

Overview:**Topic 4 cont. - Hashem's Covenant With Avram:****Covenant Between the Parts - בְּרִית בֵּין הַבְּתָרִים:**

1. This story takes place when Avram is 70 years old (story is out of order).
2. Hashem tells Avram that He is planning to give the land of Canaan to Avram.
3. Avram asks: בְּמָה אֶדְעֶה כִּי אִירָשָׁנָה - how will I know that I will inherit it? (Ramban - this was a sin)
4. Avram takes 3 calves, 3 goats, 3 rams, a turtle-dove, and a young dove
5. Avram cuts all the animals in half - placing each half opposite the other half
6. Avram does not cut the 2 birds

**Hashem Foretells Exile & Redemption From Egypt:**

1. Avram chases away the vultures that try to descend upon the carcasses
2. The sun begins to set & Avram falls into a deep sleep, where a great fear & darkness descend over him.
3. Hashem foretells Avram that:
  - 1) His descendants will live as strangers for 400 years from the birth of Yitzchok
  - 2) His descendants will be enslaved for 117 years after the last son of Yaakov dies
  - 3) His descendants will be tortured for 86 years.
  - 4) Hashem will judge & punish this nation for making them slaves
  - 5) His descendants will leave with great wealth
  - 6) Avram will die in a good old age with Terach & Yishmael doing Teshuva in his lifetime.
  - 7) The fourth generation will return to Eretz Canaan, when the sins of the Emori & other Canaanite nations will be filled.
4. According to Rashi, this is the 6th test of Avram

**Hashem Makes a Covenant with Avram for Eretz Yisroel:**

1. The sun sets and there was thick darkness.
2. A flaming fire from a smoky furnace passed between the pieces
3. Hashem promises to give the land of Canaan from the Euphrates river until the Nile River.
4. Hashem promises to give over 10 nations to Avram (3 of them to come at the end of days)

**Topic 5: Hagar & Yishmael:****Hagar is Given to Avram:**

1. Avram & Sarai have lived in Eretz Canaan for 10 years - Avram is 85 years old.
2. Sarai has not had children
3. Sarai has an Egyptian maidservant name Hagar - the daughter of Pharaoh
4. Sarai tells Avram to live with Hagar, in which merit Sarai may have children
5. Avram lives with Hagar & Hagar immediately conceives
6. Hagar treats Sarai with disrespect
7. Sarai is upset with Avram for: 1) not praying for her to have a child; 2) not stopping Hagar's misbehaviour.
8. Sarai caused Hagar to miscarry
9. Sarai afflicts Hagar and she runs away towards Egypt
10. According to Rambam, this was the 5th test of Avram
11. According to Ramban, Sarai & Avram sinned by mistreating Hagar

**Appearance of Angel to Hagar:**

1. 1st Angel meets Hagar by a fountain of water on the road to Shur. He asks her why would she leave such a holy place to go to Egypt?
2. 2nd Angel tells Hagar to return to be afflicted by Sarai
3. 3rd Angel tells Hagar to return to be afflicted by Sarai & she will be rewarded with many children.
4. 4th Angel tells Hagar that she should name her son Yishmael, as Hashem heard about your affliction, and Sarai will no longer afflict you.
5. 4th Angel says that he will be 1) פָּרָא אָדָם - a wild man; 2) robbing from others; 3) others will hate him & argue with him; 4) He will grow so numerous and dwell amongst his neighbours.

**Birth of Yishmael:**

1. Hagar called the angel representing Hashem אֵל גֹּדֵל רְאִי "The G-d that sees" - as Hashem sees even things in distant places.
2. The spring became a well that was later called: "The well of the living one that sees" - בְּאֵר לַחַי רְאִי
3. Hagar gives birth to a son, which Avram calls Yishmael. Avram is 86 years old at his birth