

The second paragraph of the Shma, “V’haya Im Shamo’a,” parshat Eikev, Deuteronomy 11:13-21, deals with listening to God, the relationship between, us, God, the land, and the food we eat, reward and punishment, however we interpret that, and again, the commandment to teach our children, and to bind these words for a sign upon our arms and between our eyes.

13 וְהָיָה אִם-שָׁמַעַתְּ אֶת-מִצְוֹתַי, אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי מְצַוֶּה אֶתְכֶם הַיּוֹם, לְאַהֲבָה אֶת-ה' אֱ-לֹהֵיכֶם וּלְעַבְדּוֹ, בְּכָל-לְבַבְכֶם וּבְכָל נַפְשְׁכֶם: 14 וְנָתַתִּי מִטֶּר-אֶרְצְכֶם בְּעֵתוֹ, יוֹרֵה וּמִלְקוֹשׁ, וְאִסְפֹּת דְגָנְךָ וְתִירֹשֶׁךָ וַיִּצְהַרְךָ: 15 וְנָתַתִּי עֵשֶׂב בְּשָׂדֶךָ לְבַהֲמֹתֶיךָ, וְאָכַלְתָּ וּשְׂבַעְתָּ: 16 הַשְּׂמְרוּ לָכֶם פֶּן-יִפְתֶּה לְבַבְכֶם, וְסָרְתֶם וְעַבַּדְתֶּם אֱ-לֹהִים אֲחֵרִים וְהִשְׁתַּחֲוִיתֶם לָהֶם: 17 וְחָרָה אִף-ה' בְּכֶם, וְעָצַר אֶת-הַשָּׁמַיִם וְלֹא-יִהְיֶה מָטָר, וְהִיאַדְמָה לֹא תִתֵּן אֶת-יְבוּלָהּ, וְאַבְדֹתֶם מְהֵרָה מֵעַל הָאָרֶץ הַטֹּבָה אֲשֶׁר ה' נָתַן לָכֶם: 18 וְשִׂמְתֶם אֶת-דְּבָרֵי אֱלֹהֵי עַל-לְבַבְכֶם וְעַל-נַפְשְׁכֶם, וְקִשְׂרֹתֶם אֹתָם לְאוֹת עַל-יְדֵיכֶם, וְהָיוּ לְטוֹטְפוֹת בֵּין עֵינֵיכֶם: 19 וְלִמַּדְתֶּם אֹתָם אֶת-בְּנֵיכֶם לְדַבֵּר בָּם, בְּשִׁבְתְּךָ בְּבֵיתְךָ, וּבְלִכְתֶּךָ בַדֶּרֶךְ, וּבְשֹׁכְבְךָ, וּבְקוּמְךָ: 20 וְכַתַּבְתֶּם עַל-מְזוּזוֹת בֵּיתְךָ וּבְשַׁעְרֶיךָ: 21 לְמַעַן יִרְבּוּ יְמֵיכֶם וְיְמֵי בְנֵיכֶם עַל הָאֲדָמָה אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁבַּע ה' לְאַבְרָהָם לָתֵת לָהֶם, כִּימֵי הַשָּׁמַיִם עַל-הָאָרֶץ:

13. If you will hear and obey the mitzvot that I command you this day, to love and serve Adonai your God with all your heart and all your soul, 14. then I will grant the rain for your land in season, rain in autumn and rain in spring. You shall gather in your grain and wine and oil-- 15. I will also provide grass in your fields for cattle-- and you shall eat and be satisfied. 16. Take care lest your heart be tempted, and you stray to serve other gods and bow to them. 17. Then Adonai's anger will flare up against you, and God will close up the sky so that there will be no rain and the earth will not yield its produce. You will quickly disappear from the good land that Adonai is giving you. 18. Therefore, impress these words of mine upon your heart. **Bind them as a sign upon your hand and as a symbol above your eyes.** 19. Teach them to your children, speaking of them when you sit in your home, when you walk on your way, when you lie down and when you rise up. 20. Inscribe them upon the doorposts of your homes and on your gates. 21. Then the length of your days and the days of your children, on the land that Adonai swore to give to your ancestors, will be as the days of the heavens over the earth.