

THE UNIVERSAL RECOGNITION OF G-D
 RABBI TANI BURTON
 SUKKAT SHALOM-BNEI NOACH

I. Repentance in the Book of Jonah

a. The sailors

1. Jonah 1:7-16

<p>And they said everyone to his fellow, Come, and let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this evil is upon us. So they cast lots, and the lot fell upon Yona. Then they said to him, Tell us, we pray thee, for whose cause this evil is upon us; what is thy occupation? and where dost thou come from? what is thy country? and of what people art thou?</p> <p>And he said to them, I am a Hebrew; and I fear the Lord, the G-d of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.</p> <p>Then the men were exceedingly afraid, and they said to him, Why hast thou done this? For the men knew that he had fled from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them.</p> <p>Then they said to him, What shall we do to thee, that the sea may be calm for us? for the sea grew more and more tempestuous. And he said to them, Take me up, and cast me into the sea; so shall the sea be calm for you: for I know that for my sake this great tempest is upon you.</p> <p>Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring the ship back to land; but they could not: for the sea grew more and more tempestuous against them.</p> <p>So they cried to the Lord, and said, We beseech Thee, O L-rd, we beseech thee, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not upon us innocent blood: for thou, O L-rd, hast done as it pleased Thee.</p> <p>So they took up Yona, and cast him into the sea: and the sea ceased from its raging. Then the men feared the L-rd exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice to the L-rd, and made vows.</p>	<p>וַיֹּאמְרוּ אִישׁ אֶל-רֵעֵהוּ לָכוּ וְנִפְּלֵה גּוּרְלוֹת וְנִדְעָה בְּשָׂלְמִי הַרְעָה הַזֹּאת לָנוּ וַיִּפְּלוּ גּוּרְלוֹת וַיִּפֹּל הַגּוּרָל עַל-יוֹנָה:</p> <p>וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֵלָיו הַגִּיד־נָא לָנוּ בְּאִשֶּׁר לְמִי-הַרְעָה הַזֹּאת לָנוּ מִהַמְּלֹאכְתָּךְ וּמֵאַיִן תָּבוֹא מָה אֶרְצֶךָ וְאִי-מִזֶּה עִם אֶתָּה:</p> <p>וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵיהֶם עֲבָרִי אֲנִי וְאֶת־ד' אֱלֹקֵי הַשָּׁמַיִם אֲנִי יְרֵא אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה אֶת־הַיָּם וְאֶת־הַיַּבֵּשֶׁת: וַיִּרְאוּ הָאֲנָשִׁים יְרָאָה גְדוֹלָה וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֵלָיו מִה־זֹּאת עָשִׂיתָ כִּי-יָדְעוּ הָאֲנָשִׁים כִּי-מִלִּפְנֵי ד' הוּא בָרוּחַ כִּי הִגִּיד לָהֶם:</p> <p>וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֵלָיו מִה־נַּעֲשֶׂה לָּךְ וַיִּשְׁתַּק הַיָּם מִעֲלֵינוּ כִּי הַיָּם הוֹלֵךְ וְסֹעֵר:</p> <p>וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵיהֶם שְׂאוּנִי וְהִטִּילְנִי אֶל־הַיָּם וַיִּשְׁתַּק הַיָּם מִעֲלֵיכֶם כִּי יוֹדַע אֲנִי כִּי בְּשָׁלִי הִסְעַר הַגָּדוֹל הַזֶּה עֲלֵיכֶם:</p> <p>וַיַּחֲתְרוּ הָאֲנָשִׁים לְהַשִּׁיב אֶל־הַיַּבֵּשֶׁת וְלֹא יָכְלוּ כִּי הַיָּם הוֹלֵךְ וְסֹעֵר עֲלֵיהֶם:</p> <p>וַיִּקְרְאוּ אֶל־ד' וַיֹּאמְרוּ אָנָּה ד' אֱלֹהֵי נָא נִבְּרָךְ בְּנִפְשׁ הָאִישׁ הַזֶּה וְאַל־תִּתֵּן עָלֵינוּ דָם נָקִיא כִּי־אֶתָּה ד' כָּאֲשֶׁר חִפְצָתָ עָשִׂיתָ:</p> <p>וַיִּשְׂאוּ אֶת־יוֹנָה וַיִּטְלֵהוּ אֶל־הַיָּם וַיַּעֲמֵד הַיָּם מִזְעָפוֹ:</p> <p>וַיִּרְאוּ הָאֲנָשִׁים יְרָאָה גְדוֹלָה אֶת־ד' וַיִּזְבְּחוּ־זִבְחַ לַד' וַיִּדְּרוּ נְדָרִים:</p>
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b. Nineveh

