

1

הנותן תשועה May He who gives salvation to kings and dominion to princes, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, who delivers His servant David from the evil sword, who makes a way in the sea and a path through the mighty waters, bless and protect, guard and help, exalt, magnify and uplift the President, Vice President and all officials of this land. May the Supreme King of kings in His mercy put into their hearts and the hearts of all their counselors and officials, to deal kindly with us and all Israel. In their days and in ours, may Judah be saved and Israel dwell in safety, and may the Redeemer come to Zion. May this be His will, and let us say: Amen.

הנותן תשועה למלכים וממשלה לנסיכים, מלכותו מלכות כל עולמים, הפוצה את דוד עבדו מחרב רעה, הנותן בים דרך ובמים נתיב, הוא יברך וישמר וינצור ויעזר וירומם ויגדל וינשא למעלה את הנשיא ואת משרתיו ואת כל שרי הארץ הזאת. מלך מלכי המלכים, ברחמי יתן בלבם ובלב כל יועציהם ושריהם לעשות טובה עמנו ועם כל ישראל. בימיהם ובימינו תישע יהודה, וישראל ישכן לבטח, ובא לציון גואל. וכן יהי רצון, ונאמר אמן.

Tefilla for the government

2

יג. ויעברו מצרים את בני ישראל בפרד. [מהו "בפרד"? אלא נחלקו בקד חכמים:] רבי אלעזר אמר: "בפרד רך" [פתו אותם בלשון רפה לבוא לעבודה בתחלה], שפרעה קבץ את כל ישראל ואמר להם: בבקשה מקם, עשו עמי היום בטובה... [בנדרה ללא שכר, מה עשה פרעה?] נטל סל ומגרפה [כאלו יוצא גם הוא לעבודה], מי היה רואה את פרעה נוטל סל ומגרפה ועושה בלכנים, ולא היה עושה? מייד הלכו כל ישראל בחריות ועשו עמו בכל כחן, לפי שהיו בצלי כח וגבורים.

[שמות רבה פרק א' טו, במדבר רבה פרק טו ב].

3

סו ביום השמיני שלח את-העם, ויברכו את-המלך; וילכו לאהליהם, שמחים וטובי לב, על כל-הטובה אשר עשה יתה לך דוד עבדו, ולישראל עמו.

ח

66 On the eighth day he sent the people away, and they blessed the king, and went unto their tents joyful and glad of heart for all the goodness that the LORD had shown unto David His servant, and to Israel His people.

4

לענין זמן - IS considered AN INDEPENDENT FESTIVAL - רגל בקני עצמו - REGARDING the six laws indicated by the mnemonic פ'ז'k'sh'b' - פייס בקני עצמו - it has AN INDEPENDENT LOTTERY; - וזמן בקני עצמו - it is INDEPENDENT REGARDING THE blessing of Z'MAN, i.e. the shehecheyanu blessing is recited on

it just as on other festivals; - רגל בקני עצמו - it is AN INDEPENDENT FESTIVAL; - קרן בקני עצמו - it has AN INDEPENDENT SACRIFICE; - שירה בקני עצמו - it has ITS OWN SONG; - ברכה בקני עצמו - and it has AN INDEPENDENT BLESSING.

סוכה חג

5

טו ויחי-- ויתגלו, מזהב שקבא: ויתפלל בעדו תמיד; כל-היום, יברכנהו.

15 That they may live, and that he may give them of the gold of Sheba, {N} that they may pray for him continually, yea, bless him all the day.

Tehillim חג

6

י די-להון מהקרבין נחוחיו, לאלה שמא; ומצלון, לחי מלכא ובנוהי.

10 that they may offer sacrifices of sweet savour unto the God of heaven, and pray for the life of the king, and of his sons. Ezer I

7

תי שבעים פרים R' Elazar said: - אמר רבי (אליעזר) [אלעזר] - קנגר מי - To what do these seventy bulls correspond?

The Gemara answers: - קנגר שבעים אומות of the world.

- אוי להם לעובדי כוכבים R' Yochanan said: - אמר רבי יוחנן - שאבדו ואין יודעין מה שאבדו - who have lost something precious and do not know what they have lost! - For as long as the Temple stood the Altar atoned for them, - but now that it is gone - מי מקביר עליהן - who will atone for them?

8

יג ואני, בחלותם לבושי שק-- עציתי בצום ונפשי; יתפלתי, על-חיקי תשוב.

13 But as for me, when they were sick, my clothing was sackcloth, I afflicted my soul with fasting; {N} and my prayer, may it return into mine own bosom.

Tehillim חג

סוכה חג

9

HIM: "It is THE JEWS WHO HAVE REBELLED AGAINST YOU!" - AS HE REACHED ANTIPATRES, THE SUN SHONE FORTH AND THEY [the two groups] MET UP WITH ONE ANOTHER. AS SOON AS ALEXANDER SAW SHIMON HATZADDIK, HE ALIGHTED FROM HIS CHARIOT AND BOWED DOWN BEFORE HIM. THEY [those who were with Alexander] SAID TO HIM: "SHALL A GREAT KING LIKE YOURSELF BOW DOWN BEFORE THIS JEW?" HE REPLIED TO THEM: "AN IMAGE IN THE LIKENESS OF THIS man GAINS VICTORY BEFORE ME ON all MY BATTLEFIELDS." HE then turned to the Jews and SAID TO THEM: "WHY HAVE YOU COME?" THEY REPLIED: "IS IT POSSIBLE THAT with regard to THE very HOUSE IN WHICH WE PRAY FOR YOU AND FOR YOUR EMPIRE THAT IT SHOULD NOT BE DESTROYED?" IDOLATERS SHALL MISLEAD YOU TO DESTROY IT!" HE SAID TO THEM: "WHO ARE THESE schemers who would so mislead me!" THEY SAID TO HIM: "It is THESE very CUTHEANS WHO STAND BEFORE YOU!" So HE SAID TO [THE JEWS]: "BEHOLD THEY ARE GIVEN INTO YOUR HANDS to punish them as you see fit."

ON THE TWENTY-FIFTH OF [TEVES]^[24] IS the day known as THE DAY OF MOUNT GERIZIM,^[25] on WHICH one is NOT permitted to EULOGIZE. IT IS THE DAY ON WHICH THE CUTHEANS REQUESTED OF ALEXANDER THE MACEDONIAN permission regarding THE HOUSE OF OUR GOD [the Holy Temple in Jerusalem] TO DESTROY IT, AND HE GRANTED IT TO THEM. THEY [those who were apprised of this peril] CAME AND INFORMED SHIMON HATZADDIK^[26] of the decree. WHAT DID HE DO? HE DONNED PRIESTLY VESTMENTS AND WRAPPED HIS HEAD IN PRIESTLY VESTMENTS,^[27] AND set out to meet Alexander ACCOMPANIED BY SOME OF THE MOST PROMINENT PEOPLE IN ISRAEL, AND there were LIT TORCHES IN THEIR HANDS. AND ALL NIGHT long, AND THE LIGHT OF DAWN ROSE. ONCE THE LIGHT OF DAWN ROSE, and Alexander saw the Jewish delegation in the distance, HE SAID TO THEM: "WHO ARE THESE people?" THEY ANSWERED

Yama 50

10

7 And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray unto the LORD for it; for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace.

7 וְדַרְשׁוּ אֶת-שְׁלוֹם הָעִיר, אֲשֶׁר הִגַּלְתִּי אֶתְכֶם שָׁמָּה, וְהִתְפַּלְלוּ בָעֵדָה, אֶל-יְהוָה: כִּי בְשְׁלוֹמָהּ, יִהְיֶה לָכֶם שָׁלוֹם. (יחזקאל כ)

11

וְכִי רַבִּי חֲנִינָא סֵגַן הַכֹּהֲנִים אָמַר: הָיִי מִתְּפִלָּל בְּשִׁלּוּמָהּ שֶׁל מַלְכוּת, שְׂאֵלְמָלָא מוֹרָאָה, אִישׁ אֶת רֵעֵהוּ חַיִּים בְּלָעוּ.

2 Par. 16: Aust

12

14 And makest men as the fishes of the sea, as the creeping things, that have no ruler over them?

14 יֵד וַתַּעֲשֶׂה אָדָם, כְּדִגְי הַיָּם--כְּרֶמֶשׂ, לֹא-מִשְׁלָל בּוֹ. חֲבֵרוֹ 14

13

An alternative interpretation: מִה דְּגִים שְׂבִיִּים - דְּבַר אַחֵר - Just as it is the way of the fish of the sea - that any fish that is larger than his fellow devours his smaller fellow, - so too it is with human beings: - Were it not for the fear of the authorities - whichever person is greater (i.e. more powerful) than his fellow would

Rav Yehudah said in the name of Shmuel: Why did the monarchy of the House of Saul not endure?^[54] Because there was no genealogical flaw in [his family].^[55] This explanation is based on that which R' Yochanan said in the name of R' Shimon ben Yehotzadak: We do not appoint a leader over the community unless he has a box of creeping creatures hanging behind him (i.e. his family is genealogically flawed), so that if he becomes arrogant,^[56] we can say to him: "Turn around and see what is behind you!"^[57]

Yama 22b