

GREEK &  
HEBREW  
READING  
GROUP

John 1:14-18; Exodus 34:5-7 (LXX); Exodus 34:5-7 (MT); Jonah 4:2

- Greek translators: Does the language in John 1:14 echo the divine self-disclosure in Exodus 34:5-7? The Septuagint of Exodus 34:5-7 has been provided for comparison.
- Hebrew translators: The divine self-disclosure in Exodus 34:5-7 is called “The Thirteen Attributes of God” within Jewish tradition. It is such an important text that it is echoed all throughout the Hebrew Scriptures: Num. 14:18; Jer. 32:18; Joel 2:13; Jon. 4:2; Nah. 1:3; Pss. 86:15; 103:8; 145:8; Neh. 9:17; cf. also Pss. 111:4; 112:4; 116:5; Neh. 9:31; 2 Chron. 30:9.<sup>1</sup> How should this passage inform our understanding of “the God of the OT”?

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<sup>1</sup> Sarna, Nahum M, *Exodus*, The JPS Torah Commentary (Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society, 1991), 216.

## John 1:14-18

14 Καὶ ὁ λόγος σὰρξ ἐγένετο καὶ ἐσκήνωσεν ἐν ἡμῖν, καὶ ἐθεασάμεθα τὴν

δόξαν αὐτοῦ, δόξαν ὡς μονογενοῦς παρὰ πατρός, πλήρης χάριτος καὶ

ἀληθείας. 15 Ἰωάννης μαρτυρεῖ περὶ αὐτοῦ καὶ κέκραγεν λέγων. Οὗτος

ἦν ὃν εἶπον. Ὁ ὀπίσω μου ἐρχόμενος ἔμπροσθέν μου γέγονεν, ὅτι πρῶτός

μου ἦν. 16 ὅτι ἐκ τοῦ πληρώματος αὐτοῦ ἡμεῖς πάντες ἐλάβομεν καὶ χάριν

ἀντὶ χάριτος. 17 ὅτι ὁ νόμος διὰ Μωϋσέως ἐδόθη, ἡ χάρις καὶ ἡ ἀλήθεια

διὰ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ ἐγένετο. 18 θεὸν οὐδεὶς ἑώρακεν πώποτε· μονογενὴς

θεὸς ὁ ὢν εἰς τὸν κόλπον τοῦ πατρὸς ἐκεῖνος ἐξηγήσατο.

## Exodus 34:5-7 (LXX)

<sup>5</sup> καὶ κατέβη κύριος ἐν νεφέλῃ καὶ παρέστη αὐτῷ ἐκεῖ, καὶ ἐκάλεσεν τῷ

ὀνόματι κυρίου. <sup>6</sup> καὶ παρήλθεν κύριος πρὸ προσώπου αὐτοῦ καὶ ἐκάλεσεν

Κύριος ὁ θεὸς οἰκτίρμων καὶ ἐλεήμων, μακρόθυμος καὶ πολυέλεος καὶ

ἀληθινὸς <sup>7</sup> καὶ δικαιοσύνην διατηρῶν καὶ ποιῶν ἔλεος εἰς χιλιάδας,

ἀφαιρῶν ἀνομίας καὶ ἀδικίας καὶ ἀμαρτίας, καὶ οὐ καθαριεῖ τὸν ἔνοχον

ἐπάγων ἀνομίας πατέρων ἐπὶ τέκνα καὶ ἐπὶ τέκνα τέκνων ἐπὶ τρίτην καὶ

τετάρτην γενεάν.

Exodus 34:5-7

וַיֵּרֶד יְהוָה בְּעָנָן וַיִּתְיַצֵּב עִמּוֹ שֵׁם וַיִּקְרָא בְּשֵׁם יְהוָה: 5

וַיַּעֲבֹר יְהוָה | עַל־פְּנֵי וַיִּקְרָא יְהוָה | יְהוָה אֵל רַחוּם וְחַנּוּן אֲרֻךְ 6

אֲפִים וְרַב־חֶסֶד וְאֱמֶת:

נֶצֶר חֶסֶד לְאֱלֹפִים נִשָּׂא עֵז וּפִשֵׁעַ וְחַטָּאָה וְנִקְהָ לֹא יִנְקָה 7

פִּקְדָּה | עֵז אָבוֹת עַל־בָּנִים וְעַל־בָּנֵי בָנִים עַל־שְׂלֵשִׁים וְעַל־

רַבְעִים:

Jonah 4:2

וַיִּתְפַּלֵּל אֶל־יְהוָה וַיֹּאמֶר אָנֹכִי יְהוָה הֲלוֹא־זֶה דְבָרֵי עַד-

הָיֹוֹתִי עַל־אֲדָמָתִי עַל־כֵּן קִדַּמְתִּי לְבָרַח תַּרְשִׁישָׁה כִּי יָדַעְתִּי כִּי

אֶתָּה אֵל־חַנּוּן וְרַחוּם אַרְךָ אַפַּיִם וְרַב־חֶסֶד וְנֶחֱם עַל־הַרְעָה: