

## WALK BEFORE ME\*

אֲנִי־אֵל שַׁדַּי

הַתְּהַלֵּךְ לִפְנֵי

וְהָיָה תְּמִיִם:

I am God Almighty—  
Walk before Me  
and you will be perfect.

*I am God Almighty*—I am “sufficient” such that “even the smallest particle of matter” is stamped within by my sufficiency, which sets the “limit of its activity”—and you can do My will “in spite of opposition . . . being led from within yourself” (S.R. Hirsch). I created you with the will to choose and the strength to walk alone in my paths. *Walk before me*—“Gaze at Me, to know My ways, to the full extent of your capacity” (Sforno). I am “behind” you, guiding you with the light of My Torah; you can walk “before” Me, worshipping Me and spreading My Torah in the world. *And you will be perfect*—“Attach yourself to My service” (Rashi). When you commit yourself to live in My blessings and commandments, not abusing or ignoring them, you will begin to approach My perfection.

\* Genesis 17:1 (in Lech Lecha)