

Shabbat Korach

28 June 2 Tammuz

Numbers 16:1-19

(1) Now Korah, son of Izhar son of Kohath son of Levi, betook himself,* **betook himself** *Lit. "took"; nuance of Heb. uncertain.* along with Dathan and Abiram sons of Eliab, and On son of Peleth—descendants of Reuben* **descendants of Reuben** *According to Num. 26.5, 8–9, Eliab was son of Pallu, son of Reuben.* — (2) to rise up against Moses, together with two hundred and fifty Israelites, chieftains of the community, chosen in the assembly, men of repute. (3) They combined against Moses and Aaron and said to them, “You have gone too far! For all the community are holy, all of them, and יהוה is in their midst. Why then do you raise yourselves above יהוה’s congregation?” (4) When Moses heard this, he fell on his face.* **he fell on his face** *Perhaps in the sense of “his face fell.”* (5) Then he spoke to Korah and all his company, saying, “Come morning, יהוה will make known who is [God’s] and who is holy by granting direct access; the one whom [God] has chosen will be granted access. (6) Do this: You,

במדבר ט"ז:א-י"ט

(א) וַיִּקְרַח קֹרַח בֶּן־יִצְחָר בֶּן־קֹהַת בֶּן־לֵוִי וְדָתָן וְאַבִּירָם בְּנֵי אֶלְיָב וְאוֹן בֶּן־פִּלֶת בְּנֵי רְאוּבֵן: (ב) וַיִּקְמוּ לִפְנֵי מֹשֶׁה וְאַנְשֵׁים מִבְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל חֲמִשִּׁים וּמְאֹתָיִם נְשִׂאֵי עֵדָה קְרָאִי מוֹעֵד אַנְשֵׁי־שָׁם: (ג) וַיִּקְהָלוּ עַל־מֹשֶׁה וְעַל־אַהֲרֹן וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֲלֵהֶם רַב־לָכֶם כִּי כָל־הָעֵדָה כֻּלָּם קִדְשִׁים וּבְתוֹכְכֶם יְהוָה וּמִדּוּעַ תִּתְנַשְּׂאוּ עַל־קְהַל יְהוָה: (ד) וַיִּשְׁמַע מֹשֶׁה וַיִּפֹּל עַל־פָּנָיו: (ה) וַיְדַבֵּר אֶל־קֹרַח וְאֶל־כָּל־עֵדוּתוֹ לֵאמֹר בִּקֶּר וַיִּדַע יְהוָה אֶת־אֲשֶׁר־לוֹ וְאֶת־הַקְּדוֹשׁ וְהַקְּרִיב אֵלָיו וְאֶת־אֲשֶׁר יִבְחַר־בוֹ יִקְרִיב אֵלָיו: (ו) זֹאת עֲשׂוּ קַחוּ־לָכֶם מַחְתֹּת קֹרַח וְכָל־עֵדוּתוֹ: (ז) וּתְנִנוּ בֵּהֶן | אֵשׁ וְשִׂימוּ עֲלֵיהֶן | קִטְרֹת לִפְנֵי יְהוָה מִחוּר וְהָיָה הָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר־יִבְחַר יְהוָה הוּא הַקְּדוֹשׁ רַב־לָכֶם בְּנֵי

Korah and all your**your* Lit. “his.” band, take fire pans, (7) and tomorrow put fire in them and lay incense on them before יהוה. Then the candidate**candidate* Lit. “participant whose involvement defines the depicted situation”; trad. “man.” See the Dictionary under *’ish*. whom יהוה chooses, he shall be the holy one. You have gone too far, sons of Levi!” (8) Moses said further to Korah, “Hear me, sons of Levi. (9) Is it not enough for you that the God of Israel has set you apart from the community of Israel and given you direct access, to perform the duties of יהוה’s Tabernacle and to minister to the community and serve them? (10) Now that [God] has advanced you and all your fellow Levites with you, do you seek the priesthood too? (11) Truly, it is against יהוה that you and all your company have banded together. For who is Aaron that you should rail against him?” (12) Moses sent for Dathan and Abiram, sons of Eliab; but they said, “We will not come! (13) Is it not enough that you brought us from a land flowing with milk and honey to have us die in the wilderness, that you would also lord it over us? (14) Even if you had**Even if you had* Lit. “You have not even.” brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey, and given us possession of fields and vineyards,

