

“אֵיךְ אֶשְׁאַל” ~ פיוט לתשרי תשפ”ו

אֵיךְ אֶשְׁאַל לְגַלֵּל הַחֶרֶפָּה מֵעָלַי וְעִדּוּתֶיךָ לֹא נִצָּרְתִּי?
הַסִּכִּין בְּיָדִי בְּעַדִּי עֲדִיין וְאֶדְרֹשׁ מַחִילָה מֵאֵת פִּיךָ לִי?
לְהַכּוֹת אֶגְרוֹף הַמַּחֲצָה בַּחֲזֶה, לְבַקֵּשׁ מֵעַדִּי בּוֹז תִּסִּיר מֵעָלַי?
רֹאשִׁי עֲמֹד לְאַחֲזֹר כַּיְעָנִים בַּמִּדְבָּר מְגוֹדֵל נֶזֶק הַמַּחְבְּלִים עָלַי.
כְּפוּל כְּפָלִים נִמְטִיר עֲלֵיהֶם כִּי קָטְלוּ הָאֵם שָׂד בְּפִי יִנִּיקָה –
אֲזִי אֶמְרֶנּוּ כִּמּוֹ שֶׁעָשׂוּ לִי אֶסּוֹן, אֶעֱשֶׂה כֵּן גַּם אֲנֹכִי לָהֶם –
וְהָרֵס הַהֵרֵס בֵּית וּבִגְדֵי לְאַבֶּק, מַחֲלָקָה וְרוֹפֵא, בְּאֶהֱל פְּלִיטִי
פְּצָצָה!
כְּאֵלוּ לְשִׁמְעַי אוֹיְבֵי כָלֵם מִגְרוֹנָם וְקוֹל צִעָקָה שֶׁהָרִים מְפִיָּהִם.
קוֹלֵינוּ קוֹל יַעֲשֶׂה נֶעֱשֶׂה לְאֹמֶר מִחֶטְאָם הָאֲשָׁם עֲלוֹת, הוּא לֹא
לָנוּ.
וְהִכִּי לְשִׁמָּה תֵּן כְּבוֹד חֶסֶדְךָ וְכִי יָדִי יַעֲקֹב חֲרִבִּי בְּרִזָּל הַעֲשׂוֹ?
הַגִּלָּה וְרִפָּא פְּצוּעֵי לְבָבֵנוּ שֶׁנִּתְקַן עֲמִים אֶת אֶרֶץְךָ עִם
עוֹלָמֵנוּ.
אֲזִי נִדְרֹשׁ אֶסִּירָיָה וְנִבְקֵשׁ הַשְּׁלוֹם וְיַעֲלֶה בְּזָכוֹת סְלִיחָתֵנוּ!

“Eikh esh'al - How can I ask?” A piyyut responding to the war

1. How can I ask that the disgrace be rolled off me, when I have not preserved Your testimonies? (Psalm 119:22)
2. With the blade still in my hand, for my purpose, would I yet seek forgiveness from Your mouth for me?
3. To strike with protesting fist upon my breast; to seek, from my Witness — “Lift the scorn from me”?
4. The heads of your people were cruel, like cruel desert birds (Lam 3:4); for such great damage terrorists wrought upon me.
5. Double, redoubled I shall pour upon them, for they slew the mother, while breast nursed child –
6. So we said: as was done to me, such calamity, so shall I do unto them. (Deut 12:30) –
7. Destruction — destroying house and building to dust, hospital ward and doctor, in tents those who fled the bombs!
8. As if in order to hear “my enemies finished them all” (Lam 2:22) from their throats, and a voice screaming out (Gen 27:34), rising from their mouths.
9. Our voice has become the voice of Esau (Gen 27:22), saying: “from their sin rises the guilt — it is not ours.”
10. Then how shall Your Name receive the glory of Your steadfast love (Psalm 115:1), when the hands of Jacob, becoming iron swords, have done all this?
11. Reveal and heal the wounds of our hearts, that we all, the peoples, may restore Your land along with our world.
12. So let us search out her captives and pursue Peace; by such merit, forgiveness for us may ascend!

1. Eikh esh'al l'galel hacherpah mei'alai v'eidutekha lo natzarti / 2. Hasakin b'yadi b'adi adayin v'ed'rosh m'chilah mei'eit pikha li / 3. L'hakot egrof ham'cha'ah bachazeh l'vakesh mei'eidi buz tasir mei'alai / 4. Roshei 'amkha l'akhzar kay'anin bamidbar migodel nezek ham'chablim alai / 5. K'ful k'falim namtir aleihem ki katlu ha'eim shad b'fi y'nikah / 6. Amarnu k'mo she'asu li ason e'eseh ken gam anokhi lahem / 7. V'heres heihareis beit uvinyan l'avak machlakah v'rofei b'ohel p'litei p'tzatzah / 8. K'ilu lishmo'a oyvai kilam migronam v'kol tza'akah sheheirim mipihem / 9. Koleinu kol Eisav ne'esah leimor meichat'am ha'asham 'alot hu lo lanu / 10. V'heikhi l'shimkha ten k'vod chasdekha v'khi y'dei ya'akov charvei barsel hei'asu / 11. Higelah v'rapei p'tzu'ei l'vaveinu shen'takein 'amim et artzakh em 'olmeinu / 12. Az nid'rosh asireha un'vakeish hashalom v'ya'aleh biz'khut s'lichateinu
neohasid.org, Rabbi David Seidenberg, 5786