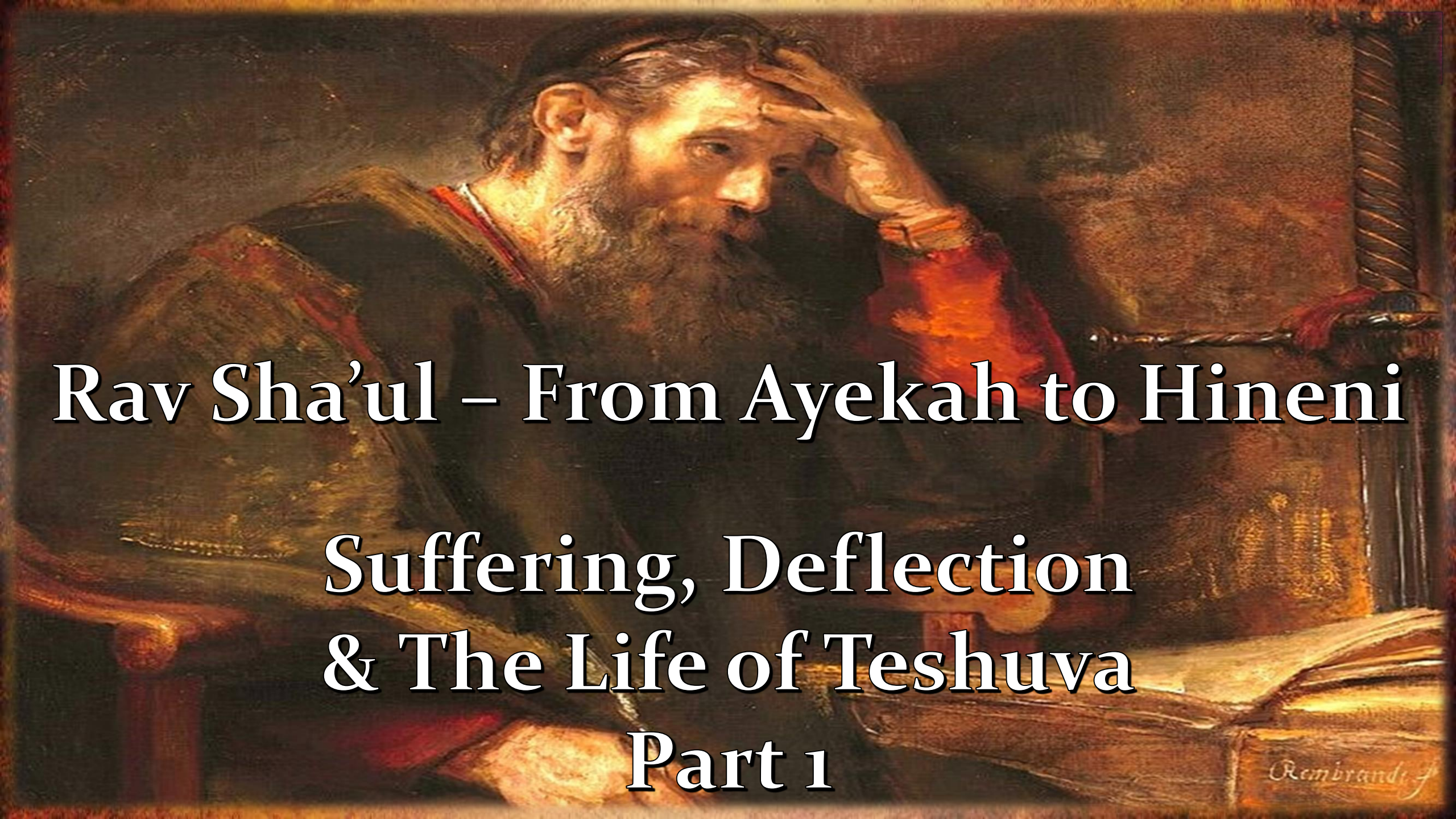


A painting by Rembrandt depicting a man with a long, dark beard and a turban, looking down with a somber expression. His right hand is raised to his forehead, suggesting distress or deep thought. He is wearing a dark, patterned garment. The background is dark and indistinct. The signature 'Rembrandt f.' is visible in the bottom right corner.

Rav Sha'ul – From Ayekah to Hineni

Suffering, Deflection
& The Life of Teshuva
Part 1

Genesis 1



31 God saw **EVERYTHING THAT HE HAD MADE,**
AND INDEED IT WAS VERY GOOD. So, there was
evening, and there was morning, a sixth day.

עץ החיים

עץ הדעת טוב ורע

Genesis 2



7 Then Adonai, God, formed a person from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, so that he became a living being.

עץ החיים

עץ הדעת טוב ורע

Genesis 2



8 Adonai, God, planted a garden toward the east, in 'Eden, and there he put the person whom he had formed. 9 Out of the ground Adonai, God, caused to grow every tree pleasing in appearance and good for food, including **THE TREE OF LIFE [EY TZ HACHAYIM]** in the middle of the garden and the **TREE OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL [EY TZ HADA'AT TOV VA'RA]**.

Genesis 2



15 Adonai, God, took the person and put him in the garden of 'Eden to cultivate and care for it. 16 Adonai, God, gave the person this order: "You may **FREELY EAT FROM EVERY TREE** in the garden 17 **EXCEPT THE TREE OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL**. You are not to eat from it, because on the day that you eat from it, **it will become CERTAIN that YOU WILL DIE**."

Genesis 3



3 Now the serpent was more crafty than any wild animal which Adonai, God, had made. He said to the woman, “**Did God REALLY say, ‘You are not to eat from any tree in the garden’?**” 2 The woman answered the serpent, “We may eat from the fruit of the trees of the garden, 3 but about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, ‘You are neither to eat from it nor touch it, or you will die.’”

Genesis 3



4 The serpent said to the woman, “It is NOT TRUE that you will surely die; 5 because GOD KNOWS that on the day you eat from it, your eyes will be opened, and YOU WILL BE LIKE GOD, KNOWING GOOD AND EVIL.”

WHAT IS “THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL”?

Genesis 3



6 When the woman saw **that the tree was GOOD** for food, that it had a **PLEASING** appearance and that the tree was **DESIRABLE** for making one wise, she took some of its fruit and ate. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her; and he ate.

עץ החיים

עץ הדעת טוב ורע



Genesis 3



7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized that they were naked. So, they sewed fig leaves together to make themselves loincloths. 8 They heard the voice of Adonai, God, walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, so the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of Adonai, God, among the trees in the garden.

9 **ADONAI, GOD, CALLED TO THE MAN,**
“WHERE ARE YOU?”

Genesis 3



9 Adonai, God, called to the man,
“WHERE ARE YOU?”

אַיֶּכָּה

(ayekah – Where are you?)

אֵיכָּה

(eichah – How?)

עץ הדעת טוב ורע

עץ הדעת טוב ורע



Genesis 3



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עץ החיים

עץ הדעת טוב ורע



OUR RESPONSE



COVER

HIDE

BLAME

עץ החיים

עץ הדעת טוב ורע



THE QUESTION



AYEKAH?

WHERE ARE YOU?

עץ הדעת

עץ הדעת טוב ורע



Genesis 3



10 He answered, “I heard your voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, so I hid myself.”

11 He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree from which I ordered you not to eat?”

12 The man replied, “**THE WOMAN YOU GAVE TO BE WITH ME** — she gave me fruit from the tree, **AND I ATE.**”

Genesis 3



13 Adonai, God, said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” The woman answered, “The serpent tricked me, **SO I ATE.**”

עץ החיים

עץ הדעת טוב ורע

Genesis 3



14 Adonai, God, said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all livestock and wild animals. You will crawl on your belly and eat dust as long as you live. 15 I will put animosity between you and the woman, and between your descendant and her descendant; he will bruise your head, and you will bruise his heel.”

