

# Pride Shabbat Haftarah

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This special haftarah chanted in honor of Pride Shabbat is taken from the words of the Prophet Isaiah. The central verse is from chapter 56: "I will give them in My House a *yad v'shem*, an everlasting Name and Remembrance." This reassurance to those who have been marginalized by patriarchal Jewish community was originally addressed to the *saris*, a person who was without functioning reproductive organs. It has come to be understood in many other ways, among them as a declaration of love for all human beings, and an understanding that we are all equally precious in the sight of HaShem.

## Isaiah 56-57

(1) HaShem declares: Observe what is right and do what is just; for soon My salvation shall come and my deliverance be revealed. (2) Happy is the one who does this, who holds fast, who keeps the Shabbat and does not profane it, who refrains from doing evil. (3) Let not the stranger who has come among us say, "I will not be accepted", and let not the *saris* say, "I am a withered tree." (4) HaShem says: "As for the *saris* and the *tumtum* who keep My Shabbat, who have chosen that which is good, and hold fast to My covenant, (5) I will give them, in My House and within My walls, a monument and a name better than sons or daughters. I will give them an everlasting name which shall not perish. (6) As for strangers who come to our community seeking to serve in love, all who keep the Shabbat and who hold fast to the sacred covenant, (7) I will bring them to My sacred mountain, and let them rejoice in My house of prayer. Their gifts and their offerings shall be welcome on My altar; For My House shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples." (8) Thus declares HaShem our God, who gathers those who are scattered, distanced and dispersed: "I will gather still more to those already gathered." (9) All you wild beasts, come and try to devour, all you beasts of the forest! (10) The police are blind, all of them, they perceive nothing. They are all dumb dogs that cannot bark; they lie sprawling, they love to drowse. (11) The dogs are greedy; they never know satiety. As for the shepherds, they know not what it is to give heed.

## ישעיהו נ"ו-נ"ז

(א) כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה שְׁמְרוּ מִשְׁפָּט  
וְעֲשׂוּ צְדָקָה כִּי־קְרוּבָה יְשׁוּעָתִי  
לָבוֹא וְצְדָקָתִי לְהַגְלוֹת: (ב) אֲשֶׁר־י  
אָנוּשׁ יַעֲשֶׂה־זֹאת וּבֶן־אָדָם יַחֲזִיק  
בָּהּ שֹׁמֵר שַׁבָּת מִחֲלָלוֹ וְשֹׁמֵר יָדוֹ  
מִעֲשׂוֹת כָּל־רָע:

(ג) וְאֶל־יֹאמְרֵי בְּנֵי־הַנְּזָר הַנְּלוּהָ  
אֶל־יְהוָה לֵאמֹר הַבְּדִל יַבְדִּילֵנִי  
יְהוָה מֵעַל עַמּוֹ וְאֶל־יֹאמְרֵי הַסְּרִיסִים  
הֵן אֲנִי עַץ יָבֵשׁ:

(ד) כִּי־כֹה אָמַר יְהוָה לְסְרִיסִים  
אֲשֶׁר יִשְׁמְרוּ אֶת־שַׁבְּתוֹתַי וּבְחָרוּ  
בְּאֲשֶׁר חִפְצָתִי וּמַחֲזִיקִים בְּבְרִיתִי:  
(ה) וְנָתַתִּי לָהֶם בְּבֵיתִי וּבְחֹמֹתַי  
יָד וְשֵׁם טוֹב מִבָּנִים וּמִבָּנוֹת שֵׁם  
עוֹלָם אֶתְּרוּ־לוֹ אֲשֶׁר לֹא יִכָּרֵת:

(ו) וּבְנֵי הַנְּזָר הַנְּלוּיִם עַל־יְהוָה  
לְשׁוֹרְתוֹ וְלֹא־הִבָּה אֶת־שֵׁם יְהוָה  
לְהַיּוֹת לוֹ לְעַבְדִּים כָּל־שֹׁמֵר שַׁבָּת  
מִחֲלָלוֹ וּמַחֲזִיקִים בְּבְרִיתִי: (ז)

Everyone has turned his own way, every last one seeks his own advantage. (12) “Come, I’ll get some wine; let’s swill liquor. Tomorrow will be the same, or even better!” (1) The righteous one perishes, and no one considers; gentle and good people disappear, and no one gives thought to the fact that it is because of evil that the righteous is swept away. (2) Yet they shall yet know peace, they shall have rest on their couch, those who walk in right and good ways.

וְהִבִּיאוּתֵימ אֶל־הָר קְדָשִׁי  
 וְשִׂמְחָתֵימ בְּבֵית תְּפִלָּתִי  
 עוֹלְתֵיהֶם וְזִבְחֵיהֶם לְרָצוֹן  
 עַל־מִזְבְּחִי כִי בֵיתִי בֵית־תְּפִלָּה  
 יִקְרָא לְכָל־הָעַמִּים: (ח) נֶאֱמַר אֲדַנִּי  
 יְהוָה מְקַבֵּץ נִדְחֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל עוֹד  
 אֶקְבֹּץ עָלָיו לְנִקְבְּצָיו: (ט) כָּל חֵיתוֹ  
 שְׂדֵי אֲתָיו לֹא־כָל כָּל־חֵיתוֹ בִּיעַר:

(י) צַפּוּ [צַפִּיּוֹ] עוֹרִים כְּלָם לֹא  
 יִדְעוּ כְּלָם כְּלָבִים אֱלֹמִים לֹא יוֹכְלוּ  
 לְנַבֵּחַ הַזִּים שְׂכָבִים אֲהִבִי לְנוֹם:  
 (יא) וְהַכְּלָבִים עֲזִי־נֶפֶשׁ לֹא יִדְעוּ  
 שְׂבָעָה וְהֵמָּה רַעִים לֹא יִדְעוּ הַבֵּן  
 כְּלָם לְדַרְכָם פָּנוּ אִישׁ לְבַצְעוֹ  
 מִקְצָהוּ: (יב) אֲתָיו אֶקְחָה־יָיִן  
 וְנִסְבָּאָה שֹׂכֵר וְהָיָה כְּזָה יוֹם מְחֹר  
 גְּדוֹל יִתֵּר מְאֹד:  
 (א) הַצַּדִּיק אֲבָד וְאִין אִישׁ שֵׁם  
 עַל־לֵב וְאִנְשֵׁי־חֶסֶד נֶאֱסָפִים בְּאִין  
 מִבֵּין כִּי־מִפְּנֵי הָרַעָה נֶאֱסָר  
 הַצַּדִּיק: (ב) יָבוֹא שְׁלוֹם יִנּוּחוֹ  
 עַל־מִשְׁכְּבוֹתָם הַלֵּךְ נִכְחוֹ:

