

PARSHAT VAYECHI  
GENESIS 47:28-50:26  
HAFTARAH I KINGS 2:1-12  
12 TEVET 5786/1 JANUARY 2026



*My Home II*  
Dona Nelson

## A RESILIENT LIFE

1. וַיְחִי יַעֲקֹב / “Jacob lived...” (Genesis 47:28)  
חַיֵּי שָׂרָה / “the life of Sarah...” (Genesis 23:1)
2. “I will tell you what will happen in the end of days (בְּאַחֲרֵית הַיָּמִים)” (Genesis 49:1). He wished to reveal to them the end of all exiles, but the Shechinah departed from him, and he began to say other things. (Rashi)

3. The need for cognitive closure refers to individuals' desire for a firm answer to a question and an aversion toward ambiguity. (Arie Kruglanski and Donna Webster, "Motivated Closing of the Mind: 'Seizing' and 'Freezing'," *Psychological Review*)
4. The narrative of happiness is inevitably frustrated by the fact that only insufficiencies, defaults, deferrals can be "told"....Traditional narrative is a quest after that which will end questing....Closure is an act of make-believe, a postulation that closure is possible. (D. A. Miller, *Narrative and Its Discontents: Problems of Closure in the Traditional Novel*)
5. כִּי כֹה אָמַר יְיָ לְבַיִת יִשְׂרָאֵל דַּרְשׁוּנִי וְחִיּוּ (Amos 5:4)  
Thus said Adonai to the House of Israel: Seek Me (*dirshuni*) inquire of Me/interrogate Me/weave stories through Me, and you will live.