

PARSHAT LECH LECHA  
GENESIS 12:1-17:27  
9 CHESHVAN 5783/3 NOVEMBER 2022



*One: Number 31, 1950*  
Oil and enamel paint on canvas by Jackson Pollock

### THE MEANINGFUL CHAOS OF COMPLEXITY

1. ...the earth was filled with lawlessness. (Genesis 6:11)

Everyone on earth had the same language and the same words. (Genesis 11:1)

2. "Go forth from your native land and from your father's house to the land that I will show you." (Genesis 12:1)
3. There was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to sojourn there... (Genesis 12:10)

Know that Abraham our father unintentionally committed a great sin by bringing his righteous wife to a stumbling block of sin on account of his fear for his life. (Ramban)

4. Sarah afflicted her [Hagar] harshly, who ran away from her. (Genesis 16:6)

Our mother Sarah transgressed by this affliction, as did Abraham by allowing her to do so. So God heard Hagar's affliction and gave her a son who would be a wild ass of a man to afflict the seed of Abraham and Sarah with all kinds of affliction. (Ramban)

5. "It does not say in the Bible that all laws of nature are expressible linearly!" (Enrico Fermi)

6. To see a World in a Grain of Sand  
And a Heaven in a Wild Flower  
Hold Infinity in the palm of your hand  
And Eternity in an hour  
(William Blake, "Auguries of Innocence")