

After the storm: A prayer to choose life

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Master of | Pillar of the Universe,
You commanded us, *Choose life*,
but the people of our generation
do not know how to choose life.
We are all of us responsible,
whether by necessity or through our choices,
for the disruption of the climate
that intensifies deadly storms
and fires and hurricanes and floods,
and so we are responsible for its healing.

Deut 30:19

So we seek the strength and the courage
to accept our responsibility now
to help those harmed by the storm,
and also to persist in helping
in the face of coming storms,
to support all those engaged
in rescue and relief work, and to join with them.
And we pray for all the creatures left in need
and exposed *when the storm passed over*:
please save them.

Prov 10:25

For You are the One who reproves nations
and who teaches humanity knowledge.

Ps 94:10

Please teach us the path forward,
through vision and not through calamity,
to take responsibility for each other
and for the future of this wondrous planet.

Help us choose a way of life rooted in justice,
for the just are a foundation for the world,
for our descendants and those coming from them,
so that the promise may be upheld through us
*Blessed will you be in the city, blessed will you be
in the field, and that we may not be*

Prov 10:25

lost quickly from off the good earth.

Deut 28:3

Deut 11:17

Adon ha'olam | Eden ha'olam, atah tzivitanu "uvacharta bachayyim", uv'nei doreinu eineinu yod'im eikh liv'chor bachayyim. V'khulanu achrai'im, gam ba'al korcheinu gam mib'chiroteinu, l'hafra'at ha'aklim shesavir l'hagdil hase'erot v'hasrifot v'hasufot v'hahatzafot hakat'laniyot ukh'mo khen achra'im lrapo'to.

V'hineh anu m'vakshim et hakoach v'ha'ometz l'kabel ha'achrayut aleinu atah la'azor l'eilu shenifga'im al y'dei hase'arah, ul'himasheikh la'azor k'neged se'erot ba'ot, v'litmokh b'eilu shemitz'tarfim ba'avodot hahatzalah v'hase'ad ul'chaber item. Va'anu mitpal'lim ba'ad kol hab'rui'm haniz'kakim v'chashufim "ka'avur sufah": na l'hoshi'eim.

Ki atah "hayoseir goyim v'ham'lamed adam da'at"— na l'lamdeinu et haderekh kadimah, al y'dei chazon v'lo al y'dei ason, lakachat achrayut zeh el zeh v'achrayut al atid ha'olam hanif'la hazeh. Azor lanu liv'chor b'derekh chayyim m'yusad al hatzedek, ki "tzadik y'sod olam", ba'avur tze'etza'ei tze'etza'einu l'maan yit'kayeim banu hakatuv, "Barukh atah ba'ir, uvarukh atah b'sadeh" v'shelo "novad m'heirah mei'al ha'aretz hatovah".

אָדוֹן הָעוֹלָם | אָדוֹן הָעוֹלָם,
אַתָּה צוֹיְתָנוּ "וּבִחרְתָּ בְּחִים",
וּבְנֵינוּ אִינְנוּ יְדֻעִים אֵיךְ לְבָחר בְּחִים.
וְכָלָנוּ אֶחָרִים
גַּם בַּעַל פּוֹרְחָנוּ גַּם מִבְּחִירֹתֵנוּ
לְהַפְּרַעַת הַאֲקָלִים
שָׁבֵר לְהַגְּדִיל הַסּוּרֹת וְהַשְּׁרֹפוֹת,
וְהַסּוּפֹת וְהַחֲצֹפּוֹת הַקְּטֻלְנִיות,
וְכָמוּ כָּנוּ אֶחָרִים לְרִפְאָתוֹ.

וְהַנָּה אָנוּ מַבְקָשִׁים אֶת הַפָּמָּן וְהַאמְזָן
לְקַבֵּל אֶחָרִיות עַלְיָנוּ עַתָּה
לְעֹזֶר לְאָלוֹ שְׂנָגָעִים עַל יְדֵי הַסּוּרָה,
וְגַם לְהַמְשָׁר לְעֹזֶר בְּנִגְדָּסּוּרֹת בָּאוֹת,
וּלְתָמֹר בְּאָלוֹ שְׁמַצְעָרִים
בְּעַבְדוֹת הַהְצָלָה וְהַסּוּד וְלִחְבָּר אֶתְם֙
וְאָנוּ מַתְפָּלִים בְּعַד כָּל הַבְּרוֹאִים
הַנִּזְקִים וְהַשׁוֹפִים "כְּעַבּוֹר סּוֹפָה":
נָא לְהַושְׁיעָם.

בַּי אַתָּה "הַיָּסֶר גּוֹיִם וּבַמְלָמֵד אָדָם דִּעָת"
בָּא לַלְמֹדָנוּ אֶת הַדָּרָךְ קָדִימָה
עַל יְדֵי חִזּוֹן וְלֹא עַל יְדֵי אִסּוֹן
לְקַמְתָּ אֶחָרִיות זוּ הָאָלֶה
וְאֶחָרִיות עַל עַתִּיד הָעוֹלָם הַגְּפַלָּא זוּ.
עֹזֶר לְנוּ לְבָחוֹר בְּדָרָךְ חַיִם
מִיוֹסֵד עַל הַצְּדָקָה, בַּי "צָדִיק יִסּוֹד עוֹלָם",
בְּעַבּוֹר צָאָצָאי צָאָצָאיינוּ
לְמַעַן יִתְקַיִם הַבְּתוּב
בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה בְּעִיר וּבָרוּךְ אַתָּה בְּשִׁדָּה",
וְשָׁלָא נָאַבֵּד "מִרְהָרָה מַעַל הָאָרֶץ הַטְּבָה".