

Parshat Vayeitzei

Genesis Chapter 28:10-29:6

First Aliyah

¹⁰ Jacob left Beer-sheba, and set out for Haran. ¹¹ He came upon a certain place and stopped there for the night, for the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of that place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. ¹² He had a dream; a stairway was set on the ground and its top reached to the sky, and angels of God were going up and down on it.

Second Aliyah

¹³ And the Eternal was standing beside him and God said, “I am the Eternal, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac: the ground on which you are lying I will assign to you and to your offspring. ¹⁴ Your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth; you shall spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All the families of the earth shall bless themselves by you and your descendants. ¹⁵ Remember, I am with you: I will protect you wherever you go and will bring you back to friend this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.” ¹⁶ Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, “Surely the Eternal is present in this place, and I did not know it!” ¹⁷ Shaken, he said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the abode of God, and that is the gateway to heaven.”

Third Aliyah

¹⁸ Early in the morning, Jacob took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ¹⁹ He named that site Bethel; but previously the name of the city had been Luz. ²⁰ Jacob then made a vow, saying, “If God remains with me, if He protects me on this journey that I am making, and gives me bread to eat and clothing to wear, ²¹ and if I return safe to my father’s house—the Eternal shall be my God. ²² And this stone, which I have set up as a pillar, shall be God’s abode; and of all that You give me, I will set aside a tithe for You.”

Fourth Aliyah

Chapter 29:1 Jacob resumed his journey and came to the land of the Easterners. ² There before his eyes was a well in the open. Three flocks of sheep were lying there beside it, for the flocks were watered from that well. The stone on the mouth of the well was large. ³ When all the flocks were gathered there, the stone would be rolled from the mouth of the well and the sheep watered; then the stone would be put back in its place on the mouth of the well. ⁴ Jacob said to them, “My friends, where are you from?” And they said, “We are from Haran.” ⁵ He said to them, “Do you know Laban the son of Nahor?” And they said, “Yes, we do.” ⁶ He continued, “Is he well?” They answered, “Yes, he is; and there is his daughter Rachel, coming with the flock.”