

# Facing our Communal Failures: The Imperative of Tisha B'Av

*For Torah In Motion, 9 Av  
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## Key Communal Shortcomings Identified by the Prophets - A Selection of Sources

### A Society of the Powerful and the Powerless; The Vulnerable are Unprotected

#### Isaiah 10:2

To turn aside the needy from judgment, and to take away the right from the poor of my people, that widows may be their prey, and that they may rob the fatherless!

#### 1. ישעיהו י"ב'

לְהַטּוֹת מִדִּין דָּלִים וּלְגַזֵּל מִשְׁפָּט עֲנִי עַמִּי לְהִיּוֹת אֶלְמָנוֹת  
שָׁלָלָם וְאֶת־יְתוּמִים יָבִיזוּ:

#### Amos 5:11

Therefore, since you trample upon the poor, and take from him exactions of wheat: you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not dwell in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink wine of them.

#### 2. עמוס ה': י"א

לָכֵן יַעֲזוּ בּוֹשְׁסֵכֶם עַל־דָּל וּמִשְׁאֵת־כֶּבֶד תִּקְחוּ מִמֶּנּוּ בְּתֵי גִזִּית  
בְּנִיתֶם וְלֹא־תֵשְׁבוּ בָּם כִּי מִי־חֶמֶד נִטְעַתֶם וְלֹא תִשְׁתּוּ אֶת־יַיִנָּם:

#### Amos 5:23

Take away from me the noise of thy songs; for I will not hear the melody of thy lutes. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like a mighty stream.

#### 3. עמוס ה': כ"ג-כ"ד

הִסֵּר מִעָלַי הַמָּוֶן שִׁירֶיךָ וְזָמְרַת נִבְלֶיךָ לֹא אֶשְׁמָע: וַיִּגַּל פְּמִים  
מִשְׁפָּט וּצְדָקָה כְּנַחֲלֵי אֵיתָן:

#### Jeremiah 7:6

if you oppress not the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, and shed not innocent blood in this place, neither walk after other gods to your hurt:

#### 4. ירמיהו ז': ו'

גֵּר יְתוֹם וְאַלְמָנָה לֹא תַעֲשִׂקוּ וְדָם נָקִי אַל־תִּשְׁפְּכוּ בְּמָקוֹם הַזֶּה  
וְאַחֲרֵי אֱלֹהִים אֲחֵרִים לֹא תֵלְכוּ לְרַע לָכֶם:

#### Jeremiah 6:6-7

For thus says the Lord of hosts, Hew down trees, and cast up a mound against Yerushalayim: this is the city to be punished; there is oppression everywhere in the midst of her. As a well keeps its water fresh, so she keeps fresh her wickedness: violence and spoil, grief and wounds, is heard in her before me continually.

#### 5. ירמיהו ו': ו'-ז'

כִּי כֹה אָמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת כָּרְתוּ עֵצָה וְשִׁפְכוּ עַל־יְרוּשָׁלַם סִלְלָה  
הִיא הָעִיר הַפְּלִדָה פְּלֵה עֵשֶׂק בְּקִרְבָּהּ: כְּהָקִיר (בּוֹר) [בִּיר]  
מִמֶּינָהּ כֵּן תִּקְרָה רַעְתָּה חֲמֹס וְשִׂד יִשְׁמַע בָּהּ עַל־פְּנֵי תָמִיד חֲלִי  
וּמִכָּה:

#### Isaiah 3:15

What mean you by crushing my people to pieces, and grinding the faces of the poor? says the Lord God of hosts.

#### 6. ישעיהו ג': ט"ו

(מַלְכִם) [מֶה־לָּכֶם] תִּדְבְּאוּ עָמִי וּפְגִי עַנְיִים תִּטְחֲנוּ נְאֻם־יְהוָה  
צְבָאוֹת: {ס}

### Isaiah 1:15-17

And when you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you: even when you make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood...Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

### Jeremiah 34:10-11

Now when all the princes, and all the people, who had entered into the covenant, heard that every one should let his manservant, and every one his maidservant, go free, that none should enslave them any more, then they obeyed, and let them go. But afterwards they relapsed, and caused the servants and the handmaids, whom they had let go free, to return, and brought them into subjection for servants and for handmaids.

### Isaiah 1:27

Ziyyon shall be redeemed with judgment, and those that return to her with righteousness.

### 7. ישעיהו א':ט"ו-י"ז

ובפרשכם פפיכם אעלים עיני מכם גם כִּי־תִרְבּוּ תַּפְלָה אִינְנִי  
שִׁמְעוּ יְדִיכֶם דְּמַיִם מְלֹאוּ: ...לִמְדוּ הַיָּטֵב דְּרָשׁוּ מִשְׁפָּט אֲשֶׁר  
חָמוּץ שִׁפְטוֹ יָתוּם רִיבוֹ אֲלֻמָּה: {ס}

### 8. ירמיהו ל"ד:י"א

וַיִּשְׁמְעוּ כָּל־הַשָּׂרִים וְכָל־הָעָם אֲשֶׁר־בָּאוּ בְּבְרִית לְשָׁלוֹחַ אִישׁ  
אֶת־עַבְדּוֹ וְאִישׁ אֶת־שִׁפְחָתוֹ חֲפָשִׁים לְבָלְתִּי עֲבָד־בָּם עוֹד  
וַיִּשְׁמְעוּ וַיִּשְׁלַחוּ: וַיָּשׁוּבוּ אַחֲרֵי־כֵן וַיִּשְׁבוּ אֶת־הָעֲבָדִים  
וְאֶת־הַשִּׁפְחוֹת אֲשֶׁר שָׁלְחוּ חֲפָשִׁים (ויכבישום) [וַיִּכְבְּשׂוּם]  
{פ} לַעֲבָדִים וְלַשִּׁפְחוֹת: {פ}

### 9. ישעיהו א':כ"ז

צִיּוֹן בַּמִּשְׁפָּט תִּפְדָּה וְשָׁבֶיהָ בַּצְדָּקָה:

## Financial Gain More Valued Than Integrity

### Jeremiah 22:17

But thou hast eyes and heart only for thy dishonest gain, and for shedding innocent blood, and for oppression, and for practising violence.

### Jeremiah 6:13

For from the least of them even to the greatest of them everyone is greedy for gain; and from the prophet even to the priest everyone deals falsely.

### Jeremiah 22:13-15

Woe to him that builds his house by unrighteousness, and his chambers by injustice; that uses his neighbour's service without wages, and gives him not for his hire; that says, I will build me a wide house with large upper chambers, and he cuts him out windows; and it is covered with rafters of cedar, and painted with vermilion. Shalt thou reign, because thou dost compete in cedar? did not thy father eat and drink, and do judgment and justice, and then it was well with him?

### 10. ירמיהו כ"ב:י"ז

כִּי אֵין עֵינֶיךָ וְלִבְךָ כִּי אִם־עַל־בִּצְעָה וְעַל דַּם־הַנָּקִי לְשִׁפּוֹךְ  
וְעַל־הַעֲשָׂק וְעַל־הַמְרוּצָה לַעֲשׂוֹת: {ס}

### 11. ירמיהו ו':י"ג

כִּי מִקִּטְנֹם וְעַד־גְּדוֹלָם כָּלוּ בִצְעָה בִצְעָה וּמַגְבִּיא וְעַד־כֹּהֵן כָּלוּ  
עֲשֵׂה שֹׁקֵר:

### 12. ירמיהו כ"ב:י"ג-ט"ו

הוּא בָנָה בֵּיתוֹ בְּלֹא־צֶדֶק וְעֲלִיּוֹתָיו בְּלֹא מִשְׁפָּט בְּרַעְיוֹהוּ לַעֲבֹד  
חָמָם וּפְעָלוֹ לֹא יִתְּנוּ: הָאֲמָר אֲבָנֶיהָ־לִי בֵּית מִדּוֹ וְעֲלִיּוֹת  
מְרוּחִים וְקָרַע לוֹ חֲלוּזֵי וְסָפוּן בָּאָרוֹ וּמִשׁוֹחַ בִּשְׁשָׁר: הִתְמַלֵּךְ כִּי  
אָתָּה מִתְתַּרֵּה בָּאָרֶץ אֲבִיד הָלֹא אָכַל וְשָׁתָה וְעָשָׂה מִשְׁפָּט  
וַצִּדִּיקָה אֲזַ טוֹב לוֹ:

## Hedonism, Ever Rising Social Standards, Conspicuous Consumption

### Amos 4:1-2

Hear this word, you cows of Bashan, that are in the mountain of Shomeron, who oppress the poor, who crush the needy, who say to their lords, Bring, that we may drink. The Lord God has sworn by his holiness, that, lo, the days shall come upon you, when you will be taken with hooks, and your remnant with fishhooks.

### 13. עמוס ד':א'-ב'

שִׁמְעוּ הַדְּבָר הַזֶּה פָּרוֹת הַבָּשָׂר אֲשֶׁר בְּהָר שֹׁמֶרוֹן הַעֲשִׂקוֹת  
וְלֵאמֹר הִרְצִצוּת אֲבִיוֹנִים הָאֲמָרָת לַאֲדֹנֵיהֶם הִבִּיֵּאָה וְנִשְׁתָּה:  
נִשְׁבַּע אֲדֹנֵי יְהוָה בְּקִדְשׁוֹ כִּי הִנֵּה יָמַי בָּאִים עֲלֵיכֶם וְנִשְׂאָה  
אֶתְכֶם בַּצִּלּוֹת וְאֶחָרִיתְכֶם בְּסִירוֹת דוּגָה:

### Isaiah 3:16

Moreover the Lord says, Because the daughters of Ziyon are haughty, and walk with outstretched necks and ogling eyes, walking and mincing as they go, and making a tinkling with their feet:...In that day the Lord will take away the beauty of the anklets, and the tiaras, and the necklaces, the eardrops, and the bracelets, and the scarves, the bonnets, and the armbands, and the belts, and the perfume boxes, and the amulets, the rings, and nose ornaments,...the gauze, and the fine linen, and the hoods, and the veils.

### Isaiah 5:8-22

Woe to them that join house to house, that lay field to field till there is no room, that you may dwell alone in the midst of the earth!...Woe to them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them! And the lyre, and the lute, the tambourine, and pipe, and wine, are in their feasts: but they regard not the work of the Lord, neither consider the operation of his hands....Woe to them that are mighty to drink wine, and warriors to mingle strong drink:

### 14. ישעיהו ג':ט"ז-כ"ג

וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה יֵשֶׁן כִּי גָבְהוּ בָנוֹת צִיּוֹן וּתְלַכְנָה (נְטוּיִת) גְּרוֹ וּמִשְׁקָרוֹת עֵינֵיהֶן וְשֹׁפָף תְּלַכְנָה וּבְרַגְלֵיהֶן תַּעֲכֹסְנָה... בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא יִסֹּר אֶדְנִי אֶת תַּפְאֶרֶת הָעֲכָסִים וְהַשְׁבִּיטִים וְהַשְׁהֲרָגִים: הַנְּטָפוֹת וְהַשִּׁירֹת וְהַרְעָלוֹת: הַפָּאֲרִים וְהַצִּעְדוֹת וְהַקְשָׁרִים וּבִתֵּי הַנֶּפֶשׁ וְהַלְחָשִׁים: הַטְּבָעוֹת וְנִזְמֵי הָאָז: ...וְהַגְּלִינִים וְהַסְדִּינִים וְהַצְנִיפוֹת וְהַרְדִּיקִים:

### 15. ישעיהו ה':ח'-כ"ב

הוּא מְגִיעִי בֵּית בְּכִית שְׂדֵה בְשֻׁדָּה יִקְרִיבוּ עַד אֶפֶס מְלוֹם וְהוֹשְׁבֵתָם לְבִדְדָם בְּקֶרֶב הָאָרֶץ:... הוּא מִשְׁפִּימִי בְּקֶרֶב שֶׁכֶר יִרְדְּפוּ מֵאֲחֵרֵי בְּנֵי שָׁרָף יֵין יְדִלֵקָם: וְהִלָּה כָּזוֹר וְנִבֵּל תָּהָר וְחִלְלִי וַיֵּין מִשְׁתִּיָּהֶם וְאֵת פְּעַל יְהוָה לֹא יִבִּיטוּ וּמַעֲשֵׂה יָדָיו לֹא רָאוּ:... הוּא גְבוּרִים לְשִׁתּוֹת יֵין וְאֶנְשֵׁי-חֵיל לְמִסֵּד שֶׁכֶר:

### Pervasive Dishonesty Accepted as the Norm

### Jeremiah 9:3-7

Take heed everyone of his neighbour, and trust not in any brother: for every brother acts deceitfully, and every neighbour goes about with slanders. And they deceive everyone his neighbour, and do not speak the truth: they have taught their tongue to speak lies, and weary themselves to commit iniquity. Thy habitation is in the midst of deceit; through deceit they refuse to know me, says the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord of hosts, Behold, I will smelt them, and try them; for how else shall I do for the daughter of my people? Their tongue is a sharpened arrow; it speaks deceit: one speaks peaceably to his neighbour with his mouth, but in secret, sets him a trap.

### Jeremiah 5:1

Run to and fro through the streets of Yerushalayim, and see now, and know, and seek in its broad places, if you can find a man, if there be any that does justice, that seeks the truth; and I will pardon it.

### Jeremiah 5:27

As a cage is full of birds, so are their houses full of deceit: therefore they are become great, and grown rich.

### 16. ירמיהו ט':ג'-ז'

אִישׁ מֵרֵעֵהוּ הִשְׁמָרוּ וְעַל-פִּלְאָאָח אֶל-תִּבְטְחוּ כִּי כָל-אֶחָד עֲקוֹב יַעֲקֹב וְכָל-רֹעַ רֵקִיל יִהְיֶה: וְאִישׁ בְּרֵעֵהוּ יִהְיֶה לֹא יִדְּבָרוּ לְמַדּוֹ לְשׁוֹנֵם דְּבַר-שָׁקֶר הָעֵנָה נִלְאוּ: שְׂבָתָה בְּתוֹךְ מִרְמָה בְּמִרְמָה מֵאֲנִי דַעַת-אוֹתִי נֹאם-יְהוָה: {ס} לָכֵן כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת הִנֵּי צוֹרָם וּבִחְנֻתִים כִּי-אֵיךְ אֶעֱשֶׂה מִכְּנִי בַת-עַמִּי: תִּץ (שׁוֹחֵט) [שְׁחוּט] לְשׁוֹנֵם מִרְמָה דִּבֵּר בְּפִיו שָׁלוֹם אֶת-רֵעֵהוּ יִדְּבָר וּבִקְרָבוֹ יִשֵּׂם אָרֶב:

### 17. ירמיהו ה':א'

שׁוּטְטוּ בְּחוֹצוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַם וְרֹאוּ-נָא וּדְעוּ וּבְקִשׁוּ בְּרַחוּבוֹתֶיהָ אֶם-תִּמְצְאוּ אִישׁ אֶם-יֵשׁ עֹשֶׂה מִשְׁפָּט מִבְּקֵשׁ אֱמוּנָה: וְאֶסְלַח לָהּ:

### 18. ירמיהו ה':כ"ז

כָּל-כְּלוֹב מְלֵא עוֹף כֶּן בְּתֵיהֶם מְלֵאִים מִרְמָה עַל-כֵּן גָּדְלוּ וַיַּעֲשִׂירוּ:

### Corruption of Courts and Decision Makers

### Isaiah 5:23

who justify the wicked for a bribe, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him!

### 19. ישעיהו ה':כ"ג

מִצְדִּיקִי רָשָׁע עֹקֵב שֹׁחַד וְצַדִּיק צְדִיקִים יִסִּירוּ מִמֶּנּוּ: {פ}

## 20. ירמיהו כ"א:י"ב

## Jeremiah 21:12

O house of David, thus says the Lord; Execute judgment in the morning, and deliver the stolen from the hand of the oppressor, lest my fury go forth like fire, and burn so that none can quench it, because of the evil of your doings.

בית דוד כה אמר יהוה דינו לבקר משפט והצילו גזול מיד עושק פורתצא כאש חמתי ובערה ואין מכבה מפני רע (מעלליהם) [מעלליכם]:

## 21. עמוס ה':י"ב

## Amos 5:12

For I know your many transgressions and your mighty sins: you that afflict the just, that take a bribe, and turn aside the poor at the gate.

כי ידעתי רבים פשעכם ועצמים חטאתיכם צררי צדיק לקחי כפר ואביונים בשער הטו:

## 22. ירמיהו ה':כ"ח

## Jeremiah 5:28

They are grown fat, and sleek: yea, they overpass in deeds of wickedness: they judge not the cause of the fatherless, that they may prosper; and the right of the needy do they not judge.

שמנו עשלו גם עברו דבירע דין לא-דנו דין יתום ויצליחו ומשפט אביונים לא שפטו:

## 23. ירמיהו ה':ב'

## Jeremiah 5:2

And though they say, As the Lord lives; surely they swear falsely.

ואם חיי-יהוה יאמרו לכן לשקר ישבעו:

## 24. עמוס ה':ט"ו

## Amos 5:15

Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish justice in the gate: it may be that the Lord God of hosts will be gracious to the remnant of Yosef.

שנאו-רע ואהבו טוב והציגו בשער משפט אילי יחגן יהוה אלהי-צבאות שארית יוסף: {ס}

## 25. ירמיהו ד':ב'

## Jeremiah 4:2

and wilt swear, As the Lord lives, in truth, in judgment, and in righteousness; then the nations shall bless themselves in him, and in him shall they glory.

ונשבעת חיי-יהוה באמת במשפט ובצדקה והתברכו בו גוים ובו יתהללו: {ס}

## Overreliance on Military Strength, Assumption of G-d's Unconditional Protection

## 26. ירמיהו ז':ד'-י"ד

## Jeremiah 7:4-14

Trust not in lying words, saying, The temple of the Lord, The temple of the Lord, The temple of the Lord, are these. ...Will you steal, murder, and commit adultery, and swear falsely, and burn incense to the Ba'al, and walk after other gods whom you know not;...Is this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your eyes? Behold, I myself have seen it, says the Lord...And now, because you have done all these deeds, says the Lord, and though I spoke to you, from morning till night, but you did not listen; and I called you, but you did not answer; therefore will I do to this house, which is called by my name, and in which you trust, and to the place which I gave to you and to your fathers, as I have done to Shilo.

אל-תבטחו לכם אל-דברי השקר לאמר היכל יהוה היכל יהוה היכל יהוה המה: ... הגנב ורצח ונאף והשבע לשקר ומטר לבצע והלד אחרי אלהים אחרים אשר לא-ידעתם: ... המערת פראים הנה הבית הנה אשר-נקרא-שמי עליו בעיניכם גם אנכי הנה ראיתי נאם-יהוה: ועתה יען עשותיכם את-כל-המעשים האלה נאם-יהוה ואדבר אליכם השכם ודבר ולא שמעתם ואקרא אתכם ולא עניתם: ועשיתי לבית אשר נקרא-שמי עליו אשר אתם בטחים בו ולמקום אשר-נתתי לכם ולאבותיכם פאשר עשיתי לשלו:

## 27. עמוס ג':ב'

## Amos 3:2

You only have I known of all the families of the earth: therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.

רק אתכם ידעתי מכל משפחות האדמה על-כן אפקד עליכם את כל-עונותיכם:

## 28. ירמיהו כ"א:י"ג

## Jeremiah 21:13

Behold, I am against thee, O inhabitant of the valley, O rock of the plain, says the Lord; who say, Who shall come down against us? or who shall enter into our habitations?

הִנְנִי אֵלֶיךָ יֹשֶׁבֶת הָעֵמֶק צוּר הַמִּישׁוֹר נְאֻם־יְהוָה הָאֱמָרִים  
מִי־יִחַת עָלֵינוּ וּמִי יָבוֹא בְּמַעוֹנוֹתֵינוּ:

## 29. ירמיהו כ"ז:י"ב-י"ד

## Jeremiah 27:12-14

I spoke also to Zidqiyah king of Yehuda according to all these words, saying, Bring your necks under the yoke of the king of Bavel, and serve him and his people, and live...Therefore hearken not to the words of the prophets that speak to you, saying, You shall not serve the king of Bavel; for they prophesy a lie to you.

וְאֶל־צִדְקִיָּה מֶלֶךְ־יְהוּדָה דִּבַּרְתִּי כְּכָל־הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה לְאֶמֶר  
הַבָּיִאוּ אֶת־צוּרְאֵיכֶם בְּעַל מֶלֶךְ־בָּבֶל וְעַבְדוּ אוֹתוֹ וְעִמּוֹ  
וְחַיּוּ... וְאֶל־תִּשְׁמָעוּ אֶל־דְּבָרֵי הַנְּבִאִים הָאֱמָרִים אֲלֵיכֶם לֵאמֹר  
לֹא תַעֲבֹדוּ אֶת־מֶלֶךְ בָּבֶל כִּי שֶׁקֶר הֵם נְבִאִים לָכֶם:

## 30. ירמיהו ה':י"ז

## Jeremiah 5:17

And they shall eat up thy harvest, and thy bread, which thy sons and thy daughters should eat: they shall eat up thy flocks and thy herds: they shall eat up thy vines and thy fig trees: they shall batter thy fortified cities, wherein thou dost trust, with the sword.

וְאָכַל קִצְרֶךָ וְלֶחֱמֶךָ וְאָכְלוּ בְּגִידֶיךָ וּבְגוֹתֶיךָ יֹאכַל צֹאנְךָ וּבְקָרְךָ  
יֹאכַל עֲפֹנְךָ וְתַאֲנֶנְךָ יִרְשָׁשׁ עָרֵי מְבָצְרֶיךָ אֲשֶׁר אַתָּה בֵּיתְךָ בְּהֶגְנָה  
בְּחֶרֶב:

## Complacent; Prefer Feel-Good Messages, Reject "Divisive" Criticism

## 31. ירמיהו ב':ל"ה

## Jeremiah 2:35

Thou sayst, Because I am innocent, surely his anger has turned from me. Behold, I will enter into judgment with thee for saying, I have not sinned.

וְתֹאמַרְכִי כִּי נָקִינִי אֵךְ שֶׁב אָפוּ מִמֶּנִּי הִנְנִי נִשְׁפָּט אוֹתְךָ  
עַל־אֲמַרְךָ לֹא חָטָאתִי:

## 32. ישעיהו ה':כ"א

## Isaiah 5:21

Woe to them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!

הוּא חֲכָמִים בְּעֵינֵיהֶם וְגַגַּד פְּנֵיהֶם נְבִנִים: {ס}

## 33. ירמיהו ח':ח'-ט'

## Jeremiah 8:8-9

How can you say, We are wise, and the Torah of the Lord is with us? Surely, the pen wrought in vain, in vain the scribes. The wise men are ashamed, they are dismayed and taken: lo, they have rejected the word of the Lord; theirs is not wisdom.

אֵיכָה תֹאמְרוּ חֲכָמִים אֲנִחנוּ וְתוֹרַת יְהוָה אִתָּנוּ אָכַל הִנֵּה לִשְׁקֹר  
עָשָׂה עֹט שֶׁקֶר סֹפְרִים: הִבְשׂוּ חֲכָמִים חֲתוּ וַיִּלְכְּדוּ הִנֵּה  
בְּדִבְרֵי־יְהוָה מְאֹסוּ וְחֻקֵּמַת מֶה לָּהֶם:

## 34. עמוס ד':ו'-י"א

## Amos 4:6-11

And I also have given you cleanness of teeth in all your cities, and want of bread in all your places: yet you have not returned to me, says the Lord. And I too have withheld the rain from you, when there were yet three months to the harvest: and I caused it to rain upon one city, and caused it not to rain upon another city: one piece was rained upon, and the piece whereupon it did not rain, withered. So two or three cities wandered to one city, to drink water; but they were not satisfied: yet have you not returned to me, says the Lord. I have smitten you with blasting and mildew: when your gardens and your vineyards and your fig trees and your olive trees increased, the cutting locust devoured them: yet have you not returned to me, says the Lord. I have sent among you the pestilence after the manner of Mizrayim: your young men I have slain with the sword,

וְגַם־אֲנִי נָתַתִּי לָכֶם נִקְיוֹן שִׁנַּיִם בְּכָל־עָרֵיכֶם וְחֹסֶר לֶחֶם בְּכָל  
מְקוֹמֵיכֶם וְלֹא־שַׁבְתֶּם עָדִי נְאֻם־יְהוָה: וְגַם אֲנֹכִי מְנַעַתִּי מִכֶּם  
אֶת־הַגֶּשֶׁם בְּעוֹד שְׁלֹשָׁה חֳדָשִׁים לְקֹצֵיר וְהַמִּטְרֹתִי עַל־עֵיר  
אֶחָת וְעַל־עֵיר אֶחָת לֹא אֶמְטִיר חֲלָקָה אֶחָת תִּמְטֹר וְחֲלָקָה  
אַשֶׁר־לֹא־תִמְטֹר עָלֶיהָ תִּיבֹשׁ: וְנָעוּ שְׂתִימִם שְׁלֹשׁ עָרִים אֶל־עֵיר  
אֶחָת לִשְׁתּוֹת מַיִם וְלֹא יִשְׁבְּעוּ וְלֹא־שַׁבְתֶּם עָדִי נְאֻם־יְהוָה:  
הִנֵּיתִי אֶתְכֶם בַּשִּׁדְפוֹן וּבִבְרָקוֹן הַרְבּוֹת גְּנוּתֵיכֶם וְכַרְמֵיכֶם  
וְתַאֲנֵיכֶם וְזִיתֵיכֶם יֹאכַל הַגָּזָם וְלֹא־שַׁבְתֶּם עָדִי נְאֻם־יְהוָה: {ס}  
שִׁלַּחְתִּי בָכֶם דָּבָר בְּדֶרֶךְ מִצְרַיִם הַרְגָתִי בְּחֶרֶב בְּחֹרֵיכֶם עִם  
שָׂבִי סוּסֵיכֶם וְאֶעֱלֶה בָאֵשׁ מִחֻגֵּיכֶם וּבְאֶפְסֵיכֶם וְלֹא־שַׁבְתֶּם עָדִי  
נְאֻם־יְהוָה: הִפְכֹתִי בָכֶם כַּמֶּה־פֶּכֶת אֱלֹהִים אֶת־סֶדֶם וְאֶת־עַמּוּדָה  
וְתִהְיֶה כְאוֹד מִצְרַיִם וְלֹא־שַׁבְתֶּם עָדִי נְאֻם־יְהוָה:

and I have taken away your horses; and I have made the stench of your camp to come up to your nostrils: yet have you not returned to me, says the Lord. I have overthrown some of you, as God overthrew Sodom and Amora, and you were as a brand plucked out of the burning: yet have you not returned to me, says the Lord.

#### Jeremiah 29:8

For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Yisrael; Let not your prophets and your diviners, that are in the midst of you, deceive you, neither hearken to the dreams which you encourage them to dream. For they prophesy falsely to you in my name: I have not sent them, says the Lord.

#### Amos 5:10

They hate him who reproves in the gate, and they abhor him that speaks uprightly.

#### Jeremiah 32:33

And they have turned their back to me, and not their face: though I taught them, teaching them from morning till night, yet they have not hearkened to receive instruction.

#### Jeremiah 2:30

In vain have I smitten your children; they received no correction: your own sword has devoured your prophets, like a destroying lion.

#### Jeremiah 6:10

To whom shall I speak, and give warning, that they may hear? behold, their ear is uncircumcised, and they cannot hearken: behold, the word of the Lord is unto them a reproach; they have no delight in it.

#### Jeremiah 14:13

Then said I, Ah, Lord God! behold, the prophets say to them, You shall not see the sword, neither shall you have famine; but I will give you assured peace in this place.

#### Jeremiah 27:15

For I have not sent them, says the Lord; but they prophesy a lie in my name; that I might drive you out, and that you might perish, you, and the prophets that prophesy to you.

#### Jeremiah 8:11

For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of my people superficially, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.

#### 35. ירמיהו כ"ט:ח-ט'

כִּי־כֹה אָמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶל־נְשִׂאיו לָכֶם  
נְבִיאֵיכֶם אֲשֶׁר־בְּקִרְבְּכֶם וְקִסְמֵיכֶם וְאֶל־תַּשְׁמְעוּ אֶל־חִלְמֵיכֶם  
אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם מַחְלָמִים: כִּי בִשְׁקֹר הֵם נִבְּאִים לָכֶם בְּשֵׁמִי לֹא  
שְׁלַחְתִּים נְאֻם־יְהוָה: {ס}

#### 36. עמוס ה':י'

שָׁנְאוּ בִשְׁעַר מוֹכִיחַ וּדְבַר תָּמִים יִתְעָבוּ:

#### 37. ירמיהו ל"ב:ל"ג

וַיִּפְנוּ אֵלַי עָרָף וְלֹא פָנִים וְלִמַּד אַתֶּם הַשָּׁכֵם וְלִמַּד וְאִינָם  
שֹׁמְעִים לְקוֹחַת מוֹסֵר:

#### 38. ירמיהו ב':ל'

לִשְׁוֹא הִפִּיתִי אֶת־בְּנֵיכֶם מוֹסֵר לֹא לָקְחוּ אֶכְלָה חֲרָבְכֶם  
נְבִיאֵיכֶם פָּאֲרִינָה מִשְׁחִית:

#### 39. ירמיהו ו':י'

עַל־מִי אֲדַבֶּרָה וְאֶעֱיִדָה וַיִּשְׁמְעוּ הִנֵּה עָרְלָה אָזְנוֹם וְלֹא יוֹכְלוּ  
לְהִקְשִׁיב הִנֵּה דְבַר־יְהוָה הִנֵּה לָהֶם לְחֹרֶפֶה לֹא יִחַפְּצוּ־בוּ:

#### 40. ירמיהו י"ד:י"ג

וְאֵמַר אֲהֵה | אֲדַגֵּי יְהוָה הִנֵּה הִנְבְּאִים אֲמָרִים לָהֶם לֹא־תֵרָאוּ  
חֶרֶב וָרָעָב לֹא־יִהְיֶה לָכֶם כִּי־שָׁלוֹם אֶמֶת אֶתֶּן לָכֶם בְּמָקוֹם  
הַזֶּה: {ס}

#### 41. ירמיהו כ"ז:ט"ו

כִּי לֹא שְׁלַחְתִּים נְאֻם־יְהוָה וְהֵם נִבְּאִים בְּשֵׁמִי לִשְׁקֹר לְמַעַן  
הַדִּיחִי אֶתְכֶם וְאֶבְדֶּתֶם אַתֶּם וְהִנְבְּאִים הִנְבְּאִים לָכֶם:

#### 42. ירמיהו ח':י"א

וַיִּרְאוּ אֶת־שֹׁקֵר בַּת־עַמִּי עַל־נִקְלָה לֵאמֹר שָׁלוֹם | שָׁלוֹ וְאִין  
שָׁלוֹם:

## Amos 2:6-15 (See Below)

Thus says the Lord; For three transgressions of Yisrael, I will turn away his punishment, but for the fourth I will not turn away his punishment; because they sold the righteous for silver, and the poor for a pair of shoes; that pant after the dust of the earth on the head of the poor, and turn aside the way of the humble: and a man and his father will go in to the same girl, to profane my holy name: and they lay themselves down beside every altar upon clothes taken in pledge, and they drink the wine of the condemned in the house of their god. Yet I destroyed the Emori before them, whose height was like the height of the cedars, and he was strong as the oaks; yet I destroyed his fruit from above, and his roots from beneath. Also I brought you up out of the land of Mizrayim, and led you forty years through the wilderness, to possess the land of the Emori. And I raised up of your sons for prophets, and of your young men for Nezirim. Is it not even thus, O you children of Yisrael? says the Lord. But you gave the Nezirim wine to drink; and commanded the prophets, saying, Prophesy not. Behold, I will press you down in your place, as a cart presses down that is full of sheaves. So the flight shall perish from the swift, and the strong shall not retain his force, nor shall the mighty man deliver himself: And he who is courageous among the mighty shall flee away naked on that day, says the Lord.

## 43. (See below) עמוס ב':ו'-ט"ו

כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה עַל־שְׁלֹשָׁה פְּשָׁעַי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְעַל־אַרְבָּעָה לֹא אֲשִׁיבֵנּוּ עַל־מִכְרָם בְּכֶסֶף צְדִיק וְאֶבְיוֹן בְּעֶבְיֹר נַעֲלִים: הַשְׁאָפִים עַל־עַפְר־אֶרֶץ בְּרָאשׁ דָּלִים וְדָרָךְ עֲנִיִּים יָטוּ וְאִישׁ וְאִשׁ יִלְכוּ אַל־הַנֶּעֱרָה לִמְעַן חֲלָל אֶת־שֵׁם קְדוֹשִׁי: וְעַל־בְּגָדִים חֲבָלִים יָטוּ אֶצֶל כָּל־מִזְבֵּחַ וַיֵּין עֲנוּשִׁים בֵּית אֱלֹהֵיהֶם: וְאֶנֹכִי הִשְׁמַדְתִּי אֶת־הָעַמָּרִי מִפְּנֵיהֶם אֲשֶׁר כָּגְבָה אַרְזִים גְּבָהוּ וְחֶסֶן הוּא כְּאַלּוֹנִים וְאֲשַׁמִּיד פָּרִיו מִמֶּעַל וְשָׂרְשׁוֹ מִתַּחַת: וְאֶנֹכִי הִעֲלִיתִי אֶתְכֶם מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם וְאוֹלָה אֶתְכֶם בְּמִדְבָּר אַרְבָּעִים שָׁנָה לְרַשֵׁת אֶת־אֶרֶץ הָעַמָּרִי: וְאַקִּים מִבְּנֵיכֶם לְנָבִיאִים וּמִבְּחֹרֵיכֶם לְנִזְרִים הֵאָף אִי־נָאֵת בְּנִי יִשְׂרָאֵל נָאֵם־יְהוָה: וּתְשַׁקּוּ אֶת־הַנְּזִירִים יָיִן וְעַל־הַנְּבִיאִים צוִיתֶם לֵאמֹר לֹא תִנְבְּאוּ: הִנֵּה אֲנֹכִי מַעֲשֶׂה תַּחְתֵּיכֶם כַּאֲשֶׁר תַּעֲשֶׂה הַמַּלְאָה לָּהּ עֲמִיר: וְאַבָּד מְנוּס מִקָּל וְחֹזֵק לֹא־יִאֲמָץ כֹּחַוּ וְגִבּוֹר לֹא־יִמָּלֵט נַפְשׁוֹ: וְאֶמְיָץ לָבוֹ בְּבִגְדֵי עָרוֹם יָנוּס בְּיוֹם־הַהוּא נָאֵם־יְהוָה: {פ}

## Communal Leaders Corrupt or Focused on Non-Essentials

### Isaiah 1:23

thy princes are rebellious, and companions of thieves: every one loves bribes, and follows after rewards: they judge not the fatherless neither does the cause of the widow reach them.

### 44. ישעיהו א':כ"ג

שָׂרֵיךְ סוֹרְרִים וְחֻבְרֵי גַנְבִים כֻּלּוֹ אֶהָב שֹׁחַד וְרָדָף שְׁלֹמִימִים יָתוּם לֹא יִשְׁפֹּטוּ וְרֵיב אֶלְמָנָה לֹא־יָבוֹא אֵלֵיהֶם: {ס}

### Isaiah 1:10

Hear the word of the Lord, rulers of Sedom; give ear to the Tora of our God, you people of 'Amora.

### 45. ישעיהו א':י'

שִׁמְעוּ דְּבַר־יְהוָה קְצִינֵי סֶדֶם הֲאִזְנִינוּ תוֹרַת אֱלֹהֵינוּ עִם עֲמָרָה:

### Jeremiah 5:30-31

An appalling and horrible thing is committed in the land; the prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will you do when the end of it comes?

### 46. ירמיהו ה':ל'-ל"א

שִׁמָּה וְשִׁעְרוּרָה נְהִיתָה בָּאֶרֶץ: הַנְּבִאִים נִבְּאוּ בְּשֹׁקֶר וְהַכֹּהֲנִים יָרְדּוּ עַל־יְדֵיהֶם וְעַמִּי אֶהָבוּ כֵּן וְמִה־תַּעֲשׂוּ לֹא־תִרְיָתָהּ:

### Isaiah 10:1

Woe them that decree unrighteous decrees, and to the writers that prescribe oppression.

### 47. ישעיהו י':א'

הוּא הִקְדָּקִים חֻקֵּי־אָוֶן וּמִכְתָּבִים עֲמָל כָּתְבוּ:

### Jeremiah 2:8

The priests said not, Where is the Lord? and they that handle the Tora knew me not: the rulers also transgressed against me, and the prophets prophesied by the Ba'al, and walked after things that do not profit.

### 48. ירמיהו ב':ח'

הַכֹּהֲנִים לֹא אָמְרוּ אֵיךְ יְהוָה וְתַפְשִׁי הַתּוֹרָה לֹא יִדְעוּנִי וְהַרְעִים פִּשְׁעוֹ בִּי וְהַנְּבִאִים נִבְּאוּ בַּבַּעַל וְאַתְרֵי לֹא־יִוָּעֲלוּ הֶלְכוּ:

#### 49. ירמיהו כ"ג:י"א

#### Jeremiah 23:11

For both prophet and priest are hypocrites; even in my house have I found their wickedness, says the Lord.

כִּי-גַם-נְבִיא גַם-כֹּהֵן חָנְפוּ גַם-בְּבֵיתִי מָצָאתִי רָעָתָם נְאֻם-יְהוָה:

#### 50. ירמיהו ל"ב:ל"ב

#### Jeremiah 32:32

because of all the evil of the children of Yisra'el and of the children of Yehuda, which they have done to provoke me to anger, they, their kings, their princes, their priests, and their prophets, and the men of Yehuda, and the inhabitants of Yerushalayim.

עַל-כָּל-רָעַת בְּנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל וּבְנֵי יְהוּדָה אֲשֶׁר עָשׂוּ לְהַכְעִסְנִי הָמָּה מְלִכֵיהֶם שְׂרִיפֵיהֶם כְּהֹנֵיהֶם וּנְבִיאֵיהֶם וְאִישׁ יְהוּדָה וַיִּשְׁבְּי יְרוּשָׁלָּם:

#### 51. ישעיהו א':כ"א-כ"ו

#### Isaiah 1:21

How is the faithful city become a harlot! it was full of judgment; righteousness lodged in it; but now murderers. Thy silver is become dross, thy wine is mixed with water: And I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counsellors as at the beginning: afterwards thou shalt be called, The city of righteousness, a faithful city.

אֵיכָה הִנֵּה הָיְתָה לְזוֹנָה קִרְיָה נְאֻמָּה מְלֹאֲתִי מִשְׁפָּט צָדֵק יָלִין בָּהּ וְעַתָּה מְרֻצָּחוֹת: כִּסְפָּהּ הָיָה לְסִיגִים סֶבֶאָה מְהוּל בָּמֹת: וְאֲשִׁיבָה שְׁפִטֹת כְּבָרָאשׁוּנָה וַיַּעֲצִיב כְּבַתְחֻלָּה אַחֲרֵיהֶן יִקְרָא לָהּ עִיר הַצֶּדֶק קִרְיָה נְאֻמָּה:

### Brazen Violations of Torah Values

#### 52. ירמיהו ה':ג'

#### Jeremiah 5:3

...They have refused to receive correction: they have made their faces harder than a rock; they have refused to repent..

... חָזְקוּ פְנֵיהֶם מִסָּלַע מֵאָנּוּ לְשׁוּב:

#### 53. ירמיהו ב':ל"ד

#### Jeremiah 2:34

Also in thy skirts is found the lifeblood of the innocent poor: You were not found in the act of breaking in, but out in the open.

