HAFTAROT OF SUKKOT: DAY ONE

תלמוד בבלי מסכת מגילה דף לא עמוד א

יום טוב הראשון של <mark>חג</mark> קורין בפרשת מועדות שבתורת כהנים, <mark>ומפטירין "הנה יום בא לה'</mark>." והאידנא דאיכא תרי יומי, למחר מיקרא הכי נמי קרינן, אפטורי מאי מפטירין? "ויקהלו אל המלך שלמה." ושאר כל ימות החג קורין בקרבנות החג. יום טוב האחרון קורין "כל הבכור," מצות וחוקים ובכור, ומפטירין "ויהי ככלות שלמה." למחר קורין "וזאת הברכה," ומפטירין "ויעמד שלמה."

'On the first day of Tabernacles we read the section of the festivals in Leviticus, and for haftarah, Behold a day cometh for the Lord'. Nowadays that we keep two days, on the next day we read the same Section from the Torah, but what do we read for haftarah.? — And all the men of Israel assembled unto King Solomon. On the other days of the festival we read the section of the offerings of the festival. On the last festival day we read, 'All the firstlings', with the commandments and statutes [which precede it], and for haftarah, 'And it was so that when Solomon had made an end'. On the next day we read, 'And this is the blessing', and for haftarah, 'And Solomon stood'.

Zechariah 14:1-21

A great battle over Jerusalem

(1) Behold, a day of Hashem comes, when your spoil will be divided in your midst. (2) For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city will be taken, the houses rifled, and the women ravished. Half of the city will go out into captivity, and the rest of the people will not be cut off from the city. (3) Then Hashem will go out and fight against those nations, as when He fought on the day of battle. (4) His feet will stand on that day on the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in two, from east to west, making a very great valley. Half of the mountain will move toward the north, and half of it toward the south. (5) You shall flee by the valley of My mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach to Azel; yes, you shall flee, just like you fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Hashem my God will come, and all the holy ones with you.

(א) הַנָּה <mark>יום</mark> בא לי"י וַחַלַּק <mark>שַׁלְלְדְּ</mark> בַּקַרְבַּךְ. (ב) וְאספַתִּי אַת כֹּל הגּוֹיִם אל ירושלים למלחמה ונלפדה העיר ונשסו הבתים והנשים [תשכבנה] (<mark>תשגלנה</mark>) וַיַצא חֲצִי הַעִיר בַּגוֹלָה וְיֵתֵר הַעַם לֹא יִכַּרֵת (ג) ויצא י"י ונלחם מן העיר. בגוים ההם <mark>כיום הלחמו</mark> ביום <mark>קרב</mark>. (ד) וְעַמְדוּ רַגְלַיו בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא על הר הזיתים אשר על פני ירושלים מקדם ונבקע הַר הזיתים מחציו מזרחה וימה גיא גדולה מאד ומש חצי ההר צפונה וָחֶצִיוֹ נֵגְבַּה. (ה) וְנַסְתֵּם גֵּיא הַרֵי כִּי יַגִּיעַ גִּי הַרִים אֵל אַצַל <mark>וְנַסְתֵּם</mark> כאשר <mark>נסתם</mark> מפני הרעש בּימִי עַזִיָּה מֵלֶךְ יִהוּדָה וּבָא י״י אֱלֹהַי כַּל קַדְשִׁים עָמַךְ.

עמוס פרק א

(א) דְּבְרֵי עָמוֹס אֲשֶׁר הָיָה בַנֹּקְדִים מִתְּקוֹעַ אֲשֶׁר חָזָה עַל יִשְׂרָאֵל בִּימֵי עֻזִּיָּה מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה וּבִימֵי יַרַבְעֵם בֵּן יוֹאַשׁ מֵלֶךְ יִשְׁרָאֵל שָׁנַתִים לְפָנֵי הַרַעַשׁ:

After the Apocalypse, God Rules

(6) It will happen on that day, that there will not be light, cold, or frost. (7) It will be a unique day which is known to Hashem; not day, and not night; but it will come to pass, that at evening time there will be light. (8) It will happen on that day, that living waters will go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the eastern sea, and half of them toward the western sea; in summer and in winter will it be. (9) Hashem will be King over all the earth. On that day Hashem will be one, and His name one.

(ו) וְהָיָה בִּיּוֹם הַהוּא לֹא יִהְיֶה אוֹרְ יִּקְרוֹת [וְקִפָּאוֹן] (יקפּאוֹן). (ז) וְהָיָה יוֹם אֶחָד הוּא יִנְּדַע לִי״י לֹא יוֹם וְלֹא לִיְלָה וְהָיָה לְעֵת עֶרֶב יִהְיֶה אוֹרְ. (ח) וְהָיָה בִּיּוֹם הַהוּא יִצְאוּ מִיִם חַיִּים מִירושלים חֶצְיָם אֶל הַיָּם הַקַּדְמוֹנִי וְחֶצְיָם אֶל הַיָּם הָאָחֲרוֹן בַּקִיץ וּבָחֹרֶף יִהְיֶה. (ט) וְהָיָה י״י לְמֶלֶּהְ עֵל כָּל הָאָרֶץ בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא יִהְיֵה י״י אֱחָד וּשִׁמוֹ אֵחָד.

ר' אליעזר מבלגנצי – שעל ידי רעש הארץ יבקעו ההרים ומעינות יצאו תהלים פרק קלט (ה) אֲחוֹר וַקְדֶם צַרְתַּנִי וַתַּשֵׁת עַלַי כַּפֵּכָה:

Jerusalem Survives

(10) All the land will be made like the Arabah, from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem; and she will be lifted up, and will dwell in her place, from Benjamin's gate to the place of the first gate, to the corner gate, and from the tower of Hananel to the king's winepresses. (11) Men will dwell therein, and there will be no more devastation; but Jerusalem will dwell safely.

(י) יִסּוֹב כָּל הָאָרֶץ כְּעֲרָבָה מִגֶּבַע לְרִמּוֹן נֶגֶב ירושלים וְרָאֲמָה וְיָשְׁבָה תַּחְתֶּיהָ לְמִשַּעַר בִּנְיָמִן עַד מְקוֹם שַעַר הָרָאשוֹן עַד שַעַר הַפִּנִים וּמִגְדַּל תְנַנְאֵל עַד יִקְבֵי הַמֶּלֶדְּ. (יא) וְיָשְבוּ בָהּ וְחֵרֶם לֹא יִהְיֶה עוֹד וְיִשְׁבָה ירושלים לַבֵּטַח.

Benjamin's gate—northeast tower of Hananel--north the corner gate—northwest king's winepresses—south

A Plague Strikes the Nations Besieging Jerusalem

(12) This will be the plague with which Hashem will strike all the peoples who have warred against Jerusalem; their flesh will consume away while they stand on their feet, and their eyes will consume away in their sockets, and their tongue will consume away in their mouth. (13) It will happen on that day, that a great tumult from Hashem will be among them; and they will lay hold everyone on the hand of his neighbor, and his hand will rise up against the hand of his neighbor. (14) Judah also will fight in Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the surrounding nations will be gathered together: gold, and silver, and clothing, in great abundance. (15) So will be the plague of the horse, of the mule, of the camel,

(יב) וְזֹאת תִּהְיֶה <mark>הַמַּגִּפְה</mark> אֲשֶׁר יְגֹּף י״י אֶת כָּל הָעַמִּים אֲשֶׁר צָבְאוּ עַל ירושלים <mark>הָמֵק בְּשֶׁרוּ</mark> וְהוּא עֹמֵד עַל רְלְּטִינִ וְתְמַקְנָה בְחֹבִיהֶן וּלְשׁוֹנוֹ תִּמַק בְּפִיהֶם. (יג) וְהָיָה בָּיוֹם הַהוּא תִּהְיֶה מְהוּמֵת י״י רַבָּה בָּיוֹם וְהָחֲזִיקוּ אִישׁ יַד בֵעֵהוּ וְעָלְתָה יָדוֹ עַל יַד בִעהוּ. (יד) וְגַם יְהוּדָה תִּלְחֵם בִּירוֹשלים וְאֻפַּף חֵיל כָּל הַגּוֹיִם סָבִיב זָהָב וָכֶסֶף וּבְּגָדִים לָרֹב מְאֹד. (טו) וְכֵן תִּהְיֶה מְּבְּבַּת הַסוּס הַפֶּּרֶד הַגָּמָל וְהַחֲמוֹר וְכָל

Unless they Celebrate Sukkot

(16) It will happen that everyone who is left of all the nations that came against Jerusalem will go up from year to year to worship the King, Hashem of Hosts, and to keep the feast of tents. (17) It will be, that whoever of all the families of the earth doesn't go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, Hashem of Hosts, on them there will be no rain. (18) If the family of Egypt doesn't go up, and doesn't come, neither will it rain on them. This will be the plague with which Hashem will strike the nations that don't go up to keep the feast of tents. (19) This will be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all the nations that don't go up to keep the feast of tents.

(טז) וְהָיָה כָּל הַנּוֹתֶר מִכָּל הַגּוֹיִם הַבָּאִים עַל יִרושלים וְעָלוּ מִדֵּי הַבָּאִים עַל יִרושלים וְעָלוּ מִדֵּי שָׁנָה בְשָׁנָה לְהִשְׁתַחְוֹת לְמֶלֶּהְ י״י צְבָאוֹת וְלָחֹג אֶת חֲגֹ הַּסֵּכּוֹת. (יז) הָאָרֶץ אֶל יִרוֹשלים לְהִשְׁהַחְוֹת לְאָלֶי יִי צְבָאוֹת וְלֹא עֲלֵיהֶם יִהְיֶה לֹא תַעְלֶה וְלֹא צְלֵיהֶם יִהְיֶה לֹא תַעְלֶה וְלֹא בָאָה וְלֹא עֲלֵיהֶם לֹא תַעְלֶה וְלֹא בָאָה וְלֹא עֲלֵיהֶם תִּבְּיִה בְּאָר לֹא יַעְלוּ לָחֹג אֶת חַגֹּ הַּנְיִם הְצָּשֶׁר לֹא יַעְלוּ לָחֹג אֶת חַגֹּ הַנִּים וְחַטַּאת כָּל הַגּוֹיִם אֲשֶׁר לֹא מִעְלוּ לִחֹג אֶת חַגַּ מִעְלוּ לִחֹג אֶת חַגַּ מִעְלוּ לִחֹג אֶת חַנָּ אַשְׁר לֹא יִעְלוּ לִחֹג אֶת חַבּלוּת. (יט) זֹאת הַּהְיֶה חַטַּאת מִבְּלְיִם וְחָטַאת כָּל הַגּוֹיִם אֲשֶׁר לֹא יִעְלוּ לִחֹג אָת וְתַבּ.

תלמוד בבלי מסכת עבודה זרה דף ג עמוד א

אמרו לפניו: רבש"ע, תנה לנו מראש ונעשנה, אמר להן הקב"ה שוטים שבעולם, מי שטרח בערב שבת יאכל בשבת, מי שלא טרח בערב שבת מהיכן יאכל בשבת? אלא אף על פי כן, מצוה קלה יש לי וסוכה שמה, לכו ועשו אותה. ומי מצית אמרת הכי? והא אמר רבי יהושע בן לוי, מאי דכתיב: "אשר אנכי מצוך היום"? היום לעשותם - ולא למחר לעשותם, היום לעשותם - ולא היום ליטול שכר! אלא, שאין הקב"ה בא בטרוניא עם בריותיו. ואמאי קרי ליה מצוה קלה? משום דלית ביה חסרון כיס. מיד כל אחד [ואחד] נוטל והולך ועושה סוכה בראש גגו, והקדוש ברוך הוא מקדיר עליהם חמה בתקופת תמוז, וכל אחד ואחד מבעט בסוכתו ויוצא.

The nations will then plead. 'Offer us the Torah anew and we shall obey it.' But the Holy One, blessed be He, will say to them, 'You foolish ones among peoples, he who took trouble [to prepare] on the eve of the Sabbath can eat on the Sabbath, but he who has not troubled on the eve of the Sabbath, what shall he eat on the Sabbath? Nevertheless, I have an easy command which is called Sukkah; go and carry it out.' (But how can you say so: does not R. Joshua b. Levi say: What is [the meaning of] the verse, The ordinances which I command thee this day to do them? It is that this day only [the present] is the time to do them,' they cannot be done tomorrow [in times to come]: this day is the time in which to do them, but not in which to be rewarded for them. [Why then should they be offered this observance in the Messianic time?] — Because the Holy One, blessed be He, does not deal imperiously with His creatures. And why does He term it an easy command? — Because it does not affect one's purse.) Straightaway will every one of them betake himself and go and make a booth on the top of his roof; but the Holy One, blessed be He, will cause the sun to blaze forth over them as at the Summer Solstice. and every one of them will trample down his booth and go away.

ר' אליעזר מבלגנצי– לכל הפחות אם לא יוכלו לעלות לירושלים לשאר הרגלים כי בסוכות יהיו פנוים לעלות שאספו את מעשיהם מן השדה. **רד"ק**– לפי שבאותו זמן תהיה המלחמה ויראו נפלאות הבורא יתברך מדי שנה בשנה לזכרון אותו היום.

ספורנו--חג הסוכות. המורה 'כי בסוכות הושבתי' (ויקרא כג מג), בלתי יראת האומות שיבואו עליהם, להורות שכן יעשה לימות המשיח, שלא יצטרכו לחומות עיר ולמבצרים, כאמרו (לעיל ב ח-ט) 'פרזות תשב ירושלים [וגו'], ואני אהיה לה נאום ה' חומת אש סביב ולכבוד אהיה בתוכה':

All Become(s) Sacred

(20) On that day there will be on the bells of the horses, "Holy to Hashem;" and the pots in Hashem's house will be like the bowls before the altar. (21) Yes, every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah will be holy to Hashem of Hosts; and all those who sacrifice will come and take of them, and cook in them. On that day there will no longer be a merchant in the house of Hashem of Hosts.

(כ) ביום הַהוּא יִהְיֶה עַל מְצִלּוֹת הַסּוּס <mark>לְדֶשׁ</mark> לַי״י וְהָיָה הַסִּירוֹת בְּבִית י״י כַּמִּזְרָקִים לִפְנֵי הַמִּזְבֵּחַ. (כא) וְהָיָה כָּל סִיר בירושלים וּבִיהוּדָה לְדֶשׁ לַי״י צְבָאוֹת וּבָאוּ כָּל הַזֹּבְחִים וְלָקְחוּ מֵהֶם וּבִשְׁלוּ בָהֶם וְלֹא יִהְיֶה כְנַעֲנִי עוֹד בְּבֵית י״י צבאות בּיּוֹם ההוּא.

Generative AI

The Haftarah for the first day of Sukkot is about the Jewish people celebrating eternal national peace. The storyline of this week's Haftarah is that half of Jerusalem is captured. Zechariah predicts that a day will come when the war of Gog and Magog will take place

Thus, to answer to our question, the relationship of the Haftarah to Sukkot is the theme of preparation. The Haftarah details the preparations for Hashem's Presence to rest in the Beit HaMikdash, and – similarly – our experience of Sukkot and entry to the sukkah depend on the spiritual preparation of Yom Kippur.

CHABAD: First Days of Sukkot Haftorahs in a Nutshell

Day One:

Zachariah 14:1-21.

The prophet Zachariah prophesies about the world transformation that will occur in the end of days, when "the L-rd shall become King over all the earth; on that day shall the L-rd be one, and His name one."

But first he describes a great war that will center around Jerusalem immediately before the ultimate Redemption. G-d will gather the nations for war, and He will do battle with them, by visiting various diseases and ailments upon them. Zachariah then notes that those of the nations who will survive this cataclysmic war will be required to go to <u>Jerusalem</u> every year on the holiday of Sukkot to pay homage to <u>G-d</u>.

On that Day

In his final, apocalyptic, vision, Zachariah described how the Mount of Olives would split open to form a valley (4), due to an earthquake (ra ash, 5), revealing new sources of water: "In that day, fresh water shall flow from Jerusalem, part of it to the Eastern Sea and part to the Western Sea, throughout the summer and winter. And the LORD shall be king over all the earth; in that day there shall be one LORD with one name" (8-9). The latter verse is well-known from the daily liturgy; it is interpolated into the conclusion of the Song at the Sea in the pre-shacharit "Verses of Praise" (p'sukei d'zimra), and, again, at the conclusion of the Aleinu prayer at the end of every single service. But it is the former verse that draws our attention here.

First, let us recall that a very similar picture was drawn by the Prophet Ezekiel ("I found that water was issuing from below the platform of the Temple" 47:1 ff.), on which Abrabanel commented:

From time immemorial, there was a shortage of water in Jerusalem... Therefore, at the time of salvation, in order to transform Jerusalem into a source of universal blessing, God made it omni-sufficient, with no scarcity, by creating a spring of living water whose source was beneath the Temple. The purpose was that all the world's inhabitants should recognize that nature had changed for the better; that a dry as wood flinty rock had been transformed by God into a wellspring, and that the miracle would occur in merit of His Temple. This would be a sign and omen that "Torah shall go forth from Zion and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem," and to indicate, thereby, that God had created something new upon the earth so that in Jerusalem, that had never had spring water, a wellspring would emerge at the time of salvation.

Now, Zachariah, whose career overlapped with Ezekiel, incorporated the same symbolism of "living water" (*mayim chayim*) into his prophecy, even to the distribution of the water into the "Eastern" (*ha-yam ha-kadmoni*) and "Western" (*ha-yam ha-acharon*) seas. The latter designates the Mediterranean Sea and is already attested to in the Torah (Dt. 11:34). The former, then, seems to designate the Dead Sea, which, according to this prophecy, will experience a return to life. What surer sign of salvation can one anticipate?