COURAGE AND RESILIENCE
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Nechemiah: Rebuilding Jerusalem in the Face of Adversity

THE BOOK OF NEHEMIAH

Chapter 1 – (1) The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah. Now it came to pass in the month Chislev, in the twentieth year, as I was in Shushan the castle, (2) that Hanani, one of my brothers, came out of Judah, he and certain men; and I asked them concerning the Jews that had escaped, that were left of the captivity, and concerning Jerusalem. (3) And they said to me: 'The remnant that are left of the captivity there in the province are in great affliction and reproach; the wall of Jerusalem also is broken down, and the gates thereof are burned with fire.' (4) And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days; and I fasted and prayed before the God of heaven, (5) and said: 'I petition You, O Lord, the God of heaven, the great and awful God, that keeps covenant and mercy with them that love Him and keep His commandments; (6) let Your ear now be attentive, and Your eyes open, that You may hearken to the prayer of Your servant, which I pray before You at this time, day and night, for the children of Israel Your servants, while I confess the sins of the children of Israel, which we have sinned against You; in truth, I and my father's house have sinned. (7) We have dealt very corruptly against You, and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the ordinances which You did command Your servant Moses. (8) Remember, I petition You, the word that You did command Your servant Moses, saying: If you deal treacherously, I will scatter you abroad among the peoples; (9) but if you return to Me, and keep My commandments and do them, although your dispersed were in the uttermost pare of the heaven, from there will I gather them, and will bring them to the place that I have chosen to cause My name to dwell there. (10) Now these are Your servants and Your people, whom You have redeemed by Your great power, and by Your strong hand. (11) O Lord, I petition You, let now Your ear be attentive to the prayer of Your servant, and to the prayer of Your servants, who delight to fear Your name; and prosper, I pray You, Your servant this day, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man.' Now I was cupbearer to the king.

פרק א - (א) דִּבְרֵי נְחֶמְיָה בֶּן חֲכַלְיָה וַיְהִי בְּחֹדֶשׁ כִּסְלֵיו שְׁנַת עֶשְׂרִים וַאֲנִי הָיִיתִי בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה׃ (ב) וַיָּבֹא חֲנָנִי אֶחָד מֵאַחַי הוּא וַאֲנָשִׁים מִיהוּדָה וָאֶשְׁאָלֵם עַל הַיְּהוּדִים הַפְּלֵיטָה אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁאֲרוּ מִן הַשִּׁבְי וְעַל יְרוּשָׁלִָם׃ (ג) וַיֹּאמְרוּ לִי הַנִּשְׁאָרִים אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁאֲרוּ מִן הַשִּׁבְי שָׁם בַּמְּדִינָה בְּרָעָה גְדֹלָה וּבְחֶרְפָּה וְחוֹמַת יְרוּשָׁלִַם מְפֹרָצֶת וּשְׁעָרֶיהָ נִצְּתוּ בָאֵשׁ׃ (ד) וַיְהִי כְּשָׁמְעִי אֶת הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה יָשַׁבְתִּי וָאֶבְכֶּה וָאֶתְאַבְּלָה יָמִים וָאֶהְיֶה צָם וּמִתְפַּלֵּל לִפְנֵי אֱלֹהֵי הַשָּׁמָיִם׃ (ה) וָאֹמַר אָנָּא ה׳ אֱלֹהֵי הַשָּׁמַיִם הָאֵל הַגָּדוֹל וְהַנּוֹרָא שֹׁמֵר הַבְּרִית וָחֶסֶד לְאֹהֲבָיו וּלְשֹׁמְרֵי מִצְוֹתָיו׃ (ו) תְּהִי נָא אָזְנְךָ קַשֶּׁבֶת וְעֵינֶיךָ פְּתוּחוֹת לִשְׁמֹעַ אֶל תְּפִלַּת עַבְדְּךָ אֲשֶׁר אָנֹכִי מִתְפַּלֵּל לְפָנֶיךָ הַיּוֹם יוֹמָם וָלַיְלָה עַל בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל עֲבָדֶיךָ וּמִתְוַדֶּה עַל חַטֹּאוֹת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲשֶׁר חָטָאנוּ לָךְ וַאֲנִי וּבֵית אָבִי חָטָאנוּ׃ (ז) חָבֹל חָבַלְנוּ לָךְ וְלֹא שָׁמַרְנוּ אֶת הַמִּצְוֹת וְאֶת הַחֻקִּים וְאֶת הַמִּשְׁפָּטִים אֲשֶׁר צִוִּיתָ אֶת מֹשֶׁה עַבְדֶּךָ׃ (ח) זְכָר נָא אֶת הַדָּבָר אֲשֶׁר צִוִּיתָ אֶת מֹשֶׁה עַבְדְּךָ לֵאמֹר אַתֶּם תִּמְעֲלוּ אֲנִי אָפִיץ אֶתְכֶם בָּעַמִּים׃ (ט) וְשַׁבְתֶּם אֵלַי וּשְׁמַרְתֶּם מִצְוֹתַי וַעֲשִׂיתֶם אֹתָם אִם יִהְיֶה נִדַּחֲכֶם בִּקְצֵה הַשָּׁמַיִם מִשָּׁם אֲקַבְּצֵם וְהֵבֵאתִים אֶל הַמָּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר בָּחַרְתִּי לְשַׁכֵּן אֶת שְׁמִי שָׁם׃ (י) וְהֵם עֲבָדֶיךָ וְעַמֶּךָ אֲשֶׁר פָּדִיתָ בְּכֹחֲךָ הַגָּדוֹל וּבְיָדְךָ הַחֲזָקָה׃ (יא) אָנָּא אֲדֹנָי תְּהִי נָא אָזְנְךָ קַשֶּׁבֶת אֶל תְּפִלַּת עַבְדְּךָ וְאֶל תְּפִלַּת עֲבָדֶיךָ הַחֲפֵצִים לְיִרְאָה אֶת שְׁמֶךָ וְהַצְלִיחָה נָּא לְעַבְדְּךָ הַיּוֹם וּתְנֵהוּ לְרַחֲמִים לִפְנֵי הָאִישׁ הַזֶּה וַאֲנִי הָיִיתִי מַשְׁקֶה לַמֶּלֶךְ׃ פ

Chapter 2 – (1) And it came to pass in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king, when wine was before him, that I took up the wine, and gave it to the king. Now I had

פרק ב -(א) וַיְהִי בְּחֹדֶשׁ נִיסָן שְׁנַת עֶשְׂרִים לְאַרְתַּחְשַׁסְתְּא הַמֶּלֶךְ יַיִן לְפָנָיו וָאֶשָּׂא אֶת הַיַּיִן וָאֶתְּנָה לַמֶּלֶךְ וְלֹא הָיִיתִי רַע לְפָנָיו׃ (ב) וַיֹּאמֶר לִי

not been beforetime sad in his presence. (2) And the king said to me: 'Why is your countenance sad, seeing you are not sick? This is nothing else but sorrow of heart.' Then I was very much afraid. (3) And I said to the king: 'Let the king live forever: why should not my countenance be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' burial tombs, lies waste, and the gates thereof are consumed with fire?' (4) Then the king said to me: 'For what do you make request?' So I prayed to the God of heaven. (5) And I said to the king: 'If it please the king, and if your servant has found favor in your sight, that you would send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers' burial tombs, that I may build it.' (6) And the king said to me, the queen also sitting by him: 'For how long shall your journey be? When will you return?' So it pleased the king to send me; and I set him a time. (7) Moreover I said to the king: 'If it please the king, let letters be given me to the governors beyond the River, that they may let me pass through until I come to Judah; (8) and a letter to Asaph the keeper of the king's park, that he may give me wood to make beams for the gates of the castle which appertain to the house, and for the wall of the city, and for the house that I shall enter into.' And the king granted me, according to the good hand of my God upon me. (9) Then I came to the governors beyond the River, and gave them the king's letters. Now the king had sent with me captains of the army and horsemen. (10) And when Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, heard of it, it grieved them exceedingly, that there came a man to seek the welfare of the children of Israel. (11) So I came to Jerusalem, and was there three days. (12) And I arose in the night, I and some few men with me; neither did I tell any man what my God put into my heart to do for Jerusalem; nor was there any beast with me, except the animal that I rode upon. (13) And I went out by night by the valley gate, even toward the serpent's well, and to the dung gate, and viewed the walls of Jerusalem, which were broken, and the gates thereof were consumed with fire. (14) Then I went to the fountain gate and to the king's pool; but there was no place for the animal that was under me to pass. (15) Then I went up during the night in the valley, and viewed the wall; and I turned back, and entered by the valley gate, and so returned. (16) And the rulers knew not where I was going, or what I was doing; nor had I yet told to the Jews or to the priests, or to the nobles, or to the rulers, or to the rest that did the work. (17) Then I said to them: 'You see the evil situation that we are in, how Jerusalem lies waste, and the gates thereof are burned with fire; come and let us build up the wall of Jerusalem, so that we will no longer be a reproach.' (18) And I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me and also of the king's words that he had spoken to me. And they said: 'Let us rise up and build.' So they strengthened their hands for the good work. (19) But when

הַמֶּלֶךְ מַדּוּעַ פָּנֶיךָ רָעִים וְאַתָּה אֵינְךָ
חוֹלֶה אֵין זֶה כִּי אִם רַע לֵב וָאִירָא
הַרְבֵּה מְאֹד׃ (ג) וָאֹמַר לַמֶּלֶךְ הַמֶּלֶךְ
לְעוֹלָם יִחְיֶה מַדּוּעַ לֹא יֵרֵעוּ פָנַי אֲשֶׁר
הָעִיר בֵּית קִבְרוֹת אֲבֹתַי חֳרֵבָה
וּשְׁעָרֶיהָ אֻכְּלוּ בָאֵשׁ׃ ס (ד) וַיֹּאמֶר לִי
הַמֶּלֶךְ עַל מַה זֶּה אַתָּה מְבַקֵּשׁ
וָאֶתְפַּלֵּל אֶל אֱלֹהֵי הַשָּׁמָיִם׃ (ה)
וָאֹמַר לַמֶּלֶךְ אִם עַל הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב וְאִם
יִיטַב עַבְדְּךָ לְפָנֶיךָ אֲשֶׁר תִּשְׁלָחֵנִי אֶל
יְהוּדָה אֶל עִיר קִבְרוֹת אֲבֹתַי
וְאֶבְנֶנָּה׃ (ו) וַיֹּאמֶר לִי הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהַשֵּׁגַל
יוֹשֶׁבֶת אֶצְלוֹ עַד מָתַי יִהְיֶה מַהֲלָכֶךָ
וּמָתַי תָּשׁוּב וַיִּיטַב לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ
וַיִּשְׁלָחֵנִי וָאֶתְּנָה לוֹ זְמָן׃ (ז) וָאוֹמַר
לַמֶּלֶךְ אִם עַל הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב אִגְרוֹת יִתְּנוּ
לִי עַל פַּחֲווֹת עֵבֶר הַנָּהָר אֲשֶׁר
יַעֲבִירוּנִי עַד אֲשֶׁר אָבוֹא אֶל יְהוּדָה׃
(ח) וְאִגֶּרֶת אֶל אָסָף שֹׁמֵר הַפַּרְדֵּס
אֲשֶׁר לַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר יִתֵּן לִי עֵצִים לְקָרוֹת
אֶת שַׁעֲרֵי הַבִּירָה אֲשֶׁר לַבַּיִת וּלְחוֹמַת
הָעִיר וְלַבַּיִת אֲשֶׁר אָבוֹא אֵלָיו וַיִּתֵּן לִי
הַמֶּלֶךְ כְּיַד אֱלֹהַי הַטּוֹבָה עָלָי׃ (ט)
וָאָבוֹא אֶל פַּחֲווֹת עֵבֶר הַנָּהָר וָאֶתְּנָה
לָהֶם אֵת אִגְּרוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיִּשְׁלַח עִמִּי
הַמֶּלֶךְ שָׂרֵי חַיִל וּפָרָשִׁים׃ פ (י) וַיִּשְׁמַע
סַנְבַלַּט הַחֹרֹנִי וְטוֹבִיָּה הָעֶבֶד הָעַמּוֹנִי
וַיֵּרַע לָהֶם רָעָה גְדֹלָה אֲשֶׁר בָּא אָדָם
לְבַקֵּשׁ טוֹבָה לִבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל׃ (יא)
וָאָבוֹא אֶל יְרוּשָׁלַם וָאֱהִי שָׁם יָמִים
שְׁלֹשָׁה׃ (יב) וָאָקוּם לַיְלָה אֲנִי
וַאֲנָשִׁים מְעַט עִמִּי וְלֹא הִגַּדְתִּי לְאָדָם
מָה אֱלֹהַי נֹתֵן אֶל לִבִּי לַעֲשׂוֹת
לִירוּשָׁלַם וּבְהֵמָה אֵין עִמִּי כִּי אִם
הַבְּהֵמָה אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי רֹכֵב בָּהּ׃ (יג)
וָאֵצְאָה בְשַׁעַר הַגַּיְא לַיְלָה וְאֶל פְּנֵי עֵין
הַתַּנִּין וְאֶל שַׁעַר הָאַשְׁפֹּת וָאֱהִי שֹׁבֵר
בְּחוֹמֹת יְרוּשָׁלַם אֲשֶׁר הַמפרוצים
הֵם פְּרוּצִים וּשְׁעָרֶיהָ אֻכְּלוּ בָאֵשׁ׃ (יד)
וָאֶעֱבֹר אֶל שַׁעַר הָעַיִן וְאֶל בְּרֵכַת
הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאֵין מָקוֹם לַבְּהֵמָה לַעֲבֹר
תַּחְתָּי׃ (טו) וָאֱהִי עֹלֶה בַנַּחַל לַיְלָה
וָאֱהִי שֹׁבֵר בַּחוֹמָה וָאָשׁוּב וָאָבוֹא
בְּשַׁעַר הַגַּיְא וָאָשׁוּב׃ (טז) וְהַסְּגָנִים
לֹא יָדְעוּ אָנָה הָלַכְתִּי וּמָה אֲנִי עֹשֶׂה
וְלַיְּהוּדִים וְלַכֹּהֲנִים וְלַחֹרִים וְלַסְּגָנִים
וּלְיֶתֶר עֹשֵׂה הַמְּלָאכָה עַד כֵּן לֹא
הִגַּדְתִּי׃ (יז) וָאוֹמַר אֲלֵהֶם אַתֶּם
רֹאִים הָרָעָה אֲשֶׁר אֲנַחְנוּ בָהּ אֲשֶׁר
יְרוּשָׁלַם חֳרֵבָה וּשְׁעָרֶיהָ נִצְּתוּ בָאֵשׁ
לְכוּ וְנִבְנֶה אֶת חוֹמַת יְרוּשָׁלַם וְלֹא
נִהְיֶה עוֹד חֶרְפָּה׃ (יח) וָאַגִּיד לָהֶם אֶת
יַד אֱלֹהַי אֲשֶׁר הִיא טוֹבָה עָלַי וְאַף
דִּבְרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר אָמַר לִי וַיֹּאמְרוּ
נָקוּם וּבָנִינוּ וַיְחַזְּקוּ יְדֵיהֶם לַטּוֹבָה׃ פ

Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian, heard it, they scorned us and despised us, and said: 'What is this thing that you are doing? Will you rebel against the king?' (20) Then I answered them and said: 'The God of heaven, He will help us to succeed; therefore we His servants will arise and build; but you have no portion, no right, no memorial, in Jerusalem.'	(יט) וַיִּשְׁמַע סַנְבַלַּט הַחֹרֹנִי וְטֹבִיָּה הָעֶבֶד הָעַמּוֹנִי וְגֶשֶׁם הָעַרְבִי וַיַּלְעִגוּ לָנוּ וַיִּבְזוּ עָלֵינוּ וַיֹּאמְרוּ מָה הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם עֹשִׂים הַעַל הַמֶּלֶךְ אַתֶּם מֹרְדִים׃ (כ) וָאָשִׁיב אוֹתָם דָּבָר וָאֹמַר לָהֶם אֱלֹהֵי הַשָּׁמַיִם הוּא יַצְלִיחַ לָנוּ וַאֲנַחְנוּ עֲבָדָיו נָקוּם וּבָנִינוּ וְלָכֶם אֵין חֵלֶק וּצְדָקָה וְזִכָּרוֹן בִּירוּשָׁלִָם׃

Chapter 4 – (1) When Sanballat and Tobiah, and the Arabs, the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites heard that healing had come to the walls of Jerusalem, that the breached parts had begun to be filled, it angered them very much, (2) and they all conspired together to come and fight against Jerusalem and to throw it into confusion. (3) Because of them we prayed to our God, and set up a watch over them day and night. (4) Judah was saying, “The strength of the basket-carrier has failed, And there is so much rubble; We are not able ourselves To rebuild the wall.” (5) And our foes were saying, “Before they know or see it, we shall be in among them and kill them, and put a stop to the work.” (6) When the Jews living near them would arrive, they would tell us time and again “…from all the places where…you shall come back to us…” (7) I stationed, on the lower levels of the place, behind the walls, on the bare rock—I stationed the people by families with their swords, their lances, and their bows. (8) Then I decided to exhort the nobles, the prefects, and the rest of the people, “Do not be afraid of them! Think of the great and awesome Lord, and fight for your brothers, your sons and daughters, your wives and homes!” (9) When our enemies learned that it had become known to us, since God had thus frustrated their plan, we could all return to the wall, each to his work. (10) From that day on, half my servants did work and half held lances and shields, bows and armor. And the officers stood behind the whole house of Judah (11) who were rebuilding the wall. The basket-carriers were burdened, doing work with one hand while the other held a weapon. (12) As for the builders, each had his sword girded at his side as he was building. The trumpeter stood beside me. (13) I said to the nobles, the prefects, and the rest of the people, “There is much work and it is spread out; we are scattered over the wall, far from one another. (14) When you hear a trumpet call, gather yourselves to me at that place; our God will fight for us!” (15) And so we worked on, while half were holding lances, from the break of day until the stars appeared. (16) I further said to the people at that time, “Let every man with his servant lodge in Jerusalem, that we may use the night to stand guard and the day to work.” (17) Nor did I, my	**פרק ד** - (א) וַיְהִי כַּאֲשֶׁר שָׁמַע סַנְבַלַּט וְטוֹבִיָּה וְהָעַרְבִים וְהָעַמֹּנִים וְהָאַשְׁדּוֹדִים כִּי עָלְתָה אֲרוּכָה לְחֹמוֹת יְרוּשָׁלִַם כִּי הַחֵלּוּ הַפְּרָצִים לְהִסָּתֵם וַיִּחַר לָהֶם מְאֹד׃ (ב) וַיִּקְשְׁרוּ כֻּלָּם יַחְדָּו לָבוֹא לְהִלָּחֶם בִּירוּשָׁלִַם וְלַעֲשׂוֹת לוֹ תּוֹעָה׃ (ג) וַנִּתְפַּלֵּל אֶל אֱלֹהֵינוּ וַנָּעֶמֶד מִשְׁמָר עֲלֵיהֶם יוֹמָם וָלַיְלָה מִפְּנֵיהֶם׃ (ד) וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוּדָה כָּשַׁל כֹּחַ הַסַּבָּל וְהֶעָפָר הַרְבֵּה וַאֲנַחְנוּ לֹא נוּכַל לִבְנוֹת בַּחוֹמָה׃ (ה) וַיֹּאמְרוּ צָרֵינוּ לֹא יֵדְעוּ וְלֹא יִרְאוּ עַד אֲשֶׁר נָבוֹא אֶל תּוֹכָם וַהֲרַגְנוּם וְהִשְׁבַּתְנוּ אֶת הַמְּלָאכָה׃ (ו) וַיְהִי כַּאֲשֶׁר בָּאוּ הַיְּהוּדִים הַיֹּשְׁבִים אֶצְלָם וַיֹּאמְרוּ לָנוּ עֶשֶׂר פְּעָמִים מִכֹּל הַמְּקֹמוֹת אֲשֶׁר תָּשׁוּבוּ עָלֵינוּ׃ (ז) וָאַעֲמִיד מִתַּחְתִּיוֹת לַמָּקוֹם מֵאַחֲרֵי לַחוֹמָה בצחחיים בַּצְּחִיחִים וָאַעֲמִיד אֶת הָעָם לְמִשְׁפָּחוֹת עִם חַרְבֹתֵיהֶם רָמְחֵיהֶם וְקַשְׁתֹתֵיהֶם׃ (ח) וָאֵרֶא וָאָקוּם וָאֹמַר אֶל הַחֹרִים וְאֶל הַסְּגָנִים וְאֶל יֶתֶר הָעָם אַל תִּירְאוּ מִפְּנֵיהֶם אֶת אֲדֹנָי הַגָּדוֹל וְהַנּוֹרָא זִכְרוּ וְהִלָּחֲמוּ עַל אֲחֵיכֶם בְּנֵיכֶם וּבְנֹתֵיכֶם נְשֵׁיכֶם וּבָתֵּיכֶם׃ פ (ט) וַיְהִי כַּאֲשֶׁר שָׁמְעוּ אוֹיְבֵינוּ כִּי נוֹדַע לָנוּ וַיָּפֵר הָאֱלֹהִים אֶת עֲצָתָם ונשוב וַנָּשָׁב כֻּלָּנוּ אֶל הַחוֹמָה אִישׁ אֶל מְלַאכְתּוֹ׃ (י) וַיְהִי מִן הַיּוֹם הַהוּא חֲצִי נְעָרַי עֹשִׂים בַּמְּלָאכָה וְחֶצְיָם מַחֲזִיקִים וְהָרְמָחִים הַמָּגִנִּים וְהַקְּשָׁתוֹת וְהַשִּׁרְיָנִים וְהַשָּׂרִים אַחֲרֵי כָּל בֵּית יְהוּדָה׃ (יא) הַבּוֹנִים בַּחוֹמָה וְהַנֹּשְׂאִים בַּסֶּבֶל עִמְּשִׂים בְּאַחַת יָדוֹ עֹשֶׂה בַּמְּלָאכָה וְאַחַת מַחֲזֶקֶת הַשָּׁלַח׃ (יב) וְהַבּוֹנִים אִישׁ חַרְבּוֹ אֲסוּרִים עַל מָתְנָיו וּבוֹנִים וְהַתּוֹקֵעַ בַּשּׁוֹפָר אֶצְלִי׃ (יג) וָאֹמַר אֶל הַחֹרִים וְאֶל הַסְּגָנִים וְאֶל יֶתֶר הָעָם הַמְּלָאכָה הָרַבָּה וּרְחָבָה וַאֲנַחְנוּ נִפְרָדִים עַל הַחוֹמָה רְחוֹקִים אִישׁ מֵאָחִיו׃ (יד) בְּמָקוֹם אֲשֶׁר תִּשְׁמְעוּ אֶת קוֹל הַשּׁוֹפָר שָׁמָּה תִּקָּבְצוּ אֵלֵינוּ אֱלֹהֵינוּ יִלָּחֶם לָנוּ׃ (טו) וַאֲנַחְנוּ עֹשִׂים בַּמְּלָאכָה וְחֶצְיָם מַחֲזִיקִים בָּרְמָחִים מֵעֲלוֹת הַשַּׁחַר עַד צֵאת הַכּוֹכָבִים׃ (טז) גַּם בָּעֵת הַהִיא אָמַרְתִּי לָעָם אִישׁ וְנַעֲרוֹ יָלִינוּ בְּתוֹךְ יְרוּשָׁלִַם וְהָיוּ לָנוּ הַלַּיְלָה מִשְׁמָר וְהַיּוֹם מְלָאכָה׃ (יז) וְאֵין אֲנִי וְאַחַי וּנְעָרַי וַאֲנָשֵׁי

brothers, my servants, or the guards following me ever take off our clothes, [or] each his weapon, even at the water.	הַמִּשְׁמָר אֲשֶׁר אַחֲרַי אֵין אֲנַחְנוּ פֹּשְׁטִים בְּגָדֵינוּ אִישׁ שִׁלְחוֹ הַמָּיִם׃ ס

Chapter 5 – (1) There was a great outcry by the common folk and their wives against their brother Jews. (2) Some said, "Our sons and daughters are numerous; we must get grain to eat in order that we may live!" (3) Others said, "We must pawn our fields, our vineyards, and our homes to get grain to stave off hunger." (4) Yet others said, "We have borrowed money against our fields and vineyards to pay the king's tax. (5) Now we are as good as our brothers, and our children as good as theirs; yet here we are subjecting our sons and daughters to slavery—some of our daughters are already subjected—and we are powerless, while our fields and vineyards belong to others." (6) It angered me very much to hear their outcry and these complaints. (7) After pondering the matter carefully, I censured the nobles and the prefects, saying, "Are you pressing claims on loans made to your brothers?" Then I raised a large crowd against them (8) and said to them, "We have done our best to buy back our Jewish brothers who were sold to the nations; will you now sell your brothers so that they must be sold [back] to us?" They kept silent, for they found nothing to answer. (9) So I continued, "What you are doing is not right. You ought to act in a God-fearing way so as not to give our enemies, the nations, room to reproach us. (10) I, my brothers, and my servants also have claims of money and grain against them; let us now abandon those claims! (11) Give back at once their fields, their vineyards, their olive trees, and their homes, and [abandon] the claims for the hundred pieces of silver, the grain, the wine, and the oil that you have been pressing against them!" (12) They replied, "We shall give them back, and not demand anything of them; we shall do just as you say." Summoning the priests, I put them under oath to keep this promise. (13) I also shook out the bosom of my garment and said, "So may God shake free of his household and property any man who fails to keep this promise; may he be thus shaken out and stripped." All the assembled answered, "Amen," and praised the LORD. The people kept this promise. (14) Furthermore, from the day I was commissioned to be governor in the land of Judah—from the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes until his thirty-second year, twelve years in all—neither I nor my brothers ever ate of the governor's food allowance. (15) The former governors who preceded me laid heavy burdens on the people, and took from them for bread and wine more than forty shekels of silver. Their servants also tyrannized over the people. But I, out of the fear of God, did not do so. (16) I also supported the work on this wall; we did not buy any

