# King Solomon and His Demons: Session Five

Rabbi David Silber

# Vayikra Rabbah 12:5

### ויקרא רבה י"ב:ה'

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(ה) אַמַר רַבִּי יוּדָן, כָּל אוֹתַן שֶׁבַע שָׁנִים שֶׁבָּנָה שָׁלִמֹה בִּית הַמִּקְדַשׁ, לֹא שַׁתַה בַּהֶן יַיַן, כֵּיוַן שֶׁבְּנַאוֹ ּוְנַשַּׂא בַּתִיַה בַּת פַּרְעה, אוֹתוֹ הַלַּיִלַה שָׁתַה יַיִן, וְהַיוּ שַׁם שָׁנֵי בַּלוּזִמֵאוֹת, אחַת שַׂמְחַה לְבַנְיַן בַּית הַמִּקְדַּשׁ, וָאחַת שָּׁמְחַה לְבַת פַּרְעֹה. אַמַר הַקַּדוֹשׁ ַבַּרוּךָ הוּא שֵׁל מִי אֲקַבֵּל שֵׁל אֵלּוּ אוֹ שֵׁל אֵלּוּ, בָּאוֹתַהּ שַּׁעַה עַלַה עַל דַּעָתּוֹ לְהַחָרִיב אֶת יָרוּשָׁלַיִם, הֲדָא הוּא דְכָתִיב (ירמיה לב, לא): כִּי עַל אַפַּי וְעַל חָמַתִי הַיָּתָה לִי הַעִיר הַזֹּאת וגו', אַמַר רַבִּי הַלֵּל בַּר הִילֵנִי, כַּזֶה שֶׁהוּא עוֹבֵר בַּמַקוֹם הַמְּטַנַּף וְעוֹקֵם חַטָמוֹ. אַמַר רַבִּי חוֹנִיַא שָׁמוֹנִים מיני רקודין בקדה בַּת פַּרעה בּאוֹתַה הַלַּיִלַה, וְהַיַה שָׁלמה יַשָּׁן עַד ארבַּע שַעוֹת בַּיּוֹם וּמַפָּתָחוֹת שֵׁל בַּית הַמַּקְדַּשׁ נָתוּנוֹת תַּחַת רֹאשׁוֹ, הָדֵא הוּא דִתְנַן עַל תָּמִיד שֵׁל שַׁחַר שֶׁקַּרַב בָּאַרְבַּע שָׁעוֹת, נְכָנְסָה אָמוֹ וָהוֹכִיחַתּוּ, וְיֵשׁ אוֹמְרִים יָרָבְעָם בֶּן נִבָּט נְכְנַס וָהוֹכִיחוֹ, וַיַכוֹל הַיַה, רַבּי חַגַּי בִּשֶׁם רַבִּי יַצְחַק, עַמַד ּוְכָנֵּס אֶלֶף מִתּוֹךְ שָׁבָטוֹ וְנָכְנַס וְהוֹכִיחוֹ, הֲדָא הוּא ָדְכָתִיב (הושע יג, א): כָּדַבֵּר אֶפָרַיָם רְתֵת, כָּדַבַּר יַרַבְעַם רָתוּתוֹ שֵׁל שָׁלֹמֹה, אֲמֵר לוֹ הַקַּדוֹשׁ בַּרוּךְ ָהוּא לַמַּה אַתַּה מוֹכִיחוֹ, נַשִּׂיא הוּא בִּיִשְׂרַאֵל, חַיֵּיך שָׁאֲנִי מַטָעִימָךָ מַשָּׂרַרוּתוֹ וָאֵין אַתַּה יַכוֹל לַעֲמֹד ַבַּהּ, כֵּיוַן שֵׁנָכָנַס לַמַּלְכוּת, מַיַּד (הושע יג, א): ווַאָשַׁם בַּבַּעַל ווַמת. וַרַבַּנַן אַמִרין וַדַאי אַמוֹ מוֹכִיחַתּוּ, נָטָלָה קוּרְדִיקוּן שֶׁלָּהּ וְהָיִתָה מְּסַרַסְתּוֹ ַלְכַאן וּלְכַאן וָאֲמְרַה לוֹ (משלי לא, ב): מַה בְּרִי ּוּמַה בַּר בִּטְנִי, אָמַר רַבִּי הוֹשַׁעִיָא מַה בִּנִי אֵין כְּתִיב ּ כָּאן אֶלָּא מַה בִּרִי, אֱלּוּ צַוַּאוֹת וְאַזְהָרוֹת שֶׁל תּוֹרָה שַׁנַקְרֵאת בַּר, כָּמַה דָאַתָּ אַמַר (תהלים ב, יב): ַנַשָּׁקוּ בַר, שֶׁכַּל דָּבַרֶיהַ בַּרים. (משלי לא, ב): וּמֵה ַבַּר נִדָרָי, אָמְרָה לֵיהּ בִּרִי הַרְבֵּה נַשִּׁים נַשָּׂא אָבִיך ּוְכֵיוַן שֶׁבָּא נָתָן הַנָּבִיא וְאָמֵר לוֹ (דברי הימים א כב, ט): הִנֵּה בֵן נוֹלַד לַךְ כִּי שָׁלֹמֹה יִהְיֶה שָׁמוֹ, הַיִּתָה כַּל אחַת אוֹמֶרֶת אָם מַעֲמֶדֶת אַנִי שָׁלֹמֹה אַנִי ַמַקְרִיבָה כָּל קַרְבָּנוֹת שֶׁבַּתּוֹרָה, וְעַכְשָׁיו עַמַדְתִּי ּוְקַרְבָּנוֹתַי בִּיַדִי וָאַתַּה יַשָּׁן, (משלי לא, ג): אל תַּתֵּן ַלַנָּשִׁים חֵילֵךְ וּדְרָכֶיךְ לַמְחוֹת מְלַכִין, אָמְרָה לוֹ, בִּנִי, דוֹר הַמַבוּל עַל יָדֵי שֶׁהַיוּ שָׁטוּפִים בִּזְמַה נָמְחוּ מַן

ָהָעוֹלָם, (משלי לא, ד): אַל לַמְלָכִים לְמוֹאֵל, אָמַר רַבִּי יוֹחַנַן אֵין נוֹתָנין מַלְכוּת לְמִי שֶׁמַּפְּלִיג עַל דָּבַרִים שָׁל אֶל, וּמִי שֶׁעוֹשֵׂה דְּבַרִים שֶׁל אֱל, הוּא נַתוּן מֶלֶךְ. (משלי לא, ד): אל לַמְלַכִים שָׁתוֹ יַיַן, אל יִשָּתוּ מְלָכִים יַיִן שֶׁמָּא יִשָּׁכָּחוּ וִיֹאמְרוּ כָּאוֹתוֹ שֶׁאַמַר (שמות ה, ב): מִי ה' אֲשֶׁר אֶשְׁמַע בִּקֹלוֹ, (משלי לא, ד): וּלְרוֹזָנִים אֵי שַׁכַר, אוֹ כְּתִיב, אוֹי מַן קַדַם ַחַמְרָא. (משלי לא, ה): פֶּן יִשְׁתֶּה וְיִשְׁכַּח מְחֻקַּק, כַּל הַשּׁוֹתֶה יַיִן הַרְבָּה סוֹף שֶׁהוּא שׁוֹכֶחַ בְּמֵאתַיִם אַרְבַּעִים וּשָׁמוֹנָה אֱבָרִים שֶׁבּוֹ, הֲדָא הוּא דְכָתִיב: ַפּן יִשָּׁתֶּה וִיִשָּׁכַּח מְחֻקָּק, מחק"ק כְּתִיב, וְאִינוּן מַאתַים ארָבַּעים וּשָׁמוֹנַה. רַבִּי חַנִינַא בַּר פַּפָּא אָמַר, אָמַר הַקָּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא בַּיִת גָּדוֹל הָיָה לִי וָלֹא הֶחֶרַבְתָּיו אֶלָּא מְפָּנֵי הַיַּיָן, וְרַבָּנַן אָמְרֵי שְׁנֵי רוֹזָנִים הַיוּ לִי וִלֹא מֵתוּ אֶלָא מִפְּנֵי הַיָּיִן, דְּתָנֵי רַבִּי יִשָּמָעֵאל לֹא מֵתוּ שָׁנֵי בַּנַיו שֶׁל אַהַרן אֶלָּא מִפְּנֵי שַׁנְּכָנָסוּ שָׁתוּיֵי יַיָן וכו', אָמַר הַקַּדוֹשׁ בַּרוּךְ הוּא לְפִי שָׁבָּעוֹלָם הַזֶּה הַיַּיִן תַּקָלָה לָעוֹלָם, לֵעַתִיד לָבוֹא אַנִי עוֹשֶׁהוּ שַּמְחַה, הָדָא הוּא דְכָתִיב (יואל ד, יח): וָהַיַה בַּיּוֹם הַהוֹא יִטָּפוּ הֵהַרִים עַסִיס.

#### **Proverbs 31**

(1) The words of Lemuel, king of Massa, with which his mother admonished him: (2) No, my son! No, O son of my womb! No, O son of my vows! (3) Do not give your strength to women, Your vigor, to those who destroy kings. (4) Wine is not for kings, O Lemuel; Not for kings to drink, Nor any strong drink for princes, (5) Lest they drink and forget what has been ordained, And infringe on the rights of the poor. (6) Give strong drink to the hapless And wine to the embittered. (7) Let them drink and forget their poverty, And put their troubles out of mind. (8) Speak up for the dumb, For the rights of all the unfortunate. (9) Speak up, judge righteously, Champion the poor and the needy. (10) What a rare find is a capable wife! Her worth is far beyond that of rubies. (11) Her husband puts his confidence in her, And lacks no good thing. (12) She is good to him, never

#### משלי ל״א

(א) דַּבָרִי לְמוּאֵל מֵלֶךְ מַשַּׁא אֱשֶׁר־יִסְרַתּוּ אִמְוֹ: (ב) מַה־בְּרִי וּמַה־בַּר־בִּטְנֵי וּמֶה בַּר־נְדָרָי: (ג) אַל־תִּתַּן לַנַּשִּׁים חֵיֶלֶךְ וֹדְרַכֶּיךְ לַמְחָוֹת מְלָכִין: (ד) אַל ַלְמָלָכִּים וֹ לְמוֹאֶל אֲל לַמְלָכֵים שָׁתוֹ־יֵיֶן וֹּלְרוֹזְנִים או [אֱי] שֶׁכָר: (ה) פֶּן־יֶשְׁתָּה וְיִשְׁכֵּח מְחֻקָּק וֻישַׁנָּה דִּין ּכָּל־בְּנֵי־עְנִי: (ו) תִּנוּ־שֶׁכֶר לְאוֹבֶד וְיַיִן לְמֵרֵי נֵפֶשׁ: (ז) יֵשְׁתֵּה וִיִשְׁכַּח רִישָׁוֹ וַעֲמַלוֹ לְא יִזְכַּר־עְוֹד: (ח) פָּתַח־פִּיךָ לְאָלֵם אֶל־דְּׁיוְ כָּל־בְּנֵי חֲלְוֹף: (ט) (י) (פּתַח־פִּיךָ שָׁפָּט־צֵּדֶק וְדִּין עַנִי וְאֶבִיְוֹן: (פּ ָאֲשֶׁת־חֲיִל מִי יִמְצֵא וְרָחֻׁק מִפְּנִינִים מִכְרָהּ: (יא) ַבַּטַח בָּהּ לֵב בַּעָלֶהּ וְשָׁלָל לְא יֶחְסָר: (יב) גִּמַלְתָהוּ ָטוֹב וְלֹא־רֶגע ֹכֹּל יְמֵי חַיֶּיה: (יג) דְּרְשָׁה צֶמֶר וּפִשְׁתִּים וַׁתַּעשׁ בָּחֱפֶץ כַּפֵּיהַ: (יד) הֵיִתָה כָּאֶנְיּוֹת סוֹחֶר מִּמֶּרְחָָק תָּבְיא לַחְמֶה: (טו) וַתָּקָם וּ בְּעוֹד ַלִילָה וַתְּתֵּן טֶרֶף לְבֵיתָה וְחֹק לְנַעַרתֵּיהָ: (טז) זָמִמֶּה שֶּׁדֶה וַתִּקְּחֲהוּ מִפְּרֵי כַּפֶּיהָ נטע [נֵטְעַה] ַבָּרֵם: (יז) חָגֵרָה בְעוֹז מָתָנֵיהָ וַׁתָּאַמֵּץ זְרֹעוֹתֵיהָ: (יח) טֶעֲמָה כִּי־טָוֹב סַחְרֶהִּ לְא־יִכְבֶּה בליל [בַלַּיִּלָה] ַנֵרָה: (יט) יַדֵיהַ שִּׁלְּחָה בַכִּישָׁוֹר וְכַפֶּיהַ תַּמְכוּ פֻּלֶךְ: (כא) כַּפָּהּ פָּרְשָׂה לֶעַנִי וְיָדֶיהַ שִׁלְּחָה לָאֶבְיִוֹן: (כא) ָלֹא־תִירֵא לְבֵיתָהּ מִשָּׁלֶג כָּי כָל־בַּיתָהּ לָבָשׁ שָׁנִים: (כב) מַרְבַדִּים עָשְׂתָה־לֻהּ שֵׁשׁ וְאַרְגָּמֵן לְבוּשָׁהּ:

bad, All the days of her life. (13) She looks for wool and flax, And sets her hand to them with a will. (14) She is like a merchant fleet, Bringing her food from afar. (15) She rises while it is still night, And supplies provisions for her household, The daily fare of her maids. (16) She sets her mind on an estate and acquires it; She plants a vineyard by her own labors. (17) She girds herself with strength, And performs her tasks with vigor. (18) She sees that her business thrives; Her lamp never goes out at night. (19) She sets her hand to the distaff; Her fingers work the spindle. (20) She gives generously to the poor; Her hands are stretched out to the needy. (21) She is not worried for her household because of snow. For her whole household is dressed in crimson. (22) She makes covers for herself; Her clothing is linen and purple. (23) Her husband is prominent in the gates, As he sits among the elders of the land. (24) She makes cloth and sells it, And offers a girdle to the merchant. (25) She is clothed with strength and splendor; She looks to the future cheerfully. (26) Her mouth is full of wisdom, Her tongue with kindly teaching. (27) She oversees the activities of her household And never eats the bread of idleness. (28) Her children declare her happy; Her husband praises her, (29) "Many women have done well, But you surpass them all." (30) Grace is deceptive, Beauty is illusory; It is for her fear of the LORD That a woman is to be praised. (31) Extol her for the fruit of her hand, And let her works praise her in the gates.