עץ החיים

עץ הדעת טוב ורע

Genesis 3



16 To the woman he said, “I will greatly increase your pain in childbirth. You will bring forth children in pain. Your desire will be toward your husband, but he will rule over you.”

עץ החיים

עץ הדעת טוב ורע

Genesis 3



17 To Adam he said, “Because you listened to what your wife said and ate from the tree about which I gave you the order, ‘You are not to eat from it,’ the ground is cursed on your account; you will work hard to eat from it as long as you live. 18 It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat field plants. 19 You will eat bread by the sweat of your forehead till you return to the ground — for you were taken out of it: you are dust, and you will return to dust.”

Genesis 3



22 Adonai, God, said, “See, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil. Now, to prevent his putting out his hand and taking also from the tree of life, eating, and living forever — ” 23 therefore Adonai, God, sent him out of the garden of ‘Eden to cultivate the ground from which he was taken. 24 So he drove the man out, and he placed at the east of the garden of ‘Eden the k’ruvim and a flaming sword which turned in every direction **TO GUARD THE WAY TO THE TREE OF LIFE.**

Genesis 3



20 The man called his wife **HAVAH [TO GIVE LIFE]**,
because she was **THE MOTHER OF ALL LIVING.**
21 Adonai, God, **MADE GARMENTS OF SKIN** for
Adam and his wife and clothed them.

עץ החיים

עץ הדעת טוב ורע

Bereshit Rabbah



Adam meets his son Kayin, years after the murder of Hevel, and asks him, "What became of your judgment?"

Kayin answers, Asiti teshuvah v'nitpasharti — "I did teshuvah, and I was reconciled." And Adam begins to strike his own face and says, Kach hi kochah shel teshuvah, va'ani lo hayiti yode'a! ["Such is the power of teshuvah, and I didn't know!"] And immediately he stood and sang Psalm 92: Mizmor shir l'yom haShabbat ... tov l'hodot l'Adonai." [It is good to give thanks [to confess] to ADONAI.]

L'hodot = "to confess."

Deuteronomy 30:19

19 “I call on heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have presented you with life and death, the blessing and the curse. Therefore, choose life, so that you will live, you and your descendants, 20 loving Adonai your God, paying attention to what he says and clinging to him — for that is the purpose of your life!