פרק ה - (א) וַתְּהִי צַעֲקַת הָעָם וּנְשֵׁיהֶם גְּדוֹלָה אֶל אֲחֵיהֶם הַיְהוּדִים׃ (ב) וְיֵשׁ אֲשֶׁר אֹמְרִים בָּנֵינוּ וּבְנֹתֵינוּ אֲנַחְנוּ רַבִּים וְנִקְחָה דָגָן וְנֹאכְלָה וְנִחְיֶה׃ (ג) וְיֵשׁ אֲשֶׁר אֹמְרִים שְׂדֹתֵינוּ וּכְרָמֵינוּ וּבָתֵּינוּ אֲנַחְנוּ עֹרְבִים וְנִקְחָה דָגָן בָּרָעָב׃ (ד) וְיֵשׁ אֲשֶׁר אֹמְרִים לָוִינוּ כֶסֶף לְמִדַּת הַמֶּלֶךְ שְׂדֹתֵינוּ וּכְרָמֵנוּ׃ (ה) וְעַתָּה כִּבְשַׂר אַחֵינוּ בְּשָׂרֵנוּ כִּבְנֵיהֶם בָּנֵינוּ וְהִנֵּה אֲנַחְנוּ כֹבְשִׁים אֶת בָּנֵינוּ וְאֶת בְּנֹתֵינוּ לַעֲבָדִים וְיֵשׁ מִבְּנֹתֵינוּ נִכְבָּשׁוֹת וְאֵין לְאֵל יָדֵנוּ וּשְׂדֹתֵינוּ וּכְרָמֵינוּ לַאֲחֵרִים׃ (ו) וַיִּחַר לִי מְאֹד כַּאֲשֶׁר שָׁמַעְתִּי אֶת זַעֲקָתָם וְאֵת הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה׃ (ז) וַיִּמְלֹךְ לִבִּי עָלַי וָאָרִיבָה אֶת הַחֹרִים וְאֶת הַסְּגָנִים וָאֹמְרָה לָהֶם מַשָּׂא אִישׁ בְּאָחִיו אַתֶּם נֹשִׂים וָאֶתֵּן עֲלֵיהֶם קְהִלָּה גְדוֹלָה׃ (ח) וָאֹמְרָה לָהֶם אֲנַחְנוּ קָנִינוּ אֶת אַחֵינוּ הַיְהוּדִים הַנִּמְכָּרִים לַגּוֹיִם כְּדַי בֵּנוּ וְגַם אַתֶּם תִּמְכְּרוּ אֶת אֲחֵיכֶם וְנִמְכְּרוּ לָנוּ וַיַּחֲרִישׁוּ וְלֹא מָצְאוּ דָּבָר׃ ס (ט) ויאמר וָאוֹמַר לֹא טוֹב הַדָּבָר אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם עֹשִׂים הֲלוֹא בְּיִרְאַת אֱלֹהֵינוּ תֵּלֵכוּ מֵחֶרְפַּת הַגּוֹיִם אוֹיְבֵינוּ׃ (י) וְגַם אֲנִי אַחַי וּנְעָרַי נֹשִׁים בָּהֶם כֶּסֶף וְדָגָן נַעֲזָבָה נָּא אֶת הַמַּשָּׂא הַזֶּה׃ (יא) הָשִׁיבוּ נָא לָהֶם כְּהַיּוֹם שְׂדֹתֵיהֶם כַּרְמֵיהֶם זֵיתֵיהֶם וּבָתֵּיהֶם וּמְאַת הַכֶּסֶף וְהַדָּגָן הַתִּירוֹשׁ וְהַיִּצְהָר אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם נֹשִׁים בָּהֶם׃ (יב) וַיֹּאמְרוּ נָשִׁיב וּמֵהֶם לֹא נְבַקֵּשׁ כֵּן נַעֲשֶׂה כַּאֲשֶׁר אַתָּה אוֹמֵר וָאֶקְרָא אֶת הַכֹּהֲנִים וָאַשְׁבִּיעֵם לַעֲשׂוֹת כַּדָּבָר הַזֶּה׃ (יג) גַּם חָצְנִי נָעַרְתִּי וָאֹמְרָה כָּכָה יְנַעֵר הָאֱלֹהִים אֶת כָּל הָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר לֹא יָקִים אֶת הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה מִבֵּיתוֹ וּמִיגִיעוֹ וְכָכָה יִהְיֶה נָעוּר וָרֵק וַיֹּאמְרוּ כָּל הַקָּהָל אָמֵן וַיְהַלְלוּ אֶת ה׳ וַיַּעַשׂ הָעָם כַּדָּבָר הַזֶּה׃ (יד) גַּם מִיּוֹם אֲשֶׁר צִוָּה אֹתִי לִהְיוֹת פֶּחָם בְּאֶרֶץ יְהוּדָה מִשְּׁנַת עֶשְׂרִים וְעַד שְׁנַת שְׁלֹשִׁים וּשְׁתַּיִם לְאַרְתַּחְשַׁסְתְּא הַמֶּלֶךְ שָׁנִים שְׁתֵּים עֶשְׂרֵה אֲנִי וְאַחַי לֶחֶם הַפֶּחָה לֹא אָכַלְתִּי׃ (טו) וְהַפַּחוֹת הָרִאשֹׁנִים אֲשֶׁר לְפָנַי הִכְבִּידוּ עַל הָעָם וַיִּקְחוּ מֵהֶם בְּלֶחֶם וְיַיִן אַחַר כֶּסֶף שְׁקָלִים אַרְבָּעִים גַּם נַעֲרֵיהֶם שָׁלְטוּ עַל הָעָם וַאֲנִי לֹא עָשִׂיתִי כֵן מִפְּנֵי יִרְאַת אֱלֹהִים׃ (טז) וְגַם בִּמְלֶאכֶת הַחוֹמָה הַזֹּאת הֶחֱזַקְתִּי וְשָׂדֶה לֹא קָנִינוּ וְכָל נְעָרַי קְבוּצִים שָׁם עַל הַמְּלָאכָה׃ (יז) וְהַיְהוּדִים וְהַסְּגָנִים מֵאָה וַחֲמִשִּׁים אִישׁ וְהַבָּאִים אֵלֵינוּ מִן

land, and all my servants were gathered there at the work. (17) Although there were at my table, between Jews and prefects, one hundred and fifty men in all, beside those who came to us from surrounding nations; (18) and although what was prepared for each day came to one ox, six select sheep, and fowl, all prepared for me, and at ten-day intervals all sorts of wine in abundance—yet I did not resort to the governor's food allowance, for the [king's] service lay heavily on the people. (19) O my God, remember to my credit all that I have done for this people!	הַגּוֹיִם אֲשֶׁר סְבִיבֹתֵינוּ עַל שֻׁלְחָנִי׃ (יח) וַאֲשֶׁר הָיָה נַעֲשָׂה לְיוֹם אֶחָד שׁוֹר אֶחָד וְצֹאן שֵׁשׁ בְּרֻרוֹת וְצִפֳּרִים נַעֲשׂוּ לִי וּבְיַן עֲשָׂרֹת יָמִים בְּכָל יַיִן לְהַרְבֵּה וְעִם זֶה לֶחֶם הַפֶּחָה לֹא בִקַּשְׁתִּי כִּי כָּבְדָה הָעֲבֹדָה עַל הָעָם הַזֶּה׃ (יט) זָכְרָה לִּי אֱלֹהַי לְטוֹבָה כֹּל אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתִי עַל הָעָם הַזֶּה׃ פ

Chapter 6 – (1) When word reached Sanballat, Tobiah, Geshem the Arab, and the rest of our enemies that I had rebuilt the wall and not a breach remained in it—though at that time I had not yet set up doors in the gateways— (2) Sanballat and Geshem sent a message to me, saying, "Come, let us get together in Kephirim in the Ono valley"; they planned to do me harm. (3) I sent them messengers, saying, "I am engaged in a great work and cannot come down, for the work will stop if I leave it in order to come down to you." (4) They sent me the same message four times, and I gave them the same answer. (5) Sanballat sent me the same message a fifth time by his servant, who had an open letter with him. (6) Its text was: "Word has reached the nations, and Geshem too says that you and the Jews are planning to rebel—for which reason you are building the wall—and that you are to be their king. Such is the word. (7) You have also set up prophets in Jerusalem to proclaim about you, 'There is a king in Judah!' Word of these things will surely reach the king; so come, let us confer together." (8) I sent back a message to him, saying, "None of these things you mention has occurred; they are figments of your imagination"— (9) for they all wished to intimidate us, thinking, "They will desist from the work, and it will not get done." Now strengthen my hands! (10) Then I visited Shemaiah son of Delaiah son of Mehetabel when he was housebound, and he said, "Let us meet in the House of God, inside the sanctuary, And let us shut the doors of the sanctuary, for they are coming to kill you, By night they are coming to kill you." (11) I replied, "Will a man like me take flight? Besides, who such as I can go into the sanctuary and live? I will not go in." (12) Then I realized that it was not God who sent him, but that he uttered that prophecy about me—Tobiah and Sanballat having hired him— (13) because he was a hireling, that I might be intimidated and act thus and commit a sin, and so provide them a scandal with which to reproach me. (14) "O my God, remember against Tobiah and Sanballat these deeds of theirs, and against Noadiah the prophetess, and against the other prophets that they wished to intimidate me!" (15) The wall was finished on	**פרק ו -** (א) וַיְהִי כַּאֲשֶׁר נִשְׁמַע לְסַנְבַלַּט וְטוֹבִיָּה וּלְגֶשֶׁם הָעַרְבִי וּלְיֶתֶר אוֹיְבֵינוּ כִּי בָנִיתִי אֶת הַחוֹמָה וְלֹא נוֹתַר בָּהּ פָּרֶץ גַּם עַד הָעֵת הַהִיא דְּלָתוֹת לֹא הֶעֱמַדְתִּי בַּשְּׁעָרִים׃ (ב) וַיִּשְׁלַח סַנְבַלַּט וְגֶשֶׁם אֵלַי לֵאמֹר לְכָה וְנִוָּעֲדָה יַחְדָּו בַּכְּפִירִים בְּבִקְעַת אוֹנוֹ וְהֵמָּה חֹשְׁבִים לַעֲשׂוֹת לִי רָעָה׃ (ג) וָאֶשְׁלְחָה עֲלֵיהֶם מַלְאָכִים לֵאמֹר מְלָאכָה גְדוֹלָה אֲנִי עֹשֶׂה וְלֹא אוּכַל לָרֶדֶת לָמָּה תִשְׁבֹּת הַמְּלָאכָה כַּאֲשֶׁר אַרְפֶּהָ וְיָרַדְתִּי אֲלֵיכֶם׃ (ד) וַיִּשְׁלְחוּ אֵלַי כַּדָּבָר הַזֶּה אַרְבַּע פְּעָמִים וָאָשִׁיב אוֹתָם כַּדָּבָר הַזֶּה׃ ס (ה) וַיִּשְׁלַח אֵלַי סַנְבַלַּט כַּדָּבָר הַזֶּה פַּעַם חֲמִישִׁית אֶת נַעֲרוֹ וְאִגֶּרֶת פְּתוּחָה בְּיָדוֹ׃ (ו) כָּתוּב בָּהּ בַּגּוֹיִם נִשְׁמָע וְגַשְׁמוּ אֹמֵר אַתָּה וְהַיְּהוּדִים חֹשְׁבִים לְמָרוֹד עַל כֵּן אַתָּה בוֹנֶה הַחוֹמָה וְאַתָּה הֹוֶה לָהֶם לְמֶלֶךְ כַּדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה׃ (ז) וְגַם נְבִיאִים הֶעֱמַדְתָּ לִקְרֹא עָלֶיךָ בִּירוּשָׁלַם לֵאמֹר מֶלֶךְ בִּיהוּדָה וְעַתָּה יִשָּׁמַע לַמֶּלֶךְ כַּדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה וְעַתָּה לְכָה וְנִוָּעֲצָה יַחְדָּו׃ ס (ח) וָאֶשְׁלְחָה אֵלָיו לֵאמֹר לֹא נִהְיָה כַּדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה אֲשֶׁר אַתָּה אוֹמֵר כִּי מִלִּבְּךָ אַתָּה בוֹדָאם׃ (ט) כִּי כֻלָּם מְיָרְאִים אוֹתָנוּ לֵאמֹר יִרְפּוּ יְדֵיהֶם מִן הַמְּלָאכָה וְלֹא תֵעָשֶׂה וְעַתָּה חַזֵּק אֶת יָדָי׃ (י) וַאֲנִי בָּאתִי בֵּית שְׁמַעְיָה בֶן דְּלָיָה בֶּן מְהֵיטַבְאֵל וְהוּא עָצוּר וַיֹּאמֶר נִוָּעֵד אֶל בֵּית הָאֱלֹהִים אֶל תּוֹךְ הַהֵיכָל וְנִסְגְּרָה דַּלְתוֹת הַהֵיכָל כִּי בָּאִים לַהֲרָגֶךָּ וְלַיְלָה בָּאִים לַהֲרָגֶךָּ׃ (יא) וָאֹמְרָה הַאִישׁ כָּמוֹנִי יִבְרָח וּמִי כָמוֹנִי אֲשֶׁר יָבוֹא אֶל הַהֵיכָל וָחָי לֹא אָבוֹא׃ (יב) וָאַכִּירָה וְהִנֵּה לֹא אֱלֹהִים שְׁלָחוֹ כִּי הַנְּבוּאָה דִּבֶּר עָלַי וְטוֹבִיָּה וְסַנְבַלַּט שְׂכָרוֹ׃ (יג) לְמַעַן שָׂכוּר הוּא לְמַעַן אִירָא וְאֶעֱשֶׂה כֵּן וְחָטָאתִי וְהָיָה לָהֶם לְשֵׁם רָע לְמַעַן יְחָרְפוּנִי׃ פ (יד) זָכְרָה אֱלֹהַי לְטוֹבִיָּה וּלְסַנְבַלַּט כְּמַעֲשָׂיו אֵלֶּה וְגַם לְנוֹעַדְיָה הַנְּבִיאָה וּלְיֶתֶר הַנְּבִיאִים אֲשֶׁר הָיוּ מְיָרְאִים אוֹתִי׃ (טו) וַתִּשְׁלַם הַחוֹמָה בְּעֶשְׂרִים וַחֲמִשָּׁה לֶאֱלוּל

