

When Adam and Eve were exiled from the garden, God placed the cherubim and the fire wielding sword there to prevent our ancestors' return to the tree of life.

Yet, this next week, we celebrate God's revelation to us of this tree of life (holding up the chumash). For we may, indeed we must, partake of this eytz chayim. In it is the paradise that God always intended for us.

Even more, as we learn from the first psalm: in our partaking of Torah, each of us actually becomes the tree of life, "deeply rooted alongside brooks of water that yields its fruit in its season and whose leaf never withers."

May it be so.

Amen.

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Blessing theme: Shavout