(כג) נוֹדֶע בַּשְּׁעָרִים בַּעְלֶהּ בְּשִׁבְתּוֹ עִם־זִקְנֵי־אֶרֶץ: (כד) סָדִין עֻשְּׁתָה וַתִּמְכֶּר וַׁחֲגוֹר נַתְנָה לַלְּנַעֲנִי: (כה) עז־וְהָדֶר לְבוּשָׁהּ וַתִּשְׁלֵּר לְיִוֹם אַחֲרְוֹן: (כו) (כח) עָז־וְהָדָיה בִּיתָהּ וְלְחֶם עַצְלוּת לָא תֹאכֵל: (כח) קָמוּ בָּנֶיהָ וְיִאַשְּׁרְוּהָ בַּעְלָהּ וַיְהַלְלָהּ: (כט) רַבְּוֹת בֻּנוֹת עֲשׁוּ חֵיִל וְאַתְּ עָלִית עַל־כֵּלְנָה: (ל) שָׁקֶר הַחֵן וְהָבֶל הַיָּפִי אִשָּׁה יִרְאַת־ה' הִיא תִתְהַלֶּל: (לא) תְּנוּ־לֵה מִפְּרִי יֵדֶיהָ וְיהַלְלָוּהָ בַשְּׁעָרִים מַעַשֵּׂיהַ:

#### Sanhedrin 101b:11-15

The Gemara resumes its discussion of Jeroboam. **And from where do we** 

סנהדרין ק״א ב:י״א-ט״ו

ומנא לן דלא אתי לעלמא דאתי דכתיב (מלכים א יג, לד) ויהי בדבר הזה לחטאת בית ירבעם

derive that Jeroboam does not enter into the World-to-Come? It is derived from a verse, as it is written: "And by this matter there was a sin to the house of Jeroboam, and to eradicate it and to destroy it from off the face of the earth" (I Kings 13:34). It can be interpreted to mean: To eradicate it in this world, and to destroy it for the World-to-Come. Rabbi Yohanan says: For what virtue was Jeroboam privileged to ascend to monarchy? It is due to the fact that he rebuked Solomon for his sins. And for what misdeed was he punished and lost everything? It is due to the fact that he rebuked Solomon and humiliated him in public, as it is stated: "And this was the cause that he lifted his hand against the king: Solomon built the Millo, and repaired the breaches of the city of David his father" (I Kings 11:27). Jeroboam said to Solomon: David, your father, created breaches in the wall so that the Jewish people could ascend for the pilgrimage Festival, and you sealed them in order to marshal forced labor [angarya] for the daughter of Pharaoh, your wife. And what is the meaning of the phrase "and this was the cause that he lifted his hand against the king"? Rav Nahman says: He removed his phylacteries before Solomon, thereby demonstrating that he does not consider Solomon his superior. Rav Nahman says: The arrogance that existed in Jeroboam drove him from the World-to-Come, as it is stated: "And Jeroboam said in his heart: Now shall the kingdom return to the house of David. If this people go up to offer sacrifices in the House of the Lord in Jerusalem, then shall the heart of this people turn again to their lord, even to

ולהכחיד ולהשמיד מעל פני אדמה להכחיד בעולם הזה ולהשמיד לעולם הבא אמר רבי יוחנן מפני מה זכה ירבעם למלכות מפני שהוכיח את שלמה ומפני מה נענש מפני שהוכיחו ברבים שנאמר (מלכים א יא, כז) וזה הדבר אשר הרים יד במלך שלמה בנה את המלוא סגר את פרץ עיר דוד אביו אמר לו דוד אביך פרץ פרצות בחומה כדי שיעלו ישראל לרגל ואתה גדרת אותם כדי לעשות אנגריא לבת פרעה ומאי וזה אשר הרים יד במלך אמר רב נחמן שחלץ תפיליו בפניו אמר רב נחמן גסות הרוח שהיה בו בירבעם טרדתו מן העולם שנאמר (מלכים א יב, כו) ויאמר ירבעם בלבו עתה תשוב הממלכה לבית דוד אם יעלה העם הזה לעשות זבחים בבית ה' בירושלים ושב לב העם הזה אל אדוניהם אל רחבעם מלך יהודה והרגוני ושבו אל רחבעם מלך יהודה אמר גמירי דאין ישיבה בעזרה אלא למלכי בית יהודה בלבד כיון דחזו ליה לרחבעם דיתיב ואנא קאימנא סברי הא מלכא והא עבדא ואי יתיבנא מורד במלכות הואי וקטלין לי ואזלו בתריה מיד (מלכים א יב, כח) ויועץ המלך ויעש שני עגלי זהב ויאמר אליהם רב לכם מעלות ירושלים הנה אלקיך ישראל אשר העלוך מארץ מצרים וישם את האחד בבית אל ואת האחד נתן בדן מאי ויועץ אמר רבי יהודה שהושיב רשע אצל צדיק אמר להו חתמיתו על כל דעבידנא אמרו ליה הין אמר להו מלכא בעינא למיהוי אמרו ליה הין כל דאמינא לכו עבידתו אמרו ליה הין אפילו למפלח לעבודת כוכבים אמר ליה צדיק ח"ו אמר ליה רשע לצדיק ס"ד דגברא כירבעם פלח לעבודת כוכבים אלא למינסינהו הוא דקא בעי אי קבליתו למימריה

Rehoboam, king of Judea, and they shall kill me and return to Rehoboam, king of Judea" (I Kings 12:26–27). Jeroboam calculated and said: It is **learned** as a tradition that sitting in the Temple courtyard is permitted only for kings of the house of Judah alone. Once they see Rehoboam, who is sitting, and they see me standing, they will think: This, Rehoboam, is king, and that, Jeroboam, is the servant. And if I sit there, I will be considered a traitor against the throne, and they will kill me and follow him. **Immediately,** the following took place: "And the king took counsel, and made two calves of gold, and said to them: It is too much for you to ascend to Jerusalem; behold your gods, Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt. And he placed the one in Bethel and the other he placed in **Dan**" (I Kings 12:28–29). **What** is the meaning of the phrase "and the king took counsel"? Rabbi Yehuda says: It means that he assembled the elders of the kingdom of Israel and seated a wicked person alongside a righteous person and consulted them. He said to the elders: **Do you sign** a writ of authorization for all that I am doing? They said to him: Yes. He said to them: I want to be the king. They said to him: Yes. Jeroboam said to them: Will you do everything I tell you to do? They said to him: Yes. He said to them: Even to worship idols? A righteous man said: Heaven forfend; idol worship is unacceptable. The wicked man seated alongside him said to the righteous man: Does it enter your mind that a man like Jeroboam would worship idols? Rather, he merely **seeks to test** those sitting here, to determine if they accept and will

#### **Shabbat 56b:5-15**

#### שבת נ״ו ב:ה׳-ט״ו

Rabbi Shmuel bar Nahmani said that Rabbi Yonatan said: Anyone who says that King Solomon sinned is nothing other than mistaken, as it is stated: "And his heart was not perfect with the Lord his God, as was the heart of David, his father" (I Kings 11:4). By inference: Solomon's heart was not equal to the heart of David, his father; however, he also did not sin. However, how then do I establish the meaning of the verse: "For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods" (I Kings 11:4)? That verse is in accordance with the statement of Rabbi Natan; as Rabbi Natan raised a contradiction between the two parts of the verse. On the one hand, it is written: "For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods." On the other hand, isn't it written: "And his heart was not perfect with the Lord his God, as was the heart of David his father," indicating that Solomon's heart was not equal to the heart of David his father; however, he also did not sin? Rather, the verse says as follows: For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart, in an attempt to spur him to go after other gods; however, he did not go after them. The Gemara asks: Isn't it written: "Then did Solomon build [yivne] an altar for Kemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon" (I Kings 11:7), indicating that Solomon did in fact stray after idols? The Gemara

אָמַר רַבִּי שָׁמוּאֵל בַּר נַחְמָנִי אָמַר רַבִּי יוֹנַתָן: כָּל ָהָאוֹמֵר שָׁלֹמֹה חָטָא אֵינוֹ אֶלָּא טוֹעֶה, שֶׁנָּאֱמַר: ״וָלֹא הַיַה לָבַבוֹ שַׁלֵם עם ה׳ אֱלֹקֵיו כָּלְבַב דַּוִד אָבִיו״ — כָּלְבַב דָּוִד אָבִיו הוּא דְּלָא הָוַה, מִיחִטָא — אָבִיו״ ַנַמִי לַא חָטַא. אֶלַא מַה אָנַי מִקְיֵים ״וַיָּהִי לְעַת זָקְנַת שָׁלֹמֹה נָשָׁיו הָטוּ אֶת לְבָבוֹ״ — הַהִּיא כְּרַבִּי ָנָתָן. דְּרַבִּי נָתָן רָמֵי, כָּתִיב: ״וַיִּהִי לְעֵת זְקְנַת שָׁלֹמֹה נָשָׁיו הָטוּ אֶת לְבָבוֹ״, וְהַכְתִיב: ״כִּלְבַב דָּוְד אָבִיו״ — כָּלְבַב דַּוִד אָבִיו הוּא דְּלָא הַוָה מִיחְטָא — אָבִיו״ נַמִי לַא חֲטַא! הַכִּי קַאַמַר: ״וַיִהִי לְעַת זִקְנַת שָׁלֹמֹה ַנָשָׁיו הָטוּ אֶת לְבָבוֹ לָלֶכֶת אַחֲרֵי אֱלֹקִים אֲחֵרִים״ וְלֹא הָלַךְ. וְהָכְתִיב: ״אָז יִבְנֶה שְׁלֹמֹה בָּמָה — ָלְכָמוֹשׁ שָׁקַץ מוֹאָב" — שֶׁבְּקֵשׁ לְבָנוֹת וְלֹא בָּנָה. — "אָז יִבְנֶה יִהוֹשֶׁעַ מְזְבֶּחַ לַה׳״ אֶלָּא מֱעַתָּה: ״אָז יִבְנֶה יִהוֹשֶׁעַ שַׁבַּקָשׁ לְבָנוֹת וָלֹא בַּנָה?! אֱלַא דּבָנַה, הַכָא נַמִי דְּבָנָה! אֶלָּא כָּדְתַנָיָא, רַבִּי יוֹסֵי אוֹמֵר: ״וְאֶת הַבָּמוֹת אֲשֶׁר עַל פָּנֵי יִרוּשָׁלִים אֲשֶׁר מִימִין לְהַר הַמִּשְׁחָה אֲשֵׁר בַּנָה שָׁלֹמֹה מֵלֶךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל לְעַשָּׁתֹּרֶת שָׁקַץ צִידֹנִים וְגוֹ׳״. אֶפְשָׁר בָּא אָסָא וִלֹא בִּיעַרָם, יִהוֹשָּׁפָט וָלֹא בִּיעַרַם, עַד שֶׁבַּא יֹאשִׁיַה וּבִיעַרַם? וַהַּלֹא כָּל עַבוֹדָה זָרָה שֶׁבָּאֶרֵץ יִשְׂרָאֵל אָסָא וִיהוֹשָׁפָּט בִּיעֵרוּם! אֶלָּא מַקְּישׁ רָאשׁוֹנִים לָאַחֶרוֹנִים, מָה אַחֲרוֹנִים לֹא עָשׂוּ וְתָלָה בָּהֶן לְשֶׁבַח, אַף רָאשׁוֹנִים לא עשוּ וְתַלָּה בָּהֶן לְגִנַאי. וְהָכְתִיב: ״וַיַעשׁ שׁלמה הַרַע בָּעִינֵי ה׳״! אֶלַּא מִפְּנֵי שָׁהַיַה לוֹ לְמְחוֹת בְּנַשַּׁיו וָלֹא מִיחַה מַעֶלֶה עַלַיו הַכַּתוֹב כָּאלוּ חַטַא. אַמַר ַרַב יִהוּדָה אָמַר שָׁמוּאֱל: נוֹחַ לוֹ לְאוֹתוֹ צַדִּיק שֶׁיִּהֵא שַׁמַשׁ לְדָבָר אַחֶר, וְאַל יִכָּתֵב בּוֹ ״וַיַּעַשׂ הָרָע בְּעֵינֵי ה׳״. אַמַר רַב יִהוּדָה אָמַר שָׁמוּאֵל: בִּשָּׁעַה שֶׁנָּשָׂא ָשָׁלֹמֹה אֶת בַּת פַּרְעֹה, הָכְנִיסָה לוֹ אֶלֶף מִינֵי זֶמֶר, ּוְאָמְרָה לוֹ כָּךְ עוֹשִּׂין לַעֲבוֹדָה זָרָה פָּלוֹנִית, וְכַךְ עוֹשִּים לַעֲבוֹדָה זָרָה פָּלוֹנִית, וְלֹא מִיחָה בָּהּ. אָמַר ַרַב יִהוּדָה אָמַר שָׁמוּאֵל: בִּשָּׁעַה שֵׁנַשָּׂא שָׁלֹמֹה אֶת בַּת פַּרְעֹה יָרַד גַּבְרִיאֵל וְנָעַץ קַנֶה בַּיָם וְעָלָה בּוֹ שִּירְטוֹן, וְעָלַיו נִבְנָה כְּרֵךְ גָּדוֹל [שֵׁל רוֹמִי]. בְּמַתְנִיתָא תָּנָא: אוֹתוֹ הַיּוֹם שֶׁהְכָנִיס יָרַבְעָם שְׁנֵי עֶגְלֵי זָהָב, אֶחָד בְּבֵית אֵל וְאֶחָד בְּדָן, נִבְנָה צְרִיף ָאֶחָד, וְזֵהוּ אִיטַלְיָאה שֶׁל יָוַן.

answers: This can be understood to mean that Solomon sought to build an altar for idols but did not build it. The Gemara objects: But now if that is the way to understand the future tense verb form yivne, what of another instance where the same form is employed: "Then did Joshua build [vivne] an altar to the Lord God of Israel in Mount Eival" (Joshua 8:30)? There too, would you say that Joshua sought to build an altar but did not build one? Rather, there, in the case of Joshua, it means that he actually built it. Here too, with regard to Solomon, it means that he actually **built** the altar. Rather, this verse should be understood as it was taught in a baraita that Rabbi Yosei says: The verse states: "And the altars that were before Jerusalem, which were on the right hand of the Mount of Olives, which Solomon the king of Israel had built for Ashtoret the abomination of the Zidonim, and for Kemosh the abomination of Moab, and for Milkom the abomination of the children of Ammon, did the king defile" (II Kings 23:13). All these were destroyed by Josiah. The Gemara asks: Is it possible that the righteous king Asa came and did not destroy them, and the righteous king Jehosaphat came and did not destroy them until Josiah came and destroyed them? Didn't Asa and Jehosaphat destroy all the idolatry in Eretz Yisrael? Rather, the verse juxtaposes the earlier ones, i.e., Solomon, to the later ones, i.e., Josiah. Just as the later ones, Josiah, did not effect the destruction of the altars, as it was done by his predecessors, and nevertheless the verse attributes it to him to praise him as if he had destroyed all those altars, so too, the earlier ones, Solomon, did not effect the

construction, and nevertheless the verse attributes it to him to disgrace him as he did not prevent their construction. The Gemara raises another guestion. Isn't it written: "And Solomon did evil in the sight of the Lord" (I Kings 11:6), clearly indicating that Solomon sinned? Rather, since he should have protested against the conduct of his wives, i.e., their involvement in idolatry, but he did not protest, the verse ascribes to him liability as if he had sinned. Rav Yehuda said that Shmuel said: It would have been preferable for that righteous man, Solomon, to be a servant tasked with drawing water and hewing wood for another matter, i.e., idolatry, and not have the verse write about him: "And he did evil in the sight of the Lord," even though he did not. Rav Yehuda said that Shmuel said: When Solomon married Pharaoh's daughter, she brought to him a thousand musical instruments and said to him: This is the way we do it for this idolatry, and this is the way we do it for that idolatry, and he did not protest that talk. Rav Yehuda said that Shmuel said: When Solomon married Pharaoh's daughter, the angel Gabriel descended from heaven and implanted a reed into the sea, and a sandbar grew around it, growing larger each year, and upon it the great city of Rome was built, which became God's instrument to punish Israel. It was taught in a baraita: On that very day that Jeroboam introduced two golden calves, one in Beth-El and the other in Dan, a single small hut was constructed, which was the first house constructed there. And that was the inauguration of Italy of Greece.

The Gemara relates: This question was asked before Rabbi Tanhum from the village of Nevi: What is the ruling with regard to extinguishing a burning lamp before a sick person on Shabbat? The Gemara relates that Rabbi Tanhum delivered an entire homily touching upon both aggadic and halakhic materials surrounding this question. He began and said: You, King Solomon, where is your wisdom, where is your understanding? Not only do your statements contradict the statements of your father David, but your statements even contradict each other. Your father David said: "The dead praise not the Lord, neither any that go down into silence" (Psalms 115:17); and you said: "And I praised the dead that are already dead more than the living that are yet alive" (Ecclesiastes 4:2). And then again you said: "For a living dog is better than a dead lion" (Ecclesiastes 9:4). These are different assessments of life and death. He resolved the contradictions in the following manner: This is not difficult. That which David said: "The dead praise not the Lord," this is what he is saying: A person should always engage in Torah and mitzvot before he dies, as once he is dead he is idle from Torah and mitzvot and there is no praise for the Holy One, Blessed be He, from him. And that is what Rabbi Yohanan said: What is the meaning of that which is written: "Set free among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave, whom You remember no more" (Psalms 88:6)? When a person dies he then becomes free of Torah and mitzvot. And that which Solomon said: "And I praised the dead that are

שָׁאוּל שָׁאֵילָה זוֹ לְעֵילָּא מֵרַבִּי תַּנְחוּם דְּמִן נוֹי: מַהוּ לָכַבּוֹת בּוּצִינַא דָנוּרַא מִקּמֵי בָּאִישַׁא בְּשַׁבְּתַא? פָּתַח וַאֲמַר: אַנְתִּ שָׁלֹמֹה אָן חָכָמִתָּךְ, אָן סוּכִלְתָנוּתָרְ? לֹא דַּיֵּירָ שֶׁדְּבָרֶיךָ סוֹתִרִין דְּבָרֵי דָּוְד אַביך, אַלַא שַׁדָּבַרִיךָ סוֹתָרין זֵה אֶת זֵה. דַּוד אַביך ּאָמַר: ״לֹא הַמֵּתִים יְהַלְלוּ יָהּ״, וְאַתִּ אָמַרְתָּ: ״וְשַׁבֵּחַ אַני אַת הַמַּתִים שַׁכָּבַר מַתוּ״, וְחַזַרַתַּ וְאַמַרַתַּ: ״כִּי ּלְכֶלֶב חַי הוּא טוֹב מָן הָאַרְיֵה הַמֶּת״! לָא קַשִּׁיָא, ָהָא דְּקָאָמֵר דַּוִד ״לֹא הַמֶּתִים יְהַלְלוּ יָהּ״ — הָכִי קָאָמַר: לְעוֹלָם יַעֲסוֹק אָדָם בָּתוֹרָה וּבִמְצִוֹת קוֹדֶם שַׁיָּמוּת, שֶׁכֵּיוַן שֶׁמֶת, בָּטֵל מִן הַתּוֹרָה וּמִן הַמִּצְוֹת וָאֵין לְהַקַּדוֹשׁ בַּרוּךְ הוּא שֶׁבַח בּוֹ. וְהַיִינוּ דְּאַמַר רַבִּי יוֹחַנַן, מַאי דָכָתִיב: ״בַּמֵּתִים חָפָשִׁי״ — כֵּיוַן שֶׁמֵּת אַדַם נַעֲשֶׂה חַפָּשִׁי מַן הַתּוֹרֵה וּמַן הַמַּצְוֹת. וּדְקַאָמַר שָׁלֹמֹה ״וִשַּׁבֵּחַ אֲנִי אֶת הַמֵּתִים שֶׁכָּבָר מתו״, שֶׁכָּשֶׁחָטָאוּ יִשְׂרָאֱל בַּמִּדְבָּר, עָמַד משׁה לפני הַקַּדוֹשׁ בַּרוּךְ הוּא וְאַמֵּר כַּמַּה תִּפְלּוֹת ּוְתַחֲנוּנִים לְפָנַיו וְלֹא נַעֲנָה, וּכְשֶׁאָמַר ״זְכוֹר ַלְאַבְרָהָם לְיִצְחָק וּלְיִשְׂרָאֵל עֲבָדֵיךְ״ — מְיַּד נַעַנָה. וְלֹא יָפֶה אָמַר שָׁלֹמֹה ״וְשַׁבֵּחַ אֲנִי אֶת הַמֵּתִים שַׁכָּבָר מֵתוּ״? דַּבָר אַחֵר: מִנְהַגוֹ שֵׁל עוֹלָם, מֶלֶךְ בַּשַּׂר וַדַם גּוֹזֵר גָּזַרָה — סַפָּק מְקַיִּימִין אוֹתַהּ סַפָּק אָין מִקַיִּימִין אוֹתָהּ. וָאָם תִּמְצֵי לוֹמַר מְקַיִּימִין אוֹתָהּ . בָּחַיַּיו מָקַיִּימִין אוֹתֵהּ בָּמוֹתוֹ אֵין מָקַיִּימִין אוֹתַהּ — בָּחַיַּיו מָקַיִּימִין אוֹתַהּ וָאִילוּ משֶׁה רַבִּינוּ גַזַר כַּמַה גָזַירוֹת וְתִיקֵן כַּמַה תַּקָנוֹת וְקַיָּימוֹת הֱן לְעוֹלָם וּלְעוֹלְמֵי עוֹלָמִים. וְלֹא יַפָּה אַמַר שָׁלֹמֹה ״וִשַּבָּחַ אָנַי אֶת הַמֵּתִים וְגוֹי״?! דַּבָר אַחֵר: ״וִשַּבֶּחַ אֲנִי וְגוֹי״, כִּדְרַב יִהוּדָה אָמַר ַרב. דָּאַמֵר רֶב יָהוּדָה אַמַר רָב: מַאי דְּכְתִיב ״עֲשֵׂה ַעִמָּי אוֹת לְטוֹבָה וְיִרְאוּ שׂוֹנָאֵי וְיֵבוֹשׁוּ״ — אָמַר דָּוִד לְפָנֵי הַקָּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא: רְבּוֹנוֹ שֶׁל עוֹלָם, מְחוֹל לִי עַל אוֹתוֹ עָוֹן. אָמַר לוֹ: מָחוּל לָךְ. אָמַר לוֹ: עֲשֵׂה עִמָּי אוֹת בָּחַיַּי. אָמַר לוֹ: בִּחַיֶּיךָ אֵינִי מוֹדִיעַ, בִּחַיַּי שָׁלְמָה בַּנָרְ אֲנִי מוֹדִיעַ. כְּשֶׁבַּנָה שָׁלְמָה אֶת בֵּית הַמַּקְדַשׁ, בִּיקָשׁ לְהַכָנִיס אַרוֹן לְבֵית קָדְשֵׁי הַקֶּדָשִׁים. דָּבָקוּ שָׁעָרִים זֶה בָּזֶה. אַמַר שָׁלֹמֹה ֹעשִׂרִים וְאַרְבָּעָה רְנָנוֹת, וְלֹא נַעֲנָה. פַּתַח וְאָמַר: שָׁאוּ שָׁעַרים רַאשִׁיכֶם וְהַנַּשָּׂאוּ פַּתְחֵי עוֹלַם וְיַבא" מֶלֶךְ הַכַּבוֹד״. רְהַטוּ בַּתְרִיהּ לְמִיבְלְעֵיהּ, אַמַרוּ: ״מִי הוּא זֶה מֶלֶךְ הַכָּבוֹד״. אֲמַר לְהוּ: ״ה׳ עִזּוּז וּגְבּוֹר״. חַזַר וִאָמַר: ״שָּׁאוּ שָׁעַרִים רַאשֵׁיכֶם וּשָׂאוּ פָּתָחֵי עוֹלַם וְיָבֹא מֶלֶךְ הַכָּבוֹד מִי הוּא זֶה מֶלֶךְ הַכָּבוֹד ה׳ צְבַאוֹת הוּא מֱלֶךְ הַכַּבוֹד סֵלַה״, וְלֹא

already dead"; he was not speaking of all dead people, but rather in praise of certain dead people. As when Israel sinned in the desert, Moses stood before the Holy One, Blessed be He, and he said several prayers and supplications before Him, and his prayers were not answered. And when he said: "Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, Your servants" (Exodus 32:13), his prayers were answered immediately. Consequently, did Solomon not speak appropriately when he said: "Wherefore I praised the dead that are already dead"? Certainly the merit of the deceased forefathers is greater than that of the righteous people who are alive. Alternatively, the way of the world is such that when a flesh-and-blood prince issues a decree on the public it is uncertain whether they fulfill it and uncertain whether they do not fulfill it. And even if you want to say that they fulfill it, it is only during his lifetime that they fulfill it; after he dies they do not fulfill it. But Moses our teacher issued several decrees and instituted several ordinances, and they are in effect forever and ever. And, if so, is it not appropriate that which Solomon said: "Wherefore I praised the dead that are already dead"? Alternatively, another explanation is given for the verse: "And I praised the dead that are already dead," is in accordance with that which Rav Yehuda said that Rav said. As Rav Yehuda said that Rav said: What is the meaning of the verse that was written: "Work on my behalf a sign for good; that they that hate me may see it, and be put to shame" (Psalms 86:17)? David said before the Holy One, Blessed be He: Master of the Universe, forgive me for that sin in

