

Suggested Psalms, Tefillot, and Readings in Response to the Events at the U.S. Capitol

Provided by Rabbi Chaim Marder, Hebrew Institute of White Plains

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Psalms 59

(1) For the leader; al tashḥeth. Of David. A michtam; when Saul sent men to watch his house in order to put him to death. (2) Save me from my enemies, O my God; secure me against my assailants. (3) Save me from evildoers; deliver me from murderers. (4) For see, they lie in wait for me; fierce men plot against me for no offense of mine, for no transgression, O LORD; (5) for no guilt of mine do they rush to array themselves against me. Look, rouse Yourself on my behalf! (6) You, O LORD God of hosts, God of Israel, bestir Yourself to bring all nations to account; have no mercy on any treacherous villain. Selah. (7) They come each evening growling like dogs, roaming the city. (8) They rave with their mouths, sharp words are on their lips; [they think,] “Who hears?” (9) But You, O LORD, laugh at them; You mock all the nations. (10) O my strength, I wait for You; for God is my haven. (11) My faithful God will come to aid me; God will let me gloat over my watchful foes. (12) Do not kill them lest my people be unmindful; with Your power make wanderers of them; bring them low, O our shield, the Lord, (13) because of their sinful mouths, the words on their lips. Let them be trapped by their pride, and by the imprecations and lies they utter. (14) In Your fury put an end to

תהילים נ"ט

(א) לְמַנְצֵחַ אֶל־תַּשְׁחֵת לְדָוִד מִכְתָּם בְּשֹׁלֵחַ שָׂאוּל וַיִּשְׁמְרוּ אֶת־הַבַּיִת לְהַמִּיתוֹ: (ב) הַצִּילֵנִי מֵאֹיְבֵי אֱלֹהֵי מַמְתְּקוּמִי תִשְׁגַּבֵּנִי: (ג) הַצִּילֵנִי מִפְּעֻלֵי אֹנָן וּמֵאֲנָשֵׁי דָמִים הוֹשִׁיעֵנִי: (ד) כִּי הִגָּה אָרְבוּ לְנַפְשִׁי יְגֹורוּ עָלַי עֲזִים לֹא־פִשְׁעֵי וְלֹא־חַטָּאתֵי ה': (ה) כְּלִי־עֵזוֹן יְרוּצוֹן וַיְכַוְּנוּ עוֹרָה לְקַרְאתִי וַיִּרְאֶה: (ו) וְאַתָּה יְהוָה־אֱלֹהִים אֲצַבְּאוֹת אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל הַקִּיצָה לְפָקֹד כָּל־הַגּוֹיִם אֶל־תַּחֲנוּן כָּל־בְּגַדֵי אֹנָן סָלָה: (ז) יִשׁוּבוּ לְעָרְבַי יִהְיוּ כַּכֶּלֶב וַיִּסּוּבְבוּ עִיר: (ח) הִגָּה יַבִּיעוּן בְּפִיהֶם חֲרָבוֹת בְּשִׁפְתוֹתֵיהֶם כִּי־מִי שָׁמַע: (ט) וְאַתָּה ה' תִּשְׁסַק־לָמוֹ תִלְעַג לְכָל־גּוֹיִם: (י) עֵזוֹ אֱלֹהֵי אֲשַׁמְרָה כִּי־אֱלֹהִים מִשְׁגַּבֵּנִי: (יא) אֱלֹהֵי חֹסֶדוֹ [חֹסֶדֶי] יִקְדַּמְנִי אֱלֹהִים יִרְאֵנִי בְּשַׁרְרֵי: (יב) אֶל־תַּהַרְגֵם אֶפְרוֹיִשְׁכָּחוּ עַמִּי הַגִּיעֵמוּ בְּחִילֶךָ וְהוֹרִיגְמוּ מִגִּבְנוֹ אֲדוּשִׁם: (יג) חַטָּאת־פִּימוֹ דַּבַּר־שִׁפְתֵימוֹ וַיִּלְכְּדוּ בַגְּאוּנָם וּמֵאֲלָה וּמִכַּחַשׁ יִסְפְּרוּ: (יד) כִּלְהַ בְּחֶמֶה כִּלְהַ וְאֵינָמוּ וַיִּדְעוּ כִּי־אֱלֹהִים מִשְׁלַל בְּיַעֲקֹב לְאַפְסֵי הָאָרֶץ סָלָה: (טו) וַיִּשׁוּבוּ לְעָרְבַי יִהְיוּ כַּכֶּלֶב וַיִּסּוּבְבוּ עִיר: (טז) הִמָּה יִנּוּעוּן [יִנּוּעוּן] לְאַכֵּל אֶם־לֹא יִשְׁבְּעוּ וַיִּלְיֵנוּ: (יז) וְאֵנִי אֲשִׁיר עֲזֶךָ וְאֶרְגֵּן לְבָקֶר חֹסֶדֶךָ

