

Sefer Yirmiyahu - When Politics & Religion Clash

Class #6 -The Haftara for Tisha b'Av & the destruction of Temple

For Torah in Motion series- by Menachem Leibtag

Intro:

As today's shiur falls out on Tisha b'Av, it will focus on the Haftara that Chazal chose from Yirmiyahu, and how it can help understand the deeper meaning of the fast day.

I. Review, the key events that led the Temple's destruction:

- A. The fall of the Assyrian empire
- B. Yoshiyahu's rise to power & his religious reform
[accompanied by economic growth and territorial expansion]
- C. Yoshiyahu's tragic death at Megido / challenging the Egyptian army
- D. Yehoyakim's rise to power - and his political dilemma
- E. The decree in Year 4 of Yehoyakim /Chapter 25
God's decision to allow Babylonian conquest
- F. Yehoyakim's decision to rebel again Bavel
- G. Yehoyachin decision to surrender - saving the city
[first wave of Exile - royal family, industrialists & aristocracy]
- H. Tzidkiyahu appointed vassal king by the Babylonians
- I. Tzidkiyahu's decision to rebel in Year 5
- J. Nevuzadran is sent to destroy city & Temple

II. The story of the churban in Sefer Yirmiyahu (chapters 37-38)

א וַיִּמְלֹךְ-מֶלֶךְ--צִדְקִיָּהוּ, בֶן-יֵאֲשֵׁיָהוּ:
תַּחַת, כְּנִיָּהוּ בֶן-יְהוִיָּקִים, אֲשֶׁר הַמֶּלֶךְ
נְבוּצַדְרֶצַּר מֶלֶךְ-בָּבֶל, בְּאֶרֶץ יְהוּדָה.

1 And Zedekiah the son of Josiah reigned as king, instead of Coniah the son of Jehoiakim, whom Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon made king in the land of Judah.

ב וְלֹא שָׁמַע הוּא וְעַבְדָּיו, וְעַם הָאָרֶץ:
אֶל-דְּבָרֵי יְהוָה-
אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר, בְּיַד יִרְמְיָהוּ הַנָּבִיא.

2 But neither he, nor his servants, nor the people of the land, did hearken unto the words of the LORD, which He spoke by the prophet Jeremiah.

ג וַיִּשְׁלַח הַמֶּלֶךְ צְדָקְיָהוּ אֶת-יְהוֹכָל בֶּן-
שְׁלֵמְיָה, וְאֶת-צְפַנְיָהוּ בֶן-מַעֲשִׂיָה הַכֹּהֵן,
אֶל-יִרְמְיָהוּ הַנָּבִיא, לֵאמֹר: הַתְּפַלֵּל-נָא
בְּעַדְנוּ, אֶל-יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ.

3 And Zedekiah the king sent Jehucal the son of Shelemiah, and Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah the priest, to the prophet Jeremiah, saying: 'Pray now unto the LORD our God for us.'

ד וַיִּרְמְיָהוּ, בָּא וַיֵּצֵא בְּתוֹךְ הָעָם; וְלֹא-
נָתַנוּ אֹתוֹ, בַּיִת הַכְּלִיא (הַכְּלוּא).

4 Now Jeremiah came in and went out among the people; for they had not put him into prison.

ה וְחֵיל פְּרָעָה, יֵצֵא מִמִּצְרַיִם; וַיִּשְׁמְעוּ
הַכַּשְׂדִּים הַצָּרִים עַל-יְרוּשָׁלַם, אֶת-
שִׁמְעָם, וַיַּעֲלוּ, מֵעַל יְרוּשָׁלַם. {פ}

5 And Pharaoh's army was come forth out of Egypt; and when the Chaldeans that besieged Jerusalem heard tidings of them, they broke up from Jerusalem. {P}

ו וַיְהִי, דְבַר-יְהוָה, אֶל-יִרְמְיָהוּ הַנָּבִיא,
לֵאמֹר.

6 Then came the word of the LORD unto the prophet Jeremiah, saying:

ז כֹּה-אָמַר יְהוָה, אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, כֹּה
תֹּאמְרוּ אֶל-מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה, הַשְׁלַח אֶתְכֶם
אֵלַי לְדַרְשָׁנַי: הִנֵּה חֵיל פְּרָעָה, הֵיכָּא
לְכֶם לְעֶזְרָה, שָׁב לְאַרְצוֹ, מִצְרַיִם.

7 Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel: Thus shall ye say to the king of Judah, that sent you unto Me to inquire of Me: Behold, Pharaoh's army, which is come forth to help you, shall return to Egypt into their own land.

ח וּשְׁבוּ, הַכַּשְׂדִּים, וְנִלְחְמוּ, עַל-הָעִיר
הַזֹּאת; וּלְכַדְהָ, וּשְׂרַפְהָ בָאֵשׁ. {פ}

8 And the Chaldeans shall return, and fight against this city; and they shall take it, and burn it with fire. {P}

ט כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה, אֶל-תִּשְׂאוּ נַפְשֵׁיכֶם
לֵאמֹר, הֲלֹךְ יִלְכוּ מֵעַלֵינוּ, הַכַּשְׂדִּים: כִּי-
לֹא, יִלְכוּ.

9 Thus saith the LORD: Deceive not yourselves, saying: The Chaldeans shall surely depart from us; for they shall not depart.

י כִּי אִם-הַכִּיתֶם כָּל-חֵיל כַּשְׂדִּים,
הַנִּלְחָמִים אֶתְכֶם, וְנִשְׂאָרוּ-בָם, אֲנָשִׁים
מִדְּקָרִים--אִישׁ בְּאֹהֶלוֹ יִקוּמוּ, וּשְׂרַפוּ
אֶת-הָעִיר הַזֹּאת בָּאֵשׁ.

10 For though ye had smitten the whole army of the Chaldeans that fight against you, and there remained but wounded men among them, yet would they rise up every man in his tent, and burn this city with fire.'

יא וְהָיָה, בְּהַעֲלוֹת חֵיל הַכַּשְׂדִּים, מֵעַל,
יְרוּשָׁלַם--מִפְּנֵי, חֵיל פְּרָעָה. {ס}

11 And it came to pass, that when the army of the Chaldeans was broken up from Jerusalem for fear of Pharaoh's army, {S}

יב וַיֵּצֵא יִרְמְיָהוּ מִיְרוּשָׁלַם, לְלַכַּת אֶרֶץ
בְּנֵימִן, לְחֶלֶק מְשָׁם, בְּתוֹךְ הָעָם.

12 then Jeremiah went forth out of Jerusalem to go into the land of Benjamin, to receive his portion there, in the midst of the people.

יג וַיְהִי-הוּא בְּשַׁעַר בְּנֵימִן, וְשָׁם בַּעַל פְּקֻדָּתוֹ,
וּשְׁמוֹ יִרְיָהוּ, בֶּן-שְׁלֵמְיָה בֶן-חַנְּנִיָּה;
וַיִּתְּפֵשׂ אֶת-יִרְמְיָהוּ הַנָּבִיא, לֵאמֹר,
אֶל-הַכַּשְׂדִּים, אֶתְהָ נָפַל.

13 And when he was in the gate of Benjamin, a captain of the ward was there, whose name was Irijah, the son of Shelemiah, the son of Hananiah; and he laid hold on Jeremiah the prophet, saying: 'Thou fallest away to the Chaldeans.'

יד וַיֹּאמֶר יִרְמְיָהוּ שֶׁקֶר, אֵינְנִי נֹפֵל עַל-
הַכַּשְׂדִּים--וְלֹא שָׁמַע, אֱלֹהֵי; וַיִּתְּפֹשׂ
יִרְאֵיָה בְּיִרְמְיָהוּ, וַיְבִאֵהוּ אֶל-הַשָּׂרִים.

14 Then said Jeremiah: 'It is false; I fall not away to the Chaldeans'; but he hearkened not to him; so Irijah laid hold on Jeremiah, and brought him to the princes.

טו וַיִּקְצְפוּ הַשָּׂרִים עַל-יִרְמְיָהוּ, וְהִכּוּ
אֹתוֹ; וַנִּתְּנוּ אוֹתוֹ בַּיַּת הָאֲסוּר, בַּיַּת
יְהוֹנָתָן הַסֹּפֵר--כִּי-אֵתוֹ עָשׂוּ, לְבַיַּת הַכְּלָא.

15 And the princes were wroth with Jeremiah, and smote him, and put him in prison in the house of Jonathan the scribe; for they had made that the prison.

טז כִּי בָא יִרְמְיָהוּ אֶל-בַּיַּת הַבּוֹר, וְאֶל-
הַחֲנִיּוֹת; וַיֵּשֶׁב-שָׁם יִרְמְיָהוּ, יָמִים רַבִּים.

16 When Jeremiah was come into the dungeon-house, and into the cells, and Jeremiah had remained there many days;

יז וַיִּשְׁלַח הַמֶּלֶךְ צְדָקְיָהוּ וַיִּקְחֵהוּ,
וַיִּשְׁאַלְהוּ הַמֶּלֶךְ בְּבֵיתוֹ בְּסֵתֶר, וַיֹּאמֶר,
הִישׁ דְּבַר מֵאֵת יְהוָה; וַיֹּאמֶר יִרְמְיָהוּ,
יֵשׁ, וַיֹּאמֶר, בְּיַד מֶלֶךְ-בָּבֶל תִּנְתָּן.

17 then Zedekiah the king sent, and fetched him; and the king asked him secretly in his house, and said: 'Is there any word from the LORD?' And Jeremiah said: 'There is.' He said also: 'Thou shalt be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon.'

יח וַיֹּאמֶר יִרְמְיָהוּ, אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ
צְדָקְיָהוּ: מָה חָטָאתִי לָךְ וְלַעֲבָדֶיךָ וְלָעַם
הַזֶּה, כִּי-נָתַתֶּם אוֹתִי אֶל-בַּיַּת הַכְּלָא.

18 Moreover Jeremiah said unto king Zedekiah: 'Wherein have I sinned against thee, or against thy servants, or against this people, that ye have put me in prison?

יט וַאֲנִי (וְאֵיָה), נְבִיאֵיכֶם, אֲשֶׁר-נָבְאוּ
לָכֶם, לֵאמֹר: לֹא-יָבֹא מֶלֶךְ-בָּבֶל עֲלֵיכֶם,
וְעַל הָאָרֶץ הַזֹּאת.

19 Where now are your prophets that prophesied unto you, saying: The king of Babylon shall not come against you, nor against this land?

כ וְעַתָּה, שָׁמַע-נָא אֲדֹנָי הַמֶּלֶךְ: תִּפְּל-נָא
תַּחֲנֻנָּתִי, לְפָנֶיךָ, וְאֶל-תִּשְׁבְּנֵי בַיַּת יְהוֹנָתָן
הַסֹּפֵר, וְלֹא אָמוּת שָׁם.

20 And now hear, I pray thee, O my lord the king: let my supplication, I pray thee, be presented before thee; that thou cause me not to return to the house of Jonathan the scribe, lest I die there.'

כא וַיִּצְוֶה הַמֶּלֶךְ צְדָקְיָהוּ, וַיִּפְקְדוּ אֶת-
יִרְמְיָהוּ בַּחֲצַר הַמַּטְרָה, וַנִּתֵּן לוֹ כֶּכֶר-לֶחֶם
לַיּוֹם מִחוּץ הָאֲפִים, עַד-תָּם כָּל-הַלֶּחֶם
מִן-הָעִיר; וַיֵּשֶׁב יִרְמְיָהוּ, בַּחֲצַר הַמַּטְרָה.

21 Then Zedekiah the king commanded, and they committed Jeremiah into the court of the guard, and they gave him daily a loaf of bread out of the bakers' street, until all the bread in the city was spent. Thus Jeremiah remained in the court of the guard.

א וַיִּשְׁמַע שְׁפַטְיָה בֶן-מַתָּן, וְגַדְלִיָהוּ בֶן-
פִּשְׁחוּר, וַיּוֹכֵל בֶּן-שָׁלְמִיָהוּ, וּפִשְׁחוּר בֶּן-
מִלְכִיָה: אֶת-הַדְּבָרִים--אֲשֶׁר יִרְמְיָהוּ מְדַבֵּר
אֶל-כָּל-הָעָם, לֵאמֹר.

1 And Shephatiah the son of Mattan, and Gedaliah the son of Pashhur, and Jucal the son of Shelemiah, and Pashhur the son of Malchiah, heard the words that Jeremiah spoke unto all the people, saying:

ב כֹּה, אָמַר יְהוָה, הַיֹּשֵׁב בְּעִיר הַזֹּאת, יָמוּת
בַּחֶרֶב בְּרָעַב וּבַדָּבָר; וְהַיֹּצֵא אֶל-הַפְּשָׁדִים
יַחִיה (וְחָיָה), וְהַיֹּתֵה-לוֹ נַפְשׁוֹ לְשָׁלָל וְחַי.

2 'Thus saith the LORD: He that remaineth in this city shall die by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence; but he that goeth forth to the Chaldeans shall live, and his life shall be unto him for a prey, and live. {S}

ג כֹּה, אָמַר יְהוָה: הַנֶּתָן וּתְנִתָּן הָעִיר הַזֹּאת,
בְּיַד חֵיל מֶלֶךְ-בָּבֶל--וּלְכָדָה.

3 Thus saith the LORD: This city shall surely be given into the hand of the army of the king of Babylon, and he shall take it.'

ד וַיֹּאמְרוּ הַשָּׂרִים אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, יוֹמַת נָא אֶת-
הָאִישׁ הַזֶּה--כִּי-עַל-כֵּן הוּא-מְרַפָּא אֶת-
יָדַי אֲנֹשֵׁי הַמַּלְחָמָה הַנֹּשְׂאִים בְּעִיר הַזֹּאת
וְאֵת יָדַי כָּל-הָעָם, לַדָּבָר אֲלֵיהֶם כַּדְּבָרִים
הָאֵלֶּה: כִּי הָאִישׁ הַזֶּה, אֵינְנוּ דֹרֵשׁ לְשָׁלוֹם
לְעַם הַזֶּה--כִּי אִם-לְרָעָה.

4 Then the princes said unto the king: 'Let this man, we pray thee, be put to death; forasmuch as he weakeneth the hands of the men of war that remain in this city, and the hands of all the people, in speaking such words unto them; for this man seeketh not the welfare of this people, but the hurt.'

ה וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ צְדַקְיָהוּ, הִנֵּה-הוּא
בְּיַדְכֶם: כִּי-אִין הַמֶּלֶךְ, יוֹכֵל אֶתְכֶם דָּבָר.

5 Then Zedekiah the king said: 'Behold, he is in your hand; for the king is not he that can do any thing against you.'

ו וַיִּקְחוּ אֶת-יִרְמְיָהוּ, וַיִּשְׁלְכוּ אֹתוֹ אֶל-הַבּוֹר
מִלְּכָיָהוּ בֶן-הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר בַּחֲצַר הַמַּטְרָה,
וַיִּשְׁלְחוּ אֶת-יִרְמְיָהוּ, בַּחֲבָלִים; וּבַבּוֹר אִין-
מַיִם כִּי אִם-טִיט, וַיִּטְבַּע יִרְמְיָהוּ בְּטִיט.

6 Then took they Jeremiah, and cast him into the pit of Malchiah the king's son, that was in the court of the guard; and they let down Jeremiah with cords. And in the pit there was no water, but mire; and Jeremiah sank in the mire. {S}

ז וַיִּשְׁמַע עֶבֶד-מֶלֶךְ הַכּוּשִׁי אִישׁ סָרִיס, וְהוּא
בְּבַיִת הַמֶּלֶךְ, כִּי-נָתְנוּ אֶת-יִרְמְיָהוּ, אֶל-
הַבּוֹר; וְהַמֶּלֶךְ יוֹשֵׁב, בְּשַׁעַר בְּנֵימִן.

7 Now when Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, an officer, who was in the king's house, heard that they had put Jeremiah in the pit; the king then sitting in the gate of Benjamin;

ח וַיֵּצֵא עֶבֶד-מֶלֶךְ, מִבַּיִת הַמֶּלֶךְ; וַיְדַבֵּר אֶל-
הַמֶּלֶךְ, לֵאמֹר.

8 Ebed-melech went forth out of the king's house, and spoke to the king, saying:

ט אֲדֹנָי הַמֶּלֶךְ, הִרְעוּ הָאֲנָשִׁים הָאֵלֶּה אֶת
כָּל-אֲשֶׁר עָשׂוּ לְיִרְמְיָהוּ הַנְּבִיא, אֶת אֲשֶׁר-
הִשְׁלִיכוּ, אֶל-הַבּוֹר; וַיָּמַת תַּחֲתָיו מִפְּנֵי
הָרָעַב, כִּי אִין הַלֶּחֶם עוֹד בְּעִיר.

9 'My lord the king, these men have done evil in all that they have done to Jeremiah the prophet, whom they have cast into the pit; and he is like to die in the place where he is because of the famine; for there is no more bread in the city.'

י וַיִּצְוֶה הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶת עֶבֶד-מֶלֶךְ הַכּוּשִׁי
לֵאמֹר: קַח בְּיָדְךָ מִזֶּה, שְׁלֹשִׁים אָנָשִׁים,
וְהַעֲלִיתָ אֶת-יִרְמְיָהוּ הַנְּבִיא מִן-הַבּוֹר,
בְּטָרָם יָמוּת.

10 Then the king commanded Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, saying: 'Take from hence thirty men with thee, and take up Jeremiah the prophet out of the pit, before he die.'

יא וַיִּקַּח עֶבֶד-מֶלֶךְ אֶת-הָאֲנָשִׁים בָּיָדוֹ, וַיָּבֵא בֵּית-הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-תַּחַת הָאוֹצָר, וַיִּקַּח מִשָּׁם בְּלוֹי סִחָבוֹת, וּבְלוֹי מְלָחִים; וַיִּשְׁלַחם אֶל-יְרֵמְיָהוּ אֶל-הַבּוֹר, בַּחֲבָלִים.

11 So Ebed-melech took the men with him, and went into the house of the king under the treasury, and took thence worn clouts and worn rags, and let them down by cords into the pit to Jeremiah.

יב וַיֹּאמֶר עֶבֶד-מֶלֶךְ הַכּוּשִׁי אֶל-יְרֵמְיָהוּ, שִׁים נָא בְּלוֹאֵי הַסִּחָבוֹת וְהַמְּלָחִים תַּחַת אֲצִלּוֹת יָדֶיךָ, מִתַּחַת, לַחֲבָלִים; וַיַּעַשׂ יְרֵמְיָהוּ, כֵּן.

12 And Ebed-melech the Ethiopian said unto Jeremiah: 'Put now these worn clouts and rags under thine armholes under the cords.' And Jeremiah did so.

יג וַיִּמְשְׁכוּ אֶת-יְרֵמְיָהוּ בַּחֲבָלִים, וַיַּעֲלוּ אֹתוֹ מִן-הַבּוֹר; וַיָּשֶׁב יְרֵמְיָהוּ, בְּחֹצֵר הַמִּטְרָה. {ס}

13 So they drew up Jeremiah with the cords, and took him up out of the pit; and Jeremiah remained in the court of the guard. {S}

יד וַיִּשְׁלַח הַמֶּלֶךְ צְדָקְיָהוּ, וַיִּקַּח אֶת-יְרֵמְיָהוּ הַנְּבִיא אֱלֹהִים, אֶל-מְבוֹא הַשְּׁלִישִׁי, אֲשֶׁר בְּבַיִת יְהוָה; וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-יְרֵמְיָהוּ, שְׂאֵל אֲנִי אֶתְךָ דָּבָר--אֶל-תַּכְחֹד מִמֶּנִּי, דָּבָר.

14 Then Zedekiah the king sent, and took Jeremiah the prophet unto him into the third entry that was in the house of the LORD; and the king said unto Jeremiah: 'I will ask thee a thing; hide nothing from me.'

טו וַיֹּאמֶר יְרֵמְיָהוּ, אֶל-צְדָקְיָהוּ, כִּי אֲגִיד לְךָ, הֲלוֹא הִמַּת תִּמְיַתֵּנִי; וְכִי, אֵינְךָ עֹשֶׂה, לֹא תִשְׁמַע, אֵלַי.

15 Then Jeremiah said unto Zedekiah: 'If I declare it unto thee, wilt thou not surely put me to death? and if I give thee counsel, thou wilt not hearken unto me.'

טז וַיִּשָּׁבַע הַמֶּלֶךְ צְדָקְיָהוּ, אֶל-יְרֵמְיָהוּ--בִּסְתֵר לֵאמֹר: חִי-יְהוֹה אֵת () אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה-לָנוּ אֶת-הַנֶּפֶשׁ הַזֹּאת, אִם-אֶמְיַתְךָ, וְאִם-אֶתְּךָ בְּיַד הָאֲנָשִׁים הָאֵלֶּה, אֲשֶׁר מִבְּקָשִׁים אֶת-נַפְשְׁךָ. {ס}

16 So Zedekiah the king swore secretly unto Jeremiah, saying: 'As the LORD liveth, that made us this soul, I will not put thee to death, neither will I give thee into the hand of these men that seek thy life.' {S}

יז וַיֹּאמֶר יְרֵמְיָהוּ אֶל-צְדָקְיָהוּ {ס} כֹּה-אָמַר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי צְבָאוֹת אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, אִם-יֵצֵא תֵצֵא אֶל-שָׂרֵי מַלְךְ-בָּבֶל וְחִיתָה נְפִשְׁךָ, וְהָעִיר הַזֹּאת, לֹא תִשָּׂרֵף בְּאֵשׁ; וְחִיתָה, אַתָּה וּבֵיתְךָ.

17 Then said Jeremiah unto Zedekiah: {S} 'Thus saith the LORD, the God of hosts, the God of Israel: If thou wilt go forth unto the king of Babylon's princes, then thy soul shall live, and this city shall not be burned with fire; and thou shalt live, thou, and thy house;

יח וְאִם לֹא-תֵצֵא, אֶל-שָׂרֵי מַלְךְ בָּבֶל--וְנִתְּנָה הָעִיר הַזֹּאת בְּיַד הַכַּשְׂדִּים, וְשָׂרְפוּהָ בְּאֵשׁ; וְאַתָּה, לֹא-תִמָּלֵט מֵיָדָם. {ס}

18 but if thou wilt not go forth to the king of Babylon's princes, then shall this city be given into the hand of the Chaldeans, and they shall burn it with fire, and thou shalt not escape out of their hand.' {S}

יט וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ צְדָקְיָהוּ, אֶל-יְרֵמְיָהוּ: אֲנִי דֹאֵג אֶת-הַיְהוּדִים, אֲשֶׁר נָפְלוּ

19 And Zedekiah the king said unto Jeremiah: 'I am afraid of the Jews that are fallen away to the Chaldeans, lest they deliver me into their hand, and they mock me.'

אֶל-הַכַּשְׂדִּים--פֶּן-יִתְּנוּ אֹתִי בְיָדָם,
וְהִתְעַלְלוּ-בִּי.

כ וַיֹּאמֶר יְרֵמְיָהוּ, לֹא יִתְּנוּ; שְׁמַע-נָא בְקוֹל
יְהוָה, לְאֲשֶׁר אֲנִי דֹבֵר אֵלֶיךָ--וַיֵּיטֵב לְךָ,
וַיִּחַי נַפְשֶׁךָ.

20 But Jeremiah said: 'They shall not deliver thee. Harken, I beseech thee, to the voice of the LORD, in that which I speak unto thee; so it shall be well with thee, and thy soul shall live.

כא וְאִם-מָאֵן אַתָּה, לְצֵאת--זֶה הַדָּבָר,
אֲשֶׁר הִרְאֵנִי יְהוָה.

21 But if thou refuse to go forth, this is the word that the LORD hath shown me:

כב וְהִנֵּה כָל-הַנְּשִׂים, אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁאַרוּ בְּבֵית
מֶלֶךְ-יְהוּדָה, מוֹצְאוֹת, אֶל-שָׂרֵי מֶלֶךְ בָּבֶל;
וְהִנֵּה אִמְרוֹת, הַסִּיתוּךָ וַיִּכְלוּ לְךָ אֲנָשִׁי
שְׁלֹמֶךָ, הִטְבְּעוּ בַבַּץ רַגְלֶךָ, נִסְגּוּ אַחֲזָר.

22 Behold, all the women that are left in the king of Judah's house shall be brought forth to the king of Babylon's princes, and those women shall say: Thy familiar friends have set thee on, and have prevailed over thee; thy feet are sunk in the mire, and they are turned away back.

כג וְאֶת-כָּל-נְשֵׂיךָ וְאֶת-בְּנֶיךָ, מוֹצְאִים אֶל-
הַכַּשְׂדִּים, וְאַתָּה, לֹא-תִמָּלֵט מִיָּדָם: כִּי בְיַד
מֶלֶךְ-בָּבֶל תִּתְּפֵשׂ, וְאֶת-הָעִיר תִּשְׂרֹף
בְּאֵשׁ. {ס}

23 And they shall bring out all thy wives and thy children to the Chaldeans; and thou shalt not escape out of their hand, but shalt be taken by the hand of the king of Babylon; and thou shalt cause this city to be burned with fire.' {S}

כד וַיֹּאמֶר צְדֻקְיָהוּ אֶל-יְרֵמְיָהוּ, אִישׁ אֶל-
יָדַע בְּדַבְרֵים-הָאֵלֶּה--וְלֹא תָמוּת.

24 Then said Zedekiah unto Jeremiah: 'Let no man know of these words, and thou shalt not die.

כה וְכִי-יִשְׁמְעוּ הַשָּׂרִים, כִּי-דִבַּרְתִּי אִתְּךָ,
וּבָאוּ אֵלֶיךָ וְאָמְרוּ אֵלֶיךָ הַגִּידָה-נָא לָנוּ מֵה-
דִּבַּרְתָּ אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-תִּכַּחַד מִמֶּנּוּ, וְלֹא
נִמְיַתְךָ; וּמֵה-דִבַּר אֵלֶיךָ, הַמֶּלֶךְ.

25 But if the princes hear that I have talked with thee, and they come unto thee, and say unto thee: Declare unto us now what thou hast said unto the king; hide it not from us, and we will not put thee to death; also what the king said unto thee;

כו וְאִמְרוֹת אֲלֵיהֶם, מִפִּיל-אֲנִי תַחֲנַנְתִּי לִפְנֵי
הַמֶּלֶךְ, לְבַלְתִּי הַשִּׁיבֵנִי בֵּית יְהוֹנָתָן, לָמוֹת
שָׁם. {פ}

26 then thou shalt say unto them: I presented my supplication before the king, that he would not cause me to return to Jonathan's house, to die there.' {P}

כז וַיָּבֹאוּ כָל-הַשָּׂרִים אֶל-יְרֵמְיָהוּ, וַיִּשְׁאַלוּ
אֹתוֹ, וַיִּגַּד לָהֶם כָּל-הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה, אֲשֶׁר
צִוָּה הַמֶּלֶךְ; וַיִּחַרְשׁוּ מִמֶּנּוּ, כִּי לֹא-נִשְׁמַע
הַדָּבָר.

27 Then came all the princes unto Jeremiah, and asked him; and he told them according to all these words that the king had commanded. So they left off speaking with him; for the matter was not reported.

כח וַיֵּשֶׁב יְרֵמְיָהוּ בְּחֹצֵר הַמְּטָרָה, עַד-יוֹם
אֲשֶׁר-נִלְכְּדָה יְרוּשָׁלַם; {ס}
וְהָיָה, כְּאֲשֶׁר נִלְכְּדָה יְרוּשָׁלַם....

28 So Jeremiah abode in the court of the guard until the day that Jerusalem was taken. {S} And it came to pass, when Jerusalem was taken--

III. What could have saved Jerusalem chapter 22

א כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה, רֵד בַּיַּת-מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה;
וּדְבַרְתָּ שָׁם, אֶת-הַדְּבָר הַזֶּה.

1 Thus said the LORD: Go down to the house of the king of Judah, and speak there this word,

ב וְאָמַרְתָּ, שְׁמַע דְּבַר-יְהוָה, מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה,
הַיֹּשֵׁב עַל-כִּסֵּא דָוִד: אֶתָּה וְעַבְדֶּיךָ וְעַמֶּיךָ,
הַבָּאִים בְּשַׁעְרֵים הָאֵלֶּה.

2 and say: Hear the word of the LORD, O king of Judah, that sittest upon the throne of David, thou, and thy servants, and thy people that enter in by these gates.

ג כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה, עֲשׂוּ מִשְׁפָּט וּצְדָקָה,
וְהִצִּילוּ גְזוּל, מִיַּד עֹשׂוֹק; וְגַר יִתּוֹם
וְאַלְמָנָה אַל-תָּנוּ, אַל-תַּחֲמֹסוּ, וְדָם נָקִי,
אַל-תִּשְׁפְּכוּ בַּמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה.

3 Thus saith the LORD: Execute ye justice and righteousness, and deliver the spoiled out of the hand of the oppressor; and do no wrong, do no violence, to the stranger, the fatherless, nor the widow, neither shed innocent blood in this place.

ד כִּי אִם-עֲשׂוּ תַעֲשׂוּ, אֶת-הַדְּבָר הַזֶּה--
וּבָאוּ בְּשַׁעְרֵי הַבַּיִת הַזֶּה מְלָכִים יֹשְׁבִים
לָדוֹד עַל-כִּסֵּאוֹ, רֹכְבִים בְּרֶכֶב וּבַסּוּסִים,
הוּא וְעַבְדּוֹ, וְעַמּוֹ.

4 For if ye do this thing indeed, then shall there enter in by the gates of this house kings sitting upon the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, he, and his servants, and his people.

ה וְאִם לֹא תִשְׁמָעוּ, אֶת-הַדְּבָרִים
הָאֵלֶּה--בִּי נִשְׁבַּעְתִּי נְאֻם-יְהוָה, כִּי-
לְחָרְבָה יִהְיֶה הַבַּיִת הַזֶּה. {פ}

5 But if ye will not hear these words, I swear by Myself, saith the LORD, that this house shall become a desolation. {P}

ו כִּי-כֹה אָמַר יְהוָה, עַל-בַּיִת מֶלֶךְ
יְהוּדָה, גִּלְעָד אֶתָּה לִי, רֹאשׁ הַלְּבָנוֹן;
אִם-לֹא אֲשִׁיתֶךָ מִדְּבָר, עָרִים לֹא נוֹשְׁבָה
(נוֹשְׁבוֹ).

6 For thus saith the LORD concerning the house of the king of Judah: Thou art Gilead unto Me, the head of Lebanon; yet surely I will make thee a wilderness, cities which are not inhabited.

ז וְקִדְשֹׁתַי עָלֶיךָ מִשְׁחַתִּים, אִישׁ וְכִלּוֹ;
וְכָרְתוּ מִבְּחַר אֲרָזֶיךָ, וְהִפִּילוּ עַל-הָאֵשׁ.

7 And I will prepare destroyers against thee, every one with his weapons; and they shall cut down thy choice cedars, and cast them into the fire.

ח וְעָבְרוּ גוֹיִם רַבִּים, עַל הָעִיר הַזֹּאת;
וְאָמְרוּ, אִישׁ אֶל-רֵעֵהוּ, עַל-מָה עָשָׂה
יְהוָה כֹּכָה, לָעִיר הַגְּדוֹלָה הַזֹּאת.

8 And many nations shall pass by this city, and they shall say every man to his neighbour: 'Wherefore hath the LORD done thus unto this great city?'

ט וְאָמְרוּ--עַל אֲשֶׁר עָזְבוּ, אֶת-בְּרִית
יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיהֶם; וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲווּ לֵאלֹהִים
אַחֲרִים, וַיַּעֲבֹדוּם. {ס}

9 Then they shall answer: 'Because they forsook the covenant of the LORD their God, and worshipped other gods, and served them.' {S}

י אל-תבכו למת, ואל-תגדו לו; בכו בכו, להלך--כי לא ישוב עוד, וראה את-ארץ מולדתו. **10** Weep ye not for the dead, neither bemoan him; but weep sore for him that goeth away, for he shall return no more, nor see his native country.

יא כי כה אמר-יהוה אל-שלים בן-יאשיהו מלך יהודה, המלך תחת יאשיהו אביו, אשר יצא, מן-המקום הזה: לא-ישוב שם, עוד. **11** For thus saith the LORD touching Shallum the son of Josiah, king of Judah, who reigned instead of Josiah his father, and who went forth out of this place: He shall not return thither any more;

יב כי, במקום אשר-הגלו אתו--שם ימות; ואת-הארץ הזאת, לא-יראה עוד. {ס} **12** but in the place whither they have led him captive, there shall he die, and he shall see this land no more. {S}

יג הוי בנה ביתו בלא-צדק, ועליותיו בלא משפט; ברעהו יעבד חנם, ופעלו לא יתן-לו. **13** Woe unto him that buildeth his house by unrighteousness, and his chambers by injustice; that useth his neighbour's service without wages, and giveth him not his hire;

יד האמר, אבנה-לי בית מדות, ועליות, מרווחים; וקרע לו, חלונני, וספון בארז, ומשוח בשש. **14** That saith: 'I will build me a wide house and spacious chambers', and cutteth him out windows, and it is ceiled with cedar, and painted with vermilion.

טו התמלך, כי אתה מתחרה בארז; אביד הלוא אכל ושתה, ועשה משפט וצדקה--אז, טוב לו. **15** Shalt thou reign, because thou strivest to excel in cedar? Did not thy father eat and drink, and do justice and righteousness? Then it was well with him.

טז דן דין-עני ואביון, אז טוב; הלוא-היא הדעת אתי, נאם-יהוה. **16** He judged the cause of the poor and needy; then it was well. Is not this to know Me? saith the LORD.

יז כי אין עיניך ולבך, כי אם-על-בצעד; ועל דם-הנקי לשפוך, ועל-העשק ועל-המרוצה לעשות. {ס} **17** But thine eyes and thy heart are not but for thy covetousness, and for shedding innocent blood, and for oppression, and for violence, to do it. {S}

יח לכן כה-אמר יהוה, אל-יהויקים בן-יאשיהו מלך יהודה, לא-יספדו לו, הוי אחי והוי אחות; לא-יספדו לו, הוי אדון והוי הדה. **18** Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah: They shall not lament for him: 'Ah my brother!' or: 'Ah sister!' They shall not lament for him: 'Ah lord!' or: 'Ah his glory!'

יט קבורת חמור, יקבר; סחוב והשליך, מהלאה לשערי ירושלים. {ס} **19** He shall be buried with the burial of an ass, drawn and cast forth beyond the gates of Jerusalem. {S}

Note how this unit ends in chapter 23:

א הוֹי רְעִים, מְאַבְדִּים וּמְפָצִים אֶת-
צֹאן מִרְעִיתִי--נְאֻם-יְהוָה. {ס}

1 Woe unto the shepherds that destroy and scatter the sheep of My pasture! saith the LORD. {S}

ב לָכֵן כֹּה-אָמַר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, עַל-
הָרְעִים הָרְעִים אֶת-עַמִּי, אֲתֶם הִפַּצְתֶּם אֶת-
צֹאנִי וַתִּדְחֹוּם, וְלֹא פָקַדְתֶּם אֹתָם; הֲנִנִּי
פָקַד עֲלֵיכֶם אֶת-רַע מַעַלְלֵיכֶם, נְאֻם-יְהוָה.

2 Therefore thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel, against the shepherds that feed My people: Ye have scattered My flock, and driven them away, and have not taken care of them; behold, I will visit upon you the evil of your doings, saith the LORD.

ג וְאֲנִי, אֶקְבֹּץ אֶת-שְׂאֵרֵי צֹאנִי, מִכָּל
הָאֲרָצוֹת, אֲשֶׁר-הִדְחִיתִי אֹתָם שָׁם; וְהִשְׁבֵּתִי
אֶתְהֶן עַל-נֹוֹהוּ, וּפְרוּ וּרְבוּ.

3 And I will gather the remnant of My flock out of all the countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them back to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and multiply.

ד וְהִקְמַתִּי עֲלֵיהֶם רְעִים, וְרְעוּם; וְלֹא-
יִירָאוּ עוֹד וְלֹא-יִחַתּוּ וְלֹא יִפְקְדוּ, נְאֻם-
יְהוָה. {ס}

4 And I will set up shepherds over them, who shall feed them; and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be lacking, saith the LORD. {S}

ה הִנֵּה יָמִים בָּאִים נְאֻם-יְהוָה,
וְהִקְמַתִּי לְדָוִד צֶמַח צְדִיק; וּמִלֵּךְ מִלֵּךְ
וְהִשְׁפִּיל, וְעָשָׂה מִשְׁפָּט וְצִדְקָה בְּאֶרֶץ.

5 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous shoot, and he shall reign as king and prosper, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

ו בְּיָמָיו תִּנְשָׂע יְהוּדָה, וְיִשְׂרָאֵל יִשְׁכֹּן
לְבֶטֶח; וְזֶה-שֵׁמוֹ אֲשֶׁר-יִקְרָאוּ, יְהוָה
צְדִקְנוּ. {פ}

6 In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely; and this is his name whereby he shall be called, The LORD is our righteousness.

IV. The Haftara - chapter 8 & 9

ד וְאָמַרְתָּ אֲלֵיהֶם, כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה,
הֲיִפְּלוּ, וְלֹא יָקוּמוּ; אִם-יָשׁוּב, וְלֹא יָשׁוּב.

4 Moreover thou shalt say unto them: Thus saith the LORD: do men fall, and not rise up again? Doth one turn away, and not return?

ה מִדּוּעַ שׁוֹבְבָה הָעַם הַזֶּה, יְרוּשָׁלַם--
מִשְׁבָּה נִצַּחַת; הֲחִזִּיקוּ, בַּתְרַמַּת--מֵאַנּוּ,
לְשׁוֹב.

5 Why then is this people of Jerusalem slidden back by a perpetual backsliding? They hold fast deceit, they refuse to return.

ו הִקְשַׁבְתִּי וְאָשְׁמַע, לֹא-כֵן יִדְבְּרוּ--אִין
אִישׁ נָחַם עַל-רָעָתוֹ, לֵאמֹר מָה עָשִׂיתִי;
כִּלְהַ, שָׁב בַּמְרֻצוֹת (בְּמֻרְוֹצְתֶם), כְּסוּס
שׁוֹטֵף, בְּמִלְחָמָה.

6 I attended and listened, but they spoke not aright; no man repenteth him of his wickedness, saying: 'What have I done?' Every one turneth away in his course, as a horse that rusheth headlong in the battle.

ז גַּם-חֲסִידָה בִּשְׁמַיִם, יִדְעָה מוֹעֲדֶיהָ,
וְתוֹר וְסוֹס (וְסִיס) וְעִגּוֹר, שָׁמְרוּ אֶת-עֵת
בְּאֶנָּה; וְעַמִּי--לֹא יִדְעוּ, אֶת מִשְׁפָּט יְהוָה.

7 Yea, the stork in the heaven knoweth her appointed times; and the turtle and the swallow and the crane observe the time of their coming; but My people know not the ordinance of the LORD.

ח אִיכָה תֹאמְרוּ חֲכָמִים אֲנַחְנוּ, וְתוֹרַת
יְהוָה אֲתָנוּ; אַךְ הִנֵּה לְשֹׁקֵר עָשָׂה, יַעַט
שֹׁקֵר סִפְרִים.

8 How do ye say: 'We are wise, and the Law of the LORD is with us'? Lo, certainly in vain hath wrought the vain pen of the scribes.

ט הַבָּשׁוּ חֲכָמִים, חֲתוּ וַיִּלְכְּדוּ; הִנֵּה
בְּדַבֵּר-יְהוָה מֵאֲסוּ, וְחֲכֻמַּת מָה לָּהֶם.

9 The wise men are ashamed, they are dismayed and taken; lo, they have rejected the word of the LORD; and what wisdom is in them?

י לָכֵן אֶתֶּן אֶת-נְשֵׁיהֶם לְאַחֲרִים,
שְׂדוֹתֵיהֶם לְיוֹרְשִׁים--כִּי מִקָּטָן וְעַד-גְּדוֹל,
כָּל־אֶחָד בִּצְעָה בִצְעָה, וְעַד-כֹּהֵן--כָּל־אֶחָד
עָשָׂה שֹׁקֵר.

10 Therefore will I give their wives unto others, and their fields to them that shall possess them; for from the least even unto the greatest every one is greedy for gain, from the prophet even unto the priest every one dealeth falsely.

יא וַיִּרְפוּ אֶת-שֹׁבֵר בֵּית-עַמִּי, עַל-נִקְלָה-
-לְאֹמֵר, שָׁלוֹם שָׁלוֹם; וְאִין, שָׁלוֹם.

11 And they have healed the hurt of the daughter of My people lightly, saying: 'Peace, peace', when there is no peace.

יב הַבָּשׁוּ, כִּי תוֹעֵבָה עָשׂוּ; גַּם-בוֹשׁ לֹא-
יִבְשׁוּ, וְהַכֹּלִים לֹא יִדְעוּ--לָכֵן יִפְּלוּ בַּנְּפִלִים
בְּעֵת פְּקֻדָּתָם יִכָּשְׁלוּ, אָמַר יְהוָה. {פ}

12 They shall be put to shame because they have committed abomination; yea, they are not at all ashamed, neither know they how to blush; therefore shall they fall among them that fall, in the time of their visitation they shall stumble, saith the LORD. {P}

יג אֶסְפֵּן אֶסְיִפֶם, נֶאֱס-יְהוָה; אִין עֲנָבִים
בְּגִפְנוֹ וְאִין תְּאֵנִים בְּתֵאנָה, וְהָעֵלֶה נִבֵּל--
וְאֶתֶּן לָהֶם, יַעֲבְרוּם.

13 I will utterly consume them, saith the LORD; there are no grapes on the vine, nor figs on the fig-tree, and the leaf is faded; and I gave them that which they transgress.

יד עַל-מָה, אֲנַחְנוּ יֹשְׁבִים--הָאֶסְפוּ וְנִבְּאוּ
אֶל-עָרֵי הַמְּבֻצָּר, וְנִדְמָה-שָׁם:
כִּי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ הִדְמָנוּ וַיִּשְׁקֵנוּ מִי-
רֹאשׁ, כִּי חָטְאנוּ לַיהוָה.

14 'Why do we sit still? Assemble yourselves, and let us enter into the fortified cities, and let us be cut off there; for the LORD our God hath cut us off, and given us water of gall to drink, because we have sinned against the LORD.

טו קוּה לְשָׁלוֹם, וְאִין טוֹב;
לַעֵת מַרְפָּה, וְהִנֵּה בְּעֵתָהּ.

15 We looked for peace, but no good came; and for a time of healing, and behold terror!

טז מִדָּן נִשְׁמַע, נִחְרַת סוּסָיו--מִקּוֹל
מִצְהָלוֹת אַבִּירָיו, רָעָשָׂה כָּל-הָאָרֶץ;
וַיִּבְּאוּ, וַיֹּאכְלוּ אֶרֶץ וּמְלוֹאָהּ--עִיר,
וַיֹּשְׁבֵי בָהּ. {פ}

16 The snorting of his horses is heard from Dan; at the sound of the neighing of his strong ones the whole land trembleth; for they are come, and have devoured the land and all that is in it, the city and those that dwell therein. {P}

יז כִּי הִנְנִי מְשַׁלַּח בְּכֶם, נְחָשִׁים צְפַלְעָנִים,
אֲשֶׁר אִין-לָהֶם, לְחַשׁ;
וְנִשְׁכוּ אֶתְכֶם, נֶאֱס-יְהוָה. {ס}

17 For, behold, I will send serpents, basilisks, among you, which will not be charmed; and they shall bite you, saith the LORD. {S}

יח מִבְּלִיגִיתִי, עָלַי יָגוּן; עָלַי, לִבִּי דָוָי.

18 Though I would take comfort against sorrow, my heart is faint within me.

יט הִנֵּה-קוֹל שׁוֹעֵת בַּת-עַמִּי, מֵאַרְצַי מִרְחֻקִים,

19 Behold the voice of the cry of the daughter of my people from a land far off: 'Is not the LORD in Zion? Is not her King in her?'--'Why have they provoked Me with their graven images, and with strange vanities?'

י"א הִי הָיְתָה אֵין בְּצִיּוֹן, אִם-מֶלֶכָה אֵין בָּהּ? "מִדּוּעַ, הִכְעִסוּנִי בְּפִסְלֵיהֶם--בְּהַבְלֵי יַכָּר."

כ "עֲבַר קִצִּיר, כָּלָה קִיץ; וְאַנְחָנוּ, לֹא נוֹשָׁעֵנוּ."

20 'The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.'

Yirmiyahu's lament:

כא עַל-שָׁבַר בַּת-עַמִּי, הַשְּׁבַרְתִּי קִדְרֹתַי, שָׁמָּה הִחַזְקֹתַנִּי.

21 For the hurt of the daughter of my people am I seized with anguish; I am black, appalment hath taken hold on me.

כב הֲצָרִי אֵין בְּגִלְעָד, אִם-רֹפֵא אֵין שָׁם? כִּי, מִדּוּעַ לֹא עֲלֹתָהּ, אֲרַכֶּת, בַּת-עַמִּי?

22 Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered? {S}

כג מִי-יִתֵּן רֹאשֵׁי מַיִם, וְעֵינַי מְקוֹר דְּמָעָה; וְאַבְכָּה יוֹמָם וְלַיְלָה, אֵת חַלְלֵי בַת-עַמִּי. {ס}

23 Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!

כד מִי-יִתְּנֵנִי בַּמִּדְבָּר, מְלוֹן אֲרָחִים, וְאַעֲזֹבָה אֶת-עַמִּי, וְאַלְכָה מֵאַתָּם: כִּי כָּל־מְנַאֲפִים, עֲצַרְת בְּגָדִים.

1 Oh that I were in the wilderness, in a lodging-place of wayfaring men, that I might leave my people, and go from them! For they are all adulterers, an assembly of treacherous men.

כה וַיִּדְרֹכוּ אֶת-לְשׁוֹנָם קִשְׁתָּם שֶׁקֶר, וְלֹא לְאַמוּנָה גָּבְרוּ בְּאַרְצָ: כִּי מִרְעָה אֶל-רְעָה יֵצְאוּ וְאֵתִי לֹא-יִדְעוּ, נְאֻם-יְהוָה.

2 And they bend their tongue, their bow of falsehood; and they are grown mighty in the land, but not for truth; for they proceed from evil to evil, and Me they know not, saith the LORD.

כו אִישׁ מִרְעִיהוּ הַשְּׁמֵרוּ, וְעַל-כָּל-אָח אֶל-תִּבְטְחוּ: כִּי כָל-אָח עֲקוּב יַעֲקֹב, וְכָל-רֵעַ רֵכִיל יִהְלֹךְ.

3 Take ye heed every one of his neighbour, and trust ye not in any brother; for every brother acteth subtly, and every neighbour goeth about with slanders.

כז וְאִישׁ בְּרֵעֵהוּ יִהְתָּלוּ, וְאַמֶּת לֹא יִדְבְּרוּ; לְמַדּוּ לְשׁוֹנָם דְּבַר-שֶׁקֶר, הָעוּה נְלֹאוּ.

4 And they deceive every one his neighbour, and truth they speak not; they have taught their tongue to speak lies, they weary themselves to commit iniquity.

כח שְׁבַתְךָ, בְּתוֹךְ מְרֻמָּה; בְּמְרֻמָּה מְאַנּוּ דַעַת-אוֹתִי, נְאֻם-יְהוָה. {ס}

5 Thy habitation is in the midst of deceit; through deceit they refuse to know Me, saith the LORD. {S}

ו לָכֵן, כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת, הַנְּנִי
צוֹרְפָם, וּבְחַנְתִּים: כִּי-אֵיךְ אֶעֱשֶׂה,
מִפְּנֵי בַת-עַמִּי.

6 Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts: behold, I will smelt them, and try them; for how else should I do, because of the daughter of My people?

ז חֵץ שׁוֹחַט (שְׁחוּט) לְשׁוֹנֵם, מְרָמָה
דָּבַר; בְּפִיו, שְׁלוֹם אֶת-רֵעֵהוּ יְדַבֵּר,
וּבְקִרְבוֹ, יִשִּׂים אָרְבוֹ.

7 Their tongue is a sharpened arrow, it speaketh deceit; one speaketh peaceably to his neighbour with his mouth, but in his heart he layeth wait for him.

