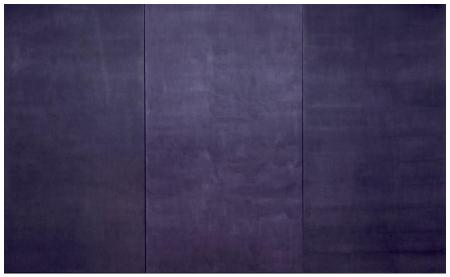
## PARSHAT SH'LACH LECHA 23 SIVAN 5781/03 JUNE 2021



Untitled Triptych in Rothko Chapel by Mark Rothko

## MAKING DREAMS REAL

1. "...It does indeed flow with milk and honey, and this is its fruit. *Efes* (אֶּבֶּט) the people who inhabit the country are very powerful..." (Numbers 13:28)

రెఫ్లిఫ్లో – v. cease, fail, come to an end n. end, non-existence; zero

Their wickedness was in their use of the word *efes*, which indicates that the matter is completely impossible. (Ramban)

- 2. The spies were not afraid of failure. They were afraid of success. (Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson)
- 3. Always keep Ithaca in your mind.

To arrive there is your ultimate goal.

But do not hurry the voyage at all.

. . . .

Ithaca has given you the beautiful voyage.

Without her you would never set out on the road.

She has nothing more to give you.

(Constantine Cavafy, "Ithaca")

- 4. If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget its cunning; let my tongue cleave to my palate if I cease to think of you, if I do not keep Jerusalem in memory even at my happiest hour.

  (Psalm 137)
- 5. The secret of the Jews in the years of their exile was in having and not having: in having the memory and the promise of home *and* the freedom of the road, in cherishing a home without having to defend it or even keep its roads free of potholes. (Sidra DeKoven Ezrahi, *Booking Passage*)
- 6. "If God desires us..." (Numbers 14:8)

This should be read as "All depends on Israel's desire." (Sefat Emet)

- 7. Like any great work of art, Torah is designed to draw you in, to make you realize that what you are witnessing is something that you yourself have experienced.
- 8. I do not believe that there was ever a question of being abstract or representational. It is really a matter of ending this silence and solitude, of breathing, and stretching one's arms again; transcendental experiences became possible. (Mark Rothko)