2. Jonah 3:4-10

<p>And Yona began to enter the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Another forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown. So the people of Nineveh believed G-d, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them. For word came to the king of Nineve, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineve by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste any thing: let them not feed, nor drink water: but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily to G-d: and let them turn everyone from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands. Who can tell? G-d may turn and relent, and turn away from his fierce anger, so that we perish not. And G-d saw their deeds, in that they turned from their evil way; and G-d repented of the evil, which he had said that he would do to them; and he did not do it.</p>	<p>וַיַּחַל יוֹנָה לְבֹא בְעִיר מֵהַלָּה, יוֹם אֶחָד וַיִּקְרָא וַיֹּאמֶר עוֹד אַרְבָּעִים יוֹם וַיִּנְוָה נְהַפְכֹת: וַיֵּאֱמִינוּ אַנְשֵׁי נִינְוָה בְּאֱלֹקִים וַיִּקְרְאוּ צוֹם וַיִּלְבְּשׁוּ שִׁקְיִם מִגְדוּלָם וְעַד-קִטְנִים: וַיִּגַע הַדָּבָר אֶל-מֶלֶךְ נִינְוָה וַיִּקֶם מִכִּסְאוֹ וַיַּעֲבֵר אֶדְרֵתוֹ מֵעֲלָיו וַיִּכֶס שִׁק וַיֵּשֶׁב עַל-הָאֶפֶר: וַיִּזְעַק וַיֹּאמֶר בְּנִינְוָה מִטַּעַם הַמֶּלֶךְ וַגְּדִלְיוֹ לֹא־מָר הָאֵלִים וְהַבְּהֵמָה הַבְּקָר וְהַצֹּאן אֶל-יִטְעַמּוּ מֵאוֹמָה אֶל-יָרְעוּ וּמִיִּם אֶל-יִשְׁתּוּ: וַיִּתְכַּסּוּ שִׁקִּים הָאָדָם וְהַבְּהֵמָה וַיִּקְרְאוּ אֶל-אֱלֹהִים בְּחִזְקָה וַיֵּשְׁבוּ אִישׁ מִדַּרְכּוֹ הַרְעָה וּמִן-הַחַמָּס אֲשֶׁר בְּכַפֵּיהֶם: מִי-יִדְעַע יֵשׁוּב וְנָחַם הָאֱלֹקִים וְשָׁב מִחֲרוֹן אַפּוֹ וְלֹא נִאֲכַד: וַיֵּרָא הָאֱלֹקִים אֶת-מַעֲשֵׂיהֶם כִּי-שָׁבוּ מִדַּרְכֵּם הַרְעָה וַיִּנָּחֵם הָאֱלֹקִים עַל-הַרְעָה אֲשֶׁר-דִּבֶּר לַעֲשׂוֹת-לָהֶם וְלֹא עָשָׂה:</p>
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II. Universal recognition of G-d

3. Liturgy, Days of Awe (Rosh Hashanah/Yom Kippur)

<p>And so, grant that Your awe, L-rd, our G-d, be upon all Your works, and Your dread upon all You have created; and [then] all [Your] works will fear You,</p>	<p>וּבְכֵן תֵּן פְּחָדְךָ יְד' אֱלֹקֵינוּ עַל כָּל מַעֲשֵׂיךָ וְאִמְתָּךְ עַל כָּל מַה שִׁבְרָאתָ. וַיִּירָאוּךָ כָּל הַמַּעֲשִׂים וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוּוּ לְפָנֶיךָ כָּל הַבְּרִואִים. וַיַּעֲשׂוּ כָּל־אֲגָדָה אַחַת לַעֲשׂוֹת רָצוֹנְךָ בְּלִבָּב שְׁלָם. כְּמוֹ שֶׁיִּדְעֵנוּ ד'</p>
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<p>and prostrate before You will be all [Your] created beings. And may they all form a single band to do Your will with a perfect heart. For we know L-rd, our G-d that rulership is Yours, strength is in Your hand, might is in Your right hand and Your Name is awesome over all You have created.</p>	<p>אֱלֹהֵינוּ שֶׁהַשְּׁלֵטוֹן לְפָנֶיךָ עַד בְּיָדְךָ וּגְבוּרָה בְּיַמִּינֶךָ וְשִׁמְךָ נֹרָא עַל כָּל מַה שִׁבְרָאתָ :</p>
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4. Esther 4:16

<p>Go, gather together all the Jews who are present in Shushan, and fast for me, and neither eat nor drink for three days, night and day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise, <u>and so</u> I will go in to the king, though it is against the law: and if I perish, I perish.</p>	<p>לָךְ כְּנוֹס אֶת-כָּל-הַיְהוּדִים הַנִּמְצָאִים בְּשׁוּשַׁן וְצוּמוּ עִמִּי וְאֶל-תֹּאכְלוּ וְאֶל-תִּשְׁתּוּ שְׁלֹשֶׁת יָמִים לַיְלָה וַיּוֹם גַּם-אֲנִי וְנַעֲרֹתַי אֲצוּם כֵּן וּבִלְטָן אָבֹא אֵל־הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר לֹא-כָדָת וְכִאֲשֶׁר אֲבָדְתִי אֲבָדְתִּי:</p>
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5. Proverbs 1:7

<p>The fear of the L-rd is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.</p>	<p>יְרֵאת ד' רֵאשִׁית דַּעַת חֲכָמָה אֲמוּסָר אֲוִילִים בָּזוּ:</p>
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