גַּם בְּכַנְפֶיךָ נִמְצְאוּ דַם נַפְשׁוֹת אֲבִיוֹנִים זָקִיִּים לֹא-בִמְחֻתָּרָת מִצֹּאתִים כִּי עַל-כָּל-אַלְהָה:

#### 54. ירמיהו ו':ט"ו

#### Jeremiah 6:15

They should have been ashamed when they had committed abomination; but they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore they shall fall among the fallen: at the time that I punish them they shall stumble, says the Lord.

הֲבִישׁוּ כִּי תוֹעֵבָה עָשׂוּ גַם-בָּוֶשׁ לֹא-יָבוֹשׁוּ גַם-הַכְּלִים לֹא יִדְעוּ לָכֵן יִפְּלוּ בַנְּפִלִים בְּעַת-פְּקֻדֹתַיִם יִפְּשְׁלוּ אָמַר יְהוָה: {ס}

#### 55. ירמיהו ג':ג'

#### Jeremiah 3:3

Therefore the showers have been withheld, and there has been no latter rain; but thou didst have a harlot's countenance,, thou didst refuse to be ashamed.

וַיִּמְנְעוּ רֶבֶבִים וּמִלְקוֹשׁ לֹא הָיָה וַיִּמָּצַח אִשָּׁה זוֹנָה הָיָה לָךְ מֵאֲנַת הַפִּלָּם:



# עמוס ב':ו'-ט"ו

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| <p>(6) They sell the innocent for silver, and [sell] the indigent for shoes.</p> <p>(7)They who trample into the dust of the earth the heads of the lowly, and turn the pathway of the poor, and a man and his father go to the maiden and so profane My holy Name.</p> <p>(8)And on garments taken as security they stretch next to each altar; and the wine of the punished they drink in the house of their gods.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <p>(6) כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה עַל־שְׁלֹשָׁה פְּשָׁעַי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְעַל־אַרְבָּעָה לֹא אֲשִׁיבֵנוּ עַל־מִכְרָם בְּכֶסֶף צְדִיק וְאֶבְיוֹן בַּעֲבוּר נַעֲלִים:</p> <p>(7) הַשְׁאֲפִים עַל־עַפְר־אֶרֶץ בְּרֹאשׁ דְּלִים וְדֶרֶךְ עֲנִיִּים יִטּוּ וְאִישׁ וְאִשׁוֹ יֵלְכוּ אֶל־הַנְּעָרָה לְמַעַן חָלֹל אֶת־שֵׁם קְדוֹשִׁי:</p> <p>(8) וְעַל־בְּגָדִים חִבְלִים יִטּוּ אֶצֶל כָּל־מִזְבֵּחַ וַיִּין עֲנוּשִׁים יִשְׁתּוּ בֵּית אֱלֹהֵיהֶם:</p> |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>(9)Whereas I destroyed the Emori from before them, whose height was as the height of cedars, and strong he was like oaks; and I destroyed his fruit from above and his roots from below.</p> <p>(10)And I brought you up from the land of Mitzrayim, and I walked you in the desert for forty years to inherit the land of the Emori.</p> <p>(11) And I raised from among your sons prophets, and from among your men, <i>nezirim</i>. Is this not true, Children of Israel?! says Hashem.</p> | <p>(9) וְאֲנֹכִי הִשְׁמַדְתִּי אֶת־הָאֱמֹרִי מִפְּנֵיהֶם אֲשֶׁר כְּגֹבַהּ אֲרָזִים גְּבוֹהוֹ וְחֹסֶן הוּא כְּאַלּוֹנִים וְאֲשַׁמִּיד פְּרִיֹו מִמֶּעַל וְשָׂרְשָׁיו מִתַּחַת:</p> <p>(10) וְאֲנֹכִי הֶעֱלִיתִי אֶתְכֶם מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם וְאוֹלֵךְ אֶתְכֶם בַּמִּדְבָּר אַרְבָּעִים שָׁנָה לָרֶשֶׁת אֶת־אֶרֶץ הָאֱמֹרִי:</p> <p>(11) וְאָקִים מִבְּנֵיכֶם לְנָבִיאִים וּמִבְּחֹרֵיכֶם לְנָזִירִים הֵאָרַף אִי־נָזֵאת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל נֹאם־יְהוָה:</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <p>(12)You have caused the <i>nezirim</i> to drink wine, and upon the prophets you have commanded saying, do not utter prophecy.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <p>(12) וְתִשְׁקֶוּ אֶת־הַנְּזִירִים יַיִן וְעַל־הַנְּבִיאִים צִוִּיתֶם לֵאמֹר לֹא תִנְבְּאוּ:</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>(13)Behold, I am straining beneath you, as a wagon strains that is overfull with sheaves.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>(13) הִנֵּה אֲנֹכִי מַעִיךְ תַּחְתֵּיכֶם כַּאֲשֶׁר תַּעֲיִל הָעֲגֹלָה הַמְּלֵאָה לָהּ עֲמִיר:</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
| <p>(14)And flight will be lost to the swift, and the powerful one will not fortify his strength, and the warrior will not escape with his life.</p> <p>(15)And the archer will not stand still, and the fleet of foot will not escape, and the rider of horses will not escape with his life.</p> <p>(16)And the bravest of heart among the warriors shall flee naked on that day, says <i>Hashem</i>.</p>               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <p>(14) וְאֶבֶד מְנוּס מִלָּל וְחֹזֶק לֹא־יִצְמָח וְגִבּוֹר לֹא־יִמְלֹט בְּפִשׁוֹ:</p> <p>(15) וְתַפֵּשׁ הַקּוֹשֶׁת לֹא יַעֲמֹד וְקַל בְּרַגְלָיו לֹא יִמְלֹט וְרֹכֵב הַסּוּס לֹא יִמְלֹט בְּפִשׁוֹ:</p> <p>(16) וְאֶמְצִיז לִבּוֹ בַּגִּבּוֹרִים עָרוֹם יָנוּס בַּיּוֹם־הַהוּא נֹאם־יְהוָה: {פ}</p>                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |