

תהלים נא

PSALM 51

In this psalm David includes the principles of teshuvah (return). It is an appropriate psalm to be said at any time when we feel we have strayed from our path and the need to repent for our negative actions against self and others.

Lam'natzei-ach mizmor l'David.

For the Conductor, a psalm of David.

B'vo eilav Natan hanavi,

When Nathan the prophet came to him,

ka-asher ba el bat Shava.

when he came to Bath Sheba.

Chaneini Elohim k'chasdecha,

Be gracious to me, O Elohim, according to Your kindness,

k'rov rachamecha m'cheih f'sha-ai.

according to Your many mercies blot out my transgressions.

Cherev kab'seini mei-avoni,

Cleanse me abundantly from my iniquity,

umeichatati tahareini.

and from my sin purify me.

Ki f'sha-ai ani eida,

For my transgressions I acknowledge,

v'chatati negdi tamid.

and my sin is before me always.

L'cha l'vad'cha chatati,

Against You alone did I sin,

v'hara b'einecha asiti,

and that which is evil in Your eyes did I do,

l'ma-an titzdak b'davrecha

so that You are justified when You speak,

tizkeh v'shaftecha.

and faultless when You judge.

Hein b'avon cholalti,

Behold I was shaped in iniquity,

uvcheit yechematni imi.

and in sin my mother conceived me.

Hein emet chafatzta vatuchot,

Behold, the truth You desire is in the concealed parts,

uvsatum chochmah todi-eini.

and in the covered part is the wisdom that You teach me.

T'chat'eini v'eizov v'et-har,

Purge me of sin with hyssop and I shall be pure,

t'chab'seini umisheleg albin.

wash me and I shall be white as snow.

לְמַנְצֵחַ מִזְמוֹר לְדָוִד.
בָּבוֹא אֵלָיו נָתַן הַנָּבִיא,
כַּאֲשֶׁר בָּא אֶל בֵּית שֶׁבַע.
חַנּוּנֵי אֱלֹהִים כַּחֲסִדְךָ,
כְּרֹב רַחֲמֶיךָ מְחַה פְּשָׁעַי.
הָרַב כִּפְסֹנֵי מַעֲוֹנֵי,
וּמַחְטָאֵתִי טַהַרְנֵי.
כִּי פְשָׁעַי אֲנִי אֹדֵעַ,
וּחְטָאֵתִי נִגְדֵי תָמִיד.
לְךָ לְבַדְךָ חָטָאתִי,
וְהִרַע בְּעֵינַיִךָ עֲשִׂיתִי,
לְמַעַן תִּצְדַּק בְּדַבְרֶךָ
תִּזְכֶּה בְּשִׁפְטֶךָ.
הֵן בְּעוֹן חוֹלַלְתִּי,
וּבַחַטָּא יַחֲמַתְנִי אִמִּי.
הֵן אִמֶּת חִפְצָת בְּטַחוֹת,
וּבְסֹתָם חֲכָמָה תוֹדִיעֵנִי.
תַּחֲטָאֵנִי בְּאִזּוֹב וְאַטְהַר,
תִּכְבֹּסֵנִי וּמִשְׁלֵג אֲלַבִּין.

Tishmi-eini sason v'simchah,
Make me hear joy and gladness,
 tageilnah atzamot dikita.
that the bones You have crushed may rejoice.
 Hasteir panecha meichata-ai,
Hide Your face from my sins,
 v'chol avonotai m'cheih.
and erase all my iniquities.
 Leiv tahor b'ra li Elohim,
Create a clean heart within me, O Elohim,
 v'ru-ach nachon chadeish b'kirbi.
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
 Al tashlicheini mil'fanecha,
Do not cast me away from Your Presence,
 v'ru-ach kodsh'cha al tikach mimeni.
and do not take the spirit of Your holiness away from me.
 Hashivah li s'son yishecha,
Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
 v'ru-ach n'divah tism'cheini.
and with a generous spirit sustain me.
 Alam'dah fosh'im d'rachecha,
I will teach transgressors Your ways,
 v'chata-im eilecha yashuvu.
and sinners shall return to You.
 Hatzileini midamim Elohim,
Rescue me from blood-guilt, O Elohim,
 Elohei t'shu-ati,
Elohim of my salvation,
 t'ranein l'shoni tzidkatecha.
then my tongue shall sing of Your righteousness.
 Adonai s'fatai tiftach,
Eternal One open my lips,
 ufi yagid t'hilatecha.
that my mouth may declare Your praise.
 Ki lo tachpotz zevach v'eteinah,
For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it,
 olah lo tirtzeh.
a burnt-offering You do not want.
 Zivchei Elohim ru-ach nishbarah,
The sacrifices of Elohim are a broken spirit,
 leiv nishbar v'nidkeh,
a heart broken and humbled,
 Elohim lo tivzeh.
O Elohim, You will not despise.
 Heitivah virtzon'cha et Tziyon,
Do good in Your favor unto Zion,
 tivneh chomot Y'rushalayim.
build the walls of Jerusalem.

תִּשְׁמִיעֵנִי שְׂשׂוֹן וְשִׂמְחָה,
 תִּגְלֶנָּה עֲצָמוֹת דִּכִּיתָ.
 הַסְתֵּר פָּנֶיךָ מִחַטָּאֵי,
 וְכָל עֲוֹנֹתַי מַחֵה.
 לֵב טָהוֹר בְּרָא לִי אֱלֹהִים,
 וְרוּחַ נָכוֹן חִדַּשׁ בְּקִרְבִּי.
 אַל תִּשְׁלִיכֵנִי מִלְּפָנֶיךָ,
 וְרוּחַ קֹדֶשְׁךָ אַל תִּקַּח מִמֶּנִּי.
 הַשִּׁיבָה לִּי שְׂשׂוֹן יִשְׁעֶךָ,
 וְרוּחַ נְדִיבָה תִּסְמְכֵנִי.
 אַל־מַדָּה פִּשְׁעִים דַּרְכֶיךָ,
 וַחַטָּאִים אֲלִיךָ יִשׁוּבוּ.
 הַצִּילֵנִי מִדַּמִּים אֱלֹהִים,
 אֱלֹהֵי תְשׁוּעָתִי,
 תִּרְנֵן לְשׁוֹנֵי צְדָקָתְךָ.
 אֲדֹנָי שְׁפָתַי תִּפְתָּח,
 וּפִי יַגִּיד תְּהִלָּתְךָ.
 כִּי לֹא תַחֲפֹץ זֶבַח וְאֶתְנָה,
 עוֹלָה לֹא תִרְצֶה.
 זִבְחֵי אֱלֹהִים רוּחַ נִשְׁבָּרָה,
 לֵב נִשְׁבָּר וְנִדְכָה,
 אֱלֹהִים לֹא תִבְזֶה.
 הִיטִיבָה בְּרַצוֹנְךָ אֶת צִיּוֹן,
 תִּבְנֶה חוֹמוֹת יְרוּשָׁלָּיִם.

Az tachpotz zivchei tzedek,
Then You will desire the offerings of righteousness,
 olah v'chalil,
the burnt-offering and whole offering,
 az ya-alu al mizbachcha parim.
then shall they offer bulls upon Your altar.

אֶז תַּחַפֵּץ זִבְחֵי צְדָקָה,
 עֹלָה וְכֹלִיל,
 אֶז יַעֲלוּ עַל מִזְבֵּחֶךָ פָּרִים.