

Journey Through Genesis ©

**Bereisheit Chapter 34**  
The Circumcision of Death ©

By Dr. Akiva Gamliel

Our discussion is in the loving memory of Helen, Gladys Ethel, Martha, John, Patrick, Ethel Channah, George, Gary Lee, Donald Wayne, Carrie, Stephen, Sharon, Florence Youman, Jeanne C. W. Pierre, Joseph Adam Pierre, Louella P. Bienvenu, Barbara Pierre, Terrill B. Thomas, Joyce Duff, Michael and Channah may they rest in peace.

Bereisheit / Genesis 34.15 - 29

אֲךָ־בְּזֹאת נֵאוֹת לָכֶם אִם תִּהְיוּ כַּמְנוּ לְהַמְלֵל לָכֶם  
כָּל־זָכָר:

וְנָתַנּוּ אֶת־בְּנֵיתֵינוּ לָכֶם וְאֶת־בְּנֵיתֵיכֶם נִקַּח־לָנוּ  
וַיִּשְׁבְּנוּ אֶתְכֶם וְהָיִינוּ לְעַם אֶחָד:

וְאִם־לֹא תִשְׁמָעוּ אֵלֵינוּ לְהַמּוֹל וְלִקְחָנוּ אֶת־בָּתְנוּ  
וְהָלַכְנוּ:

וַיִּטְבוּ דְבָרֵיהֶם בְּעֵינַי חֲמוֹר וּבְעֵינַי שָׁכֶם בֶּן־  
חֲמוֹר:

וְלֹא־אֲחֵר הַנֶּעַר לַעֲשׂוֹת הַדָּבָר כִּי חָפֵץ בְּבֵת־  
יַעֲקֹב וְהוּא נִכְבָּד מִכָּל בֵּית אָבִיו:

וַיָּבֹא חַמּוֹר וּשְׁכָם בְּנוֹ אֶל־שַׁעַר עִירָם וַיִּדְבְּרוּ אֶל־  
אֲנָשֵׁי עִירָם לֵאמֹר:

הָאֲנָשִׁים הָאֵלֶּה שְׁלֵמִים הֵם אֲתָנוּ וַיֵּשְׁבוּ בָאָרֶץ  
וַיִּסְחָרוּ אֹתָהּ וְהָאָרֶץ הִנֵּה רַחֲבַת־יָדַיִם לִפְנֵיהֶם  
אֶת־בְּנֹתָם נִקְח־לָנוּ לְנָשִׁים וְאֶת־בְּנֹתֵינוּ נָתַן  
לָהֶם:

אָךְ־בְּזֹאת יֵאָתוּ לָנוּ הָאֲנָשִׁים לְשֶׁבֶת אֲתָנוּ לְהִיּוֹת  
לָעַם אֶחָד בְּהֵמוֹל לָנוּ כָּל־זָכָר כַּאֲשֶׁר הֵם נִמְלִיִּם:

מִקְנֵהֶם וּקְנִינָם וְכָל־בְּהֵמָתָם הֲלוֹא לָנוּ הֵם אַךְ  
נִאוּתָהּ לָהֶם וַיֵּשְׁבוּ אֲתָנוּ:

וַיִּשְׁמְעוּ אֶל־חַמּוֹר וְאֶל־שְׁכָם בְּנוֹ כָּל־יֹצְאֵי שַׁעַר  
עִירוֹ וַיִּמְלֹוּ כָּל־זָכָר כָּל־יֹצְאֵי שַׁעַר עִירוֹ:

וַיְהִי בַיּוֹם הַשְּׁלִישִׁי בְּהִיּוֹתָם כְּאָבִיִּם וַיִּקְחוּ שְׁנֵי־

בְּנֵי־יַעֲקֹב שָׁמְעוּ וְלוֹי אַחֵי דִינָה אִישׁ חָרְבוּ וַיָּבֹאוּ  
עַל־הָעִיר בְּטַח וַיְהַרְגוּ כָּל־זָכָר:

וְאֶת־חַמּוֹר וְאֶת־שָׁכֶם בְּנוֹ הָרְגוּ לְפִי־חָרֵב וַיִּקְחוּ  
אֶת־דִּינָה מִבֵּית שָׁכֶם וַיֵּצְאוּ:

בְּנֵי יַעֲקֹב בָּאוּ עַל־הַחֲלָלִים וַיִּבְזּוּ הָעִיר אֲשֶׁר  
טָמְאוּ אַחֲוֹתָם:

אֶת־צֹאנָם וְאֶת־בְּקָרָם וְאֶת־חַמְרֵיהֶם וְאֶת־אֲשֶׁר־  
בָּעִיר וְאֶת־אֲשֶׁר בַּשָּׂדֶה לָקְחוּ:

וְאֶת־כָּל־חֵילָם וְאֶת־כָּל־טָפָם וְאֶת־נְשֵׁיהֶם שָׁבוּ  
וַיִּבְזּוּ וְאֶת־כָּל־אֲשֶׁר בַּבַּיִת:

This is the only way we will consent to you; If **you must be like us, every male must be circumcised**; Then will we give our daughters to you, and we will take your daughters for us, and we will live with you, and **we will become one people**. But if you will not listen to us, to **be circumcised**, then we will take our daughter, and we will be gone. And their words pleased Hamor, and Shechem Hamor's son. And the young man deferred not to do the thing, because he had delight in Jacob's daughter; and he was more honorable than all the house of his father. And Hamor and Shechem his son came to the gate of their city, and talked with the men of their city, saying, These men are peaceable with us; therefore let them live in the land, and trade in it; for the land, behold, is large enough for them; let us take their daughters to us for wives, and let us give them our daughters. Only thus will the men consent to live with us, to be one people; **if every male among us is circumcised, as they are circumcised**. **Shall not their cattle and their wealth and**

every beast of theirs be ours? only let us consent to them, and they will live with us. And to Hamor and to Shechem his son listened all who went out from the gate of his city; and every male was circumcised, all who went out of the gate of his city. And it came to pass on the third day, when they were sore, that two of the sons of Jacob, Simeon and Levi, Dinah's brothers, took each man his sword, and came upon the city boldly, and slew all the males. And they slew Hamor and Shechem his son with the edge of the sword, and took Dinah out of Shechem's house, and went out. The sons of Jacob came upon the slain, and plundered the city, because they had defiled their sister. They took their sheep, and their oxen, and their asses, and that which was in the city, and that which was in the field, And all their wealth, and all their little ones, and their wives took they captive, and carried off all that was in the houses.

## להמול

To be Circumcised

111 = 30 ל 60 מ 40 ה 30 ל

## אלף

One Thousand

111 = 80 ג 30 ל 1 א

## אפל

Darkness

111 = 30 ל 80 פ 1 א

These were evil people. The circumcision was only for marriage and profit. The Spiritual side was void. As a result they died. What is the point? Doing the commands in a mundane way does not fulfill the Mitzvah. The Spirituality of the action is necessary.

May we bring greater Spirituality into our lives for the greater good... The purpose of our circumcision is commitment. That commitment takes us from darkness to life which is represented by 1000. The Letter Aleph which represents G-d and 1,000. If the Spirituality is not in our circumcision then its not the

commitment it is intended to be...

Blessings and peace,

Dr. Akiva Gamliel and Rebbetzin Revi