לְוִי: (ח) וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה אֶל־קֹרַח
 שְׂמַעוּ־נָא בְנֵי לְוִי: (ט) הַמַּעֲט
 מִכֶּם כִּי־הִבְדִּיל אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל
 אֶתְכֶם מֵעַדְת יִשְׂרָאֵל לְהַקְרִיב
 אֶתְכֶם אֵלָיו לְעַבֹד אֶת־עַבְדֹת
 מִשְׁכַּן יְהוָה וְלַעֲמֹד לִפְנֵי הָעֵדָה
 לְשִׁרְתָם: (י) וַיִּקְרַב אֹתָךְ
 וְאֶת־כָּל־אֲחֵיךָ בְנֵי־לְוִי אֹתָךְ
 וּבִקְשֶׁתָם גַּם־כָּהֵנָה: (יא) לָכֵן
 אַתָּה וְכָל־עַדְתְּךָ הַנֹּעְדִים
 עַל־יְהוָה וְאַהֲרֹן מִה־הוּא כִּי
 (תְלוּנו) [תְלוּנו] עָלֶיךָ: (יב)
 וַיִּשְׁלַח מֹשֶׁה לְקַרְא לְדָתָן
 וְלֹא־בִירָם בְנֵי אֶלִיָּאֵב וַיֹּאמְרוּ לֹא
 נַעֲלָה: (יג) הַמַּעֲט כִּי הָעֲלִיתָנוּ
 מֵאֶרֶץ זְבַת חֶלֶב וְדָבַשׁ לְהַמִּיתָנוּ
 בַּמִּדְבָּר כִּי־תִשְׁתַּרְר עָלֵינוּ
 גַּם־הִשְׁתַּרְר: (יד) אַף לֹא אֶל־אֶרֶץ
 זְבַת חֶלֶב וְדָבַשׁ הֵבִיאָתָנוּ
 וְתִתֵּן־לָנוּ נַחֲלַת שָׂדֵה וְכָרֶם
 הָעֵינִי הָאֲנָשִׁים הָהֵם תִּנְקֶר לֹא
 נַעֲלָה: (טו) וַיִּחַר לְמֹשֶׁה מְאֹד
 וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל־יְהוָה אֶל־תִּפְּן
 אֶל־מִנְחָתָם לֹא חָמוּר אֶחָד מֵהֶם
 נִשְׂאתִי וְלֹא הִרְעֵתִי אֶת־אֶחָד
 מֵהֶם: (טז) וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה אֶל־קֹרַח
 אַתָּה וְכָל־עַדְתְּךָ הֵינִי לִפְנֵי יְהוָה
 אַתָּה וְהֵם וְאַהֲרֹן מִחֶר: (יז)
 וַיִּקְחוּ אִישׁ מַחֲתָתוֹ וַנִּתְּתָם

should you gouge out the eyes of those involved? ****gouge out the eyes of those involved*** *Gouging out the eyes was punishment for runaway slaves and rebellious vassals; cf. 2 Kings 25.4–7; Jer. 39.4–7; 52.7–11. “Those involved” (NJPS “those men”; see the Dictionary under ‘ish) is a euphemism for self-reference; cf. 1 Sam. 29.4. We will not come!” (15) Moses was much aggrieved and he said to יהוה, “Pay no regard to their oblation. I have not taken the ass of any one of them, nor have I wronged any one of them.” (16) And Moses said to Korah, “Tomorrow, you and all your company appear before יהוה, you and they and Aaron. (17) Each of you take your fire pan and lay incense on it, and each of you bring that fire pan before יהוה, two hundred and fifty fire pans; you and Aaron also [bring] your fire pans.” (18) They each took their fire pan, put fire in it, laid incense on it, and took a place at the entrance of the Tent of Meeting, as did Moses and Aaron. (19) Korah gathered the whole community against them at the entrance of the Tent of Meeting. Then the Presence of יהוה appeared to the whole community,*