the twenty-fifth of Elul, after fifty-two days. (16) When all our enemies heard it, all the nations round about us were intimidated, and fell very low in their own estimation; they realized that this work had been accomplished by the help of our God. (17) Also in those days, the nobles of Judah kept up a brisk correspondence with Tobiah, and Tobiah with them. (18) Many in Judah were his confederates, for he was a son-in-law of Shecaniah son of Arah, and his son Jehohanan had married the daughter of Meshullam son of Berechiah. (19) They would also speak well of him to me, and would divulge my affairs to him. Tobiah sent letters to intimidate me.	לַחֲמִשִּׁים וּשְׁנַיִם יוֹם׃ פ (טז) וַיְהִי כַּאֲשֶׁר שָׁמְעוּ כָּל אוֹיְבֵינוּ וַיִּרְאוּ כָּל הַגּוֹיִם אֲשֶׁר סְבִיבֹתֵינוּ וַיִּפְּלוּ מְאֹד בְּעֵינֵיהֶם וַיֵּדְעוּ כִּי מֵאֵת אֱלֹהֵינוּ נֶעֱשְׂתָה הַמְּלָאכָה הַזֹּאת׃ (יז) גַּם בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם מְרֻבִּים חֹרֵי יְהוּדָה אִגְּרוֹתֵיהֶם הוֹלְכוֹת עַל טוֹבִיָּה וַאֲשֶׁר לְטוֹבִיָּה בָּאוֹת אֲלֵיהֶם׃ (יח) כִּי רַבִּים בִּיהוּדָה בַּעֲלֵי שְׁבוּעָה לוֹ כִּי חָתָן הוּא לִשְׁכַנְיָה בֶן אָרַח וִיהוֹחָנָן בְּנוֹ לָקַח אֶת בַּת מְשֻׁלָּם בֶּן בֶּרֶכְיָה׃ (יט) גַּם טוֹבֹתָיו הָיוּ אֹמְרִים לְפָנַי וּדְבָרַי הָיוּ מוֹצִיאִים לוֹ אִגְּרוֹת שָׁלַח טוֹבִיָּה לְיָרְאֵנִי׃

Chapter 7 – (1) When the wall was rebuilt and I had set up the doors, tasks were assigned to the gatekeepers, the singers, and the Levites. (2) I put Hanani my brother and Hananiah, the captain of the fortress, in charge of Jerusalem, for he was a more trustworthy and God-fearing man than most. (3) I said to them, “The gates of Jerusalem are not to be opened until the heat of the day, and before you leave your posts let the doors be closed and barred. And assign the inhabitants of Jerusalem to watches, each man to his watch, and each in front of his own house.” (4) The city was broad and large, the people in it were few, and houses were not yet built. (5) My God put it into my mind to assemble the nobles, the prefects, and the people, in order to register them by families. I found the genealogical register of those who were the first to come up, and there I found written: (6) These are the people of the province who came up from among the captive exiles that Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, had deported, and who returned to Jerusalem and to Judah, each to his own city, (7) who came with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Azariah, Raamiah, Nahamani, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispereth, Bigvai, Nehum, Baanah. The number of the men of the people of Israel: (8) the sons of Parosh—2,172 ……. (61) The following were those who came up from Tel-melah, Tel-harsha, Cherub, Addon, and Immer—they were unable to tell whether their father’s house and descent were Israelite: (62) the sons of Delaiah, the sons of Tobiah, the sons of Nekoda—642. (63) Of the priests: the sons of Habaiah, the sons of Hakkoz, the sons of Barzillai who had married a daughter of Barzillai the Gileadite and had taken his name—(64) these searched for their genealogical records, but they could not be found, so they were disqualified for the priesthood. (65) The Tirshatha ordered them not to eat of the most holy things until a priest with Urim and Thummim should appear. (66) The sum of the entire community was	**פרק ז -** (א) וַיְהִי כַּאֲשֶׁר נִבְנְתָה הַחוֹמָה וָאַעֲמִיד הַדְּלָתוֹת וַיִּפָּקְדוּ הַשּׁוֹעֲרִים וְהַמְשֹׁרְרִים וְהַלְוִיִּם׃ (ב) וָאֲצַוֶּה אֶת חֲנָנִי אָחִי וְאֶת חֲנַנְיָה שַׂר הַבִּירָה עַל יְרוּשָׁלִָם כִּי הוּא כְּאִישׁ אֱמֶת וְיָרֵא אֶת הָאֱלֹהִים מֵרַבִּים׃ (ג) ויאמר וָאֹמַר לָהֶם לֹא יִפָּתְחוּ שַׁעֲרֵי יְרוּשָׁלִַם עַד חֹם הַשָּׁמֶשׁ וְעַד הֵם עֹמְדִים יָגִיפוּ הַדְּלָתוֹת וֶאֱחֹזוּ וְהַעֲמֵיד מִשְׁמְרוֹת יֹשְׁבֵי יְרוּשָׁלִַם אִישׁ בְּמִשְׁמָרוֹ וְאִישׁ נֶגֶד בֵּיתוֹ׃ (ד) וְהָעִיר רַחֲבַת יָדַיִם וּגְדוֹלָה וְהָעָם מְעַט בְּתוֹכָהּ וְאֵין בָּתִּים בְּנוּיִם׃ (ה) וַיִּתֵּן אֱלֹהַי אֶל לִבִּי וָאֶקְבְּצָה אֶת הַחֹרִים וְאֶת הַסְּגָנִים וְאֶת הָעָם לְהִתְיַחֵשׂ וָאֶמְצָא סֵפֶר הַיַּחַשׂ הָעוֹלִים בָּרִאשׁוֹנָה וָאֶמְצָא כָתוּב בּוֹ׃ פ (ו) אֵלֶּה בְּנֵי הַמְּדִינָה הָעֹלִים מִשִּׁבְיִ הַגּוֹלָה אֲשֶׁר הֶגְלָה נְבוּכַדְנֶצַּר מֶלֶךְ בָּבֶל וַיָּשׁוּבוּ לִירוּשָׁלִַם וְלִיהוּדָה אִישׁ לְעִירוֹ׃ (ז) הַבָּאִים עִם זְרֻבָּבֶל יֵשׁוּעַ נְחֶמְיָה עֲזַרְיָה רַעַמְיָה נַחֲמָנִי מָרְדֳּכַי בִּלְשָׁן מִסְפֶּרֶת בִּגְוַי נְחוּם בַּעֲנָה מִסְפַּר אַנְשֵׁי עַם יִשְׂרָאֵל׃ ס (ח) בְּנֵי פַרְעֹשׁ אַלְפַּיִם מֵאָה וְשִׁבְעִים וּשְׁנָיִם׃ .... (סא) וְאֵלֶּה הָעוֹלִים מִתֵּל מֶלַח תֵּל חַרְשָׁא כְּרוּב אַדּוֹן וְאִמֵּר וְלֹא יָכְלוּ לְהַגִּיד בֵּית אֲבוֹתָם וְזַרְעָם אִם מִיִּשְׂרָאֵל הֵם׃ (סב) בְּנֵי דְלָיָה בְּנֵי טוֹבִיָּה בְּנֵי נְקוֹדָא שֵׁשׁ מֵאוֹת וְאַרְבָּעִים וּשְׁנָיִם׃ ס (סג) וּמִן הַכֹּהֲנִים בְּנֵי חֲבָיָה בְּנֵי הַקּוֹץ בְּנֵי בַרְזִלַּי אֲשֶׁר לָקַח מִבְּנוֹת בַּרְזִלַּי הַגִּלְעָדִי אִשָּׁה וַיִּקָּרֵא עַל שְׁמָם׃ (סד) אֵלֶּה בִּקְשׁוּ כְתָבָם הַמִּתְיַחְשִׂים וְלֹא נִמְצָא וַיְגֹאֲלוּ מִן הַכְּהֻנָּה׃ (סה) וַיֹּאמֶר הַתִּרְשָׁתָא לָהֶם אֲשֶׁר לֹא יֹאכְלוּ מִקֹּדֶשׁ הַקָּדָשִׁים עַד עֲמֹד הַכֹּהֵן לְאוּרִים וְתֻמִּים׃ (סו) כָּל הַקָּהָל כְּאֶחָד אַרְבַּע רִבּוֹא אַלְפַּיִם שְׁלֹשׁ מֵאוֹת וְשִׁשִּׁים׃ (סז) מִלְּבַד עַבְדֵיהֶם וְאַמְהֹתֵיהֶם אֵלֶּה שִׁבְעַת אֲלָפִים שְׁלֹשׁ מֵאוֹת שְׁלֹשִׁים וְשִׁבְעָה וְלָהֶם מְשֹׁרְרִים וּמְשֹׁרְרוֹת מָאתַיִם וְאַרְבָּעִים וַחֲמִשָּׁה׃ ס (סח) גְּמַלִּים אַרְבַּע

42,360, (67) not counting their male and female servants, these being 7,337; they also had 245 male and female singers. (68) [Their horses—736, their mules—245,] camels—435, asses—6,720. (69) Some of the heads of the clans made donations for the work. The Tirshatha donated to the treasury: gold—1,000 drachmas, basins—50, priestly robes—530. (70) Some of the heads of the clans donated to the work treasury: gold—20,000 drachmas, and silver—2,200 minas. (71) The rest of the people donated: gold—20,000 drachmas, silver—2,000, and priestly robes—67. (72) The priests, the Levites, the gatekeepers, the singers, some of the people, the temple servants, and all Israel took up residence in their towns.	מֵאוֹת שְׁלֹשִׁים וַחֲמִשָּׁה ס חֲמֹרִים שֵׁשֶׁת אֲלָפִים שְׁבַע מֵאוֹת וְעֶשְׂרִים׃ (סט) וּמִקְצָת רָאשֵׁי הָאָבוֹת נָתְנוּ לַמְּלָאכָה הַתִּרְשָׁתָא נָתַן לָאוֹצָר זָהָב דַּרְכְּמוֹנִים אֶלֶף מִזְרָקוֹת חֲמִשִּׁים כָּתָנוֹת כֹּהֲנִים שְׁלֹשִׁים וַחֲמֵשׁ מֵאוֹת׃ (ע) וּמֵרָאשֵׁי הָאָבוֹת נָתְנוּ לְאוֹצַר הַמְּלָאכָה זָהָב דַּרְכְּמוֹנִים שְׁתֵּי רִבּוֹת וְכֶסֶף מָנִים אַלְפַּיִם וּמָאתָיִם׃ (עא) וַאֲשֶׁר נָתְנוּ שְׁאֵרִית הָעָם זָהָב דַּרְכְּמוֹנִים שְׁתֵּי רִבּוֹא וְכֶסֶף מָנִים אַלְפַּיִם וְכָתֹנֹת כֹּהֲנִים שִׁשִּׁים וְשִׁבְעָה׃ פ (עב) וַיֵּשְׁבוּ הַכֹּהֲנִים וְהַלְוִיִּם וְהַשּׁוֹעֲרִים וְהַמְשֹׁרְרִים וּמִן הָעָם וְהַנְּתִינִים וְכָל יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּעָרֵיהֶם וַיִּגַּע הַחֹדֶשׁ הַשְּׁבִיעִי וּבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּעָרֵיהֶם׃
Chapter 8 – (1) The entire people assembled as one man in the square before the Water Gate, and they asked Ezra the scribe to bring the scroll of the Teaching of Moses with which the LORD had charged Israel. (2) On the first day of the seventh month, Ezra the priest brought the Teaching before the congregation, men and women and all who could listen with understanding. (3) He read from it, facing the square before the Water Gate, from the first light until midday, to the men and the women and those who could understand; the ears of all the people were given to the scroll of the Teaching. (4) Ezra the scribe stood upon a wooden tower made for the purpose, and beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah at his right, and at his left Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah, Meshullam. (5) Ezra opened the scroll in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people; as he opened it, all the people stood up. (6) Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” with hands upraised. Then they bowed their heads and prostrated themselves before the LORD with their faces to the ground. (7) Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, and the Levites explained the Teaching to the people, while the people stood in their places. (8)They read from the scroll of the Teaching of God, translating it and giving the sense; so they understood the reading. (9) Nehemiah the Tirshatha, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who were explaining to the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the LORD your God: you must not mourn or weep,” for all the people were weeping as they listened to the words of the Teaching. (10) He further said to them, “Go, eat choice foods and drink sweet drinks and send portions to whoever has nothing prepared, for the day is holy to our Lord. Do not be sad, for your rejoicing in the LORD is the source of your strength.” (11) The Levites were quieting the	**פרק ח** - (א) וַיֵּאָסְפוּ כָל הָעָם כְּאִישׁ אֶחָד אֶל רְחוֹב אֲשֶׁר לִפְנֵי שַׁעַר הַמָּיִם וַיֹּאמְרוּ לְעֶזְרָא הַסֹּפֵר לְהָבִיא אֶת סֵפֶר תּוֹרַת מֹשֶׁה אֲשֶׁר צִוָּה ה׳ אֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל׃ (ב) וַיָּבִיא עֶזְרָא הַכֹּהֵן אֶת הַתּוֹרָה לִפְנֵי הַקָּהָל מֵאִישׁ וְעַד אִשָּׁה וְכֹל מֵבִין לִשְׁמֹעַ בְּיוֹם אֶחָד לַחֹדֶשׁ הַשְּׁבִיעִי׃ (ג) וַיִּקְרָא בּוֹ לִפְנֵי הָרְחוֹב אֲשֶׁר לִפְנֵי שַׁעַר הַמַּיִם מִן הָאוֹר עַד מַחֲצִית הַיּוֹם נֶגֶד הָאֲנָשִׁים וְהַנָּשִׁים וְהַמְּבִינִים וְאָזְנֵי כָל הָעָם אֶל סֵפֶר הַתּוֹרָה׃ (ד) וַיַּעֲמֹד עֶזְרָא הַסֹּפֵר עַל מִגְדַּל עֵץ אֲשֶׁר עָשׂוּ לַדָּבָר וַיַּעֲמֹד אֶצְלוֹ מַתִּתְיָה וְשֶׁמַע וַעֲנָיָה וְאוּרִיָּה וְחִלְקִיָּה וּמַעֲשֵׂיָה עַל יְמִינוֹ וּמִשְּׂמֹאלוֹ פְּדָיָה וּמִישָׁאֵל וּמַלְכִּיָּה וְחָשֻׁם וְחַשְׁבַּדָּנָה זְכַרְיָה מְשֻׁלָּם׃ פ (ה) וַיִּפְתַּח עֶזְרָא הַסֵּפֶר לְעֵינֵי כָל הָעָם כִּי מֵעַל כָּל הָעָם הָיָה וּכְפִתְחוֹ עָמְדוּ כָל הָעָם׃ (ו) וַיְבָרֶךְ עֶזְרָא אֶת ה׳ הָאֱלֹהִים הַגָּדוֹל וַיַּעֲנוּ כָל הָעָם אָמֵן אָמֵן בְּמֹעַל יְדֵיהֶם וַיִּקְּדוּ וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוּ לַה׳ אַפַּיִם אָרְצָה׃ (ז) וְיֵשׁוּעַ וּבָנִי וְשֵׁרֵבְיָה יָמִין עַקּוּב שַׁבְּתַי הוֹדִיָּה מַעֲשֵׂיָה קְלִיטָא עֲזַרְיָה יוֹזָבָד חָנָן פְּלָאיָה וְהַלְוִיִּם מְבִינִים אֶת הָעָם לַתּוֹרָה וְהָעָם עַל עָמְדָם׃ (ח) וַיִּקְרְאוּ בַסֵּפֶר בְּתוֹרַת הָאֱלֹהִים מְפֹרָשׁ וְשׂוֹם שֶׂכֶל וַיָּבִינוּ בַּמִּקְרָא׃ ס (ט) וַיֹּאמֶר נְחֶמְיָה הוּא הַתִּרְשָׁתָא וְעֶזְרָא הַכֹּהֵן הַסֹּפֵר וְהַלְוִיִּם הַמְּבִינִים אֶת הָעָם לְכָל הָעָם הַיּוֹם קָדֹשׁ הוּא לַה׳ אֱלֹהֵיכֶם אַל תִּתְאַבְּלוּ וְאַל תִּבְכּוּ כִּי בוֹכִים כָּל הָעָם כְּשָׁמְעָם אֶת דִּבְרֵי הַתּוֹרָה׃ (י) וַיֹּאמֶר לָהֶם לְכוּ אִכְלוּ מַשְׁמַנִּים וּשְׁתוּ מַמְתַקִּים וְשִׁלְחוּ מָנוֹת לְאֵין נָכוֹן לוֹ כִּי קָדוֹשׁ הַיּוֹם לַאֲדֹנֵינוּ וְאַל תֵּעָצֵבוּ כִּי חֶדְוַת ה׳ הִיא מָעֻזְּכֶם׃ (יא) וְהַלְוִיִּם מַחְשִׁים לְכָל הָעָם לֵאמֹר

people, saying, “Hush, for the day is holy; do not be sad.” (12) Then all the people went to eat and drink and send portions and make great merriment, for they understood the things they were told. (13) On the second day, the heads of the clans of all the people and the priests and Levites gathered to Ezra the scribe to study the words of the Teaching. (14) They found written in the Teaching that the LORD had commanded Moses that the Israelites must dwell in booths during the festival of the seventh month, (15) and that they must announce and proclaim throughout all their towns and Jerusalem as follows, “Go out to the mountains and bring leafy branches of olive trees, pine trees, myrtles, palms and [other] leafy trees to make booths, as it is written.” (16) So the people went out and brought them, and made themselves booths on their roofs, in their courtyards, in the courtyards of the House of God, in the square of the Water Gate and in the square of the Ephraim Gate. (17) The whole community that returned from the captivity made booths and dwelt in the booths—the Israelites had not done so from the days of Joshua son of Nun to that day—and there was very great rejoicing. (18) He read from the scroll of the Teaching of God each day, from the first to the last day. They celebrated the festival seven days, and there was a solemn gathering on the eighth, as prescribed.	הַסּוּ כִּי הַיּוֹם קָדֹשׁ וְאַל תֵּעָצֵבוּ׃ (יב) וַיֵּלְכוּ כָל הָעָם לֶאֱכֹל וְלִשְׁתּוֹת וּלְשַׁלַּח מָנוֹת וְלַעֲשׂוֹת שִׂמְחָה גְּדוֹלָה כִּי הֵבִינוּ בַּדְּבָרִים אֲשֶׁר הוֹדִיעוּ לָהֶם׃ ס (יג) וּבַיּוֹם הַשֵּׁנִי נֶאֶסְפוּ רָאשֵׁי הָאָבוֹת לְכָל הָעָם הַכֹּהֲנִים וְהַלְוִיִּם אֶל עֶזְרָא הַסֹּפֵר וּלְהַשְׂכִּיל אֶל דִּבְרֵי הַתּוֹרָה׃ (יד) וַיִּמְצְאוּ כָּתוּב בַּתּוֹרָה אֲשֶׁר צִוָּה ה׳ בְּיַד מֹשֶׁה אֲשֶׁר יֵשְׁבוּ בְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל בַּסֻּכּוֹת בֶּחָג בַּחֹדֶשׁ הַשְּׁבִיעִי׃ (טו) וַאֲשֶׁר יַשְׁמִיעוּ וְיַעֲבִירוּ קוֹל בְּכָל עָרֵיהֶם וּבִירוּשָׁלַם לֵאמֹר צְאוּ הָהָר וְהָבִיאוּ עֲלֵי זַיִת וַעֲלֵי עֵץ שֶׁמֶן וַעֲלֵי הֲדַס וַעֲלֵי תְמָרִים וַעֲלֵי עֵץ עָבֹת לַעֲשׂוֹת סֻכֹּת כַּכָּתוּב׃ פ (טז) וַיֵּצְאוּ הָעָם וַיָּבִיאוּ וַיַּעֲשׂוּ לָהֶם סֻכּוֹת אִישׁ עַל גַּגּוֹ וּבְחַצְרֹתֵיהֶם וּבְחַצְרוֹת בֵּית הָאֱלֹהִים וּבִרְחוֹב שַׁעַר הַמַּיִם וּבִרְחוֹב שַׁעַר אֶפְרָיִם׃ (יז) וַיַּעֲשׂוּ כָל הַקָּהָל הַשָּׁבִים מִן הַשְּׁבִי סֻכּוֹת וַיֵּשְׁבוּ בַסֻּכּוֹת כִּי לֹא עָשׂוּ מִימֵי יֵשׁוּעַ בִּן נוּן כֵּן בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל עַד הַיּוֹם הַהוּא וַתְּהִי שִׂמְחָה גְּדוֹלָה מְאֹד׃ (יח) וַיִּקְרָא בְּסֵפֶר תּוֹרַת הָאֱלֹהִים יוֹם בְּיוֹם מִן הַיּוֹם הָרִאשׁוֹן עַד הַיּוֹם הָאַחֲרוֹן וַיַּעֲשׂוּ חָג שִׁבְעַת יָמִים וּבַיּוֹם הַשְּׁמִינִי עֲצֶרֶת כַּמִּשְׁפָּט׃ פ
Chapter 9 – (1) In the twenty-fourth day of this month, the Israelites assembled, fasting, in sackcloth, and with earth upon them. (2) Those of the stock of Israel separated themselves from all foreigners, and stood and confessed their sins and the iniquities of their fathers. (3) Standing in their places, they read from the scroll of the Teaching of the LORD their God for one-fourth of the day, and for another fourth they confessed and prostrated themselves before the LORD their God. (4) On the raised platform of the Levites stood Jeshua and Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani, and Chenani, and cried in a loud voice to the LORD their God. (5) The Levites Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabniah, Sherebiah, Hodiah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah said, “Rise, bless the LORD your God who is from eternity to eternity: ‘May Your glorious name be blessed, exalted though it is above every blessing and praise!’ (6)“You alone are the LORD. You made the heavens, the highest heavens, and all their host, the earth and everything upon it, the seas and everything in them. You keep them all alive, and the host of heaven prostrate themselves before You. (7) You are the LORD God, who chose Abram, who brought him out of Ur of the Chaldeans and changed his name to Abraham. (8) Finding his heart true to You, You made a covenant with him to give the land of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Perizzite, the Jebusite, and the Girgashite—to give it to his	**פרק ט -** (א) וּבְיוֹם עֶשְׂרִים וְאַרְבָּעָה לַחֹדֶשׁ הַזֶּה נֶאֶסְפוּ בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּצוֹם וּבְשַׂקִּים וַאֲדָמָה עֲלֵיהֶם׃ (ב) וַיִּבָּדְלוּ זֶרַע יִשְׂרָאֵל מִכֹּל בְּנֵי נֵכָר וַיַּעַמְדוּ וַיִּתְוַדּוּ עַל חַטֹּאתֵיהֶם וַעֲוֹנוֹת אֲבֹתֵיהֶם׃ (ג) וַיָּקוּמוּ עַל עָמְדָם וַיִּקְרְאוּ בְּסֵפֶר תּוֹרַת ה׳ אֱלֹהֵיהֶם רְבִעִית הַיּוֹם וּרְבִעִית מִתְוַדִּים וּמִשְׁתַּחֲוִים לַה׳ אֱלֹהֵיהֶם׃ פ (ד) וַיָּקָם עַל מַעֲלֵה הַלְוִיִּם יֵשׁוּעַ וּבָנִי קַדְמִיאֵל שְׁבַנְיָה בָּנִי שֵׂרֵבְיָה בָּנִי כְנָנִי וַיִּזְעֲקוּ בְּקוֹל גָּדוֹל אֶל ה׳ אֱלֹהֵיהֶם׃ (ה) וַיֹּאמְרוּ הַלְוִיִּם יֵשׁוּעַ וְקַדְמִיאֵל בָּנִי חָשַׁבְנְיָה שֵׂרֵבְיָה הוֹדִיָּה שְׁבַנְיָה פְּתַחְיָה קוּמוּ בָּרְכוּ אֶת ה׳ אֱלֹהֵיכֶם מִן הָעוֹלָם עַד הָעוֹלָם וִיבָרְכוּ שֵׁם כְּבוֹדֶךָ וּמְרוֹמַם עַל כָּל בְּרָכָה וּתְהִלָּה׃ (ו) אַתָּה הוּא ה׳ לְבַדֶּךָ אַתָּה עָשִׂיתָ אֶת הַשָּׁמַיִם שְׁמֵי הַשָּׁמַיִם וְכָל צְבָאָם הָאָרֶץ וְכָל אֲשֶׁר עָלֶיהָ הַיַּמִּים וְכָל אֲשֶׁר בָּהֶם וְאַתָּה מְחַיֶּה אֶת כֻּלָּם וּצְבָא הַשָּׁמַיִם לְךָ מִשְׁתַּחֲוִים׃ (ז) אַתָּה הוּא ה׳ הָאֱלֹהִים אֲשֶׁר בָּחַרְתָּ בְּאַבְרָם וְהוֹצֵאתוֹ מֵאוּר כַּשְׂדִּים וְשַׂמְתָּ שְׁמוֹ אַבְרָהָם׃ (ח) וּמָצָאתָ אֶת לְבָבוֹ נֶאֱמָן לְפָנֶיךָ וְכָרוֹת עִמּוֹ הַבְּרִית לָתֵת אֶת אֶרֶץ הַכְּנַעֲנִי הַחִתִּי הָאֱמֹרִי

descendants. And You kept Your word, for You are righteous. (9) You took note of our fathers' affliction in Egypt, and heard their cry at the Sea of Reeds. (10) You performed signs and wonders against Pharaoh, all his servants, and all the people of his land, for You knew that they acted presumptuously toward them. You made a name for Yourself that endures to this day. (11) You split the sea before them; they passed through the sea on dry land, but You threw their pursuers into the depths, like a stone into the raging waters. (12) "You led them by day with a pillar of cloud, and by night with a pillar of fire, to give them light in the way they were to go. (13) You came down on Mount Sinai and spoke to them from heaven; You gave them right rules and true teachings, good laws and commandments. (14) You made known to them Your holy Sabbath, and You ordained for them laws, commandments and Teaching, through Moses Your servant. (15) You gave them bread from heaven when they were hungry, and produced water from a rock when they were thirsty. You told them to go and possess the land that You swore to give them. (16) But they—our fathers—acted presumptuously; they stiffened their necks and did not obey Your commandments. (17) Refusing to obey, unmindful of Your wonders that You did for them, they stiffened their necks, and in their defiance resolved to return to their slavery. But You, being a forgiving God, gracious and compassionate, long-suffering and abounding in faithfulness, did not abandon them. (18) Even though they made themselves a molten calf and said, 'This is your God who brought you out of Egypt,' thus committing great impieties, (19) You, in Your abundant compassion, did not abandon them in the wilderness. The pillar of cloud did not depart from them to lead them on the way by day, nor the pillar of fire by night to give them light in the way they were to go. (20) You endowed them with Your good spirit to instruct them. You did not withhold Your manna from their mouth; You gave them water when they were thirsty. (21) Forty years You sustained them in the wilderness so that they lacked nothing; their clothes did not wear out, and their feet did not swell. (22) "You gave them kingdoms and peoples, and allotted them territory. They took possession of the land of Sihon, the land of the king of Heshbon, and the land of Og, king of Bashan. (23) You made their children as numerous as the stars of heaven, and brought them to the land which You told their fathers to go and possess. (24) The sons came and took possession of the land: You subdued the Canaanite inhabitants of the land before them; You delivered them into their power, both their kings and the peoples of the land, to do with them as they pleased. (25) They captured fortified cities and rich lands; they took possession of houses filled with every good thing, of hewn cisterns, vineyards, olive trees, and fruit trees in abundance. They ate, they were filled, they grew fat; they

