

## A Fiery Law

Letters and Numbers of Simchat Torah

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### Deuteronomy 33:2 –

He said: "The Lord came from Sinai and shone forth from Seir to them; He appeared from Mount Paran and came with some of the holy myriads; from His right hand was a fiery Law for them

וַיֹּאמֶר יְיָ הַנְּדָה מִסִּינַי בָּא וְזָרַח מִשְׁעִיר לְמוֹ הוֹפִיעַ מֵהַר פָּאֵרָן וְאֵתָהּ מִרְבֵּבַת קִדְּשׁ מִיְמִינֹו [אֲשֶׁדֶת] אֵשׁ דָּת לְמוֹ

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“He came (to the Jewish Nation) and from His Right Hand He presented them אֲשֶׁדֶת, *aishdas* (‘a fiery law’, the Torah).” Here we find a ‘*kri*’ and a ‘*ksiv*’: although *aishdas* is written as one word, when we read it, we pronounce it as two distinct words, דַת אֵשׁ; *aish* (fire) and *das* (law).

What is the difference between these two versions?