

Lamentations 2 NJPS

איכה יָעִיב בְּאֶפְסוֹ וְאֶדְנִי אֶת־בֵּית־צִיּוֹן הַשְּׁלִיף מִשָּׁמַיִם אֶרֶץ תַּפְאֶרֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל וְלֹא־זָכַר הַדָּם־רַגְלָיו בַּיּוֹם אֵפוֹ:

1. Alas!

The Lord in His wrath
Has shamed Fair Zion,
Has cast down from heaven to earth
The majesty of Israel.
He did not remember His Footstool
On His day of wrath.

בִּלְעַד אֶדְנִי (לא) [ולא] תָּמַל אֶת כָּל־נְאוֹת יַעֲקֹב הַרְס בְּעִבְרָתוֹ מִבְּצֻרֵי בֵּית־יְהוָה הִגִּיעַ לְאֶרֶץ חָלָל מִמְּלִכָה וְיִשְׂרָיִה:

2. The Lord has laid waste without pity
All the habitations of Jacob;
He has razed in His anger
Fair Judah's strongholds.
He has brought low in dishonor
The kingdom and its leaders.

גָּדַע בְּחַר־יָאֵף כָּל קַרְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל הִשְׁיִיב אַחֲזֹר יְמִינוֹ מִפְּנֵי אוֹיֵב וַיִּבְעַר בִּינְעֻקֵּב כַּאֲשֶׁר לָהֶבֶת אֶכְלָה סְבִיב:

3. In blazing anger He has cut down
All the might of Israel;
He has withdrawn His right hand
In the presence of the foe;
He has ravaged Jacob like flaming fire,
Consuming on all sides.

דָּרַף קִשְׁתּוֹ כְּאוֹיֵב נָצַב יְמִינוֹ כַּצֶּר וַיִּהְיֶה כָּל מַחֲמַדֵּי־עֵינֵינוּ בְּאֵהָל בֵּית־צִיּוֹן שִׁפְדָּה כַּאֲשֶׁר תִּמְתּוֹ:

4. He bent His bow like an enemy,
Poised His right hand like a foe;
He slew all who delighted the eye.
He poured out His wrath like fire
In the Tent of Fair Zion.

הָיָה אֶדְנִי כְּאוֹיֵב בִּלְעַד יִשְׂרָאֵל בִּלְעַד כָּל־אַרְמוֹתֶיהָ שִׁחַת מִבְּצֻרָיו וַיִּרְבַּב בְּבֵית־יְהוָה תַּאֲנִיָּה וְאֲנִיָּה:

5. The Lord has acted like a foe,
He has laid waste Israel,
Laid waste all her citadels,
Destroyed her strongholds.
He has increased within Fair Judah
Mourning and moaning.

וַיִּחַמַּס כַּגֹּן שִׁחַת מַעֲדוֹ שִׁפַּח יְהוָה וּבְצִיּוֹן מוֹעֵד וְשִׁפַּת וַיִּנְאַץ בְּזַעֲמ־אֶפְסוֹ מִלֶּדֶד וְכִהְיָ:

6. He has stripped His Booth like a garden,
He has destroyed His Tabernacle;
The LORD has ended in Zion

Festival and sabbath;
In His raging anger He has spurned
King and priest.

זָנַח אֱלֹהֵי יְהוָה מִזְבְּחוֹ נֶאֱרָר מִקִּדְשׁוֹ הִסְגִּיר בְּיַד-אוֹיֵב חוֹמַת אֶרְמוֹנָתֶיהָ קוֹל נִתְּנוּ בְּבֵית-יְהוָה כְּיוֹם מוֹעֵד:

7. The Lord has rejected His altar,
Disdained His Sanctuary.
He has handed over to the foe
The walls of its citadels;
They raised a shout in the House of the LORD
As on a festival day.

חָשַׁב יְהוָה וְלִהְשָׁחִית חוֹמַת בֵּית-צִיּוֹן גָּטָה לְוֹ לֹא-הָשִׁיב יָדוֹ מִבְּלֹעַ וַיִּצְבֹּל-חֵל וְחוֹמָה יִהְיֶה אִמְלֵלוֹ:

8. The LORD resolved to destroy
The wall of Fair Zion;
He measured with a line, refrained not
From bringing destruction.
He has made wall and rampart to mourn,
Together they languish.

טָבְעוּ בְּאֶרֶץ יִשְׂרָאֵל וְשַׁבֵּר בְּרִיחֶיהָ מִלְכָּה וְשָׁרֶיהָ בְּגוֹיִם אֵין תוֹרָה גַם-נְבִיאֶיהָ לֹא-מִצְאוּ חֵזֶן מִיְהוָה:

9. Her gates have sunk into the ground,
He has smashed her bars to bits;
Her king and her leaders are in exile,
Instruction is no more;
Her prophets, too, receive
No vision from the LORD.

יָשְׁבוּ לְאֶרֶץ יִדְמוּ זָקְנֵי בֵּית-צִיּוֹן הֶעֱלֹו עֶפְרַיִם עַל-רֵאשֵׁם חֲגָרוּ שָׂקִים הוֹרִידוּ לְאֶרֶץ רֵאשֵׁן בְּתוֹלֹת יְרוּשָׁלַם:

10. Silent sit on the ground
The elders of Fair Zion;
They have strewn dust on their heads
And girded themselves with sackcloth;
The maidens of Jerusalem have bowed
Their heads to the ground.

כָּלֹו בְדַמְעוֹת עֵינַי חֲמַרְמְרוּ מַעֵי נִשְׁפָּף לְאֶרֶץ כְּבָדִי עַל-שָׁבֵר בֵּת-עַמִּי בְּעֵטַף עוֹלָלִי וַיִּזְנַק בְּרַחֲבוֹת קַרְיָה:

11. My eyes are spent with tears,
My heart is in tumult,
My being melts away
Over the ruin of my poor people,
As babes and sucklings languish
In the squares of the city.

לְאִמְתָם יֹאמְרוּ אֵיךָ דָגְנוּ וַיִּגְוּ בְּהִתְעַשְׂפָם כְּחֻלָּלִי בְּרַחֲבוֹת לְעִיר בְּהִשְׁתַּפָּף נַפְשָם אֶל-חַיִק אִמְתָם:

12. They keep asking their mothers,
“Where is bread and wine?”
As they languish like battle-wounded
In the squares of the town,
As their life runs out
In their mothers’ bosoms.

מִה־אֶעֱיִיף מִה אֲדַמָּה־לָּךְ הַבַּת יְרוּשָׁלַם מִה אֲשׁוּה־לָּךְ וְאַנְחַמְךָ בְּתוֹלַת בַּת־צִיּוֹן כִּי־גָדוֹל כְּנִים שִׁבְרָךְ מִי יִרְפָּא־לָךְ:

13. What can I take as witness or liken
To you, O Fair Jerusalem?
What can I match with you to console you,
O Fair Maiden Zion?
For your ruin is vast as the sea:
Who can heal you?

גְּבִיאֶיךָ חָזוּ לָךְ שָׁוֵא וְתִמְלֵל וְלֹא־גָלוּ עַל־עֲוֹנֶךָ לְהַשִּׁיב (שְׁבִיתֶךָ) [שְׁבוּתֶךָ] וְיִחְזוּ לָךְ מִשְׁאֵוֹת שָׁוֵא וּמַדְוִיקִים:

14. Your seers prophesied to you
Delusion and folly.
They did not expose your iniquity
So as to restore your fortunes,
But prophesied to you oracles
Of delusion and deception.

סִפְּקוּ עֲלֵיךָ פִּינִים כַּל־עֲבָרֵי יְרֵךְ שִׁרְקוּ וַיִּנְעֻוּ רֵאשִׁים עַל־בַּת יְרוּשָׁלַם הַזֹּאת הַעִיר שִׁיאֲמָרוּ כְּלִילַת יָפִי מִשׁוֹשׁ לְכָל־הָאָרֶץ:

15. All who pass your way
Clap their hands at you;
They hiss and wag their head
At Fair Jerusalem:
“Is this the city that was called
Perfect in Beauty,
Joy of All the Earth?”

פָּצְוּ עֲלֵיךָ פִּינֵיהֶם כַּל־אֲבִיבֵיךָ שִׁרְקוּ וַיִּחְרְקוּ־שִׁוֹן אֲמָרוּ בִלְעֲנֻוּ אֶךְ זֶה הַיּוֹם שִׁקְוִינָהוּ מִצָּאֲנוּ רָאִינוּ:

16. All your enemies
Jeer at you;
They hiss and gnash their teeth,
And cry: “We’ve ruined her!
Ah, this is the day we hoped for;
We have lived to see it!”

עֲשֵׂה יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר זָמַם בַּצֵּעַ אֲמָרְתוֹ אֲשֶׁר צִוָּה מִימֵי־קֶדֶם הָרַס וְלֹא חִמְל וַיִּשְׁמַח עֲלֵיךָ אוֹיֵב הָרִים קָרוּ צָרֶיךָ:

17. The LORD has done what He purposed,
Has carried out the decree
That He ordained long ago;
He has torn down without pity.

