Genesis 29:1 Yaakov's (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) interaction with God strengthens his resolve	·····
	וַיִּשָׂא
toward arriving at his destination with all due haste, <i>and</i> to achieve his objective, <i>lifts</i> his feet and briskly distances himself from Mount Moriah. Incentivized by his initial	
encounter and interaction with God,	
Yaakov lifts	ריז ה ר ר
	<u>יִעַקׂב</u> רולוו
<i>his feet</i> , proceeds forward in an emotionally charged quickened pace, and proceeds from Mount Moriah	<u>רַגְלָיו</u> וַיֵּלֶך
to the land inhabited by an aggregation of	<u>וג</u> ן: אַרְצָה
people collectively known as inhabitants of the	
east.	<u>רְנֵי</u> הדת
Genesis 29:2	קֶדָּם
While journeying toward his destination, Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) happens upon <i>and sees</i> shepherds tending to their flocks,	וַיַּרָא
and as he beholds three flocks of sheep gathered around a	ןהנֵה
well situated	רְאֵר
<i>in</i> a <i>field</i> , says to himself, "I look	בַּשָׂדָה
and behold	וְהִנֵּה
there in the distance	שָׁם
three	שָׁלשָׁה
<i>flocks</i> of	עָדְרֵי
sheep congregating around a well. I wonder why the	צאן
ones (livestock) lying	רֹבְצִים
upon it (the well) are situated there, and then I realize that the shepherds have situated	עָלֶיהָ
their sheep there	
<i>because</i> they intend to draw water	כִּי
from	מָן
the well and quench the thirst of their sheep.	הַבְּאֵר
<i>The</i> sheep know <i>that</i>	הַהָוא
they (the shepherds) will draw water from the well to quench their thirst. It appears that	יַשְׁקוּ
the flocks are thirsty and lie in wait for their shepherds to draw water from the well."	הָעַדָרִים
Yaakov caught sight of the large stone covering the opening of the well	
and determined that the sheer mass of the stone would require a	וָהָאֶבֶן
<i>great</i> amount of collective strength to remove it. Yaakov observes the shepherds girding themselves prior to removing the stone situated	גְּדֹלָה
upon the	עַל
mouth of	פּי
the well,	הַכָּאֵר
Genesis 29:3	• · -
and knowing they gathered	ןנֶאֶסְפוּ
there to provide water for	ײַאָר שָׁמָה
all	<u>د</u> ب رِح
the flocks of sheep, watches as they situate themselves evenly about the stone covering	הָעַדָרִים
the well	
and roll away the stone to gain access to the water contained therein. Yaakov (Jacob)	וֹבָּלְלוּ
a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) continues observing the shepherds tasked	

<i>with</i> removing	אֶת
the stone and th	ڔٙۑٛڿٳ
away from the	מֵעַל
<i>mouth</i> of	פּי
the well. The shepherds draw water from the well	הַבְּאֵר
and provided drinking water for their sheep. Challenged	וָהָשְׁקוּ
<i>with</i> removing the obstacle barring their way from accessing the water in the well, the shepherds, removed the stone covering and drew water from the well for	אֶת
the sheep to drink,	הַצֹּאַן
and after watering their sheep, <i>returned</i> the stone atop the well opening. Challenged	<u>ו</u> ַהַשִׁיבוּ
with removing	<u>ומי בי בי</u> אַת
the stone resting	<u>ָּשֶׁיּ</u> הָאֶבֶו
upon the	<u>ייאָדּו</u> על
mouth of	<u>יי</u> פי
the well, the shepherds remove it, draw water and return the stone	<u>-</u> הַבְּאֵר
to its place atop the well hole.	<u>הַבְּאַי</u> לְמָקֹמָה
Genesis 29:4	י די יועי
Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) is intent upon interacting with the shepherds, and	וַיֹּאמֵר
contemplates what to say	<u>ī</u> <i>N</i> ¢1
to them.	לָהֶם
Yaakov's first words to the shepherds are,	<u>יַעַ</u> קֹב
"My brothers! I am a stranger in your midst and would like to know	אַחַי
from where	מַאַיָן
<i>you</i> and your forbearers originate." The shepherds are intent upon answering the question asked by the stranger in their midst,	אַתָּם
and say to Yaakov, "We are	וַיּאמְרוּ
from Charan.	מֵחָרָן
We, as well as our forbearers, are from Charan."	אַנָקַנוּ
Genesis 29:5	
Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) intends to ask the shepherds if they are acquainted with his uncle Lavan, <i>and says</i>	וַיּאֹמֶר
to them,	לָהֶם יַלָּהָם
"Do you know a man by the name of Lavan? If you know him, what insight can you	<u>הַיְדַעְ</u> תָּם
provide	
with regard to the reputation of	אֶת
<i>Lavan?</i> Can you tell me if Lavan considers himself a son of Besueil (Bethuel) (his father) or does he consider himself a	לְּבָן
grandson of	ڎؚٳ
Nachor?" ²⁶⁷ The shepherds are intent upon responding to Yaakov's inquiry regarding	נָּחוֹר
Lavan's character,	
and say to Yaakov,	וַיֹּאמְרוּ
"We know Lavan, a man whose dishonest reputation precedes him."	יִדְעְנוּ

²⁶⁷ Nachor is Avraham's (f/k/a Avram) brother and Lavan's grandfather.

Genesis 29:6	
Having acquired from the shepherds valuable insight regarding his uncle Lavan's	וַיּאמֶר
reputation incentivizes Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) to further query them, and	
to further satisfy his curiosity, says	
<i>to them</i> , "Does Lavan maintain	לָהֶם
<i>the peace</i> with his neighbors? Is keeping the peace with his neighbors important	הֲשֶׁלוֹם
to him (Lavan)?" The shepherds are intent upon responding to Yaakov's inquiry	לוֹ
regarding Lavan's proclivity toward violence,	
and say to Yaakov, "We are at	וַיּאמְרוּ
peace with him (Lavan) and recommend that you converse with his daughter to gain	שָׁלוֹם
further insight as regards to his character". One of the shepherds sees one of Lavan's	
daughters making her way toward the well and says, "Look over there	
and behold Lavan's daughter	וְהַנֵּה
Rochel approaching the well with her father's flock in tow. You might gain further	רָחֵל
insight as regards to the manner in which Lavan comports himself with his neighbors if	
you converse with	
his daughter	בּתּוֹ
<i>coming</i> toward the well	בָּאָה
with	עִם
the sheep her father entrusts her to shepherd."	הַצֹּאן
Genesis 29:7	
While waiting for Rochel to arrive, Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) is puzzled why	וַיּאמֶר
the shepherds in his midst refrain from tending their flocks until the onset of nightfall,	
and wanting an explanation as to why, says,	
"Behold and listen! While studying Torah at Eiver's (Eber) academy, I learned that a	ני
man is obligated to work from sunrise until the onset of nightfall. The sun is still	
shining,	
<i>yet</i> you refrain from grazing your livestock prior to the cessation of	עוֹד
<i>the daylight</i> . When a	הַיּוֹם
substantial portion of the day remains, why do you	גָּדוֹל
not continue grazing your flocks until sunset? Your flocks would yield more meat and	לא
wool if you used the	
time prior to sunset	צֵת
to gather and pasture your livestock. Grazing the sheep and	הַאָּמַף
the cattle from sunrise until the onset of nightfall will require more trips to the well to	הַמִּקְנָה
extract more	
<i>water</i> . Commit to increasing the grazing time of	הַשְׁקוּ
the sheep and cattle,	הַצֹּאן
and after guiding them to	וּלְכוּ
pasture and grazing them until the onset of nightfall, reap the reward of a flock of	רְעוּ
increased size and number. The prospect of a flock of fatted sheep and cattle should	
incentivize you toward pasturing them until the sunset. From this day forward, let the	
rising sun signal the beginning of your work day and the appearance of the stars signal	
its end."	

