Divine or Divinely Inspired?

Evidence For the Torah's Authenticity

Source Materials Rabbi Efrem Goldberg efremgoldberg@yahoo.com faith (fath) n. [ME < AN fed < OFr. feid < Lat. fides < fidenc * trust.] 1. Confident belief in the truth, value, or trustworthiness as person, idea, or thing. 2. Belief not based on logical proof or mater evidence. 3. Loyalty to a person or thing: ALLEGIANCE < keeping 1= with the President> 4. a. Belief and trust in God. b. Religious = viction. 5. A system of religious beliefs. 6. A set of principles or

TORAH - DELTERONOMY (CHPT.4)

²⁹ From there you will seek HASHEM, your God, and you will find Him, if you search for Him with all your heart and all your soul. 30 When you are in distress and all these things have befallen you, at the end of days, you will return unto HASHEM, your God, and hearken to His voice. 31 For HASHEM, your God, is a nerciful God. He will not abandon you nor destroy you, and He will not forget he covenant of your forefathers that He swore to them. 22 For inquire now egarding the early days that preceded you, from the day when God created man on the earth, and from one end of heaven to the other end of heaven: Has here ever been anything like this great thing or has anything like it been heard? 3 Has a people ever heard the voice of God speaking from the midst of the fire 15 you have heard, and survived? >4 Or has any god ever miraculously come to ake for himself a nation from amidst a nation, with challenges, with signs, and with wonders, and with war, and with a strong hand, and with an outstretched ாா, and with greatly awesome deeds, such as everything that HASHEM, your lod, did for you in Egypt before your eyes? 35 You have been shown in order o know that HASHEM, He is the God! There is none beside Him!

³⁶ From heaven He caused you to hear His voice in order to teach you, and on arth He showed you His great fire, and you heard His words from the midst of he fire, 37 because He loved your forefathers, and He chose his offspring after um, and took you out before Himself with His great strength from Egypt; 32 to inve away from before you nations that are greater and mightier than you, to ring you, to give you their land as an inheritance, as this very day. 39 You shall now this day and take to your heart that HASHEM, He is the God — in heaven bove and on the earth below — there is none other. 40 You shall observe His ecrees and His commandments that I command you this day, so that He will to good to you and to your children after you, and so that you will prolong your lays on the Land that HASHEM, your God, gives you. for all the days.

SIDOUR -ALEIYNU

נקלי It is our duty to praise the Master of all, to ascribe greatness to the Molder of primeval creation, for He has not made us like e nations of the lands and has not emplaced us like the families of the rth; for He has not assigned our portion like theirs nor our lot* like Bow while reciting to a god which helps not.3) But we bend our we bend our knees." knees, bow, and acknowledge our thanks before ? King Who reigns over kings, the Holy One, Blessed is He. He etches out heaven and establishes earth's foundation,* the seat of His mage is in the heavens above and His powerful Presence is in the tiest heights. He is our God and there is none other. True is our ng, there is nothing beside Him, as it is written in His Torah: 'You to know this day and take to your heart* that HASHEM is the only d — in heaven above and on the earth below — there is none other.'s

proof (proof) n. [ME prove < LLat. proba < Lat. probare, to prove.] 1. Evidence establishing the validity of a given assertion. 2. Conclusive demonstration. 3. Proving of something by experiment, test, or trial <Durability was a proof of the tire's quality.> 4. Archaic. Proven impenetrability. 5. Law. The whole body of evidence that determines the judgment or verdict in a case. 6. Substantiation of a proposition by

application of specified rules, as of induction or deduction to application of specified rates, at the specified rates, axioms, and sequentially derived conclusions. 7. Street, and specified rates of a specified rates of a specified rates of a specified rates. tions, axioms, and sequentially defined sheet of printed liquor in relation to proof spirit. 8. a. A trial sheet of printed that is checked against the original manuscript and on while tions are made, b. A trial impression of a plate, stone, or bioxi at any of various stages in engraving. c. A trial photograph -adj. 1. Fully or successfully resistant: IMPERVIOUS Sprod earthquake damage> 2. Of standard alcoholic strength. 1 proving or making corrections. -v. proofed, proofing -vt. 1. To run off (a printed or engraved proof). 2. To (copy). 3. To work (dough) into suitable lightness. 4. To mix tant. - vi. To proofread.