וְהַפְרֹז וְהַיְבוּסִי וְהַגִּרְגָּשִׁי לָתֵת לְזַרְעוֹ
וַתָּקֶם אֶת דְּבָרֶיךָ כִּי צַדִּיק אָתָּה׃ (ט)
וַתֵּרֶא אֶת עֳנִי אֲבֹתֵינוּ בְּמִצְרָיִם וְאֶת
זַעֲקָתָם שָׁמַעְתָּ עַל יַם סוּף׃ (י) וַתִּתֵּן
אֹתֹת וּמֹפְתִים בְּפַרְעֹה וּבְכָל עֲבָדָיו
וּבְכָל עַם אַרְצוֹ כִּי יָדַעְתָּ כִּי הֵזִידוּ
עֲלֵיהֶם וַתַּעַשׂ לְךָ שֵׁם כְּהַיּוֹם הַזֶּה׃
(יא) וְהַיָּם בָּקַעְתָּ לִפְנֵיהֶם וַיַּעַבְרוּ
בְתוֹךְ הַיָּם בַּיַּבָּשָׁה וְאֶת רֹדְפֵיהֶם
הִשְׁלַכְתָּ בִמְצוֹלֹת כְּמוֹ אֶבֶן בְּמַיִם
עַזִּים׃ (יב) וּבְעַמּוּד עָנָן הִנְחִיתָם
יוֹמָם וּבְעַמּוּד אֵשׁ לַיְלָה לְהָאִיר לָהֶם
אֶת הַדֶּרֶךְ אֲשֶׁר יֵלְכוּ בָהּ׃ (יג) וְעַל הַר
סִינַי יָרַדְתָּ וְדַבֵּר עִמָּהֶם מִשָּׁמַיִם
וַתִּתֵּן לָהֶם מִשְׁפָּטִים יְשָׁרִים וְתוֹרוֹת
אֱמֶת חֻקִּים וּמִצְוֹת טוֹבִים׃ (יד) וְאֶת
שַׁבַּת קָדְשְׁךָ הוֹדַעְתָּ לָהֶם וּמִצְוֹת
וְחֻקִּים וְתוֹרָה צִוִּיתָ לָהֶם בְּיַד מֹשֶׁה
עַבְדֶּךָ׃ (טו) וְלֶחֶם מִשָּׁמַיִם נָתַתָּה
לָהֶם לִרְעָבָם וּמַיִם מִסֶּלַע הוֹצֵאתָ
לָהֶם לִצְמָאָם וַתֹּאמֶר לָהֶם לָבוֹא
לָרֶשֶׁת אֶת הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר נָשָׂאתָ אֶת יָדְךָ
לָתֵת לָהֶם׃ (טז) וְהֵם וַאֲבֹתֵינוּ הֵזִידוּ
וַיַּקְשׁוּ אֶת עָרְפָּם וְלֹא שָׁמְעוּ אֶל
מִצְוֹתֶיךָ׃ (יז) וַיְמָאֲנוּ לִשְׁמֹעַ וְלֹא
זָכְרוּ נִפְלְאוֹתֶיךָ אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתָ עִמָּהֶם
וַיַּקְשׁוּ אֶת עָרְפָּם וַיִּתְּנוּ רֹאשׁ לָשׁוּב
לְעַבְדָתָם בְּמִרְיָם וְאַתָּה אֱלוֹהַּ
סְלִיחוֹת חַנּוּן וְרַחוּם אֶרֶךְ אַפַּיִם וְרַב
וחסד חֶסֶד וְלֹא עֲזַבְתָּם׃ (יח) אַף כִּי
עָשׂוּ לָהֶם עֵגֶל מַסֵּכָה וַיֹּאמְרוּ זֶה
אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֲשֶׁר הֶעֱלְךָ מִמִּצְרַיִם וַיַּעֲשׂוּ
נְאָצוֹת גְּדֹלוֹת׃ (יט) וְאַתָּה בְּרַחֲמֶיךָ
הָרַבִּים לֹא עֲזַבְתָּם בַּמִּדְבָּר אֶת עַמּוּד
הֶעָנָן לֹא סָר מֵעֲלֵיהֶם בְּיוֹמָם
לְהַנְחֹתָם בְּהַדֶּרֶךְ וְאֶת עַמּוּד הָאֵשׁ
בַּלַּיְלָה לְהָאִיר לָהֶם וְאֶת הַדֶּרֶךְ אֲשֶׁר
יֵלְכוּ בָהּ׃ (כ) וְרוּחֲךָ הַטּוֹבָה נָתַתָּ
לְהַשְׂכִּילָם וּמָנְךָ לֹא מָנַעְתָּ מִפִּיהֶם
וּמַיִם נָתַתָּה לָהֶם לְצִמְאָם׃ (כא)
וְאַרְבָּעִים שָׁנָה כִּלְכַּלְתָּם בַּמִּדְבָּר לֹא
חָסֵרוּ שַׂלְמֹתֵיהֶם לֹא בָלוּ וְרַגְלֵיהֶם
לֹא בָצֵקוּ׃ (כב) וַתִּתֵּן לָהֶם מַמְלָכוֹת
וַעֲמָמִים וַתַּחְלֵק לְפֵאָה וַיִּירְשׁוּ אֶת
אֶרֶץ סִיחוֹן וְאֶת אֶרֶץ מֶלֶךְ חֶשְׁבּוֹן
וְאֶת אֶרֶץ עוֹג מֶלֶךְ הַבָּשָׁן׃ (כג)
וּבָנֵיהֶם הִרְבִּית כְּכוֹכְבֵי הַשָּׁמָיִם
וַתְּבִיאֵם אֶל הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר אָמַרְתָּ
לַאֲבוֹתֵיהֶם לָבוֹא לָרֶשֶׁת׃ (כד) וַיָּבֹאוּ
הַבָּנִים וַיִּירְשׁוּ אֶת הָאָרֶץ וַתַּכְנַע
לִפְנֵיהֶם אֶת יֹשְׁבֵי הָאָרֶץ הַכְּנַעֲנִים
וַתִּתְּנֵם בְּיָדָם וְאֶת מַלְכֵיהֶם וְאֶת
עַמֵּמֵי הָאָרֶץ לַעֲשׂוֹת בָּהֶם כִּרְצוֹנָם׃
(כה) וַיִּלְכְּדוּ עָרִים בְּצֻרוֹת וַאֲדָמָה
שְׁמֵנָה וַיִּירְשׁוּ בָּתִּים מְלֵאִים כָּל טוּב

luxuriated in Your great bounty. (26) Then, defying You, they rebelled; they cast Your Teaching behind their back. They killed Your prophets who admonished them to turn them back to You; they committed great impieties. (27) “You delivered them into the power of their adversaries who oppressed them. In their time of trouble they cried to You; You in heaven heard them, and in Your abundant compassion gave them saviors who saved them from the power of their adversaries. (28) But when they had relief, they again did what was evil in Your sight, so You abandoned them to the power of their enemies, who subjugated them. Again they cried to You, and You in heaven heard and rescued them in Your compassion, time after time. (29) You admonished them in order to turn them back to Your Teaching, but they acted presumptuously and disobeyed Your commandments, and sinned against Your rules, by following which a man shall live. They turned a defiant shoulder, stiffened their neck, and would not obey. (30) You bore with them for many years, admonished them by Your spirit through Your prophets, but they would not give ear, so You delivered them into the power of the peoples of the lands. (31) Still, in Your great compassion You did not make an end of them or abandon them, for You are a gracious and compassionate God. (32) “And now, our God, great, mighty, and awesome God, who stays faithful to His covenant, do not treat lightly all the suffering that has overtaken us—our kings, our officers, our priests, our prophets, our fathers, and all Your people—from the time of the Assyrian kings to this day. (33) Surely You are in the right with respect to all that has come upon us, for You have acted faithfully, and we have been wicked. (34) Our kings, officers, priests, and fathers did not follow Your Teaching, and did not listen to Your commandments or to the warnings that You gave them. (35) When they had their own kings and enjoyed the good that You lavished upon them, and the broad and rich land that You put at their disposal, they would not serve You, and did not turn from their wicked deeds. (36) Today we are slaves, and the land that You gave our fathers to enjoy its fruit and bounty—here we are slaves on it! (37) On account of our sins it yields its abundant crops to kings whom You have set over us. They rule over our bodies and our beasts as they please, and we are in great distress.	בְּרוֹת חֲצוּבִים כְּרָמִים וְזֵיתִים וְעֵץ מַאֲכָל לָרֹב וַיֹּאכְלוּ וַיִּשְׂבְּעוּ וַיַּשְׁמִינוּ וַיִּתְעַדְּנוּ בְּטוּבְךָ הַגָּדוֹל׃ (כו) וַיַּמְרוּ וַיִּמְרְדוּ בָךְ וַיַּשְׁלִכוּ אֶת תּוֹרָתְךָ אַחֲרֵי גַוָּם וְאֶת נְבִיאֶיךָ הָרָגוּ אֲשֶׁר הֵעִידוּ בָם לְהָשִׁיבָם אֵלֶיךָ וַיַּעֲשׂוּ נְאָצוֹת גְּדוֹלֹת׃ (כז) וַתִּתְּנֵם בְּיַד צָרֵיהֶם וַיָּצֵרוּ לָהֶם וּבְעֵת צָרָתָם יִצְעָקוּ אֵלֶיךָ וְאַתָּה מִשָּׁמַיִם תִּשְׁמָע וּכְרַחֲמֶיךָ הָרַבִּים תִּתֵּן לָהֶם מוֹשִׁיעִים וְיוֹשִׁיעוּם מִיַּד צָרֵיהֶם׃ (כח) וּכְנוֹחַ לָהֶם יָשׁוּבוּ לַעֲשׂוֹת רַע לְפָנֶיךָ וַתַּעַזְבֵם בְּיַד אוֹיְבֵיהֶם וַיִּרְדּוּ בָהֶם וַיָּשׁוּבוּ וַיִּזְעָקוּ וְאַתָּה מִשָּׁמַיִם תִּשְׁמַע וְתַצִּילֵם כְּרַחֲמֶיךָ רַבּוֹת עִתִּים׃ (כט) וַתָּעַד בָּהֶם לַהֲשִׁיבָם אֶל תּוֹרָתֶךָ וְהֵמָּה הֵזִידוּ וְלֹא שָׁמְעוּ לְמִצְוֹתֶיךָ וּבְמִשְׁפָּטֶיךָ חָטְאוּ בָם אֲשֶׁר יַעֲשֶׂה אָדָם וְחָיָה בָהֶם וַיִּתְּנוּ כָתֵף סוֹרֶרֶת וְעָרְפָּם הִקְשׁוּ וְלֹא שָׁמֵעוּ׃ (ל) וַתִּמְשֹׁךְ עֲלֵיהֶם שָׁנִים רַבּוֹת וַתָּעַד בָּם בְּרוּחֲךָ בְּיַד נְבִיאֶיךָ וְלֹא הֶאֱזִינוּ וַתִּתְּנֵם בְּיַד עַמֵּי הָאֲרָצוֹת׃ (לא) וּבְרַחֲמֶיךָ הָרַבִּים לֹא עָשִׂיתָם כָּלָה וְלֹא עֲזַבְתָּם כִּי אֵל חַנּוּן וְרַחוּם אָתָּה׃ (לב) וְעַתָּה אֱלֹהֵינוּ הָאֵל הַגָּדוֹל הַגִּבּוֹר וְהַנּוֹרָא שׁוֹמֵר הַבְּרִית וְהַחֶסֶד אַל יִמְעַט לְפָנֶיךָ אֵת כָּל הַתְּלָאָה אֲשֶׁר מְצָאַתְנוּ לְמְלָכֵינוּ לְשָׂרֵינוּ וּלְכֹהֲנֵינוּ וְלִנְבִיאֵנוּ וְלַאֲבֹתֵינוּ וּלְכָל עַמְּךָ מִימֵי מַלְכֵי אַשּׁוּר עַד הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה׃ (לג) וְאַתָּה צַדִּיק עַל כָּל הַבָּא עָלֵינוּ כִּי אֱמֶת עָשִׂיתָ וַאֲנַחְנוּ הִרְשָׁעְנוּ׃ (לד) וְאֶת מְלָכֵינוּ שָׂרֵינוּ כֹּהֲנֵינוּ וַאֲבֹתֵינוּ לֹא עָשׂוּ תוֹרָתֶךָ וְלֹא הִקְשִׁיבוּ אֶל מִצְוֹתֶיךָ וּלְעֵדְוֹתֶיךָ אֲשֶׁר הַעִידוֹתָ בָּהֶם׃ (לה) וְהֵם בְּמַלְכוּתָם וּבְטוּבְךָ הָרָב אֲשֶׁר נָתַתָּ לָהֶם וּבָאָרֶץ הָרְחָבָה וְהַשְּׁמֵנָה אֲשֶׁר נָתַתָּ לִפְנֵיהֶם לֹא עָבָדוּךָ וְלֹא שָׁבוּ מִמַּעַלְלֵיהֶם הָרָעִים׃ (לו) הִנֵּה אֲנַחְנוּ הַיּוֹם עֲבָדִים וְהָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר נָתַתָּה לַאֲבֹתֵינוּ לֶאֱכֹל אֶת פִּרְיָהּ וְאֶת טוּבָהּ הִנֵּה אֲנַחְנוּ עֲבָדִים עָלֶיהָ׃ (לז) וּתְבוּאָתָהּ מַרְבָּה לַמְּלָכִים אֲשֶׁר נָתַתָּה עָלֵינוּ בְּחַטֹּאותֵינוּ וְעַל גְּוִיֹּתֵינוּ מֹשְׁלִים וּבִבְהֶמְתֵּנוּ כִּרְצוֹנָם וּבְצָרָה גְדוֹלָה אֲנָחְנוּ׃ פ

