**Deuteronomy 33 verse 1 to 34 verse 12 (V’zot HaB’rachah).**

The name of our final Torah portion is V’zot HaB’rachah, meaning *‘this is the blessing’*. We read accordingly in verse 1 of Deuteronomy 33: ***‘Now this is the blessing with which Moses the man of God blessed the sons of Israel before his death.’*** Notice that Moses is called a man of God here – a title reserved for prophets only, in The Scriptures. Moses had a very close relationship with HASHEM and He spoke to him face to face. HASHEM told Moses in Exodus 19: 9: ***“Behold, I shall come to you in a thick cloud, in order that the people may hear when I speak with you, and may also believe in you forever.”*** We see that even the Messiah was compared to Moses in Deuteronomy 18: 18 & 19, when HASHEM told Moses, that He will raise up a prophet from among their countrymen like him (meaning Y’shua), that HASHEM will put His words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that HASHEM commands him.

Moses starts the blessings by giving honor to HASHEM, as we read in verse 2 of Deuteronomy 33: ***“HASHEM came from Sinai, and dawned on them from Seir; He shone forth from Mount Paran, and He came from the midst of ten thousand holy ones; at His right hand there was flashing lightning for them.”*** The words at *‘His right hand’* is a title for Messiah, used throughout The Scriptures. We need to realize that these blessings given by Moses, were not empty words, since what he said here, all will or already came to fruition. Moses continues to praise HASHEM in verse 3 through 5, as follows: ***“Indeed, He loves the people; all Thy holy ones are in Thy hand, and they followed in Thy steps; everyone receives of Thy words.*** (4) ***Moses charged us with a law, a possession for the assembly of Jacob.*** (5) ***And He*** (HASHEM) ***was king in Jeshurun*** (Israel)***, when the heads of the people were gathered, the tribes of Israel together.”*** HASHEM through Moses had to bring the tribes into submission, before they were united as the nation of Israel.

We read Moses’ first blessing in verse 6, like this: ***“May Reuben live and not die, nor his men be few.”*** Moses starts by blessing the tribe of Reuben first, since they were Jacob’s first born son, but lost this status, because Reuben took his father’s concubine and should according to the Torah that Moses wrote, be put to death. The only blessing that Moses could give this Tribe, was that they may live and multiply. However, this blessing also entails living in the world to come and it does not negate the blessings that Jacob gave to Reuben and his other sons in Genesis 49. Moses continues to bless Judah in verse 7, saying: ***“Hear, O HASHEM, the voice of Judah, and bring him to his people. With his hands he contended for them; and mayest Thou be a help against his adversaries.”*** Moses asks that HASHEM hears the prayers of Judah – the Jews pray daily for the outcasts of Israel to be brought back (gathered) to the land of Israel, even though not all Jews recognize the fact that we are also Israelites. Judah are the ones who always tried to keep the tribes together. Judah has many adversaries, but HASHEM has always helped them to survive as a group, easily distinguished by their Torah way of life.

(8) ***‘And of Levi he said, “Let Thy Thummin and Thy Urim belong to Thy godly man, whom Thou didst prove at Massah, with whom Thou didst content at the waters of Meribah;*** (9) ***who said of his father and his mother, ‘I did not consider them’; and he did not acknowledge his brothers, nor did he regard his own sons, for they observed Thy word, and kept Thy covenant.*** (10) ***They shall teach Thine ordinances to Jacob, and the law to Israel. They shall put incense before Thee, and whole burnt offerings on Thine altar.*** (11) ***O HASHEM, bless his substance, and accept the work of his hands; shatter the loins of those who rise up against him, and those who hate him, so that they may not rise again.”’*** Even though this sound like Levi did not honor their parents, this was said about them, since as priests they could not even bury their closest family members. We see that Y’shua our High Priest, similarly did not show regard for His family, as we read in Matthew 12: 46 – 50, as follows: ***‘While He was still speaking to the multitudes, behold, His mother and brothers were standing outside, seeking to speak to Him.*** (47) ***And someone said to Him, “Behold, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside seeking to speak to You.”*** (48) ***But He answered the one who was telling Him and said, “Who is My mother and who are MY brothers?”*** (49) ***And stretching out His hand toward His disciples, He said, “Behold, My mother and My brothers!*** (50) ***For whoever does the will of My Father who is in heaven, he is My brother and sister and mother.”’*** Those Levites who know their identity, are presently to be found amongst the tribe of Judah. There are also Levites amongst the lost ten tribes, but they like the other tribes have lost their identity and do not know that they are Levites. The Levites who are presently amongst the Jews are responsible to establish the timing of the Set-apart Days annually, as may be seen in Malachi 2: 1 – 8. The Levites amongst the other tribes are usually the ones who teach God’s people Torah.

In Deuteronomy 33: 12, we read: ***‘Of Benjamin he said, “May the beloved of HASHEM dwell in security by Him, who shields him all the day, and he dwells between His shoulders.”’*** According to Yair Davidy, most of the descendants of Benjamin are to be found amongst the Jewish people. Benjamin is also a major contributor to Belgium as well as the Normans who conquered England and part of France. As part of Judah, they dwell amongst God’s lawgivers, and as a result those of them who dwell amongst the Jews, have had the blessings from obeying Torah. In addition, HASHEM protects the tribe of Judah and those who dwell with them.

(13) ***‘And of Joseph he said, “Blessed of HASHEM be his land, with the choice things of heaven, with the dew, and from the deep lying beneath,*** (14) ***and with the choice yield of the sun, and with the choice produce of the months.*** (15) ***And with the best things of ancient mountains, and with the choice things of the everlasting hills,*** (16) ***and with the choice things of the earth and its fullness, and the favor of Him who dwelt in the bush, let it come to the head of Joseph, and to the crown of the head of the one distinguished among his brothers.*** (17) ***As the first-born of his ox, majesty is his, and his horns are the horns of the wild ox; with them he shall push the peoples, all at once, to the ends of the earth. And those are the ten thousands of Ephraim, and those are the thousands of Manasseh.”’*** We have seen previously when Jacob blessed his sons in Genesis 48 and 49, that Britain was identified as being Ephraim and the USA as being Manasseh. We know that the crown and majesty referred to in the quoted verses are definitely the United Kingdom, with Queen Elizabeth II presently occupying the throne. The British Empire included ten thousands of people in its hay day, compared to the thousands of the United States of America. Because of colonization, the sun never set on the British Empire. Countries like Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Hong Kong and Northern and Southern Rhodesia (now known as Zambia and Zimbabwe) were once part of the commonwealth, ruled by the United Kingdom. The United Kingdom as well as the USA definitely received a double portion: together they possessed the gates of their enemies; both were for many years considered the policeman of the world; both owned most of the mineral resources of the world, and were blessed with the best of agricultural products, sheep, cattle, corn and wine. However, because of the multiple sins in these two world empires, they will bear the brunt of the soon coming time of trouble, known as the Great Tribulation. It will be as we read in Matthew 24: 21 & 22, as follows: ***“For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever shall.*** (22) ***And unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days shall be cut short.”***

(18) ***‘And of Zebulun he said, “Rejoice, Zebulun in your going forth, and Issachar, in your tents.*** (19) ***They shall call peoples to the mountain; there they shall offer righteous sacrifices; for they shall draw out the abundance of the seas, and the hidden treasures of the sand.”’*** We identified Zebulun as being the Dutch, from Jacob’s blessing in Genesis 49: 13, since they are the only people who dwell on the shores of the sea. South Africa was colonized mainly by people of British and Dutch descent, so the white people as well as those who intermixed with them are definitely Israelites. South Africa used to produce most of the world’s diamonds (and gold), which are processed and traded in Belgium, where about half the population are also of Dutch descent. Interestingly enough the stone of Zebulun on the breastplate of the High Priest, was a diamond. Getting back to the quoted Scriptures, it is of interest to note that groups of Zebulun are often found in association with groups from Issachar. The people in places like Lorraine in France come from both Issachar and Zebulun, and their region form a bridge from Switzerland to Belgium and Holland. The people of South Africa draw diamonds out of the sea, as well as gold and diamonds from the sand.

As I mentioned before, stars in The Scriptures represent angels. Mountains and hills in the Scriptures are indicative of Governments, as may be understood from Isaiah 2: 2 & 3, in this way: ***‘Now it will come about that in the last days, the mountain of the house of HASHEM will be established as the chief of the mountains, and will be raised above the hills; and all the nations will stream to it.*** (3) ***And many peoples will come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of HASHEM, to the house of the God of Jacob; that He may teach us concerning His ways, and that we may walk in His paths.” For the law will go forth from Zion, and the word of HASHEM from Jerusalem.’***

Deuteronomy 33: 20: ***‘And of Gad he said, “Blessed is the one who enlarges Gad; he lies down as a lion, and tears the arm, also the crown of the head.*** (21) ***Then he provided the first part for himself, for there the ruler’s portion was reserved; and he came with the leaders of the people; he executed the justice of HASHEM, and His ordinances with Israel.”’*** The Swedes are derived mainly from the tribe of Gad as evidenced by Tribal names amongst the Goths and Gothic allies and other groups, such as the Heruli who settled in Sweden. One of the symbols of Gad was a lion and lions appear on the Swedish Coat of Arms. Father Jacob prophesied of Gad, in Genesis 49: 19, saying: ***“As for Gad, raiders shall raid him, but he shall raid at their heels.”*** This prophecy was perhaps fulfilled, when the Huns overcame the Goths and forced them to participate in the western invasions. On Attila’s death a revolt by the Goths and their kin destroyed the Hun domination.

(22) ***‘And of Dan he said, “Dan is a lion’s whelp, that leaps forth from Bashan.”’*** The tribe of Dan occupied two different areas in Israel prior to the Assyrian captivity. One part of the tribe lived on the coast of Palestine. They were seafarers, as may be seen in Judges 5: 17. When the Assyrians took the rest of the nation of Israel captive, these people sailed via the Mediterranean sea to Ireland. Irish history show that these settlers in Ireland were known as the “Tuatha de Danaans”, which means the Tribe of Dan. The northern part of the tribe of Dan was taken captive with the rest of the nation of Israel. After leaving Assyria, they moved west and set up landmarks in Denmark and on arrival to the British Isles; they set up landmarks, in Wales and Scotland and later joined their brothers in Ireland.

(23) ***‘And of Naphtali he said, “O Naphtali, satisfied with favor, and full of the blessing of HASHEM, take possession of the sea and the south.”’*** Norway was settled by groups who mainly descended from Naphtali. The Israelite tribe of Naphtali became the Nephtali-Huns. The symbol of Naphtali was a stag or deer, which was also a symbol of Scandinavian royalty. The Norwegian coat of arms depicts a lion bearing an ax. Even though Naphtali was primarily to be found in Norway and Zebulun in Holland, Naphtali also had historical connections to the area of Holland and groups relating to Naphtali were found amongst the Dutch, many of whom settled in South Africa. In addition, Vikings from Norway had settled in northwest England. Vikings also settled in parts of Wales and Ireland, and Dan gave rise to the Viking movement. It may well be that amongst the English and Dutch settlers of South Africa were many descendants from Naphtali, as is confirmed in the last part of their blessing.

(24) ***‘And of Asher he said, “More blessed than sons is Asher; may he be favored by his brothers, and may he dip his foot in oil.*** (25) ***Your locks shall be iron and bronze, and according to your days, so shall your leisurely walk be. ”’*** The tribe of Asher was mainly found in Northern England and Scotland. The Scots are the only tribe loved (or favored) by all of its sister nations. The part of the blessing about *‘he dip his foot in oil’* refers to the oil found in the North Sea between Scotland and Norway. In addition, most of the Scots have either black or red hair.

In verses 26 – 29, Moses continues to bless the nation of Israel as a whole and mentions that they are blessed because HASHEM is their God. We read in summary in verse 29, as follows: ***“Blessed are you, O Israel; who is like you, a people saved by HASHEM, who is the shield of your help, and the sword of your majesty! So your enemies shall cringe before you, and you shall tread upon their high places.”***

We continue in the final chapter of Deuteronomy, which also completes our annual Torah cycle. We read in verses 1 - 3 of Deuteronomy 34: ***‘Now Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho. And HASHEM showed him all the land, Gilead as far as Dan,*** (2) ***and all Naphtali and the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, and all the land of Judah as far as the western sea,*** (3) ***and the Negev and the plain in the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees, as far as Zoar.’*** In the next two versus HASHEM tells Moses that the land that He showed him, is the land which He swore to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give to their descendants; but that he will not be allowed to go over to it. Next we see that Moses died and was buried by HASHEM in the land of Moab, but no man knows where he was buried. We also read that although Moses was 120 years old, his eyes were not dim, nor did his energy decline. We also read that the sons of Israel wept for Moses and mourned for thirty days in the plains of Moab.

Next we read in verse 9 of Deuteronomy 34, that Joshua the son of Nun was filled with the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid hands on him and the sons of Israel listened to Him, as they used to listen to Moses. We know that king Solomon asked HASHEM for wisdom when He became king in David’s place, but we also read a prophesy about Y’shua, the name sake of Joshua in Isaiah 11: 1 & 2, as follows: ***‘Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse, and a branch from its roots will bear fruit.*** (2) ***And the spirit of HASHEM will rest on Him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and strength, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of HASHEM.’*** We conclude with the final few verses of Deuteronomy 33, where we read that: (10) ***‘Since then no prophet has risen in Israel like Moses, whom HASHEM knew face to face,*** (11) ***for all the signs and wonders which HASHEM sent him to perform in the land of Egypt against Pharaoh, all his servants, and all his land,*** (12) ***and for all the mighty power and for all the great terror which Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.’***  We know for a fact that only Y’shua matched and far exceed the miracles that Moses performed. We know that Moses saw the form or manifestation of HASHEM. In other words he saw and spoke to the visible image of HASHEM, who later became the ‘man’ Y’shua. We read accordingly in John 1: 18: ***‘No man has seen God at any time; the only begotten God[[1]](#footnote-1), who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him.’*** I leave you with a final question to ponder: If Moses died in verse 5 of Deuteronomy 34, who wrote the final eight verses of the book? We end the last book of Deuteronomy with the blessing: **Chazak Chazak V’Nit Chazak! (Be strong, be strong, and may we be strengthened).**

1. *The New American Standard Bible, which I use most of the time, has a footnote stating: Some later manuscripts read Son.* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)