

Summary of the פרשה, עליות

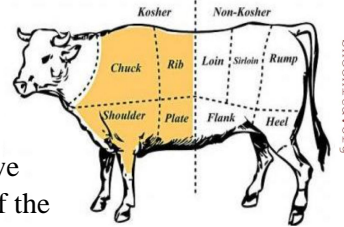
כהן sent **מלאכים** ahead of him, to **עשו**. The **מלאכים** returned and told **יעקב** that his brother, **עשו**, was coming with 400 men. **יעקב** prepared to meet **עשו** in three ways:

1. he divided his camp into two - should one be struck the other would survive;
2. he said **וְהָיָה** to **ה'** to **תפלות**;
3. he sent gifts to **עשו**.

עקב wrestled with a 'man' (a **מלאך**). **יעקב**'s hip socket was injured. **יעקב** said that he would not let the **מלאך** go until he blessed him. The angel said:

“... לא יעקב יאמר עוד שמך כי אם ישראל כי-שירת עם-אלקים ועם-אנשים ותוכל:”

“No longer will it be said that your name is **יעקב**, but **ישראל**, for you have become great before (or: “you have fought with”) **ה'** and man, and you have won.”



עקב began to limp because of his injured hip. This is why we may not eat the **גיד הנשה** - the sciatic nerve, from the hindquarter of the animal - to this day. **יעקב** saw **עשו** coming. He divided his children among his wives and the **שפחות** (handmaids), then went ahead, bowing seven times as he approached his brother. **עשו** ran towards him, fell upon his neck, and kissed him; then they wept. **עשו** saw the women and children and asked: “Who are these to you?” **יעקב** answered: “The children whom **ה'** has graciously given to your servant.”

יעקב's wives, **שפחות** and children then came forward and bowed down. **יעקב** urged his brother to accept the gifts and **עשו** refused at first, but then, finally, accepted. (The **מדרש** teaches that **עשו** had really wanted to accept all the time.) **עשו** said that they should travel together, but **יעקב** answered that his children, and his nursing flocks and cattle would not cope with **עשו**'s pace. **יעקב** arrived at **שכם**, in **בנען**.

דינה was kidnapped by **שכם**, the prince of the region. **שכם** asked his father, **חמור**, if he could have **דינה** as a wife. **חמור** went to speak with **יעקב**. He wanted his people and **ישראל** to marry each other and live amongst each other. **יעקב**'s sons told **שכם** and his father **חמור** that their men would all have to have **מילה**. They returned and told this to their people. All the males then had **מילה**. On the third day, **שמעון** and **לוי** killed every male with their swords and rescued **דינה**. **יעקב** was very cross with **שמעון** and **לוי** for what they had done. **ה'** told **יעקב** to go to **Beis El** and build a **מזבח**. **יעקב** did as **ה'** had said. **ה'** appeared to **יעקב**, blessed him, and told him that his name would be **ישראל**.

שש died as she was giving birth to **בנימין**. She was buried on the road to **אפרת**, which is **לחם**. **יעקב** put a monument over her grave. **יעקב** died at the age of 180 and was buried by his sons, **יעקב** and **עשו**. The **תורה** lists the descendants of **עשו** and the chiefs of his children, known as the **אלופי עשו**.

שבע | **אלופי אדם** למשבתם בארץ אחזתם הוא עשו אבי אדם:

Pirkei Avos - Chapter 1: Mishnah 15

שמאי says: Make your **תורה** study a fixed practice; say little and do much, and receive everyone with a cheerful face.

פרקי אבות : א: ט"ז

שמאי אומר, עשה תורתך קבע. אמור מעט ועשה הרבה, וקח את כל האדם בסבר פנים יפות: