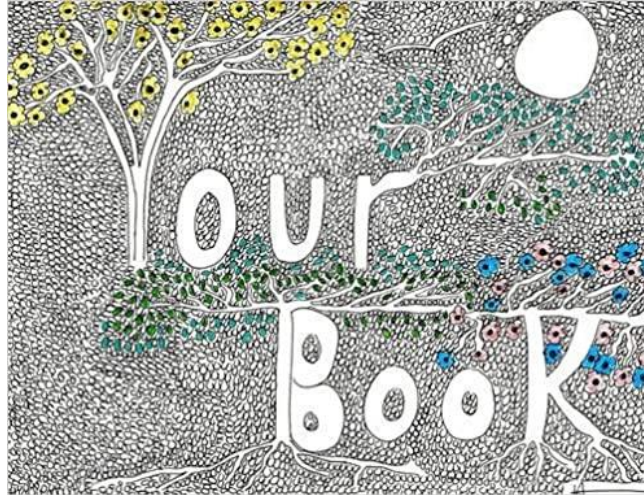


PARSHAT DEVARIM 5781
DEUTERONOMY 1:1-3:22
6 AV 5781/15 JULY 2021
SHABBAT CHAZON



Your Book

Painting by Kay Hare

“Even if you don’t remember it in the morning, you were exploring many beautiful and colorful works in your sleep.”

MAKING THE DREAM REAL

1. וַיְדַבֵּר יְיָ אֶל־מֹשֶׁה בְּמִדְבַּר סִינַי (Numbers 1:1)
אֱלֹהֵי הַדְּבָרִים אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר מֹשֶׁה (Deuteronomy 1:1)
2. The well-being of the soul can only be obtained after that of the body has been secured.
(Maimonides, *Guide for the Perplexed*)
3. The people have to learn to fight their own battles. They must discover that God is a force within rather than a force outside that fights their battles for them. They must discern the God who is close – within the camp – and not one who is distant, who performs miracles, liberates the Israelites, brings plagues against the Egyptians, sends the people water from a rock and food from heaven, and divides the sea for them....[Deuteronomy] marks the move from divine initiative to human responsibility. (Rabbi Jonathan Sacks)

4. Covenantal Language

Listen (*shema*) – occurs at least ninety-two times in Deuteronomy

Love – appears at least twenty-three times in Deuteronomy. “God upholds the cause of the orphan and widow, and loves the stranger, giving them food and clothing. And you are to love those who are strangers, for you yourselves were strangers in Egypt.” (Deuteronomy 10:14-19)

Remembering – “Remember the whole way that God caused you to walk...” (Deuteronomy 8:2)

Transmit to Next Generations – “Teach these words incisively to your children...” (Deuteronomy 6:7)

5. Learn to do good.

Aid the wronged.

Uphold the rights of the orphan.

Defend the cause of the widow,

Come now and let us reason together.

(Isaiah 1:17-18, from the haftarah for Shabbat Chazon)

6. When Adonai restores the fortunes of Zion, we are like dreamers.

Our mouths shall be filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy.

(Psalm 126:1-2, part of Shabbat Birkat HaMazon)