Chapter 10 – (1) “In view of all this, we make this pledge and put it in writing; and on the sealed copy [are subscribed] our officials, our Levites, and our priests. (2) “On the sealed copy [are subscribed]: Nehemiah the Tirshatha son of Hacaliah and Zedekiah, (3) Seraiah, Azariah, Jeremiah….. (29) “And the rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the gatekeepers, the	**פרק י** - (א) וּבְכָל זֹאת אֲנַחְנוּ כֹּרְתִים אֲמָנָה וְכֹתְבִים וְעַל הֶחָתוּם שָׂרֵינוּ לְוִיֵּנוּ כֹּהֲנֵינוּ׃ (ב) וְעַל הַחֲתוּמִים נְחֶמְיָה הַתִּרְשָׁתָא בֶּן חֲכַלְיָה וְצִדְקִיָּה׃ (ג) שְׂרָיָה עֲזַרְיָה יִרְמְיָה׃ (כט) וּשְׁאָר הָעָם הַכֹּהֲנִים הַלְוִיִּם.....הַשּׁוֹעֲרִים הַמְשֹׁרְרִים הַנְּתִינִים וְכָל

singers, the temple servants, and all who separated themselves from the peoples of the lands to [follow] the Teaching of God, their wives, sons and daughters, all who know enough to understand, (30) join with their noble brothers, and take an oath with sanctions to follow the Teaching of God, given through Moses the servant of God, and to observe carefully all the commandments of the LORD our Lord, His rules and laws. (31) "Namely: We will not give our daughters in marriage to the peoples of the land, or take their daughters for our sons. (32) "The peoples of the land who bring their wares and all sorts of foodstuff for sale on the sabbath day—we will not buy from them on the sabbath or a holy day. "We will forgo [the produce of] the seventh year, and every outstanding debt. (33) "We have laid upon ourselves obligations: To charge ourselves one-third of a shekel yearly for the service of the House of our God— (34) for the rows of bread, for the regular meal offering and for the regular burnt offering, [for those of the] sabbaths, new moons, festivals, for consecrations, for sin offerings to atone for Israel, and for all the work in the House of our God. (35) "We have cast lots [among] the priests, the Levites, and the people, to bring the wood offering to the House of our God by clans annually at set times in order to provide fuel for the altar of the LORD our God, as is written in the Teaching. (36) "And [we undertake] to bring to the House of the LORD annually the first fruits of our soil, and of every fruit of every tree; (37) also, the first-born of our sons and our beasts, as is written in the Teaching; and to bring the firstlings of our cattle and flocks to the House of our God for the priests who minister in the House of our God. (38) "We will bring to the storerooms of the House of our God the first part of our dough, and our gifts [of grain], and of the fruit of every tree, wine and oil for the priests, and the tithes of our land for the Levites—the Levites who collect the tithe in all our towns subject to royal service. (39) An Aaronite priest must be with the Levites when they collect the tithe, and the Levites must bring up a tithe of the tithe to the House of our God, to the storerooms of the treasury. (40) For it is to the storerooms that the Israelites and the Levites must bring the gifts of grain, wine, and oil. The equipment of the sanctuary and of the ministering priests and the gatekeepers and the singers is also there. "We will not neglect the House of our God."	הַנִּבְדָּל מֵעַמֵּי הָאֲרָצוֹת אֶל תּוֹרַת הָאֱלֹהִים נְשֵׁיהֶם בְּנֵיהֶם וּבְנֹתֵיהֶם כֹּל יוֹדֵעַ מֵבִין׃ (ל) מַחֲזִיקִים עַל אֲחֵיהֶם אַדִּירֵיהֶם וּבָאִים בְּאָלָה וּבִשְׁבוּעָה לָלֶכֶת בְּתוֹרַת הָאֱלֹהִים אֲשֶׁר נִתְּנָה בְּיַד מֹשֶׁה עֶבֶד הָאֱלֹהִים וְלִשְׁמוֹר וְלַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת כָּל מִצְוֹת ה׳ אֲדֹנֵינוּ וּמִשְׁפָּטָיו וְחֻקָּיו׃ (לא) וַאֲשֶׁר לֹא נִתֵּן בְּנֹתֵינוּ לְעַמֵּי הָאָרֶץ וְאֶת בְּנֹתֵיהֶם לֹא נִקַּח לִבָנֵינוּ׃ (לב) וְעַמֵּי הָאָרֶץ הַמְבִיאִים אֶת הַמַּקָּחוֹת וְכָל שֶׁבֶר בְּיוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת לִמְכּוֹר לֹא נִקַּח מֵהֶם בַּשַּׁבָּת וּבְיוֹם קֹדֶשׁ וְנִטֹּשׁ אֶת הַשָּׁנָה הַשְּׁבִיעִית וּמַשָּׂא כָל יָד׃ (לג) וְהֶעֱמַדְנוּ עָלֵינוּ מִצְוֹת לָתֵת עָלֵינוּ שְׁלִשִׁית הַשֶּׁקֶל בַּשָּׁנָה לַעֲבֹדַת בֵּית אֱלֹהֵינוּ׃ (לד) לְלֶחֶם הַמַּעֲרֶכֶת וּמִנְחַת הַתָּמִיד וּלְעוֹלַת הַתָּמִיד הַשַּׁבָּתוֹת הֶחֳדָשִׁים לַמּוֹעֲדִים וְלַקֳּדָשִׁים וְלַחַטָּאוֹת לְכַפֵּר עַל יִשְׂרָאֵל וְכֹל מְלֶאכֶת בֵּית אֱלֹהֵינוּ׃ ס (לה) וַהַגּוֹרָלוֹת הִפַּלְנוּ עַל קָרְבַּן הָעֵצִים הַכֹּהֲנִים הַלְוִיִּם וְהָעָם לְהָבִיא לְבֵית אֱלֹהֵינוּ לְבֵית אֲבֹתֵינוּ לְעִתִּים מְזֻמָּנִים שָׁנָה בְשָׁנָה לְבַעֵר עַל מִזְבַּח ה׳ אֱלֹהֵינוּ כַּכָּתוּב בַּתּוֹרָה׃ (לו) וּלְהָבִיא אֶת בִּכּוּרֵי אַדְמָתֵנוּ וּבִכּוּרֵי כָּל פְּרִי כָל עֵץ שָׁנָה בְשָׁנָה לְבֵית ה׳׃ (לז) וְאֶת בְּכֹרוֹת בָּנֵינוּ וּבְהֶמְתֵּינוּ כַּכָּתוּב בַּתּוֹרָה וְאֶת בְּכוֹרֵי בְקָרֵינוּ וְצֹאנֵינוּ לְהָבִיא לְבֵית אֱלֹהֵינוּ לַכֹּהֲנִים הַמְשָׁרְתִים בְּבֵית אֱלֹהֵינוּ׃ (לח) וְאֵת רֵאשִׁית עֲרִיסֹתֵינוּ וּתְרוּמֹתֵינוּ וּפְרִי כָל עֵץ תִּירוֹשׁ וְיִצְהָר נָבִיא לַכֹּהֲנִים אֶל לִשְׁכוֹת בֵּית אֱלֹהֵינוּ וּמַעְשַׂר אַדְמָתֵנוּ לַלְוִיִּם וְהֵם הַלְוִיִּם הַמְעַשְּׂרִים בְּכֹל עָרֵי עֲבֹדָתֵנוּ׃ (לט) וְהָיָה הַכֹּהֵן בֶּן אַהֲרֹן עִם הַלְוִיִּם בַּעְשֵׂר הַלְוִיִּם וְהַלְוִיִּם יַעֲלוּ אֶת מַעֲשַׂר הַמַּעֲשֵׂר לְבֵית אֱלֹהֵינוּ אֶל הַלְּשָׁכוֹת לְבֵית הָאוֹצָר׃ (מ) כִּי אֶל הַלְּשָׁכוֹת יָבִיאוּ בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וּבְנֵי הַלֵּוִי אֶת תְּרוּמַת הַדָּגָן הַתִּירוֹשׁ וְהַיִּצְהָר וְשָׁם כְּלֵי הַמִּקְדָּשׁ וְהַכֹּהֲנִים הַמְשָׁרְתִים וְהַשּׁוֹעֲרִים וְהַמְשֹׁרְרִים וְלֹא נַעֲזֹב אֶת בֵּית אֱלֹהֵינוּ׃
Chapter 11 – (1) The officers of the people settled in Jerusalem; the rest of the people cast lots for one out of ten to come and settle in the holy city of Jerusalem, and the other nine-tenths to stay in the towns. (2) The people gave their blessing to all the men who willingly settled in Jerusalem.	**פרק יא** - (א) וַיֵּשְׁבוּ שָׂרֵי הָעָם בִּירוּשָׁלִָם וּשְׁאָר הָעָם הִפִּילוּ גוֹרָלוֹת לְהָבִיא אֶחָד מִן הָעֲשָׂרָה לָשֶׁבֶת בִּירוּשָׁלִַם עִיר הַקֹּדֶשׁ וְתֵשַׁע הַיָּדוֹת בֶּעָרִים׃ (ב) וַיְבָרְכוּ הָעָם לְכֹל הָאֲנָשִׁים הַמִּתְנַדְּבִים לָשֶׁבֶת בִּירוּשָׁלִָם׃

Chapter 13 – (1) At that time they read to the people from the Book of Moses, and it was found written that no Ammonite or Moabite might ever enter the congregation of God, (2) since they did not meet Israel with bread and water, and hired Balaam against them to curse them; but our God turned the curse into a blessing. (3) When they heard the Teaching, they separated all the alien admixture from Israel. (4) Earlier, the priest Eliashib, a relative of Tobiah, who had been appointed over the rooms in the House of our God, (5) had assigned to him a large room where they used to store the meal offering, the frankincense, the equipment, the tithes of grain, wine, and oil, the dues of the Levites, singers and gatekeepers, and the gifts for the priests. (6) During all this time, I was not in Jerusalem, for in the thirty-second year of King Artaxerxes of Babylon, I went to the king, and only after a while did I ask leave of the king [to return]. (7) When I arrived in Jerusalem, I learned of the outrage perpetrated by Eliashib on behalf of Tobiah in assigning him a room in the courts of the House of God. (8) I was greatly displeased, and had all the household gear of Tobiah thrown out of the room; (9) I gave orders to purify the rooms, and had the equipment of the House of God and the meal offering and the frankincense put back. (10) I then discovered that the portions of the Levites had not been contributed, and that the Levites and the singers who performed the [temple] service had made off, each to his fields. (11) I censured the prefects, saying, "How is it that the House of God has been neglected?" Then I recalled [the Levites] and installed them again in their posts; (12) and all Judah brought the tithes of grain, wine, and oil into the treasuries. (13) I put the treasuries in the charge of the priest Shelemiah, the scribe Zadok, and Pedaiah of the Levites; and assisting them was Hanan son of Zaccur son of Mattaniah—for they were regarded as trustworthy persons, and it was their duty to distribute the portions to their brothers. (14) O my God, remember me favorably for this, and do not blot out the devotion I showed toward the House of my God and its attendants. (15) At that time I saw men in Judah treading winepresses on the Sabbath, and others bringing heaps of grain and loading them onto asses, also wine, grapes, figs, and all sorts of goods, and bringing them into Jerusalem on the Sabbath. I admonished them there and then for selling provisions. (16) Tyrians who lived there brought fish and all sorts of wares and sold them on the Sabbath to the Judahites in Jerusalem. (17) I censured the nobles of Judah, saying to them, "What evil thing is this that you are doing, profaning the Sabbath day! (18) This is just what your ancestors did, and for it God brought all this misfortune on this city; and now you give cause for further wrath against Israel by profaning the Sabbath!" (19) When shadows filled the gateways of Jerusalem at the approach of the Sabbath, I gave

