

## Some texts on death

Genesis 3:19: "...For dust you are and to dust shall you return."

Deut 32:39 "See then that I am He; there is no god beside Me. I deal death and give life; I wound and I will heal.

Kohelet (Ecclesiastes)3: 1-2 "A season is set for everything, a time for every experience under heaven; A time for being born and a time for dying."

1 Samuel 2:6 (from Hannah's prayer) "The Eternal deals death and gives life, casts down into Sheol<sup>1</sup> and raises up."

Genesis 49: 1-3 (blessing of his son continues to 27) "And Jacob called his sons and said, "Come together, that I may tell you what is to befall you in days to come. Assemble and hearken, O sons of Jacob, hearken to Israel your father. Reuben, you are my first-born, my might and the first fruit of my vigour exceeding in rank and exceeding in honour...."

Genesis 37:34: "Then Jacob rent his garments and placed sackcloth on his loins, and observed mourning for his son many days."

Gen 49:29-32 "Then he instructed them, saying to them, "I am about to be gathered to my kin. Bury me with my fathers in the cave which is in the field of Ephron, the Hittite, the cave which is in the field of Machpelah, facing Mamre in the in the land of Canaan, the field that Abraham bought from Ephron the Hittite for a burial site there Abraham and his wife Sarah were buried; there Isaac and his wife Rebekah were buried; and there I buried Leah..."

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<sup>1</sup> Sheol was a place to which in biblical belief all people went after death. In Sheol all inhabitants are equal—there is neither retribution nor reward. In the Second Temple period, literature began to refer to "olam haba" (the world to come) where some form of reward was posited. Raising up from Sheol does not mean resurrection, but coming back from the brink of death.