עֲלֵיהֶם קָטַרְתָּ וְהִקְרַבְתָּם לִפְנֵי
 יְהוָה אִישׁ מִחֶתְתּוֹ חֲמֹשִׁים
 וּמֵאֲתָיִים מִחֶתְתָּ וְאֶתְהָ וְאֶהֱרֹן
 אִישׁ מִחֶתְתּוֹ: (יח) וַיִּקְחוּ אִישׁ
 מִחֶתְתּוֹ וַיִּתְּנוּ עֲלֵיהֶם אֵשׁ
 וַיִּשְׂימוּ עֲלֵיהֶם קָטֹרֶת וַיַּעֲמִדוּ
 פֶּתַח אֹהֶל מוֹעֵד וּמִשָּׁה וְאֶהֱרֹן:
 (יט) וַיִּקְהַל עֲלֵיהֶם קָרַח
 אֶת־כָּל־הָעֵדָה אֶל־פֶּתַח אֹהֶל
 מוֹעֵד וַיֵּרָא כְבוֹד־יְהוָה
 אֶל־כָּל־הָעֵדָה: {ס}

Haftarah

I Samuel 11:14-12:22

(14) Samuel said to the people, “Come, let us go to Gilgal and there inaugurate the monarchy.” (15) So all the people went to Gilgal, and there at Gilgal they declared Saul king before the LORD. They offered sacrifices of well-being there before the LORD; and Saul and all the men of Israel held a great celebration there. (1) Then Samuel said to all Israel, “I have yielded to you in all you have asked of me and have set a king over you. (2) Henceforth the king will be your leader. “As for me, I have grown old and gray—but my sons are still with you—and I have been your leader from my youth to this day. (3) Here I am! Testify against me, in the presence of the LORD and in the presence of His anointed one: Whose ox have I taken, or whose ass have I taken? Whom have I defrauded or whom have I robbed? From whom have I taken a bribe to look the other way, I will return it to you.” (4) They responded, “You have not defrauded us, and you have not robbed us, and you have taken nothing from anyone.” (5) He said to them, “The LORD then is witness,

שמואל א י"א:י"ד-י"ב:כ"ב
 (יד) וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל-הָעָם לְכוּ
 וְנִלְכְּהָ הַגִּלְגָּל וְנִחַדְשׁ שָׁם
 הַמְּלוּכָה: (טו) וַיֵּלְכוּ כָל-הָעָם
 הַגִּלְגָּל וַיִּמְלְכוּ שָׁם אֶת-שָׁאוּל
 לְפָנָי יְהוָה בְּגִלְגָּל וַיִּזְבְּחוּ-שָׁם
 זִבְחִים שְׁלָמִים לְפָנָי יְהוָה
 וַיִּשְׂמַח שָׁם שָׁאוּל וְכָל-אֲנָשֵׁי
 יִשְׂרָאֵל עַד-מְאֹד: {פ}
 (א) וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל
 אֶל-כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל הִנֵּה שָׁמַעְתִּי
 בְּקִלְכֶם לְכָל אֲשֶׁר-אָמַרְתֶּם לִּי
 וְאִמְלִיךְ עֲלֵיכֶם מֶלֶךְ: (ב) וְעַתָּה
 הִנֵּה הַמֶּלֶךְ | מִתְהַלֵּךְ לְפָנֵיכֶם
 וְאֲנִי זִקְנָתִי וְשִׁבְתִּי וּבְנֵי הַנֶּם
 אִתְּכֶם וְאֲנִי הִתְהַלַּכְתִּי לְפָנֵיכֶם
 מִנְעָרֵי עַד-הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה: (ג) הֲנִנִּי
 עָנּוּ בִּי נֹגֵד יְהוָה וְנֹגֵד מְשִׁיחוֹ
 אֶת-שׁוּר | מִי לְקַחְתִּי וְחִמּוֹר מִי
 לְקַחְתִּי וְאֶת-מִי עָשָׂקְתִּי אֶת-מִי
 רְצוּתִי וּמִי־מִי לְקַחְתִּי כֹפֵר
 וְאֶעֱלִים עֵינַי בּוֹ וְאֲשִׁיב לְכֶם: (ד)
 וַיֹּאמְרוּ לֹא עָשָׂקְתָנוּ וְלֹא רְצוּתָנוּ
 וְלֹא-לְקַחְתָּ מִי־אִישׁ מְאוֹמָה:
 (ה) וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵיהֶם עַד יְהוָה בְּכֶם

