

Hinei Eil Y'shuati (Havdalah Blessings)

הִנֵּה אֵל יְשׁוּעָתִי, אֲבִטַח וְלֹא אֶפְחָד,
כִּי עֲזִי וְזִמְרַת יְהוָה יִי, וַיְהִי לִי לִישׁוּעָה:
וּשְׂאֲבָתָם מֵיָם בְּשִׁשׁוֹן מִמַּעַיְנֵי הַיְשׁוּעָה:
לִי הַיְשׁוּעָה עַל עֲמֻךְ בְּרִכְתְּךָ סֵלָה:
יְיָ צְבָאוֹת עֲמָנוּ מִשְׁגָּב לָנוּ אֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב סֵלָה:
יְיָ צְבָאוֹת אֲשֶׁר־י אָדָם בֵּטַח בְּךָ:
יְיָ הוֹשִׁיעָה הַמֶּלֶךְ יַעֲנֵנוּ בְּיוֹם קְרִיאָנוּ:
לְיִהוּדִים הַיְתֵה אוֹרָה וְשִׂמְחָה וְשִׁשׁוֹן וַיִּקָּר:
כֵּן תִּהְיֶה לָנוּ, כּוֹס יְשׁוּעוֹת אֲשָׁא. וּבִשְׁם יְיָ אֶקְרָא:*

Hi-nei eil y'shu-a-ti ev-takh v'lo ef-khad.
Ki o-zi v'zim-rat ya va-y'hi li li-shu-a.
U-shav-tem ma-yim b'sa-son mi-ma-a'y'nei ha-y'shu-a.
La-do-nai ha-y'shu-a al am-kha bir-kha-te-kha, se-la.
A-do-nai tz'va-ot i-ma-nu mis-gav la-nu e-lo-hei ya-a'kov, se-la.
A-do-nai tz'va-ot ash-rei a-dam bo-tei-akh bakh.
A-do-nai ho-shi-a ha-me-lekh ya-a'nei-nu v'yom kor-ei-nu.
La-y'hu-dim ha-y'ta o-ra v'sim-kha v'sa-son vi-kar.
Kein ti-h'yeh la-nu, kos y'shu-ot e-sa. U-v'sheim a-do-nai ek-ra.

Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and I will not fear, for my strength and my praise is God, Adonai, Who was my deliverance.
You will draw water with joy from the springs of salvation.
To Adonai is deliverance, Your blessing is upon Your people, Selah.
Adonai of Legions is with us, a tower for us is the God of Jacob, Selah.
Adonai of Legions, happy is the person who trusts in You.
Adonai save [us]—may the Sovereign answer us on the day that we call.
For the Jews there was light and joy and bliss and honor, so may it be for us.
The cup of deliverance I will raise, and the name of Adonai I will invoke.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פְרִי הַגֶּפֶן.

Ba-rukh a-ta a-do-nai, e-lo-hei-nu me-lekh ha-o-lam, bo-rei p'ri ha-ga-fen.

Blessed are You, Adonai, our God, Sovereign of the Universe, Creator of the fruit of the vine.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא מִיְנֵי בְשָׂמִים:

Ba-rukh a-ta a-do-nai, e-lo-hei-nu me-lekh ha-o-lam, bo-rei mi-nei v'sa-mim.

Blessed are You, Adonai, our God, Sovereign of the Universe, Creator of varied spices.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא מְאֹרֵי הָאֵשׁ:

Ba-rukhh a-ta a-do-nai, e-lo-hei-nu me-lekh ha-o-lam, bo-rei m'o-rei ha-aish.

Blessed are You, Adonai, our God, Sovereign of the Universe, Creator of the light of fire.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, הַמְבַדִּיל בֵּין קֹדֶשׁ לְחֹל, בֵּין אֹר לְחֹשֶׁךְ,
בֵּין יִשְׂרָאֵל לְעַמִּים, בֵּין יוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי, לְשֵׁשֶׁת יָמֵי הַמַּעֲשֵׂה: בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ,
הַמְבַדִּיל בֵּין קֹדֶשׁ לְחֹל:

Ba-rukhh a-ta a-do-nai, e-lo-hei-nu me-lekh ha-o-lam, ha-mav-dil bein ko-desh l'khol, bein or l'kho-shekh, bein yis-ra-eil la'a-mim, bein yom hash-vi-i, l'shei-shet y'mei ha-ma-a-seh:
ba-rukhh a-ta a-do-nai, ha-mav-dil bein ko-desh l'khol.

Blessed are You, Adonai, our God, Sovereign of the Universe, who separates sacred from profane, light from darkness, the seventh day of rest from the six days of labor. Blessed are You, Adonai, who separates the sacred from the profane.

D'rash

Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and I will not fear, for my strength and my praise is God, Adonai, Who was my deliverance—Look at my life—do you not see how I have been saved? No longer am I a slave to mistrust and anxiety. Yet I claim no virtue for any strength or accomplishment—I was delivered by the God whose presence calls attention to whatever value my life has achieved. **You will draw water with joy from the springs of salvation**—You too, with all your doubts and disabilities, may choose to refresh yourself from the Creator's infinite strength and compassion. **To Adonai is deliverance, Your blessing is upon Your people, Selah. Adonai of Legions is with us, a tower for us is the God of Jacob, Selah. Adonai of Legions, happy is the person who trusts in You. Adonai save [us]—may the Sovereign answer us on the day that we call**—See all around us the blessed, the legions seeking to serve the Creator, those who have been delivered to a higher calling, who are secure and fulfilled because the Holy One has guided them and sustained them. **For the Jews there was light and joy and bliss and honor, so may it be for us**—With Adonai, our people's faith and hope was not empty, nor need it be for us in this time, despite our reason and experience. **The cup of deliverance I will raise, and the name of Adonai I will invoke**—Because there is no greater source of joy in my life than to praise the God Who has created the Torah and the Jewish people to walk in its path.

Iyun Tefilla

CATCHING FIRE

Here's how
To make a fire
After Shabbat.
When the last moment
Flies away
From you
In the smoke
Of the candle,
And the Aishdat,**

The holy fire,
Seems lost to you,
Stir the ashes,
Find some coals.
To carry back
To your week.
Look around
For kindling
(A mitzvah).
In fact,
To make it last,
Build a tent
Of sticks.
Blow gently!
Keep blowing!
Don't let it go out!

* From Isaiah 12:2-3, Psalms 3:9 and 46:12, Esther 8:16, and Psalm 116:13.

** תורה (Deuteronomy 33:2)—fire become law, the Torah.

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