

September 22, 2025
Rosh HaShanah Erev 5786 2025
Nekh 8 RH prototype



Some Rosh Hashanna greetings

L'Shana Tovah לְשָׁנָה טוֹבָה

[Have a] Good Year

Shana Tova oo-m'tukah שָׁנָה טוֹבָה וּמִתּוֹקָה

[Have a] Good and sweet year

[These are entirely Biblical.]

There is a variant of a good year be written unto

you. More complex Hebrew and not Biblical.

Over the millennia of observing, some derived

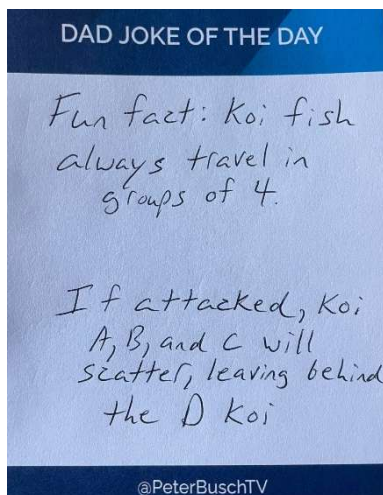
themes.

Sweet year? Explore the scripturalty of this.]

A few days before Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, the traditional clearing of prayer notes at the Western Wall took place on Tuesday morning. As every year, thousands of small notes that visitors have placed between the ancient stones over the past months were carefully removed and subsequently interred in a *geniza*, a special storage and burial site for sacred texts.

Among the notes were numerous prayers submitted online by people from countries officially hostile to Israel, including Iran, Yemen, Iraq, Qatar, Lebanon, Pakistan, Sudan, Jordan, Egypt, and Kazakhstan. Many of these petitions contained moving prayers for peace, reconciliation, and the building of relationships between peoples.

[https://www.israeltoday.co.il/read/western-wall-remains-a-place-of-hope-and-prayer/?mc_cid=50bf590dc9&mc_eid=9f06d9f262]



[from Brian Kaufman]

What is the scriptural basis of this festival of Rosh HaShannah?

Two references:

Viyikra/Lev 23.24

...a day of complete rest for remembering, a holy convocation announced with blasts on the shofar.

הָיָה לָכֶם שַׁבָּתוֹן--זִכְרוֹן תְּרוּעָה, מִקְרָא-קֹדֶשׁ .

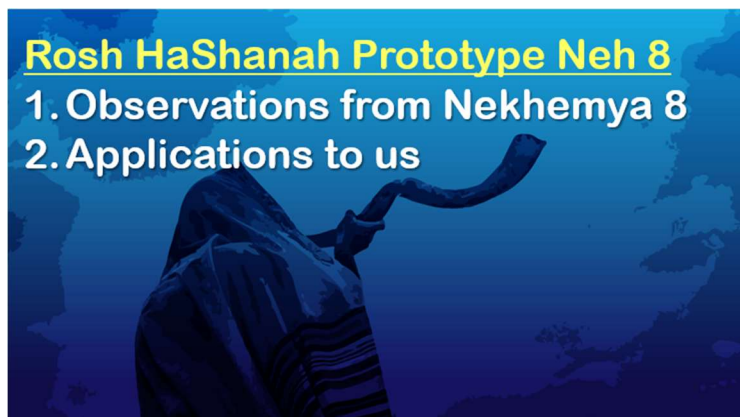
“Remember, with a loud noise.”

1. What loud noise? [Shofar? Brass trumpet? Shout?]

2. What to remember? *[Sins? Blessings?]*
There is ONE model Rosh Hashanah ...

A poster for Rosh Hashanah with a blue background. It features a large white title 'ROSH HASHANAH PROTOTYPE', the text 'Nekhemya [Nehemiah] 8' and 'Rabbi Shmuel Wolkenfeld', the date 'September 22, 2025 | 1st of Tishrei, 5786' and its Hebrew equivalent 'א' בְּתִשְׂרִי תשפ"ו', and the logo for 'OR HAOLAM MESSIANIC SYNAGOGUE' which includes a stylized menorah. A background image shows a person in a kippah blowing a shofar.

ROSH HASHANAH
PROTOTYPE
Nekhemya [Nehemiah] 8
Rabbi Shmuel Wolkenfeld
September 22, 2025 | 1st of Tishrei, 5786
א' בְּתִשְׂרִי תשפ"ו
OR HAOLAM
MESSIANIC SYNAGOGUE

A presentation slide with a blue background and a shofar image. It contains the title 'Rosh HaShanah Prototype Neh 8' and two numbered points.

Rosh HaShanah Prototype Neh 8
1. Observations from Nekhemya 8
2. Applications to us

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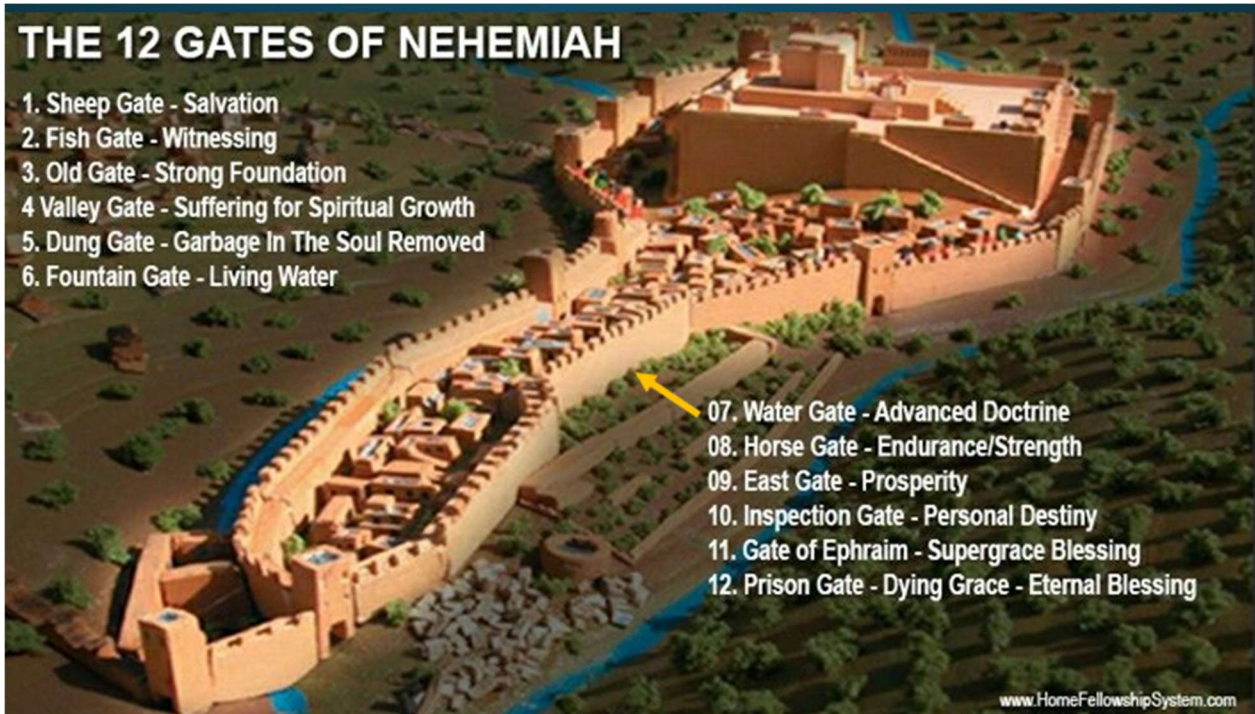
Rosh HaShanah Prototype Neh 8
1. Observations from Nekhemya 8
2. Applications to us

Nekhmyah 8.1-10 **When the seventh month arrived, after the people of Isra'el had resettled in their towns, all the people gathered with one accord in the open space in front of the Water Gate.**

THE 12 GATES OF NEHEMIAH

1. Sheep Gate - Salvation
2. Fish Gate - Witnessing
3. Old Gate - Strong Foundation
- 4 Valley Gate - Suffering for Spiritual Growth
5. Dung Gate - Garbage In The Soul Removed
6. Fountain Gate - Living Water

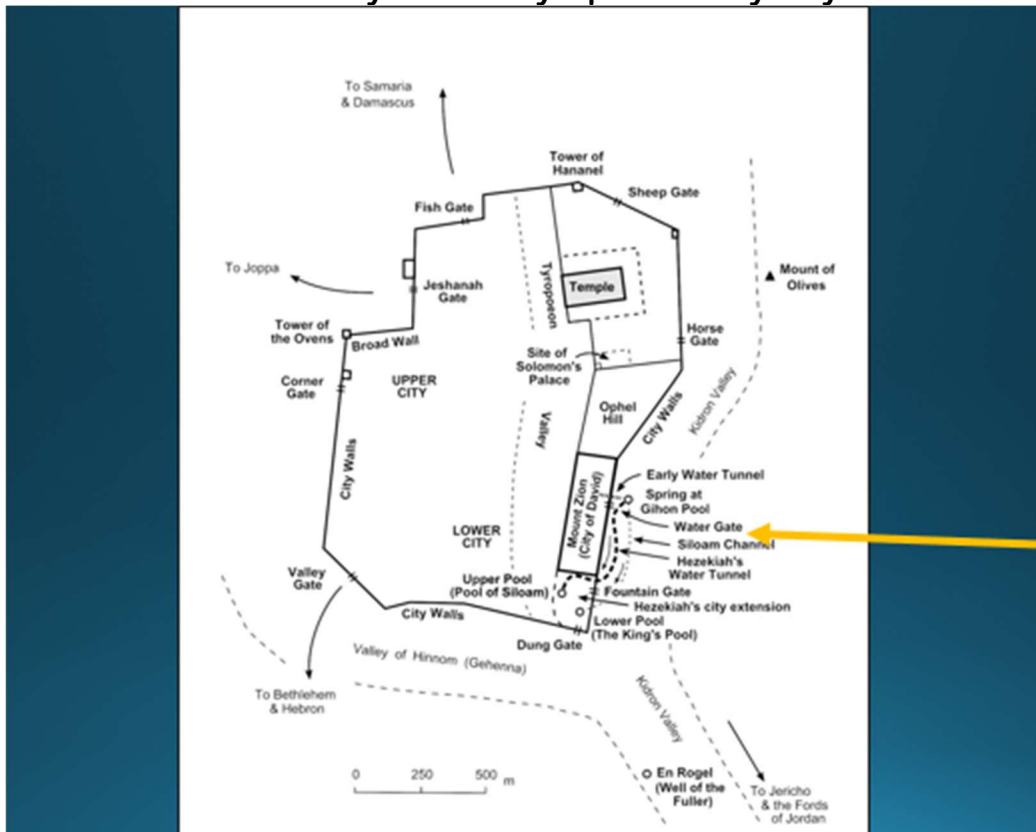
07. Water Gate - Advanced Doctrine
08. Horse Gate - Endurance/Strength
09. East Gate - Prosperity
10. Inspection Gate - Personal Destiny
11. Gate of Ephraim - Supergrace Blessing
12. Prison Gate - Dying Grace - Eternal Blessing



www.HomeFellowshipSystem.com

[\[https://i.pinimg.com/564x/99/7c/5c/997c5ca9cd434b34a09e99a4b418d23a.jpg\]](https://i.pinimg.com/564x/99/7c/5c/997c5ca9cd434b34a09e99a4b418d23a.jpg)

In Bible times the Kidron Valley and the Tyropean Valley may have been streams.



[\[https://www.thebiblejourney.org/content/pages/uploaded_images/968.jpg\]](https://www.thebiblejourney.org/content/pages/uploaded_images/968.jpg)

These people just returned from exile.

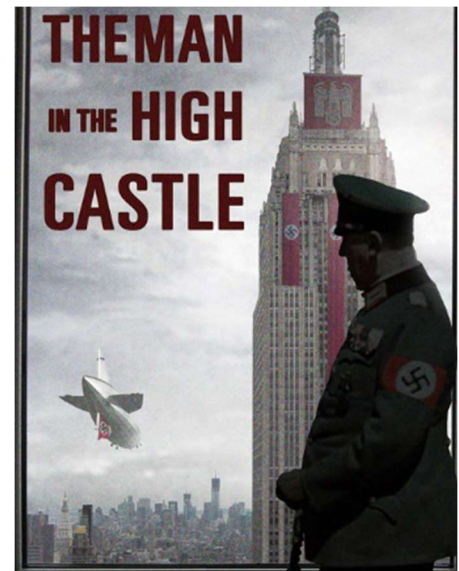
They were overcome their sense of judgment and doom. Back to destroyed capital and Temple in ruins, but rebuilt smaller.

Is our nation in ruins?

[Unwalled for decades.]

What would have happened if Germany and Japan had won WW 2?

[I only watched the first free episode. Pretty gruesome.]



https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.businessinsider.com%2Fthe-man-in-the-high-castle-review-2015-6&psig=AOvVaw3QsHpVtSC5IPk5mNXW8mEv&ust=1664168929141000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CAwQjRxqFwoTCljT38qWr_oCFQAAAAAdAAAAABAD

445 BCE year of this gathering RH

Historical context:

538 Edict to Return Ez 1.1

535 Foundation of Temple Ez 3.11

515 Completion of Temple Ez 6.15 Adar 3

474 attempted genocide under Haman bk Ester

445 Wall finished Neh 6.15 Elul 25

516-333 Great Assembly

[All BCE, dates count down, not up. Lower number is later.]

Traumatized people 474 attempted Persian genocide under Haman bk Ester

- *Returned exile, still conquered ruins of once glorious city*
- *20 years build Temple, unwalled city, enemies disputing*
- *70 more years rebuild walls enemies disputing*

We Americans have no idea of occupation and destruction, since War 1812 by the British, burned the White House.

Patty Juster's letter: Israelis in trauma. Forest fires in the heat wave, one suicide on his wedding day.]

City wall finished Elul 25 ~Sept 21, 2022, 3 days later...

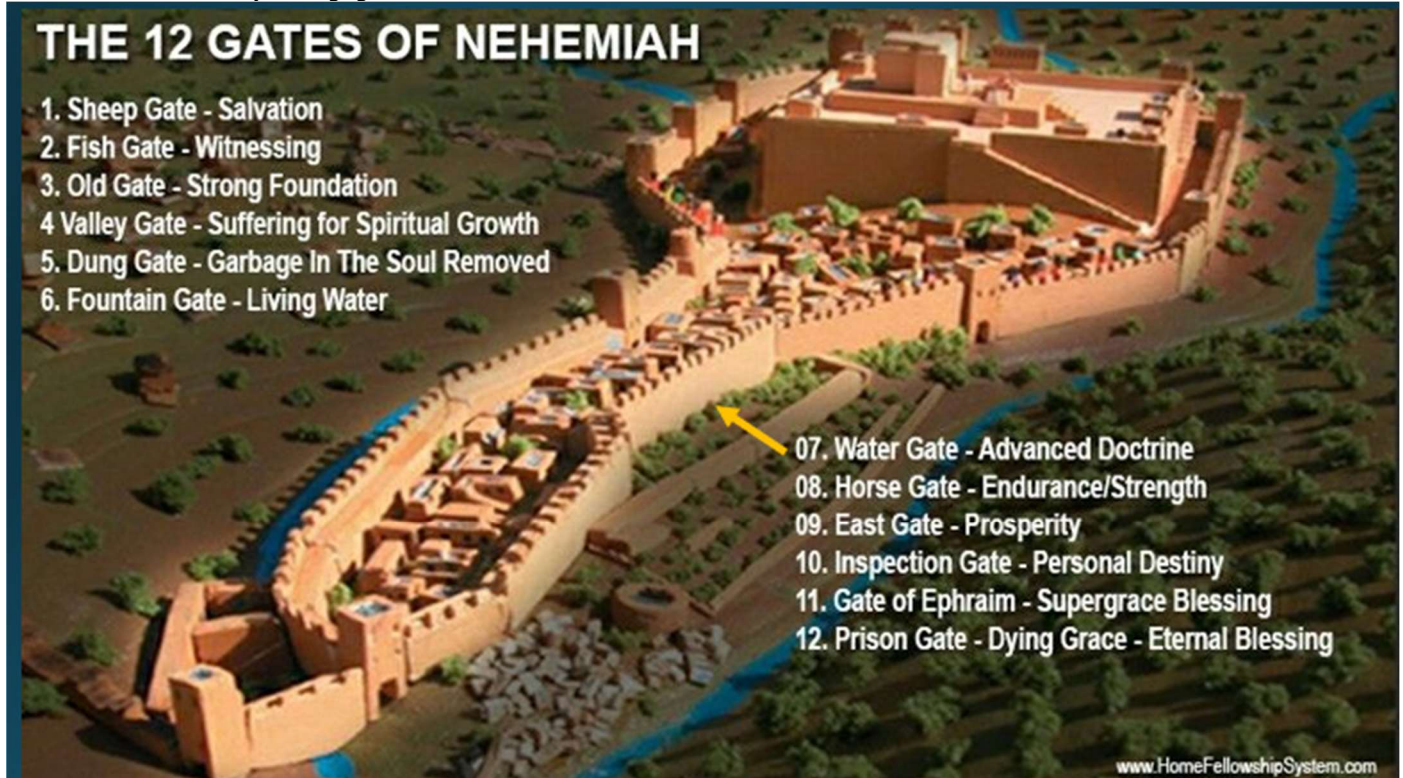
Nekhmyah 8.1-10 When the seventh month arrived, after the people of Isra'el had resettled in their towns, all the people gathered with one accord in the open space in front of the Water Gate.

[These are returnees from Babylonian exile. "We want to know."]

Nekhmyah 8.1-10 When the seventh month arrived, after the people of Isra'el had resettled in their towns, all the people gathered with one accord in the open space in front of the Water Gate, and asked 'Ezra the Torah-teacher to bring the scroll of the Torah of Moshe, which ADONI had commanded Isra'el. 'Ezra the cohen brought the Torah before the assembly, which consisted of men, women and all children old enough to understand. **It was the first day of the seventh month.** Facing the open space in front of the Water Gate,

[First day of the seventh month. RH. Seventh month as defined by Pesakh.]

this was New Year's day, the first day of their civil year, as the first of Nisan was of their ecclesiastical year, and was of greater antiquity than that; and so Jarchi says, this was the first day of the year; to which may be added, that this was the day on which the altar was first set up, on the Jews' return from captivity,]



Nekhmyah 8.1-10 he read from it to the men, the women and the children who could understand from early morning until noon; and all the people listened attentively to the scroll of the Torah.
[Can you imagine? Listened to reading 6 a.m. to noon??!! Revising tomorrow service, instead of 11 am start, 6 a.m. And no worship team, just stand and read. OK?

What about us? So many distractions! Cell phones, conversations, email, games. An American legend is that on the Battle of Bunker Hill [or Breed's Hill] in Boston, the outnumbered American commander told his men, "Don't fire until you see the whites of their eyes." Controversy over who said it. I know I don't have enough eye contact, pre-occupied with reading, and sometimes close my eyes in intensity, but I really love eye contact.]

Nekhmyah 8.1-10 'Ezra the Torah-teacher stood on a wood platform which they had made for the purpose; beside him on his right stood Mattityah, Shema, 'Anayah, Uriyah, Hilkiyah and Ma'aseiyah; while on his left were P'dayah, Misha'el, Malkiyah, Hashum, Hashbadanah, Z'kharyah and Meshulam.
[Don't need belabor all the names here, some later.]

Nekhmyah 8.1-10 'Ezra opened the scroll where all the people could see him, because he was higher than all the people; when he opened it, all the people rose to their feet.
[Custom of rising when scroll brought out the Jews say ^{T Bab Megillah fol 21.1}, that from the times of Moses to Rabbi Gamaliel, they learned the law only standing; but after his death a disease came into the world, and they learned it sitting; and now it is a canon with them, that it is not necessary to stand at the reading of the law ^{Shulchan Aruch par 1 Orach Khayim c 146 sedt 4}]

Nekhmyah 8.1-10 **'Ezra blessed ADONI**, the great God; and all the people answered, "Amen! Amen!" as they **lifted up their hands, bowed their heads and fell prostrate** before ADONI with their faces to the ground

[Hence custom of Torah blessing.

Demonstrative worship?? Was this really Jewish? We don't do that when scrolls brought out...maybe tomorrow?]

Nekhmyah 8.1-10 The L'vi'im **Yeshua**, Bani, Sherevyah, Yamin, 'Akuv, Shabtai, Hadiyah, Ma'aseiyah, K'lita, 'Azaryah, Yozavad, Hanan and P'layah explained

[Yeshua was a common Hebrew name.]

Nekhmyah 8.1-10 the Torah to the people, while the people remained in their places. They read clearly from the scroll, in the Torah of God, translated it, and enabled them to understand the sense of what was being read.

[Translated?? Maybe into Chaldean / Aramaic ki exiles just returned.

Artscroll: "Clearly, with the application of wisdom, and they helped the people understand the reading."

NIV: making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people could understand what was being read

Even though there are many topics to address, we LOVE to take a part of the weekly parasha and have it expounded. Weekly parasha is about the only thing that all Jews agree on.]

Nekhmyah 8.1-10 Nekhemyah the Tirshata, 'Ezra the cohen and Torah-teacher and the L'vi'im who taught the people said to all the people, "Today is consecrated to ADONI your God; **don't be mournful, don't weep.**" For all the people had been weeping when they heard the words of the Torah.

[We don't know what sections he read. ~Six hours reading, so could be a lot

Grand reaction: dread and mourning. We're in deep trouble. All this stuff we missed. Spirit of mourning and lamenting.]

Viyikra/Lev 23.24 ...a day of complete rest for remembering, a holy convocation announced with blasts on the shofar.

הָיָה לָכֶם שְׁפָתוֹן--זִכְרוֹן תְּרוּעָה, מִקְרָא-קִדָּשׁ .

"Remember, with a loud noise."

Then he said to them, "**Go, eat rich food, drink sweet drinks,**

[Nekhemyah's response?

Essence of Jewish piety: eat.]

Nekhmyah 8.1-10 and send portions to those who can't provide for themselves; for today is consecrated to our Lord. Don't be sad, because **the joy of ADONI is your strength.**" In this way the L'vi'im quieted the people, as they said,

[Key unifying theme to all that follows is the JOY OF ADONI. We're accustomed to being sad and praying. There is another direction to deal.]

Nekhmyah 8.1-10 **"Be quiet, for today is holy; don't be sad."** Then the people went off to eat, drink, send portions and celebrate; because they had understood the words that had been proclaimed to them.



How can we rejoice despite our trauma and sins?



Firstly, apparently out of this is the custom of Rosh HaShanah foods of celebration.
[<https://elulchallenge.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/simanim-2021.jpg>]

A Babylonian Beginning The earliest recorded mention of simanim appears in the Talmud (Horayot 12a), where Abaye suggests beginning the year with foods whose names allude to blessing, increase, or protection.

These wordplays often worked in Aramaic or Hebrew, for instance, the Hebrew word gezer (carrot) sounds like g'zar, meaning "decree," so the carrot is eaten with a prayer that negative decrees be annulled.

[This tradition was carried by Jewish communities into medieval Europe, North Africa, and beyond, each adding their own local foods and interpretations.]

Apples and Honey: A Later Addition

Interestingly, apples and honey are not in the original Talmudic list. The custom seems to have developed in medieval Ashkenazi communities, where apples were abundant in late summer and honey symbolized prosperity and sweetness.

[Today, the combination is perhaps the most iconic symbol of Rosh Hashanah across the Jewish world.]

APPLES AND HONEY

Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheinu Melech ha-olam, borei p'ri ha'etz.

ברוך אתה ה', אלהינו מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פְּרִי הָעֵץ.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe,

Creator of the fruit of the tree.

CONTINUE:

Yehi ratzon milfanecha Adonai Eloheinu, v'Elohei avoteinu,
shetechadesh aleinu shana tova umetuka.

יְהִי רָצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ, וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, שֶׁתַּחַדֵּשׁ עֲלֵינוּ
שָׁנָה טוֹבָה וּמְתוּקָה.

May it be Your will, Lord our God and the God of our fathers,
that You renew us for a good and sweet year.

[From Netivyah synagogue in Jerusalem, a Messianic synagogue that has its service entirely out of the Siddur, and a Torah scroll and reading.

<https://netivyah.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Simanim23.pdf>

<https://elulchallenge.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/simanim-2021.jpg>

POMEGRANATE

Yehi ratzon milfanecha Adonai Eloheinu, v'Elohei avoteinu,
she'nihiyeh m'le'im mitzvot ka'rimon.

יְהִי רָצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ, וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ,
שֶׁנִּהְיֶה מְלֵאִים מִצְּוֹת כְּרִמּוֹן.

May it be Your will, Lord our God and the God of our fathers,
that we be as full of good deeds as the pomegranate
(is full of seeds).

CARROTS OR PUMPKIN

(The Hebrew word 'gezer' (carrot) resembles the word 'g'zar'
(decree), while the Aramaic 'kara' (pumpkin) resembles
the Hebrew 'likro'a' (to tear))

Yehi ratzon milfanecha Adonai Eloheinu, v'Elohei avoteinu,
she'tikra ro'ah g'zar dineinu, v'yikaru l'fanecha z'chuyoteinu.

יְהִי רָצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ, וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, שֶׁתִּקְרַע רוּעַ גִּזְרֵי דֵינֵנוּ,
וְיִקְרְאוּ לְפָנֶיךָ זְכוּיֹתֵינוּ.

May it be Your will, Lord our God and the God of our fathers,
that our bad decrees be torn up and our merits be proclaimed
before you.

BEETS

(The Hebrew 'selek' (beets) resembles the word 'lehistalek'
(retreat or cast away)

Yehi ratzon milfanecha Adonai Eloheinu, v'Elohei avoteinu,
she'yistalku oyveinu v'soneinu v'chol m'vakshei ra'ateinu.

יְהִי רָצוֹן מִלִּפְנֵיךָ ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ, וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, שְׂיִסְתַּלְקוּ אוֹיְבֵינוּ וְשׂוֹנְאֵינוּ
וְכָל מְבַקְשֵׁי רָעֵתֵנוּ.

May it be Your will, Lord our God and the God of our fathers,
that our enemies, haters and those who wish us harm,
will retreat.

QUINCE

('Chavush' (quince) resembles the word 'lachbosh' (to bind up)
Yehi ratzon milfanecha Adonai Eloheinu, v'Elohei avoteinu,
shetachbosh v'terape et p'tza'einu v'et choleinu, kakatuv:
"Vehaya or-halevana, ke-or hachama, ve-or hachama y'hiye
shivatayim, ke-or shivat hayamim bayom, chavash Adonai et
shever amo, umachatz makato, yira'peh.

יְהִי רָצוֹן מִלִּפְנֵיךָ ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ, וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, שֶׁתַּחְבֹּשׁ וְתִרְפֶּא אֶת
פְּצָעֵינוּ וְאֶת חוּלֵינוּ, כְּכָתוּב:
"וְהָיָה אֹר-הַלְבָּנָה, כְּאֹר הַחֲמָה, וְאֹר הַחֲמָה יִהְיֶה שְׁבַעֲתַיִם, כְּאֹר
שְׁבַעַת הַיָּמִים-בַּיּוֹם, חֲבַשׁ יִהְיֶה אֶת-שֹׁבֵר עָמוֹ, וּמַחֲץ מַכָּתוֹ, יִרְפֶּא."
(ישעיהו ל, 62)

May it be Your will, Lord our God and the God of our fathers,
that You will bandage and heal our wounds and sick, like it is
written: *"The Lord binds up the bruises of His people and heals the
wounds He inflicted."* (Isaiah 30:26)

STRING BEANS

('Rubia' (green beans) resembles the word 'yirbu'
(to increase, be plentiful))

Yehi ratzon milfanecha Adonai Eloheinu, v'Elohei avoteinu,
she'yirbu zachiyoteinu u't'leivavenu.

יְהִי רָצוֹן מִלִּפְנֵיךָ ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ, וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, שְׂיִרְבוּ זְכוֹתֵינוּ וְתִלְבַּבְנוּ.
May it be Your will, Lord our God and the God of our fathers,
that our merits increase, that we be blessed with everything
we need and that we share our blessings with others.

FENNEL

(‘Shumar’ (fennel) resembles the word ‘lishmor’ (to keep, protect)
Yehi ratzon milfanecha Adonai Eloheinu, v’Elohei avoteinu,
shetishmor vetatzil otanu v’et kol ma shebarata, kakatuv:
“Adonai yishmor tzetecha uvo’echa, me’ata v’ad olam.”

יְהִי רָצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ, וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, שֶׁתִּשְׁמֹר וְתִצִּיל

אוֹתֵנוּ וְאֶת כָּל מַה שֶּׁבָּרָאתָ, כְּכָתוּב:

"יְהוָה יִשְׁמָר-צִאתְךָ וּבּוֹאְךָ מֵעַתָּה וְעַד-עוֹלָם." (תהלים קכ"א, 8)

May it be Your will, Lord our God and the God of our fathers,
that You will protect and save us, and that you will save us and
all you have created, for *"the Lord will watch over your coming
and going both now and forevermore."* (Psalm 121:8)

KOHLRABI

(Literally ‘every rabbi’)

Yehi ratzon milfanecha Adonai Eloheinu, v’Elohei avoteinu,
shekol rabbi yavo l’emuna b’Yeshua, kakatuv: “V’shafachti al
bet David v’al yoshev Yerushalayim, ruach chen
v’tachnunim, v’hibitu elai asher dakaru; v’safdu alav
kemisped al hayachid, v’hamer alav, kehamer al ha’bechor.

"יְהִי רָצוֹן מִלְּפָנֶיךָ ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ, וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, שֶׁכָּל רַבִּי יָבוֹא

לְאַמוּנָה בִּישׁוּעַ, כְּכָתוּב:

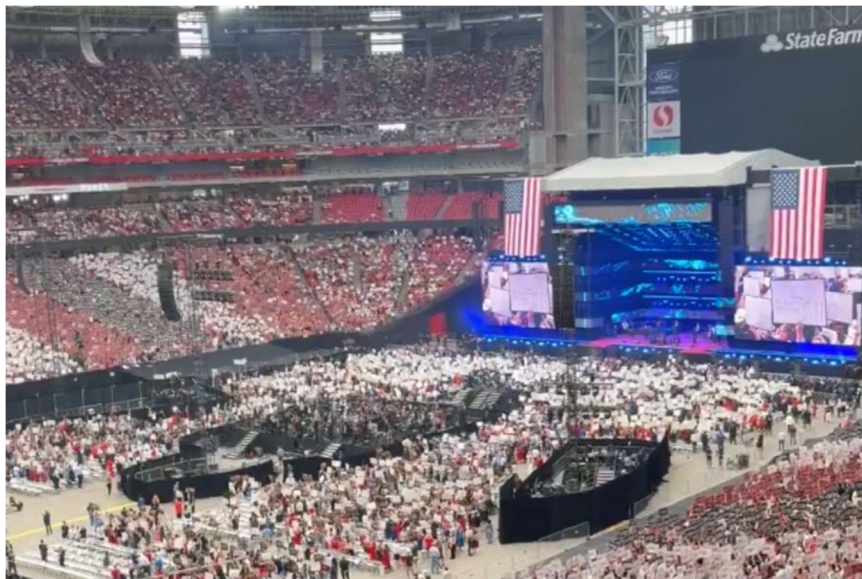
"וְשִׁפַּכְתִּי עַל-בֵּית דָּוִד וְעַל יוֹשֵׁב יְרוּשָׁלַם, רוּחַ חַן וְתַחֲנוּנִים, וְהִבִּיטוּ

אֵלַי, אֶת אֲשֶׁר-דָּקְרוּ; וְסָפְדוּ עָלַי, כְּמִסְפַּד עַל-הַיָּחִיד, וְהִמָּר עָלַי,

כְּהִמָּר עַל-הַבְּכוֹר." (זכריה י"ב, 01)

[<https://netivyah.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Simanim23.pdf>

Let it be your will, Adoni Eloheinu, and G-d of our fathers, for every rabbi to come to faith in Yeshua
the Messiah, as it says in Zech 12.1]



Secondly, and more substantially, Receive Yeshua as your atonement by repentance and faith. We saw thousands of people rise and received Yeshua. Pastor Rob McCoy is co-chair of Turning Point Faith in California and is known as "Charlie's Pastor."

Thirdly, stand for truth in a deluded world



UK, Canada, Australia recognize 'State of Palestine'

The three nations' prime ministers stress commitment to two-state solution.

Benjamin Netanyahu



"I have a clear message to those leaders who have recognized a Palestinian state after the terrible massacre of October 7: You are granting a huge prize to terrorism," Netanyahu said. "And I have another message: It will not happen. There will be no Palestinian state west of Jordan."

[<https://worldisraelnews.com/netanyahu-there-will-be-no-palestinian-state/>]

The FBI under President Joe Biden investigated no less than 92 conservative or Republican groups and individuals, as part of an operation code-named, "Arctic Frost." [<https://washingtonstand.com/article/report-biden-fbi-snooped-on-92-conservative-targets-in-trump-witch-hunt>]



Photo caption:

An FBI agent takes part in the detention of a man alongside the Metropolitan Police and CBP agents, September 8, 2025 | REUTERS/Daniel Becerril



Fourth: commit to rejoice and praise

When a Delta flight from New York to Tel Aviv was stuck on the tarmac for nearly 4 hours this week, passengers turned delay into celebration. A clarinet and drum sparked song, first Adon HaSelichot, then Am Yisrael Chai, transforming frustration into a powerful moment of unity and joy.

[<https://elulchallenge.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/simanim-2021.jpg>]

[<https://x.com/i/status/1969400402513969565>]

Fourthly, FORGIVE and see G-d's hand in the worst of events!

[https://youtu.be/jAWG_LCRIWc?t=29683

https://youtu.be/jAWG_LCRIWc?t=26006]



ROSH HASHANAH PROTOTYPE

Nekhemya [Nehemiah] 8

Rabbi Shmuel Wolkenfeld

September 22, 2025 | 1st of Tishrei, 5786
א' בתשרי תשפ"ו



Rosh HaShanah Prototype Neh 8

1. Observations from Nekhemya 8
2. Applications to us
 1. Celebratory food
 2. Receive Yeshua and share Him
 3. Stand for Truth
 4. Forgive, forgive, forgive!!