Genesis 29:8	
Upon hearing Yaakov's (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) comment regarding their	וַיּאמְרוּ
truncated workday duration, the shepherds are amenable toward working longer to	
achieve greater herd yield, but are quick to point out an inherent flaw in his plan, and	
say, "Accessing the water in the well requires our combined strength to move the	
massive stone covering it. Given our individual limited strength, it is	
not possible for to access the well water without a concerted effort of many shepherds	לא
present to move the heavy stone covering its opening.	
We cannot provide water for our flocks	נוּכַל
<i>until</i> everyone makes a concerted effort to move the stone situated atop the opening of	עַד
the well. Access to the water in the well is only possible	
when all the shepherds	אֲשֶׁר
<i>gather</i> about the stone and make a concerted effort to remove it. It is imperative that	יֵאָסְפוּ
all the shepherds are present to make a concerted effort to remove the stone covering	ۅٙؗٙؗڂ
the well from which water is drawn.	
<i>The flocks</i> are dependent upon our ability to provide water to quench their thirst,	הָעֲדָרִים
and that occurs when the shepherds make a concerted effort to roll away the stone	וְגָלְלוּ
with brute force sufficient to move	אֶת
the stone	ڔٙۑڕٳ
away from the	מַעַל
mouth of	<u></u> פי
the well. Then,	הַבְּאֵר
and only then are we able to provide water in amounts sufficient to quench the thirst of	ַנְהְשֵׁקִינוּ וְהָשְׁקִינוּ
the sheep."	<u>הַצּאַן</u> הַצֹּאַן
Genesis 29:9	
Rochel and her father's flock of sheep draw nearer to the well <i>while</i> Yaakov (Jacob)	עוֹדֵנּוּ
a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) is <i>still</i>	·- ÷ ·-
speaking	מְדַבֵּר
with them (the shepherds of Charan). Yaakov catches sight	<u>יייב</u> עַמָּם
and becomes enamored with <i>Rochel</i> . Upon Rochel's	<u>י</u> י≓י– וְרָתֵל
arrival at the well	ןן <u>ני</u> ז בָּאָה
with	עם עם
	· · ·
the sheep	הַצֹּאן ייייר
that belong	אֲשֶׁר לייירי
to her father entrusting her to shepherd his flock, Yaakov tallies the number of sheep	לְאָבִיהָ
comprising Lavan's flock, and realizes that one shepherd is all that is required to tend to	
a flock so few in number. Having observed the manner in which Lavan's young	
daughter controls her father's flock, Yaakov recognizes her shepherding ability and commends her father	
<i>for</i> entrusting her with the task of shepherding his sheep. Yaakov recognizes that the young	Ęŗ
shepherdess possesses shepherding acumen on par with the shepherds in her midst.	רֹעָה
Upon seeing the stranger in her midst, Rochel has no idea that	ן אָיו
she and Yaakov were destined to become husband and wife.	
	הָוא
Genesis 29:10 The God Whe guided Avraham's (fikia Avram) convent Eliezar to a well where he	
The God Who guided Avraham's (f/k/a Avram) servant Eliezer to a well where he	<u>ו</u> ּיְהִי

en whom God destined to become the wife of Avraham's son
juided Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) to a well where he
ne of his future wives. God intends to unite Yaakov and Rochel,
ective, sees to it that they encounter one another at the well. It is
٢
the well she frequents to water her father's sheep, to fall in love,
ren.
ter :
ekah),
erwhelming experience. Yaakov is intent upon providing her
ter,
ective, moves away the heavy stone covering the opening of the
. As a means of providing water to the
inglehandedly removed the massive stone covering the well.
ovide Rochel access to the well water,
ective, <i>went over</i> to the massive stone covering the mouth of the
y removed it. God endowed
han strength evidenced when he erected a massive God-created
m an aggregation of stones situated around his head prior to
rom God while situated atop Mount Moriah. Yaakov brought his
to the fore
ne covering the mouth of the well
sing the strength of many men, Yaakov moves
. After Yaakov moves the stone covering the mouth of the well,
r to flow from the well and form a pool at Rochel's feet. Prior to
v out of the well for Rochel, God enabled water to flow out of a
her Rivkah and again for Yaakov's grandfather Avraham. The
of water flowing at Rochel's feet convinces everyone that God is
Rochel's behalf. God intended to perform a miracle on Yaakov
tive by enabling water to gush forth from the well for Rochel to
watered (provided drinking water for) her father's sheep
el <i>watered</i> (provided drinking water for) her father's sheep th by the hand of God. Bringing forth water from the well to the
el <i>watered</i> (provided drinking water for) her father's sheep th by the hand of God. Bringing forth water from the well to the I's feet was the means by which God quenched the thirst of the

Lavan,	לָבָן
brother of Rivkah,	אַחִי
his (Yaakov's) mother.	אָמוֹ

Genesis 29:11

Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) believes that the manner by which God brought forth water from the well to quench the thirst of Lavan's flock tended to by Rochel is	<u>וּי</u> ּשֵׁק
the means by which He is informing him that he and Rochel are fated to become man	
and wife. Yaakov realizes his God-sanctioned bride (Rochel) is standing before him, and	
rather than refraining from initiating a physical reaction commensurate with his	
heightened emotions, kisses her. God's miracle incentivized	
Yaakov to display unbridled affection	<u>יַעַ</u> קׂב
toward Rochel,	לְרָתֵל
and his heightened emotional state of mind gave rise to physically interacting	וַיִּשָׂא
with her. Yaakov's God-given prophetic insight as regards to finding the love of his life	אֶת
causes a welling-up of emotion manifesting itself in	
<i>his voice</i> . Possessing nothing in the form of a groom's gift to give to Rochel, gives rise	קׂלוֹ
to the outpouring emotion of anguish borne of ineptitude,	
and causes Yaakov to weep. Yaakov wept because of (i) the impropriety of having	וַײֵּרְדְ
kissed Rochel; (ii) his lack of a groom's gift; and (iii) a revelation from God informing	
him of Rochel's premature demise and subsequent burial along a roadside in lieu of	
situating her inside the Machpeilah Cave. ²⁶⁸	
Genesis 29:12	
After regaining his presence of mind, Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) is desirous to	<u>וַיַּג</u> ַד
	1

