

3 Days Completed

Learning Focus

Here I am ready to explore **ending points/aims** in this journey, undertaking to know more each day about the workings of oppression, so that we might get ourselves, all of us, out from under this millstone that is the Narrow Place.

Another crucial journey element is its end: Sometimes the whole point is to get out; sometimes the journey has a pre-determined a destination; and sometimes the aim is the journey itself.

The Exodus story can be read with all three end-points in mind:

- Much of the drama, in popular tellings and in the Bible itself, and a great deal of the emotional energy is around getting out of the Narrow Place;
 - Early in the Exodus tale, Moses is told that God has a "better place" destination in mind, while the Genesis prequel suggests a sense of returning home as well; and
 - The Jewish calendar sends us on a journey that keeps us wandering in the wilderness for much of the year.
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With a view to "getting out" --

- what Narrow Place are you, personally, attempting to escape this year?
- what Narrow Place does your community need to leave behind?

Considering a "better place" --

- do you have a destination in mind, as you leave the Narrow Place?
- what do you envision, at the end of the road, for your community?

On this journey --

- is there something essential to be learned from the wilderness itself?
- how might your community benefit from accepting that some things have been left behind, while the destination is still out of sight?

Does one view of Exodus from oppression seem more apt than another, for you personally and for your community?

Ritual Focus

Here I am, ready and prepared

[use traditional *kavanah* and/or continue here]

Here I am, ready and prepared to fulfill this project of counting 49 days,
from Narrowness to Expansion,
seeking to examine oppression and envision liberation,
inspired by the Torah's counting of the Omer,
counting seven full weeks, from Liberation to Revelation,
until I reach fifty days,
and prepare to bring new thoughts before the Eternal and into the world.

Bless

[See "Blessing "page for masculine or feminine God-language]

Brukheh ateh YHVH

Elohéinu hei ha'olamim

asher kidshétnu

bəmitzvotéihe vətzivétnu

al sefirat ha'omer

בְּרוּכָה אַתָּה יְהוָה

אֱלֹהֵינוּ חַי הָעוֹלָמִים

אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁתָנוּ

בְּמִצְוֹתֶיךָ וְצִוִּיתָנוּ

עַל סְפִירַת הָעֹמֶר

Blessed are you, YHVH,
our God, Life of endless worlds,
who made us holy
with Voix commandments and commanded us
to count the Omer.

Count

הַיּוֹם אַרְבָּעָה יָמִים לְעֹמֶר

Hayom arbaah yamim la-omer.

Today is day four of the Omer.

visit <http://Rereading4Liberation.com>
for more on Recounting Exodus and
Rereading Exodus along the Anacostia