ֶּ וּבַקַשְׁתֵם מְשֵׁם אַת־יהוָה אַלהַיִּךְ וּמָצֵאתָ כִּי תִדְרִשַׁנּוּ בְּכָל־לְבָבְרָ ובכל־נפשר: בַצַר לֹך וּמְצֵאוּך כִּל הַדְבָרִים הָאָלַה בְּאַחֲרִית הַיָּמִים , וְשַׁבָתֵ עַד־יהוָה אֵלֹהֵיךְ וְשָׁמַעָתָ בְּלְלוּ: כִּי אֵל רַחוּם יהוָה אֵלֹהֵיךְ לְא ָירפּרָ וַלֹא יַשְׁחִיתֶךְ וָלָא יִשְׁבַּחֹ אַת־בִּרִית אֲבֹעֶיךְ אֲשֵׁר נִשְׁבַּע לָהֶם: כִּי שאַל־נָא לִימִים רָאשׁנִים אֲשַׁר־הַיִּוּ לִפָּנִיךְ לִמְן־הַיּוֹם אֲשַׁר בָּרָא אלהים ו אדם על־הַאַרץ וּלְמִקצָה הַשָּׁמֵיִם וְעַד־קַצַה הַשָּמָיִם הַנָּהִיָּה ָרַבָּרָ הַנָּדוֹל הַנָּה אָוֹ הֲנִשְׁמֵע כָּמְהוּ: הַשָּׁמֵע עָם קוֹל אֱלֹהִים מְדַבְּּר ָּ מָתִוֹךְ־דָּאֲשׁ בַּאֲשַר־שָּמֵעָתָ אַתָּה וַיַּחִי: אָוֹ ו הַנָּסֵה אֱלֹהִים 'לָבוֹא לָלַחַת לו גוֹי מַקָּרֶב גוֹי בַּמֶּפֹת בָּאתֹת וּבְמִוּפָתִים וּבָמִלְחָמֶה וּבְיֵדְ חַזָּקָה וּבְזְרוֹע נטויה ובמוראים גדלים בכל אשר עשה לכם יהוה אַלְהַיבֶם בְּמִצְרָיִם ּ לְעֵינֵיף: אַתָהֹ הָרָאַתָּ לָדַעַת כִּי יִהְוָה הָוּא הָאֵלהִים אַין עוד מִלְבַדְּוֹ: מו־הַשַּמִים הַשְּמֵיעַר אָת־קֹלו לְיַסְרֶךָ וִעַל־הָאָרֵץ הַרְאַךְ אֶת־אִשׁוּ ָּ הַגָּדולֶה וּדְבָרֵיו שָׁמַעִּהָ מִתְּוֹךְ הָאֲשׁ: וְתַּחַת כֵּי אָהַב' אַת־אַב'תִיךְ וַיִּבְחַר - בְזַרְעָוֹ אַחֲרָיוֹ וַיוֹצְאַךְ בְּפָנֵיוֹ בְּכֹחוֹ הַגָּדָל מִמְצְרֵים: לְהוֹרִישׁ גוֹיִם גְּדֹלְים וַעצמִים מִמֶּרָ מַפָּנִיךְ לַהַבִּיאַרְ לֶתַת־לְּךָ אֵת־אַרְצֵם נַחֲלֶה כַּיִּוֹם הַנְּה ּ וְיֵרַעְתֵ הַיֹּוֹם וְהָשֵבֹתָ אֶלֹ־לְבָבֶּךְ כִי יהוֹה הָוּא הָאֵלֹהִים בַשָּׁמִיִם מִמַּעִּד ּ וְעַל־הָאָרֶץ מתָחַת אֵין עוד: וְשֵּמֵרְהָּ אָת־חָקֵיו וְאָת־מִצְוֹתִיו אַשֶּׁר אָנֹכְי מִצַּוּךְ הַיֹּוֹם אֲשֵׁרֹ יִיטֵב לְךְ וּלְבָנֵיךְ אַחֲבֶיךְ וּלְמַעַן תַאַבִיךְ יָמִים עַל־הַאֲדָמָה אֲשֶׁר יהוְה אֱלֹהֵיף נֹתַן לְךָ כָּלֹ־הַיָּמִים:

יָלֵינוּ לְשַׁבַּחַ לַאֲדוֹן הַכֹּל, לָתֵת גְּדְלָּה לְיוֹצֵר בְּרֵאשִׁית, שלא עשֵנוּ כָּגוֹנֵי הַאַרַצוֹת, וְלֹא שָׁמֵנוּ כִּמִשְׁפְּחוֹת וֹאַרָמָה. שֵׁלֹא שָׁם חֵלְקָנוּ כָּהֵם, וְגוֹרָלֵנוּי כְּכָל הֲמוֹנָם. (שֶׁהַם their multitudes. (For they bow* to vanity and emptiness and pray (שְׁתַחֲוִים ּ לְהֶבֶּל וָרִיק, וּמְתְפַּלְּלִים אֶל אֵל לֹא יוֹשַׁיעַ.נּ וַאַבַּחְנוּ בּוֹךְעִים וּמִשְׁתַּחְוִים וּמוֹדִים, לִפְנֵי אַנְחָנוּ בּוֹרְעִים וּמִשְׁתַּחְוִים וּמוֹדִים, לִפְנֵי אַנִּחְנוּ ֶּלֶרְ מַלְבֵי הַמְּלָבִים הַקָּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא. שֶׁהוּא נוֹטֵה שְׁמֵיִם ֶּםֶר אֶרֶץ, ומושב יְקָרוֹ בַּשָּׁמֵיִם מִמֵּעַל, וּשְׁכִינַת עִזּוֹ בְּגָבְהַי ורומים. הוא אַלהַינוּ, אֵין עוֹד. אֱמֶת מַלְבַּנוּ, אֲפֶס זוּלָתוֹ, בָּתוֹב בְּתוֹרָתוֹ: וְיַרְעְתָּ הַיּוֹם וַהֲשֵׁבֹתָ אֶל לְבָבֵּךְ, בִּי יהוה הוּא יַאֶלהִים בַּשַּׁמֵיִם מִמָעל וְעַל הַאַרֵץ מִתַחַת, אֵין עוֹד. •

1 EXODUS [19:1] TEN COMMANDHENTS

אָנכיָ יהוָה אֱלֹהֶיְךּ אֲשֵׁר הְוֹצֵאתִיךּ מַאֲרֶץ מִיְּרָיִם , אָנכיָ יהוָה אֱלֹהֶיף אֲשֵׁר הְוֹצֵאתִיךּ מַאֲרֶץ מִיְּרָיִם אֲבָיִים בְּמָבִים לְא־יִהְיָּה לְּךָּ אֲלֹהִים אֲחַרָים עַל־פָּנֵי: לֹא־תַּעֲשֶׁר בַּמָּיִם אֶלֹהְיִם לָּאֶרֶץ מִתְּחַת נְאֲשֶׁר בַּמָּיִם בְּמָּיִם לְמְּלֵהְיִלְ מִעְּלְבָּבֶם כִּי אָנֹבִי יהוְה אֲלֹהֶיִּךְ מִמְּתַחַת לָאֶבֶיים לְאִיּאָים נְלָא תָעָבְבֶם כִּי אָנֹבִי יהוְה אֲלֹהֶיִּף אֵלְהָיִם לְאִיּאָים נְעָל־רִבּּעִים לְשִׁיְאָים נְעַל־רִבּּעִים לְשִׂיְאָי:

20 The Ten Commandments

God spoke all these statements, * saying:

² I am HASHEM, your God, Who has taken you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of slavery.

³ You shall not recognize the gods of others in My presence. ⁴ You shall not make yourself a carved image nor any likeness of that which is in the heavens above or on the earth below or in the water beneath the earth. ⁵ You shall not prostrate yourself to them nor worship them, for I am HASHEM, your God — a jealous God, Who visits the sin of fathers upon children* to the third and fourth generations, for My enemies;

2 KUZARI [R' YEHUDAH HA LEVI

10. Al Khazari: Indeed, I see myself compelled to ask the Jews, because they are the relic of the Children of Israel. For I see that they constitute in themselves the evidence for the divine law on earth.

He then invited a Jewish Rabbi, and asked him about his belief.

11. The Rabbi replied: I believe in the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, who led the children of Israel out of Egypt with signs and miracles; who fed them in the desert and gave them the land, after having made them traverse the sea and the Jordan in a miraculous way; who sent Moses with His law, and subsequently thousands of prophets, who confirmed His law by promises to the observant, and threats to the disobedient. Our belief is comprised in the Tōrāh—a very large domain.

12. I had not intended to ask any Jew, because I am aware of their reduced condition and narrow-minded views, as their misery left them nothing commendable. Now shouldst thou, O Jew, not have said that thou believest in the Creator of the world, its Governor and Guide, and in Him who created and keeps thee, and such attributes which serve as evidence for every believer, and for the sake of which He pursues justice in order to resemble the Creator in His wisdom and justice?

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25. The Rabbi: In this way I answered thy first question. In the same strain spoke Moses to Pharaoh, when he told him: 'The God of the Hebrews sent me to thee,' viz. the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. For Abraham was well known to the nations, who also knew that the divine spirit was in contact with the patriarchs, cared for them, and performed miracles for them. He did not say: 'The God of heaven and earth,' nor 'my Creator and thine sent me.' In the same way God commenced His speech to the assembled people of Israel: 'I am the God whom you worship, who has led you out of the land of Egypt,' but He did not say: 'I am the Creator of the world and your Creator.' Now in the same style I spoke to thee, a Prince of the Khazars, when thou didst ask me about my creed. I answered thee as was fitting, and is fitting for the whole of Israel who knew these things, first from personal experience, and afterwards through uninterrupted tradition, which is equal to the former.

KIDDUSH

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🍇 SABBATH EVE KIDDUSH 👺

The following *Kiddush* is recited on Sabbath and on Sabbath Chol HaMoed.

The *Kiddush* for Succos appears on p. 722; for Rosh Hashanah, p. 766; for other Festivals, p. 656.

(Recite silently—And there was evening and there was morning)

wwi the sixth day.* Thus the heavens and earth were finished, and all their array. On the seventh day God completed His work which He had done, and He abstained on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it He abstained from all His work which God created to make.

By your leave, my masters, rabbis and teachers,

ברוך Blessed are You, HASHEM, our God, King of the universe, Who creates the fruit of the vine.

has sanctified us with His commandments, took pleasure in us, has sanctified us with His commandments, took pleasure in us, and with love and favor gave us His holy Sabbath as a heritage, a remembrance of creation. For that day is the prologue to the holy convocations, a memorial of the Exodus from Egypt.* For us did You choose and us did You sanctify from all the nations. And Your holy Sabbath, with love and favor did You give us as a heritage. Blessed are You, Hashem, Who sanctifies the Sabbath.* (All proxent respond—Amen.)

On the Sabbath of Chol HaMoed Succos, in the succah, add:

Blessed are You, HASHEM, our God, King of the universe, Who has sanctified us with His commandments and has commanded us to dwell in the Succah.

It is customary to give each person present some wine from the *Kiddush* cup. All present wash their hands in the ritual manner and the head of the household recites the blessing for bread over two *challahs* and distributes a piece to each person.

(1) Genesis 1:31-2:3.

the first six days of creation, do not relate to the testimony of the Sabbah's holiness and are not part of Kiddush. Nevertheless, they are attached to Kiddush because their initials together with the initials of Drapar, 1929 form the Four-Letter Name of God. Because these two isolated words have no logical meaning standing alone, the Sages meorporated the preceding words. Any and there was evening and there was norming, to form a complete thought. Those words, however, are said quietly.

connocations. The festivals are described as holy connocations. The festivals are described as holy connocations because they come about as a result of the months which are proclaimed by the months of Israel. The Sabbath, however, is multipendent of any principantions of the court. As such it is not properly called a holy

convocation. Nevertheless, Leviticus 23 which lists the festivals begin by mentioning the Sabbath, thus making the Sabbath the prologue to the holy convocations.

from Export No. 1 — A memorial of the Exodus from Explicit Random explains that the Subbath and the Exodus are intertwined. The Subbath is symbolic of God's creation; the Exodus was His demonstration to humanity that He controls nature and manipulates it as His will sees fit. In turn, the events of the Exodus bear witness to God's creation — and, hence, His mastery — of the universe. The Subbath on the other hand, is the backdrop of the Exodus, because the concept it represents explains how the events of the Exodus, were possible.

ה קקרש השבח. Who sunctifies the Subbath. Unlike the festivals whose sanctity is dependent

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The following Kiddush is recited on Sabbath and on Sabbath Chol HaMoed. The Kiddush for Succos appears on p. 722; for Rosh Hashanah, p. 766; for others Festivals, p. 656.

ריהי עֶּלֶב וַיְהִי לְּקֵר) – רְיָהִי עֲלֶב וַיְהִי לְּקֵר)

יום הששי.* ניבלו השמים והארץ ובל אבאם. ניבל אמה אלהים ביום השביעי מלאבתו אשר עשה. ניבל נישבת פיום השביעי מלאבתו אשר עשה. נישבת פיום השביעי מכלאבתו אשר עשה. נישבת פיום השביעי ניקדש אתו, כי בו שבת מכל מלאבתו אשר ברא אלהים לעשות.

סְבְרִי מְרְנָן וְרַבְּנָן וְרֵבּוֹתִי:

בֶּרוּךְ אַתָּה יהוֹה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֱלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פְּרִי הַגְּפְּן.

. T点水 —All present respond)

On the Sabbath of Chol HaMoed Succos, in the succah, add:

בְּרוּךְ אַמְּה יהוֹה אֱלֹהְינוּ מֱלֶךְ הָעוּלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִרְּשֶׁנוּ בְּמִּצְוֹתִיוּ וְצִּוְנִוּ בְּעָרָוֹ, בְּמָבְוּים (bnoqeson inspector) לישֶב בַּסְבָּה.

It is customary to give each person present some wine from the *Kiddush* cup.

All present wash their hands in the ritual manner and the head of the household recites the blessing for bread over two challahs and distributes a piece to each person.

deeds are the most eloquent testimony to her virtue.

ל אsudaix / קירוש ﴾

The mitzuah to recity — or listen to — Kiddush over a cup of wine is incumbent upon men and women alike.

The first paragraph of Kiddush is in the nature of testimony to the fact that God completed the labor of creation in six days and rested on the seventh. Thus by observing the Sabbath, we bear weekly testimony to God's creation of the universe. Although this paragraph has already been recited as part of the evening service fand for that reason it is not repeated as part of the Kiddush which is recited in the synagoguel, it was included in the Kiddush for the benefit of

women and children who did not recite the evening service (Pesuchim 106a).

