

Yaakov will always be alone. He will wrestle with an incorporeal spiritual entity whom he perceives as a man. This entity, this *malach*, is the *malach* of Esav. Throughout history there will be an adversarial and symbiotic confrontation between the offspring of Esav and the offspring of Yaakov. For the vast majority of history, Esav will do his best to annihilate Yaakov.

At the root of the mitzvah not to eat the sinew of the thigh-vein lies a daily assurance to the Jewish

persecutions, throughout all the Holocausts, the hell and high water of history, we will never perish.

Haftarah: Ovadiah 1:1 - 21

ET TUB

T years from the rise of the Roman Empire to the coming of Mashiach.

Edom is synonymous with Esav. Esav, whose destiny was prophetically defined by his

It is this thirst for power that characterized the Roman nations, build grand structures, all to further exalt the great and mighty name of the Empire.

Yaakov/Israel Torah perspective. While Edom focuses on quantity, Israel looks towards quality. This means raising the spiritual self to personify G-

The Prophet Ovadiah envisions the fall of Edom: When Edom attempts to destroy Israel, G-d

Keeping the mitzvah of the *gid ha-nasheh* serves as a constant testimony that though the body of Yaakov is damaged, we survive. It reminds us to stand firm in our faith despite all we endure.

Esav has wounded us. He has made us limp through history. But he cannot destroy us. Eventually

limp. Mashiach must come. And Yaakov will then be healed forever, just as those dawn rays healed him on that morning three and a half thousand years ago.

Sources:

Bereishet Rabba 76:8, Sefer HaChinuch - Mitzvah 3, Rabbi Yehoshua Bertram

intervenes. G-emptiness that even her allies will stab her in the back. As Edom falls, Israel will flourish, proclaiming G-sovereignty over all the nations.

AND THE FLAG WAS STILL THERE

your nest firmly among the stars, from there I will

Tnations send men to the poles and rockets to the moon for no reason other than to plant their sacred flags.

to conquer the world, Yaakov knows that his most sacred task is to learn to be in control of himself.

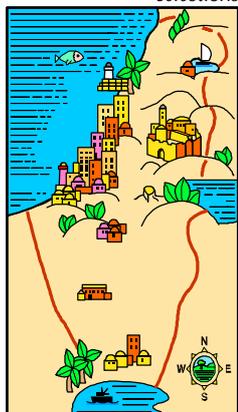
LOVE OF THE LAND

Selections from classical Torah sources which express the special relationship between the People of Israel and Eretz Yisrael

HAR HATZOFIM-MOUNT SCOPUS

hatsofim

scopus



capturing Jerusalem, as did the Crusaders in 1099 and the British forces in 1917. Although the Arab Legion captured this mountain in the War of Liberation, it did not succeed in using it as a springboard for conquering Jerusalem as did these predecessors.

With the liberation of East Jerusalem in 1967 the Jewish institutions on the mountain Hadassah Hospital and Hebrew University returned to Jewish hands and were restored to public service.

Parshat *Vayishlach*

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