

Just returned from vacation in California ... with a joke.
How does a mermaid clean her tail?
With Tide.

Torah portion for today is Beresheet/Genesis 21:1 - 21:34
the story of Sarah bearing Yitzkhak/Isaac, his weaning party, conflict with Ishmael and
Ishmael's expulsion from the clan.
[Why chosen for RH? Complimentary to Gen 22 about the Binding of Yitzkhak, and the
redemption of the ram (horn/shofar.)
Righteous faith of the Avot/Fathers. Gen 22
Righteous faith of the Imahot/Mothers. Gen 21]

The Haftarah tells of Hannah who was similarly blessed with a son who was to become one of
Israel's foremost prophets. Additionally, the story of Hannah demonstrates that sincere prayer
can bring.

Divine compassion that overcomes all adversity, a theme that is the essence of Rosh HaShanah.
Hannah expresses praise to G-d in a song. Gripping, powerful words of praise to the Most High.
[Stone Ed Chumash, Rabbi Nosson Scherman/ Rabbi Meir Zlotowitz, Mesorah Press, 2002, p 1234]

The Targum speaks of songs that are **not simply inspired poetry or even prayer. In the
Scriptural sense, שירה, song, represents the concept that people understand the harmony of
creation. (Redemption in Messiah!)**

[Stone Ed Chumash, Rabbi Nosson Scherman/ Rabbi Meir Zlotowitz, Mesorah Press, 2002, p 1235

In a certain sense, we enter the Holy of Holies via music!]

Nature is always singing, because, from the tiniest microorganism to the mightiest galaxy,
everything acts and interacts as G-d intended it to be. This is song. It is the most awesome
symphony conceivable, because it consists of an infinite number of players uniting in playing by
the Divine score. But man seldom sees this harmony. He is troubled by questions of faith,
resentment over his neighbor's success,* and a failure to see how events lead toward coherent
fulfillment of a Divine scheme. (Tikkun)

[Stone Ed Chumash, Rabbi Nosson Scherman/ Rabbi Meir Zlotowitz, Mesorah Press, 2002, p 1235.

**Plus unforgiveness/bitterness, greed, dishonesty*

*Pause, breathe deeply, forget all your worries, problems, stresses, conflicts. Praise. Praise.
For ALL!]*

When – on those very rare occasions – people perceive G-d's plan taking shape, they sing. This
is why Moshe and the people of Israel sang at the Splitting of the Sea. In a lightning flash of
perception, they achieved an understanding of centuries of events. This understanding of
creation's harmony found flesh-and-blood expression in the harmony of song.

[Stone Ed Chumash, Rabbi Nosson Scherman/ Rabbi Meir Zlotowitz, Mesorah Press, 2002, p 1235.

*That's why we worship in song. We are expressing praise beyond words. Melody encompasses
the math of the Most High. Yeshua is the Logos. Music enters into that math!]*

Iyov 38.4-7 “Where were you when I laid the foundations of earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding. Who set its dimensions — if you know — or who stretched a line over it? On what were its foundations set, or who laid its cornerstone — when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?
[It could be said that the Cosmic Microwave Background radiation is the underlying music of the heavens.

Quantum Equations are musical. Praise music!]

“There can hardly be a more appropriate haftarah for Rosh HaShanah than this, for Rosh HaShanah is Yom HaZikaron, the Day of Remembrance, a day of self-examination at the beginning of the year. This is a day for remembering our spiritual failures and unfulfilled religious hopes, while looking forward to our hopes and aspirations” (S.R. Hirsch). “On Rosh HaShanah, Sarah was remembered and gave birth [as recounted in Gen. 18:1–34, which is the Torah reading for that day]; on this day Rachel was remembered, and on this day so was Hannah” (Talmud Bavli, *Rosh HaShanah* 11a).

Our rabbis taught the laws of prayer from the account of her *tefillah*: “One has to devote all one’s heart in prayer [Hannah spoke in her heart]; one has to enunciate with one’s lips [only her lips moved]; one may not pray aloud [her voice was not to be heard]” (*Berachot* 31a–b). Above all, her prayer captures the whole message of Rosh HaShanah regarding the ways of Divine Providence in our lives, a message that is reiterated throughout the Mussaf prayer on that day: “For a God of thoughts is [He], and by Him single acts are reckoned up! It is God Who kills and gives life. He brings down to the grave but also raises up [from there]. It is God Who makes poor and makes rich, He brings low and He also lifts up” (1 Samuel 2:3–7).

[https://books.google.com/books?id=G_4irc4YO3UC&pg=PA285&lpg=PA285&dq=ten+songs+that+encompass+the+history+of+the+world&source=bl&ots=KVL0UH26fJ&sig=rFrqvdXNIXcNW8ImVMwP2t2pmsY&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiJ8Pi726_dAhUIEawKHfhxDDcQ6AEwD3oECAIQAQ#v=onepage&q=ten%20songs%20that%20encompass%20the%20history%20of%20the%20world&f=false]



**שמאל א Shmuel Aleph
(1 Samuel) 2:1-3**

Shmuel Aleph (I Samuel) 2:1
וַתִּתְפַּלֵּל חַנָּה וַתֹּאמֶר
עַלֶּץ לִבִּי בְּיָי רַמָּה קִרְנֵי בְּיָי

Then Hannah prayed; she said:
“My heart exults in Adoni!
My dignity has been restored by Adoni!

[When I was an undergraduate, about 100 years ago, in the 1970s, I was told that Hebrew poetry is non-rhyming but melodious, and the only way to hear it is to memorize and recite it. Ps 23 was my first such assignment. It is so. I assigned it to my students when I was the Hebrew language teacher here in the 1990s. The students heard the music. This was the second or third. It sings, if you recite it, especially from memory.]

Shmuel Aleph (I Samuel) 2:1
רָחַב פִּי עַל־אֹיְבָי כִּי שָׁמַחֲתִי בִישׁוּעֶתְךָ:

I can gloat over my enemies,
because of my joy at your saving me.

Shmuel Aleph (I Samuel) 2:2
אִי־קָדוֹשׁ כִּי־יֵי אֵין בְּלִתְּךָ וְאִין צוּר כְּאֱלֹהֵינוּ:

“No one is as holy as Adoni,
because there is none to compare with you, no rock like our G-d.

Shmuel Aleph (I Samuel) 2:3
אַל־תִּרְבּוּ תִדְבְּרוּ גְבוּהָה גְבוּהָה יֵצֵא עֲתָק מִפִּיכֶם כִּי אֵל דְּעוֹת יְיָ וְלוֹ נִתְּכֶנוּ עַלְלוֹת:
“Stop your proud boasting! Don’t let arrogance come from your mouth!
For Adoni is a G-d of knowledge, and he appraises actions.”

[I want to read you something devotional, which some of you will not enjoy, unless you expand your thinking. But I’ll enjoy it.]

The basis of musical sound can be described mathematically (in acoustics) and exhibits "a remarkable array of number properties." Elements of music such as its form, rhythm and metre, the pitches of its notes and the tempo of its pulse can be related to the measurement of time and frequency, offering ready analogies in geometry.

The attempt to structure and communicate new ways of composing and hearing music has led to musical applications of set theory, abstract algebra and number theory. Some composers have incorporated the golden ratio and Fibonacci numbers into their work.

From the time of Plato, harmony was considered a fundamental branch of physics, now known as musical acoustics. Early Indian and Chinese theorists show similar approaches: all sought to show that the **mathematical laws of harmonics and rhythms were fundamental not only to our understanding of the world but to human well-being.** Confucius, like Pythagoras, regarded the small numbers 1,2,3,4 as the source of all perfection.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Music_and_mathematics

Bach's Brandenburg 5th is a series of perfect 3rds
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_V7oujd9djk

Jews have been known for Torah literacy.
Those grafted in become lovers of the words of the Word.
Davar, Memra, Logos
Yeshua is the WORD.
[My story with Palestinian Muslim young man.]

Are you chosen? Equivalent to:

- Are you a lover of the Word?
- Are you a reader of the Word?
- Are you a regular reader of the Word, with delight?
- Are you a believer of the Word?
- Are you an obeyer of the Word?

[This is what Or HaOlam is all about. The Word. Or HaOlam, the Light of the World. Hebrew, Greek, history, geography, spirituality! Ruakh insight!! To celebrate ...]

The Word is the understanding of the universe, through the death and resurrection of Messiah Yeshua. Music is the word on steroids. Shofars are the music of the heart!



Lightning is the attraction of charged particles toward each other.

If our hearts are charged with the fiery truth of the word, then when the Word/Logos/Memra appears we'll be drawn up to Him.



[https://www.google.com/search?q=Lightning&safe=active&source=Inms&tbn=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjJiMzn8PTcAhVF5awKHfkgAPIQ_AUICigB&biw=1165&bih=826#imgsrc=PUBqoljIVkyISM:]

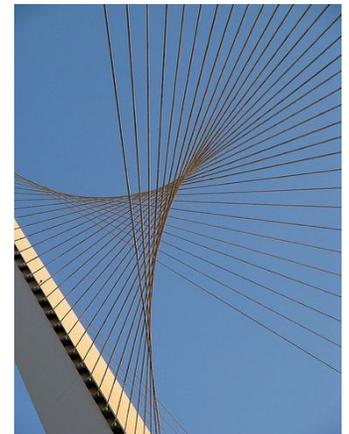
Daveed is remembered MOST in this memorial as the harp player.

¹ Shmuel 16.16,18 a skillful player on the harp ... knows how to play. He's a brave soldier, he can fight, he chooses his words carefully and he's pleasant-looking. Besides, Adoni is with him."

אִישׁ יָדַע מְנַגֵּן בַּכִּנּוֹר ... יָדַע נַגֵּן וְגִבּוֹר חֵיל וְאִישׁ מְלַחֵמָה וְנָבוֹן דָּבָר, וְאִישׁ תָּאֵר; וַיְהִי הוּא, עָמוּ.



[The form of the bridge resembles a tent in the desert or a harp, with the cables as the strings, symbolizing King David's harp, according to Spanish architect and engineer Santiago Calatrava]



[Isn't that musical, and gives praise to G-d??]



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chords_Bridge

Dvarim 31.30 -32.4

Moses spoke in the hearing of the whole community of Israel the words of this song, right to the end: “Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak! Let the earth hear the words of my mouth. May my teaching trickle like rain, my speech distill like dew — like gentle rain on new grass, like showers on tender plants. For I will proclaim Adoni’s Name, ascribe greatness to our God! The Rock — blameless is His work. Indeed, all His ways are just. God of faithfulness without iniquity, righteous and upright is He.

Rev. 15.2-4

And I saw something like a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had overcome the beast and his image and the number of his name standing by the sea of glass, holding the harps of God. And they are singing the song of Moses the servant of God and the song of the Lamb, saying,

Rev. 15.2-4

“Great and wonderful are Your deeds, Adoni Elohei-Tzva’ot! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the nations! Who shall not fear and glorify Your name, O Lord? For You alone are Holy. All the nations shall come and worship before You, for Your righteous acts have been revealed!” In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...All things came to be through him, and without him nothing made had being. In him was life, and the life was the light of mankind.

λόγος

having been thought i.e. **gathered together in the mind, are expressed in words.** Accordingly, a twofold use of the term is to be distinguished: one which relates to speaking, and one which relates to thinking.

λόγος (from Homer down), the Sept. especially for דְּבָר , also for אִמְר and מִלָּה ;properly, a **collecting**, collection — and that, as well of those things which are put together in thought, as of those which,

a word, yet not in the grammatical sense (equivalent to vocabulum, the mere name of an object), but language, vox, i.e. a word which, uttered by the living voice, embodies a conception or idea [<https://biblehub.com/greek/3056.htm>]

Divrei Hayamim 1 Chronicles 25.1

For the service, David and the army commanders selected some of the descendants of Asaf, of Heman and of Y’dutun to prophesy with lyres, lutes and cymbals.

Shmot/Ex 15

Then Moses and *Bnei-Yisrael* sang this song to Adoni:

I will sing to Adoni, for He is highly exalted! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea. Adoni is my strength and song, and He has become my salvation. This is my God, and I will glorify Him, my father’s God, and I will exalt Him. Adoni is a warrior— Adoni is His Name!

Pharaoh's chariots and his army He has hurled into the sea, and his chosen captains have sunk into the Sea of Reeds. The deeps cover them. They sank to the depths like a stone. Your right hand, Adoni, is glorious in power. Your right hand, Adoni, dashes the enemy to pieces. In the greatness of Your excellency You overthrow those who resist You. You send forth Your wrath— it consumes them as stubble.

Who is like You, Adoni, among the gods? Who is like You, glorious in holiness, awesome in praises, doing wonders? You stretched out Your right hand, the earth swallowed them. You in Your lovingkindness led the people You have redeemed. You guided them in Your strength to Your holy habitation.

[10 such key songs in the Hebrew scriptures.

<http://www.angelfire.com/pa2/passover/10-shirot.html>]

Tekiah - תקיעה a pure unbroken sound that calls man to search his heart, forsake his wrong ways, and seek forgiveness through repentance.

Teruah - תרועה a broken, staccato, trembling sound. It typifies the sorrow that comes to man when he realizes his misconduct and desires to change his ways.

Shevarim - שברים a wave-like sound of alarm calling upon man to stand by the banner of God.

Tekiah Gedolah - תקיעה גדולה the prolonged, unbroken sound typifying a final appeal to sincere repentance and atonement.

[<http://www.ulpanor.com/>]



[https://www.google.com/search?q=idlib+map&safe=active&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=i4zLhL5fi9p0jM%253A%252CUDKGiqLQUbok0M%252C_&usg=AFrqEzcLB2-a8wEdph90yF2-rtNDDed62A&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiHrc3k96_dAhVqwYMKHT9iDvgQ9QEwAXoECAUQBA#imgrc=r2VzWDvpHFF6gM:]

Russia and the United States are gearing up for a confrontation over an imminent offensive by the pro-Assad coalition against a 100,000 men-strong force of the Turkey-backed Sunni Islamist rebels in the Idlib Province in northern Syria.

US President Donald Trump warned the Iranians and Russians not to make a “grave mistake” by “recklessly attacking” the last large Islamist rebel hub in Syria and has already ordered his military to prepare for a massive response whenever the pro-Assad coalition launches the long-anticipated offensive in Idlib.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights spotted a 150-vehicle strong American convoy which crossed into northeast Syria from Iraq on its way to the Kurdish controlled autonomous region on the east bank of the Euphrates River.

The U.S. is also building up a naval force in the Persian Gulf which could repeat last year's massive missile attacks on Syrian targets.

[<http://www.israeltoday.co.il/NewsItem/tabid/178/nid/34788/Default.aspx>]

Flashpoint Yemen

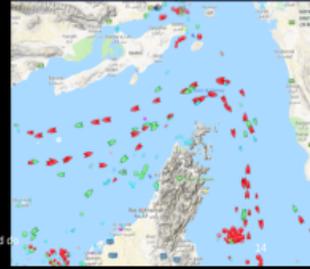
- Yemen sits on the vitally important Bab el Mandeb straights
- A significant percentage of the world's oil supply flows through it
- Israel relies on it for important trade routes
- The Houthi have shown their ability to act by hitting oil tankers and supply ships with missiles as well as targeting US Navy vessels
- Israel, Saudi, Egypt, US, UAE, Iranian naval vessels sit in close proximity near the straights

The opinions expressed herein are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the U.S. State Department.



Flashpoint Yemen

- The Houthi position on the Bab el Mandeb straights adds to Iran's ability to choke global oil
- Iran's success in Syria may have emboldened Iran
- Leaders from Hezbollah recently met with leaders of the Houthi
- Iran's position on the straights raises the potential cost of any counter Iran action



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