

תהלים פא

PSALM 81

Humanity is moved to praise Creator with song upon observing the beauty and variety of creation.

Lam'natzei-ach al hagiti l'asaf.

For the conductor on the gittis by Asaph.

Harninu Leilohim uzeinu,

Sing joyously to Elohim our strength,

hari-u Leilohei Ya-akov.

call out to the Elohim of Jacob.

S'u zimrah utnu tof,

Raise up a song and sound the drum,

kinor na-im im navel.

the sweet harp with the lyre.

Tiku vachodesh shofar,

Blow the shofar at the moon's renewal,

bakeseh l'yom chageinu.

at the appointed time for the day of our festivals.

Ki chok l'Yisra-eil hu,

Because it is a decree for Israel,

mishpat Leilohei Ya-akov.

a judgement day for the Elohim of Jacob.

Eidut biHoseif samu,

As a testimony for Joseph was it appointed,

b'tzeito al erez mitzrayim,

when He went out over the land of Egypt,

s'fat lo yadati eshma.

a language unknown to me I heard.

Hasiroti miseivel shichmo,

I removed his shoulder from the burden,

kapav midud ta-avornah.

from the kettle his hands passed.

Batzarah karata va-achal'tzecha,

In distress you called out and I released you,

e-enchah b'seter ra-am,

I answered you privately with a thunderous reply.

Evchanah al mei m'rivah selah.

I tested you at the Waters of Strife, selah.

Sh'ma ami v'a-idah bach,

Listen My people and I will attest to you,

Yisra-eil im tishma li.

O Israel if you would but listen to Me.

Lo yihyeh b'cha eil zar,

There shall not be within you any strange god,

לְמַנְצֵחַ עַל הַגִּתִּי לְאַסָּף.

הֲרַנִּינוּ לְאֱלֹהִים עֹזֵנֵנוּ,

הֲרִיעֵנוּ לְאֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב.

שִׂאוּ זְמֶרָה וּתְנוּ תֶף,

כַּנּוֹר נְעִים עִם נֶבֶל.

תִּקְעוּ בַחֲדָשׁ שׁוֹפָר,

בַּכֶּסֶה לְיוֹם חַגֵּנוּ.

כִּי חֹק לְיִשְׂרָאֵל הוּא,

מִשְׁפָּט לְאֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב.

עֵדוּת בִּיהוֹסֵף שָׁמוּ,

בְּצֵאתוֹ עַל אֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם,

שִׁפְתַי לֹא יָדַעְתִּי אֲשֶׁמַּע.

הִסִּירוּתִי מִסֶּבֶל שְׂכֵמוֹ,

כַּפָּיו מִדָּוֶד תֵּעֲבֹרְנָה.

בַּצָּרָה קָרָאתָ וְאֶחֱלָצְךָ,

אֶעֱנֶךָ בְּסֵתֶר רַעַם,

אֶבְחַנֶּךָ עַל מֵי מְרִיבָה סֶלָה.

שְׁמַע עַמִּי וְאֶעֱיֶדְךָ בְּךָ,

יִשְׂרָאֵל אִם תִּשְׁמַע לִי.

לֹא יִהְיֶה בְּךָ אֵל זָר,

v'lo tishtachaveh l'eil neichar.

nor shall you bow before an alien god.

Anochi Adonai Elohecha,

I am Hashem Your Elohim,

hama-alcha mei-eretz mitzrayim,

Who raised you from the land of Egypt,

harchev picha va-amaleihu.

open wide your mouth and I will fill it.

V'lo shama ami l'koli,

But My people did not listen to My voice,

v'Yisra-eil lo avah li.

and Israel did not desire me.

Va-ashal'cheihu bishrirut labam,

So I let them pursue the fantasies of their heart,

yeil'chu b'mo-atzoteihem.

that they might follow their own counsels.

Lu ami shomei-a li,

If only My people would heed Me,

Yisra-eil bidrachai y'haleichu.

if only Israel would walk in My ways.

Kimat oy'veihem achni-a,

In an instant their foes I would subdue,

v'al tzareihem ashiv yadi.

and I would turn against their tormentors.

M'sanei Adonai y'chachashu lo,

Those who hate Hashem would lie to him,

vihi itam l'olam.

but their time would be forever.

Vaya-achileihu meicheilev chitah,

And He would feed them with the choicest wheat,

umitzur d'vash asbi-echa.

and I would sate you with honey from a rock.

וְלֹא תִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה לְאֵל נִכְרִי.
 אָנֹכִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ,
 הִמַּעַלְךָ מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם,
 הִרְחֵב פִּיךָ וְאִמְלֵאֲהוּ.
 וְלֹא שָׁמַע עַמִּי לְקוֹלִי,
 וְיִשְׂרָאֵל לֹא אָבָה לִי.
 וְאִשְׁלַחְהוּ בְשִׁרְיוֹת לִבָּם,
 יֵלְכוּ בְמוֹעֲצוֹתֵיהֶם.
 לוֹ עַמִּי שָׁמַע לִי,
 יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּדַרְכֵי יְהִלְכוּ.
 כִּמְעַט אוֹיְבֵיהֶם אֶכְנִיעַ,
 וְעַל צָרֵיהֶם אָשִׁיב יָדַי.
 מְשִׁנְאֵי יְהוָה יִכְחָשׁוּ לוֹ,
 וִיהִי עֲתָם לְעוֹלָם.
 וַיֹּאכִילֵהוּ מִחֶלֶב חֶטָּה,
 וּמִצֹּר דְּבַשׁ אֶשְׂבִּיעֶךָ.