

**Yitro: Outsider/Insider (Exodus 18)**

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Exodus 2:16-22	שמות ב
<p><sup>16</sup>Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters. They came to draw water, and filled the troughs to water their father’s flock; <sup>17</sup>but shepherds came and drove them off. Moses rose to their defense, and he watered their flock. <sup>18</sup>When they returned to their father Reuel, he said, “How is it that you have come back so soon today?” <sup>19</sup>They answered, “An Egyptian rescued us from the shepherds; he even drew water for us and watered the flock.” <sup>20</sup>He said to his daughters, “Where is he then? Why did you leave the man? Ask him in to break bread.” <sup>21</sup>Moses consented to stay with the man, and he gave Moses his daughter Zipporah as wife. <sup>22</sup>She bore a son whom <b>he named Gershom, for he said, “I have been a stranger in a foreign land.”</b></p>	<p>וּלְכֹהֵן מִדְיָן שִׁבְעַת בָּנוֹת וַתְּבִאנָה וַתִּדְלְקֵנָה וַתִּמְלֹאנָה אֶת־הַרְהָטִים לְהַשְׁקוֹת צֹאן אֲבִיהֶן: וַיְבֹאוּ הָרְעִים וַיִּגְרְשׁוּם וַיִּקָּם מֹשֶׁה וַיִּשְׁעֶן וַיִּשְׁקֵם אֶת־צֹאנָם: וַתְּבִאנָה אֶל־רְעוּאֵל אֲבִיהֶן וַיֹּאמֶר מִדּוּעַ מֵהֵרֵתֶן בֹּא הַיּוֹם: וַתֹּאמְרֵן אִישׁ מִצְרֵי הִצִּילֵנוּ מִיַּד הָרְעִים וְגַם־דָּלָה דָּלָה לָנוּ וַיִּשְׁקֵם אֶת־הַצֹּאן: וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל־בְּנֹתָיו וַאֲיֹו לָמָּה זֶה עֲזַבְתֶּן אֶת־הָאִישׁ קְרָאן לוֹ וַיֹּאכַל לֶחֶם: וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה לְשִׁבְתָּ אֶת־הָאִישׁ וַיִּתֵּן אֶת־צִפּוֹרָה בְּתוּ לְמֹשֶׁה: וַתֵּלֶד בֵּן וַיִּקְרָא אֶת־שְׁמוֹ גֵּרְשֹׁם כִּי אָמַר גֵּר הָיִיתִי בְּאֶרֶץ נִכְרִיָּה:</p>

Exodus 18	שמות י"ח
<p><sup>1</sup>Jethro priest of Midian, Moses’ father-in-law, heard all that God had done for Moses and for Israel His people, how the LORD had brought Israel out from Egypt. <sup>2</sup>So Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law, took Zipporah, Moses’ wife, after she had been sent home, <sup>3</sup>and her two sons—of whom one was named Gershom, that is to say, “I have been a stranger in a foreign land”; <sup>4</sup>and the other was named Eliezer, meaning, “The God of my father was my help, and He delivered me from the sword of Pharaoh.” <sup>5</sup>Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law, brought Moses’ sons and wife to him in the wilderness, where he was encamped at the mountain of God.</p> <p><sup>6</sup>He sent word to Moses, “I, your father-in-law Jethro, am coming to you, with your wife and her two sons.” <sup>7</sup>Moses went out to meet his father-in-law; he bowed low and kissed him; each asked after the other’s welfare, and they went into the tent. <sup>8</sup>Moses then recounted to his father-in-law everything that the LORD had done to Pharaoh and to the Egyptians for Israel’s sake, all the hardships that had befallen them on the way, and how the LORD had delivered them. <sup>9</sup>And Jethro rejoiced over all the kindness that the LORD had shown Israel when He delivered them from the Egyptians. <sup>10</sup>“Blessed be the LORD,” Jethro said, “who delivered you from the Egyptians and from Pharaoh, and who delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians. <sup>11</sup>Now I know that the LORD is greater than all gods, yes, by the result of their very schemes against [the people].” <sup>12</sup>And Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law, brought a burnt offering and sacrifices for God; and Aaron came with all the elders of Israel to partake of the meal before God with Moses’ father-in-law.</p>	<p>וַיִּשְׁמַע וַיִּתְרוֹ כֹּהֵן מִדְיָן חֵתֵן מֹשֶׁה אֶת־כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים לְמֹשֶׁה וּלְיִשְׂרָאֵל עַמּוֹ כִּי־הוֹצִיא יי אֶת־יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמִּצְרָיִם: וַיִּקַּח וַיִּתְרוֹ חֵתֵן מֹשֶׁה אֶת־צִפּוֹרָה אִשְׁתּוֹ מִשֵּׁה אַחֵר שְׁלוּחִיהָ: וְאֵת שְׁנֵי בְנֵיהָ אֲשֶׁר שָׁם הָאֶחָד גֵּרְשֹׁם כִּי אָמַר גֵּר הָיִיתִי בְּאֶרֶץ נִכְרִיָּה: וְשֵׁם הָאֶחָד אֱלִיעֶזֶר כִּי־אֱלֹהֵי אָבִי בְּעֶזְרִי וַיִּצִּילֵנִי מִמַּחֲבַר פֶּרַעַה: וַיְבֹא וַיִּתְרוֹ חֵתֵן מֹשֶׁה וּבָנָיו וְאִשְׁתּוֹ אֶל־מֹשֶׁה אֶל־הַמַּדְבָּר אֲשֶׁר־הוּא חֹנֶה שָׁם הַר הָאֱלֹהִים:</p> <p>וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל־מֹשֶׁה אֲנִי חֵתֵנְךָ וַיִּתְרוֹ בָּא אֵלַיךָ וְאִשְׁתְּךָ וּשְׁנֵי בְנֵיהָ עִמָּה: וַיֵּצֵא מֹשֶׁה לְקִרְיַת חֵתֵנוּ וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוּ וַיִּשְׁקְלוּ וַיִּשְׂאֲלוּ אִישׁ־לְרֵעֵהוּ לְשָׁלוֹם וַיְבֹאוּ הָאֱהָלָה: וַיִּסְפֹּר מֹשֶׁה לְחֵתֵנוּ אֶת־כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה יי לְפָרַעַה וּלְמִצְרָיִם עַל־אוֹדֹת יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶת־כָּל־הַתְּלָאָה אֲשֶׁר מְצַאֲתֶם בְּדַרְךְ וַיִּצְלַם יי: וַיַּחַד וַיִּתְרוֹ עַל־כָּל־הַטּוֹבָה אֲשֶׁר־עָשָׂה יי לְיִשְׂרָאֵל אֲשֶׁר הִצִּילוּ מִיַּד מִצְרָיִם: וַיֹּאמֶר וַיִּתְרוֹ בְּרוּךְ יי אֲשֶׁר הִצִּיל אֶתְכֶם מִיַּד מִצְרָיִם וּמִיַּד פֶּרַעַה אֲשֶׁר הִצִּיל אֶת־הָעָם מִתַּחַת יַד־מִצְרָיִם: עַתָּה יָדַעְתִּי כִּי־גָדוֹל יי מִכָּל־הָאֱלֹהִים כִּי בִדְבַר אֲשֶׁר זָדוּ עֲלֵיהֶם: וַיִּקַּח וַיִּתְרוֹ חֵתֵן מֹשֶׁה עֹלָה וְזִבְחִים לְאֱלֹהִים וַיְבֹא אֶהֱרֹן וְכָל־זִקְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לֶאֱכֹל־לֶחֶם עִם־חֵתֵן מֹשֶׁה לְפָנֵי הָאֱלֹהִים:</p> <p>וַיְהִי מִמַּחֲרַת וַיִּשְׁבּוּ מֹשֶׁה לְשַׁפֵּט אֶת־הָעָם וַיַּעֲמֵד הָעָם עִלְ־מֹשֶׁה מִן־הַבִּקֵּר עַד־הָעֶרֶב:</p>

<sup>13</sup>Next day, Moses sat as magistrate among the people, while the people stood about Moses from morning until evening. <sup>14</sup>But when Moses' father-in-law saw how much he had to do for the people, he said, "What is this thing that you are doing to the people? Why do you act alone, while all the people stand about you from morning until evening?" <sup>15</sup>Moses replied to his father-in-law, "It is because the people come to me to inquire of God. <sup>16</sup>When they have a dispute, it comes before me, and I decide between one person and another, and I make known the laws and teachings of God." <sup>17</sup>But Moses' father-in-law said to him, "The thing you are doing is not right; <sup>18</sup>you will surely wear yourself out, and these people as well. For the task is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone. <sup>19</sup>Now listen to me. I will give you counsel, and God be with you! You represent the people before God: you bring the disputes before God, <sup>20</sup>and enjoin upon them the laws and the teachings, and make known to them the way they are to go and the practices they are to follow. <sup>21</sup>You shall also seek out from among all the people capable men who fear God, trustworthy men who spurn ill-gotten gain. Set these over them as chiefs of thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens, <sup>22</sup>and let them judge the people at all times. Have them bring every major dispute to you, but let them decide every minor dispute themselves. Make it easier for yourself by letting them share the burden with you. <sup>23</sup>If you do this—and God so commands you—you will be able to bear up; and all these people too will go home unwearied." <sup>24</sup>Moses heeded his father-in-law and did just as he had said. <sup>25</sup>Moses chose capable men out of all Israel, and appointed them heads over the people—chiefs of thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens; <sup>26</sup>and they judged the people at all times: the difficult matters they would bring to Moses, and all the minor matters they would decide themselves.

<sup>27</sup>Then Moses bade his father-in-law farewell, and he went his way to his own land.

וַיֵּרָא חֲתָן מֹשֶׁה אֶת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר־הוּא עֹשֶׂה לָעָם וַיֹּאמֶר מִה־הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר אַתָּה עֹשֶׂה לָעָם מִדּוּעַ אַתָּה יוֹשֵׁב לְבַדְּךָ וְכָל־הָעָם נֹצֵץ עֲלֶיךָ מִן־בֶּקֶר עַד־עֶרֶב: וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה לְחַתְּנוֹ כִּי־יָבֹא אֵלַי הָעָם לְדַרְשׁ אֱלֹהִים: כִּי־יְהִי לָהֶם דָּבָר בָּא אֵלַי וְשִׁפְטֵתִי בֵּין אִישׁ וּבֵין רֵעֵהוּ וְהוֹדַעְתִּי אֶת־חֻקֵי הָאֱלֹהִים וְאֶת־תּוֹרֹתָיו: וַיֹּאמֶר חֲתָן מֹשֶׁה אֵלָיו לֹא־טוֹב הַדָּבָר אֲשֶׁר אַתָּה עֹשֶׂה: כָּבֵד תִּבְלֵ גַם־אֶתָּה גַם־הָעָם הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר עִמָּךְ כִּי־כַבֵּד מִמֶּךָ הַדָּבָר לֹא־תוּכַל עֲשֹׂהוּ לְבַדְּךָ: עֲתָה שָׁמַע בְּקֹלִי אִיעֲצָךָ וַיְהִי אֱלֹהִים עִמָּךְ יְיָהּ אֶתָּה לָעָם מֹל הָאֱלֹהִים וְהִבַּאת אֶתָּה אֶת־הַדְּבָרִים אֶל־הָאֱלֹהִים: וְהִזְהַרְתָּ אֶתְּהָם אֶת־הַחֻקִּים וְאֶת־הַתּוֹרֹת וְהוֹדַעְתָּ לָהֶם אֶת־הַדָּרֶךְ וַיִּלְכוּ בָּהּ וְאֶת־הַמַּעֲשֵׂה אֲשֶׁר יַעֲשׂוּן: וְאֶתָּה תִּחְזֶה מִכָּל־הָעָם אֲנָשֵׁי־חַיִל וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים אֲנָשֵׁי אֲמַת שִׁנְאִי בְּצַע וְשִׁמְתָ עֲלֵהֶם שְׂרֵי אֲלָפִים שְׂרֵי מֵאוֹת שְׂרֵי חֲמִשִּׁים וְשְׂרֵי עֶשְׂרֹת: וְשִׁפְטוּ אֶת־הָעָם בְּכָל־עֵת וְהָיָה כָּל־הַדָּבָר הַגָּדֹל יָבִיאוּ אֵלַיךָ וְכָל־הַדָּבָר הַקָּטָן יִשְׁפְּטוּ־הֶם וְהִקַּל מֵעֲלֶיךָ וְנִשְׂאוּ אֶתְּךָ: אִם אֶת־הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה תַּעֲשֶׂה וְצֹדֵךְ אֱלֹהִים וַיִּכְלַת עֵמֶד וְגַם כָּל־הָעָם הַזֶּה עַל־מִקְמוֹתָ יָבֹאוּ בְּשָׂלוֹם: וַיִּשְׁמַע מֹשֶׁה לְקוֹל חַתְּנוֹ וַיַּעַשׂ כֹּל אֲשֶׁר אָמַר: וַיִּבְחַר מֹשֶׁה אֲנָשֵׁי־חַיִל מִכָּל־יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיִּתֵּן אֹתָם רִאשִׁים עַל־הָעָם שְׂרֵי אֲלָפִים שְׂרֵי מֵאוֹת שְׂרֵי חֲמִשִּׁים וְשְׂרֵי עֶשְׂרֹת: וְשִׁפְטוּ אֶת־הָעָם בְּכָל־עֵת אֶת־הַדָּבָר הַקָּשֶׁה וַיָּבִיאוּ אֶל־מֹשֶׁה וְכָל־הַדָּבָר הַקָּטָן יִשְׁפְּטוּ־הֶם:

וַיִּשְׁלַח מֹשֶׁה אֶת־חַתְּנוֹ וַיֵּלְךָ לוֹ אֶל־אֶרְצוֹ: