

TASHLIKH: A CEREMONY OF CASTING OFF



Cast away from yourselves all your transgressions, And create within yourselves a new heart and a new spirit.

-Ezekiel 18:31

A CEREMONY OF CASTING OFF

Hinei Matov

הָנֵה מַה טוֹב וּמַה נָּעִים שֶׁבֶת אַחִים גַם יָחַד.

He-nay ma-tov oo-ma-nay-im Shev-et ach-im gam ya-chad

Look around! How beautiful and pleasant it is for brothers and sisters to be all together!



Avinu Malkeynu

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵּנוּ חָנֵנוּ וַעֲנֵנוּ, כִּי אֵין בָּנוּ מַעֲשִׂים, עֲשֵׂה עִפָּנוּ צִדָּקָה וָחֶסֶד וְהוֹשִׁיעֵנוּ.



AVINU MALKEYNU

Graciously answer us
Although we are
without merits
deal with us charitably
and lovingly save us

Avinu mal-keynu, honey-nu va-aneynu, Ki eyn banu ma-asim, Asey imanu tz-dakah va-hesed v'ho-shi-eynu. During this season of repentance, we are called upon to do *T'shuvah*, to return to God in sincerity and in truth. Through prayer and study, reflection and ritual, we strive to begin the new year in a spirit of humility, self-scrutiny, and spiritual renewal.

Today we have come to this body of water to perform the *Tashlikh* ceremony; seeking, symbolically, to "cast away" our accumulated sins and transgressions, to send away our unworthy thoughts, to purify our hearts and our souls, as the new year begins.

Who is like You, O God, forgiving iniquity and pardoning the transgression of the remnant of Your people!

You do not retain Your anger forever, for You delight in lovingkindness.

מִי־אֵל כָּמוֹךְ נִשֵּׁא עָוֹן וְעַבֵּר עַל־פָּשַׁע לִשְׁאֵרִית נַחֲלָתוֹ לֹא־הֶחֲזִיק לָעַד אַפּוֹ כִּי־חָפֵץ חֶסֶד הוְּא: יְשׁוּב יְרַחֲמֵנוּ יִכְבּשׁ עֲוֹנְתֵינוּ וְתַשְׁלִיךְ בִּמְצֵלוֹת יָם כָּל־חַטּאתִם: תִּתֵּן אֲמֶת לְיַעֲקֹב חֶסֶד לְאַבְרָהָם אֲשֶׁרְ־נִשְׁבַּעְתָּ לַאֲבֹתֵינוּ מִימֵי קֶדֶם:

You will again have compassion upon us, subdue our iniquities, and cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

You will show faithfulness to Jacob and lovingkindness to Abraham, as You promised our ancestors from days of old.

Walking Humbly with God On Rosh Hashanah Tashlikh

Standing by the water,

Emptying our pockets of the remaining crumbs of sin,

We turn to You, O God,

Creator of heaven and earth, Creator of the water.

We pour out like water the confession of our sin.

Hear our prayer, and

"Tashlikh, cast all our sins into the ocean's depths."

As You sustained our people Israel, Your people Israel, With the never-failing well of water
That accompanied them (through Miriam's merit)
In their desert wanderings-

So save us and sustain us with your living water, and "*Tashlikh*, cast all our sins into the ocean's depths."

As fish in water are ever in danger
Of being caught and then devoured,
So are we in peril constantly.
We turn to You, our only sure protection.
Shelter us, and
"Tashlikh, cast all our sins into the ocean's depths."

Let these waters be a token of Your covenant promise: "As I swore that Noah's waters
Never again would flood the earth,
So I swear that I will not be angry with you or rebuke you.
For thought the mountains may move and the hills be shaken,
My steadfast love shall never move from you,
Nor My covenant of *shalom* be shaken,
Says *Ha-Shem*, your Compassionate One."
So

"Tashlikh, cast all our sins into the ocean's depths."

- Rabbi Hershel Matt

Shir Ha'Ma'alot

שיר הַמַּעֲלות מִמַּעֲמַקִּים קְרָאתִידְּ יְהֹוֶה:

Out of the depths I call to You; O Lord, hear my cry, heed my plea.

> אֲדֹנָי שִׁמְעָה בְקוֹלִי תִּהְיֶינָה אָזְנֶיךּ קַשָּׁבוֹת לְקוֹל תַּחֲנוּנֵי:

Be attentive to my prayers,

To my sign of supplication.

אם־עַונות תִּשְׁמָר־יָה אֲדנִי מִי יַעֲמִד:

Who could endure it, O Lord, If You kept count of every sin?

בּי־עִמְּדְּ הַסְּלִיחָה לְמַעַן תִּנָּרְא:

But forgiveness is Yours; Therefore we revere You. Be attentive to my prayers, To my sign of supplication.

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בּי־עִמְּדָּ הַסְּלִיחָה לְמַעַן תִּנָּרֵאְא:

But forgiveness is Yours; Therefore we revere You.

O Israel, put Your hope in the Lord, For the Lord is generous with mercy.

ּוְהוּא יִפְדֶּה אֶת־יִשְׂרָאֵל מִכּל עֲוֹנתָיוּי

Abundant is His power to redeem; May He redeem Israel from all sin.

Let Us Cast Away Our Sins

Let us cast away the sin of deception, so that we will mislead no one in word or deed, nor pretend to be what we are not.

Let us cast away the sin of vain ambition which prompts us to strive for goals which bring neither true fulfillment nor genuine contentment.

Let us cast away the sin of stubbornness, so that we will neither persist in foolish habits nor fail to acknowledge our will to change.

Let us cast away the sin of envy, so that we will neither be consumed by desire for what we lack nor grow unmindful of the blessings which are already ours. Let us cast away the sin of selfishness, which keeps us from enriching our lives through wider concerns and greater sharing, and from reaching out in love to other human beings.

Let us cast away the sin of indifference, so that we may be sensitive to the sufferings of others and responsive to the needs of our people everywhere.

Let us cast away the sin of pride and arrogance, so that we can worship God and serve God's purposes in humility and truth.

Ha-shiveynu Adonai eyelha v'na-shuva, Hadeysh yameynu k'kedem. הַשְּלִיכוּ מֵעֲלֵיכֶם אֶת-כָּל-פִּשְעֵיכֶם אֲשֶׁר פְּשַעְתֶּם בָּם. וַעֲשׁוּ לָכֶם לֵב חָדָשׁ וְרוּחַ חֲדָשָׁהּ

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-Ezekiel 18:31

We toss our bread into the waters.

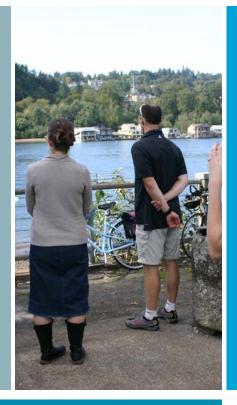
וּשְׁאַבְתֶּם מֵיִם בְּשָּׁשוֹן מִמַּעַיְנֵי הַיְשׁוּעָה:

Ushavtem mayam b'sasson mi-mainei ha-yeshuah

With joy shall you draw water from the wells of deliverance.

Tekiah Gedolah

תקיעה גדולה



RABBI DAVID KOSAK RABBI EVE POSEN CANTOR EYAL BITTON