explain to Rochel why he had had such an intense emotional outburst in her presence,	
and tells her that her father Lavan's sister Rivkah (Rebekah) is his mother.	
Yaakov says	<u>יַעַק</u> ֹב
to Rochel	לְרָחֵל
<i>that</i> her father is the	Ęŗ
<i>brother</i> of his mother. After telling Rochel that	אֲחִי
her father is his uncle, Yaakov tells her that by virtue their cunning nature,	אָבִיהָ
he and Lavan are brothers. To ease Rochel's mind regarding the taboo of blood	הוא
relatives marrying each other, Yaakov cites the precedent of his father Yitzchok (Isaac)	
marrying his cousin Rivkah,	
and it is at that moment when the prospect of marrying Yaakov,	וְכִי
<i>son</i> of	<u>چ</u> ړ
<i>Rivkah</i> , her aunt, in Rochel's mind, is not taboo. Knowing	רִבְקָה
he (Yaakov) is her cousin does not undermine Rochel's desire to marry him. After	הוא
receiving news that will have a profound effect on her life, Rochel is anxious to discuss	
the matter with her family,	
and runs home. Rochel seeks out her father,	וַתָּרָץ
and while situated in his presence, <i>tells</i> him of her encounter with the son of his sister.	וַתַּגַּד
Rochel imparts	
to her father that Yaakov is intent upon marrying her,	לְאָבִיהָ

²⁶⁸ Yaakov's (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) ancestral burial site.

Genesis 29:13	
and it is after Rochel tells her father of Yaakov's (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) intent to	וַיְהִי
marry her, that Lavan's cunning and exploitative nature comes to the fore and	
motivates him to exploit her potential suitor.	
As soon as he hears about Rochel's potential suitor, Lavan jumps at the opportunity to	רִשְׁמֹעַ
exploit him.	
<i>Lavan</i> , from the moment Rochel provides him	לָבָן
<i>with</i> the	אֶת
news of	שֵׁמַע
Yaakov's arrival and desire to marry her, is intent upon exploiting Yaakov,	<u>יַע</u> ַקׂב
son of Rivkah (Rebekah),	ڎؚٳ
his (Lavan's) sister,	אַחֹתוֹ
and runs	ַ וַיּרָץ
to meet him,	ַבְּאָ י לְקָרָאתוֹ
and upon encountering Yaakov, embraces	ַוּיְחַבֶּק וַיְחַבֶּק
him	<u>יין א</u> לו
and kisses	ٳڹؚڐؚڛٚٛؖۛۛۛק
him	<u>יי= דיי</u> לוֹ
and brings him	ַוִיִבִיאָהוּ וַיִבִיאָהוּ
to his	<u>ון - נויוי</u> אַל
house. A welcomed guest by his kinfolk, Yaakov feels at ease to confide,	<u>ביתוֹ</u>
and tells Lavan everything about himself. Yaakov recounts	<u>ַּדַּיּאַ</u> וַיְסַפֵּר
<i>to Lavan</i> the incident in which he, after convincing his twin brother Eisov (Esau) to trade	ַּוְפַבֵּי לְלָבָן
his birthright for a meal, deceived his father into conferring upon him a blessing meant	I √ {(
for Eisov. Yaakov asks Lavan to protect him from Eisov who swore to kill him. Yaakov	
makes the mistake of sharing	
with Lavan	אָת
all	<u>און</u> כּל
the personal things documenting his character flaws, and upon hearing	<u>ָבְּ׳</u> הַדְּבָרִים
the aggregation of Yaakov's exploits, Lavan is intent upon using them to exploit him.	<u>ַמּוּ בָּוּ ש</u> הָאֵלֶּה
Genesis 29:14	() \$ <i>2</i> Û
Lavan perceives Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) as an easy mark for exploitation	וַיּאמֶר
(due to vulnerability engendered by destitution, fugitive status, and desire to marry his	
daughter), and after contemplating what to say	نك
to him, says	לוֹ
Lavan to Yaakov, "I am not obligated to aid a refugee whose exploits have laid him low.	ַלָּבָן ייד
In truth, you are bone of	אַד
my bone	עַצְמִי
and flesh of my flesh, and as such, shall receive all the hospitality I can muster. A long	ıּבְשָׂרִי
time ago, your grandfather Avraham's (f/k/a Avram) servant (Eliezer) came to our	
house, and on behalf of Yitzchok (Isaac), your father, gave Rivkah (Rebekah), my sister,	
your mother, a treasure-laden groom's gift in exchange for my sister's hand in	
marriage. As a prospective suitor, you are not worthy of consideration as a potential	
groom because	

<i>you</i> lack the wealth commensurate with receiving my daughter's hand in marriage. For	אָתָה
my daughter's hand in marriage, I will accept from you a groom's gift in the form of	
laboring on my behalf. Because you are destitute and a blood relation, in exchange for	
a month's worth of your labor, I will provide you with food, clothing and shelter."	
Yaakov agrees to Lavan's terms	
and stays	בײַשָּב
with him for a	עמו
<i>month's</i> worth of	חֹדֶשׁ
days.	יָמִים
Genesis 29:15	
After extricating a month's worth of servitude from Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael	וַיּאמֶר
(Israel)) in exchange for food, clothing and shelter, Yaakov's uncle Lavan is in awe of his	
nephew's prodigious output. No stranger to exploiting his neighbor, Lavan is intent	
upon Yaakov providing a lifetime of laboring on his behalf, and to achieve his objective,	
says	
Lavan	לְבָן
to Yaakov, "Under my employ for the past month, you have proven yourself a	ל <u>י</u> אַקׂב
prodigious laborer, and I desire that you continue laboring on my behalf.	
Because we are blood relatives, I equate you as	לַכּי
<i>`my brother'</i> , and as such,	אָחִי
you deserve to receive wages in addition to receiving food, clothing and shelter.	אַתָּה
Should you serve me	וַעֲבַדְתַּנִי
for nothing? No!	بنزم
Tell	הַגִּידָה
me	<u>ל</u> י
what	מַה
<i>your wages</i> should be."	ڟؚۿؚڎڶڟۮ
Genesis 29:16	
Lavan fathered four daughters (two with his wife and two with his concubines), and it	וּלְנָרָן
was apparent <i>to</i> all who knew <i>Lavan</i> that he held	
two of his four	שָׁתֵ י
daughters in higher esteem than the others. Lavan favored the two daughters (Leah	ָ כְּנוֹת
and Rivkah) whose mother is his wife over the other two daughters (Bilhah and Zilpah)	
whose mothers are concubines. With regard to one of Lavan's two favored daughters,	
Leah is the	
name of the daughter whom Lavan refers to as	שׁם
<i>`the great one'</i> avan's daughter	הגדלה

<i>`the great one'.</i> Lavan's daughter	הַגְּדֹלָה
<i>Leah</i> , from a prophetic perspective, is called 'the great one' because upon marrying	לֵאָה
Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)), she will become the progenitrix of prophets such	
as Moshe (Moses), Yeshayahu (Isaiah), Shmuel (Samuel) and royalty such as King	
David. Lavan had another daughter whom he favored,	
and the name of the daughter whom Lavan affectionately calls	וְשֵׁם
'the small one' is	הַקְּמַנָּה

Rochel. ²⁶⁹	רָחֵל
Genesis 29:17	
There are physical characteristics differentiating Rochel (Rachel) from Leah. The eyes	ןעֵינֵי
of	
Leah, as compared to Rochel's eyes, are	לֵאָה
<i>weak</i> . Leah has diminished visual acuity because (i) she cried upon initially beholding and falling in love with Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)); (ii) she cried upon discovering Yaakov favoring Rochel over her; and (iii) she cried upon discovering the possibility of an arranged marriage between herself and Yaakov's evil brother Eisov (Esau). Both Leah and Rochel are beautiful,	רַכּוֹת
<i>and</i> those having beheld both sisters conclude that <i>Rochel</i> is the more beautiful daughter. Anyone having beheld both Rochel and Leah are of the opinion that	וְרָחֵל
<i>she</i> (Rochel) <i>is</i> more beautiful than her older sister. The consensus among those who know both Leah and Rochel is that Rochel is more	הָיְתָ ה
<i>beautiful</i> of	יְפַת
form	תּאַר
and beautiful of	וִיפַת
appearance than Leah.	מַרָאֶה
Genesis 29:18	
God interceding on Rochel's behalf (by providing well water for her sheep) convinces Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) that Rochel is the one whom God destined him to marry. Discovering Lavan has four marriageable daughters, Yaakov fears that marrying more than one will incense his brother Eisov (Esau), whose perverse sense of entitlement will motivate him to acquire a fourth wife and use Yaakov's marital excess as a pretext to kill him for stealing his birthright. Yaakov is intent upon marrying only one of Lavan's daughters, and chooses Rochel because he loves her.	<u>וּיָּא</u> ָהַב
Yaakov is in love	יַעַקׂב
with and only wants to marry	אָת
<i>Rochel.</i> Exceeding Lavan's expectations as regards to his ability to labor on his behalf, Yaakov believes his unmatched labor skills entitle him to dictate the terms by which he will earn the right to marry Rochel. Wary of Lavan's proclivity toward deceit, Yaakov is careful to dictate the terms by which he will labor on his behalf,	רָתַל
and says to Lavan,	וַיּאמֶר
"/ will serve you for	<u>ۑ</u> ٚؿؚڂؚڶۮ
seven	שֶׁבַע
years in exchange	שָׁנִים
for Rochel,	כ ְרָחֵל
your daughter's hand in marriage. When I say 'Rochel', I mean the daughter whom you fathered and named Rochel. I am speaking of your daughter whom I met at the well prior to meeting you. She is the one whom you refer to as	÷ ظلا
`the small one‴.	הַקְּטַנָּה

²⁶⁹ From a prophetic perspective, Rochel is called 'the small one' because in comparison to Leah, 'the greater one', Rochel will marry Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) and become the progenitrix of comparatively less prominent Jewish historical figures such as Yoseif (Joseph) and King Shaul (Saul).

י. אמר	Genesis 29:19 Lavan believes Yaakov's (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) proposition to labor on his behalf
, viện	for seven years in exchange for marrying Rochel is fair compensation for his daughter's
	hand in marriage. Yaakov's prospective father-in-law is intent upon responding to his
	offer, and says
ן לְרָן	<i>Lavan</i> to Yaakov, "At five years of age, Rochel is too young to marry. Prior to marrying
I÷ {	Rochel, you should remain in my employ for seven years. At the end of seven years,
	marry Rochel, who at that time, will be of childbearing age. Having considered
	marrying off Rochel to a rich man, I determined that it would be
זוב	better for me
זהי	to give
 אֹתָה	her leave to be married
د <u>ب</u> در ر برا	<i>to you</i> , a poor man, whose prodigious laboring on my behalf will enrich me beyond a
-14	groom's gift from a wealthy suitor. A rich man, upon marrying Rochel, would take her
	away, and in exchange for a groom's gift, I would lose a daughter. Your marriage to
	Rochel, followed by a groom's gift of laboring on my behalf for seven years, enables me
	to both prosper and maintain a close relationship with my beloved daughter. As you
	can see, I benefit far more
אַתּתי	from giving you, rather than a rich man, leave to marry
אינויני אֹתֵה	<i>her</i> (Rochel). Not standing to profit as much from giving Rochel leave
פּוְנֵיז לְאָישׁ	to marry a man
<u>אָאָיש</u> אַתֵר	other than yourself, I accept your pledge to provide seven years of servitude in
0.1 <i>2</i>	exchange for her hand in marriage.
אָבָה	Stay
ַּשְׁבָּוּז גַּמָּדִי	with me, and Rochel shall become your bride after you have labored on my behalf for
? ,	the next seven years."
	Genesis 29:20
<u>יַּע</u> ֲבֹד	In exchange for Rochel's hand in marriage, Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) is
	willing to labor on her father Lavan's behalf for the next seven years. Yaakov
	understands that he has to complete seven years of laboring on Lavan's behalf before
	Lavan allows him to marry Rochel and agrees to work for Lavan who, at the end of
	seven years, will become his father-in-law. In exchange for Rochel's hand in marriage,
ַאַקׂב	Yaakov agrees to work for Lavan for seven successive years in exchange
<u></u> בָרָתֵל	for Rochel's hand in marriage. The 77-year-old Yaakov, upon completion of laboring on
· · · · + •	Lavan's behalf for
שֵׁבַע	seven
ָּיַב שֶׁנִים	years, will be entitled to marry Rochel. Yaakov contemplates exchanging seven years of
•	his labor for Rochel's hand in marriage,
יּהָי וּ	and in his mind, they (the seven years of servitude in exchange for Rochel's hand in
• • •	marriage) are a small price to pay for marrying the love of his life.
בְעֵינָיו	In his (Yaakov's) eyes, the passing of seven years will come and go by
יייד בַּיָמִים	as days, and
אַקָּדִים	few ones at that. Because o
ַבָּאַה <u>ָ</u> בָתוֹ	his love
····	
רַיַּיִּשְׁיִיּיּ אֹתָה	for her (Rochel), Yaakov gladly commits to laboring for Lavan seven years in exchange

