

26 There Is None Like You Among the Dumb

ISAAC BAR SHALOM

1 אין כמוד באלמים.
2 דומם ושותק למענימים.
3 צרינו רבים קמים.
4 בהנסדם יחד לגדפנו.
5 איה מלככם חרפנו.
6 לא שכחנו ולא שקרנו.
7 אל דמי לך:

8 גרושים מן גו נאו.
9 ועמך בפרך דכאו.
10 משנאיך ראש נשאו.
11 דורשי אובות ואלילים.
12 יאמרו אויבינו פלילים.
13 מה היהודים האמללים.
14 אל דמי לך:

15 הבו לכם עצה.
16 פן תהיו לשמצה.
17 הן לריב ומצה.
18 ואם תהיו כמונו.
19 לנו תקרבו ותפנו.
20 לעם אחד והיינו.
21 אל דמי לך:

22 ועקו לוקים ניענו.
23 לא נשוב ולא נעבדנו.
24 שקץ תשקצנו ותעב תתעבנו.
25 מי וקם גאלנו.
26 אותו נעבוד ונחטבנו.
27 בעת צרה ישועתנו.
28 אל דמי לך:

B. Gittin 56b on
Ps. 86:8, reading
illemim for the
text's elim (gods).

Ps. 83:2.

Job 30:5.

There is none like You among the dumb,^o
Keeping silence and being still in the face of those who aggrieve us.
Our foes are many; they rise up against us,
As they take counsel together to revile us.

"Where is your King?," they taunt us.

But we have not forgotten You nor deceived You.

Do not keep silence! ^{> new/fold voice added to choir}

Those driven from the midst of men^o became proud.

They crushed Your people with rigor.

Your enemies lifted up their head,

Those seekers of ghosts and of idols.

Our foes would judge us, and are saying:

"How now, you hapless Jews!"

Do not keep silence!

"Be receptive to advice,

Lest you turn into disgrace.

Yea, to quarrel and to strife,

But, if you will be like us,

Turning to us, coming close,

One people we shall be."

Do not keep silence!

In answer cried the smitten ones:

"From our God we turn not, nor shall we worship yours!

"You shall utterly detest, and utterly abhor it."^o

Alive and enduring is our Redeemer,

Him we shall serve, and Him we praise.

In time of trouble, He is our salvation."

Do not keep silence!

Deut. 7:26 in
reference to the
Canaanite cult.

29 סְבוּחַ יְלָדִים הַכִּינוּ.
 30 בְּרַכַּת הַנֶּבֶךְ כָּוְנוּ.
 31 שָׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ
 32 יְיָ אֶחָד וְיִתְחַדְנוּ.
 33 וְעַל קְדוּשַׁת שְׁמוֹ הִרְעֵנוּ.
 34 לְנַפּוּל בַּחֶרֶב וְנִשְׁנוּ וְנִפְּנוּ.
 35 אֶל יְדָמִי לָךְ:
 36 כְּהֵנִים לְזִבְחַ עוֹלָתָם.
 37 עָקְדוּ יְלָדִים וְאִמּוֹתָם.
 38 וְשָׂרְפוּ בָּאֵשׁ אֶת-עוֹרוֹתָם.
 39 לְזֶרוֹק דָּמֵי אֶחָיוֹת וְאֶחָיִם.
 40 וּלְקַטֵּר אִמּוּרֵי נִיחוּחִים.
 41 אֶת-הָרֹאשׁ וְאֶת-הַנֶּתְחִים.
 42 אֶל יְדָמִי לָךְ:
 43 מִעֶרְכָּה גְדוּשָׁה שְׂוּפָה.
 44 כְּכִירָה לֹא קִטּוּמָה וְגִירוּפָה.
 45 וְכָל-בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל יִכְּבוּ אֶת-הַשָּׂרָפָה.
 46 נוֹפְלִים לְרִשְׁפֵי שְׁלֵהֶבֶת יָהּ.
 47 נוֹעָדִים לְמַחֲצִית בְּנֵי עֲלִיָּה.
 48 חֲנֻנִיָּה מִשָּׁאֵל וְעֹזְרָיָה.
 49 אֶל יְדָמִי לָךְ:
 50 סָחִי שְׁמוֹ תוֹרַת מֹשֶׁה.
 51 וְתִלְמוּד רַבִּינָא וְרַב אֲשִׁי.
 52 הָעַל אֵלֶּה תִּתְאַפֵּק וְתִחְשָׁה.
 53 עֲמוּדִים וְגִילִים לְאַבְחֻת.
 54 וְאִתִּיּוֹת קְדוּשׁוֹת פּוֹרְחוֹת.
 55 מִכְּתָב אֱלֹהִים חֲרוּת עַל הַלְּחוֹת.
 56 אֶל יְדָמִי לָךְ:

Opening words of
 the Shema' Deut.
 6:4.

Terminology of
 animal sacrifice in
 Leviticus.

Terminology of
 Sabbath laws.
 Lev. 10:6. Nadav
 and Avihu.

According to
 tradition, the final
 redactors of the
 Talmud.
 12, par. 12.
 Exod. 32:16.

They made ready to slay their children,
 Intending the blessing of sacrifice.
 "Hear O Israel, the Lord is our God,
 The Lord is One." Let us proclaim His Unity!
 For His Name's holiness are we slain,
 Our wives and children are falling by the sword.
 Do not keep silence!

As priests for the slaughter of their holocaust,
 They bound the children and their mothers;
 And, in the fire, they burned their skins,
 Sprinkling the blood of sisters and brothers,
 Offering as sweet savored sacrificial portions
 The head and severed parts of flesh.
 Do not keep silence!

A charred and overflowing pile,
 Like an oven both uncovered and unswept,
All Israel weeps for the burning.
 But those falling in God's fire
 Are destined for His initiates' abode,
Like Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah.
 Do not keep silence!

As refuse they treated Moses' Law,
 The Talmud of Rabhina and Rabh Ashi.
 Can You, at this, restrain Yourself and keep Your peace?
 Pages and parchments destroyed by flailing sword,
 Yet holy letters flying up on high—
 God's writing on the tablets is engraved.
 Do not keep silence!

57 פָּסַע אוֹיֵב בְּיוֹן.
 58 וְאֶבֶד טוֹבֵי וְשֵׁם לְאִין.
 59 וַיִּהְרֹג כָּל מַחְמַדֵּי עֵין.
 60 צִיּוֹן לַפָּרֶט וְאַרְשָׁתָּה.
 61 צָרָה אֶל אַחוּתָהּ נָגַשְׁתָּ.
 62 הִכְיֵנוּ לַפְעָמִי רֶשֶׁת.
 63 אֶל דְּמֵי לֶךְ:

64 קֶץ קָדוֹשׁ נִחְשָׁן.
 65 נָעַצַר בְּאִישׁוֹן.
 66 בַּעֲשָׂרִים לַחֹדֶשׁ הָרִאשׁוֹן.
 67 רָטְשׁוּ דוֹרְשֵׁי חֲמוּרוֹת.
 68 וְקִלּוֹת וְשׁוֹת גּוֹרוֹת.
 69 הַחֲקִים וְהַמְשַׁפְּטִים וְהַתּוֹרוֹת.
 70 אֶל דְּמֵי לֶךְ:

71 שְׂדֵי קִנְיָא לְתוֹרְתָהּ.
 72 לְבַשׁ נִקְמָתָהּ וְקִנְיָתָהּ.
 73 וְעוֹרָרָה אֶת-גְּבוּרְתָּהּ.
 74 גָּעַרְתָּ חַיִּית נוֹבֵר.
 75 בְּכִלְיוֹן שׁוֹד וְשָׁכָר.
 76 אוֹתוֹ וְאֶת-עַמּוֹ בְּדָבָר.
 77 אֶל דְּמֵי לֶךְ:

78 יִמְיֶנְךָ רִהַב מַחְצָבָתָהּ.
 79 הָרָץ גִּלְגֵּלֶת בְּמִקְבָּתָהּ.
 80 זֹאת עֲדִינָהּ הַיּוֹשֶׁבֶת.
 81 צַח וְאֶדוֹם מִשְׁעִיר.
 82 נְסוּכָה בְּכִלְיוֹן תִּסְעִיר.
 83 כָּאִישׁ מִלְחָמוֹת קִנְיָא תַעֲרִיר.
 84 אֶל דְּמֵי לֶךְ:

85 קִנְיָא שְׁנִית שְׁרִידֵינוּ.
 86 בְּרַבִּים נִסִּיף תִּרְאֵנוּ.
 87 שְׁלוֹם תִּשְׁפּוֹת לָנוּ.
 88 חֲמוֹל וְרוּיֶיךָ קִדּוּשְׁנוּ.

According to the
 Mekhilta
 Beshallah 5,
 Nahshon ben
 Amminadav
 jumped into the
 Sea of Reeds even
 before it parted.
 Israel, after Deut.
 32:10.
 Nisan.

Ps. 80:3.
 Reference to
 Amalek-Rome.

Egypt.

Isa. 47:8.
 Conflation of Song
 of Songs 5:10 and
 Isa. 63:1-3. Seir-
 Edom.

Ps. 51:14.
 Ps. 44:27.

The foe was strutting with his sword,
 Destroyed my precious ones, made them to nought.
 And he slew all who did my eye delight.

The year: four thousand nine hundred and seven,
 When trouble closely followed trouble,
 And, for my feet, they set a snare.
 Do not keep silence!

The day when Nahshon hallowed God,
 The foe struck at the apple of His eye,
 On the twentieth day of the first month,

They were dashed to pieces, the expounders of weighty
 And light matters of the Law, and of analogous reasoning,
 Of statutes, ordinance and teachings.
 Do not keep silence!

Almighty God, be zealous for Your Law.
 Put on Your vengeance and Your zeal.

Arouse Your mighty power—
 As You once rebuked the swinish beast
 With destruction and havoc and breaking.
 Him and his people You smote with the plague.
 Do not keep silence!

Your right hand once smote the monster of the Nile.
 Crush now with a hammer the skull of her
 That sits securely to her pleasures given.
 Bright and ruddy as You came from Seir,
 Scatter with destructive storm the one who now does rule.
 Like a tested warrior, do arouse Your zeal!
 Do not keep silence!

Make our remnants Your own once again.
 Among crowds show us Your wonders.
 Establish peace upon us!
 Pity, O our Holy One, those whom You have dispersed;
 Let a willing spirit uphold us.
 Arise for our help, and redeem us!
 Do not keep silence!

89 וְרוּחַ נְדִיבָהּ תִּסְמְכֵנוּ.
 90 קוֹמָה עֲזָרְתָהּ לָנוּ וּפְדֵנוּ.
 91 אֶל דְּמֵי לֶךְ: