



## **Parashat Ki Tavo** **September 2, 2023 – 16 Elul 5783**

The last two parshiot focused on justice and individual rights. Our behaviors, as well as the law of the land, are subject to the word of HaShem and connect with one another in an intimate relationship of cause and effect. As Jews, the way we live should be presented in a way that shows our trust in HaShem's Divine Providence and the realization of the connection between our keeping of mitzvot and the laws of nature. This is most apparent in the Land of Israel. "As clearly as the rain and dew fall, the land reflects G-d's presence." This statement alone indicates that Israel is a land constantly under HaShem's scrutiny.

Keeping the Mitzvot of the Torah proclaims in word and deed G-d's mastery over "all" and results in nature serving humanity. If we ignore or oppose the Torah, we deny G-d's mastery over "all" and in turn, nature opposes humanity's attempt to master the natural world.

In Parashat Ki Tavo, as "we" enter The Land of Israel the message is clear. We are holy if and only if we keep the mitzvot and the land holy. There is a Divine relationship between us and HaShem now and always.

Good Shabbos!

Rabbi Nathan W. Langer