Genesis 29:21	
After laboring on Lavan's behalf for seven years, Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) is	וַיּׂאמֶר
entitled to marry his daughter Rochel. Yaakov is intent upon reminding Lavan that he	
fulfilled his obligation to labor on his behalf for seven years, and says	
Yaakov	יַעָקׂב
to	אָל
Lavan, "I have fulfilled my obligation to labor on your behalf for seven years in	לָבָן
exchange for Rochel's hand in marriage. Rochel is old enough to marry and procreate. I	
implore you to	
<i>give</i> me leave to marry her. I wish to begin procreating	הָבָה
with her as soon as she becomes	אֶת
my wife. I ask that you honor our labor-for-marriage contract	אִשְׁתִּי
because I	רִּי
<i>fulfilled</i> my obligation to labor on your behalf for seven years. As	מָלְאוּ
my days of laboring on your behalf have ended, I am entitled to marry Rochel. Upon	יָמָי
marrying Rochel, I will attempt to procreate and provide you with grandchildren. Give	
your daughter leave to marry,	
and I shall come	וָאָבוֹאָה
to her in the manner of a husband wishing to engage his wife in procreative fashion.	אַלֶיהָ
God destined me to father twelve sons. As I am 84 years old, and destined to father	
twelve sons, I should begin procreating as soon as possible."	
Genesis 29:22	
Seven years of prodigious servitude from Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) in	וַיֶּאֱסׂף
exchange for Rochel's hand in marriage convinces Lavan of his value as an	
indispensable laborer. Lavan intends to perpetuate his employment by deceiving	
Yaakov into marrying his older daughter Leah and extricating another seven years of	
labor in exchange for marrying Rochel. Lavan knows he cannot singlehandedly deceive	
Yaakov into marrying Leah and to achieve his objective, gathers his wedding guests	
into aiding and abetting him. Lavan takes comfort in knowing that after deceiving	
Yaakov into marrying Leah, he will be in a position to exact another seven years of	
labor from him in exchange for Rochel's hand in marriage.	
<i>Lavan</i> is intent upon incentivizing his fellow shepherds into aiding and abetting him in	לָבָז
keeping Yaakov in their midst for an interminable amount of time, and to achieve his	
objective, says to them, "Seven years ago, you witnessed Yaakov's arrival and the	
miraculous manner in which his God brought forth water from the well to water my	
sheep. Since Yaakov's arrival, we have had access to ample water for our flocks. Now	
that Yaakov is no longer obligated to continue laboring on my behalf, after marrying	
Rochel, he may choose to leave and acquire his own parcel of land. If Yaakov leaves, his	
God will cease ensuring that we have adequate water. I intend to keep Yaakov here for	
another seven years by deceiving him into unwittingly consummating his marriage with	
my daughter Leah in a room devoid of illumination. Yaakov will assume the woman in	
his marital bed is Rochel. Upon realizing he has consummated with Leah, rather than	
Rochel, Yaakov will have to labor on my behalf for another seven years in exchange for	
her hand in marriage." Having shared his plot to deceive Yaakov	
with	אֶת
<i>all</i> of the	ڎؚڔ

<i>people</i> indigenous to	אַנְשֵׁי
the place where Yaakov's presence coincided with their prosperity, Lavan is ready to	<u>הַמָּקוֹם</u>
implement his plan. Lavan's co-conspirators agree to keep secret his scheme to deceive	· + -
Yaakov into marrying Leah. Not satisfied with exploiting his fellow shepherds by aiding	
and abetting him in deceiving Yaakov, Lavan is intent upon foregoing his fatherly	
obligation to provide for his daughter's wedding,	
and makes them provide all the food for the wedding	<i>שׁעַייַ</i> ן
<i>feast</i> . Lavan exploits the shepherds' fear of losing their water supply they know is	 מִשְׁתֶּה
attributable to Yaakov's presence, and uses it to leverage them into participating in the	* : •
conspiracy to deceive Yaakov and to pay for the wedding.	
Genesis 29:23	
Lavan and his guests celebrate Yaakov's (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) marriage to	וַיְהִי
Rochel on a Friday night in the year 1569 b.c.e. (2192 years after creation). Lavan	
intends to nullify Yaakov's marriage to Rochel by deceiving him into unwittingly	
consummating with Leah, and it is later	
in the evening, after situating Yaakov inside the pitch-dark marriage chamber that	בָעֶרָב
Lavan goes to Leah's room	
and takes hold of her hand and	ויִקַח
with	אָת
Leah,	ָ לֵאָה
his daughter in tow, walks toward the wedding chamber. Situated outside the wedding	בּתּוֹ
chamber, Lavan calls out to Yaakov and informs him that his bride is ready to join him.	•
After giving seven years of indentured servitude to him, Yaakov expects Lavan to fulfill	
his obligation to enable him and Rochel to consummate,	
and hopes he (Lavan) brought her (Rochel)	וַיָּבֵא
her (Rochel)	אֹתָה אֹתָה
to him. Yaakov is unaware that Leah, rather than Rochel, is about to join him inside the	ָ אֵלָיו
pitch-dark wedding chamber. To ensure he does not consummate with anyone other	÷ •
than Rochel, prior to the wedding night, Yaakov established a password with Rochel,	
that when uttered, will ensure that he is consummating the marriage with the woman	
he acquired from her father in exchange for seven years of servitude. While	
sequestered inside a room devoid of light, Yaakov asks for and hears the correct	
password uttered by the woman in his presence,	
and comes	וַיָּבא
unto her with all the enthusiasm a groom could muster for consummating with his	<u>יַבָּי</u> וּ אֵלֶיהָ
bride. Upon hearing the woman utter the correct password, Yaakov assumes it is	÷ ÷ 5
Rochel, but will later find out that he had unwittingly consummated his marriage with	
Leah, whom he mistakenly believed was Rochel. ²⁷⁰	
Genesis 29:24	
Lavan fathered four daughters (two with his wife and two with his concubines). Custom	וּהֵז
dictates that the younger of Lavan's daughters, fathered by way of spouse, upon	1-21.1

²⁷⁰ Upon realizing that Lavan is intent upon deceiving Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) into consummating the marriage with Leah, Rochel becomes sympathetic toward her older sister's plight of remaining single while she, her younger sister marries, and gives Leah the password that will deceive Yaakov into believing he is consummating with Rochel.

	getting married, will acquire as a servant, the younger of her father's daughters
	fathered by way of concubine. Lavan intends to conscript Zilpah to Rochel, and gives
	leave for Zilpah to become Rochel's handmaiden. Prior to Yaakov's (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael
	(Israel)) pending marriage to Rochel,
ڹ ڹؚ	Lavan makes known to Yaakov his intent to give Zilpah leave
	to serve her (Rochel). After being deceived into marrying Leah instead of Rochel,
11	Yaakov realizes that Lavan has broken precedent
אַת	with regard to conscripting his younger daughter, fathered by way of concubine, to
	serve Leah, his older daughter, fathered by way of spouse. Lavan gives
ַרְפָ ה	<i>Zilpah</i> , his younger daughter, fathered by way of concubine leave to transition from
ַ שִׁפְחָתוֹ	his servant,
<u>ַ</u> לָאָה	to serve Leah,
<u>ַ</u> תּוֹ	<i>his</i> oldest <i>daughter</i> . Upon witnessing Lavan conscripting his younger
אַפְחָה	daughter-maidservant to Rochel, Yaakov takes it as a sign of Lavan sanctioning his
· · ·	marriage to Rochel.
	Genesis 29:25
יָהָי	The first light of day reveals to Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) that Leah, not
····	Rochel, is the woman with whom he had consummated his marriage, and Yaakov is
	aghast as he beholds Leah, not Rochel, in his bed
<u>ב</u> בּאָר	<i>in the morning</i> following the consummation of his marriage to the woman whom he
1	believed was Rochel. Daylight reveals to Yaakov what darkness concealed. Upon
	awakening, Yaakov expected to behold Rochel,
ה נ ה	and when he beheld Leah in his bed, was mystified that
	<i>she</i> knew and uttered the password Rochel was to utter on their wedding night
לָאָה	Leah, not Rochel, was the woman with whom Yaakov unwittingly consummated his
T *	marriage. When asked by Yaakov why she deceived him, Leah declares his love for him.
	Not wanting forcibly marry Yaakov's evil brother Eisov (Esau), Leah agreed to
	participate Lavan's plot to deceive him into marrying her. After regaining his
	composure, Yaakov realizes that Lavan's deception was no different than the manner
	in which he deceived Yitzchok (Isaac) into conferring upon him blessings meant for
	Eisov. Yaakov exploited his father's blindness as a means of deceiving him into
	conferring blessings meant for Eisov and Leah exploited Yaakov's blindness by way of
	darkness, to obtain a husband. The darkness of the wedding chamber blinded Yaakov
	to the reality that he was, in fact, consummating his marriage with the woman meant
	for Eisov. It would have been hypocritical for Yaakov, having deceived his father into
	conferring a blessing meant for Eisov, to condemn Leah for deceiving the man
	betrothed to Rochel, into marrying and consummating with her. Yaakov is intent upon
	confronting the man who deceived him into marrying Leah,
יאמָר י	and says
אָל	to
۔ ہِ جِ ۲	Lavan,
זה	"What manner of deception is
את	
1 121	this? Why have
ַ גַּשִׂיתָ	this? Why have you have done this

