

May 25, 2013 – B'haalotecha

We spent a lot of time discussing what it meant that Aaron and Miriam spoke against Moses because he had “a Cushite wife.” We asked if that meant the Zipporah was Cushite, or if Moses had taken another wife who was Cushite, and what Moses’s son was doing, since he is not mentioned in the listing of tribes. What did it mean that Aaron’s sons were raised to the priesthood, but Moses’s son had no honors? What did it mean that, after speaking out against Moses, only Miriam was punished? We looked at some Medieval and modern commentary on this issue, but of course we reached no conclusions.