The head of the household, or another adult present, recites the Kiddissi while holding a full cup of grape wine (or juice) in his right hand. He should bear in mind that his recitation is the fulfillment of the mitzuah of Kiddush for both himself and the others who are listening. Those listening should bear in mind that their listening and response is in fulfillment of the mitzuah of Kiddush, and should remain silent except when responding. Amer. Some stand during Kiddush, others sit, and still others stand during Kiddush, others sit, and still others stand until the blessing over wire. How etc.

• ψωτι στη - The sixth day. Strictly speaking, these two words, which conclude the account of

4 RAMBAM - GUIDE TO THE PERPLEXED [I.32]

 $\mathbf{Y}^{ ext{ou}^1}$ who study my Treatise, know that something similar to what happens to sensory apprehensions happens likewise to intellectual apprehensions in so far as they are attached to matter. For when you see with your eye, you apprehend something that is within the power of your sight to apprehend. If, however, your eyes are forced to do something they are reluctant to do-if they are made to gaze fixedly and are set the task of looking over a great distance, too great for you to see, or if you contemplate very minute writing² or a minute drawing³ that is not within your power to apprehend - and if you force your eye, inspite of its reluctance, to find out the true reality of the thing, your eye shall not only be too weak to apprehend that which you are unable to apprehend, but also too weak to apprehend that which is within your power to apprehend. Your eye shall grow tired, and you shall not be able to apprehend what you could apprehend before having gazed fixedly and before having been given this task. A similar discovery is made by everyone engaging in the speculative study of some science with respect to his state of reflection.4 For if he applies himself to reflection and sets himself a task demanding his entire attention,5 he becomes dull and does not then understand even that which is within his scope to understand. | For the condition of all bodily faculties is, in this respect, one and the same. Something similar can happen to you with regard to intellectual apprehensions. For if you stay your progress because of a dubious point; if you do not deceive yourself into believing that there is a demonstration with regard to matters that have not been demonstrated; if you do not hasten to reject and categorically to pronounce false any assertions whose contradictories have not been demonstrated; if, finally, you do not aspire to apprehend that which you are unable to apprehend you will have achieved human perfection and attained the rank of Rabbi Aqiba, peace be on him, who entered in peace and went out in peace6 when engaged in the theoretical study of these metaphysical matters. If, on the other hand, you aspire to apprehend things that are beyond your apprehension; or if you hasten to pronounce false, assertions the contradictories of which have not been demonstrated or that are possible, though very remotely so - you will have joined Elisha Aher. 8 That is, you will not only not be perfect, but will be the most deficient among the deficient; and it shall so fall out that you will be overcome by imaginings and by an inclination toward things defective, evil, and wicked-this resulting from the intellect's being preoccupied and its light's being extinguished. In a similar way, various species of delusive imaginings are produced in the sense of sight when the visual spirit is weakened, as in the case of sick people and of such as persist in looking at brilliant or minute objects.

5 MIDRASH RABBAH - NUMBERS [XIV.10]

did the Holy One, blessed be He, choose them? Because all the nations rejected the Torah and refused to accept it, but Israel gladly chose the Holy One, blessed be He, and His Torah.

6 ETHICS OF OUR FATHERS

ָרָפָּר אַלְעָזֶר הַקַּפָּר אוֹמֵר: הַקּנְאָה וְהַתַּאֲוָה וְהַבָּבוֹר מוֹצִיאִין אֶת בְּאֶבּר בּבּר הַבְּבוֹר מוֹצִיאִין אֶת בְּאֶבּר בּבּר הַאָּדָם מִן הַעוֹלֶם.

[28] Rabbi Elazar HaKappar says: Jealousy, lust and glory remove a man from the world

7 IBID [1:2]

ָב] שַּמְעוֹן הַצַּדִּיק הָיָה מִשְּׁיָרֵי כְנֶסֶת הַגְּּרוֹלָה. הוא הָיָה אוֹמֵר: עַל שְׁלשָה דְבָרִים הָעוֹלָם עוֹמֵר: עַל הַתּוֹרָה, וְעַל הָעֲבוֹרָה, וְעַל גְּמִילוּת

[2] Shimon the Righteous was among the survivors of the Great Assembly. He used to say: The world depends on three things — on Torah study, on the service [of God], and on kind deeds.

(3) DELTERONOMY [4:33]

For ask now of the days that are past, which were before you, since the day that God created man upon the earth, and from one side of heaven to the other, whether there has been any such thing as this great thing, or whether anything has been heard like it? Did ever people hear the voice of God speaking out of the midst of fire, as you have heard, and lived? Or has God ventured to go and take Him a nation from the midst of another nation, by trials, by signs, and by wonders, and by war, and by a mighty hand, and by a stretched out arm, and by great terrors, according to all that the Lord, your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes?