עץ החיים

עץ הדעת טוב ורע

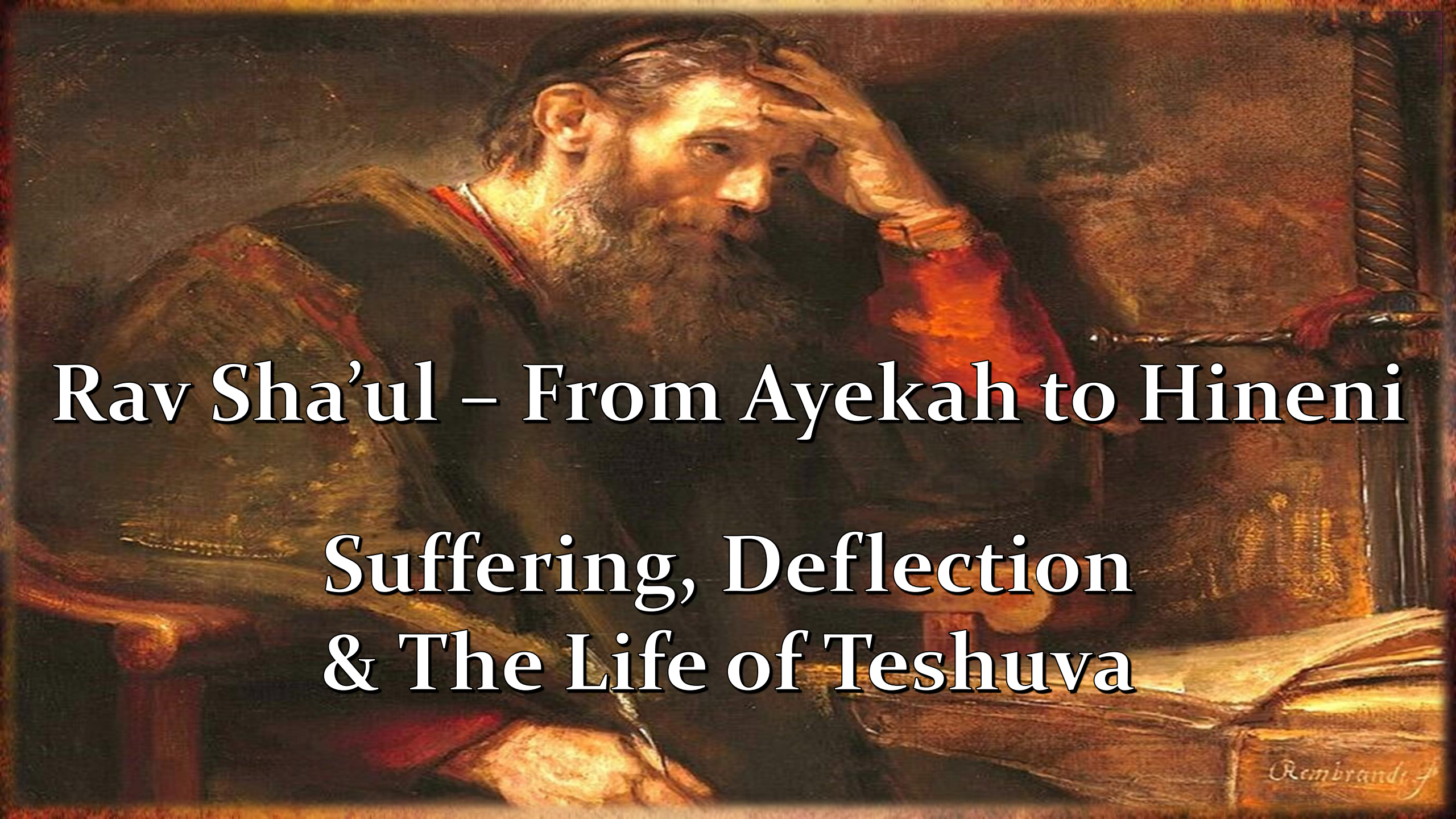




עץ החיים

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Rav Sha'ul – From Ayekah to Hineni

Suffering, Deflection
& The Life of Teshuva

Galatians 1



13 For you have heard about my former way of life in [traditional – how I interpreted my] Judaism — **HOW I DID MY BEST TO PERSECUTE GOD'S MESSIANIC COMMUNITY AND DESTROY IT**; 14 and how, since I **WAS MORE OF A ZEALOT** for the traditions handed down by my forefathers than most Jews my age, I advanced in [traditional] Judaism more rapidly than they did.

Philippians 3



6 in regard to zeal, a persecutor of the Messianic Community...

Acts 19



12 “On one such occasion, I was traveling to Dammesek with the full authority and power of the head cohanim. 13 I was on the road, and it was noon, your Majesty, when I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining around me and my traveling companions. 14 We all fell to the ground; and then I heard a voice saying to me, in Hebrew, ‘Sha’ul! Sha’ul! Why do you keep persecuting me? It’s hard on you to be kicking against the ox-goats!’

Acts 9



3 He was on the road and nearing Dammesek, when suddenly a light from heaven flashed all around him.

4 Falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, “Sha’ul! Sha’ul! Why do you keep persecuting me?” 5 “Lord, who are you?” he asked. “I am Yeshua, and you are persecuting me. 6 But get up, and go into the city, and you will be told what you have to do.”

Acts 9



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1 Corinthians 15



9 For I am the least of all the emissaries, unfit to be called an emissary, because I persecuted the Messianic Community of God.

Acts 9



15 But the Lord said to him, “Go, because this man is my chosen instrument to carry my name to the Goyim, even to their kings, and to the sons of Isra’el as well. 16 For I myself will show him how much he will have to suffer on account of my name.”

Acts 9



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Acts 9



24 Five times I received “forty lashes less one” from the Jews.

25 Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked. I spent a night and a day in the open sea. 26 In my many travels I have been exposed to danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the desert, danger at sea, danger from false brothers. 27 I have toiled and endured hardship, often not had enough sleep, been hungry and thirsty, frequently gone without food, been cold and naked. 28 And besides these external matters, there is the daily pressure of my anxious concern for all the congregations.

Deuteronomy 25



“Five times I received “forty lashes less one” from the Jews.”

2 then, if the wicked one deserves to be flogged, the judge is to have him lie down and be flogged in his presence. The number of strokes is to be proportionate to his offense; 3 but the maximum number is **FORTY**. He is not to exceed this; if he goes over this limit and beats him more than this, **your BROTHER will be humiliated before your eyes.**

Paul's Letters in Canonical Order



GROUP 1

Letters to Congregations

Romans — 7,111 words
1 Corinthians — 6,830 words
2 Corinthians — 4,477 words
Galatians — 2,230 words
Ephesians — 2,422 words
Philippians — 1,629 words
Colossians — 1,582 words
1 Thessalonians — 1,481 words
2 Thessalonians — 823 words

GROUP 2

Paul's Letters to Individuals

1 Timothy — 1,591 words
2 Timothy — 1,238 words
Titus — 659 words
Philemon — 335 words

Paul's Letters in Chronological Order



1. Galatians ~AD 48-49
2. 1 Thess ~AD 50-51
3. 2 Thess ~AD 51-52
4. 1 Corinth ~AD 54-55
5. 2 Corinth ~AD 55-56
6. Romans ~AD 56-57
7. Ephesians ~AD 60-62
8. Philippians ~AD 60-62
9. Colossians ~AD 60-62
10. Philemon ~AD 60-62
11. 1 Timothy ~AD 62-64
12. Titus ~AD 63-65
13. 2 Timothy ~AD 66-67

Romans 5



12 Here is how it works: it was through one individual that sin entered the world, and through sin, death; and in this way death passed through to the whole human race, **INASMUCH AS EVERYONE SINNED.**

eph' hō pantes hēmarton
BECAUSE ALL HAVE SINNED

4 Ezra

(KJV Apocrypha, 2 Esdras 7:48)

7:118 "O Adam, what have you done? Though it was you who sinned, you did not fall alone; we all fell, who come from you."





2 Baruch 54:15, 19

"For though Adam first sinned and brought untimely death upon all, yet of those who were born from him, each one has prepared for his own soul torment to come... Adam is therefore not the cause, save only of his own soul, but each of us has been the Adam of his own soul."

"INASMUCH AS EVERYONE SINNED"

Ezekiel 18



8 The word of Adonai came to me: 2 “What does it mean, that you keep quoting this proverb in the land of Isra’el — **‘When parents eat SOUR GRAPES, their children’s teeth are set on edge’?**

3 “As I live,” says Adonai Elohim, “I swear that you will never again quote this proverb in Isra’el. 4 Look, all lives belong to me — both the parent’s life and the child’s life are equally mine — **SO IT IS THE PERSON [Nefesh] WHO SINS, HIMSELF, WHO MUST DIE.**

Ezekiel 18



30 Therefore, house of Isra'el, I will judge each of you according to his ways," says Adonai Elohim. **"Repent, and turn yourselves away from all your transgressions, so that they will not be a stumbling block that brings guilt upon you.**

31 Throw far away from yourselves all your crimes that you committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit; for why should you die, house of Isra'el?

32 I take no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies," says Adonai Elohim, **"SO TURN YOURSELVES AROUND, AND LIVE!"**