carry to the crossroads old newspapers and a cloud. **You'll see, you'll see...**

Next year we will spread out our hands towards the radiant light.
A white heron like a light will spread her wings and within them the sun will rise. **You'll see, you'll see...**