שְאַל־נָא ֖ לְיָמִים רָאשׁנִים אֲשֶׁר־הָיִּוּ לְפָנֶּיךְ לְמִן־הַיּוֹם אֲשֶׁר ּ בָּרָא
אֱלהִים וּ אָדָם עַל־הָאָבֶץ וּלְמִקְצֵה הַשָּׁמֵיִם וְעַד־קְצֵה הַשָּׁמֵיִם הַנְּהְיָה פַּדָּבֶר הַנָּדוֹל הַנֶּה אַוֹ הַנִּשְׁמֵע כָּמְהוּ: הֲשָׁמֵע עָם לְּוֹל אֱלֹהִים מְדַבִּּר מְתוֹךְ-הָאֲשׁ כַּאֲשֶׁר־שָׁמֵעְהָּת אַחָה וַיֵּחִי: אָוֹ וֹ הַנִּפֶּה אֱלֹהִים לָבוֹא לָלַחַת לְוֹ גוֹיֹ מִקֶּרֶב גוֹי בְּמֵסֹת בְּאתֹת וּבְמוֹפְתִים וּבְמִלְחָה לָבַם יהוְה אֱלְהַיכָם בְּמִצְרָיִם נְטוּיָה וּבְמוֹרָאֶים גְּדֹלִים בְּכֹל אֲשֵׁר־עָשָּׁה לָבַם יהוְה אֱלְהֵיכֵם בְּמִצְרָיִם לעיניה:

9 RAMBAM - MISHNE TORAH

because of the miracles he did. For when one's emunah (belief or realization) is based on miracles, a lurking doubt always remains in the "heart" (mind or understanding) that it is possible that these signs were performed with the aid of special occult powers and/or witchcraft. All of the miracles that were performed by Moshe in the desert, he did because they were necessary, and not as a proof of his prophecy... What then was the basis of their (the Jewish people's) emunah? The Revelation at Mt. Sinai, which we saw with our own eyes, and heard with our own ears, not having to depend on the testimony of others... and therefore it says, 'Face to face, God spoke with you (the Jewish people).'

The Rambam here sets forth the fundamental principle of the historical argument.

The revelation at Sinai itself is the sole proof that Moses' prophecy (the entire Torah) is truth . . . Before this event they didn't "believe" with an emunah which would have endured forever, but only with a belief that would have eventually been followed by doubts and speculation . . .

¹ Cod spoke to Moses at Mount Sinai,* telling him to ² speak to the Israelites and say to them:

When you come to the land that I am giving you, the land must be given a rest period, a sabbath to God. ⁵ For six years you may plant your fields, prune your vineyards, and harvest your crops, ⁶ but the seventh year is a sabbath of sabbaths for the land. ⁶ It is God's sabbath during which you may not plant your fields, nor prune your vineyards. ⁵ Do not harvest crops that grow on their own ⁶ and do not gather the grapes on your unpruned vines, ⁶ since it is a year of rest for the land.

⁶ [What grows while]⁶ the land is resting may be eaten by you, by your male and female slaves, and by the employees and resident hands who live with you. ⁷ All the crops shall [also] be eaten by the domestic and wild animals that are in your land.

¹⁴ Keep My decrees and safeguard My laws. If you keep them, you will live in the land securely. ¹⁹ The land will produce its fruit, and you will eat your fill, thus living securely in [the land].

** If you ask, "What will we eat in the seventh year? We have not planted nor have we harvested crops."

³¹ I will direct My blessing to you in the sixth year, and [the land] will produce enough crops for three years. ³² You will therefore be eating your old crops when you plant [after]* the eighth year. You will still be eating your old crops until the crops of the ninth year are ripe.

23 Since the land is Mine, no land shall be sold permanently. You are foreigners and resident aliens as far as I am concerned,

old old

(io) LEVITICUS

1 [25:3-6]

י עַיּנְרֵים עִּמָּנִי וֹלְבָּטָמִתְּלְּ וֹלְחַיָּטִ אֲשֵׁׁר בְּאַרָּאֵנָ תְּחִיְּיִׁה כָּל-תִּבְּנִאָּעָה הָבָּר תְּבָּעִרְ וְלְחַיָּיִה אֲשֵׁר בְּאַרָּאֵב וְלִּשְׁכִּירִלְ וּלְאַכִּירִלְ וּלְאַכָּרִלְ וְלִאַכִּירִלְ וּלְאַכָּירִלְ וּלְאַכָּרִלְ וּלִאַבְּלְּ וֹלְאַכָּרְלְ וֹלְאַכָּרְלְ וֹלְאַכָּרְלְ וֹלְאַכִּירְלְ וְלִאַבְּלְוֹ וְלְּצִיּ לְאָרֶץ בַּבְּעוֹן יִהְיֵּר לְאָרֵץ שַׁבָּת וְשְׁבָּע שְׁבָּעוֹן יִהְיֵּה לָאָרֶץ שַּׁבָּע וְשִׁבְּע שְּבָּעוֹן יִהְיֵה לָאָרֶץ שַּׁבָּע וְשִׁבְּע הַיְּבְעִּתְ שַּבָּע שְׁבָּעוֹן יִהְיֵה לָאָרֶץ שַּׁבָּע וְשִׁבְּע הַיְּבְּעִר שְׁבָּע שְׁבָּעוֹן יִהְיֵּה לָאָרֶץ שַּבָּע וְשִׁבְּע בְּיִבְּע שְׁבִּעוֹן יִהְיֵה לָאָרֶץ שַּבָּע וְשִׁבְּע הִיּבְעָּע שַּבָּעוֹן יִהְיֵה לָאָרֶץ שַּבָּע וְשִּבְּע הִיִּבְר וְשִׁבְּע שְׁבָּעוֹן יִהְיֵה לָאָרֶץ שַּבָּע וְשִּבְּע הִיּבְעָה הַיְּבְּע הִיִּבְר וְעִישׁ שָּׁנִים תִּוְלִר בְּבָּע וְשִׁבְּע הִיּבְעָּה הְּצִּע שְׁבְּעוֹן יִהְיֵבְ בְּע הָּיִלְם הְּעָּע שְּבָּעוֹן יִהְיֵבְ בְּע הְיִבְּע הִיוֹבְבֵּע הִיוֹם תִּוְלְבִע הְבִּבְּע הִיוֹבְבֵּע הִיוֹבְבּי וִישְּׁבְּע בְּעִים וְשְּבְּע בְּיִים וְשָּבְּתְּה בְּיִבְּי וִשְּבְּע בְּיִבְּים וְשָבְּתְּה בְּיִבְּע הִיוֹבְבּר יהוֹה אֶּלִין מְשָּׁה בְּּבִר הְיִּע שְׁ בְּעִים הְעָּע שְׁבְּבְּר אָבִייִים בְּי תָּבְּבּר הְיבִּי בְּיִבְּבְּי בְּיִיבְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִּים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִיבְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִיבְּיִים בְּיִים הְּיִּבְּיִים בְּיִים הְּעָּבִּיי בְּיִבְּיִבְּיִים בְּבְּיִים בְּיִיבְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִיבְּיִים בְּיִים הְּבָּבְייִים בְּיִיבְּיִים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִיבְּבְּיִים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּבְּיבְייִים בְּיִים בְּיִיבְּבְּיִים בְּבּבְייִים בְּיִיבְּייִים בְּבְּייִים בְּבְּיבְּיִים בְּבְּיִים בְּבְּיבְּבְּייִיבְּבְּיבְּיִיבְּיִיבְּיְיבְּבְייִיבְּיוּ בְּבְּיבְיבְיבְּבְייִיבְּיבְּיבְיבְייִים בְּיִיבְיבְיוּיבְיבְּבְיוּבְּיבְיבְּבְּיבְּבְיבְיבְיבְיבְיבְיבְּבְיבְיבְיבְיבְּבְּבְיבְיבְּבְיבְיבְּבְיבְיבְּבְיבְיבְיבְּבְיבְיבְּבְיבְבְּבְיבְּבְּבְיבְיבְּבְיבְיבְיבְּבְיבְיבְיבְיבְבְּבְיבְיבְּבְיבְיבְיבְיבְיבְּבְבְיבְיבְּב

(1) Exorus [34: 23-24]

²¹ "Six days shall you work and on the seventh day you shall desist; you shall desist from plowing and harvesting. ²² You shall make the Festival of Weeks with the first offering of the wheat harvest; and the Festival of the Harvest shall be at the changing of the year. ²³ Three times a year all your males shall appear before the Lord Hashem, the God of Israel. ²⁴ For I shall banish nations before you and broaden your boundary; no man will covet * your land when you go up to appear before Hashem, your God, three times a year.

(12) LEVITICUS [11:3]

ASHEM spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying to them. ² Speak to the Children of Israel, saying: These are the creatures that you may eat from among all the animals that are upon the earth. ³ Everything among the animals that has a split hoof, which is completely separated into double hooves, and that brings up its cud — that one you may eat. ⁴ But this is what you shall not eat from among those that bring up their cud or that have split hooves: the camel, for it brings up its cud, but its hoof is not split — it is unclean to you; ⁵ and the hyrax, for it brings up its cud, but its hoof is not split — it is unclean to you; ⁶ and the hare, for it brings up its cud, but its hoof is not split — it is unclean to you; ⁷ and the pig, for its hoof is split and its hoof is completely separated, but it does not chew its cud — it is unclean to you. ⁶ You shall not eat of their flesh nor shall you touch their carcass — they are unclean to you.

גַּיִבְבֶּר יהוָה אֶל־מֹשֵׁה וְאֶל־אַהָרָן לֵאמִר אֲלֵהֶם: דַּבְּרָוּ אֶל־בְּגַיִּ יִשְׂרָאֵל מֵשֶׁרָם לְא תִאבְלוּ מִבֶּלְּיָה מְבָּרָיִם טָמֵא הָוּא לָבֶם: וְאֶת־הָאָרֶץ: כְּל וּ מַבְּרִים טָמֵא הָוּא לָבֶם: וְאֶת־הָאָרֶץ: כְּל וּ בִּיבִימַעֲלֵת גַּרָה בַּבְּהַמָּה אֹתָהּ תֹּאבְלוּ: בַּירַמָּעֲלֵה גַּרָה הוּא וּפַרְסָה אֵינֵנוּ מַפְּרִים טָמֵא הָוּא לָבֶם: וְאֶת־הָשָׁפְּן וּ בִּי־מַעֲלֵה גַרָה הוּא וּפַרְסָה לְא יִפְּרֶים טָמֵא הָוּא לָבֶם: וְאֶת־הָשָּׁפְּן וּ בִּי־מַעֲלֵת גַרָה הוּא וּפַרְסָה לְא הִפְּרִיס טָמֵא הָוּא לָבֶם: וְאֶת־הָשָּׁפְן וּ בִּי־מַעֲלֵת גַרָה הִּוּא וּפַרְסָה לְא הִפְּרִיסה טְמֵא הָוּא לָבֶם: וְאֶת־הָשָּׁפְן וּ בִּי־מַעֲלֵת גַרָה הְוֹא וּפַרְסָה לְא הִפְּרִיסה טְמֵאָה הָוּא לָבֶם: וְאֶת־הָנְבֶּת הַחְיִּוּא גַרָה לְא־יִגְּר וּ שִׁמְעִים הָם מִבְּשָּׁרָם לְא תִאבֵלוּ וּבְנִבְלָתָם לְא תִצְעוֹ טְמֵאִים הָם הַם בּיִּם בְּשָׁרָם לְא תִאבֵלוֹ וּבְנִבְלָתָם לְא תִאבֵלוּ וּבְנִבְלָתָם לְא תִצְעוֹ יִבְּבָּרְים בְּשִׁרָם לְא תִאבֹּלוּ וּבְנִבְלָתָם לְא תִצְעוֹ יִבְּיה בְּיִם בְּשָׁרָם לְא תִאבֹלוֹ וּבְנִבְלָתָם לְא תִצְעוֹ טְמֵאִים הָם הַם בּיִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים לְישָׁרָם לְא תֹאבֹלוּ וּבְנִבְלָתָם לְא תִץ בְּבִים בְּבִּים בְּבִּים בְּיִם בְּבִּים בְּבִּיִים בְּבִּיִים בְּלָּה הִיּבְּרָלוּ הִבְּנִבְלָתָם לְא תִאבֹלוּ וּבְנִבְלְתָם לְא תִבּיל בִּים בְּבָּים בְּבִּים בְּבִים בְּמָבְיּים בְּבָּים לְיִים בְּעִּיִם לְיִים בְּעִים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּבִּים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּבִּים לְיִבְּיִים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּבִּיְיִם בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִּבְיּיִם בְּבִּים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִים בְּבִּים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּבְּיִים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִבּים בְּיִים בְּיבְּיִי בִּיִבְּעִיים הְאָא בָּבְיּים בְּיִים בְּיוֹי בִּיּבְילְיה בְּיִבְּיִי בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִבְּיִי בִּיִים בְּבְיּים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִבְיִים בְּיִבְיִים בְּיִּים בְּבְּיִם בְּיִבְּיִם בְּיִים בְּיבְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיִבְיִים בְּיִים בְּיִבּים בְּיִים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִים בְּיבְּיִים בְּיִבְּיִים בְּיבְּיִים בְּיבְּיִבְּיִים בְּיִבּיּיבְים בְּיִים בְּיבְ

(13) DEUTERONOMY [11:26-28]

²⁶ See, I present before you today a blessing and a curse. ²⁷ The blessing: that you hearken to the commandments of HASHEM, your God, that I command you today. ²⁸ And the curse: if you do not hearken to the commandments of HASHEM, your God, and you stray from the path that I command you today, to follow gods of others, that you did not know.

רכּו רְאֵה אָנכָי נתֵן לִפְנִיכֶם הַיָּוֹם בְּרָבָה וּקְלָלֵה: אֶת־הַבְּרָבָה אֲשֶׁר תִּשְּמְעוּ בּח אֶל־מִצְוֹת יהוָה אֱלְהַיכֶּם אֲשֶׁר אָנכֵי מְצַוֵּה אֶתְבֶם הַיִּוֹם: וְהַקְּלָלָה אָם־לְא תִשְׁמְעוּ אֶל־מִצְוֹת יהוָה אֱלְהַיכֶּם וְסַרְתֵּם מִן־הַבְּּרֶךְ אֲשֶׁר אָנכִי מְצַוָּה אֶתְבֶם הַיִּוֹם לָלֶּכֶת אַחֲבֵי אֱלֹהִים אֲחַרָים אֲשֵׁר לְא־

ידעתם ידעתם