not honor the terms of our agreement that I fulfilled by providing you with seven years	הַלא
of servitude in exchange	
<i>for Rochel</i> becoming my wife?"	בְרָחֵל
<i>I served</i> you for the agreed-upon seven-year span of time. When it came time	עָבַדְתִּי
<i>for you</i> to honor your end of the bargain, rather than enabling me to marry Rochel, you surreptitiously substituted Leah! I stand before you	אַמָּך
and need to know why	וְלָמָה
you deceived me."	ָרַמִּיתָנִי רַמִּיתָנִי
Genesis 29:26	
Lavan is intent upon responding to Yaakov's (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) claim that he deceived him into marrying and consummating with Leah, <i>and says</i>	וַיֹּאמֶר
Lavan to Yaakov, "In this place, you will	לָבָן
<i>not</i> find an instance of a father marrying off his younger daughter prior to marrying off the older. Maybe that is the way it	לא
<i>is</i> customarily <i>done</i> in the place where you come from, but here, it is not	ַעָּשָׂה
50.	בן בן
<i>In our place</i> , we marry off the older sibling before the younger. It is not our custom	בִּמְקוֹמֵנוּ
to grant leave for	לְמֵת
the younger daughter to be married	זַאָּעִירָה
before	יקני
<i>the firstborn</i> daughter. We have heard the story of how you orchestrated and successfully executed a plot according you the status of being Yitzchok's (Isaac) firstborn. How is your usurpation, by way of deception, of your firstborn brother's birthright any different from the manner in which I deceived you into marrying the woman whom you were not intent upon marrying? Having consummated with Leah, you cannot disenfranchise by way of annulment. You need not despair because our custom permits a spouse to be married to more than one woman. Leah shall remain as your first wife and Rochel shall become your second wife.	הַבְּכִירָה
Genesis 29:27	
Custom dictates that a newly married husband must refrain from labor and cohabit with his wife during the first week of their marriage. <i>Finish</i> devoting a	<u>ז</u> לֵא <u></u>
week of your time to	אָבָעַ
this one (Leah) and then marry the other one (Rochel). Devote a week to your	את

week of your time to	שָׁבָעַ
<i>this</i> one (Leah) and then marry the other one (Rochel). Devote a week to your newlywed wife (Leah),	זאת
<i>and</i> at the end of the week, <i>we</i> (the village elders) <i>will give</i> you leave to marry Rochel. The manner of Rochel's betrothal	ןנְהְנָה
<i>to you</i> is contingent upon your laboring on my behalf for another seven years. You are Leah's husband. In a week's time, you will	לְדּ
also be Rochel's husband. If you agree to spend a week's time	גַם
with	אֶת
<i>this one</i> (Leah), I will permit you to marry the other one (Rochel). Just as you provided me with a groom's payment of seven years of servitude for my daughter Leah's hand in marriage, so too will you have to provide me with a groom's payment of seven years of servitude for my daughter Rochel's hand in marriage. I will enable you to marry Rochel, in exchange	זאת
for the same amount of work	בַּעֲבֹדָה

<i>that</i> I required of you in exchange for Leah's hand in marriage. The only way I will enable you to marry Rochel is if	אַשֶּׁר
you will work	תַּעֲבֹד
for me	ע ַ מָּדִי
yet another	עוד
seven	שֶׁבַע
<i>years</i> . Seven more years of your labor is the groom's payment you must render unto me in exchange for marrying the	שָׁנִים
<i>`other one'</i> (Rochel)." ²⁷¹	אַחֶרוֹת
Genesis 29:28	· · · ·
Realizing that Lavan has made it impossible for him to marry Rochel without committing to another seven years of laboring on his behalf, Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) acquiesces to his demand, <i>and does</i> as Lavan asks. Yaakov agrees to serve Lavan an additional seven years in exchange for marrying Rochel.	<u>ויַע</u> שׂ
Yaakov, more	יַעַקׂב
<i>so</i> in love with Rochel than Leah, agrees to work another seven years for Lavan in exchange for Rochel's hand in marriage. Yaakov is amenable toward devoting a week of his time to his newlywed,	ڌَا
and after completing a	וַיְמַלֵּא
week of marital devotion to Leah, is poised to marry Rochel. Yaakov will marry Rochel and spend the next week in marital devotion to her. Yaakov is intent upon honoring	שְׁבַעַ
this obligation of laboring Lavan's behalf for seven years in exchange for marrying Rochel. After spending a week with Leah, Yaakov marries Rochel and spends a week with her. Yaakov spends the two weeks in marital devotion to his respective wives,	זאת
and gives Lavan his assurance that he will render another seven years of service	ڗ؞۫ۺٛٳ
to him. Seven additional years of labor is the price Yaakov is willing to pay for marrying and cohabiting	לו
with	אָת
<i>Rochel</i> . Yaakov had to agree to serve Rochel's father Lavan for seven years in exchange for marrying	ָ רַחֵּל
<i>his daughter</i> . In exchange for Rochel's hand in marriage, Yaakov is obligated to provide seven years of service	בָּתּוֹ
<i>to him</i> (Lavan). Yaakov agrees to provide Lavan seven years of servitude in exchange for leave to marry Rochel. After marrying Yaakov, Rochel transitions from maiden	לו
to wife.	לְאִשֶׁה
Genesis 29:29	Ţ
Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) is willing to serve Lavan for seven years in	<u>וַי</u> ּהֵז
Lavalaan ay hay waa waxii jiraa Daabal. Ahhay aji jiraa Vaalyay Jaaya ha waa waxii Daabad si sa aa sa a	

raakov (Jacob) a/k/a risrael (Israel)) is willing to serve Lavan for seven years in	[1 <u>;</u>], T
exchange for marrying Rochel. After giving Yaakov leave to marry Rochel who became	
his second wife, Lavan conscripts Bilhah, his other daughter fathered-by way of	
concubine, to become Rochel's servant. The newly married Rochel is in need of a	

²⁷¹ Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)), the deceiver, became Yaakov, the deceived. Lavan convinced his prospective son-in-law, to provide him with seven years of servitude in exchange for Rochel's hand in marriage. Intent upon exacting an additional seven years of servitude from Yaakov, Lavan deceived Yaakov into consummating with Leah and demanded an additional seven years of servitude for Rochel's hand in marriage.

maidservant, and to ensure she has one, Lavan gives leave for Bilhah, his daughter-	
servant, to become her servant.	1
Lavan conscripts Bilhah	לָּבָן י
<i>to</i> serve <i>Rochel</i> ,	לְרָתֵּל
his daughter. Upon Rochel's marriage to Yaakov, Lavan conscripts Bilhah, his other	in <u>ə</u>
daughter-servant to become her servant. Lavan severs his master-servant relationship	
with	אֶת
<i>Bilhαh</i> whom he fathered by way of concubine, and conscripts	בּלְהָה
<i>his</i> former <i>maid</i>	שִׁפְחָתוֹ
<i>into</i> serving <i>her</i> (Rochel). Just as Lavan provided a servant for Leah in the form of a half-	לָה
sister (Zilpah), so too does he provide a servant	
<i>for</i> Rochel in the form of a half-sister (Bilhah) conscripted into serving as her <i>maid</i> .	לְשִׁפְחָה
Genesis 29:30	
At the conclusion of the wedding ceremony, Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) is	וַיָּבֹא
intent upon consummating his marriage to Rochel <i>and comes</i> to her in the manner of a	
husband intending to procreate with his wife. A week earlier, Yaakov married and	
consummated his marriage with Leah. Upon marrying Rochel, his second wife, Yaakov	
also consummates with her. Yaakov is very happy	זַם
to be married to	אָל
<i>Rochel</i> , the woman whom he loved so much that he exchanged another seven years of	<u>ר</u> ָתֶל
servitude for her hand in marriage. Yaakov had given seven years of servitude in	
exchange for marrying Rochel, but Lavan deceived him into marrying Leah. Yaakov and	
Leah had a seven-year platonic relationship, and now he was married to her. By virtue	
of spending time and having intimate relations with Leah, Yaakov falls in love with her,	
and while in love with Leah, is	וַיֶּאֲהַב
also in love	גם
with	אָת
Rochel. Yaakov is more in love with Rochel	רַחֵל
than he is with Leah. Having spent a week being intimate with Rochel, his second bride	<u>ַּרָ</u> מִלֵּאָה
in as many weeks, Yaakov is ready to begin laboring on Lavan's behalf	Ŧ ·· ·
and honor his commitment to work	וַיַּעַבׂד
for him	עמו
yet another	עוֹד
seven	<u>שַׁרַע</u>
years. In Yaakov's mind, the passing of the first seven years Yaakov spent laboring for	<u>שַּבַּ</u> כ שָׁנִים
Lavan were fleeting. Yaakov anticipates the passing of the	— ÷ Ÿ
other ones (the second seven-year term of labor Yaakov was obligated to render unto	אַחֶרוֹת
Lavan) to pass as fleetingly as the first.	

Genesis 29:31	
There is an awareness among the general population of Leah and Yaakov's (Jacob)	וַיַּרָא
a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) inability to conceive and procreate. The consensus among the	
populace is the mistaken belief that Leah's barren womb is the manner in which God	
(a/k/a AdoShem) (Ruler of the Universe) is punishing her for participating in her father's	
plan to deceive Yaakov into marrying her and coercing Yaakov into providing another	
seven years of servitude. Fearing Yaakov will divorce her for not being able to provide	
children and fearing that she will be forced to marry Yaakov's evil brother Eisov (Esau),	
Leah prays to God to restore the viability of her womb as a means of providing Yaakov	
with the sons God destined him to father. God takes notice of Leah's continuous and	
sincere prayers imploring Him to restore the viability of her womb, <i>and</i> when <i>He sees</i>	
Yaakov's disdain for her inability to conceive, takes pity on her.	
AdoShem took pity upon Leah	יְהוָה
<i>because</i> her neighbors	רִּי
<i>hated</i> her for participating in her father's plot to deceive and exploit Yaakov. Knowing	שְׂנוּאָה
Leah's reasons for participating in her father's plot to deceive Yaakov were altruistic,	
God took pity on	
Leah	לֵאָה
and opened her womb. God restored the viability of Leah's womb, and	וַיִּפְתַּח
<i>with</i> regard to the viability of	אֶת
<i>her</i> (Rochel's) <i>womb</i> , saw fit to continue afflicting her with barrenness. While reveling in	רַחְמָה
the viability of Leah's womb, Rochel hopes God will restore the viability of her own	
womb. Time goes by,	
and Rochel realizes that divine intervention to restore the viability of her	וֹרָתֵל
<i>barren</i> womb will not be forthcoming.	אַקָרָה
Genesis 29:32	
God (a/k/a AdoShem) (Ruler of the Universe) answered Leah's prayers and enabled her	וֿעַדַר
to conceive.	
Leah conceives the first child fathered by Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)).	לֵאָה
Procreation between Yaakov and Leah came about on November 25, 1569 b.c.e. (2193	
years after creation),	
and she bore him a	וּשַּלֶד
son. It is incumbent upon Leah to name her newborn,	ڌا
<i>and she calls</i> him 'Reuvein'. As a reminder to those in her midst who doubted her ability	וַתִּקְרָא
to serve as the procreative vessel through which Yaakov fathered children, Leah names	
him Reuvein. Leah derives pleasure from hearing former doubters of her procreative	
ability utter	
<i>his</i> (Reuvein's) <i>name</i> because of the meaning of his name ('See, a son!') ²⁷² Divinely	שמו
inspired by God, after giving birth to	
<i>Reuvein</i> , Leah says, "Thank God for determining my worthiness to bring forth new life	ראוּבֵן
into this would. Vaclous fathered a car	

²⁷² Whenever uttering Reuvein's name, Leah declares 'I <u>see, a son</u> of Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) that issued forth from my womb.'

because God adjudicated me worthy of bearing his child." Leah contemplates the

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into this world. Yaakov fathered a son

