

- 1 ויהי בחדש ניסן שנת עשרים לארתחשסתא המלך יין לפניו
 uiei bchdsh nishn shnth oshrim larthchshstha emlk iin lphniu
 and-he-is-becoming in-month-of Nisan year-of twenty to-Artaxerxes the-king wine before-him
- ואשא את היין ואתנה ולא למלך לפני רע הייתי
 uasha ath eiin uathne lmlk ula eiithi ro lphniu
 and-I-am-lifting » the-wine and-I-am-giving to-king and-not I-was bad to-faces-of-him
- 2 ויאמר לי המלך מדוע פניך רעים ואתה אינך חולה אין
 uiamr li emlk mduo phnik roim uathe aink chule ain
 and-he-is-saying to-me the-king for-what-reason faces-of-you bad-ones and-you is-no-you being-ill is-no
- זה כי רע לב ואירא הרבה מאד
 ze ki am ro lb uaira erbe mad
 this except only badness-of heart and-I-am-fearing to-be-much very
- 3 ואמר למלך המלך יחיה לעולם מדוע לא ירעו לפני
 uamr lmlk emlk loulm ichie mduo la irou phni
 and-I-am-saying to-king the-king for-eon he-shall-live for-what-reason not they-shall-be-bad faces-of-me
- אשר העיר בית קברות אבתי חרבה ושעריה אכלו
 ashr eoir bith qbruth abthi chrbe ushorie aklu
 which the-city house-of entombs-of fathers-of-me she-is-deserted and-gates-of-her they-were-devoured
- באש
 bash
 in-fire
- 4 ויאמר לי המלך על מה זה אתה מבקש ואתפלל אלי
 uiamr li emlk ol me ze athe mbqsh uathphll al alei
 and-he-is-saying to-me the-king on what ? this you seeking and-I-am-praying to Elohim-of
- השמים
 eshmim
 the-heavens
- 5 ואמר למלך אם על טוב המלך עבדך לפניך אשר
 uamr lmlk am ol emlk tub uam iitb obdk lphnik ashr
 and-I-am-saying to-king if on the-king good and-if he-is-being-good servant-of-you before-you which
- תשלחני אל יהודה אל אבתי קברות עיר ואבננה
 thshlchni al ieude al oir qbruth abthi uabnne
 you-shall-send-me to Judah to city-of entombs-of fathers-of-me and-I-shall-build-her
- 6 ויאמר לי המלך והשגל יושבת אצלו עד מתי יהיה
 uiamr li emlk ueshgl iushbth atzlu od mthi ieie
 and-he-is-saying to-me the-king and-the-consort sitting beside-him until when ? he-shall-be
- מהלכך ומתי תשוב וייטב לפני המלך וישלחני
 melkk umthi thshub uiitb lphni emlk uishlchni
 going-of-you and-when ? you-shall-return and-he-is-being-good before the-king and-he-is-sending-me
- ואתנה לו זמן
 uathne lu zmn
 and-I-am-giving to-him stated-time
- 7 ואומר למלך אם על טוב המלך יתנו אגרות לי על פחוות עבר
 uaumr lmlk am ol emlk tub agruth ithnu li ol phchuuth obr
 and-I-am-saying to-king if on the-king good letters they-shall-give to-me on viceroys-of Across
- הנהר אשר יעבירוני אשר עד אבוא אשר אל יהודה
 ener ashr iobiruni od ashr abua al ieude
 the-Stream which they-shall-let-pass-me until which I-shall-come to Judah
- 8 ואגרת אל אספ שמר אשר הפרדס יתן אשר למלך לי לקרות עצים
 uagrth al asph shmr ephrds ashr lmlk ashr ithn li otzim lqruth
 and-letter to Asaph one-keeping-of the-park which to-king which he-shall-give to-me woods to-rafter
- אליו אשר אבוא אשר ולבית העיר ולחומת לבית אשר הבירה שערי את
 ath shori ebire ashr lbith ulchumth eoir ulbith ashr abua aliu
 » gates-of the-castle which to-house and-for-wall-of the-city and-for-house which I-shall-enter to-him

¹ . And it came to pass in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king, [that] wine [was] before him: and I took up the wine, and gave [it] unto the king. Now I had not been [beforetime] sad in his presence.

² Wherefore the king said unto me, Why [is] thy countenance sad, seeing thou [art] not sick? this [is] nothing [else] but sorrow of heart. Then I was very sore afraid,

³ And said unto the king, Let the king live for ever: why should not my countenance be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' sepulchres, [lieth] waste, and the gates thereof are consumed with fire?

⁴ Then the king said unto me, For what dost thou make request? So I prayed to the God of heaven.

⁵ And I said unto the king, If it please the king, and if thy servant have found favour in thy sight, that thou wouldest send me unto Judah, unto the city of my fathers' sepulchres, that I may build it.

⁶ And the king said unto me, (the queen also sitting by him,) For how long shall thy journey be? and when wilt thou return? So it pleased the king to send me; and I set him a time.

⁷ Moreover I said unto the king, If it please the king, let letters be given me to the governors beyond the river, that they may convey me over till I come into Judah;

⁸ And a letter unto Asaph the keeper of the king's forest, that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the palace which [appertained] to the house, and for the wall of the city, and for the house that I shall enter into. And

the king granted me, according to the good hand of my God upon me.

⁹ . Then I came to the governors beyond the river, and gave them the king's letters. Now the king had sent captains of the army and horsemen with me.

¹⁰ When Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, heard [of it], it grieved them exceedingly that there was come a man to seek the welfare of the children of Israel.

¹¹ So I came to Jerusalem, and was there three days.

¹² And I arose in the night, I and some few men with me; neither told I [any] man what my God had put in my heart to do at Jerusalem: neither [was there any] beast with me, save the beast that I rode upon.

¹³ And I went out by night by the gate of the valley, even before the dragon well, and to the dung port, and viewed the walls of Jerusalem, which were broken down, and the gates thereof were consumed with fire.

¹⁴ Then I went on to the gate of the fountain, and to the king's pool: but [there was] no place for the beast [that was] under me to pass.

¹⁵ Then went I up in the night by the brook, and viewed the wall, and turned back, and entered by the gate of the valley, and [so] returned.

¹⁶ And the rulers knew not whither I went, or what I did; neither had I as yet told [it] to the Jews, nor to the priests, nor to the nobles, nor to the rulers, nor to the rest that did the work.

עלי הטובה אלהי כיד המלך לי ויתן
uithn li emlk kid alei etube oli
and-he-is-giving to-me the-king as-hand-of Elohim-of-me the-good on-me

9 ואתנה להם את אגרות המלך
uathne lem ath agruth emlk
and-I-am-giving to-them » letters-of the-king

וישלח עמי המלך שרי חיל ופרשים
uishlch omi emlk shri chil uphrshim
and-he-is-sending with-me the-king chiefs-of army and-horsemen

10 וירע העמני העבד וטוביה וישמע וירע
uishmo snblt echrni utubie eobd eomni uiro
and-he-is-hearing Sanballat the-Horonite and-Tobiah the-servant the-Ammonite and-he-is-being-evil

ישראל לבני טובה לבקש אדם בא אשר גדלה רעה להם
ishral lbni tube lbqsh tube lbni ishral
to-them evil great which he-came human to-seek good for-sons-of Israel

11 ואבוא ואל שלשה ימים שם ואהי ירושלם
uabua al irushlm uaei shm imim shlshe
and-I-am-entering to Jerusalem and-I-was there days three

12 ואקום ואלי מה לאדם הגדתי ולא עמי מעט ואנשים אני לילה
uaqum lile ani uanshim mot omi ula egdthi ladm me alei
and-I-am-rising night I and-mortals few with-me and-not I-told to-human what Elohim-of-me

הבהמה אם כי עמי אין ובהמה לירושלם לעשות לבי אל נתן
ebeme am ki omi ain ubeme ain omi ki am ebeme
giving to heart-of-me to-do to-Jerusalem and-beast there-is-no with-me except only the-beast

בה רכב אני אשר
ashr ani rkb be
which I riding in-her

13 ואצאה ושער ואל התנין עין פני ואל לילה הגיא בשער ואצאה
uatzae bshor egia lile ual phni oin ethnin ual shor
and-I-am-going-forth in-gate-of the-ravine night and-to faces-of spring-of the-jackal and-to gate-of

המפרוצים אשר ירושלם בחומת שבר ואהי האשפת
emphrutzim ashir irushlm bchumth shbr uaei eashphth
the-hearth-dung and-I-was looking-forward in-wall-of Jerusalem which the-ones-being-breached

באש אכלו ושעריה
bash aklu ushorie
and-gates-of-her they-were-devoured in-fire

14 ובעבר ואין המקום לבהמה ואין המלך ואין המקום לבהמה
uaobr uain emlk uain mqum lbeme
and-I-am-passing to gate-of the-spring and-to reservoir-of the-king and-there-is-no place for-beast

תחתי לעבר
lobr thchthi
to-pass under-me

15 ואשוב בחומה ואל שבר ואהי לילה ואל שבר ואהי
uashub bchume shbr uaei shbr uaei
and-I-was going-up in-watercourse night and-I-was looking-forward in-wall and-I-am-turning-back

ואשוב ואל שבר ואהי לילה ואל שבר ואהי
uashub bchume shbr uaei shbr uaei
and-I-am-returning in-gate-of the-ravine and-I-am-returning

16 ולכהנים וליהודים עשה אני ומה הלכתי ואל שבר ואהי לילה ואל שבר ואהי
ulkenim oshe ulieudim ani umeh elkthi uame ani oshe ulieudim ulkenim
and-the-prefects not they-knew toward-where I-went and-what I doing and-to-Judeans and-to-priests

ולכהנים וליהודים עשה אני ומה הלכתי ואל שבר ואהי לילה ואל שבר ואהי
ulchrim ulsgnim ulithr oshe emlake od kn la egdthi
and-to-notables and-to-prefects and-to-rest-of one-doing-of the-work until so not I-told

17 וְאָמַר יְרוּשָׁלַם אֲשֶׁר בָּהּ אֲנַחְנוּ אֲשֶׁר הָרַעָה רְאִים אֹתָם אֱלֹהִים וְאָמַר
 uaumr alem athm raim eroe ashtr anchnu be ashtr irushlm
 and-I-am-saying to-them you ones-seeing the-evil which we in-her which Jerusalem

חֲרַבָּה יְרוּשָׁלַם חֹמַת אֵת וְנִבְנָה לָכֵן בְּאֵשׁ וְשַׁעֲרֶיהָ נִצְתָּו
 chrbe ushorie ntzthu bash lku unbne ath chumth irushlm
 she-is-deserted and-gates-of-her they-were-ravaged in-fire go ! and-we-shall-build » wall-of Jerusalem

17 Then said I unto them, Ye see the distress that we [are] in, how Jerusalem [lieth] waste, and the gates thereof are burned with fire: come, and let us build up the wall of Jerusalem, that we be no more a reproach.

חֲרַפָּה עוֹד נְהִיָּה וְלֹא
 ula neie oud chrphe
 and-not we-are further reproach

18 דְּבָרַי וְאֵף עָלַי טוֹבָה הִיא אֲשֶׁר אֱלֹהֵי יָד אֵת לָהֶם וְאָגִיד
 uagid lem ath id alei ashtr eia tube oli uaph dbri
 and-I-am-telling to-them » hand-of Elohim-of-me which she good on-me and-indeed ! words-of

וַיַּחֲזְקוּ וּבְנִינוּ נִקְוִים וַיֹּאמְרוּ לִי אֲמַר אֲשֶׁר הַמֶּלֶךְ
 emlk ashtr amr li uiamru nqum ubninu uichzqu
 the-king which he-said to-me and-they-are-saying we-shall-rise and-we-build and-they-are-making-steadfast

לְטוֹבָה יְדֵיהֶם
 idiem ltube
 hands-of-them to-good

18 Then I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me; as also the king's words that he had spoken unto me. And they said, Let us rise up and build. So they strengthened their hands for [this] good [work].

19 הָעֲרָבִי וְגֶשֶׁם הָעַמּוֹנִי הָעֶבֶד וְטֹבִיָּה הַחֲרָנִי סַנְבַּלֵּט וַיִּשְׁמַע
 uishmo snblt echrni utbie eobd eomuni ugshm eorbi
 and-he-is-hearing Sanballat the-Horonite and-Tobiah the-servant the-Ammonite and-Geshem the-Arabian

הַזֶּה הָדָבָר מָה וַיֹּאמְרוּ עָלֵינוּ וַיִּבְזוּ לָנוּ וַיִּלְעֲגוּ
 uilogu lnu uibzu olinu uiamru me edbr eze
 and-they-are-deriding to-us and-they-are-despising on-us and-they-are-saying what ? the-thing the-this

מְרַדִּים אֹתָם הַמֶּלֶךְ הָעֵל עֹשִׂים אֹתָם אֲשֶׁר
 ashtr athm oshim eol emlk athm mrdim
 which you ones-doing on ? the-king you ones-revolting

19 But when Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian, heard [it], they laughed us to scorn, and despised us, and said, What [is] this thing that ye do? will ye rebel against the king?

20 הוּא הַשָּׁמַיִם אֱלֹהֵי לָהֶם וְאָמַר דָּבָר אוֹתָם וְאָשִׁיב
 uashib authm dbr uaumr lem alei eshmim eua
 and-I-am-returning them word and-I-am-saying to-them Elohim-of the-heavens he

אֵין וְלָכֶם וּבְנִינוּ נִקְוִים עַבְדֵי וְאֲנַחְנוּ לָנוּ יִצְלִיחַ
 itzlich ulkm ubninu nqum obdiu uanchnu lnu
 he-shall-give-prosperity to-us and-we servants-of-him we-shall-rise and-we-build and-to-you there-is-no

בִּירוּשָׁלַם וּזְכָרוֹן וְצִדְקָה חֶלֶק
 chlq utzdqe uzkrun birushlm
 portion and-justice and-memorial in-Jerusalem

20 Then answered I them, and said unto them, The God of heaven, he will prosper us; therefore we his servants will arise and build: but ye have no portion, nor right, nor memorial, in Jerusalem.