He has let the foe rejoice over you,
Has exalted the might of your enemies.

צָעַק לָבָם אֶל־אֲדֹנָי חֹמַת בֵּית־צִיּוֹן הוֹרִידִי כַנְחַל דְּמָעָה יוֹמָם וְלַיְלָה אֶל־תַּתְּנִי פּוֹגַת לָךְ אֶל־תִּדְּם בַּת־עֵינֶיךָ:

18. Their heart cried out to the Lord.

O wall of Fair Zion,
Shed tears like a torrent
Day and night!
Give yourself no respite,
Your eyes no rest.

קוּמִי ו רְנִי (בַּלַּיִל) [בַּלַּיְלָה] לְרֹאשׁ אֲשַׁמְרוֹת שְׂפָכֵי כְּמַיִם לְכֹד נִכַח פָּנֵי אֲדֹנָי שְׂאֵי אֲלֵיו פְּפִיךָ עַל־נֶפֶשׁ עוֹלְלֵיךָ הַעֲטוּפִים
בְּרָעַב בְּרֹאשׁ כָּל־חוֹצוֹת:

19. Arise, cry out in the night
At the beginning of the watches,
Pour out your heart like water
In the presence of the Lord!
Lift up your hands to Him
For the life of your infants,
Who faint for hunger
At every street corner.

רֵא אַה יְהוָה וְהִבִּיטָה לְמִי עוֹלְלֹת כֹּה אִם־תִּאֲכַלְנָה נְשִׁים פְּרִיָם עַלְלֵי טַפְּחִים אִם־יִהְרַג בְּמִקְדָּשׁ אֲדֹנָי כְּהֵן וְנָבִיא:

20. See, O LORD, and behold,
To whom You have done this!
Alas, women eat their own fruit,
Their new-born babes!
Alas, priest and prophet are slain
In the Sanctuary of the Lord!

שְׁכַבּוּ לְאָרֶץ חוֹצוֹת גֵּעַר וְזָמֹן בַּתּוֹלְתֵי וּבַחֲנֹרֵי נָפְלוּ בְּחָרֵב הַרְגַת בָּנִים אֲפֹד טַבַּחַת לֹא חָמַלְתָּ:

21. Prostrate in the streets lie
Both young and old.
My maidens and youths
Are fallen by the sword;
You slew them on Your day of wrath,
You slaughtered without pity.

תִּקְרָא כִּיּוֹם מוֹעֵד מְגוּרֵי מְסָכִיב וְלֹא הָיָה בָּנִים אֶף־יְהוָה פָּלִיט וְשָׁרִיד אֲשֶׁר־טַפַּחְתִּי וְרַבִּיתִי אִבְי כָלָם:

22. You summoned, as on a festival,
My neighbors from round about.
On the day of the wrath of the LORD,
None survived or escaped;
Those whom I bore and reared
My foe has consumed.

Lamentations 3 NJPS

1. I am the man who has known affliction
Under the rod of His wrath;

אָנִי הַלְבָּר רָאָה עָנִי בְּשֹׁבֵט עֲבָרָתוֹ:

2. Me He drove on and on
In unrelieved darkness;

אוֹתִי נָהַג וַיִּלְךָ תְּשׁוּבָה וְלֹא-אֹר:

3. On none but me He brings down His hand
Again and again, without cease.

אֵד בְּיָגֵעַ יְהַפֵּךְ יָדוֹ כָּל-הַיּוֹם:

4. He has worn away my flesh and skin;
He has shattered my bones.

בָּלָה בְּשָׂרִי וְעוֹרִי שִׁבְרַת עֲצָמוֹתַי:

5. All around me He has built
Misery and hardship;

בָּנָה עָלַי וַיִּקְרַח רֹאשׁ וַתִּלְאָה:

6. He has made me dwell in darkness,
Like those long dead.

בַּמְחֹשְׁפִים הוֹשִׁיבָנִי כְּמַתֵּי עוֹלָם:

7. He has walled me in and I cannot break out;
He has weighed me down with chains.

גָּדַר בְּעֲדָי וְלֹא אֶצְאָה הַכְּבִיד נִחַשְׁתִּי:

8. And when I cry and plead,
He shuts out my prayer;

גַּם כִּי אֶזְעַק וְאֶשׁוּעַ שְׁתָּם תִּפְלְתִי:

9. He has walled in my ways with hewn blocks,
He has made my paths a maze.

גָּדַר דְּרָכַי בְּגִזְיֹת נְחִיבְתֵי עֲנֹה:

10. He is a lurking bear to me,
A lion in hiding;

דָּב אֶרְבּ הוּא לִי (אֲרִיָּה) [אֲרִי] כְּמַסְתָּרִים:

11. He has forced me off my way and mangled me,
He has left me numb.

דָּרְגִי סוֹכַר וַיִּפְשְׁחֵנִי שְׁמַנִּי שָׁמֵם:

12. He has bent His bow and made me
The target of His arrows:

דָּרַף קִשְׁתּוֹ וַיִּצִיבֵנִי כַּמִּטְרָא לְחֵץ:

13. He has shot into my vitals
The shafts of His quiver.

הִבִּיא בְּכֻלֵּיָתִי בָנִי אֶשְׁפָּתוֹ:

14. I have become a laughingstock to all people,
The butt of their gibes all day long.

הִיִּיתִי שְׂחֹק לְכָל-עַמִּי נִגְיַנְתֶּם כָּל-הַיּוֹם:

15. He has filled me with bitterness,
Sated me with wormwood.

הִשְׂבִּיעַנִי בְּמִרוֹרִים הִרְנֵנִי לַעֲנָה:

16. He has broken my teeth on gravel,
Has ground me into the dust.

וַיִּגְרַם בְּחֻצֵי שֹׁנֵי הַכְּפִישָׁנִי בְּאָפֶר:

17. My life was bereft of peace,
I forgot what happiness was.

וַתִּזְנַח מִשְׁלוֹם נַפְשִׁי נְשִׁיתִי טוֹבָה:

18. I thought my strength and hope
Had perished before the LORD.

וְאָמַר אֲבָד נִצְחִי וַתּוֹחַלְתִּי מִיְהוָה:

19. To recall my distress and my misery
Was wormwood and poison;

זְכַר-עֲנִי וּמְרוֹדֵי לַעֲנָה וְרָאשׁ:

20. Whenever I thought of them,
I was bowed low.

זְכוֹר תִּזְכּוֹר (וַתִּשְׁחַח) [וַתִּשְׁחַח] עָלַי נַפְשִׁי:

21. But this do I call to mind,
Therefore I have hope:

זֹאת אֲשִׁיב אֶל-לִבִּי עַל-כֵּן אוֹחִיל:

22. The kindness of the LORD has not ended,
His mercies are not spent.

חֶסֶדְיָ יְהוָה כִּי לֹא-תִמְנוּ כִּי לֹא-כָלוּ רַחֲמָיו:

23. They are renewed every morning—
Ample is Your grace!

חֲדָשִׁים לְבַקָּרִים רַבָּה אֲמוּנָתְךָ:

24. “The LORD is my portion,” I say with full heart;
Therefore will I hope in Him.

חֲלָקִי יְהוָה אֲמַרָה נַפְשִׁי עַל-כֵּן אוֹחִיל לוֹ:

25. The LORD is good to those who trust in Him,
To the one who seeks Him;

טוֹב יְהוָה לְקַוֵּי לִנְפֹשׁ תִּדְרָשׁוּ:

26. It is good to wait patiently
Till rescue comes from the LORD.

טוֹב וְנַחִיל וְדוּמָם לְתִשׁוּעַת יְהוָה:

27. It is good for a man, when young,
To bear a yoke;

טוֹב לְגֹבֵר כִּי-יִשָּׂא עַל בְּנֵעוֹרָיו:

28. Let him sit alone and be patient,
When He has laid it upon him.

יָשֵׁב בְּדָד וַיִּדָּם כִּי נָטַל עָלָיו:

29. Let him put his mouth to the dust—
There may yet be hope.

יָתוּ בַעֲפֹר פִּיהוּ אוֹלֵי יֵשׁ תִּקְוָה:

30. Let him offer his cheek to the smiter;
Let him be surfeited with mockery.

יָתוּ לְמַכְהוּ לְחֵי יִשָּׁבַע בְּחַרְפָּה:

כִּי לֹא יִזְנַח לְעוֹלָם אֲדֹנָי:

31. For the Lord does not
Reject forever,

כִּי אִם־הוֹגָה וְרַחֵם כְּרַב חֲסִדָּיו:

32. But first afflicts, then pardons
In His abundant kindness.

כִּי לֹא עֲנָה מִלְּבוֹ וַיִּגַּה בְּנִי־אִישׁ:

33. For He does not willfully bring grief
Or affliction to man,

לְדַכֵּא תַחַת רַגְלָיו כָּל אֲסִירֵי אֶרֶץ:

34. Crushing under His feet
All the prisoners of the earth.

לְהַטוֹת מִשְׁפַּט־גְּבוּרָה נֶגֶד פְּנֵי עֲלִיוֹן:

35. To deny a man his rights
In the presence of the Most High,

לְעֹנֵת אָדָם בְּרִיבּוֹ אֲדַנִּי לֹא רָאָה:

36. To wrong a man in his cause—
This the Lord does not choose.

מִי זֶה אָמַר וַתְּהִי אֲדַנִּי לֹא צָוָה:

37. Whose decree was ever fulfilled,
Unless the Lord willed it?

מִפִּי עֲלִיוֹן לֹא תֵצֵא הַרְעוֹת וְהַטּוֹב:

38. Is it not at the word of the Most High,
That weal and woe befall?

מִה־תְּאוֹנוֹן אָדָם חָי גְבוּרָה עַל־חַטָּאוֹ:

39. Of what shall a living man complain?
Each one of his own sins!

נִחַפְּשָׁה דְרָכֵינוּ וְנַחֲלֶרְהָ וְנִשׁוּבָה עַד־יְהוָה:

40. Let us search and examine our ways,
And turn back to the LORD;

נִשְׂא לְכַבְּנוּ אֶל־כַּפֹּתֵינוּ אֶל־אֵל בְּשִׁמְיָם:

41. Let us lift up our hearts with our hands
To God in heaven:

גִּחְנוּ פְּשַׁעֵנוּ וּמְרִינוּ אֶתְּהָ לֹא סִלַּחְתָּ:

42. We have transgressed and rebelled,
And You have not forgiven.

סְבוּתָהּ בָּאָרֶץ וַתִּרְדְּפוּנוּ הַרְגַתָּ לֹא חִמַּלְתָּ:

43. You have clothed Yourself in anger and pursued us,
You have slain without pity.

סְבוּתָהּ בְּעֵנָן לֹד מִעֲבוּר תִּפְלָה:

44. You have screened Yourself off with a cloud,
That no prayer may pass through.

סָחַי וּמִאֲוֹס תְּשִׁימֵנוּ בְּקֶרֶב הָעַמִּים:

45. You have made us filth and refuse
In the midst of the peoples.

פָּצוּ עֲלֵינוּ פִּיהֶם כָּל־אֲבִיבֵינוּ:

46. All our enemies loudly
Rail against us.

פָּחַד וּפְחַת תִּהְיֶה לָנוּ הַשָּׂאת וְהַשְּׂבָר:

47. Panic and pitfall are our lot,
Death and destruction.

פִּלְגֵי־מַיִם תִּרְדַּ עֵינַי עַל־שֶׁבֶר בַּת־עַמִּי:

48. My eyes shed streams of water
Over the ruin of my poor people.

עֵינַי נִגְרָה וְלֹא תִדְמָה מֵאִין הַפְּגוֹת:

49. My eyes shall flow without cease,
Without respite,

עַד־יִשְׁקִיף וְיֵרָא יְהוָה מִשָּׁמַיִם:

50. Until the LORD looks down
And beholds from heaven.

עֵינַי עוֹלְלָה לְנַפְשִׁי מִכָּל בְּנוֹת עִירִי:

51. My eyes have brought me grief
Over all the maidens of my city.

צוּד צָדוֹנֵי כַצֶּפֹּר אִיבֵי חַנָּם:

52. My foes have snared me like a bird,
Without any cause.

צָמְתוּ בַבּוֹר חַיֵּי וַיִּדוּ־אֶבֶן בִּי:

53. They have ended my life in a pit
And cast stones at me.

צָפוּ־מַיִם עַל־רֹאשִׁי אָמַרְתִּי נִגְזַרְתִּי:

54. Waters flowed over my head;
I said: I am lost!

קָרַאתִי שִׁמְהָ יְהוָה מִבּוֹר תַּחַת־יָדַי:

55. I have called on Your name, O LORD,
From the depths of the Pit.

קוֹלִי שָׁמְעַתָּ אֱלֹהֵי־עֲלָמַי אֲזַנְנָה לְרוּחַתִּי לְשׁוֹעַתִּי:

56. Hear my plea;
Do not shut Your ear
To my groan, to my cry!

קָרַבְתָּ בַּיּוֹם אֶקְרָאָךְ אָמַרְתָּ אֱלֹהֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל:

57. You have ever drawn nigh when I called You;
You have said, "Do not fear!"

קָרַבְתָּ אֲדַגֵּי רִיבֵי נַפְשִׁי גָאַלְתָּ חַיִּי:

58. You championed my cause, O Lord,
You have redeemed my life.

רָאִיתָה יְהוָה עֲוֹנֹתַי שָׁפְטָה מִשְׁפָּטִי:

59. You have seen, O LORD, the wrong done me;
Oh, vindicate my right!

רָאִיתָה כָּל־נִקְמָתָם כָּל־מַחְשְׁבֹתָם לִי:

60. You have seen all their malice,
All their designs against me;

שָׁמְעַתָּ חֲרָפְתָם יְהוָה כָּל־מַחְשְׁבֹתָם עָלַי:

61. You have heard, O LORD, their taunts,
All their designs against me,

שָׁפְתַי קָמִי וְהִגִּיזְנִם עָלַי כָּל־הַיּוֹם:

62. The mouthings and pratings of my adversaries
Against me all day long.

שִׁבְתֶּם וְקִימְתֶם הַבִּיטָה אֵנִי מִגִּיזְנֶתֶם:

63. See how, at their ease or at work,
I am the butt of their gibes.

תִּלְשִׁיב לָהֶם גְּמוּל יְהוָה כְּמַעֲשֵׂה יְדֵיהֶם:

64. Give them, O LORD, their deserts
According to their deeds.

תַּתֵּן לָהֶם מִגִּזְת־לֵב תַּאֲלֹתֶיךָ לָהֶם:

65. Give them anguish of heart;
Your curse be upon them!

תִּרְדֹּף בְּאֵרֶץ וְתִשְׁמִידֵם מִתַּחַת שָׁמַי יְהוָה:

66. Oh, pursue them in wrath and destroy them
From under the heavens of the LORD!

Lamentations 4 NJPS

אֵיכָּה יוֹעַם זָהָב יִשְׁנֹא הַכֶּתֶם הַטּוֹב תִּשְׁתַּפְּכֶנָּה אֲבָנֵי־קֹדֶשׁ בְּרֹאשׁ כָּל־חֻצּוֹת:

1. Alas!
The gold is dulled,
Debased the finest gold!
The sacred gems are spilled
At every street corner.

בְּגִי צִיּוֹן הִקְרִיִם הַמְּסֻלָּאִים בְּכַף אֵיכָּה נִחְשְׁבוּ לִנְבִלֵי־חֶרֶשׁ מַעֲשֵׂה יְדֵי יוֹצֵר:

2. The precious children of Zion;
Once valued as gold—
Alas, they are accounted as earthen pots,
Work of a potter's hands!

גַּם־[תַּנִּינִים] [תַּנִּין] תִּלְצֹו שֵׁד הַיְגִיקוּ גּוּרֵיהֶן בַּת־עֲמִי לְאֶכָּזֶר (כִּי עֲנִים) [פִּיעֵיגִים] בְּמִדְבָּר:

3. Even jackals offer the breast
And suckle their young;
But my poor people has turned cruel,
Like ostriches of the desert.

דָּבַק לְשׁוֹן יוֹנֵק אֶל־חֶכוֹ בְּצִמָּא עוֹלָלִים שָׁאֲלוּ לָחֶם פָּרַשׁ אֵין לָהֶם:

4. The tongue of the suckling cleaves
To its palate for thirst.
Little children beg for bread;
None gives them a morsel.

הָאֶכְלִים לְמַעַד־זֵימִים נִשְׁמוּ בַחֻצּוֹת הָאֲמָנִים עָלַי תוֹלַע חֶבְרוֹ אֲשַׁפְּתוֹת:

5. Those who feasted on dainties
Lie famished in the streets;
Those who were reared in purple
Have embraced refuse heaps.

ויגדלו עונן בת-עמי מחטאת סדם וההפוכה כמו-רגע ולא-תלו בה ידים:

6. The guilt of my poor people
Exceeded the iniquity of Sodom,
Which was overthrown in a moment,
Without a hand striking it.

זכו נזיריה מושלג צחו מחלב אדמו לעצם מפנינים ספיר גזרתם:

7. Her elect were purer than snow,
Whiter than milk;
Their limbs were ruddier than coral,
Their bodies were like sapphire.

חשה משחור תאגם לא נפרו בחוצות צפד עורם על-עצמם יבש היה כעץ:

8. Now their faces are blacker than soot,
They are not recognized in the streets;
Their skin has shriveled on their bones,
It has become dry as wood.

טובים היו חללי-חרב מחללי רעב שהם זבוי מדקורים מתנובת שדי:

9. Better off were the slain of the sword
Than those slain by famine,
Who pined away, [as though] wounded,
For lack of the fruits of the field.

ילי נשים רחמניות בשלוי ילדיהן היו לברות למו בשבר בת-עמי:

10. With their own hands, tenderhearted women
Have cooked their children;
Such became their fare,
In the disaster of my poor people.

כלה יהוה את-חמתו שפד חרון אפו ויצת-אש בציון ותאכל יסדתי:

11. The LORD vented all His fury,
Poured out His blazing wrath;
He kindled a fire in Zion
Which consumed its foundations.

לא האמינו מלכי-ארץ (וכל) [כל] ישבי תבל כי יבא צר ואויב בשערי ירושלים:

12. The kings of the earth did not believe,
Nor any of the inhabitants of the world,
That foe or adversary could enter
The gates of Jerusalem.

מחטאות נביאיה עונות פתגיה השפכים בקרבה גם צדיקים:

13. It was for the sins of her prophets,
The iniquities of her priests,
Who had shed in her midst
The blood of the just.

נעו עורים בחוצות נגאלו בדם בלא יוכלו יגעו בלבשיהם:

14. They wandered blindly through the streets,
Defiled with blood,
So that no one was able
To touch their garments.

סורו טמא קראו למו סורו סורו אל-תגעו כי נצו גם-געו אמרו בגולם לא יוספו לגור:

15. “Away! Unclean!” people shouted at them,
“Away! Away! Touch not!”
So they wandered and wandered again;
For the nations had resolved:
“They shall stay here no longer.”

פני יהוה חלקם לא יוסר להביטם פני כהנים לא נשאו (זקנים) [יזקנים] לא תגנו:

16. The LORD’s countenance has turned away from them,
He will look on them no more.
They showed no regard for priests,
No favor to elders.

(עודינה) [עודיננו] תכלינה עינינו אל-עזרתנו הבל בצפיתנו צפינו אל-גוי לא יושע:

17. Even now our eyes pine away
In vain for deliverance.
As we waited, still we wait
For a nation that cannot help.

צדו צעינו מלכת ברחבתינו קרב קצנו מלאו ימינו כי-בא קצנו:

18. Our steps were checked,
We could not walk in our squares
Our doom is near, our days are done—
Alas, our doom has come!

קלים היו רדפינו מנשרי שמים על-ההרים דלקנו במדבר ארבו לנו:

19. Our pursuers were swifter
Than the eagles in the sky;
They chased us in the mountains,
Lay in wait for us in the wilderness.

רוח אפינו משיח יהוה נלכד בשחיתותם אשר אמרנו בצלו גתנה בגוים:

20. The breath of our life, the LORD's anointed,
Was captured in their traps—
He in whose shade we had thought
To live among the nations.

שִׁישִׁי וְשִׁמְחֵל בְּתֵּאֲדוֹם (יִושְׁבְּתֵי) [יִושְׁבֵּת] בְּאַרְצָא עוֹז גַּם־עַל־יָדָהּ תַּעֲבֹר־כּוֹס תְּשַׁכְּרֵי וְתִתְעַרְי:

21. Rejoice and exult, Fair Edom,
Who dwell in the land of Uz!
To you, too, the cup shall pass,
You shall get drunk and expose your nakedness.

תַּם־עוֹנֵהָ בְּתֵּצִיּוֹן לֹא יוֹסִיף לְהַגְלוֹתָהּ פֶּקֶד עוֹנֵהָ בְּתֵּאֲדוֹם גְּלָהּ עַל־חַטָּאתֶיהָ:

22. Your iniquity, Fair Zion, is expiated;
He will exile you no longer.
Your iniquity, Fair Edom, He will note;
He will uncover your sins.

Lamentations 5 (NJPS)

זָכֹר יְהוָה מִהֲתַהֲיָה לָנוּ (הַבֵּיט) [הַבִּיטָה] וּרְאֵה אֶת־חַרְפֹּתֵינוּ:

1. Remember, O LORD, what has befallen us;
Behold, and see our disgrace!

נִחַלְתֵּנוּ גְּהֶפְכָּה לְזָרִים בְּתֵינּוּ לְנִכְרִים:

2. Our heritage has passed to aliens,
Our homes to strangers.

תָּמוּם הֵיִינוּ (אִיו) [וְאִיוֹן] אֵב אִמְתֵּינוּ כְּאֶלְמָנוֹת:

3. We have become orphans, fatherless;
Our mothers are like widows.

מִיִּמֵּינוּ בְּכֶסֶף שְׁתֵּינוּ עֲצִינוּ בְּמַתִּיר יָבֵאוּ:

4. We must pay to drink our own water,
Obtain our own kindling at a price.

עַל צְוֹאֲרֵנוּ נִרְדְּפֵנוּ נִגְעֵנוּ (לֹא) [וְלֹא] הִנְחֵלְנוּ:

5. We are hotly pursued;
Exhausted, we are given no rest.

מִצָּרִים נִתְּנוּ יָד אֲשׁוּר לְשַׁבֵּעַ לָחֵם:

6. We hold out a hand to Egypt;
To Assyria, for our fill of bread.

אֲבִתֵּינוּ חָטְאוּ (אִינֵם) [וְאִינָם] (אֲנַחְנוּ) [וְאֲנַחְנוּ] עוֹנֵיתֶם סָבְלוּנוּ:

7. Our fathers sinned and are no more;
And we must bear their guilt.

עֲבָדִים מְשֻׁלוּ כָּנוּ פָּרַק אִין מִיָּדָם:

8. Slaves are ruling over us,
With none to rescue us from them.

בְּנִפְשָׁנוּ נִבְיֵא לְחַמְנוּ מִפְּנֵי תֵרֵב הַמְדָּבָר:

9. We get our bread at the peril of our lives,
Because of the sword of the wilderness.

10. Our skin glows like an oven,
With the fever of famine.

עורֵנו כְּתַנּוֹר נִכְמְרוּ מִפְּנֵי זִלְעָפוֹת רָעֵב:

11. They have ravished women in Zion,
Maidens in the towns of Judah.

נָשִׁים בְּצִיּוֹן עָפוּ בְּתֵלֶת בְּעָרֵי יְהוּדָה:

12. Princes have been hanged by them;
No respect has been shown to elders.

שָׂרִים בְּיָדָם נִתְלוּ פְּנֵי זְקֵנִים לֹא נִהְדָּרוּ:

13. Young men must carry millstones,
And youths stagger under loads of wood.

בַּחֹרִים טְחוּן נִשְׂאוּ וּנְעָרִים בְּעֵץ כְּשֵׁלוֹ:

14. The old men are gone from the gate,
The young men from their music.

זְקֵנִים מִשְׁעַר שְׁכָתוֹ בַּחֹרִים מִנְּגִינָתָם:

15. Gone is the joy of our hearts;
Our dancing is turned into mourning.

שִׁבְתֵּי מְשׁוֹשׁ לִבְנוֹ נִהְפָּה לְאֵבֶל מְחֻלָּנוּ:

16. The crown has fallen from our head;
Woe to us that we have sinned!

גְּפִלָּה עָטְרַת רֹאשֵׁנוּ אוֹיֵבֵנוּ לָנוּ כִּי חָטָאנוּ:

17. Because of this our hearts are sick,
Because of these our eyes are dimmed:

עַל־זֶה הִנֵּה דָוָה לִבְנוֹ עַל־אַלֶּה חֲשָׁכוּ עֵינֵינוּ:

18. Because of Mount Zion, which lies desolate;
Jackals prowl over it.

עַל הַר־צִיּוֹן שִׁשְׁמֵם שׁוֹעֲלִים הִלְכוּ־בָּו: {פ}

19. But You, O LORD, are enthroned forever,
Your throne endures through the ages.

אַתָּה יְהוָה לְעוֹלָם תִּשָּׁב בְּסֶאֱף לְדוֹר וָדוֹר:

20. Why have You forgotten us utterly,
Forsaken us for all time?

לָמָּה לִנְצַחַת תִּשְׁכַּחֵנוּ תִּעְזֹבֵנוּ לְאַרְץ זָמִים:

21. Take us back, O LORD, to Yourself,
And let us come back;
Renew our days as of old!

הַשִּׁיבֵנוּ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ (וּנְשׁוּבָה) [וְנִשְׁוֶבָה] חֲדָשׁ יְמֵינוּ כְּקִדְמָם:

22. For truly, You have rejected us,
Bitterly raged against us.

כִּי אָם־מָאֵס מְאֹסָתָנוּ קִצְפַּתָּ עָלֵינוּ עַד־מְאֹד:

Take us back, O LORD, to Yourself,
And let us come back;
Renew our days as of old!

הַשִּׁיבֵנוּ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ וּנְשׁוּבָה חֲדָשׁ יְמֵינוּ כְּקִדְמָם