פרק יג - (א) בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא נִקְרָא
בְּסֵפֶר מֹשֶׁה בְּאָזְנֵי הָעָם וְנִמְצָא כָּתוּב
בּוֹ אֲשֶׁר לֹא יָבוֹא עַמּוֹנִי וּמוֹאָבִי בִּקְהַל
הָאֱלֹהִים עַד עוֹלָם׃ (ב) כִּי לֹא קִדְּמוּ
אֶת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל בַּלֶּחֶם וּבַמָּיִם וַיִּשְׂכֹּר
עָלָיו אֶת בִּלְעָם לְקַלְלוֹ וַיַּהֲפֹךְ אֱלֹהֵינוּ
הַקְּלָלָה לִבְרָכָה׃ (ג) וַיְהִי כְּשָׁמְעָם אֶת
הַתּוֹרָה וַיַּבְדִּילוּ כָּל עֵרֶב מִיִּשְׂרָאֵל׃
(ד) וְלִפְנֵי מִזֶּה אֶלְיָשִׁיב הַכֹּהֵן נָתוּן
בְּלִשְׁכַּת בֵּית אֱלֹהֵינוּ קָרוֹב לְטוֹבִיָּה׃
(ה) וַיַּעַשׂ לוֹ לִשְׁכָּה גְּדוֹלָה וְשָׁם הָיוּ
לְפָנִים נֹתְנִים אֶת הַמִּנְחָה הַלְּבוֹנָה
וְהַכֵּלִים וּמַעֲשַׂר הַדָּגָן הַתִּירוֹשׁ
וְהַיִּצְהָר מִצְוַת הַלְוִיִּם וְהַמְשֹׁרְרִים
וְהַשֹּׁעֲרִים וּתְרוּמַת הַכֹּהֲנִים׃ (ו) וּבְכָל
זֶה לֹא הָיִיתִי בִּירוּשָׁלִָם כִּי בִּשְׁנַת
שְׁלֹשִׁים וּשְׁתַּיִם לְאַרְתַּחְשַׁסְתְּא מֶלֶךְ
בָּבֶל בָּאתִי אֶל הַמֶּלֶךְ וּלְקֵץ יָמִים
נִשְׁאַלְתִּי מִן הַמֶּלֶךְ׃ (ז) וָאָבוֹא
לִירוּשָׁלִָם וָאָבִינָה בָּרָעָה אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה
אֶלְיָשִׁיב לְטוֹבִיָּה לַעֲשׂוֹת לוֹ נִשְׁכָּה
בְּחַצְרֵי בֵּית הָאֱלֹהִים׃ (ח) וַיֵּרַע לִי
מְאֹד וָאַשְׁלִיכָה אֶת כָּל כְּלֵי בֵית
טוֹבִיָּה הַחוּץ מִן הַלִּשְׁכָּה׃ (ט) וָאֹמְרָה
וַיְטַהֲרוּ הַלְּשָׁכוֹת וָאָשִׁיבָה שָׁם כְּלֵי
בֵּית הָאֱלֹהִים אֶת הַמִּנְחָה וְהַלְּבוֹנָה׃
פ (י) וָאֵדְעָה כִּי מְנָיוֹת הַלְוִיִּם לֹא
נִתָּנָה וַיִּבְרְחוּ אִישׁ לְשָׂדֵהוּ הַלְוִיִּם
וְהַמְשֹׁרְרִים עֹשֵׂי הַמְּלָאכָה׃ (יא)
וָאָרִיבָה אֶת הַסְּגָנִים וָאֹמְרָה מַדּוּעַ
נֶעֱזַב בֵּית הָאֱלֹהִים וָאֲקַבְּצֵם
וָאַעֲמִדֵם עַל עָמְדָם׃ (יב) וְכָל יְהוּדָה
הֵבִיאוּ מַעְשַׂר הַדָּגָן וְהַתִּירוֹשׁ וְהַיִּצְהָר
לָאוֹצָרוֹת׃ (יג) וָאוֹצְרָה עַל אוֹצָרוֹת
שֶׁלֶמְיָה הַכֹּהֵן וְצָדוֹק הַסּוֹפֵר וּפְדָיָה
מִן הַלְוִיִּם וְעַל יָדָם חָנָן בֶּן זַכּוּר בֶּן
מַתַּנְיָה כִּי נֶאֱמָנִים נֶחְשָׁבוּ וַעֲלֵיהֶם
לַחֲלֹק לַאֲחֵיהֶם׃ פ (יד) זָכְרָה לִי
אֱלֹהַי עַל זֹאת וְאַל תִּמַח חֲסָדַי אֲשֶׁר
עָשִׂיתִי בְּבֵית אֱלֹהַי וּבְמִשְׁמָרָיו׃ (טו)
בַּיָּמִים הָהֵמָּה רָאִיתִי בִיהוּדָה דֹּרְכִים
גִּתּוֹת בַּשַּׁבָּת וּמְבִיאִים הָעֲרֵמוֹת
וְעֹמְסִים עַל הַחֲמֹרִים וְאַף יַיִן עֲנָבִים
וּתְאֵנִים וְכָל מַשָּׂא וּמְבִיאִים יְרוּשָׁלִַם
בְּיוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת וָאָעִיד בְּיוֹם מִכְרָם צָיִד׃
(טז) וְהַצֹּרִים יָשְׁבוּ בָהּ מְבִיאִים דָּאג
וְכָל מֶכֶר וּמֹכְרִים בַּשַּׁבָּת לִבְנֵי יְהוּדָה
וּבִירוּשָׁלִָם׃ (יז) וָאָרִיבָה אֶת חֹרֵי
יְהוּדָה וָאֹמְרָה לָהֶם מָה הַדָּבָר הָרָע
הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם עֹשִׂים וּמְחַלְּלִים אֶת
יוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת׃ (יח) הֲלוֹא כֹה עָשׂוּ
אֲבֹתֵיכֶם וַיָּבֵא אֱלֹהֵינוּ עָלֵינוּ אֵת כָּל
הָרָעָה הַזֹּאת וְעַל הָעִיר הַזֹּאת וְאַתֶּם
מוֹסִיפִים חָרוֹן עַל יִשְׂרָאֵל לְחַלֵּל אֶת
הַשַּׁבָּת׃ פ (יט) וַיְהִי כַּאֲשֶׁר צָלְלוּ

orders that the doors be closed, and ordered them not to be opened until after the Sabbath. I stationed some of my servants at the gates, so that no goods should enter on the sabbath. (20) Once or twice the merchants and the vendors of all sorts of wares spent the night outside Jerusalem, (21) but I warned them, saying, “What do you mean by spending the night alongside the wall? If you do so again, I will lay hands upon you!” From then on they did not come on the sabbath. (22) I gave orders to the Levites to purify themselves and come and guard the gates, to preserve the sanctity of the sabbath. This too, O my God, remember to my credit, and spare me in accord with your abundant faithfulness. (23) Also at that time, I saw that Jews had married Ashdodite, Ammonite, and Moabite women; (24) a good number of their children spoke the language of Ashdod and the language of those various peoples, and did not know how to speak Judean. (25) I censured them, cursed them, flogged them, tore out their hair, and adjured them by God, saying, “You shall not give your daughters in marriage to their sons, or take any of their daughters for your sons or yourselves. (26) It was just in such things that King Solomon of Israel sinned! Among the many nations there was not a king like him, and so well loved was he by his God that God made him king of all Israel, yet foreign wives caused even him to sin. (27) How, then, can we acquiesce in your doing this great wrong, breaking faith with our God by marrying foreign women?” (28) One of the sons of Joiada son of the high priest Eliashib was a son-in-law of Sanballat the Horonite; I drove him away from me. (29) Remember to their discredit, O my God, how they polluted the priesthood, the covenant of the priests and Levites. (30) I purged them of every foreign element, and arranged for the priests and the Levites to work each at his task by shifts, (31) and for the wood offering [to be brought] at fixed times and for the first fruits. O my God, remember it to my credit!	שַׁעֲרֵי יְרוּשָׁלַם לִפְנֵי הַשַּׁבָּת וְאָמְרָה וַיִּסָּגְרוּ הַדְּלָתוֹת וְאָמְרָה אֲשֶׁר לֹא יִפָּתְחוּם עַד אַחַר הַשַּׁבָּת וּמִנְּעָרַי הֶעֱמַדְתִּי עַל הַשְּׁעָרִים לֹא יָבוֹא מַשָּׂא בְּיוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת׃ (כ) וַיָּלִינוּ הָרֹכְלִים וּמֹכְרֵי כָל מִמְכָּר מִחוּץ לִירוּשָׁלִָם פַּעַם וּשְׁתָּיִם׃ (כא) וָאָעִידָה בָּהֶם וָאֹמְרָה אֲלֵיהֶם מַדּוּעַ אַתֶּם לִנִים נֶגֶד הַחוֹמָה אִם תִּשְׁנוּ יָד אֶשְׁלַח בָּכֶם מִן הָעֵת הַהִיא לֹא בָאוּ בַּשַּׁבָּת׃ ס (כב) וָאֹמְרָה לַלְוִיִּם אֲשֶׁר יִהְיוּ מִטַהֲרִים וּבָאִים שֹׁמְרִים הַשְּׁעָרִים לְקַדֵּשׁ אֶת יוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת גַּם זֹאת זָכְרָה לִי אֱלֹהַי וְחוּסָה עָלַי כְּרֹב חַסְדֶּךָ׃ פ (כג) גַּם בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם רָאִיתִי אֶת הַיְּהוּדִים הֹשִׁיבוּ נָשִׁים אשדודיות אַשְׁדֳּדִיּוֹת עמוניות עַמֳּנִיּוֹת מוֹאֲבִיּוֹת׃ (כד) וּבְנֵיהֶם חֲצִי מְדַבֵּר אַשְׁדּוֹדִית וְאֵינָם מַכִּירִים לְדַבֵּר יְהוּדִית וְכִלְשׁוֹן עַם וָעָם׃ (כה) וָאָרִיב עִמָּם וָאֲקַלְלֵם וָאַכֶּה מֵהֶם אֲנָשִׁים וָאֶמְרְטֵם וָאַשְׁבִּיעֵם בֵּאלֹהִים אִם תִּתְּנוּ בְנֹתֵיכֶם לִבְנֵיהֶם וְאִם תִּשְׂאוּ מִבְּנֹתֵיהֶם לִבְנֵיכֶם וְלָכֶם׃ (כו) הֲלוֹא עַל אֵלֶּה חָטָא שְׁלֹמֹה מֶלֶךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל וּבַגּוֹיִם הָרַבִּים לֹא הָיָה מֶלֶךְ כָּמֹהוּ וְאָהוּב לֵאלֹהָיו הָיָה וַיִּתְּנֵהוּ אֱלֹהִים מֶלֶךְ עַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל גַּם אוֹתוֹ הֶחֱטִיאוּ הַנָּשִׁים הַנָּכְרִיּוֹת׃ (כז) וְלָכֶם הֲנִשְׁמַע לַעֲשׂוֹת אֵת כָּל הָרָעָה הַגְּדוֹלָה הַזֹּאת לִמְעֹל בֵּאלֹהֵינוּ לְהוֹשִׁיב נָשִׁים נָכְרִיּוֹת׃ (כח) וּמִבְּנֵי יוֹיָדָע בֶּן אֶלְיָשִׁיב הַכֹּהֵן הַגָּדוֹל חָתָן לְסַנְבַלַּט הַחֹרֹנִי וָאַבְרִיחֵהוּ מֵעָלָי׃ (כט) זָכְרָה לָהֶם אֱלֹהַי עַל גְּאֳלֵי הַכְּהֻנָּה וּבְרִית הַכְּהֻנָּה וְהַלְוִיִּם׃ (ל) וְטִהַרְתִּים מִכָּל נֵכָר וָאַעֲמִידָה מִשְׁמָרוֹת לַכֹּהֲנִים וְלַלְוִיִּם אִישׁ בִּמְלַאכְתּוֹ׃ (לא) וּלְקָרְבַּן הָעֵצִים בְּעִתִּים מְזֻמָּנוֹת וְלַבִּכּוּרִים זָכְרָה לִי אֱלֹהַי לְטוֹבָה׃

Rabbi Meir Schweiger received his BA (Mathematics) from City College of New York and his MEd in Teaching Bible from the Herzog College in Gush Etzion. His advanced Jewish Studies were done in Yeshiva University, Yeshivat Kerem B'Yavneh, and Yeshivat Har Etzion. His rabbinic ordination is from Rav Zalman Nechemiah Goldberg, a judge on the Jerusalem Rabbinical Court. Meir retired this past September, after teaching 43 years at Pardes. He was one of the most influential teachers at Pardes. Over the course of his many years, Meir taught Chumash, Mishnah, Talmud, Halakhah, Siddur and Ethics. In addition to teaching, Meir was responsible for the "affective" side of Pardes, coordinating and supervising *tefillot* (prayer), *tiyulim* (hikes), *Shabbatonim*, and pre-holiday *yemei iyun* (full-day study programs). For 10 years, Meir was Director of the Fellows' Program, for returning second year students, and he was the Educational Director of the Executive Learning Seminar for 16 years.

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