

BESORU MIYOM LEYOM



PEREK SHIRAH

The English Reading — Daily Devotional for Sunday 4th October 2026

בשרו מיום ליום • יום ראשון



אמר רבי: כל העוסק בפרק שירה בעולם הזה, זוכה ללמד וללמד,
לשמר ולעשות ולקיים, ותלמודו מתקיים בידו, ונצול ממצור הרע, ומפגע
רע, ומחבוט הקבר, ומדינה של גיהנום, ומחבלו של משיח, ומאריך
ימים, וזוכה לימות המשיח, ולחיי העולם הבא.

*Rabbi said: Whoever occupies himself with Perek Shirah in this world
merits to learn and to teach, to observe and to do and to fulfil; his study is
upheld in his hand; he is saved from the evil inclination, from a harmful
mishap, from the beating of the grave, from the judgment of Gehinnom,
and from the travails of Mashiach; he lengthens his days, and merits the
days of Mashiach and the life of the World to Come.*

THE READING

PEREK SHIRAH

פֶּרֶק שִׁירָה

The Song of Creation — the praise that every created thing sings before its Maker: the heavens and the earth, sun and moon, trees and grasses, birds and beasts, reptiles and fishes. Our Sages taught that whoever recites Perek Shirah daily is saved from harm and is written for the World to Come. Here is the full reading in English.

THE FIRMAMENT AND THE WATERS

PEREK SHIRAH 1:1-11



- ¹ Heavens: The heavens declare the glory of G-d, and the firmament showeth His handiwork;
- ² Earth: A Psalm of David. The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.
- ³ From the uttermost part of the earth have we heard songs: 'Glory to the righteous.' But I say: I waste away, I waste away, woe is me! The treacherous deal treacherously; Yea, the treacherous deal very treacherously.
- ⁴ Garden of Eden: Awake, O north wind; And come, thou south; Blow upon my garden, That the spices thereof may flow out. Let my beloved come into his garden, And eat his precious fruits.
- ⁵ Gehinnom: For He hath satisfied the longing soul, And the hungry soul He hath filled with good.
- ⁶ Wilderness: The wilderness and the parched land shall be glad; And the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.
- ⁷ Fields: The LORD by wisdom founded the earth; By understanding He established the heavens.
- ⁸ Waters: At the sound of His giving a multitude of waters in the heavens, He causeth the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth; He maketh lightnings at the time of the rain, And bringeth forth the wind out of His treasures;
- ⁹ Seas: Above the voices of many waters, The mighty breakers of the sea, The LORD on high is mighty.
- ¹⁰ Rivers: Let the floods clap their hands; Let the mountains sing for joy together;
- ¹¹ Wellsprings: And whether they sing or dance, all my thoughts are in Thee.

THE DAY, THE NIGHT, AND THE RAINS

PEREK SHIRAH 2:1-11



- ¹ Day: Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night revealeth knowledge;
- ² Night: To declare Thy lovingkindness in the morning, And Thy faithfulness in the night seasons,
- ³ Sun: The sun and moon stand still in their habitation; at the light of Thine arrows as they go, At the shining of Thy glittering spear.
- ⁴ Moon: Who appointedst the moon for seasons; The sun knoweth his going down.
- ⁵ Stars: Thou art the LORD, even Thou alone; Thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all things that are thereon, the seas and all that is in them, and Thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth Thee.
- ⁶ Thick Clouds: He made darkness His hiding-place, His pavilion round about Him; darkness of waters, thick clouds of the skies.
- ⁷ Yea, He ladeth the thick cloud with moister, He spreadeth abroad the cloud of His lightning;
- ⁸ Wind: I will say to the north: 'Give up', And to the south: 'Keep not back, bring My sons from far, and My daughters from the end of the earth;
- ⁹ Lightning: Who causeth the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth; He maketh lightnings for the rain; He bringeth forth the wind out of His treasures.
- ¹⁰ Dew: I will be as the dew unto Israel; He shall blossom as the lily, And cast forth his roots as Lebanon.
- ¹¹ Rains: A bounteous rain didst Thou pour down, O G-d; When Thine inheritance was weary, Thou didst confirm it.

THE TREES AND THE GRASSES

PEREK SHIRAH 3:1-11



- ¹ Trees: Then shall the trees of the wood sing for joy, Before the LORD, for He is come to judge the earth.
- ² Vine: Thus saith the LORD: As, when wine is found in the cluster, One saith: 'Destroy it not, For a blessing is in it'; So will I do for My servants' sakes, That I may not destroy all.
- ³ Fig: Whoso keepeth the fig-tree shall eat the fruit thereof; And he that waiteth on his master shall be honoured.
- ⁴ Pomegranate: Thy lips are like a thread of scarlet, And thy mouth is comely; Thy temples are like a pomegranate split open Behind thy veil.
- ⁵ Palm: The righteous shall flourish like the palm-tree; He shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.
- ⁶ Apple: As an apple-tree among the trees of the wood, So is my beloved among the sons. Under its shadow I delighted to sit, And its fruit was sweet to my taste.
- ⁷ Sheaves of Wheat: A Song of Ascents. Out of the depths have I called Thee, O LORD.
- ⁸ Sheaves of Barley: A Prayer of the afflicted, when he fainteth, and poureth out his complaint before the LORD.
- ⁹ Other Sheaves: The meadows are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered over with corn; they shout for joy, yea, they sing.
- ¹⁰ Watering her ridges abundantly, settling down the furrows thereof, Thou makest her soft with showers; Thou blessest the growth thereof.
- ¹¹ Grasses: May the glory of the LORD endure for ever; let the LORD rejoice in His works!

THE BIRDS OF THE AIR

PEREK SHIRAH 4:1-34



¹ The Rooster: When the blessed Holy One comes to the righteous in the Garden of Eden, they blossom and are renewed like the grass of the field, and they are destined to live forever.

² Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors; that the King of glory may come in. 'Who is the King of glory?' 'The LORD strong and mighty, The LORD mighty in battle.'

³ Lift up your heads, O ye gates, Yea, lift them up, ye everlasting doors; That the King of glory may come in. 'Who then is the King of glory?' 'The LORD of hosts; He is the King of glory.' Selah

⁴ In its third call it says, "Stand, O righteous ones, and busy yourselves with Torah, so that your reward may be doubled in the World to Come."

⁵ I wait for Thy salvation, O Lord.

⁶ How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? When wilt thou arise out of thy sleep?

⁷ Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty; open thine eyes, and thou shalt have bread in plenty.

⁸ It is time for the LORD to work; They have made void Thy law.

⁹ Hen: Who giveth food to all flesh, For His mercy endureth for ever.

¹⁰ Dove: Like a swallow or a crane, so do I chatter, I do moan as a dove; mine eyes fail with looking upward. O LORD, I am oppressed, be Thou my surety. .

¹¹ The Dove says before the blessed Holy One: "Master of the World! May my sustenance be as bitter as this leaf before Thee, yet given by Thy hand — and not sweet and given by the hand of flesh and blood."

¹² Vulture: Thou therefore, O LORD G-d of hosts, the G-d of Israel, arouse Thyself to punish all the nations; show no mercy to any iniquitous traitors. Selah

¹³ Crane: Give thanks unto the LORD with harp, Sing praises unto Him with the psaltery of ten strings.

- ¹⁴ Songbird: Yea, the sparrow hath found a house, and the swallow a nest for herself, Where she may lay her young; Thine altars, O LORD of hosts, My King, and my G-d—
- ¹⁵ Swallow: So that my glory may sing praise to Thee, and not be silent; O LORD my G-d, I will give thanks unto Thee for ever.
- ¹⁶ Swift: My help cometh from the LORD, Who made heaven and earth.
- ¹⁷ Stormy Petrel: Be glad in the LORD, ye righteous; And give thanks to His holy name.
- ¹⁸ Laughing Dove: Comfort ye, comfort ye My people, saith your G-d.
- ¹⁹ Stork: Bid Jerusalem take heart, and proclaim unto her, that her time of service is accomplished, that her guilt is paid off; that she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins.
- ²⁰ Raven: Who provideth for the raven his prey, When his young ones cry unto G-d, and wander for lack of food?
- ²¹ Starling: And their seed shall be known among the nations, And their offspring among the peoples; All that see them shall acknowledge them, That they are the seed which the LORD hath blessed.
- ²² Domestic Goose: O give thanks unto the LORD, call upon His name; Make known His doings among the peoples. Sing unto Him, sing praises unto Him; Speak ye of all His marvellous works.
- ²³ The Wild Goose, when it sees Israel busy with Torah, says, "A voice of one calling: 'Blessed is the people whose portion is thus.'"
- ²⁴ Ducks: Trust ye in the LORD for ever, For the LORD is GOD, an everlasting Rock.
- ²⁵ Bee-Eater: I will hiss for them, and gather them, For I have redeemed them; And they shall increase as they have increased.
- ²⁶ Grasshopper: A Song of Ascents. I will lift up mine eyes unto the mountains: From whence shall my help come?
- ²⁷ Locust: O LORD, Thou art my G-d, I will exalt Thee, I will praise Thy name, For Thou hast done wonderful things; Even counsels of old, in faithfulness and truth.
- ²⁸ Spider: Praise Him with the loud-sounding cymbals; Praise Him with the clanging cymbals.
- ²⁹ Fly: Hark! one saith: 'Proclaim!' And he saith: 'What shall I proclaim?' 'All flesh is grass, And all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field; The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; Because the breath

of the LORD bloweth upon it— Surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; But the word of our G-d shall stand for ever.’

³⁰ Peace, peace, to him that is far off and to him that is near, Saith the LORD that createth the fruit of the lips; And I will heal him.

³¹ Sea Monsters: Praise the LORD from the earth, Ye sea-monsters, and all deeps;

³² Leviathan: O give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good, For His mercy endureth for ever. .

³³ Fishes: The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; The G-d of glory thundereth, Even the LORD upon many waters.

³⁴ The Frog: Blessed is the Name of His glorious kingdom for ever and ever.

THE BEASTS OF THE FIELD

PEREK SHIRAH 5:1-21



¹ Small Clean Animal: Who is like unto Thee, O LORD, among the mighty? Who is like unto Thee, glorious in holiness, Fearful in praises, doing wonders?

² Large Clean Animal: Sing aloud unto G-d our strength; shout unto the G-d of Jacob.

³ Small Unclean Animal: Do good, O LORD, unto the good, And to them that are upright in their hearts.

⁴ Large Unclean Animal: When thou eatest the labour of thy hands, Happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee.

⁵ Camel: Therefore prophesy thou against them all these words, and say unto them: The LORD doth roar from on high, And utter His voice from His holy habitation; He doth mightily roar because of His fold; He giveth a shout, as they that tread the grapes, Against all the inhabitants of the earth.

⁶ Horse: Behold, as the eyes of servants unto the hand of their master, As the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress; So our eyes look unto the LORD our G-d, Until He be gracious unto us.

⁷ Mule: All the kings of the earth shall give Thee thanks, O LORD, For they have heard the words of Thy mouth.

⁸ Donkey: Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is Thine; Thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and Thou art exalted as head above all.

⁹ Ox: Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spoke, saying: I will sing unto the LORD, for He is highly exalted; The horse and his rider hath He thrown into the sea.

¹⁰ The Wild Animals: Blessed is the One Who is good and bestows good.

¹¹ Gazelle: But as for me, I will sing of Thy strength; yea, I will sing aloud of Thy mercy in the morning; for Thou hast been my high tower, and a refuge in the day of my distress.

¹² Elephant: How great are Thy works, O LORD! Thy thoughts are very deep.

¹³ Lion: The LORD will go forth as a mighty man, He will stir up jealousy like a man of war; He will cry, yea, He will shout aloud, He will prove Himself mighty against His enemies.

¹⁴ Bear: Let the wilderness and the cities thereof lift up their voice, The villages that Kedar doth inhabit; Let the inhabitants of Sela exult, Let them shout from the top of the mountains.

¹⁵ Wolf: For every matter of trespass, whether it be for ox, for ass, for sheep, for raiment, or for any manner of lost thing, whereof one saith: 'This is it,' the cause of both parties shall come before G-d; he whom G-d shall condemn shall pay double unto his neighbour.

¹⁶ Fox: Woe unto him that buildeth his house by unrighteousness, And his chambers by injustice; That useth his neighbour's service without wages, And giveth him not his hire;

¹⁷ Starling: Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous, Praise is comely for the upright.

¹⁸ Mouse: I will extol thee, O LORD, for Thou hast raised me up, and hast not suffered mine enemies to rejoice over me.

¹⁹ Cat: Though thou make thy nest as high as the eagle, And though thou set it among the stars, I will bring thee down from thence, saith the LORD.

²⁰ I have pursued mine enemies, and overtaken them; neither did I turn back till they were consumed.

²¹ Howbeit Thou art just in all that is come upon us; for Thou hast dealt truly, but we have done wickedly;

THE CREEPING THINGS AND THE FISHES

PEREK SHIRAH 6:1-9



- ¹ Creeping Creatures: Let Israel rejoice in his Maker; Let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.
- ² Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine, in the innermost parts of thy house; Thy children like olive plants, round about thy table.
- ³ Snake: The eyes of all wait for Thee, And Thou givest them their food in due season.
- ⁴ Scorpion: The LORD is good to all; And His tender mercies are over all His works.
- ⁵ Snail: Let them be as a snail which melteth and passeth away; Like the untimely births of a woman, that have not seen the sun.
- ⁶ Ant: Go to the ant, thou sluggard; Consider her ways, and be wise;
- ⁷ Rat: Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Hallelujah.
- ⁸ Dogs: O come, let us bow down and bend the knee; Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;
- ⁹ The Dogs — the aggadah of the dogs who kept silent, and of Rabbi Yeshayah, the pupil of Rabbi Hanina ben Dosa, who fasted eighty-five fasts (Yalkut Shimoni, Bo 187).

חֲזַק חֲזַק וְנִתְחַזֵּק

Be strong, be strong, and let us be strengthened.

In the merit of the Song of Creation — one voice of praise rising from every creature, from the highest heavens to the smallest insect — may our own song be joined to theirs, and may this recitation shield you and your household from every harm, and seal you for the World to Come. Amen.

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