

MAOZ TZUR



O mighty stronghold of my salvation,
to praise You is a delight.
Restore my House of Prayer
and there we will bring a thanksgiving offering.
When You will have prepared the slaughter
for the blaspheming foe,
Then I shall complete with a song of hymn
the dedication of the Altar.

My soul had been sated with troubles,
my strength has been consumed with grief.
They had embittered my life with hardship,
with the calf-like kingdom's bondage.
But with His great power
He brought forth the treasured ones,
Pharaoh's army and all his offspring
Went down like a stone into the deep.

To the holy abode of His Word He brought me.
But there, too, I had no rest
And an oppressor came and exiled me.
For I had served aliens,
And had drunk benumbing wine.
Scarcely had I departed
At Babylon's end Zerubabel came.
At the end of seventy years I was saved.

To sever the towering cypress
sought the Agagite, son of Hammedatha,
But it became [a snare and] a stumbling block to him
and his arrogance was stilled.
The head of the Benjaminite You lifted
and the enemy, his name You obliterated
His numerous progeny – his possessions –
on the gallows You hanged.

Greeks gathered against me
then in Hasmonean days.
They breached the walls of my towers
and they defiled all the oils;
And from the one remnant of the flasks
a miracle was wrought for the roses.
Men of insight – eight days
established for song and jubilation

Bare Your holy arm
and hasten the End for salvation –
Avenge the vengeance of Your servants' blood
from the wicked nation.
For the triumph is too long delayed for us,
and there is no end to days of evil,
Repel the Red One in the nethermost shadow
and establish for us the seven shepherds.

מַעוֹז צוֹר יְשׁוּעָתִי לְךָ נָאֵה לְשַׁבַּח.
תְּכוּן בַּיִת תְּפַלְתִּי וְשֵׁם תּוֹדָה נִזְבַּח.
לַעֲת תִּכְיִן מִטְבַּח מִצֶּרֶת הַמְּנַבַּח.
אֶז אֶגְמֹר בְּשִׁיר מִזְמוֹר חֲנֻכַּת הַמִּזְבֵּחַ:

רַעוֹת שְׁבַעָה נַפְשֵׁי בְּיָגוֹן כַּחֲי כָּלָה
חַיִּי מָרְרוּ בְּקִשֵׁי בְּשִׁעְבוֹד מַלְכוּת עֲגָלָה
וּבִידוֹ הַגְּדוּלָה הוֹצִיא אֶת הַסִּגְלָה
חֵיל פְּרָעָה וְכָל זָרְעוֹ יָרְדוּ כְּאֶבֶן בְּמַצוּלָה:

דְּבִיר קָדְשׁוֹ הֵבִיאֲנִי וְגַם שֵׁם לֹא שָׁקַטְתִּי
וּבֹא נוֹגֵשׁ וְהַגְּלִנִי כִּי זָרִים עָבַדְתִּי
וַיִּין רַעַל מִסַּכְתִּי כְּמַעַט שְׁעַבְרְתִּי
קֵץ בָּבֶל זָרְבָבֶל לְקֵץ שְׁבַעִים נוֹשַׁעְתִּי:

כָּרוֹת קוֹמַת בְּרוֹשׁ בְּקֶשׁ אֶגְגִּי בֶן הַמְּדַתָּא
וְנִהְיָתָה לוֹ לַפַּח וְלַמּוֹקֵשׁ וְגִאֲוָתוֹ נִשְׁבְּתָה
רֹאשׁ יְמִינִי נִשְׁאֲתָ וְאוֹיֵב שְׁמוֹ מַחִיתָ
רַב בָּנָיו וְקִנְיָנָיו עַל הָעֵץ תְּלִיתָ:

יוֹנִים נִקְבְּצוּ עָלַי אֲזִי בִימֵי חֲשֵׁמָנִים
וּפְרָצוּ חוֹמוֹת מִגְּדָלִי וְטִמְאוּ כָּל הַשְּׁמָנִים
וּמְנוֹתָר קִנְקְנִים נַעֲשָׂה נֶס לְשׁוֹשְׁנִים
בְּנֵי בֵינָה יְמֵי שְׁמוֹנָה קָבְעוּ שִׁיר וְרִנְנִים:

חֲשׁוּף זְרוּעַ קְדֻשָׁךְ וְקָרַב קֵץ הַיְשׁוּעָה
נֶקֶם נִקְמַת עָבְדֶיךָ מֵאֵמָה הִרְשָׁעָה
כִּי אָרְכָה הַשָּׁעָה וְאִין קֵץ לִימֵי הָרָעָה
דַּחַה אֲדַמּוֹן בְּצֵל צִלְמוֹן הֶקֶם לָנוּ רוּעִים שְׁבַעָה:

