THE WEXNER FOUNDATION

Wexner Heritage Program Alumni Solidarity Trip January 15-17, 2024 / 5-8 Shevat, 5784

Isaiah 43:9-10

בֶּל־הַגּוֹיִם נִקְבְּצָוּ יַחְדָּׁו וְיִאֶּסְפוּ לְאֵמִּׁים מֶי בָהֶם ׁ יַגִּיד זֹאת וְרִאשׁנִוֹת יַשְׁמִיעֵנוּ יִתְּנָוּ עֲדִיהֶם ׁ וְיִצְּדָּׁקוּ וְיִאָּמְעוּ וְיִאָּמְרוּ אֱמֶת:
All the nations assemble as one, The peoples gather. Who among them declared this, Foretold to us the things that have happened? Let them produce their witnesses and be vindicated, That people, hearing them, may say, "It is true!"

אַתָּם עדַי נָאָם־יִהֹנָה וְעַבָדֵי אֲשֶׁר בָּחָרָתִי

You are my witnesses—declares GOD —My servant, whom I have chosen.

The Diameter of the Bomb

Yehuda Amichai

The diameter of the bomb was thirty centimeters and the diameter of its effective range about seven meters, with four dead and eleven wounded. And around these, in a larger circle of pain and time, two hospitals are scattered and one graveyard. But the young woman who was buried in the city she came from, at a distance of more than a hundred kilometers, enlarges the circle considerably, and the solitary man mourning her death at the distant shores of a country far across the sea includes the entire world in the circle. And I won't even mention the howl of orphans that reaches up to the throne of God and beyond, making a circle with no end and no God.

translated by Chana Bloch

Prayer for those held in Captivity

For all our family of the House of Israel, fellow Jews who face anguish and captivity, whether on sea or on land: May the Divine have compassion upon them, and bring them from distress to relief, from darkness to light, from subjugation to redemption, now, speedily, soon, and let us say: Amen אַחֵינוּ כָּל בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל, הַנְּתוּנִים בְּצָרָה וּבַשִּׁבְיָה, הָעוֹמְדִים בֵּין בַּיָּם וּבֵין בַּיַבּשָׁה, הַמָּקוֹם יְרַחֵם עֲלִיהֶם, וְיוֹצִיאֵם מִצְּרָה לֹרְוָחָה, וּמֵאֲפֵלָה לְאוֹרָה, וּמִשִּׁעְבּוּד לֹנְאֵלָה, הַשְׁתָּא בַּעֲגַלָא וּבִזְמַן קָרִיב.

Acheinu kol beit yisrael, ha-n'tunim b'tzarah u-vashivyah, ha-omdim bein ba-yam u-vein ba-yabashah, ha-makom y'raḥeim aleihem, v'yotzi·eim mi-tzarah lirvaḥah, u-mei·afeilah l'orah, u-mi-shibud ligʻullah, hashta ba-agala u-vizman kariv, v'nomar amen.

Zecharia Chapter 9

ַמשָא דבר־יִהֹנָה בָּאָרֵץ חַדָּרֶדְ וַדַּמְשַׂק מְנָחַתְוֹ כִּי לֵיהֹנָה עֵין אַלָּם וַכְּל שָׁבְטֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל

1. A pronouncement: The word of GOD.[God] will reside in the land of Hadrach and Damascus; For mortals will turn their eyes to GOD —Like all the tribes of Israel--

וָגַם־חָמָת תִּגְבָּל־בָּה צְר וְצִידוֹן כִּי חָכְמָה מְאְד:

- 2. Including Hamath, which borders on that land, And Tyre and Sidon, though they are very wise.
 - וַתַּבֶן צֶּר מָצִוֹר לָה וַתִּצְבָּר־כַּׂסֶף כֶּעֶבָּר וְחָרָוּץ כְּטֵיט חוּצִוֹת:
- 3. Tyre has built herself a fortress; She has amassed silver like dust, And gold like the mud in the streets. הגה אַדֹנֶי יִוֹרשְׁנָה וְהַכָּה בַיָּם חֵילָה וְהִיא בָּאֵשׁ הַאָּבֶל:
- 4. But my Sovereign will impoverish her; Her forces shall be defeated at sea, And she herself shall be consumed by fire.

ַפַּטָה וָאַשְקלוֹן וְתִירָא וְעַזָּה וְתַחִיל מְאֹד וְעֶקְרָוֹן כִּי־הֹבֵישׁ מָבָּטָה וְאָבַד מֶלֶךְ מֵעַוָּה וְאַשְקלוֹן לֹא תַשֵּב:

5. Ashkelon shall see it and be frightened, Gaza shall tremble violently, And Ekron, at the collapse of her hopes. Kingship shall vanish from Gaza, Ashkelon shall be without inhabitants,

וָיַשַׁב מַמְזַך בְּאַשְׁדָּוֹד וְהַכְרַתָּי גְּאָוֹן פְּלִשְׁתִּים:

- 6. And a mongrel people shall settle in Ashdod. I will uproot the grandeur of Philistia.
 - ַנָהָסִרֹתִּי דָמָיו מִפָּיו וְשָׁקָצֵיוֹ מִבֵּין שִׁנֶּיו וְנָשָׁאַר גַּם־הָוּא לֵאלֹהֵינוּ וְהָיָהֹ כָּאַלֶּף בִּיהוּדָּה וְשֶקְרוֹן כִּיבוּסִי:
- 7. But I will clean out the blood from its mouth, And the detestable things from between its teeth. Its survivors, too, shall belong to our God: They shall become like a clan in Judah, And Ekron shall be like the Jebusites.
 - ַן וַתְּנִיתִי לְבֵיתַי מִצַּבַה מֵעֹבֵר וּמְשֶּׁב וְלֹא־יַעַבָּר עַלִיהָם עוֹד נֹגֵשׁ כִּי עַחַּה רָאֵיתִי בְעִינֵי: {ס}
- 8. And I will encamp in My House against armies, Against any that come and go, And no oppressor shall ever overrun them again; For I have now taken note with My own eyes.
 - ַּגִילִי מְאֹד בַּת־צִּיּוֹן הָרִיעִי בַּת יְרוּשָׁלַם הַגָּה מַלְכֵּךְ יָבוֹא לָדְ צַדָּיק וְנוֹשָׁע הָוּא עַנִי וְרֹבָב עַל־חֲמֹוֹר וְעַל־עַיִר בֶּן־אֲתֹנְוֹת:
- 9. Rejoice greatly, Fair Zion; Raise a shout, Fair Jerusalem! Lo, your king is coming to you. He is victorious, triumphant, Yet humble, riding on a donkey, On a jackass foaled by a jenny.
 - והכרתי־בכב מַאַפָּבֹיִם וְסוּסֹ מִירְוּשַׁלֶּם וְנָכָרְתָהֹ הַשָּׁת מִלְחָמֶׁה וְדָבֵּר שַׁלוֹם לָגוֹיָם וּמַשָּׁלוֹ מַיָּם עִד־לָם וּמְבָּהַר עַד־אַפְּסִי־אַרַץ:
- 10. He shall banish chariots from Ephraim, horses from Jerusalem; The warrior's bow shall be banished. He shall call on the nations to surrender, his rule will extend from sea to sea and from ocean to land's end.
 בּם־אַתּ בִּדִם־בִּרִימַׁךְ שֵׁלַחָתִּי אֲסִירַיִּךְ מְבֹּוֹר אֵין מֵיִם בִּוֹ
- 11. You, for your part, have released Your prisoners from the dry pit, For the sake of the blood of your covenant, [Saying],

ַשוֹבוּ לִבְצַּרוֹן אַסִירֵי הַתִּקוֹה גַּם־הּ"וֹם מַגֵּיד מִשְׁנֵה אַשִׁיב לַךְ:

- 12. "Return to Bitzaron, You prisoners of hope." In return I announce this day: I will repay you double. בְּיַדְלָפְתִי לִי יְהוּלָּה קָשֶׁת מָלֵאתִי אֶפְבִּׁיִם וְעוֹבְרָתִי בָּנִיְהְּ צִיּוֹן עַל־בָּנִיְהְ יָוָן וְשַׂמְתָּיךְ כְּתַּב גִּבְּוֹר.
- 13. For I have drawn Judah taut, And applied [My hand] to Ephraim as to a bow, And I will arouse your sons, O Zion, Against your sons, O Javan, And make you like a warrior's sword.
 - ַנִיהֹנָהֹ עַלֵיהָם יֵרָאֶה וָיָצֵא כַבַּרָק חָצָּוֹ וַאדֹנֵי יַהוֹהֹ בַּשׁוֹפֵר יִתְלֶּע וְהַלֹּךְ בִּסְעַרוֹת תֵּימֵן:
- 14. And GOD will be made manifest to Judah, With arrows that flash like lightning;

My Sovereign GOD shall sound the ram's horn And advance in a stormy tempest.

- יָהֹוָה צָבָאוֹת יָגֵן עַלֵיהָם וָאָכִלוּ וַבָּבָשׁוּ אַבְנִי־לֶּלֹע וְשַׁתָוּ הַמְוּ כִּמוֹ־יָיֵן וּמֵלְאוּ כַּמְזְרֵיק כּזַוּיְוֹת מְזְבָּה:
- 15. GOD of Hosts will protect them With slingstones that devour and conquer; They shall drink, shall rage as with wine, And be filled [with it] like a dashing bowl, Like the corners of an altar.
 - ָןהוֹשִׁיעָّם יְהֹוָה אֱלֹהֵיהֶם בַּיָּוֹם הַהָּוֹא כְּצָאון עַמְוֹ כִּי אַבְנִי־בַּٰזֶר מֶתְנוֹסְסָוֹת עַל־אַדְמָתְוֹ:
- 16. The ETERNAL their God shall make them prosper On that day, [Pasturing] this covenanted people like sheep.[They shall be] like crown jewels glittering on God's soil.
 - ַכִּי מַה־טוּבָוֹ וּמַה־יָּפְיֻוֹ דָּגָן בַּחוּרִים וְתִירָוֹשׁ יְנוֹבֵב בְּתֻלְוֹת:
- 17. How lovely, how beautiful they shall be, Producing young men like new grain, Young women like new wine!