

סדור תשעה באב

SIDDUR TISHAH B'AV



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כנסת הרבנים

Siddur Tishah B'Av

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Cover photograph of Robinson's Arch: the Masorti section of the Kotel, by Gary Tisdale. Used with permission.

Dedicated to the Loving Memory of



Rose Soicher and Dr. Irving Soicher

רייזל בת בעריל הלוי
March 15, 1999

יצחק בן צבי
October 13, 1969

By their sons

Lawrence G. Soicher, Esq.

and

Harvey E. Soicher, Esq.

who initiated this publication

איכה

פרק א

א ¹ אֵיכָה | יִשְׁבֶּה בְדוֹד הָעִיר
רַבְּתֵי עָם הֵיְתָה כְּאֶלְמָנָה
רַבְּתֵי בְּגוּזִים שְׂרֵתִי בְּמִדְיָנוֹת
הֵיְתָה לְמָס:

ב ² בְּכוֹ תִבְכֶּה בְּלִילָה וְדַמְעָתָה
עַל לְחֵיהָ אֵין-לָהּ מִנְחָם
מִכָּל-אֲהַבֶּיהָ כָּל-רַעִיָּה
בְּגָדוּ בָּהּ הָיוּ לָהּ לְאִיבִים:

ג ³ גָּלְתָה יְהוּדָה מֵעֲנִי וּמֵרֵב
עֲבֹדָה הִיא יִשְׁבֶּה בְּגוּזִים לֹא
מִצָּאָה מְנוּחַ כָּל-רֹדְפֶיהָ
הַשִּׁיגוּהָ בֵּין הַמְּצָרִים:

ד ⁴ דַּרְכֵי צִיּוֹן אֲבֵלוֹת מִבְּלִי בְּאֵי
מוֹעֵד כָּל-שַׁעְרֶיהָ שׁוֹמְמִין
כִּהְנִיָּה נֶאֱנָחִים בְּתוֹלְתֶיהָ
נוֹגֹת וְהִיא מֵרֵלָה:

ה ⁵ הָיוּ צָרֶיהָ לְרֹאשׁ אִיבֶיהָ
שָׁלוֹ כִּי־יִהְיֶה הוֹגָה עַל-רֵב
פָּשְׁעֶיהָ עוֹלָלֶיהָ הִלְכוּ שְׁבִי
לִפְנֵי צָר:

ו ⁶ וַיֵּצֵא מִן־בְּתִצִּיּוֹן כָּל-
הַדָּרָה הָיוּ שָׂרֶיהָ כְּאִילִים
לֹא־מִצְאוּ מִרְעָה וַיִּלְכוּ
בְּלֹא־כֶחַ לִפְנֵי רוֹדְף:

Lamentations

The congregation is seated on the floor or on low stools and the lights are dimmed. *Eikhah* is chanted with a mournful *trope*.

CHAPTER 1

1 Alas!^a

Lonely sits the city once great with people! She that was great among nations is become like a widow; the princess among states is become a thrall.

2 Bitterly she weeps in the night, her cheek wet with tears there is none to comfort her of all her friends. All her allies have betrayed her; they have become her foes.

3 Judah has gone into exile because of misery and harsh oppression; when she settled among the nations, she found no rest; all her pursuers overtook her ^bin the narrow places.^b

4 Zion's roads are in mourning, empty of festival pilgrims; all her gates are deserted. Her priests sigh, her maidens are unhappy—she is utterly disconsolate!

5 Her enemies are now the masters, her foes are at ease, because the LORD has afflicted her for her many transgressions; her infants have gone into captivity before the enemy.

6 Gone from Fair Zion are all that were her glory; her leaders were like stags that found no pasture; they could only walk feebly before the pursuer.

^a Chapters 1–4 are alphabetical acrostics, i.e., the verses begin with the successive letters of the Hebrew alphabet. Chapter 3 is a triple acrostic. In chapters 2–4 the letter *pe* precedes the *'ayin*.

^b Meaning of Hebrew uncertain.

ז זכרה ירושלם ימי עניה
 ומרודיה כל מחמדיה אשר
 היו מימי קדם בנפל עמה
 ביד צר ואין עוזר לה ראה
 צרים שחקו על-משבתה:

ח חטא חטאה ירושלם על-כן
 לנידה היתה כל-מכבדיה
 הזלילה ביראו ערותה גם-
 היא נאנחה ותשב אחור:

ט טמאתה בשוליה לא זכרה
 אחריתה ותגרד פלאים אין
 מנחם לה ראה יהוה את-
 עניי פי הגדיל אויב:

י ידו פרש צר על כל-
 מחמדיה ביראתה גוים
 באו מקדשה אשר צויתה
 לא-יבאו בקהל לה:

יא כל-עמה נאנחים מבקשים
 לחם נתנו מחמדיהם באכל
 להשיב נפש ראה יהוה
 והביטה פי היתי זוללה:

יב לזא אליכם כל-עברי דרך
 הביטו וראו אם-יש מכאוב
 במכאבי אשר עולל לי אשר
 הוגה יהוה ביום חרון אפו:

- 7** All the precious things she had in the days of old Jerusalem recalled in her days of woe and sorrow, when her people fell by enemy hands with none to help her; when enemies looked on and gloated over her downfall.
- 8** Jerusalem has greatly sinned, therefore, she is become a mockery. All who admired her despise her, for they have seen her disgraced; and she can only sigh and shrink back.
- 9** Her uncleanness clings to her skirts. She gave no thought to her future; she has sunk appallingly, with none to comfort her.—See, O LORD, my misery; how the enemy jeers!
- 10** The foe has laid hands on everything dear to her. She has seen her Sanctuary invaded by nations which You have denied admission into Your community.
- 11** All her inhabitants sigh as they search for bread; they have bartered their treasures for food, to keep themselves alive.— See, O LORD, and behold, ^chow abject^c I have become!
- 12** ^bMay it never befall you,^b all who pass along the road! Look about and see: is there any agony like mine, which was dealt out to me, when the LORD afflicted me on His day of wrath?

^b Meaning of Hebrew uncertain.

^c Or (ironically) “What a glutton”; cf. Prov. 23:20–21.

מ¹³ מִמְרוֹם שְׁלַח־אֵשׁ בְּעֲצַמֹתַי
וַיִּרְדְּנָה פֶּרֶשׁ רִשְׁתָּ לְרַגְלִי
הִשִּׁיבֵנִי אַחֲזֹר נִתְּנֵנִי שִׁמְמָה
כָּל־הַיּוֹם דָּוָה:

נ¹⁴ נִשְׁקָדָה עַל פְּשָׁעֵי בִידֹי יִשְׁתַּרְגְּוּ
עָלוּ עַל־צַוְאָרֵי הַכְּשִׁיל כַּחֲזִי
נִתְּנֵנִי אֲדֹנָי בְּיַדִּי לֹא־אוּכַל
קוֹם:

ס¹⁵ סָלָה כָּל־אֲבִירֵי אֲדֹנָי
בְּקִרְפֵי קָרָא עָלַי מוֹעֵד
לְשֹׁבֵר בַּחֲוָרֵי גֵת דְּרָךְ אֲדֹנָי
לְבַתּוּלַת בַּת־יְהוּדָה:

ע¹⁶ עַל־אֵלֶּה אֲנִי בּוֹכֶיָה עֵינַי
עֵינַי יִרְדָּה מַיִם פִּי־רַחֵק
מִמְּנֵי מְנַחֵם מִשִּׁיב נֶפְשִׁי הָיוּ
בְּנֵי שׁוֹמְמִים פִּי גָבַר אוֹיֵב:

פ¹⁷ פִּרְשָׁה צִיּוֹן בְּיַדֶּיהָ אֵין
מְנַחֵם לָהּ צוּהָ יְהוָה לִי־עַקֵּב
סָבִיבֵנו צָרֵנו הִי־תָהּ יְרוּשָׁלַם
לְנֶדָה בֵּינֵיהֶם:

צ¹⁸ צַדִּיק הוּא יְהוָה כִּי־פִיהוּ
מְרִיתִי שְׁמַעוּ־נָא כָּל־עַמִּים
וּרְאוּ מִכְּאֲבֵי בַתּוּלַתִי וּבַחֲוָרֵי
הִלְכוּ בְּשֹׁבֵי:

- 13** From above He sent a fire down into my bones. He spread a net for my feet, He hurled me backward; He has left me forlorn, in constant misery.
- 14** The yoke of my offenses is bound fast,^d lashed tight by His hand; imposed upon my neck, it saps my strength; the Lord has delivered me into the hands of those I cannot withstand.
- 15** The Lord in my midst has rejected all my heroes; He has proclaimed a set time against me to crush my young men. As in a press the Lord has trodden Fair Maiden Judah.
- 16** For these things do I weep, my eyes flow with tears: far from me is any comforter who might revive my spirit; my children are forlorn, for the foe has prevailed.
- 17** Zion spreads out her hands, She has no one to comfort her; the LORD has summoned against Jacob his enemies all about him; Jerusalem has become among them a thing unclean.
- 18** The LORD is in the right, for I have disobeyed Him. Hear, all you peoples, and behold my agony: my maidens and my youths have gone into captivity!

^d Meaning of parts vv. 14 and 15 uncertain.

ק¹⁹ קראתי למאֲהָבִי הַמָּה
 רְמוֹנֵי כְהֵנִי וְזִקְנֵי בְעִיר
 גִּוְעוּ כִּי־בִקְשׁוּ אֲכַל לָמוּ
 וַיִּשְׁיבוּ אֶת־נַפְשָׁם:

ך²⁰ רֵאָה יְהוָה כִּי־צָר־לִי מֵעַי
 חָמַרְמְרוּ נְהַפְרוּ לְבִי בְקַרְבִּי
 כִּי מָרוּ מְרִיתִי מִחוּץ שַׁבְּלֵה־
 חָרֵב בְּבַיִת כַּמּוֹת:

ש²¹ שָׁמְעוּ כִּי נֶאֱנַחָה אָנִי אֵין
 מִנַּחֵם לִי כָל־אֵיבֵי שָׁמְעוּ
 רַעְתִּי שָׁשׂוּ כִּי אַתָּה עָשִׂיתָ
 הַבְּאֵת יוֹם־קִרְאָתָּ וַיְהִי
 קָמְנִי:

ת²² תָּבֵא כָל־רַעְתֶּם לְפָנַיִךְ
 וְעוֹלָל לָמוּ כַּאֲשֶׁר עוֹלְלָתָּ
 לִי עַל כָּל־פְּשָׁעֵי כִּי־רַבּוֹת
 אֲנַחְתִּי וּלְבִי דָוִי:

פרק ב

א¹ אֵיכָה יַעִיב בְּאִפּוֹ | אֲדַנִּי אֶת־
 בַּת־צִיּוֹן הַשְּׁלִיךְ מִשְׁמַיִם
 אֶרֶץ תַּפְאֲרַת יִשְׂרָאֵל וְלֹא־
 זָכַר הַדָּם־רִגְלָיו בְּיוֹם אִפּוֹ:

ב² בָּלַע אֲדָנִי * לֹא חָמַל אֶת כָּל־
 נְאוֹת יַעֲקֹב הָרַס בְּעִבְרָתוֹ
 מִבְּצָרֵי בַת־יְהוּדָה הַגִּיעַ
 לָאָרֶץ חֵלָל מַמְלָכָה וְשָׂרִיָּה:

v. 2. ולא ק

- 19** I cried out to my friends, but they played me false. My priests and my elders have perished in the city as they searched for food to keep themselves alive.
- 20** See, O LORD, the distress I am in! My heart is in anguish ^eI know how wrong I was^e to disobey. Outside the sword deals death; indoors, the plague.
- 21** When they heard how I was sighing, there was none to comfort me; all my foes heard of my plight and exulted. For it is your doing: ^fYou have brought on the day that You threatened: oh, let them become like me!^f
- 22** Let all their wrongdoing come before You, and deal with them as You have dealt with me for all my transgressions. for my sighs are many, and my heart is sick.

CHAPTER 2

1 Alas!

The Lord is His wrath has shamed^a Fair Zion, has cast down from heaven to earth the majesty of Israel. He did not remember His Footstool^b on His day of wrath.

- 2** The Lord has laid waste without pity all the habitations of Jacob; He has razed in His anger Fair Judah's strongholds. He has brought low in dishonor the kingdom and its leaders.

^e Lit., "My heart has turned over within me"; cf. Ex. 14.5; Hos. 11.8.

^f Emendation yields: "Oh, bring on them what befell me,
And let them become like me!"

^a Meaning of Hebrew uncertain.

^b I.e., the Temple.

- ג ³ גִּדַע בְּחַרְי־אֶף כָּל קֶרֶן
 יִשְׂרָאֵל הַשִּׁיב אַחֲזֹר יְמִינִי
 מִפְּנֵי אוֹיֵב וַיִּבְעַר בְּיַעֲקֹב
 כָּאֵשׁ לַהֲבָה אֲכָלָה סְבִיב:
 ד ⁴ דָּרַךְ קִשְׁתּוֹ כְּאוֹיֵב נֹצֵב יְמִינִי
 כָּצָר וַיִּהְיֶה כָּל מַחְמַדֵּי־עֵינַי
 בְּאֵהָל בַּת־צִיּוֹן שָׁפַךְ כָּאֵשׁ
 חֲמָתוֹ:
 ה ⁵ הִלֵּה אֲדֹנָי | כְּאוֹיֵב בָּלַע
 יִשְׂרָאֵל בָּלַע כָּל־אַרְמְנוֹתֶיהָ
 שַׁחַת מִבְּצָרֶיּוֹ וַיִּרֶב בְּבַת־
 יְהוּדָה תִּנְאֻנָּה וַאֲנִיָּה:
 ו ⁶ וַיַּחְמַס כַּנֶּן שָׁכַח שַׁחַת מוֹעֲדוֹ
 שָׁכַח יְהוָה | בְּצִיּוֹן מוֹעֵד
 וְשָׁבַת וַיִּנְאֹץ בְּזַעַם־אָפוֹ
 מְלַךְ וַכְּהֵן:
 ז ⁷ זָנַח אֲדֹנָי | מִזִּבְחֹו נֶאֱרַר
 מִקִּדְשׁוֹ הַסְּגִיר בְּיַד־אוֹיֵב
 חוֹמַת אַרְמְנוֹתֶיהָ קוֹל נִתְּנוּ
 בְּבֵית־יְהוָה כִּיּוֹם מוֹעֵד:
 ח ⁸ חָשַׁב יְהוָה | לְהַשְׁחִית חוֹמַת
 בַּת־צִיּוֹן נָטָה קוֹ לֹא־הַשִּׁיב
 יָדוֹ מִבָּלַע וַיִּאֲבֹל־חַל וְחוֹמָה
 יַחֲדוּ אִמְלָלוּ:

- 3** In blazing anger He has cut down all the might of Israel; He has withdrawn His right hand in the presence of the foe; He has ravaged Jacob like flaming fire, consuming on all sides.
- 4** He bent His bow like an enemy, poised His right hand like a foe; He slew all who delighted the eye. He poured out His wrath like fire in the Tent of Fair Zion.
- 5** The LORD has acted like a foe, He has laid waste Israel, laid waste all her citadels, destroyed her strongholds. He has increased within Fair Judah mourning and moaning.
- 6** He has stripped His Booth^b like a garden, He has destroyed His Tabernacle^c; the LORD has ended in Zion Festival and sabbath; in His raging anger He has spurned King and priest.
- 7** The LORD has rejected His altar, disdained His Sanctuary. He has handed over to the foe the walls of its citadels; they raised a shout in the House of the LORD as on a festival day.
- 8** The LORD resolved to destroy the wall of Fair Zion; ^dHe measured with a line,^d refrained not from bringing destruction. He has made wall and rampart to mourn, together they languish.

^b I.e., the Temple.

^c Lit., “(Tent of) Meeting.”

^d I.e., He made His plans.

ט 9 טַבְעוּ בְּאֶרֶץ שְׁעָרֶיהָ אֲבָד
 וְשֹׁבֵר בְּרִיחֶיהָ מִלְּפָה וְשָׂרֶיהָ
 בְּגוֹיִם אֵין תּוֹרָה גַם-נְבִיאֶיהָ
 לֹא-מִצְאוּ חֲזוֹן מִיְהוָה:

י 10 יִשְׁבוּ לְאֶרֶץ יְדָמוּ זְקֵנֵי בֵת-
 צִיּוֹן הֵעֵלוּ עֶפֶר עַל-רֹאשָׁם
 חָגְרוּ שָׁקִים הוֹרִידוּ לְאֶרֶץ
 רֹאשׁוֹן בְּתוֹלֵת יְרוּשָׁלַם:

כ 11 כָּלוּ בְדַמְעוֹת עֵינַי חֲמַרְמָרוּ
 מֵעַי נִשְׁפַּף לְאֶרֶץ כְּבִדֵי עַל-
 שֹׁבֵר בֶּת-עַמִּי בַעֲטָף עוֹלֵל
 וַיּוֹזֵק בְּרַחֲבוֹת קָרְיָה:

ל 12 לְאַמְתָם יֹאמְרוּ אֵיךָ דָגַן וַיִּינּוּ
 בְּהִתְעַטְפָם כְּחֹלֵל בְּרַחֲבוֹת
 עִיר בְּהִשְׁתַּפֵּף נַפְשָׁם אֶל-
 חֵיק אַמְתָם:

מ 13 מִהָ-אַעוֹדָךְ מָה אֲדַמָּה-לָךְ
 הִבַּת יְרוּשָׁלַם מָה אֲשׁוּהָ-לָךְ
 וְאַנְחִמָךְ בְּתוֹלֵת בֵּת-צִיּוֹן
 כִּי-גָדוֹל כִּיָּם שִׁבְרָךְ מִי
 יִרְפָּא-לָךְ:

נ 14 נְבִיאֶיךָ חָזוּ לָךְ שְׂוֹא וְתָפֵל
 וְלֹא-גָלוּ עַל-עוֹנֶךָ לְהִשָּׁיב
 שְׁבִיתֶךָ וַיַּחֲזוּ לָךְ מִשְׁאוֹת
 שְׂוֹא וּמְדוּחִים:

13. v. אעירך ק' 14. v. שבוךך ק'

- 9** Her gates have sunk into the ground, He has smashed her bars to bits; her king and her leaders are ^ein exile,^e instruction^f is no more; her prophets, too, receive no vision from the LORD.
- 10** Silent sit on the ground the elders of Fair Zion; they have strewn dust on their heads and girt themselves with sackcloth; the maidens of Jerusalem have bowed their heads to the ground.
- 11** My eyes are spent with tears, my heart is in tumult, ^gmy being melts away^g over the ruin of my poor people,^h as babes and sucklings languish in the squares of the city.
- 12** They keep asking their mothers, “Where is bread and wine?” as they languish like battle-wounded in the squares of the town, as their life runs out in their mothers’ bosoms.
- 13** What can I ⁱtake as witnessⁱ or liken to you, O Fair Jerusalem? What can I match with you to console you, O Fair Maiden Zion? For your ruin is vast as the sea: who can heal you?
- 14** Your seers prophesied to you delusion and folly. They did not expose your iniquity so as to restore your fortunes, but prophesied to you oracles of delusion and deception.

^e Lit., “among the nations.”

^f Hebrew *torah*, here priestly instruction; cf. Jer. 18.18; Hag. 2.11; Mal. 2.6.

^g Lit., “My liver spills on the ground.”

^h Lit., “the daughter of my people”; so elsewhere in poetry.

ⁱ Emendation yields “compare.”

ס 15 סָפְקוּ עֲלֶיךָ בַּפִּיִם כָּל-עֲבָרֵי
 דָּרְךָ שָׂרְקוּ וַיִּנְעוּ רֹאשָׁם עַל-
 בֵּת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם הַזֹּאת הָעִיר
 שִׁיאֲמָרוּ כְּלִילַת יָפִי מְשֹׁשׁ
 לְכָל-הָאָרֶץ:

פ 16 פָּצוּ עֲלֶיךָ פִּיהֶם כָּל-אוֹיְבֶיךָ
 שָׂרְקוּ וַיַּחֲרִקוּ-שָׁן אָמְרוּ
 בְּלַעֲנוּ אַךְ זֶה הַיּוֹם שֶׁקִּוִּינָהוּ
 מִצָּאֵנוּ רָאִינוּ:

ע 17 עָשָׂה יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר זָמַם בַּצֶּעַ
 אֲמָרְתוּ אֲשֶׁר צָנְהָ מִיְמֵי-קֹדֶם
 הָרַס וְלֹא חָמַל וַיִּשְׁמַח עֲלֶיךָ
 אוֹיֵב הָרִים קָרַן צָרֶיךָ:

צ 18 צָעַק לָבָם אֶל-אֲדֹנָי חוֹמַת
 בֵּת-צִיּוֹן הוֹרִידֵי כַּנְחַל
 דְּמָעָה יוֹמָם וְלַיְלָה אֶל-
 תַּתְּנֵי פּוּגַת לֶךָ אֶל-תַּדּוֹם
 בֵּת-עֵינֶיךָ:

ק 19 קוֹמֵי | רַנִּי בַלִּיל * לְרֹאשׁ
 אֲשֶׁמְרוֹת שִׁפְכֵי כַמִּים לַבָּר
 נִכַח פָּנֵי אֲדֹנָי שְׂאֵי אֱלֹו כַּפֵּיךָ
 עַל-נַפְשׁ עוֹלְלֶיךָ הָעֲטוּפִים
 בְּרָעַב בְּרֹאשׁ כָּל-חוּצוֹת:

ך 20 רְאֵה יְהוָה וְהִבִּיטָה לְמִי
 עוֹלְלֹת כֹּה אִם-תִּאֲכַלְנָה
 נְשִׁים פָּרִים עַלְלֵי טַפְחִים
 אִם-יִהְרַג בְּמִקְדָּשׁ אֲדֹנָי כִּהֵן
 וַנְּבִיא:

- 15** All who pass your way clap their hands at you; they hiss and wag their head at Fair Jerusalem:^{*j*} “Is this the city that was called Perfect in Beauty, Joy of All the Earth?”
- 16** All your enemies jeer at you; they hiss and gnash their teeth, and cry: “We’ve ruined her! ah, this is the day we hoped for; ^{*k*}we have lived to see it!^{*k*}”
- 17** The LORD has done what He purposed, has carried out the decree that He ordained long ago; He has torn down without pity. He has let the foe rejoice over you, has exalted the might of your enemies.
- 18** ^{*l*}Their heart cried out^{*l*} to the Lord. O wall of Fair Zion, shed tears like a torrent day and night! Give yourself no respite, your eyes no rest.
- 19** Arise, cry out in the night at the beginning of the watches, pour out your heart like water in the presence of the Lord! Lift up your hands to Him for the life of your infants, who faint from hunger at every street corner,
- 20** See, O LORD, and behold, to whom You have done this! Alas, women eat their own fruit, Their new-born^{*m*} babes! Alas, priest and prophet are slain in the Sanctuary of the Lord!

^{*j*} These gestures were intended to ward off the calamity.

^{*k*} Lit., “We have attained, we have seen.”

^{*l*} Emendation yields, “Cry aloud.”

^{*m*} The root has this meaning in Arabic. Others, “dandled.”

ש²¹ שָׁכְבוּ לְאָרֶץ חוּצוֹת נֶעַר
וּזְקָן בְּתוֹלְתַי וּבַחֹרֵי נִפְלוּ
בַּחֶרֶב הִרְגַתְּ בַּיּוֹם אֶפְרָי
טַבַּחְתְּ לֹא חֲמַלְתְּ:

ת²² תִּקְרָא כְּיוֹם מוֹעֵד מִגּוּרֵי
מִסָּבִיב וְלֹא הָיָה בַּיּוֹם אֶפְרָי
יְהוּהָ פָלִיט וְשָׁרִיד אֲשֶׁר־
טַפַּחְתִּי וְרַבִּיתִי אֵיבִי כָלֵם:

פרק ג

א¹ אֲנִי הַגִּבֹּר רָאָה עֵינֵי בְּשׁוּבְטִי
עֲבַרְתוּ:

2 אוֹתֵי נִהַג וַיִּלַּךְ חֶשֶׁךְ וְלֹא־
אֹר:

3 אַךְ בֵּי יוֹשְׁבֵי יְהוּדָה יָדוּ כָל־
הַיּוֹם:

ב⁴ בָּלָה בְּשָׂרִי וְעוֹרֵי שִׁפְרִי
עֲצֻמוֹתַי:

5 בָּנָה עָלַי וַיִּקַּף רֹאשׁ וַתִּלְאַחַה:

6 בְּמַחְשָׁבִים הוֹשִׁיבֵנִי כְּמַתִּי
עוֹלָם:

ג⁷ גָּדַר בְּעֵדֵי וְלֹא אֶצֵּא הַכְּבִיד
נִחַשְׁתִּי:

8 גַּם כִּי אֶזְעַק וְאֶשׁוּעַ שְׁתֵּם
תִּפְלֹתַי:

9 גָּדַר דְּרָכֵי בְּגֹזִית נְתִיבֹתַי
עוֹדָה:

- 21** Prostrate in the streets lie both young and old. My maidens and youths are fallen by the sword; You slew them on Your day of wrath, You slaughtered without pity.
- 22** You summoned, as on a festival, my neighbors from round about. on the day of the wrath of the LORD, none survived or escaped; those whom I boreⁿ and reared my foe has consumed.

CHAPTER 3

- 1** I am the man ^awho has known affliction under^a the rod of His wrath;
- 2** Me He drove on and on in unrelieved darkness;
- 3** On none but me He brings down His hand again and again, without cease.
- 4** He has worn away my flesh and skin; He has shattered my bones.
- 5** All around me He has built misery^b and hardship;
- 6** He has made me dwell in darkness, like those long dead.
- 7** He has walled me in and I cannot break out; He has weighed me down with chains.
- 8** And when I cry and plead, He shuts out my prayer;
- 9** He has walled in my ways with hewn blocks, He has made my paths a maze.

ⁿ The root has this meaning in Arabic. Others: “dandled.”

^a Emendation yields, “whom the Lord has shepherded with.”

^b Taking *rosh* as equivalent to *resh*.

- ד 10 דָּב אֲרַב הוּא לִי אֲרִיָּה
 בְּמִסְתָּרִים:
 11 דְּרָכַי סוּרָר וַיִּפְשַׁחֲנִי שְׁמֵנִי
 שָׁמֵם:
 12 דָּרָךְ קָשְׁתוֹ וַיִּצַּיְבֵנִי כַּמְטָרָא
 לַחֵץ:
 ה 13 הִבִּיא בְּכַלְיוֹתַי בְּנֵי אֲשָׁפוֹתוֹ:
 14 הֵייתִי שְׁחֹק לְכָל־עַמִּי
 נְגִינָתָם כָּל־הַיּוֹם:
 15 הִשְׁבִּיעֵנִי בְּמַרְוָרִים הַרְוֵנִי
 לַעֲנָה:
 ו 16 וַיִּגְרַס בְּחֶצֶץ שְׁנֵי הַכְּפִישָׁנִי
 בְּאֶפְרַיִם:
 17 וַתִּזְנַח מִשְׁלֹם נַפְשִׁי נְשִׁיתִי
 טוֹבָה:
 18 וְאָמַל אֶבֶד נִצְחִי וַתּוֹחַלְתִּי
 מִיְהוָה:
 ז 19 זְכַר־עֲנִי וּמְרוֹדִי לַעֲנָה
 וְרָאשׁ:
 20 זָכוֹר תִּזְכּוֹר וַתְּשִׁיחַ עָלַי
 נַפְשִׁי:
 21 זֹאת אֲשִׁיב אֶל־לִבִּי עַל־כֵּן
 אוֹחִיל:

- 10** He is a lurking bear to me, a lion in hiding;
- 11** ^cHe has forced me off my way^c and mangled me, He has left me numb.
- 12** He has bent His bow and made me the target of His arrows:
- 13** He has shot into my vitals the shafts of His quiver.
- 14** I have become a laughingstock to all people, the butt of their jibes all day long.
- 15** He has filled me with bitterness, sated me with wormwood.
- 16** He has broken my teeth on gravel, has ground me into the dust.
- 17** My life was bereft of peace, I forgot what happiness was.
- 18** I thought my strength and hope had perished before the LORD.
- 19** To recall my distress and my misery was wormwood and poison;
- 20** Whenever I thought of them, I was bowed low.
- 21** But this do I call to mind, therefore I have hope:

^c Meaning of Hebrew uncertain.

ח 22 חֲסֵדֵי יְהוָה כִּי לֹא-תִמְנוּ כִּי
לֹא-כָלוּ רַחֲמָיו:

23 חֲדָשִׁים לְבָקָרִים רִבָּה
אֲמוֹנַתְךָ:

24 חָלְקֵי יְהוָה אָמְרָה נַפְשִׁי
עַל-כֵּן אוֹחִיל לוֹ:

ט 25 טוֹב יְהוָה לְקַנּוֹ לְנַפֵּשׁ
תִּדְרָשְׁנוּ:

26 טוֹב וַיִּחִיל וְדוֹמָם לַתְּשׁוּעַת
יְהוָה:

27 טוֹב לְגֵבֶר כִּי-יִשָּׂא עַל
בְּנֵעוּרָיו:

ו 28 יֵשֵׁב בְּדָר וַיִּדְם כִּי נָטַל עָלָיו:
29 יִתֵּן בְּעַפְרָל פִּיהוּ אוֹלֵי יֵשׁ

תִּקְוָה:

30 יִתֵּן לְמִכְהוּ לַחֵי יִשְׁבַּע
בְּחִרְפָּה:

כ 31 כִּי לֹא יִזְנַח לְעוֹלָם אֲדָנִי:

32 כִּי אִם-הוֹגָה וּרְחַם כָּלֵב
חֲסָדָו:

33 כִּי לֹא עָנָה מִלְבוֹ וַיִּגַּה בְּנִי-
אִישׁ:

ל 34 לְדַבָּא תַּחַת רַגְלָיו כָּל אֲסִירֵי
אָרֶץ:

v. 25. לקיוו ק' v. 32. חסדיו ק'

- 22** The kindness of the LORD has not ended, His mercies are not spent.
- 23** They are renewed every morning—ample is Your grace!
- 24** “The LORD is my portion,” I say with full heart; therefore, will I hope in Him.
- 25** The LORD is good to those who trust in Him, to the one who seeks Him;
- 26** It is good to wait patiently till rescue comes from the LORD.
- 27** It is good for a man, when young, to bear a yoke;
- 28** Let him sit alone and be patient, when He has laid it upon him.
- 29** Let him put his mouth to the dust— there may yet be hope.
- 30** Let him offer his cheek to the smiter; let him be surfeited with mockery.
- 31** For the LORD does not reject forever,
- 32** But first afflicts, then pardons in His abundant kindness.
- 33** For He does not wilfully bring grief or affliction to man,
- 34** Crushing under His feet all the prisoners of the earth.

35 לְהַטוֹת מִשְׁפַּט-גֹּבֵר נֶגְדַי פָּנַי

עֲלִיּוֹן:

36 לְעוֹת אָדָם בְּרִיבֹי אֲדֹנָי לֹא

רָאָה:

מ 37 מִי זֶה אָמַר וַתְּהִי אֲדֹנָי לֹא

צָוָה:

38 מִפִּי עֲלִיּוֹן לֹא תֵצֵא הַרְעוֹת

וְהַטּוֹב:

39 מִה־יִתְאוּנָן אָדָם חַי גֹּבֵר

עַל-חַטָּאָו:

נ 40 נִחַפְּשָׁה דְרָכֵינוּ וְנִחְקֹרָה

וְנִשׁוּבָה עַד-יְהוָה:

41 נִשְׂא לְבַבְנוּ אֶל-כַּפָּיִם אֶל-

אֵל בְּשָׁמַיִם:

42 נַחֲנוּ פִשְׁעֵנוּ וּמְרִינוּ אַתָּה

לֹא סָלַחְתָּ:

ס 43 סִכַּתָּה בְּאֵף וַתִּרְדְּפֵנוּ הַרְגָתָ

לֹא חִמַּלְתָּ:

44 סִכּוֹתָה בְּעֵנֶן לָךְ מִעֲבוּר

תְּפִלָּה:

45 סָחִי וּמְאוֹס תִּשְׁימְנוּ בְּקֶרֶב

הָעַמִּים:

פ 46 פָּצוּ עֲלֵינוּ פִיהֶם כָּל-אִיבֵינוּ:

47 פָּחַד וּפְחַת הָיָה לָנוּ הַשְּׂאֵת

וְהַשָּׁבֵר:

48 פִּלְגִי-מַיִם תִּרְדַּד עֵינַי עַל-

שָׁבֵר בַּת-עַמִּי:

- 35** To deny a man his rights in the presence of the Most High,
- 36** To wrong a man in his cause—this the LORD does not choose.
- 37** Whose decree was ever fulfilled, unless the LORD willed it?
- 38** Is it not at the word of the Most High, that weal and woe befall?
- 39** Of what shall a living man complain? Each one of his own sins!
- 40** Let us search and examine our ways, and turn back to the LORD;
- 41** Let us lift up our hearts with^d our hands to God in heaven:
- 42** We have transgressed and rebelled, and You have not forgiven.
- 43** You have clothed Yourself in anger and pursued us, You have slain without pity.
- 44** You have screened Yourself off with a cloud, that no prayer may pass through.
- 45** You have made us filth and refuse in the midst of the peoples.
- 46** All our enemies loudly rail against us.
- 47** Panic and pitfall are our lot, death and destruction.
- 48** My eyes shed streams of water over the ruin of my poor^e people.

^d Lit., “to”; emendation yields “rather than”; cf. Joel 2.13.

^e Lit., “the daughter of my”; so frequently in poetry.

ע 49 עֵינַי נִגְרָה וְלֹא תִדְמָה מֵאֵין
הַפְּגוֹת:

50 עַד-יִשְׁקִיף וַיֵּרָא יְהוָה
מִשָּׁמַיִם:

51 עֵינַי עוֹלָלָה לְנַפְשִׁי מִכָּל
בְּנוֹת עִירֵי:

צ 52 צוֹד צְדוֹנֵי כַּצְפּוֹר אֵיבֵי חָנָם:

53 צָמְתוּ בְבוֹר חַיֵּי וַיִּדוּ-אֶבֶן
בֵּי:

54 צְפוּ-מַיִם עַל-רֹאשִׁי אָמַרְתִּי
נִגְזַרְתִּי:

ק 55 קָרָאתִי שְׁמֶךָ יְהוָה מְבוֹר
תַּחֲתֵיּוֹת:

56 קוֹלִי שָׁמְעַתָּ אֶל-תַּעֲלֹם
אֲזַנְךָ לְרוּחֹתֵי לְשׁוֹעַתֵּי:

57 קָרַבְתָּ בַיּוֹם אֶקְרָאָךְ אָמַרְתָּ
אֶל-תִּירָא:

ך 58 רַבַּת אֲדוֹנֵי רִיבֵי נַפְשִׁי גְאֻלַּת
חַיֵּי:

59 רְאִיתָהּ יְהוָה עֲנֹתַתִּי שְׁפֹטָה
מִשְׁפָּטֵי:

60 רְאִיתָהּ כָּל-נִקְמָתָם כָּל-
מַחֲשַׁבְתָּם לִי:

ש 61 שָׁמְעַתָּ חַרְפָּתָם יְהוָה כָּל-
מַחֲשַׁבְתָּם עָלַי:

- 49** My eyes shall flow without cease, without respite,
- 50** ^fUntil the LORD looks down and beholds from heaven.
- 51** My eyes have brought me grief^f over all the maidens of my city.
- 52** My foes have snared me like a bird, without any cause.
- 53** They have ended my life in a pit and cast stones at me.
- 54** Waters flowed over my head; I said: I am lost!
- 55** I have called on Your name, O LORD, from the depths of the pit.
- 56** Hear my plea; do not shut Your ear to my groan, to my cry!
- 57** You have ever drawn nigh when I called You; You have said, “Do not fear!”
- 58** You championed my cause, O LORD, You have redeemed my life.
- 59** You have seen, O LORD, the wrong done me; oh, vindicate my right!
- 60** You have seen all their malice, all their designs against me;
- 61** You have heard, O LORD, their taunts, all their designs against me,

^f Emendation yields,
⁵⁰“Until the LORD looks down from heaven
And beholds
⁵¹my affliction.
The LORD has brought me grief.”

62 שִׁפְתַי קָמִי וְהִגִּיזוּם עָלַי כָּל-
הַיּוֹם:

63 שְׁבַתְתֶּם וְקִימַתֶּם הַבִּיטָה אָנֹכִי
מִנְּגִינְתֶּם:

ת 64 תָּשִׁיב לָהֶם גְּמוּל יְהוָה
כַּמַּעֲשֵׂה יְדֵיהֶם:

65 תִּתֵּן לָהֶם מְגַנֵּת-לֵב תִּאֲלָתֶךָ
לָהֶם:

66 תִּרְדֹּף בָּאֶף וְתִשְׁמִידִם
מִתַּחַת שָׁמַי יְהוָה:

פרק ד

א 1 אֵיכָה יוֹעֵם זָהָב יִשְׁנֵא הַכֶּתֶם
הַטּוֹב תִּשְׁתַּפְּכְּנָה אֲבֵנֵי-קֹדֶשׁ
בְּרָאשׁ כָּל-חוּצוֹת:

ב 2 בָּנֵי צִיּוֹן הִיָּקְרִים הַמְּסֻלָּאִים
בַּפֹּז אֵיכָה נָחֲשָׁבוּ לְנִבְלֵי-
חָרָשׁ מַעֲשֵׂה יְדֵי יוֹצֵר:

ג 3 גַּם-תִּנְיִן חָלְצוּ שֵׁד הַיִּנְיָקוֹ
גוּרֵיהֶן בֵּת-עַמִּי לְאֲכֹר
כִּי * עֵינַיִם בַּמַּדְבָּר:

ד 4 דָּבַק לְשׁוֹן יוֹנֵק אֶל-חֶכְוֹ
בְּצַמָּא עוֹלָלִים שְׁאֵלוּ לָחֶם
פָּרַשׁ אֵין לָהֶם:

ה 5 הָאֲכָלִים לְמַעַדְנָיִם נִשְׁמוּ
בְּחוּצוֹת הָאֲמָנִים עָלַי תוֹלַע
חִבְקוֹ אֲשַׁפְּתוֹת:

v. 3. תנים ק' v. 3. כיענים ק'

- 62** The mouthings and pratings of my adversaries are against me all day long.
- 63** See how, at their ease or at work, I am the butt of their jibes.
- 64** Give them, O LORD, their desserts according to their deeds.
- 65** Give them anguish^c of heart; Your curse be upon them!
- 66** Oh, pursue them in wrath and destroy them from under the heavens of the LORD!

CHAPTER 4

- 1** Alas!
The gold is dulled,^a debased the finest gold! The sacred^b gems are spilled at every street corner.
- 2** The precious children of Zion; once valued as gold— alas, they are accounted as earthen pots, work of a potter's hands!
- 3** Even jackals offer the breast and suckle their young; but my poor people has turned cruel, like ostriches of the desert.
- 4** The tongue of the suckling cleaves to its palate for thirst. Little children beg for bread; none gives them a morsel.
- 5** Those who feasted on dainties lie famished in the streets; those who were reared in purple have embraced refuse heaps.

^c Meaning of Hebrew uncertain.

^a Meaning of Hebrew uncertain.

^b Emendation yields "precious."

ו ויגדל עֵן בַּת־עַמִּי מִחַטָּאת
 סָדָם הַהִפּוּכָה כְּמו־רָגַע
 וְלֹא־תָלוּ בָּהּ יָדַיִם:

ז זָפוּ נְזוּרֶיהָ מִשָּׁלֵג צָחוּ
 מִחֶלֶב אֲדָמוּ לְעַם מִפְּנֵי־נֵיִם
 סָפִיר גִּזְרָתָם:

ח חֲשֵׁהּ מִשְׁחֹר תִּאָּרֶם לֹא
 נִכְרוּ בַּחֲצוֹת צַפֵּד עוֹרָם
 עַל־עַצְמָם יָבֵשׁ הָיָה כְּעֵץ:

ט טוֹבִים הָיוּ חֲלִלֵי־חֶרֶב
 מִחֲלִלֵי רָעַב שֶׁהֵם יִזְבוּ
 מִדְּקָרִים מִתְּנוּבַת שָׂדֵי:

י יָדֵי נָשִׁים רַחֲמַנְיּוֹת בְּשָׁלוּ
 יִלְדִיָּהֶן הָיוּ לְבָרוֹת לָמוּ
 בְּשֹׁבֵר בַּת־עַמִּי:

כ כָּלָה יִהְיֶה אֶת־חַמָּתוֹ שִׁפְהָ
 חָרוֹן אָפוּ וַיִּצַּת־אֵשׁ בְּצִיּוֹן
 וַתֹּאכַל יְסוּדֶתֶיהָ:

ל לֹא הֶאֱמִינוּ מַלְכֵי־אֲרָץ וְכָל
 יֹשְׁבֵי תַבַּל כִּי יָבֹא צָר וְאוֹיֵב
 בְּשַׁעְרֵי יְרוּשָׁלַם:

מ מִחַטָּאת נְבִיאֶיהָ עוֹנוֹת
 כְּהִנֵּה הַשֹּׁפְכִים בְּקַרְבָּהָ
 הֵם צַדִּיקִים:

- 6** The guilt^c of my poor^d people exceeded the iniquity^c of Sodom, which was overthrown in a moment, without a hand striking it.
- 7** Her elect were purer than snow and whiter than milk; their limbs were ruddier than coral, their bodies^e were like sapphire.
- 8** Now their faces are blacker than soot, they are not recognized in the streets; their skin has shriveled on their bones, it has become dry as wood.
- 9** Better off were the slain of the sword than those slain by famine, ^ewho pined away, [as though] wounded, for lack of^e the fruits of the field.
- 10** With their own hands, tender-hearted women have cooked their children; such became their fare, in the disaster of my poor^d people.
- 11** The LORD vented all His fury, poured out His blazing wrath; he kindled a fire in Zion which consumed its foundations.
- 12** The kings of the earth did not believe, nor any of the inhabitants of the world, that foe or adversary could enter the gates of Jerusalem
- 13** It was for the sins of her prophets, the iniquities of her priests, who had shed in her midst the blood of the just.

^c I.e., its punishment.

^d See note at 3.48.

^e Meaning of Hebrew uncertain.

נ 14 נָעוּ עוֹרִים בַּחוּצוֹת נִגְאָלוּ
בַּדָּם בְּלֹא יוֹכְלוּ יִגְעוּ
בְּלִבְשֵׁיהֶם:

ס 15 סוּרוּ טִמְא קָרְאוּ לָמוּ סוּרוּ
סוּרוּ אֶל-תִּגְעוּ כִּי נָצוּ גַם-
נָעוּ אָמְרוּ בַּגּוֹיִם לֹא יוֹסִיפוּ
לָגוּר:

פ 16 פָּנֵי יְהוָה חִלַּקְתָּם לֹא יוֹסִיף
לְהַבִּיטָם פָּנֵי כַהֲנָיִם לֹא
נִשְׂאוּ זְקֵנִים לֹא חֲנָנִי:

ע 17 עוֹדִינָה תְכַלִּינָה עֵינֵינוּ אֶל-
עוֹרֹתֵינוּ הַבֵּל בְּצַפְיֹתֵנוּ צְפִינוּ
אֶל-גּוֹי לֹא יוֹשֵׁעַ:

צ 18 צָדוּ צַעֲדֵינוּ מִלְּכַת
בְּרַחֲבֵינוּ קָרַב קִצֵּינוּ מִלְּאוּ
יָמֵינוּ כִּי-בָא קִצֵּינוּ:

ק 19 קָלִים הָיוּ רֹדְפֵינוּ מִנְּשָׂרֵי
שָׁמַיִם עַל-הַהָרִים דָּלְקָנוּ
בַּמִּדְבָּר אָרְבוּ לָנוּ:

ר 20 רוּחַ אֲפִינוּ מְשִׁיחַ יְהוָה
נִלְכַד בְּשַׁחֲתוֹתֵיכֶם אֲשֶׁר
אָמְרָנוּ בְּצִלּוֹ נַחִיָּה בַּגּוֹיִם:

ש 21 שִׁישִׁי וְשִׁמְחִי בַת-אָדוֹם
יוֹשְׁבֹתַי בְּאַרְץ עוֹץ גַּם-
עָלֶיךָ תַעֲבֹר-כּוֹס תִּשְׁכַּרְי
וְתִתְעָרִי:

16. v. וזקנים ק' 17. v. עודינו ק' 21. v. יתיר י'

- 14** They wandered blindly through the streets, defiled with blood, so that no one was able to touch their garments.
- 15** “Away! Unclean!” people shouted at them, “Away! Away! Touch not!” so they wandered and wandered again; for the nations had resolved: “They shall stay here no longer.”
- 16** The LORD’s countenance has turned away from them, He will look on them no more. They showed no regard for priests, no favor to elders.
- 17** Even now our eyes pine away in vain for deliverance. As we waited, still we wait for a nation that cannot help.
- 18** Our steps were checked, we could not walk *f*in our squares.^f Our doom is near, our days are done—alas, our doom has come!
- 19** Our pursuers were swifter than the eagles in the sky; they chased us in the mountains, lay in wait for us in the wilderness.
- 20** The breath of our life, the LORD’s anointed, was captured in their traps—He in whose shade we had thought to live among the nations.
- 21** Rejoice and exult, Fair Edom, who dwell in the land of Uz! To you, too, the cup shall pass, you shall get drunk and expose your nakedness.

^f Or, “With long strides.”

ת²² תם-עֲוֹנֶךָ בַּת-צִיּוֹן לֹא יוֹסִיף
 לְהַגְלוֹתְךָ פֶּקֶד עֲוֹנֶךָ בַּת-
 אֲדוֹם גְּלָה עַל-חַטָּאתֶיךָ:

פרק ה

1 זָכַר יְהוָה מִהֲהָיָה לָנוּ
 הַבֵּיט* וּרְאֵה אֶת-חֲרָפְתָנוּ:
 2 נִחַלְתָנוּ נִהַפְכָה לְזָרִים
 בָּתִּינוּ לְנִכְרִים:
 3 יְתוּמִים הָלִינוּ* אֵין אָב
 אִמָּתֵינוּ בְּאִלְמָנוֹת:
 4 מִיָּמֵינוּ בְּכֶסֶף שָׁתִינוּ עֵצֵינוּ
 בְּמַחִיר יָבֹאוּ:
 5 עַל צוֹאֲרָנוּ נִרְדָּפְנוּ יִגְעֵנוּ
 *לֹא הוֹנַח-לָנוּ:
 6 מִצָּרִים נִתְּנוּ יָד אֲשׁוּר לְשַׁבַּע
 לְחָם:
 7 אֲבַתִּינוּ חָטְאוּ* אֵינָם* אֲנַחְנוּ
 עֹונֵתֵיהֶם סָבְלוּ:
 8 עֲבָדִים מְשָׁלוּ בָנוּ פָרַק אֵין
 מִיָּדָם:
 9 בְּנַפְשָׁנוּ נָבִיא לְחַמְנוּ מִפְּנֵי
 חֶרֶב הַמִּדְבָּר:
 10 עוֹרְנוּ כְּתַנּוֹר נִכְמְרוּ מִפְּנֵי
 זֹלְעָפוֹת רָעַב:
 11 נָשִׁים בְּצִיּוֹן עָזוּ בְּתִלְתֵּי בְעָרֵי
 יְהוּדָה:

1. v. 1. הביטה ק' 3. v. 3. ואין ק' 5. v. 5. ולא ק'

7. v. 7. ואנחנו ק' 7. v. 7. ואינם ק'

22 Your iniquity, Fair Zion, is expiated; He will exile you no longer. Your iniquity, Fair Edom, He will note; He will uncover your sins.

CHAPTER 5

- 1** Remember, O LORD, what has befallen us; behold, and see our disgrace!
- 2** Our heritage has passed to aliens, our homes to strangers.
- 3** We have become orphans, fatherless; our mothers are like widows.
- 4** We must pay to drink our own water, obtain our own kindling at a price.
- 5** We are hotly^a pursued; exhausted, we are given no rest.
- 6** We hold out a hand to Egypt; to Assyria, for our fill of bread.
- 7** Our fathers sinned and are no more; and we must bear their guilt.
- 8** Slaves are ruling over us, with none to rescue us from them.
- 9** We get our bread at the peril of our lives, because of the ^bsword of the wilderness.^b
- 10** Our skin glows like an oven, with the fever of famine.
- 11** They^c have ravished women in Zion, maidens in the towns of Judah.

^a Lit., “on our neck”; meaning of Hebrew uncertain.

^b Or, “heat” (cf. Deut. 28.22) of the wilderness”; meaning of Hebrew uncertain.

^c I.e., the slaves of v.8.

12 שָׁרִים בְּיָדָם נִתְּלוּ פָּנֵי זְקֵנִים
לֹא נִהְדָּרוּ:

13 בַּחוּרִים טָחוּן נִשְׂאוּ וּנְעָרִים
בַּעֵץ כָּשְׁלוּ:

14 זְקֵנִים מִשְׁעַר שַׁבְּתוֹ בַּחוּרִים
מִנְּגִינָתָם:

15 שָׁבַת מְשׁוּשׁ לִבְנוֹ נִהְפָּה
לְאֵבֶל מְחַלְּנוֹ:

16 נִפְלְאָה עֲטֻרַת רֹאשֵׁנוֹ אוֹיֵ-נָא
לָנוּ כִּי חָטְאוּנוּ:

17 עַל-זֶה הִיָּה דָוָה לִבְנוֹ עַל-
אֵלֶּה חָשְׁכוּ עֵינֵינוּ:

18 עַל הַר-צִיּוֹן שְׁשֻׁמִּים שׁוֹעֲלִים
הַלְכוּ-בוֹ:

19 אַתָּה יְהוָה לְעוֹלָם תִּשָּׁב
כְּסֶאֱף לְדוֹר וָדוֹר:

20 לָמָּה לְנֹצַח תִּשְׁכַּחַנוּ תַעֲזֹבְנוּ
לְאַרְץ יָמִים:

21 הִשִּׁיבְנוּ יְהוָה | אֵלֶיךָ וְנִשׁוּבָ*
חֲדָשׁ יָמֵינוּ כְּקֶדֶם:

22 כִּי אִם-מָאֵס מְאִסְתָּנוּ קִצְפָּתָ*
עֲלֵינוּ עַד-מְאֹד:

הִשִּׁיבְנוּ יְהוָה | אֵלֶיךָ וְנִשׁוּבָ*
חֲדָשׁ יָמֵינוּ כְּקֶדֶם:

- 12** Princes have been hanged by them;^c no respect has been shown to elders.
- 13** Young men must carry millstones, and youths stagger under loads of wood.
- 14** The old men are gone from the gate, the young men from their music.
- 15** Gone is the joy of our hearts; our dancing is turned into mourning.
- 16** The crown has fallen from our head; woe to us that we have sinned!
- 17** Because of this our hearts are sick, because of these our eyes are dimmed:
- 18** Because of Mount Zion, which lies desolate; jackals prowl over it.
- 19** But You, O LORD, are enthroned forever, your throne endures through the ages.
- 20** Why have You forgotten us utterly, forsaken us for all time?
- 21** Take us back, O LORD, to Yourself, and let us come back; renew our days as of old!
- 22** For truly, you have rejected us, bitterly raged against us.

Take us back, O LORD, to Yourself,
And let us come back;
Renew our days as of old!

Worshippers may choose to consult the midrashim on *Eikhah*/Lamentations on pages 82–84. It is traditional to follow the chanting of *Eikhah*/Lamentations with the recital of several *Kinot*, pages 86–147. A selection of Contemporary Poetry follows the *Kinot*, pages 149–157. The conclusion of the service is found on pages 158–167.

^c I.e., the slaves of v. 8.

אֵלֵי צִיּוֹן וְעָרֶיהָ

אֵלֵי צִיּוֹן וְעָרֶיהָ. כְּמוֹ אִשָּׁה בְּצִירֶיהָ.

וְכִבְתּוּלָהּ חֲגֵרֶת-שֵׁק. עַל-בְּעַל נְעוּרֶיהָ:

עֲלֵי אֲרָמוֹן אֲשֶׁר נָטַשׁ. בְּאִשְׁמַת צֶאֱן עֲדָרֶיהָ.

וְעַל בָּאֵת מְחַרְפֵי-אֵל. בְּתוֹךְ מִקְדָּשׁ חֲדָרֶיהָ:

עֲלֵי גְלוֹת מְשָׁרְתֵי-אֵל. נְעִימֵי שִׁיר זְמֶרֶיהָ.

וְעַל דָּמָם אֲשֶׁר שָׁפָךְ. כְּמוֹ מִימֵי יְאוּרֶיהָ:

עֲלֵי הַגִּיּוֹן מְחוּלֵיהָ. אֲשֶׁר דָּמָם בְּעָרֶיהָ.

וְעַל וָעַד אֲשֶׁר שָׁמַם. וּבִטּוֹל סִנְהֶדְרֶיהָ:

עֲלֵי זְבַחֵי תְּמִידֶיהָ. וּפְדִיּוֹנֵי בְכוּרֶיהָ.

וְעַל חֲלוּל כְּלֵי-הַיִּכָּל. וּמִזְבַּח קְטוּרֶיהָ:

עֲלֵי טַפֵּי מְלָכֶיהָ. בְּנֵי דָוִד גְּבִירֶיהָ.

וְעַל יָפִים אֲשֶׁר חָשַׁף. בְּעַת סָרוּ כְּתָרֶיהָ:

עֲלֵי כְבוֹד אֲשֶׁר גָּלָה. בְּעַת חֲרַבָּן דְּבִירֶיהָ.

וְעַל לַחֲץ אֲשֶׁר לָחַץ. וְשָׁם שָׁקִים חֲגוּרֶיהָ:

עֲלֵי מִנְחָץ וְרַב מִכּוֹת. אֲשֶׁר הִכּוּ נְזִירֶיהָ.

*Wail, O Zion**Chorus*

**Wail, O Zion, with your cities, like a woman in travail,
Like a maiden girt in sackcloth for the husband of her youth.**

- א For God's palace, now forsaken through the sin of Zion's flocks,
ב For the entrance of blasphemers trampling in her sacred halls.
ג For the exile of God's servants, sweet singers of her melodies,
ד And for their blood that poured forth like the waters in her streams.
ה For the melody of her dances, now grown silent in her towns,
ו And for the meeting-place now ruined and her courts now desolate.
ז For her daily sacrifices and redemptions of her first-borns,
ח And for the desecrated vessels and her altar of incense.
ט For the children of her kings, princes of King David's line,
י And for their beauty now grown black when her crowns were stripped away.
יא For the Glory, now in exile, with God's Mercy-seat destroyed,
יב And for the enemy's oppressions, girding sackcloth on her loins.
יג For the wounds and endless blows that her holy men sustained,
יד And for the smashing on the rock of her babes and all her young.
טו For the glee that filled her foes, who laughed at her calamity,
טז And for the torture of her sons, free-born, pure and noble.

וְעַל נַפּוּץ אֵלַי סָלַע. עוֹלָלִיָּה נְעָרִיָּה:
 עָלַי שְׂמֵחַת מְשֻׁנְאִיָּה. בְּשִׁחְקִים עַל שְׁבָרִיָּה.
 וְעַל עֲנוּי בְּגֵי-חֹרִין. נְדִיבִיָּה טְהוּרִיָּה:
 עָלַי פֶּשַׁע אֲשֶׁר עָוַתְחָה. סְלוּל דֶּרֶךְ אֲשׁוּרִיָּה.
 וְעַל צְבָאוֹת קְהָלֶיָּה. שְׁזוּפִיָּה שְׁחֹרִיָּה:
 עָלַי קוֹלוֹת מְחַרְפִּיָּה. בְּעַת רַבּוֹ פְּגָרִיָּה.
 וְעַל רְגִשַׁת מְגִדְפִיָּה. בְּתוֹף מְשַׁפֵּן חֲצִרִיָּה:
 עָלַי שְׂמָה אֲשֶׁר חָלַל. בְּפִי קָמִי מְצָרִיָּה.
 וְעַל תַּחַן יְשׁוּעוֹ לָךְ. קָשׁוּב וּשְׂמֵעַ אֲמָרִיָּה:
 אֵלַי צִיּוֹן וְעָרִיָּה. כְּמוֹ אִשָּׁה בְּצִירִיָּה.
 וְכַבְּתוּלָה חֲגֵרֶת-שָׁק. עַל-בְּעַל נְעוּרִיָּה:

- ד For the sins that she committed, straying from the righteous path,
 ז And for the hosts of her assemblies blackened by catastrophe.
 פ For the shouts of her revilers, as her corpses mounted higher,
 ט And for the tumult of her scorers in the Temple's holy courts.
 ו For Your name that was profaned by the mouths of her oppressors,
 ח And for the mercy that they cry for; hear her plea and answer her!

Chorus

**Wail, O Zion, with your cities, like a woman in travail,
 Like a maiden girl in sackcloth for the husband of her youth.**

Transliteration of *Eli Zion*

Chorus:

*Eli Tzion v'arehah kemo ishah v'tzirehah,
 V'khivtulah ḥagurat sak al ba'al n'urehah.*

- א Alei armon asher nutash b'ashmat tzon adarehah,
 ב V'al bi'at m'ḥarfei Eil b'tokh mikdash ḥadarehah.
 ג Alei galut m'shartei Eil n'eimei shir z'marehah,
 ד V'al damam asher shupakh k'mo meimei y'orehah.
 ה Alei hegyon m'holehah asher damam b'arehah,
 ו V'al va'ad asher shameim u'vital Sanhedrehah.
 ז Alei zivḥei temidehah u'fidyonei v'khorehah,
 ח V'al ḥilul kelei heikhal u'mizbah k'torehah.
 ט Alei tapei m'lakhehah benei Daveed g'virehah,
 י V'al yohfyam asher ḥashakh b'eit saru kh'tarehah.
 יא Alei khavod asher galah b'eit ḥohrban d'virehah,
 יב V'al loḥeitz asher laḥatz v'sam sakim ḥagorehah.
 יג Alei maḥatz v'rov makot asher huku n'zirehah,
 יד V'al niputz elei sela olalehah n'irehah.

- ש *Alei simḥat m'sa'nehah b'sohḥkam al sh'varehah,*
 ע *V'al inu'i v'nei ḥorin n'divehah tehorehah.*
- פ *Alei fesha asher avta s'lol derekh ashurehah,*
 צ *V'al tziv'ot k'halehah sh'zufeḥah sh'ḥorehah.*
- ק *Alei kolot m'ḥohrfeḥah b'eit rabu fegarehah,*
 ר *V'al rig'shat m'gadfeḥah b'tokh mishkan ḥatzeirehah.*
- ש *Alei shimkha asher ḥullal b'fi kamei metzarehah,*
 ת *V'al taḥan y'shav'u lakh k'shov u'sh'ma amarehah.*