meaning of Reuvein's name and

says, "I named him 'Reuvein'	אָמְרָה
because	Ęŗ
<i>because He</i> (God) <i>saw</i> the depths to which I sank and elevated me by the conception and birth of a child fathered by Yaakov.	ָרָאָה רָאָה
AdoShem witnessed Lavan as he deceived Yaakov into marrying me and witnessed the birth of	יְהוָה
<i>my humiliation</i> fathered by Yaakov's hatred toward me for being complicit in deceiving him into marrying me. Adoshem put an end to my suffering by enabling me to become the procreative vessel through which Yaakov fathered a child. I was able to conceive	רְּעָרָיִ
<i>because</i> God restored my womb and enabled the issuing forth of new life from my loins.	Ęŗ
<i>Now</i> that I have become the procreative vessel through which he may father the sons God destined him to father, I am sure to become the object of Yaakov's love. I believe that Yaakov	עַתָּה
will begin to love me because	ָיָאֶהָבַנִי
<i>my husband</i> realizes that I have the potential to provide him with many of the sons God destined him to father. I revel in the prophetic knowledge that I, along with Yaakov's other three wives/concubines will bring about the fulfillment of God's preordination that Yaakov father many sons."	אִישָׁי
Genesis 29:33	
By virtue of conceiving and giving birth to his (Yaakov's (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) first child, Leah becomes a Jewish matriarch. God (a/k/a AdoShem) (Ruler of the Universe) intends to enable Leah to conceive a second child by way of Yaakov, and she conceives and gives birth to Yaakov's second child. Once	וַאַּהַר
<i>again</i> , Leah conceives a child fathered by Yaakov. It is on January 26, 1527 b.c.e. (2194 years after creation) when Leah gives birth to her second son whom she names Shimon. Yaakov and Leah had intimate relations,	עוֹד
and for the second time, she conceives and gives birth to another	וַהֵּלֶד
son fathered by Yaakov. It is incumbent upon Leah to name her newborn,	ڐؚٳ
and to achieve her objective, says, "I shall name Yaakov's second-born 'Shimon' ('He (God) has heard'). I give him this name	וַהּנֹאמֶר
because	כָּי
<i>He</i> (God) <i>heard</i> my lamentation of wanting to bear more children fathered by Yaakov and enabled me to bear another son.	שָׁמַע
AdoShem interceded on my behalf	יְהוָה
<i>because</i> I considered myself	כִּי
<i>unloved</i> by Yaakov, and believed that bearing more of his children would incentivize him toward loving me. By way of prayer,	שְׂנוּאָה
/ communicated with God,	אָנֹכִי
and He gave	ڗ؞ؚؗڜۯ
<i>me</i> the ability to give birth to a second son fathered by Yaakov. In addition to hearing one prayerfully imploring Him to intercede on their behalf, God	زر
<i>also</i> responds by bringing to fruition that which, by way of prayer, He is called upon to do. Having provided Yaakov	גַּם
with	אֶת
<i>this</i> , his second son might be the means by which he rekindles his love for me." Leah is of a mind to name her newborn,	ָ זֶה

and calls him 'Shimon'. Divinely inspired, Leah says,	וּתּקָרָא
"His name shall be	שמו
`Shimon'".	שָׁמַעוֹן
Genesis 29:34	• •
For the third time, God affirms Leah's role as a Jewish matriarch by enabling her to conceive and give birth to Leivi, the third of twelve sons God destined Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) to father. Yaakov and Leah attempt to procreate, and she conceived	וַמַּהַר
again. On April 2, 1566 b.c.e. (2195 years after creation), Leah goes into labor	עוֹד
and gives birth to Yaakov's third	וּתַּלֶּד
<i>son</i> . After giving birth to Yaakov's third child, Leah reflects upon her accomplishment,	ڐۣٳ
and says to herself,	וַתּאֹמֶר
"Now that I have given birth to as many sons as God will allow, I believe	עַתָּה
the time has come for Yaakov to rejoice in my reproductive accomplishment and elect to augment his feelings toward me. I am hoping that my being the first of his two wives to provide him with three of the twelve sons God destined him to father,	הַפַּעַם
<i>will</i> enable him to <i>become</i> more emotionally <i>attached to me</i> . Since I am the only procreative vessel through which Yaakov fathers children, I believe my fertility will cause him to bestow a greater degree of husbandly affection upon me than the husbandly affection he bestows upon my sister. I believe that	יַלְנָה
my husband will become more enamored	אָישָׁי
to me than to Rochel	אַלַי
because unlike Rochel,	<u></u> כּי
<i>I bore</i> him three sons. Yaakov should be more endeared toward me because I provided three sons	ָּלַדְתִּי יָלַדְתִּי
to him." After inspiring Leah to name the first and second son she had by way of Yaakov, God sends the angel Gavriel to reveal to Leah the name He chose for son number	לו
<i>three.</i> When called upon to name the first and second son she had by way of Yaakov, Leah draws inspiration from God. Leah will have no say in the naming the third son she had by way of Yaakov. Leah gave birth to three of the	שָׁל ^י שָׁה
sons God destined Yaakov to father and will have no say in naming child number three	בָנִים
<i>because</i> naming Leah and Yaakov's third child has been decided on high. To impart to the parents the name of	עַל
<i>this</i> third son of Yaakov, God dispatches the angel Gavriel to convey it to Leah. While in Leah's presence, Gavriel	ڌَا
<i>calls</i> out and tells her that 'Leivi' is the God-given name of her third child. Gavriel tells Leah that	קָרָא
his (Yaakov's third child's) God-given name is	שׁמוֹ
<i>Leivi'.</i> Upon hearing the name of her third child, Leah understands the Hebrew root meaning of his name (entwine) and integrates it into the following statement, 'He (God) will see fit to <u>entwine</u> Yaakov's heart with mine.'	ַּרָוי לוי
Genesis 29:35 For the fourth time, God (a/k/a AdoShem) (Ruler of the Universe), affirms Leah's role as a Jewish matriarch by enabling her to conceive and give birth to Yehudah (Judah), the fourth of twelve sons God destined Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)) to father. Yaakov and Leah are intent upon procreating, and she conceives	<u>ו</u> תַּהַר

again. On June 17, 1565 b.c.e. (2196 years after creation), Leah goes into labor	עוד
and gives birth to Yaakov's fourth	וַהֵּלֶד וַהֵּלֶד
<i>son</i> . Giving birth to another son (her fourth) incentivizes Leah to thank God for enabling her to give birth to Yaakov's fourth child,	ڐۣٳ
and prompts her to say, "I thought that You would bar me from having no more than three of the twelve sons You destined Yaakov to father. I am joyous and thankful that You enabled me to give birth to yet another of Yaakov's sons. I thought	וַתּאׁמֶר
<i>the time</i> of my bearing children fathered by Yaakov had ended. You enabled me to give birth to three of the twelve sons You destined Yaakov to father, and	הַפַּעַם
<i>I thank</i> You for blessing me	אוֹדָה
with yet another child. Thank you	אֶת
AdoShem	יְהוָה
for enabling me to give birth to yet another of Yaakov's children." God uses the subject matter of Leah's expression of appreciation to ascertain the name of her fourth child and comes up with the name 'Yehudah'. Naming the child 'Yehudah' is the means by which God enables Leah to say her son's name and thank God at the same time. The dual meaning of	עַל
this child's name became evident whenever	כֵּן
<i>she</i> (Leah) <i>calls</i>	קָרְאָה
his (Yehudah's) name. Whenever Leah utters the name	שמו
'Yehudah', she is thanking God at the same time. Leah's state of mind waxed upon giving birth to Yehudah,	יְהוּדָה
and waned when she stopped	וַתַּעֲמֹד
giving birth. ²⁷³	מָלֶּדֶת

²⁷³ The meaning of the name of her fourth child (Yehudah (Judah)) is the manner in which Leah is able to express thankfulness to God for enabling her to give birth to yet another child fathered by Yaakov (Jacob) a/k/a Yisrael (Israel)). As the meaning of the Hebrew root of Yehudah's name is 'thank', whenever Leah utters Yehudah's name, she is thanking God. Leah was the first covenant-observant person to render thanks unto God. Before Leah, others, not thinking to thank God, either praised or blessed Him. God is intent upon enabling Leah to give birth to more sons fathered by Yaakov, and will achieve His objective by enabling her to give birth to two more sons and a daughter.