## **Naming Hesed**

ייוַתְּקרַא שָמו משֶה "And she called his name Moses בותאמר Saying ני-מן הַמֵּים משיתהויי I drew/masha him from the water" (צמות ב:י) (Exodus 2:10) בּתְקרָא שָׁמוֹ משֵׁה And she called his name Moses דמה למד היה from here you learn the reward of those who act with kindness even though many names שֵׁהַרְבֵּה שֵׁמוֹת were given to Moses no name was fixed for him in all of the Torah אַלָא שָׁקַרַאתּוּ other than the name given him by Batya the daughter of Pharaoh and even the blessed Holy One did not call him בּשֵׁם אַחֵר. by any other name.

(Exodus Rabbah 1:26)

אָמַר רַבִּי אֶלְעָזָר: מַאי דִּכְתִיב ״פִּיהָ פָּתְחָה בְּּחָכְמָה וְתוֹרַת חֶסֶד עַל לְשׁוֹנָהּ״ (משלי לא:כו): כִי יֵשׁ תּוֹרָה שֶׁל חֶסֶד וְיֵשׁ תּוֹרָה שֶׁאֵינָהּ שֶׁל חֶסֶד: אֶלָּא תּוֹרָה לִשְּׁמָה זוֹ תּוֹרָה שֶׁל חֶסֶד, שֶׁלֹא לִשְּׁמָה זוֹ הִיא תּוֹרָה שָׁאֵינָהּ שֶׁל חֶסֶד.

Rabbi Elazar said: What is the import of the verse *She opens her mouth with wisdom and the Torah of hesed/loving kindness is on her tongue* (Proverbs 31:26)? Is this to say that there is a Torah of hesed and another Torah that is not of hesed? Rather, it teaches that Torah for its own name's sake is a Torah of hesed; if it is not for its own name's sake, it is not a Torah of hesed.

(Sukkah 49b)

