

The Early Prophets - One Book, One Theme - class # 35
Re-examining Sefer Shmuel & the Haggadah
in light of Tehillim 78

Source sheet for TIM shiur by Menachem Leibtag/

Introduction

As Pesach is only a few weeks away, we dedicate today's class to the study of Tehillim 78, as it provides with an opportunity to examine not only another prophetic view of the time period of Sefer Shmuel, but can also help us understand the Haggadah.

I. The author of Tehillim 78: - Assaf

See Divrei ha'Yamim Aleph chapter 16.

א וַיָּבִיאוּ, אֶת-אֲרוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים, וַיַּצִּיגוּ אֹתוֹ, בְּתוֹךְ הָאֹהֶל אֲשֶׁר נָטָה-לוֹ דָּוִד; וַיִּקְרִיבוּ עֹלוֹת וּשְׁלָמִים, לִפְנֵי הָאֱלֹהִים. **1** And they brought in the ark of God, and set it in the midst of the tent that David had pitched for it, and they offered burnt-offerings and peace-offerings before God.

ב וַיִּכַּל דָּוִד, מִהַעֲלוֹת הָעֹלָה וְהַשְּׁלָמִים; וַיְבָרֵךְ אֶת-הָעָם, בְּשֵׁם יְהוָה. **2** And when David had made an end of offering the burnt-offering and the peace-offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD.

ג וַיַּחֲלֶק לְכָל-אִישׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל, מֵאִישׁ וְעַד-אִשָּׁה--לֶאֱיִשׁ, כֶּכֶר-לֶחֶם, וְאֶשְׁפָּר, וְאֶשִׁישָׁה. **3** And he dealt to every one of Israel, both man and woman, to every one a loaf of bread, and a cake made in a pan, and a sweet cake.

ד וַיִּתֵּן לִפְנֵי אֲרוֹן יְהוָה, מִן-הַלְוִיִּם--מִשְׁרָתִים; וְלִהְזַכֵּיר וְלִהוֹדוֹת וּלְהַלֵּל, לַיהוָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל. {ס} **4** And he appointed certain of the Levites to minister before the ark of the LORD, and to celebrate and to thank and praise the LORD, the God of Israel: {S}

ה אֶסָּף הָרֵאשִׁי, וּמִשְׁנֵהוּ זְכַרְיָה; וַיַּעֲיָל וּשְׁמִירָמוֹת, וַיַּחֲיֵאל וּמַתִּיתָיָה וְאַלְיָאֵב וּבְנָיָהוּ וְעֵבֶד אָדָם וַיַּעֲיָל, בְּכָלֵי נְבָלִים וּבְכַנָּרוֹת, וְאֶסָּף, בְּמִצְלָתִים מִשְׁמִיעַ. **5** Asaph the chief, and second to him Zechariah, Jehiel, and Shemiramoth, and Jehiel, and Mattithiah, and Eliab, and Benaiah, and Obed-edom, and Jehiel, with psalteries and with harps; and Asaph with cymbals, sounding aloud;

ו וּבְנָיָהוּ וַיַּחֲזִיאל, הַכֹּהֲנִים--בְּחֻצְרוֹת תָּמִיד, לִפְנֵי אֲרוֹן בְּרִית-הָאֱלֹהִים. **6** and Benaiah and Jahaziel the priests with trumpets continually, before the ark of the covenant of God.

ז בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא, אִזּוֹ נָתַן דָּוִד בְּרֵאשִׁי, לְהַדוֹת, לַיהוָה--בְּיַד-אֶסָּף, וְאֶחָיו. {ש} **7** Then on that day did David first ordain to give thanks unto the LORD, by the hand of Asaph and his brethren. {P}

ח הוֹדוּ לַיהוָה, קְרָאוּ בְשֵׁמוֹ-- {ס} הוֹדִיעוּ בְּעַמִּים, עֲלִילָתָיו. {ר} **8** O give thanks unto the LORD, call upon His name; make known His doings among the peoples.

ט שִׁירוּ לוֹ, זְמַרוּ-לוֹ-- שִׁיחוּ, בְּכָל-נִפְלְאוֹתָיו. {ר} **9** Sing unto Him, sing praises unto Him; speak ye of all His marvellous works.

- א מִשְׁכִּיל, לְאָסָף:** 1 Maschil of Asaph. {N}
הֶאֱזִינָה עַמִּי, תּוֹרָתִי; הִטּוּ אָזְנוֹכֶם, לְאִמְרֵי-פִי.
Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- ב** אֶפְתָּחָה בְּמִשְׁל פִּי; אֲבִיעָה חִידוֹת, מִנִּי-קֶדֶם. 2 I will open my mouth with a parable; I will utter dark sayings concerning days of old;
- ג** אֲשֶׁר שָׁמַעְנוּ, וַיִּנְדְּעוּ; וְאֲבוֹתֵינוּ, סִפְרוּ-לָנוּ. 3 That which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us,
- ד** לֹא נִכְחַד, מִבְּנֵיהֶם-- לְדוֹר אַחֲרוֹן, מִסִּפְרֵים תְּהִלּוֹת יְהוָה; וְעִזּוּזוֹ וְנִפְלְאוֹתָיו, אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה. 4 We will not hide from their children, telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, {N} and His strength, and His wondrous works that He hath done.
- ה** וַיִּקַּם עֲדוּת, בְּיַעֲקֹב, וְתוֹרָה, שָׁם בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל: 5 For He established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, {N} אֲשֶׁר צִוָּה, אֶת-אֲבוֹתֵינוּ-- לְהוֹדִיעַם, לְבְנֵיהֶם; which He commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children;
- ו** לְמַעַן יֵדְעוּ, דוֹר אַחֲרוֹן--בָּנִים יוֹלְדוּ; יִקְמוּ, וַיְסַפְּרוּ לְבְנֵיהֶם. 6 That the generation to come might know them, even the children that should be born, who should arise and tell them to their children,
- ז** וַיִּשְׂימוּ בְּאֱלֹהִים, כְּסָלָם: 7 That they might put their confidence in God, וְלֹא יִשְׁכְּחוּ, מַעֲלָלֵי-אֵל; וּמִצְוֹתָיו יִנְצְרוּ. and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments;
- ח** וְלֹא יִהְיוּ, כְּאֲבוֹתָם-- דוֹר, סוֹרֵר וּמָרָה: 8 And might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation; {N} דוֹר, לֹא-הִכִּין לִבּוֹ; וְלֹא-נֶאֱמְנָה אֶת-אֵל רוּחוֹ. a generation that set not their heart aright, and whose spirit was not stedfast with God.

Compare with Shirat Haazinu
& it's theme

Discussion - How does generation of Yetziat Mitzraim relate to generation of King David
[possibility – Shaul was like first generation, David like the second generation in desert?]

Continuation of Psalm 78

- ט** בְּנֵי-אֶפְרַיִם, נוֹשְׁקֵי רוּמֵי-קֶשֶׁת; הִפְכוּ, בַּיּוֹם קָרָב. 9 The children of Ephraim were as archers handling the bow, that turned back in the day of battle.
- י** לֹא שָׁמְרוּ, בְּרִית אֱלֹהִים; וּבִתּוֹרָתוֹ, מֵאֲנוּ לְלַכֵּת. 10 They kept not the covenant of God, and refused to walk in His law;
- יא** וַיִּשְׁכְּחוּ עֲלִילוֹתָיו; וְנִפְלְאוֹתָיו, אֲשֶׁר הִרְאָם. 11 And they forgot His doings, and His wondrous works that He had shown them.
- יב** נִגְדוּ אֲבוֹתָם, עָשָׂה פִּלְאָ; בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם שְׂדֵה-צֹעַן. 12 Marvellous things did He in the sight of their fathers, in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.
- יג** יָבַקַע יָם, וַיַּעֲבִירֵם; וַיִּצַּב מַיִם כְּמוֹ-נִד. 13 He cleaved the sea, and caused them to pass through; and He made the waters to stand as a heap.
- יד** וַיִּנְחֵם בַּעֲנַן יוֹמָם; וְכָל-הַלַּיְלָה, בְּאוֹר אֵשׁ. 14 By day also He led them with a cloud, and all the night with a light of fire.

טו וַיִּבְקַע צְרִיִּים, בַּמִּדְבָּר; וַיִּשְׁק, כְּתַהֲמוֹת רֶבֶה. 15 He cleaved rocks in the wilderness, and gave them drink abundantly as out of the great deep.

טז וַיּוֹצֵא נוֹזְלִים מִסֶּלַע; וַיּוֹרֵד כַּנְּהָרוֹת מַיִם. 16 He brought streams also out of the rock, and caused waters to run down like rivers.

יז וַיּוֹסִיפוּ עוֹד, לַחֲטֹא-לוֹ- לַמְּרוֹת עֲלִיוֹן, בַּצִּיָּה. 17 Yet went they on still to sin against Him, to rebel against the Most High in the desert.

יח וַיִּנְסוּ-אֵל בְּלִבָּבָם— לַשָּׂאֵל-אֶכֶל לַנֶּפֶשׁ. 18 And they tried God in their heart by asking food for their craving.

יט וַיִּדְבְּרוּ, בְּאֱלֹהִים: אָמְרוּ, הַיּוֹכֵל אֵל--לְעַרְךָ שֶׁלְחֹן, בַּמִּדְבָּר. 19 Yea, they spoke against God; they said: 'Can God prepare a table in the wilderness?

כ הֲיֵן הַכָּה-צוּר, וַיִּזְוּבוּ מַיִם-- וַנְּחַלִּים יִשְׁטַפוּ: הַגֶּם-לֶחֶם, יוֹכֵל תֵּת; אִם-יָכִין שְׂאֵר לְעַמּוֹ. 20 Behold, He smote the rock, that waters gushed out, and streams overflowed; {N} can He give bread also? or will He provide flesh for His people?'

כא לָכֵן, שָׁמַע יְהוָה-- וַיִּתְעַבֵּר: וַיֵּשׂ, נִשְׁקָה בִּיעָקֹב; וְגַם-אֵף, עָלָה בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל. 21 Therefore the LORD heard, and was wroth; {N} and a fire was kindled against Jacob, and anger also went up against Israel;

כב כִּי לֹא הֵאֱמִינוּ, בְּאֱלֹהִים; וְלֹא בִטְחוּ, בִּישׁוּעָתוֹ. 22 Because they believed not in God, and trusted not in His salvation.

כג וַיִּצַו שְׁחָקִים מִמַּעַל; וַיִּדְלְתִי שְׁמַיִם פָּתַח. 23 And He commanded the skies above, and opened the doors of heaven;

כד וַיִּמְטַר עֲלֵיהֶם מֶן לֶאֱכֹל; וַיִּדְגּוּ-שָׁמַיִם, נָתַן לָמוֹ. 24 And He caused manna to rain upon them for food, and gave them of the corn of heaven.

כה לֶחֶם אַפִּירִים, אָכַל אִישׁ; צִידָה שָׁלַח לָהֶם לְשַׁבַּע. 25 Man did eat the bread of the mighty; He sent them provisions to the full.

כו יִסַּע קָדִים, בְּשָׁמַיִם; וַיִּנְהַג בְּעִזּוֹ תִימָן. 26 He caused the east wind to set forth in heaven; and by His power He brought on the south wind.

כז וַיִּמְטַר עֲלֵיהֶם כַּעֲפָר שָׂאֵר; וַיִּכְחוּל יַמִּים, עוֹף כָּנָף. 27 He caused flesh also to rain upon them as the dust, and winged fowl as the sand of the seas;

כח וַיִּפֹּל, בְּקֶרֶב מַחֲנֵהוּ; סָבִיב, לְמִשְׁכְּנֵתוֹ. 28 And He let it fall in the midst of their camp, round about their dwellings.

כט וַיֹּאכְלוּ וַיִּשְׂבְּעוּ מְאֹד; וַתִּאָּוֲתָם, יָבֵא לָהֶם. 29 So they did eat, and were well filled; and He gave them that which they craved.

ל לֹא-זָרוּ מִתַּאֲוָתָם; עוֹד, אֶכְלָם בְּפִיהֶם. 30 They were not estranged from their craving, their food was yet in their mouths,

לא וַאֲף אֱלֹהִים, עָלָה בָהֶם, וַיַּהַרְג, בְּמִשְׁמַנֵּיהֶם; וַיַּבְחִירֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל הַכְּרִיעַ. 31 When the anger of God went up against them, and slew of the lustieth among them, {N} and smote down the young men of Israel.

לב בְּכָל-זֹאת חֲטְאוּ-עוֹד; וְלֹא-הֵאֱמִינוּ, בְּנִפְלְאוֹתָיו. 32 For all this they sinned still, and believed not in His wondrous works.

לג וַיִּכַּל-בִּהְבֵּל יְמֵיהֶם; וַיִּשְׁנוּתָם, בַּבְּהָלָה. 33 Therefore He ended their days as a breath, and their years in terror.

לד אִם-הִרְגָם וַדָּרְשׁוּהוּ; וַשְּׁבוּ, וַשְּׁחֲרוּ-אֵל. 34 When He slew them, then they would inquire after Him, turn back and seek God earnestly.

לה וַיִּזְכְּרוּ, כִּי-אֱלֹהִים צוּרָם; 35 And they remembered that God was their Rock, and the Most High God their redeemer.

וַיֹּאֲל עֲלִיוֹן, גְּאָלָם.

לו וַיִּפְתּוּהוּ בְּפִיהֶם; 36 But they beguiled Him with their mouth, and lied unto Him with their tongue.
וּבִלְשׁוֹנָם, יִכְזְבוּ-לוֹ.

לז וּלְבָבָם, לֹא-נִכְוֵן עִמּוֹ; וְלֹא נֶאֱמְנוּ, בְּבְרִיתוֹ. 37 For their heart was not stedfast with Him, neither were they faithful in His covenant.

לח וְהוּא רַחוּם, יִכַּפֵּר עֲוֹן-- וְלֹא-יִשְׁחִית: 38 But He, being full of compassion, forgiveth iniquity, and destroyeth not; {N} yea, many a time doth He turn His anger away, and doth not stir up all His wrath.
וְהִרְבָּה, לְהִשָּׁיב אָפוֹ; וְלֹא-יַעִיר, כָּל-חַמָּתוֹ.

לט וַיִּזְכֹּר, כִּי-בָשָׂר הֵמָּה; רֹיַח הוֹלֵךְ, וְלֹא יִשׁוּב.

Now note the switch of topic

מ כַּמָּה, יִמְרוּהוּ בַּמִּדְבָּר; יַעֲצִיבוּהוּ, בִּישִׁימוֹן. 40 How oft did they rebel against Him in the wilderness, and grieve Him in the desert!

מא וַיִּשׁוּבוּ וַיִּנְסוּ אֵל; וַיִּקְדוּשׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל הִתְּוּ. 41 And still again they tried God, and set bounds to the Holy One of Israel.

מב לֹא-זָכְרוּ אֶת-יָדוֹ; 42 They remembered not His hand, nor the day when He redeemed them from the adversary.
יוֹם, אֲשֶׁר-פָּדָם מִנִּי-צָר.

מג אֲשֶׁר-שָׂם בְּמִצְרַיִם, אֶתֹתָיו; 43 How He set His signs in Egypt, and His wonders in the field of Zoan;
וּמוֹפְתָיו, בְּשַׂדֵּה-צֹעַן.

מד וַיַּהֲפֹךְ לָדָם, יְאֲרִיחֶם; וַנִּזְלִיחֶם, בַּל-יִשְׁתְּיוּן. 44 And turned their rivers into blood, so that they could not drink their streams.

מה יִשְׁלַח בָּהֶם עָרָב, וַיֹּאכְלֵם; וַיִּצְרַדֵּעַ, וַתִּשְׁחִיתֵם. 45 He sent among them swarms of flies, which devoured them; and frogs, which destroyed them.

מו וַיִּתֵּן לַחֲסִיל יְבוּלָם; וַיִּגְיַעֵם, לְאֲרָבָה. 46 He gave also their increase unto the caterpillar, and their labour unto the locust.

מז יַהֲרֹג בַּבָּרָד גִּפְנִים; וַיִּשְׁקְמוֹתֵם, בַּחֲנַמַּל. 47 He destroyed their vines with hail, and their sycamore-trees with frost.

מח וַיִּסְגַּר לַבָּרָד בְּעֵינֵיכֶם; וּמִקְנֵיכֶם, לָרֶשֶׁפִים. 48 He gave over their cattle also to the hail, and their flocks to fiery bolts.

מט יִשְׁלַח-בָּם, חֲרוֹן אָפוֹ-- עֲבָרָה וְזַעַם וְצָרָה; מִשְׁלַחַת, מִלְּאֲכֵי רָעִים. 49 He sent forth upon them the fierceness of His anger, wrath, and indignation, and trouble, a sending of messengers of evil.

נ יִפְלֹס נְתִיב, לְאָפוֹ: לֹא-חָשַׁךְ מִמּוֹת נַפְשָׁם; וַחֲתִיתֵם, לְדַבַּר הַסִּגִּיר. 50 He levelled a path for His anger; He spared not their soul from death, but gave their life over to the pestilence;

נא וַיִּךְ כָּל-בְּכוֹר בְּמִצְרַיִם; 51 And smote all the first-born in Egypt, the first-fruits of their strength in the tents of Ham;
רֵאשִׁית אוֹנִים, בְּאֹהֶל־יְחָם.

נב וַיִּסַּע כְּצֹאן עֲמוֹ ; וַיְנַהֲגֵם כַּעֲדָר, בַּמִּדְבָּר. 52 But He made His own people to go forth like sheep, and guided them in the wilderness like a flock.

נג וַיְנַחֵם לְבָטַח, וְלֹא פָחַדוּ ; וְאֶת-אוֹיְבֵיהֶם, כָּסָה הַיָּם. 53 And He led them safely, and they feared not; but the sea overwhelmed their enemies.

נד וַיְבִיאֵם, אֶל-גְּבוּל קֹדְשׁוֹ ; הַר-זֶה, קָנְתָה יְמִינוֹ. 54 And He brought them to His holy border, to the mountain, which His right hand had gotten.

נה וַיְגַרֵּשׁ מִפְּנֵיהֶם, גוֹיִם— וַיַּפִּילֵם, בְּחַבְלֵי נַחְלָה ; וַיִּשְׁכֵּן בְּאֹהֲלֵיהֶם, שְׁבֵטֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל. 55 He drove out the nations also before them, and allotted them for an inheritance by line, {N} and made the tribes of Israel to dwell in their tents.

Now note Sefer Shoftim & Shmuel

נו וַיִּנְסוּ וַיִּמְרוּ, אֶת-אֱלֹהִים עֲלִיוֹן ; וְעֵדוּתֵי, לֹא שָׁמְרוּ. 56 Yet they tried and provoked God, the Most High, and kept not His testimonies;

נז וַיִּסְגּוּ וַיִּבְגְּדוּ, כַּאֲבוֹתָם ; נְהַפְכוּ, כְּקֶשֶׁת רְמִיָּה. 57 But turned back, and dealt treacherously like their fathers; they were turned aside like a deceitful bow.

נח וַיִּכְעִיסוּהוּ בְּבִמּוֹתָם ; וּבַפְּסִילֵיהֶם, יִקְנִיאוּהוּ. 58 For they provoked Him with their high places, and moved Him to jealousy with their graven images.

נט שָׁמַע אֱלֹהִים, וַיִּתְעַבֵּר ; וַיִּמְאֵס מְאֹד, בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל. 59 God heard, and was wroth, and He greatly abhorred Israel;

ס וַיִּטֹּשׁ, מִשְׁכַּן שְׁלוֹ ; אֹהֶל, שָׁכַן בְּאֲדָם. 60 And He forsook the tabernacle of Shiloh, the tent which He had made to dwell among men;

סא וַיִּתֵּן לְשָׂבִי עָזוֹ ; וַתִּפְאֲרֵתוּ בְיַד-צָר. 61 And delivered His strength into captivity, and His glory into the adversary's hand.

סב וַיִּסְגֵּר לַחֶרֶב עֲמוֹ ; וַיִּבְנַחֲלֵתוּ, הַתְּעַבֵּר. 62 He gave His people over also unto the sword; and was wroth with His inheritance.

סג בַּחוּרָיו אָכְלָה-אֵשׁ ; וּבְתוֹלְתָיו, לֹא הוֹלְלוּ. 63 Fire devoured their young men; and their virgins had no marriage-song.

סד כָּהֲנָיו, בַּחֶרֶב נָפְלוּ ; וְאֵלְמִנְתָיו, לֹא תִבְכִּינָה. 64 Their priests fell by the sword; and their widows made no lamentation.

סה וַיִּקְצַץ כִּיֶּשֶׁן אֲדָנָי ; 65 Then the Lord awaked as one asleep, like a

- mighty man recovering from wine.
- 66 And He smote His adversaries backward; He put upon them a perpetual reproach.
- 67 Moreover He abhorred the tent of Joseph, and chose not the tribe of Ephraim;
- 68 But chose the tribe of Judah, the mount Zion which He loved.
- 69 And He built His sanctuary like the heights, like the earth which He hath founded for ever.
- 70 He chose David also His servant, and took him from the sheepfolds;
- 71 From following the ewes that give suck He brought him, to be shepherd over Jacob His people, and Israel His inheritance.
- 72 So he shepherded them according to the integrity of his heart; and lead them by the skilfulness of his hands.
- כָּגִבּוֹר, מִתְרוֹיֵן מֵיַיִן.
 סו וַיִּדְּ-צָרְיוֹ אָחֹר; ;
 חֲרַפַּת עוֹלָם, נָתַן לָמוֹ.
 סז וַיִּמְאָס, בְּאֹהֶל יוֹסֵף;
 וּבִשְׁבֵט אֶפְרַיִם, לֹא בָחַר.
 סח וַיִּבְחַר, אֶת-שֵׁבֶט יְהוּדָה;
 אֶת-הַר צִיּוֹן, אֲשֶׁר אָהָב.
 סט וַיִּבֶן כְּמוֹ-רָמִים, מִקְדָּשׁוֹ;
 כְּאֶרֶץ, יִסְדָּהּ לְעוֹלָם.
 ע וַיִּבְחַר, בְּדָוִד עַבְדּוֹ;
 וַיִּקְחֵהוּ, מִמִּכְלַאת צֹאן.
 עא מֵאַחַר עָלוֹת, הֵבִיאוֹ;
 לְרֻעוֹת, בְּיַעֲקֹב עַמּוֹ;
 וּבְיִשְׂרָאֵל, נִחְלָתוֹ.
 עב וַיִּרְעֵם, כְּתָם לִבּוֹ;
 וּבִתְבוּנוֹת כִּפְּיוֹ יִנְחֵם.

Next compare to the theme of MAGID
 And its transformative message
 Saying thankyou vs. acting thankyou