

no wonder that wilderness is still our people's central motif for life's transitions and uncertainties!

It's unlikely that these wilderness moments and seasons, with the struggle they so often bring, are going to disappear anytime soon. The question then becomes, how do we search out meaningful paths through them? Will we, or more to the point, how will we find ways to connect to that sense of promise that passes through the wilderness? In the words of Rabbi Richard Address, "might the moments we spend moving from stage to stage in our own lives define who we are and what we may become?"

I've heard it said that the pause is part of the movement. If that's so, then the Israelites' episodes of stubbornness and spiritual backtracking in the wilderness might actually have been a more constructive part of their journey than they realized. Each of these episodes, while difficult for everyone at the time, led to a renewed sense of purpose on their part, and perhaps even shored up their strength for journey to come.

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Reflections...

By Cantor Jennie Chabon



On February 19 I sent this article out as a weekly email to our community. I had intended to just publish it here, but decided upon encouragement to send it out as an email as well. The day that I sent it, I received several emails back from congregants saying that, for various reasons, they had needed the message in the email that very day. If