

The Daily Portion

- Sivan Rahav Meir

TO RETURN

Translation by Yehoshua Siskin

Today (Tuesday, 11 Marcheshvan) is the date of the passing of Rachel Imeinu, our matriarch. For thousands of years we have quoted the promise made to her by God through the prophet Yirmiyahu:

V'SHAVU VANIM LIGVULAM - “Your children shall return to their borders.”

And now we have merited to return home in this generation, to our own border, to our country, to the land of Israel.

Yet during the last year, these words have taken on new meaning as we entreat God:

for our hostages – that they will return home to their loved ones.

for our soldiers – that they will return home with a complete victory over our enemies.

for our evacuees – that they will return to their empty homes.

for Israel – that the nation will return to control of its borders, never again to be crossed by terrorists on the ground or missiles through the air.

for ourselves – that we return home

to our identity, to the values that form an impenetrable border between us and other nations and cultures.

As mother Rachel has been praying for us for thousands of years: “Your children shall return to their borders.” May we all return now.

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