and His anointed is witness, to your admission-b this day that you have found nothing in my possession.” They responded, “He is!” (6) Samuel said to the people, “The LORD [is witness], He who appointed-d Moses and Aaron and who brought your fathers out of the land of Egypt. (7) Come, stand before the LORD while I cite against you all the kindnesses that the LORD has done to you and your fathers. (8) “When Jacob came to Egypt, ...your fathers cried out to the LORD, and the LORD sent Moses and Aaron, who brought your fathers out of Egypt and settled them in this place. (9) But they forgot the LORD their God; so He delivered them into the hands of Sisera the military commander of Hazor, into the hands of the Philistines, and into the hands of the king of Moab; and these made war upon them. (10) They cried to the LORD, ‘We are guilty, for we have forsaken the LORD and worshiped the Baalim and Ashtaroth. Oh, deliver us from our enemies and we will serve You.’ (11) And the LORD sent Jerubbaal and Bedan and Jephthah and Samuel, and delivered you from the enemies around you; and you dwelt in security. (12) But when you saw that Nahash king of the Ammonites was advancing against you, you said to me, ‘No, we

וְעַד מְשִׁיחוֹ הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה כִּי לֹא
מְצַאתֶם בְּיַדִּי מְאוּמָה וַיֹּאמֶר עַד:
{פ}

(ו) וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל-הָעָם
יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֶת-מֹשֶׁה
וְאֶת-אַהֲרֹן וְאֲשֶׁר הֶעֱלָה
אֶת-אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם: (ז)
וְעַתָּה הִתִּיצְבוּ וְאֲשַׁפְטָה אֹתְכֶם
לִפְנֵי יְהוָה אֵת כָּל-צְדָקוֹת יְהוָה
אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה אֹתְכֶם
וְאֶת-אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם: (ח) כַּאֲשֶׁר-בָּא
יַעֲקֹב מִצְרַיִם וַיִּזְעֲקוּ אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם
אֶל-יְהוָה וַיִּשְׁלַח יְהוָה אֶת-מֹשֶׁה
וְאֶת-אַהֲרֹן וַיּוֹצִיאוּ אֶת-אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם
מִמִּצְרַיִם וַיִּשְׁבוּם בְּמִקּוֹם הַזֶּה:
(ט) וַיִּשְׁכְּחוּ אֶת-יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיהֶם
וַיִּמְכְּרוּ אֹתָם בְּיַד סִיסְרָא שַׂר-צְבָא
חֲצוּר וּבְיַד-פְּלִשְׁתִּים וּבְיַד מֶלֶךְ
מוֹאָב וַיִּלָּחֲמוּ בָם: (י) וַיִּזְעֲקוּ
אֶל-יְהוָה (וַיֹּאמֶר) [וַיֹּאמְרוּ]
חָטָאנוּ כִּי עֲזַבְנוּ אֶת-יְהוָה וְנִעַבְדְּ
אֶת-הַבְּעָלִים וְאֶת-הָעִשְׂתָרוֹת
וְעַתָּה הֲצִילֵנוּ מִיַּד אִיְבֵינוּ
וְנִעַבְדְּךָ: (יא) וַיִּשְׁלַח יְהוָה
אֶת-יְרֻבְעֵל וְאֶת-בְּדָן וְאֶת-יִפְתָּח
וְאֶת-שְׁמוּאֵל וַיִּצֵּל אֹתְכֶם מִיַּד
אִיְבֵיכֶם מִסֹּבִיב וַתִּשְׁבוּ בְטָח:
(יב) וַתֵּרְאוּ כִּי-נִחַשׁ מֶלֶךְ
בְּנֵי-עַמּוֹן בָּא עֲלֵיכֶם וַתֹּאמְרוּ לִי

must have a king reigning over us’—though the LORD your God is your King. (13) “Well, the LORD has set a king over you! Here is the king that you have chosen, that you have asked for. (14) “If you will revere the LORD, worship Him, and obey Him, and will not flout the LORD’s command, if both you and the king who reigns over you will follow the LORD your God, [well and good]. (15) But if you do not obey the LORD and you flout the LORD’s command, the hand of the LORD will strike you as it did your fathers. (16) “Now stand by and see the marvelous thing that the LORD will do before your eyes. (17) It is the season of the wheat harvest. I will pray to the LORD and He will send thunder and rain; then you will take thought and realize what a wicked thing you did in the sight of the LORD when you asked for a king.” (18) Samuel prayed to the LORD, and the LORD sent thunder and rain that day, and the people stood in awe of the LORD and of Samuel. (19) The people all said to Samuel, “Intercede for your servants with the LORD your God that we may not die, for we have added to all our sins the wickedness of asking for a king.” (20) But Samuel said to the people, “Have no fear. You have, indeed, done all those wicked things. Do not,

לֹא כִּי־מֶלֶךְ יִמְלֹךְ עָלֵינוּ וַיְהוֹה
 אֱלֹהֵיכֶם מִלְּכֶכֶם: (יג) וְעַתָּה
 הִנֵּה הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר בְּחַרְתֶּם אֲשֶׁר
 שָׁאַלְתֶּם וְהִנֵּה נָתַן יְהוָה עָלֵיכֶם
 מֶלֶךְ: (יד) אִם־תִּירְאוּ אֶת־יְהוָה
 וְעַבַדְתֶּם אֹתוֹ וּשְׁמַעְתֶּם בְּקוֹלוֹ
 וְלֹא תִמְרוּ אֶת־פִּי יְהוָה וְהִיתֶם
 גַּם־אִתְּם וְגַם־הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר מֶלֶךְ
 עָלֵיכֶם אַחֵר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם: (טו)
 וְאִם־לֹא תִשְׁמָעוּ בְּקוֹל יְהוָה
 וּמְרִיתֶם אֶת־פִּי יְהוָה וְהִיתָה
 יַד־יְהוָה בְּכֶם וּבְאַבְתֵּיכֶם: (טז)
 גַּם־עַתָּה הִתִּיצְבוּ וּרְאוּ אֶת־הַדָּבָר
 הַגָּדוֹל הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר יְהוָה עֹשֶׂה
 לְעֵינֵיכֶם: (יז) הֲלוֹא קָצִיר־חֹטִים
 הַיּוֹם אֶקְרָא אֶל־יְהוָה וַיִּתֵּן קָלוֹת
 וּמָטָר וּדְעוּ וּרְאוּ כִּי־רַעַתְכֶם רַבָּה
 אֲשֶׁר עֲשִׂיתֶם בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה לְשִׂאוֹל
 לָכֶם מֶלֶךְ: {ס} וַיִּקְרָא
 שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל־יְהוָה וַיִּתֵּן יְהוָה קָלוֹת
 וּמָטָר בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא וַיִּירָא כָּל־הָעָם
 מְאֹד אֶת־יְהוָה וְאֶת־שְׁמוּאֵל:
 (יט) וַיֹּאמְרוּ כָּל־הָעָם
 אֶל־שְׁמוּאֵל הַתְּפַלֵּל בְּעַד־עַבְדֶּיךָ
 אֶל־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ וְאֶל־נַמּוֹת
 כִּי־יִסְפְּנוּ עַל־כָּל־חַטֹּאתֵינוּ רָעָה
 לְשִׂאֵל לָנוּ מֶלֶךְ: (כ) וַיֹּאמֶר
 שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל־הָעָם אֶל־תִּירְאוּ אִתְּם
 עֲשִׂיתֶם אֵת כָּל־הָרָעָה הַזֹּאת אַךְ

however, turn away from the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart. (21) Do not turn away to follow worthless things, which can neither profit nor save but are worthless. (22) For the sake of His great name, the LORD will never abandon His people, seeing that the LORD undertook to make you His people.

אֶל־תִּסּוּרוּ מֵאֲחֵרֵי יְהוָה וְעַבַּדְתֶּם
 אֶת־יְהוָה בְּכָל־לִבְבְּכֶם: (כא)
 וְלֹא תִסּוּרוּ כִּי אֲחֵרֵי הַתְּהוּ
 אֲשֶׁר לֹא־יִוְעִילוּ וְלֹא יִצְּלוּ
 כִּי־תְהוּ הַמָּה: (כב) כִּי לֹא־יִטַּשׁ
 יְהוָה אֶת־עַמּוֹ בְּעֶבֶר שָׁמַיִם
 הַגָּדוֹל כִּי הוֹאִיל יְהוָה לַעֲשׂוֹת
 אֲתֶכֶם לוֹ לְעַם: