



Mazeltov to Steve Robbins on his 70th Birthday

- א וַיֹּהֶי כִּי-זָקֵן יַעֲקֹב, וַיִּכְחַי עֵינָיו מִרְאָת; וַיִּקְרָא אֶת-עַשְׂוֹ בֶּן הַגָּדָל, וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֹיו בָנִי, וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֹיו, הַגָּנִי.
- ב וַיֹּאמֶר, הַגָּה-נָא זָקָנָתִי; לֹא יָדַעֲתִי, יוֹם מוֹתִי.
- ג וַעֲתָה שָׁא-נָא בְּלִיה, פָּלִיה וְקַשְׁפָה; וְצָא, הַשְׂדָה, וְצָוְקה לִי, צִידָה (צִיד).
- ד וַעֲשָׂה-לִי מַטֻּעָמִים כַּאֲשֶׁר אָהָבָתִי, וְהַבִּיאָה לִי—וְאַכְלָה: בַּעֲבוּר תְּבִרְכָה נִפְשִׁי, בְּטַרְמָ אִמוֹת.
- ה וַרְבָּקָה שָׁמַעַת—בְּדָבָר יַעֲקֹב יַעֲקֹב, אֶל-עַשְׂוֹ בֶּן֙ו; וַיֹּלֶךְ עַשְׂוֹ הַשְׂדָה, לְצִוְדָה צִיד לְהַבִּיאָה.
- ו וַרְבָּקָה, אָמָרָה, אֶל-יַעֲקֹב בְּנָה, לְאָמָר: הַגָּה שָׁמַעַתִּי אֶת-אָבִיךָ, מִדְבָּר אֶל-עַשְׂוֹ אֶת-אָבִיךָ לְאָמָר.
- ז הַבִּיאָה לִי צִיד וַעֲשָׂה-לִי מַטֻּעָמִים, וְאַכְלָה; וְאַכְרְכָה לְפָנֵי יְהוָה, לְפָנֵי מוֹתִי.
- ח וַעֲתָה בָנִי, שָׁמַע בְּקָלִיל—לְאָשֶׁר אָגִי, מִצּוֹה אָתָה.
- ט לְה-נָא, אֶל-הַצָּאן, וְקַח-לִי מִשֵּׁם שְׁנִי גָּדִי עָזִים, טְבִים; וְאַעֲשָׂה אֶתְכָם מַטֻּעָמִים לְאָבִיךָ, כַּאֲשֶׁר אָהָב.
- י וְהַבָּאת לְאָבִיךָ, וְאַכְלָל, בַּעֲבָר אָשֶׁר יַבְרָכָה, לְפָנֵי מוֹתִו.
- יא וַיֹּאמֶר יַעֲקֹב, אֶל-רַبָּקָה אָמוֹ: הֵן עַשְׂוֹ אֶתְכָה, אַיִשׁ שַׁעַר, וְאַנְכִי אַיִשׁ חַלֵּק.
- יב אָוְלִי יִמְשְׁנֵי אָבִי, וְהִיִּתְיַיְּנֵי בְּעֵינָיו כִּמְתֻמָּעָה; וְהַבָּאתִי עַלְיָ קְלָלה, וְלֹא בְּרָכָה.
- יג וַתֹּאמֶר לוֹ אָמוֹ, עַלְיָ קְלָלָתֶךָ בָנִי; אַה שָׁמַע בְּקָלִיל, וְלֹךְ קָח-לִי.
- יד וַיֹּלֶךְ, וַיַּקְחֵה, וַיַּבָּא, לְאָמוֹ; וַתַּעֲשֵׂה אָמוֹ מַטֻּעָמִים, כַּאֲשֶׁר אָהָב אָבִיו.
- טו וַתָּקַח רַבָּקָה אֶת-בְּגִדי עַשְׂוֹ בָנָה הַגָּדָל, הַחֲמָדָת, אֲשֶׁר אָתָה, בְּבִית; וַתְּלַבֵּשׁ אֶת-יַעֲקֹב, בָנָה הַקָּטָן.
- טו' וְאֵת, עֲרָת גָּדִי הַעֲזִים, הַלְּבִישָׁה, עַל-יִקְדוֹ-וְעַל, חַלְקַת צְנָאָרוֹן.
- כ' וַתִּפְתַּח אֶת-הַמַּטֻּעָמִים וְאֶת-הַלְּחָם, אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂתָה, בֵּין, יַעֲקֹב בָנָה.
- כ' וְנִבְאָ אֶל-אָבִיו, וַיֹּאמֶר אָבִיו; וַיֹּאמֶר הַגָּנִי, מֵאָתָה בָנִי.
- כ' וַיֹּאמֶר יַעֲקֹב אֶל-אָבִיו, אָנֹכִי עַשְׂוֹ בְּכֶרֶת—עֲשִׂיתִי, כַּאֲשֶׁר דִּבְרָת אֲלֵינוּ; קָוָם-נָא שְׁבָה, וְאַכְלָה מַזִּיקִי—בַּעֲבוּר, תְּבִרְכָנִי נִפְשָׁה.
- כ' וַיֹּאמֶר יַעֲקֹב אֶל-בָּנוֹ, מָה-זֶה מִתְּרַת לְמִצְאָה בָנִי; וַיֹּאמֶר, כִּי הַקְרָה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיךָ לְפָנֵי.
- כ' וַיֹּאמֶר יַעֲקֹב אֶל-יַעֲקֹב, גַּשְׁה-נָא וְאַמְשֵׁחַ בָנִי: הַאֲתָה זֶה בָנִי עַשְׂוֹ, אָם-לֹא.
- ככ' וַיָּגַשׁ יַעֲקֹב אֶל-יַעֲקֹב אָבִיו, וַיִּמְשְׁהָוּ; וַיֹּאמֶר, סָקֶל קֹול יַעֲקֹב, וְהַיּוּם, יָדִי עַשְׂוֹ.

When Isaac was old and his eyes were too dim to see, he called his older son Esau and said to him, "My son." He answered, "Here I am." And he said, "I am old now, and I do not know how soon I may die. Take your gear, your quiver and bow, and go out into the open and hunt me some game. Then prepare a dish for me such as I like, and bring it to me to eat, so that I may give you my innermost blessing before I die."

Rebekah had been listening as Isaac spoke to his son Esau. When Esau had gone out into the open to hunt game to bring home, Rebekah said to her son Jacob, "I overheard your father speaking to your brother Esau, saying, 'Bring me some game and prepare a dish for me to eat, that I may bless you, with the LORD's approval, before I die.' Now, my son, listen carefully as I instruct you. Go to the flock and fetch me two choice kids, and I will make of them a dish for your father, such as he likes. Then take it to your father to eat, in order that he may bless you before he dies."

Jacob answered his mother Rebekah, "But my brother Esau is a hairy man and I am smooth-skinned. If my father touches me, I shall appear to him as a trickster and bring upon myself a curse, not a blessing." But his mother said to him, "Your curse, my son, be upon me! Just do as I say and go fetch them for me."

He got them and brought them to his mother, and his mother prepared a dish such as his father liked. Rebekah then took the best clothes of her older son Esau, which were there in the house, and had her younger son Jacob put them on; and she covered his hands and the hairless part of his neck with the skins of the kids.

Then she put in the hands of her son Jacob the dish and the bread that she had prepared. He went to his father and said, "Father." And he said, "Yes, which of my sons are you?" Jacob said to his father, "I am Esau, your first-born; I have done as you told me. Pray sit up and eat of my game, that you may give me your innermost blessing."

Isaac said to his son, "How did you succeed so quickly, my son?" And he said, "Because the LORD your God granted me good fortune." Isaac said to Jacob, "Come closer that I may feel you, my son—whether you are really my son Esau or not." So Jacob drew close to his father Isaac, who felt him and wondered. "The voice is the voice of Jacob, yet the hands are the hands of Esau."