The Chazar describes the portion of slavery in Egypt as the ‘circle of speech.’ The enslaved nation was not able to express its feelings in words; it cried out to God wordlessly. Even Moses had a serious speech impediment.

The command to kill the firstborn tells us that when the Israelites crossed the Red Sea, the nation was already free.

The sea split and the Israelites ran in, and when they reached the seashore and discovered that the best of the Egyptians had been killed, God then turns to the migrational aspect of the parasha.

To carry the bones of Joseph is the Torah’s way of teaching us that the one name mentioned in both the descent to Egypt and the exodus from Egypt was Joseph. Joseph was the one who was occupied not with gold and silver, but with making our accumulation with him. If we are fortunate in the circumstances of our birth, we view each one as a privilege.

What does the doubling of words Joseph mean? Joseph knew that his brothers would not live to see the entrance of the Israelites into the land.

The writer is the author of the upcoming book Judaism 3.0. For details, go to Judaism-Zionism.com. For his genealogical articles, see Judaism-Zionism.com.

What do you carry?