

Parshat Ha'azinu

Deuteronomy 32:1-18

First Aliyah

¹ Give ear, O heavens, let me speak;
Let the earth hear the words I utter!
² May my discourse come down as the rain,
My speech distill as the dew,
Like showers on young growth,
Like droplets on the grass.
³ For the name of the Eternal I proclaim;
Give glory to our God!

Second Aliyah

⁴ The Rock!—God's deeds are perfect,
Yea, all God's ways are just;
A faithful God, never false,
True and upright is God.
⁵ Children unworthy of God—
That crooked, perverse generation—
Their baseness has played God false.
⁶ Do you thus requite the Eternal,
O dull and witless people?
Is not God the Heavenly Parent who created you,
Fashioned you and made you endure!

Third Aliyah

⁷ Remember the days of old,
Consider the years of ages past;
Ask your father, he will inform you,
Your elders, they will tell you:

⁸ When the Most High gave nations their homes
And set the divisions of man,
God fixed the boundaries of peoples
In relation to Israel's numbers.

⁹ For the Eternal's portion is God's people,
Jacob God's own allotment.

¹⁰ God found him in a desert region,
In an empty howling waste.
God engirded him, watched over him,
Guarded him as the pupil of God's eye.

¹¹ Like an eagle who rouses his nestlings,
Gliding down to his young,
So did God spread Divine wings and take him,
Bear him along on God's pinions;

¹² The Eternal alone did guide him,
No alien god at Adonai's side.

Fourth Aliyah

¹³ God set him atop the highlands,
To feast on the yield of the earth;
God fed him honey from the crag,
And oil from the flinty rock,
¹⁴ Curd of kine and milk of flocks;
With the best of lambs,
And rams of Bashan, and he-goats;
With the very finest wheat—
And foaming grape-blood was your drink.
¹⁵ So Jeshurun grew fat and kicked—
You grew fat and gross and coarse—
He ^[Jacob] forsook the God who made him
And spurned the Rock of his support.
¹⁶ They incensed God with alien things,
Vexed God with abominations.
¹⁷ They sacrificed to demons, no-gods,
Gods they had never known,
New ones, who came but lately,
Who stirred not your fathers' fears.
¹⁸ You neglected the Rock that begot you,
Forgot the God who brought you forth.