them; put an end to them that they be no more; that it may be known to the ends of the earth that God does rule over Jacob. Selah. (15) They come each evening growling like dogs, roaming the city. (16) They wander in search of food; and whine if they are not satisfied. (17) But I will sing of Your strength, extol each morning Your faithfulness; for You have been my haven, a refuge in time of trouble. (18) O my strength, to You I sing hymns; for God is my haven, my faithful God.

כִּי־הִיִּיתָ מְשֻׁגָּב לִי וּמְנוּס בְּיָנִים צָרָה־לִּי: (יה)
עָזִי אֱלֹהֵי אֲזֻמָּרָה כִּי־אֵלֵקִים מְשֻׁגָּבֵי אֱלֹהֵי
חֹסְדִי:

Psalms 121

(1) A song for ascents. I turn my eyes to the mountains; from where will my help come? (2) My help comes from the LORD, maker of heaven and earth. (3) He will not let your foot give way; your guardian will not slumber; (4) See, the guardian of Israel neither slumbers nor sleeps! (5) The LORD is your guardian, the LORD is your protection at your right hand. (6) By day the sun will not strike you, nor the moon by night. (7) The LORD will guard you from all harm; He will guard your life. (8) The LORD will guard your going and coming now and forever.

תהילים קכ"א

(א) שִׁיר לַמַּעֲלוֹת אֲשָׁא עֵינַי אֶל־הַהָרִים
מֵאֵיךְ יָבֹא עֲזָרִי: (ב) עֲזָרִי מֵעַם ה' עֲשֵׂה
שָׁמַיִם וָאָרֶץ: (ג) אֵל־יִתֵּן לַמּוֹט רַגְלֶךָ
אֵל־יָנוּם שֹׁמְרֶךָ: (ד) הִגֵּה לֹא־יָנוּם וְלֹא
יִישָׁן שׁוֹמֵר יִשְׂרָאֵל: (ה) ה' שֹׁמְרֶךָ ה' צִלְּךָ
עַל־יָדְךָ מִיַּגְדָּה: (ו) יוֹמָם הַשֶּׁמֶשׁ לֹא־יִכָּפֵה
וַיָּרֶם בַּלַּיְלָה: (ז) ה' שֹׁמְרֶךָ מִכָּל־רָע שֹׁמֵר
אֶת־נַפְשֶׁךָ: (ח) ה' יִשְׁמְרֶצְאֶתְךָ וּבֹאֲרָךְ
מִכָּל־עֲוֹלָם:

Prayer for the Government (Traditional Liturgy)

Our God and God of our ancestors, uphold, and bless this country, the United States of America. Shield and protect the members of the Armed Services of this country and its allies. Bless the constituted officers of government in this land by setting in their hearts the spirit of wisdom and understanding to uphold peace and freedom. Spread, O Lord, the sheltering tabernacle of peace over all the earth, and guide us with your good counsel. May this be Thy Will, and let us say, Amen.

A Prayer Offered by President George Washington in 1783

I now make it my earnest prayer, that God would have the United States in his holy protection, that he would incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to Government, to entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another, for their fellow citizens of the United States at large, and particularly for their brethren who have served in the Field, and finally, that he would

most graciously be pleased to dispose us all, to do Justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility and pacific temper of mind, which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without an humble imitation of whose example in these things, we can never hope to be a happy nation. Amen.



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