

## One version of the story of Nachshon

### Babylonian Talmud Sotah 37a

Rabbi Judah said: ...[What really happened is] this [tribe] said "I will not be the first to go down to the sea," and this one said "I will not be the first to go down to the sea." Then Nachshon ben Aminadav sprang forward and went down first to the sea... At the same time, Moses was lengthening his prayer and God said to him, "My beloved ones are drowning in the sea and you are lengthening your prayer before me?!" He said to God: "Master of the world 'What is in my hands to do?'" God said to him "Speak to the Children of Israel that they go forward and you will lift up your rod and stretch out your hand, etc. (Exodus 14:15-16).