

תַּשְׁלִיחַ

Tashliḥ: to cast away our sins

During this season of repentance, we are called upon to do *t'shuvah*, to turn towards God in sincerity and in truth. Through prayer and study, reflection and ritual, we strive to begin the new year in a spirit of humility, self-scrutiny, and spiritual renewal.

Today we come to this body of water to perform the *Tashliḥ* ceremony, seeking symbolically to "cast away" our accumulated sins and transgressions, to send away our unworthy thoughts, so that we may purify our hearts and our souls as the new year begins.

הַשְּׁלִיכוּ מֵעַלְיֶיכֶם אֶת־כָּל־פְּשָׁעֵיכֶם אֲשֶׁר פָּשַׁעְתֶּם בָּם.
וַעֲשׂוּ לָכֶם לֵב חָדָשׁ וְרוּחַ חָדָשׁ:

Cast away from yourselves all your transgressions,
And create within yourselves a new heart and a new spirit.

אָבִינוּ מִלְּכֵנוּ חַנּוּנוּ וְעַנּוּנוּ כִּי אֵין בָּנוּ מַעֲשִׂים.
עֲשֵׂה עִמָּנוּ צְדָקָה וְחַסֵּד וְהוֹשִׁיעֵנוּ:

*Avinu mal-keynu, ḥoney-nu va-aneynu, ki eyn banu ma-asim,
Asey imanu tz'dakah va-ḥesed v'ho-shi-eynu.*

*Avinu mal-keynu, graciously answer us although we are without
merits; deal with us righteously and lovingly save us.*

מִן־הַמַּצָּר קָרָאתִי יְהוָה. עֲנֵנִי בְּמִרחֵב יְהוָה:

Min-ha-maytzar karati yah, a-nahni va-merḥav yah.

In distress I called on the Lord;
The Lord answered me and brought me relief.
Who is like You, O God, forgiving iniquity,
Pardoning the transgression of the remnant of Your people.
You delight in lovingkindness.
They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain;
For the earth shall be full of the love of the Lord
As the sea is full of the waters that cover it.

(Adapted from *The New Mahzor for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur*)

Let us cast away the sin of deception, so that we will mislead no one in word or deed, nor pretend to be what we are not.

Let us cast away the sin of vain ambition which prompts us to strive for goals which bring neither true fulfillment nor genuine contentment.

Let us cast away the sin of stubbornness, so that we will neither persist in foolish habits nor fail to acknowledge our will to change.

Let us cast away the sin of envy, so that we will neither be consumed by desire for what we lack nor grow unmindful of the blessings which are already ours.

Let us cast away the sin of selfishness, which keeps us from enriching our lives through wider concerns, and greater sharing, and from reaching out in love to other human beings.

Let us cast away the sin of indifference, so that we may be sensitive to the sufferings of others and responsive to the needs of people everywhere.

Let us cast away the sin of pride and arrogance, so that we can worship God and serve God's purposes in humility and truth.

THE THIRTEEN ATTRIBUTES

יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ רַחוּם וְחַנוּן. אֶרְךְ אַפַּיִם וְרַב־חֶסֶד וְאֱמֶת:
נֹצֵר חֶסֶד לְאַלְפִים. נֹשֵׂא עוֹן וְפֹשַׁע וְחַטָּאָה וְנִקְיָה:

*Adonai Adonai Eyl rahum v'hanun,
erekh apa-yim v'rav hesed ve-emet.
No-tzeyr hesed la-alafim,
nosey avon va-fe-sha v'hata-a v'nakey.*

The Lord is ever-present, all-merciful, gracious, compassionate,
patient, abounding in kindness and faithfulness,
treasuring up love for a thousand generations, forgiving
iniquity, transgression, and sin, and pardoning the penitent.