

תהלים יח

TEHILIM 18

According to Rashi, David composed and sang this song during the latter years of his life, after all his trials and triumphs. This psalm teaches us that we should trust Hashem during every part of our journey and never cease to praise Him.

Lam'natze-ach l'eved

For the Conductor, by the servant

Adonai l'David,

of Adonai, by David,

asher diber Ladonai,

who spoke to Adonai,

et divrei hashirah hazot,

the words of this song,

b'jom hitzil Adonai oto,

on the day that Adonai rescued him,

mikaf kol oy'vav,

from the hand of all his enemies,

umiyad Sha-ul.

and from the hand of Saul.

Vayomar ercham'cha

He said: I will love You,

Adonai chizki.

Adonai, my strength.

Adonai sali

Adonai is my Rock

umtzudati umfalti,

and my Fortress and my Shelter,

Eli tzuri echeseh bo,

my Almighty One, my Rock in Whom I take refuge,

magini v'keren yishi misgabi.

my Defender and the Horn of my Salvation, my Stronghold.

M'hulal ekra Adonai,

With praise I call unto Adonai,

umin oy'vai ivashe-a.

and from my enemies I am saved.

Afafuni chevlei mavet,

I am surrounded by the pains of death,

v'nachalei v'liya-al y'va-atuni.

and streams of wicked people would frighten me.

Chevlei sh'ol s'vayuni,

The pains of the grave surrounded me,

kid'muni mok'shei mavet.

I was confronted by the snares of death.

Batzar li ekra Adonai,

In my distress I would call upon Adonai,

לְמַנְצֵחַ לְעַבְדִּי

יְהוָה יֵאֱהָדוֹנָהּ לְדָוִד,

אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר לַיהוָה יֵאֱהָדוֹנָהּ

אֶת דְּבָרֵי הַשִּׁירָה הַזֹּאת,

בְּיוֹם הַצִּיל יְהוָה יֵאֱהָדוֹנָהּ אוֹתוֹ,

מִכַּף כָּל אֹיְבָיו,

וּמִיַּד שָׁאוּל.

וַיֹּאמֶר אֶרְחָמֶךָ

יְהוָה יֵאֱהָדוֹנָהּ חֲזָקִי.

יְהוָה יֵאֱהָדוֹנָהּ סִלְעִי

וּמִצּוּדָתִי וּמִפְּלִטִי,

אֵלַי צוּרֵי אַחֶסֶה בּוֹ,

מִגְּנִי וְקָרָן יִשְׁעֵי מִשְׁגַּבִּי.

מִהֶלֶל אֶקְרָא יְהוָה יֵאֱהָדוֹנָהּ,

וּמִן אֹיְבֵי אֹיְשָׁעִי.

אֶפְפוּנֵי חֲבָלֵי מוֹת,

וְנַחֲלֵי בְלִיעַל יִבְעֵתוּנִי.

חֲבָלֵי שָׁאוּל סִבְבוּנִי,

קִדְמוּנֵי מוֹקְשֵׁי מוֹת.

בַּצָּר לִי אֶקְרָא יְהוָה יֵאֱהָדוֹנָהּ,

v'el Elohai ashave-a,
and to my Elohim I would cry,
yishma meheichalo koli,
from His Temple He heard my voice,
v'shavati l'fanav tavo v'oznav.
and my cry before Him would reach His ears.
Vatigash vatirash ha-aretz,
Then the earth quaked and roared,
umos'dei harim yirgazu,
and the foundations of the mountains trembled,
vayitga-ashu ki charah lo.
and they were shaken on account of His anger.
Alah ashan b'apo,
Smoke rose up in His nostrils,
v'esh mipiv tochel,
and a devouring fire from His mouth,
gechalim ba-arur mimenu.
flaming coals blazed forth from Him.
Vayet shamayim vayerad,
And He bent the heavens and came down,
va-arafel tachat raglav.
thick darkness was beneath His feet.
Vayirkav al k'ruv vaya-of,
And He rode upon a cherub and flew,
vayede al kanfei ru-ach.
and He swooped on the wings of the wind.
Yashet choshech sitro,
He made darkness His hiding place,
s'vivotav sukato,
around Him is His shelter,
cheshchat mayim avei sh'chakim.
the darkness of waters, thick clouds of the skies.
Minogah negdo avav avru,
From the brilliance before Him, His thick cloud passed,
barad v'gachalei esh.
hail and coals of fire.
Vayarem bashamayim Adonai,
Adonai also thundered in the heavens,
v'Elyon yiten kolo,
and the Most High gave forth His voice,
barad v'gachalei esh.
hail and coals of fire.
Vayishlach chitzav vayfitzem,
He sent forth His arrows and scattered them,
uvrakim rav vayhumem.
and He shot lightning and He terrified them.
Vayera-u afikei mayim,
Then the depths of water became visible,

וְאֵל אֱלֹהֵי אֲשׁוּעַ,
יִשְׁמַע מֵהֵיכָלוֹ קוֹלִי,
וְשׁוֹעַתִּי לְפָנָיו תָּבוֹא בְּאָזְנוֹ.
וַתִּגַּעַשׁ וַתִּרְעַשׁ הָאָרֶץ,
וּמוֹסְדֵי הָרִים יִרְגְּזוּ,
וַיִּתְגַּעְשׁוּ כִּי חָרָה לוֹ.
עָלָה עָשָׁן בְּאֵפוֹ,
וַאֲשׁ מִפִּי תֹאכַל,
גְּחָלִים בָּעֵרוּ מִמֶּנּוּ.
וַיֵּט שָׁמַיִם וַיִּרֵד,
וַעֲרַפֵּל תַּחַת רַגְלָיו.
וַיִּרְכַּב עַל כְּרוּב וַיַּעֲף,
וַיִּדָּא עַל כַּנְּפֵי רוּחַ.
יָשֵׁת חֹשֶׁךְ סִתְרוֹ,
סְבִיבוֹתָיו סִכָּתוֹ,
חֹשְׁכַת מַיִם עֲבֵי שְׁחָקִים.
מִנֹּגַהּ נִגְדוּ עָבָיו עֲבָרוּ,
בָּרָד וְגַחְלֵי אֵשׁ.
וַיִּרְעַם בְּשָׁמַיִם יְהוָה יֵאֱהֹוֶנָה,
וְעֲלִיּוֹן יִתֵּן קוֹלוֹ,
בָּרָד וְגַחְלֵי אֵשׁ.
וַיִּשְׁלַח חִצָּיו וַיִּפְּצֵם,
וּבְרָקִים רַב וַיִּהְיֶם.
וַיִּרְאוּ אַפְיקֵי מַיִם,

vayigalu mos'dot tevel,
and the foundations of the world were laid bare,
 miga-arat'cha Adonai,
by Your rebuke Adonai,
 minishmat ru-ach apecha.
by the blowing of the breath of Your nostrils.
 Yishlach mimarom yikacheni,
He sent from on high and took me,
 yamsheni mimayim rabim.
He drew me out of many waters.
 Yatzileni me-oy'vi az,
He saved me from my strong enemy,
 umison'ai ki am'tzu mimeni.
and from my foes when they overpowered me.
 Y'kad'muni v'yom eidi,
They confronted me on the day of my misfortune,
 vay'hi Adonai l'mishan li.
but Adonai was a support to me.
 Vayotzi-eni lamerchav,
And He brought me out into a wide space,
 y'chal'tzeni ki chafetz bi.
He delivered me because He took delight in me.
 Yigm'leni Adonai k'tzidki,
Adonai rewarded me according to my righteousness,
 k'vor yadai yashiv li.
according to the purity of my hands He repaid me.
 Ki shamarti darchei Adonai,
For I have kept the ways of Adonai,
 v'lo rashati me-Elohai.
and have not departed wickedly from my Elohim.
 Ki chol mishpatav l'negdi,
For all His ordinances are before me,
 v'chukotav lo asir meni.
and His statutes I will not remove from myself.
 Va-ehi tamim imo,
And I was innocent before Him,
 va-eshtamer me-avoni.
and I kept myself from iniquity.
 Vayashev Adonai li ch'tzidki,
And Adonai has repaid me according to my righteousness,
 k'vor yadai l'neged einav.
according to the purity of my hands before His eyes.
 Im chasid titchasad,
With a lovingkind one, You show lovingkindness,
 im g'var tamim titamam.
with one who is upright, You show Yourself upright.
 Im navar titbarar,
With the pure, You show Yourself pure,

וַיִּגְלוּ מוֹסְדוֹת תְּבֵל,
 מִגַּעַרְתְּךָ יְהוָה יֵאֱהוּנָה,
 מִנְשֵׁמַת רוּחַ אִפְּךָ.
 יִשְׁלַח מִמָּרוֹם יִקְחֵנִי,
 יִמְשֵׁנִי מִמַּיִם רַבִּים.
 יִצִּילֵנִי מֵאֵיבֵי עֹז,
 וּמִשֹּׁנְאֵי כִי אֶמְצוּ מִמֶּנִּי.
 יִקְדְּמוּנִי בַיּוֹם אֵיזִי,
 וַיְהִי יְהוָה יֵאֱהוּנָה לְמִשְׁעַן לִי.
 וַיּוֹצֵאֵנִי לַמֶּרְחָב,
 יַחֲלִצֵנִי כִּי חָפֵץ בִּי.
 יִגְמֹלֵנִי יְהוָה יֵאֱהוּנָה כְּצַדִּיקִי,
 כְּבוֹר יְדָי יִשִּׁיב לִי.
 כִּי שָׁמַרְתִּי דַרְכֵי יְהוָה יֵאֱהוּנָה,
 וְלֹא רָשַׁעְתִּי מֵאֱלֹהֵי.
 כִּי כֹל מִשְׁפָּטָיו לִנְגֹדִי,
 וְחֻקֹּתָיו לֹא אֲסִיר מִנִּי.
 וְאֵהִי תָמִים עִמּוֹ,
 וְאֶשְׁתַּמֵּר מֵעוֹנֵי.
 וַיִּשָּׁב יְהוָה יֵאֱהוּנָה לִי כְּצַדִּיקִי,
 כְּבוֹר יְדָי לִנְגֹד עֵינָיו.
 עִם חָסִיד תִּתְחַסֵּד,
 עִם גִּבּוֹר תָּמִים תִּתַּמֵּם.
 עִם נָכוֹר תִּתְבַּרֵּר,

v'im ikesh titpatal.

and with one who is crooked, You deal with deviously.

Ki atah am ani toshi-a,

For it is You Who saves a humble people,

v'einayim ramot tashpil.

and You will humiliate those with haughty eyes.

Ki atah ta-ir neri,

For it is You Who lights my lamp,

Adonai Elohai yagih choshki.

Adonai my Elohim illuminates my darkness.

Ki v'cha arutz g'dud,

For by You I run upon a troupe,

Uvelohai adaleg shur.

and with my Elohim I leap over a wall.

Ha-El tamim darko,

Perfect is the way of the Almighty One,

imrat Adonai tz'rufah,

the utterance of Adonai is flawless,

magen hu l'chol hachosim bo.

He is a shield for all who take refuge in Him.

Ki mi Eloha

For who is God

mibaladei Adonai,

except Adonai,

umi tzur zulati Eloheinu.

and who is a Rock except for our Elohim.

Ha-El ham'az'reni chayil,

It is the Almighty One Who girds me with strength,

vayiten tamim darki.

and makes my way perfect.

M'shaveh raglai ka-ayalot,

He makes my feet like those of a hind,

v'al bamotai ya-amideni.

and He stands me upon my high places.

M'lamed yadai lamilchamah,

He trains my hands for war,

v'nichatah keshet n'chushah

z'ro-otai.

so that a copper bow is bent by my arms.

Vatiten li magen yishecha,

You have given me the shield of Your salvation,

vimincha tisadeni,

and Your right hand has sustained me,

v'anvat'cha tarbeni.

and Your gentleness has made me great.

Tarchiv tza-adi tachtai,

You have broadened my steps beneath me,

v'lo ma-adu karsulai.

so that my feet did not slip.

וְעַם עֵקֶשׁ תִּתְּפַלֵּל.

כִּי אַתָּה עִם עֲנִי תוֹשִׁיעַ,

וְעֵינָיִם רָמוֹת תִּשְׁפִּיל.

כִּי אַתָּה תֹאִיר נְרִי,

יְהוָה יִאֱהַדוֹנֵהִי אֱלֹהֵי יַגִּיחַ חֹשְׁכֵי.

כִּי בְךָ אֶרֶץ גְּדוּד,

וּבְאֱלֹהֵי אֲדָלֵג שׁוּר.

הָאֵל תָּמִים דְּרָכּוֹ,

אִמְרַת יְהוָה יִאֱהַדוֹנֵהִי צְרוּפָה,

מָגֵן הוּא לְכֹל הַחֹסִים בּוֹ.

כִּי מִי אֱלֹהֵי

מִבְּלַעְדֵי יְהוָה יִאֱהַדוֹנֵהִי,

וּמִי צוּר זִוְלָתִי אֱלֹהֵינוּ.

הָאֵל הַמְאֲזִרְנִי חַיִל,

וַיִּתֵּן תָּמִים דְּרָכֵי.

מְשׁוֹהַ רַגְלֵי כְּאֵילוֹת,

וְעַל בְּמַתִּי יַעֲמִידֵנִי.

מִלְמַד יָדַי לְמִלְחָמָה,

וַנִּחַתָּה קֶשֶׁת נְחוֹשֶׁה זְרוּעֹתַי.

וַתִּתֵּן לִי מָגֵן יִשְׁעֶךָ,

וַיִּמְיֶנְךָ תְּסַעֲדֵנִי,

וְעֲנוֹתֶךָ תִּרְבֵּנִי.

תִּרְחִיב צַעְדֵי תַחְתֵּי,

וְלֹא מֵעַדוֹ קָרְסָלִי.

Erdof oy'vai v'asigem,

I pursued my enemies and overtook them,

v'lo ashuv ad kalotam.

and did not return until they were consumed.

Emchatzem v'lo yuch'lu kum,

I struck them down and they could not rise,

yip'lu tachat raglai.

they have fallen under my foot.

Vat'az'reni chayil lamilchamah,

And You girded me with strength for battle,

tachri-a kamai tachtai.

You have subdued under me those who rose up against me.

V'oy'vai natatah li oref,

And my enemies You gave to me in retreat,

umson'ai atzmitem.

and I cut down all my foes.

Y'shav'u v'ein moshi-a,

They cried out, but there was no savior,

al Adonai v'lo anam.

to Adonai but He did not answer them.

V'eshchakem k'afar al p'nei ru-ach,

And I ground them as dust before the wind,

k'tit chutzot arikem.

like mud of the streets, I poured them out.

T'fal'teni merivei am,

You rescued me from the strife of the people,

t'simeni l'rosh goyim,

You have made me the head of the nations,

am lo yadati ya-avduni.

a people whom I have not known shall serve me.

L'shema ozen yisham'u li,

As soon as they hear of me they shall obey me,

b'nei nechar y'chachashu li.

foreigners shall submit themselves to me.

B'nei nechar yibolu,

Foreigners shall wither,

v'yachr'gu mimis-g'roteihem.

and they shall come trembling out of their borders.

Chai Adonai uvaruch tzuri,

Adonai lives, and Blessed is my Rock,

v'yarum Elohei yishi.

and exalted is the Elohim of my salvation.

Ha-El hanoten n'kamot li,

It is the Almighty One Who avenges me,

vayadber amim tachtai.

and subjugates the peoples beneath me.

M'fal'ti me-oy'vai,

You rescue me from my enemies,

אֶרְדּוֹף אוֹיְבַי וְאַשְׁיִגֶם,

וְלֹא אָשׁוּב עַד כְּלוֹתָם.

אֶמְחָצֵם וְלֹא יִכְלוּ קוּם,

יִפְּלוּ תַּחַת רַגְלִי.

וְתִאָּזְרַנִּי חַיִּל לְמִלְחָמָה,

תִּכְרִיעַ קָמִי תַּחְתִּי.

וְאוֹיְבַי נִתְּתָה לִי עֶרְף,

וּמִשְׁנָאֵי אֲצֻמִּיתָם.

יִשְׁדָּעוּ וְאִין מוֹשִׁיעַ,

עַל יְהוָה יֵאֱהוּנְהִי וְלֹא עָנָם.

וְאַשְׁחָקֶם כְּעָפָר עַל פְּנֵי רוּחַ,

כְּטִיט חוּצוֹת אֲרִיקָם.

תִּפְּלֹטְנִי מִרִּיבֵי עָם,

תְּשִׁימְנִי לְרֹאשׁ גּוֹיִם,

עִם לֹא יִדְעֵתִי יַעֲבְדוּנִי.

לְשִׁמְעַ אֲזַן יִשְׁמָעוּ לִי,

בְּנֵי נֶכֶר יִכְחָשׁוּ לִי.

בְּנֵי נֶכֶר יִבָּלוּ,

וַיִּחַרְגּוּ מִמִּסְגְּרוֹתֵיהֶם.

חַי יְהוָה יֵאֱהוּנְהִי וּבָרוּךְ צוּרִי,

וַיִּרּוֹם אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׁעֵי.

הָאֵל הַנּוֹתֵן נִקְמוֹת לִי,

וַיִּדְבֵּר עַמִּים תַּחְתִּי.

מִפְּלֹטֵי מְאִיְבַי,

af min kamai t'rom'meni,
even above those who rise up against me,
 me-ish chamas tatzileni.
from the violent person You deliver me.

Al ken od'cha

Therefore I will give thanks to You

vagoyim Adonai,

among the nations Adonai,

ulshimcha azamerah.

and I will sing to Your Name.

Magdil y'shu-ot malko,

He magnifies the salvations of His king,

v'oseh chesed limshicho,

and does lovingkindness to His anointed one,

l'David ulzaro ad olam.

to David and to his seed forevermore.

אָף מִן קַמֵי תְרוֹמְמֵנִי,
 מֵאִישׁ חָמָס תִּצִילֵנִי.
 עַל כֵּן אֹדֶךָ
 בְּגוֹיִם יְהוָה יֵאֱהַדוֹנָהי,
 וְלִשְׁמֶךָ אֶזְמְרָה.
 מִגְדִּיל יְשׁוּעוֹת מַלְכוֹ,
 וְעֹשֶׂה חֶסֶד לְמָשִׁיחוֹ,
 לְדָוִד וּלְזָרְעוֹ עַד עוֹלָם.