ח הֲעַל-אֵלֶּה לֹא-אֶפְקֹד-בָּם, נְאֻם-
יְהוָה; אִם בְּגוֹי אֲשֶׁר-כָּזָה, לֹא תִתְנַקֵּם
נַפְשִׁי. { ס }

8 Shall I not punish them for these things? saith the LORD; shall not My soul be avenged on such a nation as this? {S}

ט עַל-הַהָרִים אֲשָׂא בְּכִי וְנָהִי, וְעַל-נְאוֹת
מִדְּבָר קִינָה--כִּי נִצְתּוּ מִבְּלִי-אִישׁ עֵבֶר, וְלֹא
שָׁמְעוּ קוֹל מְקַנָּה; מֵעוֹף הַשָּׁמַיִם וְעַד-בְּהֵמָה,
נִדְּדוּ הֶלְכוּ.

9 For the mountains will I take up a weeping and wailing, and for the pastures of the wilderness a lamentation, because they are burned up, so that none passeth through. And they hear not the voice of the cattle; both the fowl of the heavens and the beast are fled, and gone.

י וְנָתַתִּי אֶת-יְרוּשָׁלַם לְגִלְמִים, מְעוֹן תַּנִּים;
וְאֶת-עָרֵי יְהוּדָה אֶתֵּן שְׁמָמָה, מִבְּלִי
יוֹשֵׁב. { ס }

10 And I will make Jerusalem heaps, a lair of jackals; and I will make the cities of Judah a desolation, without an inhabitant. {S}

יא מִי-הָאִישׁ הַחֲכָם וַיְבִין אֶת-זֹאת, וְאֲשֶׁר
דָּבַר פִּי-יְהוָה אֵלָיו וַיִּגְדֶּה; עַל-מָה אֶבְדֶּה
הָאָרֶץ, נִצְתָה כַּמִּדְבָּר מִבְּלִי עֵבֶר. { ס }

11 Who is the wise man, that he may understand this? And who is he to whom the mouth of the LORD hath spoken, that he may declare it? Wherefore is the land perished and laid waste like a wilderness, so that none passeth through? {S}

יב וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה--עַל-עֲזֹבֶם אֶת-תּוֹרָתִי, אֲשֶׁר
נָתַתִּי לִפְנֵיהֶם; וְלֹא-שָׁמְעוּ בְּקוֹלִי, וְלֹא-הֶלְכוּ
בָּהּ.

12 And the LORD saith: Because they have forsaken My law which I set before them, and have not hearkened to My voice, neither walked therein;

יג וַיֵּלְכוּ, אַחֲרֵי שְׁרָרוֹת לְבָם--וְאַחֲרֵי,
הַבְּעָלִים, אֲשֶׁר לָמְדוּם, אֲבוֹתָם. { פ }

13 But have walked after the stubbornness of their own heart, and after the Baalim, which their fathers taught them. {P}

יד לָכֵן, כֹּה-אָמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת אֱלֹהֵי
יִשְׂרָאֵל, הַנְּנִי מֵאֲכִילֶם אֶת-הָעֵם הַזֶּה,
לְעֵנָה; וְהִשְׁקִיתִים, מִי-רֹאשׁ.

14 Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I will feed them, even this people, with wormwood, and give them water of gall to drink.

טו וְהִפְצֹתִים, בְּגוֹיִם, אֲשֶׁר לֹא יָדְעוּ,
הֵמָּה וְאֲבוֹתָם; וְשִׁלַּחְתִּי אַחֲרֵיהֶם אֶת-
הַחֶרֶב, עַד פְּלוֹתִי אוֹתָם. { פ }

15 I will scatter them also among the nations, whom neither they nor their fathers have known; and I will send the sword after them, till I have consumed them. {P}

טז כה אִמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת, הַתְּבוֹנִנוּ
וְקָרְאוּ לַמְּקוֹנְנוֹת וּתְבוֹאֵינָהּ; וְאֶל-
הַחֲכָמוֹת שְׁלָחוּ, וּתְבוֹאֵנָה.

16 Thus saith the LORD of hosts:
Consider ye, and call for the mourning
women, that they may come; and send
for the wise women, that they may come;

יז וּתְמַהֲרָנָה, וּתְשַׁנְּנָה עֵינֵינוּ נְהִי; וְתִרְדְּנָה
עֵינֵינוּ דְמָעָה, וְעַפְעֵפִינוּ יִזְלוּ-מַיִם.

17 And let them make haste, and take up
a wailing for us, that our eyes may run
down with tears, and our eyelids gush
out with waters.

יח כִּי קוֹל נְהִי נִשְׁמַע מִצִּיּוֹן, אֵידָ שֶׁדָּדְנוּ;
בְּשָׁנוּ מְאֹד כִּי-עֲזַבְנוּ אֶרֶץ, כִּי הִשְׁלִיכוּ
מִשְׁכְּנֹתֵינוּ. {ס}

18 For a voice of wailing is heard out of
Zion: 'How are we undone! We are
greatly confounded, because we have
forsaken the land, because our dwellings
have cast us out.' {S}

יט כִּי-שָׁמְעֵנָה נְשִׁים דְּבַר-יְהוָה, וְתִקַּח
אֲזָנֶיכֶם דְּבַר-פִּי; וְלִמְדָנָה בְּנוֹתֵיכֶם נְהִי,
וְאִשָּׁה רְעוּתָהּ קִינָה.

19 Yea, hear the word of the LORD, O ye
women, and let your ear receive the word
of His mouth, and teach your daughters
wailing, and every one her neighbour
lamentation:

כ כִּי-עָלָה מָוֹת בְּחַלּוֹנֵינוּ, בָּא
בְּאֶרְמֹנוֹתֵינוּ-- לְהַכְרִית עוֹלָל מְחוּץ,
בְּחוּרִים מְרַחְבוֹת.

20 'For death is come up into our
windows, it is entered into our palaces, to
cut off the children from the street, and
the young men from the broad places.--

כא דַּבֵּר, כֹּה נֹאֵם-יְהוָה, וְנִפְלָה נִבְלַת
הָאָדָם, כְּדָמֹן עַל-פְּנֵי הַשָּׂדֶה; וְכָעֲמִיר
מֵאַחֲרֵי הַקֶּצֶר, וְאִין מְאַסֵּף. {ס}

21 Speak: Thus saith the LORD--And
the carcasses of men fall as dung upon
the open field, and as the handful after
the harvestman, which none
gathereth.' {S}

כב כה אִמַר יְהוָה, אֶל-יִתְהַלֵּל חָכָם
בְּחַכְמָתוֹ, וְאֶל-יִתְהַלֵּל הַגִּבּוֹר, בְּגִבּוֹרָתוֹ;
אֶל-יִתְהַלֵּל עֲשִׂיר, בְּעֲשָׂרוֹ.

22 Thus saith the LORD: Let not the
wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let
the mighty man glory in his might, let
not the rich man glory in his riches;

כג כִּי אִם-בְּזֹאת יִתְהַלֵּל הַמִּתְהַלֵּל,
הַשֶּׁפֶל וַיֵּדַע אוֹתִי-- כִּי אֲנִי יְהוָה,

23 But let him that glorieth glory in this,
that he understandeth, and knoweth Me,
that I am the LORD who exercise mercy,
justice, and righteousness, in the earth;
for in these things I delight, saith the
LORD.

עֲשֵׂה חֶסֶד מִשְׁפָּט וְצְדָקָה בְּאֶרֶץ:
כִּי-בְאֵלָה חִפְצָתִי, נֹאֵם-יְהוָה.