<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numbers; 10:29-32</th>
<th>במדבר פרק י</th>
<th>זיו הירשפלד</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29 And Moses said unto Chovav, the son of Reuel the Midianite, Moses' father-in-law: 'We are journeying to the place of which the LORD said: I will give it you; come with us, and we will do good for you; for the LORD has spoken good concerning Israel.' 30 And he said unto him: 'I will not go; but I will depart to my own land, and to my homeland.' 31 And he said: 'Leave us not, I beg you; forasmuch as you know how we are to encamp in the wilderness, and you shall be eyes for us. 32 And it shall be, if you go with us that all the good the LORD shall do for us, the same will we do for you.'</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commentary of Rashi to verse 31</th>
<th>רashi במדבר פרק י</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>It is fitting for you to join us because you know how we have camped in the desert and you have seen the miracles and heroic deeds that have been done for us.</td>
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<th>Commentary of Nachmanides to verse 29</th>
<th>רמב&quot;ן במדבר פרק י פסוק כט</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>So Moses told him not to leave because he has knowledge of the desert and he can be “eyes for us,” meaning he can show us the path through the desert on our way to conquering the land.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exodus; 2: 15-21</th>
<th>שמות פרק ב</th>
<th>זיו הירשפלד</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 Now when Pharaoh heard this thing, he sought to slay Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh, and dwelt in the land of Midian; and he sat down by a well. 16 Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters; and they came and drew water, and filled the troughs to water their father's flock. 17 And the shepherds came and drove them away; but Moses stood up and helped them, and watered their flock. 18 And when they came to Reuel their father, he said: 'How is it that you have come so soon to-day?' 19 And they said: 'An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds, and moreover he drew water for us, and watered the flock.' 20 And he said unto his daughters: 'And where is he? Why is it that you have left the man? Call him, that he may eat bread.' 21 And he urged Moses to dwell with the man (him); and he gave Moses Zipporah his daughter.</td>
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</tbody>
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Jethro: a Non-Jewish Hero of the Jewish People

5. Pirkei D’Rabbi Eliezer; Chapter 39

Rabbi Levi said: The same staff that was created at dusk was given to Adam in the Garden of Eden. Adam passed it to Noah who gave it to him who gave it to Avraham. Avraham passed it on to Isaac who passed it to Jacob, and Jacob brought it down to Egypt and gave it to Joseph. When Joseph died his property was given to Pharaoh’s palace. Jethro was a magician in Pharaoh’s court, and when he saw the staff and signs on it he desired it, so he took it and planted it in his garden. No one was able to approach it. When Moses entered his house and came to the garden and saw the staff and read the signs on it, he stretched out his hand and took it. When Jethro saw this he said: this is the man who will redeem the Jewish people from Egypt, thus he gave him Zipporah as a wife.

6. Exodus; Chapter 18: 1-26

Now Jethro, the priest of Midian, Moses’ father-in-law, heard of all that God had done for Moses, and for Israel His people, how that the LORD had brought Israel out of Egypt.

And Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law, took Zipporah, Moses’ wife, after he had sent her away, and her two sons; of whom the name of the one was Gershom; for he said: ‘I have been a stranger in a strange land’;

and the name of the other was Eliezer: ‘for the God of my father was my help, and delivered me from the sword of Pharaoh.’

And Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law, came with his sons and his wife to Moses into the wilderness where he was encamped, at the mountain of God;

and he said to Moses: ‘I, your father-in-law Jethro, am coming to you, and your wife, and her two sons with her.’

And Moses went out to meet his father-in-law, and bowed down and kissed him; and they asked each other of their welfare; and they came into the tent.

And Moses told his father-in-law all that the LORD had done to Pharaoh and to the Egyptians for Israel’s sake, all the travail that had come upon them by the way, and how the LORD delivered them.

And Jethro rejoiced for all the goodness which the LORD had done to Israel, in that He had delivered them out of the hand of the Egyptians.

And Jethro said: ‘Blessed be the LORD, who has delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of Pharaoh; who has delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians.

And I know that the LORD is greater than all gods; by the results of all the schemes against them.’

And Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law, took a burnt-offering and sacrifices for God; and Aaron came, and all the elders of Israel, to eat bread with Moses’ father-in-law before God.

And it came to pass on the next day, that Moses sat to judge the people; and the people stood about Moses from the morning until the evening.

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And when Moses’ father-in-law saw all that he did for the people, he said: ‘What is all this that you do for the people? Why do you sit alone, and all the people stand around you from morning to evening? ’

And Moses said to his father-in-law: ‘Because the people came to me to inquire of God; when they have a matter, it comes to me; and I judge between a man and his neighbor, and I teach them the statutes of God, and His laws.’

And Moses’ father-in-law said to him: ‘The thing that you do is not good.

You will surely wear away, both you, and this people that is with you; for the thing is too heavy for you; you are not able to do it by yourself.

Listen now to my voice, I will give you advice, and God be with you: You will be for the people before God, and you will bring their causes to God.

And you shall teach them the statutes and the laws, and shall show them the way they must walk, and the work that they must do.

Moreover you shall seek out of all the people powerful men, those that fear God, men of truth, hating unjust gain; and place such men over them, to be rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens.

And let them judge the people at all times; and it shall be, that every great matter they shall bring to you, but every small matter they shall judge themselves; so shall they make it easier for you and bear the burden with you.

If you shall do this thing, and God command you so, then you will be able to endure, and all this people also shall go to their place in peace.’

So Moses listened to the voice of his father-in-law, and did all that he had said.

And Moses chose able men out of all Israel, and made them heads over the people, rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens. And they judged the people at all seasons: the hard causes they brought unto Moses, but every small matter they judged themselves.

Continued...
Know, a person must judge everyone favorably, even in one who is completely wicked, one must search and find a little goodness, for in this little, the other is not wicked…a person must do the same for oneself…Most people who are distant from G-d are distant because of a deep bitterness and sadness. These feelings result from the fact that people view themselves negatively and see the corruption of their own deeds. Every person knows the inadequacies of his heart and its pain, and because of this they grow depressed, and many of them despair entirely… Know, that the one who can create melodies, that is to say one who can gather the good points found in every Jew, even the sinners, this is the one who can lead the prayers. The one who leads the prayers is called the messenger of the congregation, for he is indeed sent by the congregation, in that he gathers up all the good points that are found in each of the worshippers, and then all of these points will be gathered into him, and he will stand and pray with all this goodness.