

Present At Sinai

וְלֹא אִתְּכֶם לְבַדְכֶם אֲנֹכִי כֹוֶרֶת אֶת-הַבְּרִית הַזֹּאת וְאֶת-הָאֱלֹהִים הַזֹּאת. כִּי אֶת אֲשֶׁר יִשְׁנֹו פֹה עִמָּנוּ עַד הַיּוֹם לִפְנֵי ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֶת אֲשֶׁר אֵינָנו פֹּה עִמָּנוּ הַיּוֹם.

I make this covenant, with its sanctions, not with you alone, but both with those who are standing here with us this day before the Lord our God and with those who are not with us here this day (Deuteronomy 29:13-14).

אָמַר רַבִּי יִצְחָק: אִם מֵהַנְּבִיאִים עֲתִידִים לְהִתְנַבְּאוֹת כָּל־סָבִיב מִיָּמֵינוּ? דְּכָתִיב: "כִּי אֶת אֲשֶׁר יִשְׁנֹו פֹה עִמָּנוּ עַד הַיּוֹם", הָרִי מִי שֶׁנִּבְרָא כְּבָר. "וְאֵת אֲשֶׁר אֵינָנו" הָרִי מִי שֶׁעֲתִיד לְהִתְנַבְּאוֹת וְאֵינָנו. עִמָּנוּ הַיּוֹם, עִמָּנוּ עַד הַיּוֹם אֵין כְּתִיב כָּאֵן אֶלָּא עִמָּנוּ הַיּוֹם, אֵלֹו הַנִּשְׁמֹוֹת שֶׁעֲתִידִין לְהִתְנַבְּאוֹת, שֶׁלֹּא נֶאֱמַר בָּהֶם עֲמִידָה, שְׂאִף הֵן הֵיוּ בְּכָל־... וְלֹא הַנְּבִיאִים בְּלִבָּד, אֶלָּא אִם כָּל הַחֲכָמִים שֶׁהֵיוּ וְשֶׁעֲתִידִין לְהִיְוֹת...

*Even that which future Prophets would prophesy, they received from Mount Sinai. How so? It is written: "those who **are standing** here with us this day," refers to those already living. "**Standing** with us" means one who is in the world. The verse continues: "and with those who are **not with us** here this day," refers to anyone who is yet to come into existence but currently is **not with us**. "Those not with us are here this day:" This part of the verse does not say **standing** here with us; rather, only those who are **not with us**. These are the souls who are not yet embodied—those who have no standing; even so, they were part of the community... And not only the prophets, but also all of the sages, living and yet to be... (Midrash Tanhuma Yitro 11)*

אֲרוּם כָּל דְּרִיָּא דִּי קָמוּ מִן יָמֹוֹת עֲלָמָא וְעַד כְּדֹון עָמָד קִיָּמִין הָכָא יוֹמָא דִּין קָדָם ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְיֵת כָּל דְּרִיָּא דְּעֲתִידִין לְמִיקוּם מִן בִּתְרִין כְּאֵילוּ קִיָּמִין הָכָא עָמָד יוֹמָא דִּין.

*Behold, every generation from ancient time until now is standing with you this day before the Lord, your God, as for every generation that will follow—it is **as if** they are standing with you this day. (Targum Yerushalmi to Deuteronomy 29:14)*

אֲרוּם יֵת כָּל דְּרִיָּא דְּקָמוּ מִן יוֹמֵי עֲלָמָא כְּלָחוֹן הַנוּן דְּקִיָּמִין הָכָא עִמָּנָא יוֹמָא דְּקָדָם ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְיֵת כָּל דְּרִיָּא דְּעֲתִידִין לְמִיקוּם עַד סוּף כָּל עֲלָמָא כְּלָחוֹן הַנוּן קִיָּמִין הָכָא עָמָד יוֹמָא.

*Behold, every generation from ancient time until now is standing with us this day before the Lord, our God, even as every generation from now until the end of time **is** standing with us this day. (Targum Yonatan to Deuteronomy 29:14)*