ַנַעַנָה. כֵּיוַן שָׁאָמַר: ״ה׳ אֱלֹקִים אַל תַּשֶׁב פְּנֵי ָמִשִּׁיחֶךְ זָכָרָה לְחַסְדֵי דַּוִד עַבְדֵּךְ״, מִיָּד נַעַנָה. בָּאוֹתָהּ שָׁעָה נֶהְפָּכוּ פָּנֵי כָּל שׂוֹנָאֵי דָוִד כָּשׁוּלֵי ַקדִירָה, וַיֵּדְעוּ כָל הָעָם וְכָל יִשְׂרָאֵל שֶׁמַּחַל לוֹ ַהַקָּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא עַל אוֹתוֹ עַוֹן. וְלֹא יָפֶה אָמַר שָׁלֹמֹה: ״וְשַׁבֵּחַ אֲנִי אֶת הַמֵּתִים שֶׁכְּבַר מֶתוּ״?! וָהַיִינוּ דַּכָתִיב: ״בַּיּוֹם הַשָּׁמִינִי שָׁלַּח אֶת הַעַם וַיָּבָרַכוּ אֶת הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיֵּלְכוּ לְאָהֱלֵיהֶם שְּׁמֶחִים וְטוֹבֵי ַלָב עַל כָּל הַטּוֹבַה אֲשֶׁר עַשַּׂה ה׳ לְדַוִד עַבְדּוֹ וּלְיִשְׂרָאֵל עַמּוֹ״. ״וַיֵּלְכוּ לְאָהֶלֵיהֶם״ — שֶׁמָּצְאוּ נָשׁוֹתֵיהֶן בִּטָהֶרָה. ״שְּׁמֵחִים״ — שֶׁנָהֶנוּ מִזְּיו הַשָּׁכִינָה. ״וְטוֹבֵי לֱב״ — שֶׁנְתַעַבְּרוּ נְשׁוֹתֵיהֶן שֶׁל ּ כָּל אֶחָד וְאֶחָד וְיַלְדָה זָכָר. ״עַל כָּל הַטּוֹבָה אֲשֶׁר עשַה ה׳ לְדַוִד עַבָּדּוֹ (וּלִישָׂרָאֵל עַמּוֹ״. ״לְדַוִד עַבְדּוֹ)״ — שֶׁמָּחַל לוֹ עַל אוֹתוֹ עָוֹן. ״וּלְיִשְׂרָאֵל — ״(וֹבְדּוֹ עַמּוֹ״ — דְּאַחֱיל לְהוּ עָוֹן דִּיוֹם הַכְּפּוּרִים. וּדְקָאָמַר — עַמּוֹ״ שָׁלֹמֹה: ״כִּי לְכֶלֶב חַי הוּא טוֹב מְן הָאַרְיֵה הַמֶּת״, ָּכְדָרַב יִהוּדָה אָמַר רַב. דְּאָמַר רַב יִהוּדָה אָמַר רַב, מַאי דָכָתִיב: ״הוֹדִיעֵנִי ה׳ קְצִי וּמְדַּת יָמֵי מַה הִיא אַדְעָה מֶה חָדֵל אָנִי״ — אָמַר דָּוִד לִפְנֵי הַקָּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא: רְבּוֹנוֹ שֶׁל עוֹלָם, הוֹדִיעֵנִי ה' קִצִּי. אָמַר לוֹ: גָזֶרָה הִיא מִלְּפָנַי שָׁאֵין מוֹדִיעִין קצוֹ שֶׁל בַּשָּׂר ָוָדָם. ״וּמְדַּת יָמֵי מַה הִיא״ — גָּזֵרָה הִיא מִלְּפָנַי שָׁאֵין מוֹדִיעִין מַדַּת יַמַיו שָׁל אַדַם. ״וְאַדְעַה מֵה שָׁה מָה חָדֵל אָנִי״ — אָמַר לוֹ: בְּשַׁבָּת תָּמוּת. אָמוּת בְּאֶחָד בְּשַׁבַּת? אָמַר לוֹ: כְּבַר הָגִּיעָה מַלְכוּת שָׁלֹמֹה בְּנְךְ, ּוְאֵין מַלְכוּת נוֹגַעַת בַּחֲבֶרְתָּהּ אֲפִילּוּ כִּמְלֹא נִימָא. ּאָמוּת בְּעֶרֶב שַּׁבָּת? אָמַר לוֹ: ״כִּי טוֹב יוֹם בַּחֲצֵרֶיךְ מָאַלֶּף" — טוֹב לִי יוֹם אֶחַד שָׁאַתַּה יוֹשָׁב וְעוֹסֵק — מַאַלֶּף בַּתּוֹרָה מֵאֶלֶף עוֹלוֹת שֶׁעַתִיד שָׁלֹמֹה בִּנְרָ לְהַקְרִיב ּלְפָנַי עַל גַּבֵּי הַמִּזְבֵּחַ. כָּל יוֹמָא דְשַׁבְּתָא הָוָה יָתֵיב ָוּגָרֵיס כּוּלֵּי יוֹמָא. הַהוּא יוֹמָא דְּבָעֵי לְמֵינַח נַפִּשֵּׁיהּ, ָקָם מַלְאַךְ הַמָּוֶת קַמֶּיהּ וְלָא יִכִיל לֵיהּ, דְּלָא הֲוָה פַּסָק פּוּמֵיהּ מָגִירָסָא. אַמַר: מַאי אעַבִיד לֵיהּ? הַוָה ֶלֵיהּ בּוּסְתָּנָא אֲחוֹרֵי בֵּיתֵיהּ, אֲתָא מַלְאַךְ הַמָּוֵת ּ סָלֵיק וּבָחֵישׁ בִּאִילָנֵי. נְפַק לְמִיחְזֵי. הַוָּה סָלֵיק בָּדַרְגָּא, אִיפָּחִית דַּרְגָּא מְתּוּתֵיהּ, אִישְׁתִּיק וְנָח נַפְשֵׁיהַ. שָׁלַח שָׁלֹמֹה לְבֵי מִדְרְשָׁא: אַבָּא מֵת וּמוּטָל בַּחַמָּה, וּכָלָבִים שֶׁל בֵּית אַבָּא רְעֵבִים – מָה אֶעֱשֶׂה? שָׁלַחוּ לֵיהּ: חֲתוֹךְ נְבֵלָה וְהַנַּח לְפְנֵי ָהַכְּלַבִים. וְאָבִיךְ, הַנַּח עָלַיו כְּכָּר אוֹ תִּינוֹק וְטַלְטָלוֹ. וְלֹא יָפֶה אָמַר שָׁלֹמֹה: ״כִּי לְכֶלֶב חַי הוּא טוֹב מְן ָהָאַרְיֵה הַמֵּת״. וּלְעִנְיַן שָׁאֵילָה דְּשָּׁאֵילְנָא קֶדָמֵיכוֹן: ַנֵר קָרוּיָה ״נֵר״, וְנִשְּׁמַתוֹ שֶׁל אָדָם קְרוּיָה ״נֵר״. מוּטַב תִּכְבֶּה נֵר שֵׁל בָּשָׂר וָדָם מִפְּנֵי נֵרוֹ שֵׁל

הַקָּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא.

the matter of Bathsheba. He said to him: It is forgiven you. David said to Him: Show me a sign in my lifetime so that all will know that You have forgiven me. God said to him: In your lifetime I will not make it known that you were forgiven; however, in the lifetime of your son Solomon I will make it known. When Solomon built the Temple and sought to bring the Ark into the Holy of Holies, the gates clung together and could not be opened. Solomon uttered twenty-four songs of praise, as in his prayer there are twenty-four expressions of prayer, song, etc. (I Kings 8), and his prayer was not answered. He began and said: "Lift up your heads, O you gates, and be you lifted up, you everlasting doors; that the King of glory may come in" (Psalms 24:7). Immediately, the gates ran after him to swallow him, as they thought that in the words: "King of glory" he was referring to himself, and they said to him: "Who is the King of glory?" (Psalms 24:8). He said to them: "The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle" (Psalms 24:8). And he said again: "Lift up your heads, O you gates, yea, lift them up, you 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" (Psalms 24:9-10), and he was not answered. When he said: "O Lord God, turn not away the face of Your anointed; remember the good deeds of David Your servant" (II Chronicles 6:42), he was immediately answered, and a fire descended from Heaven (II Chronicles 7:1). At that moment, the faces of all of David's enemies turned dark like the charred bottom of a pot. And all of Israel knew that the Holy

One, Blessed be He, forgave him for that sin. And if so, is it not appropriate what Solomon said: "And I praised the dead that are already dead," David, more than the living, Solomon, to whose request to open the gates of the Temple God did not respond? And that is what is written: "On the eighth day he sent the people away, and they blessed the king, and went unto their tents joyful and glad of heart for all the goodness that the Lord had shown unto David His servant and to Israel His people" (I Kings 8:66). The Gemara explains: And went unto their tents, in accordance with the common expression: One's house is his wife. It is explained that when they returned home they found their wives ritually pure from the ritual impurity of menstruation. Joyful means that they enjoyed the aura of the Divine Presence at the dedication of the Temple. And glad of heart means that the wife of each and every one of them was impregnated and gave birth to a male. The verse continues: For all the goodness that the Lord had shown unto David His servant and to Israel His people. Unto David His servant means that at that opportunity they all saw that God forgave him for that sin. And to Israel His people means that He forgave them for the sin of Yom Kippur, as they did not fast that year (see I Kings 8:65). The Gemara continues: **And** that **which** Solomon said: "For a living dog is better than a dead lion" (Ecclesiastes 9:4), is in accordance with that which Rav Yehuda said that Rav said. As Rav Yehuda said that Rav said: What is the meaning of that verse which David said: "Lord, make me to know my end, and the measure of my days, what it is; let me know how short-lived I am"

(Psalms 39:5)? It means that **David said** before the Holy One, Blessed be He: Master of the Universe, Lord, make me to know my end; in how long will I die? God said to him: It is decreed before Me that I do not reveal the end of the life of flesh and blood. He asked further: And the measure of my days; on what day of the year will I die? He said to him: It is decreed before Me not to reveal the measure of a person's days. Again he requested: Let me know how short-lived I am; on what day of the week will I die? He said to him: You will die on Shabbat. David requested of God: Let me die on the first day of the week so that the honor of Shabbat will not be tarnished by the pain of death. **He** said to him: On that day the time of the kingdom of your son Solomon has already arrived, and one kingdom does not overlap with another and subtract from the time allotted to another even a hairbreadth. He said to him: I will cede a day of my life and die on Shabbat eve. God said to him: "For a day in your courts is better than a thousand" (Psalms 84:11); a single day in which you sit and engage in Torah is preferable to Me than the thousand burnt-offerings that your son Solomon will offer before Me on the altar (see I Kings 3:4). What did David do? Every Shabbat he would sit and learn all day long to protect himself from the Angel of Death. On that day on which the Angel of Death was supposed to put his soul to rest, the day on which David was supposed to die, the Angel of Death stood before him and was unable to overcome him because his mouth did not pause from study. The Angel of Death said: What shall I do to him? David had a garden [bustana] behind his house; the Angel

of Death came, climbed, and shook the trees. David went out to see. As he climbed the stair, the stair broke beneath him. He was startled and was silent, interrupted his studies for a moment, and died. Since David died in the garden, Solomon sent the following question to the study hall: Father died and is lying in the sun, and the dogs of father's house are hungry. There is room for concern lest the dogs come and harm his body. What shall I do? They sent an answer to him: Cut up an animal carcass and place it before the dogs. Since the dogs are hungry, handling the animal carcass to feed them is permitted. And with regard to your father, it is prohibited to move his body directly. Place a loaf of bread or an infant on top of him, and you can move him into the shade due to the bread or the infant. And is it not appropriate what Solomon said: "For a living dog is better than a dead lion." The ultimate conclusion of this discussion is that life is preferable to death. And now, with regard to the question that I asked before you; Rav Tanhum spoke modestly, as, actually, they had asked him the question. A lamp is called *ner* and a person's soul is also called ner, as it is written: "The spirit of man is the lamp [ner] of the Lord" (Proverbs 20:27). It is preferable that the lamp of a being of flesh and blood, an actual lamp, will be extinguished in favor of the lamp of the Holy One, Blessed be He, a person's soul. Therefore, one is permitted to extinguish a flame for the sake of a sick person.

Eruvin 21b:12-16

עירובין כ״א ב:י״ב-ט״ז

Concerning the significance of observing the words of the Sages, the Gemara

תָּנוּ רַבָּנַן: מַעֲשֶׂה בְּרַבִּי עֲקִיבָא שֶׁהָיָה חָבוּשׁ בְּבֵית הָאָסוּרִין, וְהָיָה רַבִּי יְהוֹשֶׁעַ הַגַּרְסִי מְשָׁרְתוֹ. בְּכָּל

relates: The Sages taught in a baraita: It once happened that Rabbi Akiva was incarcerated in a prison, and Rabbi Yehoshua HaGarsi would come to the prison to attend to his needs. Every day his disciples would bring him water in a measured quantity. One day the prison guard met Rabbi Yehoshua HaGarsi and said to him: The amount of your water today is more than usual; perhaps you need it in order to soften the walls and thus undermine the prison. He then poured out half the water, and gave him the other half to take in to Rabbi Akiva. When Rabbi Yehoshua came to Rabbi Akiva, and the latter saw the small amount of water he had brought, he said to him: Yehoshua, do you not know that I am old, and my life depends on your life? No one else brings me water, so if you bring me less than I need, my life is endangered. After Rabbi Yehoshua related to him the entire incident, Rabbi Akiva said to him: Give me water so that I may wash my hands. Rabbi Yehoshua **said to him:** The water that I brought will not suffice for drinking; how will it suffice for washing your hands? He said to him: What can I do; for transgressing the words of the Sages and eating without first washing hands one is liable to receive the death penalty. And if so, it is better that I should die my own death by thirst, rather than transgress the opinion of my colleagues who enacted that one must wash hands before eating. They said that he would not taste anything until Rabbi Yehoshua brought him water and he washed his hands. When the Sages heard about this, they said: If in his old age and weakened state he is still so meticulous in his observance of the mitzvot, how

יוֹם וַיוֹם הַיוּ מַכְנִיסִין לוֹ מַיִם בְּמַדֵּה. יוֹם אֶחֵד מָצֵאוֹ שׁוֹמֵר בֵּית הַאָּסוּרִין, אַמַר לוֹ: הַיּוֹם מֵימֵך מִרוּבִּין, שֶׁמָא לַחָתּוֹר בֵּית הָאֲסוּרִין אַתָּה צַרִירְ? שָׁפַרְ ָחֶצְיֵין וְנַתַּן לוֹ חֶצְיֵין. כָּשֶׁבַּא אֱצֵל רַבִּי עֲקִיבַא, אֲמַר ַלוֹ: יָהוֹשֶׁעַ, אֱין אַתָּה יוֹדֵעַ שֶׁזָּקֵן אֲנִי וְחַיַּי תָּלוּיִין בָּחַיֵּירְ? סַח לוֹ כָּל אוֹתוֹ הַמְאוֹרַע. אַמַר לוֹ: תֵּן לִי ָמַיִם שֵׁאֵטוֹל יָדַי, אָמַר לוֹ: לְשָׁתּוֹת אֵין מַגִּיעִין, ּלִיטוֹל יָדֵיךָ מַגִּיעִין?! אָמַר לוֹ: מָה אֶעֲשֶׂה שֶׁחַיָּיבִים עַלִיהֶן מִיתַה? מוּטַב אַמוּת מִיתַת עַצְמִי, וַלֹא אֶעֶבוֹר עַל דַּעַת חֲבֶירַי! אָמְרוּ: לֹא טָעַם כָּלוּם עַד ָשֶׁהֶבִיא לוֹ מַיִם וִנָטַל יָדַיו, כְּשֶׁשָּׁמְעוּ חֲכָמִים בַּדַּבָר, אַמָרוּ: מָה בִּזְקְנוּתוֹ כָּךְ, בְּיַלְדוּתוֹ עַל אַחַת כַּמָּה ּוְכַמָּה. וּמָה בִּבֵית הָאֲסוּרִין כָּךְ, שֶׁלֹּא בִּבֵית הַאָּסוּרִין עַל אחַת כַּמַּה וְכַמַּה. אַמַר רַב יְהוּדַה אָמַר שָׁמוּאֵל: בִּשָּעָה שֶׁתִּיקֵן שָׁלֹמֹה עֵירוּבִין וּנָטִילַת יַדַיָם, יַצְתַה בַּת קוֹל וָאַמְרַה: ״בָּנִי אָם ֿחַכַם לְבֶּךְ יִשְׂמַח לְבִּי גַּם אָנִי״. וְאוֹמֵר: ״חֲכַם בְּנִי וְשַׂמַח לְבִּי וְאָשִׁיבָה חֹרְפִי דָבָר״.

much more so must he have been in his youth. And if in prison he is so scrupulous in his behavior, how much more so must he have been when not in prison. Rav Yehuda said that Shmuel said: At the time that King Solomon instituted the ordinances of eiruv of courtyards and of washing hands to purify them from their impurity, which are added safeguards to the words of the Torah, a Divine Voice emerged and said in his praise: "My son, if your heart is wise, My heart will be glad, even Mine" (Proverbs 23:15). And it states with regard to him: "My son, be wise and make My heart glad, that I may respond to he who taunts Me" (Proverbs 27:11).

# ברכות מ״ח ב:ב׳ Berakhot 48b:2

With regard to the origins of the four blessings of Grace after Meals, **Rav Nahman said:** 

Moses instituted for Israel the first blessing of: Who feeds all, when the manna descended for them and they needed to thank God.

Joshua instituted the blessing of the land when they entered Eretz Yisrael. David and Solomon instituted the third blessing: Who builds Jerusalem, in the following manner:

David instituted "...on Israel Your people and on Jerusalem Your city..." as he conquered the city,

and Solomon instituted "...on the great and Holy Temple..." as he was the one who built the Temple.

They instituted the blessing: Who is good and does good, at Yavne in reference to the slain Jews of the city of Beitar at the culmination of the bar Kokheva rebellion. They were ultimately brought to burial after a period during

אָמֵר רַב נַחְמָן: מֹשֶׁה תִּקֵן לְיִשְׂרָאֵל בִּרְכַּת ״הַזָּן״ בְּשָׁעָה שֶׁיָּרַד לָהֶם מָן. יְהוֹשֵׁעַ תִּקֵן לָהֶם בִּרְכַּת הָאָרֶץ כֵּיוָן שָׁנִּכְנְסוּ לָאָרֶץ. דָּוִד וּשְׁלֹמֹה תִּקְנוּ ״בּוֹנֵה יְרוּשָׁלִיִם״. דָּוִד תִּקֵן ״עַל יִשְׂרָאֵל עַמֶּךְ וְעַל יְרוּשָׁלַיִם ״הַטּוֹב וְהַמֵּטִיב״ בְּיַבְנֶה תִּקְנוּהָ כְּנֶגֶד הַרוּגֵי בֵּיתָר. דְּאָמַר רַב מַתְנָא: אוֹתוֹ הַיּוֹם שֶׁנִיתְנוּ הְרוּגֵי בֵּיתָר לִקְבוּרָה תִּקְנוּ בְּיַבְנֶה ״הַטּוֹב וְהַמֵּטִיב״. ״הַטּוֹב״ שָׁלֹא הִסְרִיחוּ, ״וְהַמֵּטִיב״ — שֶׁנִּיתְנוּ לִקְבוּרָה. which Hadrian refused to permit their burial. As Rav Mattana said: On the same day that the slain of Beitar were brought to burial, they instituted the blessing: Who is good and does good, at Yavne. Who is good, thanking God that the corpses did not decompose while awaiting burial, and does good, thanking God that they were ultimately brought to burial.

#### Gittin 67b:9-68b:20

MISHNA: In the case of one who was afflicted with temporary insanity [kordeyakos] and said: Write a bill of divorce for my wife, he said nothing, because he was not lucid at the time. If he said: Write a bill of divorce for my wife, when he was lucid, and was then afflicted with temporary insanity and he retracted his previous statement and said: Do not write it, his latter statement is considered to be nothing, i.e., it is not halakhically valid. The mishna continues: In a case where the husband became mute, and two people said to him: Shall we write a bill of divorce for your wife, and he nodded his head indicating his agreement, they examine him with various questions three times. If he responded to questions that have a negative answer: No, and responded to questions that have a positive answer: Yes, indicating his competence, they shall write the bill of divorce and give it to his wife based on the nod of his head. GEMARA: The Gemara asks: What is the nature of the temporary insanity mentioned in the mishna? Shmuel said: The reference is to one who was afflicted by drinking new wine that came directly from the winepress. The Gemara asks: And let the tanna of the mishna then teach

#### גיטין ס"ז ב:ט'-ס"ח ב:כ'

מתני׳ מי שאחזו קורדייקוס ואמר כתבו גט לאשתי לא אמר כלום אמר כתבו גט לאשתי ואחזו קורדייקוס וחזר ואמר לא תכתבנו אין דבריו האחרונים כלום נשתתק ואמרו לו נכתוב גט לאשתך והרכין בראשו בודקין אותו שלשה פעמים אם אמר על לאו לאו ועל הן הן הרי אלו יכתבו ויתנו: **גמ׳** מאי קורדייקוס אמר שמואל דנכתיה חמרא חדתא דמעצרתא וליתני מי שנשכו יין חדש הא קמ"ל דהא רוחא קורדייקוס שמה למאי נפקא מינה לקמיעא מאי אסותיה בישרא סומקא אגומרי וחמרא מרקא אמר אביי אמרה לי אם לשימשא בת יומא כוזא דמיא בת תרי יומי סיכורי בת תלתא יומי בשרא סומקא אגומרי וחמרא מרקא לשימשא עתיקתא ליתי תרנגולתא אוכמתי וליקרעה שתי וערב וליגלחיה למציעתא דרישיה ולותביה עילויה וננחיה עילויה עד דמיסרך ולינחות וליקום במיא עד צואריה עד דחליש עלמא עילויה ולימוד ולסליק וליתיב ואי לא ליכול כרתי ולינחות וליקום במיא עד צואריה עד דחליש עלמא עילויה ולימוד ולסליק וליתיב לשימשא בישרא סומקא אגומרי וחמרא מרקא לתלגא בישרא שמינא אגומרי וחמרא חייא רב עמרם חסידא כי הוה מצערין ליה בי ריש גלותא הוו מגנו ליה אתלגא למחר אמרו ליה מאי ניחא ליה למר דלייתו ליה אמר הני כל דאמינא להו מיפך אפכי אמר להו בישרא סומקא אגומרי וחמרא מרקא אייתו ליה אינהו בישרא שמינא אגומרי וחמרא חייא שמעה ילתא ומעיילה ליה לבי מסותא ומוקמי ליה במיא דבי מסותא עד דמהפכי מיא דבי מסותא והוו דמא וקאי בישריה פשיטי פשיטי רב יוסף איעסק בריחיא רב ששת איעסק בכשורי אמר גדולה מלאכה שמחממת

explicitly: With regard to one who was afflicted by drinking new wine. The Gemara answers: This teaches us that the name of the demon that causes this insanity is Kordeyakos. The Gemara asks: What difference is there? The Gemara answers: The difference is with regard to writing an amulet to prevent harm caused by the demon. The amulet must include the name of the demon. The Gemara asks: What is the remedy for that illness? The Gemara responds: The afflicted person should eat red meat roasted over coals and drink wine **diluted** [marka] with a large amount of water. Abaye said: My mother told me that the remedy for a day-old fever, i.e., one contracted that day, is drinking a jug [kuza] of water. The remedy for a fever two days old is bloodletting [sikurei]. The remedy for a fever three days old is eating red meat roasted over coals and drinking diluted wine. For an old fever that lasts for an extended period of time. the remedy is to bring a black hen, tear it lengthwise and widthwise, shave the middle of the sufferer's head, and place the hen upon it, and leave the hen upon him until it adheres to his head due to the blood. And let him descend into the water and let him stand in the water up to his neck until the world appears faint for him, i.e., he feels faint. And let him submerge himself in the water, and emerge from the water and sit and rest. And if he is not able to undergo this process, let him eat leeks, and descend into the water, and stand in the water up to his neck until the world appears faint for him. And let him submerge himself in the water, and emerge from the water and sit and rest. The remedy for a fever is eating red meat that was roasted over coals and drinking diluted wine. A

את בעליה א"ל ריש גלותא לרב ששת מ"ט לא סעיד מר גבן א"ל דלא מעלו עבדי דחשידי אאבר מן החי א"ל מי יימר אמר ליה השתא מחוינא לך א"ל לשמעיה זיל גנוב אייתי לי חדא כרעא מחיותא אייתי ליה אמר להו אהדמו לי הדמי דחיותא אייתו תלת כרעי אותיבו קמיה אמר להו הא בעלת שלש רגלים הואי פסוק אייתו חדא מעלמא אותיבו קמיה אמר ליה לשמעיה אותביה נמי להך דידך אותבה אמר להו האי בת חמש רגלים הואי אמר ליה אי הכי ליעבדו קמיה (שמעיה) דמר וליכול א"ל לחיי קריבו תכא קמייהו ואייתו קמיה בישרא ואותיבו קמיה ריסתנא דחנקא חמתא גששיה ושקלה כרכה בסודריה לבתר דאכיל אמרי ליה איגניב לן כסא דכספא בהדי דקא מעייני ואתי אשכחוה דכרוכה בסודריה אמרי ליה חזי מר דלא מיכל קא בעי אלא לצעורן אמר להו אנא מיכל אכלי וטעמי ביה טעמא דחיורא אמרי ליה חיורא לא עביד לן האידנא אמר להו בדקו בדוכתיה דאמר רב חסדא אוכמא בחיורא וחיורא באוכמתא לקותא היא בדוק אשכחוה כי קא נפיק כרו ליה בירא ושדו ליה ציפתא עילויה ואמרי ליה ליתי מר לינח נחר ליה רב חסדא מאחוריה אמר ליה לינוקא פסוק לי פסוקיך אמר ליה (שמואל ב ב, כא) נטה לך על ימינך או על שמאלך אמר ליה לשמעיה מאי קא חזית אמר ליה ציפיתא דשדיא אמר ליה הדר מינה לבתר דנפק אמר ליה רב חסדא מנא הוה ידע מר אמר ליה חדא דנחר לי מר ועוד דפסק לי ינוקא פסוקא ועוד דחשידי עבדי דלא מעלו (קהלת ב, ח) עשיתי לי שרים ושרות ותענוגות בני האדם שדה ושדות שרים ושרות אלו מיני זמר ותענוגות בני האדם אלו בריכות ומרחצאות שדה ושדות הכא תרגימו שידה ושידתין במערבא אמרי שידתא אמר רבי יוחנן שלש מאות מיני שדים היו בשיחין ושידה עצמה איני יודע מה היא אמר מר הכא תרגימו שידא ושידתין שידה ושידתין למאי איבעי ליה דכתיב (מלכים א ו, ז) והבית בהבנותו אבן שלמה מסע נבנה וגו' אמר להו לרבנן היכי אעביד אמרו ליה איכא שמירא דאייתי משה לאבני אפוד אמר להו היכא אישתכח אמרו ליה אייתי שידה ושידתין כבשינהו אהדדי אפשר דידעי ומגלו לך אייתי שידה ושידתין כבשינהו אהדדי אמרי אנן לא ידעינן דילמא אשמדאי מלכא דשידי ידע אמר להו היכא איתיה אמרי ליה איתיה בטורא פלן כריא

remedy for the chills is eating fatty meat that was roasted over coals and drinking undiluted wine. It was related: When the members of the Exilarch's house would afflict Rav Amram the pious they would make him lie down to sleep all night on the snow. The next day they would say to him: What is preferable for the Master, i.e., Rav Amram, for us to bring him to eat? Rav Amram said to himself: Anything I say to them, they will do the opposite. He said to them: Bring me red meat roasted over coals and diluted wine. They brought him fatty meat roasted over coals and undiluted wine instead. which is what Rav Amram had intended, because this is the remedy for one who suffers from the chills. Yalta, Rav Nahman's wife, heard what the members of the Exilarch's house did. and that Rav Amram was suffering from the chills. And she brought him to the bathhouse, and placed him in the water of the bathhouse until the water of the bathhouse turned red like blood. And his flesh became covered with spots that looked like coins [peshitei]. It is related: When Rav Yosef suffered from the cold he would work by grinding with millstones in order to keep warm. When **Rav Sheshet** suffered from the cold **he would work by** lifting beams. He said: Great is labor, as it warms its master. § The Gemara relates another incident of the house of the Exilarch: The Exilarch said to Rav Sheshet: What is the reason that the Master, i.e., Rav Sheshet, does not eat with us? He said to him: Because the slaves do not act according to a high standard, as they are suspected of transgressing the prohibition against eating a limb severed from a living animal. The Exilarch said to him: Who

ליה בירא ומליא ליה מיא ומיכסיא בטינרא וחתמיה בגושפנקיה וכל יומא סליק לרקיע וגמר מתיבתא דרקיעא ונחית לארעא וגמר מתיבתא דארעא ואתי סייר ליה לגושפנקיה ומגלי ליה ושתי ומכסי ליה וחתים ליה ואזיל שדריה לבניהו בן יהוידע יהב ליה שושילתא דחקיק עלה שם ועזקתא דחקיק עלה שם וגבבי דעמרא וזיקי דחמרא אזל כרא בירא מתתאי ושפינהו למיא וסתמינהו בגבבי דעמרא וכרא בירא מעילאי ושפכינהו לחמרא וטמינהו סליק יתיב באילנא כי אתא סייריה לגושפנקא גלייה אשכחיה חמרא אמר כתיב (משלי כ, א) לץ היין הומה שכר וכל שוגה בו לא יחכם וכתיב (הושע ד, יא) זנות ויין ותירוש יקח לב לא אישתי כי צחי לא סגיא ליה אישתי רוה וגנא נחית אתא שדא ביה שושילתא סתמיה כי אתער הוה קא מיפרזל א"ל שמא דמרך עלך שמא דמרך עלך כי נקיט ליה ואתי מטא דיקלא חף ביה שדייה מטא לביתא שדייה מטא גבי כובא דההיא ארמלתא נפקא איחננא ליה כפא לקומתיה מיניה איתבר ביה גרמא אמר היינו דכתיב (משלי כה, טו) ולשון רכה תשבר גרם חזא סמיא דהוה קא טעי באורחא אסקיה לאורחיה חזא רויא דהוה קא טעי באורחא אסקיה לאורחיה חזא חדוותא דהוו קמחדי לה בכה שמעיה לההוא גברא דהוה קאמר לאושכפא עביד לי מסאני לשב שני אחיך חזא ההוא קסמא דהוה קסים אחיך כי מטא להתם לא עיילוה לגביה דשלמה עד תלתא יומי יומא קמא אמר להו אמאי לא קא בעי לי מלכא לגביה א"ל אנסיה מישתיא שקל לבינתא אותיב אחברתה אתו אמרו ליה לשלמה אמר להו הכי אמר לכו הדור אשקיוה למחר אמר להו ואמאי לא קא בעי לי מלכא לגביה אמרו ליה אנסיה מיכלא שקל לבינתא מחברתה אותבה אארעא אתו אמרו ליה לשלמה אמר להו הכי אמר לכו נגידו מיניה מיכליה [לסוף] תלתא יומי עייל לקמיה שקל קניא ומשח ארבעה גרמידי ושדא קמיה א"ל מכדי כי 'מיית ההוא גברא לית ליה בהדין עלמא אלא ד גרמידי השתא כבשתיה לכולי עלמא ולא שבעת עד דכבשת נמי לדידי א"ל לא קא בעינא מינך מידי בעינא דאיבנייה לבית המקדש וקא מיבעי לי שמירא א"ל לדידי לא מסיר לי לשרא דימא מסיר ליה ולא יהיב ליה אלא לתרנגולא ברא דמהימן ליה אשבועתיה ומאי עבד ביה ממטי ליה לטורי דלית בהו ישוב ומנח לה אשינא דטורא ופקע

says that this is so? Rav Sheshet said to him: I will now show you. Rav Sheshet said to his servant: Go steal one leg from the animal that the servants of the Exilarch's house slaughtered for a meal and bring it to me. Rav Sheshet's servant brought one leg to him and afterward Rav Sheshet said to the servants of the Exilarch's household: Set out the portions of the animal for me. They brought him only three legs and placed them before him, because the fourth leg had been stolen. Rav Sheshet said to them: Did this animal have only three legs? When the servants heard this they cut one leg from another living animal and they brought it and placed it before Rav Sheshet. Rav Sheshet said to his servant: Bring out this leg of yours, i.e., that you stole, as well. He placed that leg on the table and Rav Sheshet said to them: Did this animal have five legs? The Exilarch realized that he could not rely on his servants. He said to Rav Sheshet: If so, they should prepare the meat in the presence of my Master's servant and then you can eat without concern. Rav Sheshet said to him: Very well. They brought a table before them, and they brought the meat before him. And the servants placed a small bone in the meat before him so that it would cause Rav Sheshet to choke. Since Ray Sheshet was blind, they thought that he would be unable to notice the bone. He felt it, took the entire piece of meat and wrapped it in his scarf [sudarei] out of concern that he would be hurt by the small bones that he could not see. After he ate, the servants realized what he had done and they wanted to show the Exilarch that Ray Sheshet did not eat the meat that was given to him. Therefore, the

טורא ומנקיט מייתי ביזרני מאילני ושדי התם והוי ישוב והיינו דמתרגמינן נגר טורא בדקו קינא דתרנגולא ברא דאית ליה בני וחפויה לקיניה זוגיתא חיורתי כי אתא בעי למיעל ולא מצי אזל אייתי שמירא ואותביה עלויה רמא ביה קלא שדייה שקליה אזל חנק נפשיה אשבועתיה אמר ליה בניהו מאי טעמא כי חזיתיה לההוא סמיא דהוה קא טעי באורחא אסיקתיה לאורחיה אמר ליה מכרזי עליה ברקיעא דצדיק גמור הוא ומאן דעבד ליה ניחא נפשיה זכי לעלמא דאתי ומאי טעמא כי חזיתיה לההוא רויא דקטעי באורחא אסיקתיה לאורחיה א"ל מכרזי עליה ברקיעא דרשע גמור הוא ועבדי ליה ניחא נפשיה כי היכי דליכליה לעלמא מאי טעמא כי חזיתיה לההוא חדוותא בכית אמר ליה בעי מימת גברא בגו תלתין יומין ובעיא מינטר ליבם קטן תליסרי שנין מאי טעמא כי שמעתיה לההוא גברא דאמר ליה לאושכפא עביד לי מסאני לשב שנין אחיכת אמר ליה ההוא שבעה יומי לית ליה מסאני לשב שנין בעי מ"ט כי חזיתיה לההוא קסמא דהוה קסים אחיכת אמר ליה דהוה יתיב אבי גזא דמלכא לקסום מאי דאיכא תותיה תרחיה גביה עד דבנייה לבית המקדש יומא חד הוה קאי לחודיה אמר ליה כתיב (במדבר כד, ח) כתועפות ראם לו ואמרינן כתועפות אלו מלאכי השרת ראם אלו השדים מאי רבותייכו מינן א"ל שקול שושילתא מינאי והב לי עיזקתך ואחוי לך רבותאי שקליה לשושילתא מיניה ויהיב ליה עיזקתיה בלעיה אותביה לחד גפיה ברקיעא ולחד גפיה בארעא פתקיה ארבע מאה פרסי על ההיא שעתא אמר שלמה (קהלת א, ג) מה יתרון לאדם בכל עמלו שיעמול תחת השמש (קהלת ב, י) וזה היה חלקי מכל עמלי מאי וזה רב ושמואל חד אמר מקלו וחד אמר גונדו היה מחזר על הפתחים כל היכא דמטא אמר (קהלת א, יב) אני קהלת הייתי מלך על ישראל בירושלים כי מטא גבי סנהדרין אמרו רבנן מכדי שוטה בחדא מילתא לא סריך מאי האי אמרו ליה לבניהו קא בעי לך מלכא לגביה אמר להו לא שלחו להו למלכוותא קאתי מלכא לגבייכו שלחו להו אין קאתי שלחו להו בידקו בכרעיה שלחו להו במוקי קאתי וקא תבע להו בנידותייהו וקא תבע לה נמי לבת שבע אימיה אתיוה לשלמה והבו ליה עזקתא ושושילתא דחקוק עליה שם כי עייל חזייה פרח ואפילו הכי הוה ליה ביעתותא מיניה והיינו דכתיב (שיר השירים ג, ז) servants said to the Exilarch: A silver cup was stolen from us, and they searched everyone for it. When they were checking they found the piece of meat wrapped in his scarf. The Exilarch's servants said to the Exilarch: See Master, i.e., the Exilarch, Rav Sheshet does not desire to eat, rather he wishes only to afflict us. Even after everything that was done for him he did not eat from the Exilarch's meal. Rav Sheshet said to them: I ate and I tasted the taste of white leprous spots in the meat and therefore I did not eat it. They said to the Exilarch: We did not prepare an animal with white spots today. Rav Sheshet said to them: Check the skin in the place of the portion that I was given. He issued this instruction in accordance with the statement of Rav Hisda, as Rav Hisda said: Black spots within white skin and white spots within black skin are an affliction and a sign of disease. They checked and found that the animal was afflicted in this manner, and the Exilarch's servants became even angrier with him. When Rav Sheshet was exiting the house of the Exilarch the servants dug a pit and placed a reed mat [tzifta] on top of it so that the pit would not be noticed. And they said to Rav Sheshet: **The Master,** i.e., Rav Sheshet, should come and rest for a short time, and they intended for him to fall and be hurt. Rav Hisda, who was also present, snorted [nehar] to him from behind in order to signal to him. Rav Sheshet said to a child who was there: **Recite your verse for me** that you studied today. The child said to him: "Turn to your right or to your left" (II Samuel 2:21). Rav Sheshet, who was blind, said to his servant: What do you see? His servant said to him: I see

הנה מטתו שלשלמה ששים גבורים סביב לה מגבורי ישראל כולם אחוזי חרב מלומדי מלחמה איש חרבו על יריכו מפחד בלילות רב ושמואל חד אמר מלך והדיוט וחד אמר מלך והדיוט ומלך

a mat that has been placed on the ground. Rav Sheshet said to him: Turn away from it and we will go around it. After Rav Sheshet left the Exilarch's house, Rav Hisda said to him: From where did the Master, i.e., Rav Sheshet, **know** that the servants had dug a pit in that place? Rav Sheshet said to him: There were several matters that raised my suspicions. One, that the Master, i.e., Rav Hisda, snorted to me to signal that I should beware. And additionally, when the child recited **the verse** for me it alluded to this matter. And additionally, servants are suspect of not acting according to a high standard, and I suspected that they would attempt to cause me harm. § After mentioning the spirit named kordevakos on the previous *daf* the Gemara relates other matters connected to spirits and demons. It is written: "I got myself sharim and sharot, and human pleasures, shidda and shiddot" (Ecclesiastes 2:8). The Gemara explains: "Sharim and sharot": These are types of musical instruments. "And human pleasures": These are pools and bathhouses. "Shidda and shiddot": Here, in Babylonia, they interpreted these words in the following manner: Male demons [shidda] and female demons [shiddetin]. In the West, Eretz Yisrael, they said that these words are referring to carriages [shiddeta]. Rabbi Yohanan says: There were three hundred types of demons in a place named Shihin, but I do not know what the form or nature of a demon itself is. The Master said: Here they interpreted it: Male demons and female demons. The Gemara asks: Why was it necessary for Solomon, the author of Ecclesiastes, to have male demons and female demons? The

Gemara answers: **As it is written** with regard to the building of the Temple: "For the house, when it was being built, was built of stone made ready at the quarry; and there was neither hammer nor axe nor any tool of iron heard in the house, while it was being built" (I Kings 6:7). Solomon said to the sages: How shall I make it so that the stone will be precisely cut without using iron? They said to him: There is a creature called a shamir that can cut the stones, which Moses brought and used to cut the stones of the ephod. Solomon said to them: Where is it found? They said to him: Bring a male demon and a female demon and torment them together. It is possible that they know where, and due to the suffering they will reveal the place to vou. Solomon brought a male demon and a female demon and tormented them together, and they said: We do not know where to find the shamir. Perhaps Ashmedai, king of the demons, knows. Solomon said to them: Where is Ashmedai? They said to him: He is on such-and-such a mountain. He has dug a pit for himself there, and filled it with water, and covered it with a rock, and sealed it with his seal. And every day he ascends to Heaven and studies in the heavenly study hall and he descends to the earth and studies in the earthly study hall. And he comes and checks his seal to ensure that nobody has entered his pit, and then he uncovers it and drinks from the water in the pit. And then he covers it and seals it again and goes. Solomon sent for Benayahu, son of Jehoiada, a member of the royal entourage, and gave him a chain onto which a sacred name of God was carved, and a ring onto

which a sacred name of God was carved, and fleeces of wool and wineskins of wine. What did Benayahu do? He went and dug a pit lower down the mountain, below the pit dug by Ashmedai, drained the water, and plugged it with the fleeces of wool so that Ashmedai's pit was emptied. And he dug a pit higher up the mountain, above Ashmedai's pit. And he poured the wine into it so that the wine filled Ashmedai's pit, and he plugged the lower and upper pits that he dug. He climbed up and sat in a tree. When Ashmedai came he checked his seal, opened the pit, and found it to be filled with wine. He said that it is written: "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is riotous; and whosoever wallows in it is not wise" (Proverbs 20:1), and it is written: "Harlotry, wine, and new wine take away the heart" (Hosea 4:11). He concluded: I will not drink this wine. Eventually, when he became thirsty, he was unable to resist the wine and he drank, became intoxicated, and fell asleep. Benayahu descended from the tree, came, and threw the chain around Ashmedai, and enclosed him within it. When Ashmedai awoke he **struggled** to remove the chain. Benayahu said to him: The name of your Master is upon you, the name of your Master is upon you, do not tear the chain. God's name is written on this chain, and it is forbidden to destroy it. When Benayahu took Ashmedai and came to Jerusalem he reached a palm tree and Ashmedai rubbed against it and knocked it down. He reached a house and knocked it down. He reached a small shack [kuva] belonging to a certain widow. This widow emerged, and she begged him not to knock down the house. He bent

his body away **from her**, to the other side, and broke one of his bones. He said: This is as it is written: "Soft speech can break a bone" (Proverbs 25:15). Ashmedai saw a blind man who was lost on the road and he brought him to the correct road. He saw a drunk who was lost on the road and he brought him to the correct road. He saw the joy of a wedding celebration in which they were celebrating, and he cried. He heard a certain man say to a shoemaker [ushkafa]: Make me shoes that will last for seven years, and he laughed. He saw a certain sorcerer performing magic, and he laughed. When Ashmedai arrived there, in Jerusalem, they did not bring him before Solomon until three days had passed. On the first day he said to them: Why doesn't the king want me to come to him? They said to him: He drank too much and was **overcome** by drink. Ashmedai took a brick and placed it on top of another brick. The servants came and told Solomon what he had done. Solomon interpreted the action and said to them: This is what he said to you through this allusion: **Return** and **give** the king more to **drink**. The following day Ashmedai said to them: And why doesn't the king want me to come to him? They said to him: He ate too much and was **overcome** by food. Ashmedai took the brick off the other brick and placed it on the ground. The servants came and told Solomon what Ashmedai had done. He interpreted Ashmedai's actions and said to them: This is what he said to you through this allusion: Take his food away from him. At the end of three days Ashmedai came before Solomon. Ashmedai took a reed and measured four cubits [garmidei], and threw it

before him. He said to Solomon: See, when that man, Solomon, dies, he will have nothing in this world except the four cubits of his grave. Now you have conquered the entire world and yet you are not satisfied until you also conquer me? Solomon said to him: I need nothing from you. I want to build the Temple and I need the shamir for this. Ashmedai **said to him:** The *shamir* was not given to me, but it was given to the angelic minister of the sea. And he gives it only to the wild rooster, also known as the dukhifat or the hoopoe, whom he trusts by the force of his oath to return it. And what does the wild rooster do with it? He brings it to mountains that are not fit for habitation, and he places the shamir on the craggy rock and the mountain splits. And he takes and brings seeds of trees, throws them there, and it becomes fit for habitation. And this is why we interpret the word dukhifat as a cutter of mountains [naggar tura], i.e., the Aramaic translation of the word dukhifat in the Bible is naggar tura, cutter of mountains. They investigated and found the nest of a wild rooster in which there were chicks, and he covered its nest with translucent glass. When the rooster came it wanted to enter the nest but was unable to do so. It went and brought the shamir and placed it on top to crack the glass. Solomon's servant threw a clump of dirt at the rooster and the rooster knocked over the shamir. The man took it and the wild rooster went and strangled itself over the fact that it had not kept its oath, by not returning the shamir. Later, Benavahu said to Ashmedai: What is the reason that when you saw that blind man who was lost on the road you brought him

to the correct road? Ashmedai said to him: They proclaim about him in heaven that he is a completely righteous man, and anyone who does good for his soul shall merit to enter the World-to-Come. Then Benayahu asked: And what is the reason that when you saw the drunk man who was lost on the road you brought him to the correct road? Ashmedai said to him: They proclaim about him in heaven that he is a completely wicked man. And I did good for his soul so that he will consume his reward in this world and not have any reward in the World-to-Come. Benayahu continued and asked him: What is the reason that when you saw that joy of the wedding vou cried? Ashmedai said to him: I knew that this man will die within thirty days. And his wife is required to wait for the yavam, the husband's brother, who is a minor, to reach the age of thirteen years, the age of majority, so that he can release her through *halitza*, the ritual through which the yavam frees the yevama of her levirate bonds. In addition, he asked: What is the reason that when you heard that man say to a shoemaker: Make me shoes that will last for seven years, you laughed? Ashmedai said to him: That man does not have seven days to live: does he need shoes that will last for seven vears? Benavahu then asked: What is the reason that when you saw that sorcerer performing magic you laughed? Ashmedai said to him: Because he was sitting on the king's treasury [bei gaza]. Let him use his magic to know what there is buried underneath him. Solomon kept Ashmedai with him until he completed building the Temple. One day he stood with Ashmedai alone. He said to

Ashmedai: It is written: "For him like the lofty horns of the wild ox" (Numbers 24:8), and the Sages say in explanation of the verse: "Like the lofty horns"; these are the ministering angels. "The wild ox"; these are the demons. In what way are you greater than us? Why does the verse praise your abilities and powers over those of human beings? Ashmedai said to him: Take the chain engraved with God's name off me and give me your ring with God's name engraved on it, and I will show you my strength. Solomon took the chain off him and he gave him his ring. Ashmedai swallowed the ring and grew until he placed one wing in the heaven and one wing on the earth. He threw Solomon a distance of four hundred parasangs. With regard to that moment Solomon said: "What profit is there for a person through all of his toil under the sun?" (Ecclesiastes 1:3). With Solomon deposed from the throne, Ashmedai took his place. With regard to the verse: "And this was my portion from all of my toil" (Ecclesiastes 2:10), the Gemara asks: What is the meaning of the expression: "And this"? This expression is always an allusion to an item that is actually in his hand or can be shown. Rav and Shmuel disagree with regard to the meaning of this phrase. One said: This is referring to Solomon's staff that remained in his hand. And one said: This is referring to his cloak. Solomon circulated from door to door collecting charity, and wherever he arrived he would say: "I, Ecclesiastes, was king over Israel in Jerusalem" (Ecclesiastes 1:12). When he finally arrived at the Sanhedrin in Jerusalem the sages said: Now, an imbecile does **not fixate on one matter** all of the time.

so what is this matter? Is this man perhaps telling the truth that he is Solomon? The sages said to Benavahu: Does the king require you to be with him? Benayahu said to them: No. They sent to the queens and asked: Does the king come to be with you? The queens sent a response to them: Yes, he comes. They sent a request to the queens: Check his feet to see if they are human feet. The queens sent a response to the sages: He always comes in socks [bemokei], and it is not possible to see his feet. The queens continued discussing the king's behavior: And he demands of them, i.e., the queens, to engage in sexual inter-course when they are menstruating. And he also demands that **Bathsheba his mother** engage in sexual intercourse with him. Once the Sanhedrin heard this they understood that this was an imposter and not actually Solomon. They brought Solomon, gave him a ring and the chain on which the name of God was carved. When Solomon entered, Ashmedai **saw him** and **fled**. The Gemara adds: And even so, although Ashmedai fled, Solomon was fearful of him, and this is as it is written: "Behold the bed of Solomon surrounded by sixty strong men from the warriors of Israel. All of them holding swords and trained in war, each man with his sword on his thigh from fear in the nights" (Song of Songs 3:7–8). Rav and Shmuel disagreed with regard to this story of Solomon. One said: He was a king and afterward he became a commoner, and never returned to his position as king. And one said: He was a king, and became a commoner, and a king, as ultimately he returned to his throne and defeated

## I Kings 11

(1) King Solomon loved many foreign women in addition to Pharaoh's daughter-Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Phoenician, and Hittite women, (2) from the nations of which the LORD had said to the Israelites, "None of you shall join them and none of them shall join you, lest they turn your heart away to follow their gods." Such Solomon clung to and loved. (3) He had seven hundred royal wives and three hundred concubines; and his wives turned his heart away. (4) In his old age, his wives turned away Solomon's heart after other gods, and he was not as wholeheartedly devoted to the LORD his God as his father David had been. (5) Solomon followed Ashtoreth the goddess of the Phoenicians, and Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. (6) Solomon did what was displeasing to the LORD and did not remain loyal to the LORD like his father David. (7) At that time. Solomon built a shrine for Chemosh the abomination of Moab on the hill near Jerusalem, and one for Molech the abomination of the Ammonites. (8) And he did the same for all his foreign wives who offered and sacrificed to their gods. (9) The LORD was angry with Solomon, because his heart turned away from the LORD, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice (10) and had commanded him about this matter, not to follow other gods; he did not obey what the LORD had commanded. (11) And the LORD said to Solomon, "Because you are guilty of this—you have not kept My covenant and the laws which I enjoined upon you—I will tear the kingdom away from

(א) וִהַמֱלֶךְ שָׁלֹמֹה אָהֵב נָשִׁים נָכִרְיָּוֹת רַבְּוֹת ָואֶת־בַּת־פַּרְעָה מוֹאֲבִיּוֹת עַמֶּנִיּוֹת אֲדְמִיֹּת צֵדְנִיֻּת חַתִּיָּת: (ב) מַן־הַגּוֹיָם אֲשֶׁר אֲמֵר־ה' אֵל־בְּנֵי ַיִשְׂרָאֵל לְא־תָבְאוּ בָהֶם וְהֶם לֹא־יַבְאוּ בַבֶּם אָכֶן יַטְוּ אַת־לְבַבְּלֶם אחַרִי אַלֹהֵיהָם בַּהֵם דַּבַק שָׁלֹמָה ּלְאַהֲבֶה: (ג) וַיִּהִי־לְוֹ נָשִּׁים שַׂרוֹת ֹ שָׁבֵע מֵאֹוֹת וּפָלַגִשִּים שָׁלָשׁ מֵאָוֹת וַיַּטָוּ נַשֵּיו אֶת־לְבָּוֹ: (ד) וַיָּהִי ּלְעֵת ֹ זְקְנַת שָׁלמֹה נָשָׁיוֹ הִטָּוּ אֶת־לְבָבוֹ אַחֲרֵי אֱלֹקֵים אֲחֵרֵים וִלֹא־הָיָּה לְבָבְוֹ שָׁלֵם ֹ עִם־ה' אֱלֹלֶּיו כּלָבַב דַּוִיד אַבִיו: (ה) וַיַּלֵרְ שָׁלֹמֹה אחַרִי עַשְּׁתֹּרֶת אֱלֹקֵי צִדֹנִים וְאַחֲרֵי מִלְכֹּם שָׁקֶץ עַמֹּנִים: (ו) וַיְּעַשׂ שָׁלמֶה הָרָע בִּעִינֵי ה' וִלְא מְלֵּא אַחַרֵי ה' כִּדָוִד אָבָיו: (ס) (ז) אָז ּ יִבְנֶּה שָׁלֹמֹה בָּמָּה לְכָמוֹשׁ שָׁקֶץ מוֹאָב בָּהָּר אֲשֶׁר עַל־פָּנֵי יִרוּשָׁלֵם וּלְמֹלֶךְ שָׁקֵץ בְּנֵי עַמָּוֹן: (ח) וָכָן עַשָּׂה לְכַל־נַשַּׁיו הַנַּכְריַּוֹת מַקּטִירְוֹת ּוְמָזַבְּחֻוֹת לֵאלֹהֵיהָן: (ט) וַיִּתָאַנַּף ה' בִּשָּׁלֹמָה ַכִּי־נָטֵה לְבָבוֹ מֵעָם ה' אֱלֹקֵי יִשְׂרָאֵׁל הַנְּרָאָה אֱלַיו ּ פַּעַמִּיִם: (י) וְצְוָּה אֶלָיוֹ עַל־הַדָּבֶר הַזֶּה לְבָּלְתִּי־לֶּכֶת ַאַחֲרָי אֱלֹקֵים אֲחֵרָים וִלְא שָׁמַׁר אֶת אֲשֶׁר־צָוָה ה': (פ) (יא) וַיּאמֶר ה' לשָׁלמה יַעָן אֲשֶׁר הַיִּתַה־זְאת) ָעְמַּׂךְ וִלָּא שָׁמַּרְתָּ בִּרִיתִי וְחֻקּתַּׁי אֲשֶׁר צְוּיתִי עָלֵיךְ ָקַרֹעַ אֶקְרַע אֶת־הַמַּמְלָכָהֹ מֵעַלֵּיךָ וּנְתַתְּיהָ לְעַבְדֵּךְ: (יב) אַך־בִּיָמֶירָ לְא אֶעֱשֶׂנָּה לְמַעַן דָּוֶד אָבָיךָ מִיַּד בִּנָךָ אֶקְרַעֻנַּה: (יג) ַרָק אֶת־כָּל־הַמַּמְלָּכָה ֹלְא אֶקְרֵע שַׁבֶט אֶחָד אֶתֵּן לְבָנֶרָ לְמַּעַןֹ דָּוְד עַבִּדְּי וּלְמַעַן יָרוּשָׁלָם אֲשֶׁר בָּחָרְתִּי: (יד) וַיָּקֶם ה' שָּׁטָן לְשָׁלֹמֹה ָאָת הַדֵּד הָאַדֹמִי מְזֶּרַע הַמֶּלֶךְ הָוּא בָּאֵדְוֹם: (טו) וַיָּהִי בְּהִיָּוֹת דַּוִד אֶת־אֱדֹּוֹם בַּעֲלוֹת יוֹאָב שַׁר הַצָּבָּא ּלְקַבֵּר אֶת־הַחֲלָלֵים וַיָּךְ כָּל־זָכַר בָּאֶדְוֹם: (טז) כִּי שַׁשֶׁת חֶדָשֶׁים יֻשַּׁב־שָׁם יוֹאָב וְכָל־יִשְׂרָאֵל ַעַד־הָכֶרָית כָּל־זַכָר בָּאֶדְוֹם: (יז) וַיִּבַרָח אֲדַד הוּא וַאַנַשִּׁים אַדֹמִיִּים מעבדי אַבֶּיו אַתּוֹ לַבִוֹא מצְרָיַם וַהָדָד נַעַר קָטָן: (יח) וַיַּקְמוֹ מִמְּדִיָּן וַיַּבְאוּ פָּאַרָן וַיָּקְחוֹ אֲנָשִּׁים עִמַּם מִפָּארָן וַיַּבְאוּ מִצְרַיִם אֶל־פַּרְעָה ָמֶלֶרְ־מִצְלַיִם וַיִּתָּן־לְוֹ בַּיִת וְלֵּחֶם אֲמַר לֹוֹ וְאֶרֶץ נָתַן לְוֹ: (יט) וַיִּמְצָאֹ הַדֵּד חֱן בְּעֵינֵי פַרְעָה מָאָד וַיִּתֶּן־לְוֹ אַשַּה אַת־אַחוֹת אַשָּׁתוֹ אַחוֹת תַּחָפָּנֵיס הַגָּביַרָה: (כ) וַתֵּלֶד לוֹ אֲחוֹת תַּחִפְּנֵיס אֱת גִּנֶבְת בְּנוֹ וַתָּגִמְלֵהוּ תַחִפְּנֵּס בִּתָּוֹךְ בֵּית פַּרְעָה וַיִּהָי גִנָבַת בֵּית ּפַרְעֹה בִּתְוֹךְ בִּנֵי פַרְעֹה: (כא) וַהַדַּד שָׁמֵע בִּמְצְרַיִם ַכָּר־שָׁכַב דַּוְדֹ עִם־אֲבֹתָּיו וְכִי־מֶת יוֹאֲב שַׂר־הַצָּבָא you and give it to one of your servants. (12) But, for the sake of your father David, I will not do it in your lifetime; I will tear it away from your son. (13) However, I will not tear away the whole kingdom; I will give your son one tribe, for the sake of My servant David and for the sake of Jerusalem which I have chosen." (14) So the LORD raised up an adversary against Solomon, the Edomite Hadad, who was of the royal family of Edom. (15) When David was in Edom, Joab the army commander went up to bury the slain, and he killed every male in Edom; (16) for Joab and all Israel stayed there for six months until he had killed off every male in Edom. (17) But Hadad, together with some Edomite men, servants of his father, escaped and headed for Egypt; Hadad was then a young boy. (18) Setting out from Midian, they came to Paran and took along with them men from Paran. Thus they came to Egypt, to Pharaoh king of Egypt, who gave him a house, assigned a food allowance to him, and granted him an estate. (19) Pharaoh took a great liking to Hadad and gave him his sister-in-law, the sister of Queen Tahpenes, as wife. (20) The sister of Tahpenes bore him a son, Genubath. Tahpenes weaned him in Pharaoh's palace, and Genubath remained in Pharaoh's palace among the sons of Pharaoh. (21) When Hadad heard in Egypt that David had been laid to rest with his fathers and that Joab the army commander was dead, Hadad said to Pharaoh, "Give me leave to go to my own country." (22) Pharaoh replied, "What do you lack with me, that you want to go to your own country?" But he said, "Nevertheless, give me leave to go." (23) Another adversary that God raised up against Solomon was Rezon son of Eliada, who had fled from his lord, King

וַיָּאמֶר הַדַד אֶל־פַּרְעֹה שַׁלְּחֵנִי וְאֵלֵךְ אֶל־אַרְצִי: ָלָו פַרְעֹה ٌכִּי מָה־אַתַּה חָסֵר עִּמִּי וְהִנְּךְ (כב) וַיְאמֶר לָוֹ פַרְעֹה ๊כִי מָה־אַתַּה חָסֵר עִמִּי מָבַקָּשׁ לָלֵכֶת אֶל־אַרְצֶבְ וַיִּאמֶר וּ לֹא כִּי שַׁלֵּחַ תִּשַׁלְּחֲנִי: (כג) וַיָּקֶם אֱלֹקִים לוֹ שַּׂטָׁן אֶת־רְזָוֹן ּבָּן־אֶלְיַדֶע אֲשֵׁר בָּרַח מֵאֶת הַדַדְעָזֶר מֶלֶךְ־צוֹבָה אַדֹנֵיו: (כד) וַיִּקבְּץ עָלַיוֹ אַנָשִּׁים וַיִּהִי שַׂר־גָּדֹוּד בַּהַרג דַּוִד אתָם וַיַּלְכוּ דַמַּשֶּׁקֹ וַיַּשָׁבוּ בַּהּ וַיִּמַלְכוּ בְּדַמֶּשֶׂק: (כה) וַיְהִּי שָּׁטֶן לְיִשְׂרָאֵל ֹכָּל־יְמֵי שְׁלֹמֹה ּוְאֶת־הַרָעָה אֲשֶׁר הַדֶּד וַיַּקָץ בִּיִשְׂרָאֶל וַיִּמְלְרְ עַל־אֲרָם: (פ) (כו) וְיָרָבְעָם ֹ בֶּן־נְבָּט אֶפְרָתִׁי ָמן־הַצְּרֵדָּה וִשָּׁם אִמּוֹ צְרוּעָהֹ אָשָּׁה אַלְמַנָּה עֻבֶּד לְשָׁלֹמֶה וַיָּרֶם יֻד בַּמֱלֶךְ: (כז) וַזֵה הַדַּבָּר אֲשֶׁר־הֵרִים יֻד בַּמֶּלֶךְ שָׁלֹמֹהֹ בַּנֵה אֶת־הַמִּלּוֹא סָגַּר ָאֶת־פֶּּרֶץ עִיר דַּוָד אַבִּיו: (כח) וְהַאֶּישׁ יַרְבָעַם גּבּּוֹר ָחָיָל וַיַּרָא שָׁלֹמֹה אֶת־הַנַּעַר כִּי־עֹשֵׂה מִלָּאכָה הוֹא וַיַּפְקֵד אֹתֹוֹ לְכָל־סֵבֶל בָּית יוֹסֵף: (ס) (כט) וַיִּהִי<sup>ּ</sup> בַּעֵת הַהָּיא וַיָרָבָעָם יַצֵא מִירוּשָׁלֵם וַיִּמְצֵא אֹתוֹ אַחִיָּה בּשִּׁילֹנָי הַנַּבִּיא בַּדָּרֶךְ וְהַוּא מִתְכַּסֶה בְּשַׂלְמֵה ַחַדַשַּׁה וּשָׁנִיהֵם לְבַדֵּם בַּשַּׁדֵה: (ל) וַיִּתְפָּשׁ אַחוַּה בַּשַּׂלְמֶה הַחֲדָשָה אֲשֶׁר עָלֶיו וַיִּקְרָעֶׁהָ שָׁנֵים עָשָׂר ָקְרַעִים: (לא) וַיּאמֶר ֹלְיֶרָבְעָׂם קַח־לְךָּ עֲשָׂרָה קָרַעִים כִּי כֹה אָמַר ה' אֱלֹקֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל הִנְנִּי קֹרֶעַ ָאֶת־הַמַּמְלָכָה מְיַד שָׁלֹמֹה וְנַתַתְּי לְרְּ אֻת עֲשָׂרָה ַהַשָּׁבַטִים: (לב) וְהַשָּׁבֵט הַאֶּחַד יֻהְיֵה־לָּוֹ לְמֵעָן וּ עַבָדֵי דָוָד וּלְמַּעַן יִרוּשָׁלֵם הָעִיר אֲשֶׁר בָּחַרְתִּי בָּה ָמַכָּל שָׁבָטֵי יִשָּׂרָאֵל: (לג) יַעַן וּ אֲשֶׁר עַזָבוּנִי ַוַיִּשָׁתַּחָװ ּ לְעַשָּׁתַּרֶת ּ אֱלֹקֵי צְדֹנִין לְכָמוֹשׁ אֱלֹקֵי מוֹאָב וּלְמָלְכָּם אֱלֹקֵי בָנֵי־עַמָּוֹן וִלְא־הָלְכָוּ בִדְרָכַי לַעֲשׁוֹת ָהַיָּשָׁר בָּעֵינֵי וְחֻקּתַי וּמְשְׁפָּטֵי כָּדָוָד אָבִיו: (לד) וְלְא־אֶקַּח אֶת־כָּל־הַמַּמְלָכָה מְיָדָוֹ כִּי וּ נָשִׂיא אַשָּׁתֶנוּ כָּל יִמֵי חַלָּיו לְמַּעַן דָּוָד עַבִּדִּי אֲשֶׁר בָּחַרְתִּי אֹתוֹ אֲשֶׁר שָׁמֵר מִצִוֹתַי וְחֻקֹּתָי: (לה) וְלָקַחְתָּי הַמְּלוּכָה מְיַד בְּנָוֹ וּנְתַתְּיהַ לְּךְּ אֶת עֲשֵׂרֶת הַשָּׁבַטִים: (לו) וַלְבָנָוֹ אֲתַּן שָׁבַט־אֶחָד לְמֵעַן ָהֶיְוֹת־נָיר לְדָוִיד־עַבְדִּי כָּל־הַיָּמִים וּ לְפָנַיֹ בִּירַוּשָׁלֵם 🖟 הְיִוֹיד־עַבְדִּי בָּל־הַיָּמִים ָהָעִיר אֲשֶׁר בָּחֲרָתִּי לִי לַשְׂוּם שָׁמֵי שָׁם: (לז) וְאֹתְךְ ָאֶלֵּח וּמֲלַכָּתָּ בִּכְּל אֲשֶׁר־תִּאַוָּה נַפָּשֶׁךְ וְהַיֶיתַ מֶּלֶךְ ַעַל־יִשָּׂרָאֵל: (לח) וְהָיָָה אָם־תִּשְׁמַע אֶת־כָּל־אֲשֶׁר אַצַוֶּךְּ וְהָלַכְתָּ בִדְרַכַּי וְעָשִּׁיתַ הַיָּשָׁר בִּעֵינַי לְשִׁמְוֹר ָחָקּוֹתַי<sup>ּ</sup> וּמָצִוֹתַׁי כַּאֲשֶׁר עָשֻׂה דָּוָד עַבְדֵּי וְהָיֵיתִי עָמַּרְ וּבַנִּיתִי לְךָּ בַּיִת־נֵאֱמֶן כַּאֲשֶׁר בָּנֵיתִי לְדָּוֹד וְנַתַתְּי לְךָּ ָאַת־יִשְּׂרָאֵל: (לט) וַאעַנֶּה אֶת־זֶרַע דָּוַד לְמַעַן זְאת אַך לָא כָל־הַיָּמִים: (ס) (מ) וַיִּבַקּשׁ שָׁלֹמְה לְהָמִית ָאֶת־יַרָבָעָם וַיַּקָם יָרָבָעָם וַיִּבָרָח מְצְרַיִם אֶל־שִׁישַׁק ָמֶלֶךְ־מָצְלַיִם וַיִּהְי בִמְצַרַיִם עַד־מָוֹת שָׁלֹמְה: (מא)

Hadadezer of Zobah, (24) when David was slaughtering them. He gathered men about him and became captain over a troop; they went to Damascus and settled there, and they established a kingdom in Damascus. (25) He was an adversary of Israel all the days of Solomon, adding to the trouble [caused by] Hadad; he repudiated [the authority of Israel and reigned over Aram. (26) Jeroboam son of Nebat, an Ephraimite of Zeredah, the son of a widow whose name was Zeruah, was in Solomon's service; he raised his hand against the king. (27) The circumstances under which he raised his hand against the king were as follows: Solomon built the Millo and repaired the breach of the city of his father, David. (28) This Jeroboam was an able man, and when Solomon saw that the young man was a capable worker, he appointed him over all the forced labor of the House of Joseph. (29) During that time Jeroboam went out of Jerusalem and the prophet Ahijah of Shiloh met him on the way. He had put on a new robe; and when the two were alone in the open country, (30) Ahijah took hold of the new robe he was wearing and tore it into twelve pieces. (31) "Take ten pieces," he said to Jeroboam. "For thus said the LORD, the God of Israel: I am about to tear the kingdom out of Solomon's hands, and I will give you ten tribes. (32) But one tribe shall remain his—for the sake of My servant David and for the sake of Jerusalem, the city that I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel. (33) For they have forsaken Me; they have worshiped Ashtoreth the goddess of the Phoenicians, Chemosh the god of Moab, and Milcom the god of the Ammonites; they have not walked in My ways, or done what is pleasing to Me, or [kept] My

ןֶנֶתר דִּבְרָי שְׁלֹמֶהׁ וְכָל־אֲשֶׁר עָשֶׂה וְחָכְמָתֵּוֹ הַלְוֹא־הַם כְּתֻבִּׁים עַל־סֵפֶר דִּבְרֵי שְׁלֹמְהׁ: (מב) וְהַיָּמִּים אֲשֶׁר מֶלֵּךְ שְׁלֹמְה בִירוּשָׁלֵם עַל־כָּל־יִשְּׂרָאֵׁל אַרְבָּעִים שָׁנָה: (מג) וַיִּשְׁכָּב שְׁלֹמֹה עִם־אֲבֹתָּיו וַיִּקְבֵּר בְּעִיר דָּוָד אָבֵיו וַיִּמְלֶּךְ רְחַבְעָם בְּנָוֹ תַּחְתָּיו: (0)

laws and rules, as his father David did. (34) However, I will not take the entire kingdom away from him, but will keep him as ruler as long as he lives for the sake of My servant David whom I chose, and who kept My commandments and My laws. (35) But I will take the kingship out of the hands of his son and give it to you—the ten tribes. (36) To his son I will give one tribe, so that there may be a lamp for My servant David forever before Me in Jerusalem—the city where I have chosen to establish My name. (37) But you have been chosen by Me; reign wherever you wish, and you shall be king over Israel. (38) If you heed all that I command you, and walk in My ways, and do what is right in My sight, keeping My laws and commandments as My servant David did, then I will be with you and I will build for you a lasting dynasty as I did for David. I hereby give Israel to you; (39) and I will chastise David's descendants for that [sin], though not forever." (40) Solomon sought to put Jeroboam to death, but Jeroboam promptly fled to King Shishak of Egypt; and he remained in Egypt till the death of Solomon. (41) The other events of Solomon's reign, and all his actions and his wisdom, are recorded in the book of the Annals of Solomon. (42) The length of Solomon's reign in Jerusalem, over all Israel, was forty years. (43) Solomon slept with his fathers and was buried in the city of his father David; and his son Rehoboam succeeded him as king.