מ"ט תפרים

(49 STITCHES)

Meditations for the Counting of the Omer

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It is said that Rabbi Akiba had twelve thousand pairs of students ...and they all died in the same time-period because they did not give one another honor...It is taught that they all died between Passover and Shavuot. — Yevamot

Introduction

For those not familiar with the Kabbalistic Sefirot, a brief, much-simplified introduction may be in order.

According to the Kabbala, the Infinite One manifests Himself in the world in ten stages, which are called the Sefirot. These stages of Divine manifestation are also mirrored in the human soul. The first three (Keter/Will, Chokhmah/Wisdom, and Binah/Understanding) are known as the "intellectual" Sefirot. After them come six (CChesed/Lovingkindness, Gevurah/Strength, Tiferet/Beauty or Compassion, Netzach/Victory or Eternity, Hod/Splendor or Acknowledgment, and Yesod/Foundation) which are commonly referred to as the "middot" (literally measurements) and which are associated with emotional attitudes or traits. Tenth and last comes Malkhut/Kingdom, which receives and synthesizes the energies of the middot.

During the seven weeks of the Counting of the Omer, we are expected to refine our souls in preparation for receiving the Torah on Shavuot. For this purpose, the Kabbalists associated one of seven last Sefirot with each of the seven weeks. Within each week, each day is associated with one of the Sefirot. Thus the first day of the first week is CChesed shebeCChesed. The second day is Gevurah shebeCChesed, representing the aspect of CChesed that is connected with Gevurah. Each Sefirah appears in combination with every other Sefirah, once as the dominant and once as the modifying Sefirah. The 49th day is Malkhut shebeMalkhut, the grand synthesis, as we prepare to stand together before our Creator.

Many books have been written on the Counting of the Omer, interpreting the combinations of the Sefirot in various ways, with varying emphasis. The emphasis in the present work was on the traits and attitudes that make unity possible. It was written in Hebrew, one poem each day, during the Counting of the Omer in 5774. Three main sources were consulted: *Usafartem Lakhem*, by Rabbi Daniel Frisch; *Torat HaNefesh*, by Rabbi Yitzchak Ginsburgh; and *A Spiritual Guide to the Counting of the Omer, by Rabbi Simon Jacobson*.

May we be blessed with unity and strength for all the challenges we face.

יְמֵי סְפִירָה – יְמֵי תִּקּוּן שְׁבִירָה. אַחֲרֵי הַהֶּאָרָה הָאַדִּירָה בָּא זֵכֶר הַקָּהָל שֶׁלֹּא הֵכִיל. לָכֵן הַיּוֹם עָלֵינוּ לְהַכְפִּיל שָׁעָלֵינוּ לֶאֶסֹף וּלְשַׁחְזֵר כְּשֶׁכָּל לֵב בְּזוּלָתוֹ יְגַלֶּה אוֹתוֹ טוֹב, שֵׁמִן הַמָּקוֹר גַּם הוּא יִדְלֵה.

Chesed in Chesed: Days of counting -- days of repairing the breakage. After the great illumination comes the memory of the community that did not contain. Therefore, today we must redouble our efforts to remember the lovingkindness that was scattered, that we are to gather and restore, as each heart discovers in the other that same good which it draws from the Source.

2 גבורה שבחסד

דְּחָפִי הַנָּדִיב לְהַעְנִיק זְּסִוּק לִזְּהִירוּת שֶׁלֹּא יָעִיק עַל הַזּוּלָת, שֶׁלֹּא יִפְרֹץ נָּדֵר. עָלָיו לְהִתְּמַצֵא, לְהִסְתַּדֵּר בַּגְּבוּלוֹת וּבַמְּחָצוֹת שֶׁל הַנִּתָּן שֵׁקָבַע לִפָּנִי הָעֵלִיוֹן, הָאֵיתָן. שֵׁקָבַע לִפָּנֵי הָעֵלִיוֹן, הָאֵיתָן.

Gevurah in Chesed: My generous impulse to give, needs to take care not to oppress the other, not to transgress boundaries. It has to orient itself, accommodate itself within the bounds and partitions of the given, as set before me by the exalted and constant One.

> 3 תפארת שבחסד

לֶאֱהֹב אֶת הַזּוּלֵת כְּמוֹת שֶׁהוּא עַל הַתְּכוּנוֹת שֶׁבָּהֶן ה׳ עָשָּׁהוּ וְלֹא לִדְרֹש מִפֶּנוּ לְהִשְׁתַּנּוֹת –אוֹ עַל חִבָּה בְּחִבָּה לַעֲנוֹת לֶאֱהֹב אוֹתוֹ בִּתְכוּנַת הַצוּר הַתָּמִים

ַהַמֵּכִיל אֶת עוֹלָמוֹ בְּרַחֲמִים.

Tiferet in Chesed: To love the other "as is," with the qualities with which G-d made him, not to demand that he change or respond to love with love -- to love him with the quality of the perfect Rock Who contains all in compassion.

4 נצח שבחסד

לְהִתְעַקֵּשׁ בָּאַהֲבָה, גַּם אִם יִתְנַגְּדוּ לָהּ כָּל הַסְּמָנִים, שֶׁלֹּא יָעִיבוּ הְּנוּדוֹת הַיְּמָן עַל הָעַצְמִיּוּת, אֵלֶיהָ נֶאֱמָן אֶהְיֶה, לַמְרוֹת כָּל יֵצֶר וּמִכְשׁוֹל, כִּי בַּחוֹלֵף הַנָּצְחִי מֵשׁל יִמְשׁוֹל.

Netsach in Chesed: To persist in love, even if all the signs are against it, so that fluctuations of time will not cloud the essence, to which I will be true despite all impulse and obstacle, for the eternal shall indeed rule over the transient.

5 **הוד שבחסד**

אַהַבָּה שָׁעַל כְּבוֹדָהּ אֵינָה מוֹחֶלֶת וְשֶׁבָּהּ הַגַּאֲוָה אֵינָה מֵשְׁפֶּלֶת אֵינֶנָה אַהֲבָה, עַד שֶׁתִּזְכֹּר שֶׁהִיא, בְּרוּכָה, נוֹבַעַת מִמְּקוֹר הַטוֹב, וְלָאוֹהֵב הִיא מַתָּנָה. אַז הִיא תַּאִיר לִלֹא כֵּל צֵל טִינַה.

Hod in Chesed: Love that does not forgo its honor and in which pride is not lowered is not love until it remembers its blessed nature as a gift to the lover. Then it will shine without any shadow of resentment.

6 יסוד שבחסד

תֶסֶד שׁוֹאֵף תָּמִיד לִקְשֹׁר קְשָׁרִים וּמֵאֲחַר שָׁאֵלֶּה נוֹצְרִים רוֹצֶה לְחַזֵּק אוֹתָם וּלְגַבֵּשׁ שָׁצְלֵיהֶם וּמִתּוֹכָם יִתְמַמֵּשׁ בִּנְיָן מוּצָק, יִצְמַח אִילָן פּוֹרֶה אֲשֶׁר יַמְחִישׁ טוּבוֹ שֵׁל הַבּוֹרֵא. Yesod in Chesed: Love always seeks to make connections, and once they are made wants to strengthen and crystallize them, so that upon and from them the solid building may take shape, a fruitful tree will grow, to demonstrate the goodness of the Creator.

7 מלכות שבחסד

לְצִין הַחֶּסֶד יִתְנֵלֶּה הֲדַר כָּל הַנִּבְרָא בְּצֶלֶם, הַמְסֵדָּר לְפִי מִדּוֹת מִן הָאַיִן הָאָצִיל הַמַּגְבִּיהַּ לָשֶׁבֶּת וּמַשְׁפִּיל לְרְאוֹת, שֶׁבְּחַסְדוֹ חָזֶה תַּפְקִיד וּמָקוֹם בְּעוֹלָמוֹ לְכָל יָחִיד.

Malkhut in Chesed: To the eye of love is revealed the majesty of every one created in G-d's image, constructed of qualities emanated by the One who dwells on high and sees the depths, and in kindness assigns a task and a place to every individual.

8 חסד שבגבורה

מִי שָׁמֻּכְרַח לְהַחְמִיר עַל חֲבֵרוֹ יִזָּהֵר מְאֹד שָׁלֹא לְהַעֲבִירוֹ מִמְּקוֹם הַחֶסֶד. בְּחִבָּה רַבָּה יְבָרֵךְ אוֹתוֹ שָׁיִּוְכֶּה לְחִבָּה עַל יְדֵי מַעֲשָׁיו הַמְתֻּקָנִים, כִּי לֵב נִשְׁבַּר הוּא שַׁעַר הַגַּנִּים.

Chesed in Gevurah: Whoever needs to be severe with his friend should be very careful not to push him away from the place of kindness. With great love he should bless him that he should merit love through his rectified actions, for a broken heart is a gate to the gardens.

9 גבורה שבגבורה

אֶת הַכּּחַ הַשּׁוֹפֵט, הַמְבַקֵּר, יֵשׁ לִבְחֹן בְּחֻמְרָה, לְמֵעַן הַכֵּר אָם טְהוֹרָה הָאֵשׁ אוֹ מִן הָאָדֹם אֲשֶׁר יָפֶה לִשְׁלֹט בּוֹ שֵׁיִּדֹם, אֲבָל עַל מַה שֶׁלַבְּרִיאָה מַזִּיק לָתֵת לִבִרַק כַּעֲסָנוּ לִהַבִּזִּיק. לָתֵת לִבִרָק כַּעֲסָנוּ לִהַבִּזִּיק. Gevurah in Gevurah: The faculty of judgment and criticism must be strictly examined so as to recognize if the fire is pure or is of the redness which should be subdued to silence. But one should let the lightning of G-d fall on what damages Creation.

10 תפרארת שבגבורה

בְּתוֹךְ הַתּוֹכֵחָה שֶׁתִּתְחַבֵּא נְקוּדְה שֶׁל רַחֲמִים שֶׁתִּתְבַּטֵּא שֶׁהַנָּזוּף יַשְׁלִים אֶת הַסִפּוּר בְּהִשְׁתַוּוּת עִם רְצוֹן הַנּוֹרָא בָּהִשְׁתַוּוּת עָם רְצוֹן הַנּוֹרָא בָּהִשְׁתַוּוּת הַהוֹרָאָה.

Tiferet in Gevurah: Within rebuke should be hidden a point of compassion which expresses itself in formulas of politeness and respect, so that the one rebuked will finish the story with reconciliation to the will of the Awesome One, having seen the justness of the instruction.

11 נצח שבגבורה

עַל מְנַת לְהִתְּנַּבֵּר עַל הַפַּשְׁחִית אַתְמִיד בַּפֵּאֲבָק וְלֹא אַפְחִית בְּעֵרָנוּת לְרָנַע, כִּי הַשּׁוֹאֵף לְהַכְשִׁילֵנִי מְתַמְרֵן בְּלִי הֶרֶף. אֶשְׁאַב עֹז לְהָבִיס אֶת הָעַקְשָׁן מָמִי שֵׁלֹא יָנוּם וְלֹא יָשַׁן.

Netsach in Gevurah: In order to overcome the destroyer, I will persist in the struggle and will not lessen my alertness for a minute, for the one who seeks to make me stumble is constantly maneuvering. I will draw strength to defeat the stubborn one from the One who neither slumbers nor sleeps.

12 הוד שבגבורה

אָם בְּעֶזְרַת הי עָמֵד כּּוֹחֵנוּ נֶגֶד הַקָּם עָלֵינוּ לַהְדִיחֵנוּ לַהי נִתֵּן הוֹדָאָה וּתְהִלָּה עַל מְנַת שָׁיִּשְׁמֹר עָלֵינוּ גַּם הָלְאָה. נוֹדֶה גַּם עַל הַטּוֹב שֶׁבַּחָבֵר שָׁיִּשְׁמַע תּוֹכֵחָה וְיִתְגַּבֵּר. Hod in Gevurah: If with G-d's help our strength held up against what rose against us to make us stray, let us give thanks and praise so that He will continue to guard us. And let us also give thanks for the good in our companion who hears rebuke and overcomes.

13 יסוד שבגבורה

הַכּּחַ הַמְקַשֵּׁר, הַמְיֵפֵד דּוֹרֵשׁ שְׁמִירָה הְּמִידִית בֶּּן יִפְּסֵד וְיִתְפַּזֵּר בְּטֻמְאַת אֲבָדוֹן כִּי עִם פְּגַם הַבְּרִית הַכְּלֶל נִדּוֹן לְפֵרוּק, חֲלִילָה. צַדִּיק, עַל מְנַת לָמִנֹעַ זֹאת, יַזָּהָיר אֶת הַזּוּלֵת.

Yesod in Gevurah: The power that connects and founds needs constant guarding so that it will not deteriorate and scatter itself in the corruption of perdition, for with the defect of the covenant the whole is doomed to fall apart, G-d forbid. The righteous one, to prevent this, will warn his fellow.

14 מלכות שבגבורה

לְעוֹלֶם יִמְשׁׁלֹ אֶדָם בְּכָל יְצָרָיוּ כְּמֶלֶךְ שָׁאֵין לְהַרְהֵר אַחֲרָיוּ כִּי הָעֶלְיוֹן אִשֵּׁר אֶת סַמְכוּתוֹ וּכְמוֹ כֵן יְעוֹדֵד אֶת עֲמִיתוֹ לִלְבַּש הָדָר, כָּל הַמּוֹרֵד לִדְחֹק, וְעֵל עִירוֹ לָהַטִּיל מִשְׁפַּט וְחֹק.

Malkhut in Gevurah: A person should always rule his impulses like a king who allows no dissent because the Most High has confirmed his authority, and likewise should encourage his fellow to put on majesty, to repulse every rebel, and to impose law and order on his city.

15 חסד שבתפארת

יֵשׁ שֶׁבָּעוֹלָם הַיֶּה שֶׁל יֵשׁוּת נִפְּרֶדֶת תּוֹפִיעַ, מְאֻיֶּנֶת וּמְאֻחֶדֶת, צוּרַת-פְּאֵר חֲסוּדָה וַחֲמוּרָה כְּאַחַת, כְּרֶמֶז לָאֶחָד הַנּוֹרָא. יְהִי רָצוֹן שֶׁבָּנוּ יִתְעוֹרֵר אַהַבָּה אֵלֵיהָ, עַל מִנַת שֵׁתִּשָּׁמֵר. Chesed in Tiferet: Sometimes in this world of separated being there will appear a splendid form with unity and balance, both gracious and severe, like an intimation of the Awesome One. May it awaken love in us, that it may be preserved.

16 גבורה שבתפארת

עם יפי יֵשׁ פִּתּוּי, אִם רַחֲמִים יֵשׁ מְשִׁיכָה, כֶּל חִסְּרוֹן לְהַשְׁלִים מִמֵּשְׁאוֹבֵינוּ, עַד כְּלוֹתָם. עַל כֵּן יֵשׁ לְהִתְנֵּדֵּר, שֶׁלֹּא לְהִסְתַּכֵּן, לִבְדֹּק עַצְמֵנוּ, וְאָז לְהַמְשִׁידְּ בִּשֵׂכֵל טוֹב לַעַזֹר וּלִהַעִרִידְ.

Gevurah in Tiferet: With beauty there is temptation; with compassion there is a pull to complete every lack from our resources till they are exhausted. Therefore we need to fence ourselves against danger and to check ourselves before continuing, with balanced mind, to help and to appreciate.

17 תפארת שבתפארת

מָכֶּל פִּלְאֵי ה׳ נִפְלָא מִפְגָּשׁ בֵּין שְׁנֵי מוֹחִין, שָׁכָּל אֶחָד נִרְגָּשׁ וּמִתְפַּעֵל מִמַּה שֶׁעֲמִיתוֹ חָוָה, וְגַם יוֹרֵד לְסוֹף דַּעְתּוֹ, וּנְקוּדַת אֱמֶת בֵּין שְׁנֵי מוֹדְדִים נִשְׁקַפַּה, שֵׁלֹא הוֹפִיעַה לַבּוֹדְדִים.

Tiferet in Tiferet: Of all G-d's wonders the most wonderful is the meeting of two minds, each of excited and impressed by what the other has experienced, and penetrating to the depth of his thought. Between two surveyors a point of truth is seen which does not appear to each alone.

18 נצח שבתפארת

כְּהַבְּתָּעָה מוֹפִיעַ הַדָּבָר הָאֲמִתִּי וְהַיָּפֶּה. וּכְבָר בָּא הָעוֹלֶם הַמַּעְלִים, חוֹתֵר לְהַחֲזִיר אֶת שֶׁהוֹפִיעַ לַהֶּסְתֵּר. אָז עָלֵינוּ לָקוּם וּלְהַנְצִיחַ אֱמֶת וְיֹפִי נֶגֶד כָּל מַשְׁכִּיחַ. Netsach in Tiferet: As a surprise the true and beautiful thing appears. And immediately the world of concealment tries to drive what appeared back into hiding. Then we need to rise up to perpetuate truth and beauty against all that would cause them to be forgotten.

19 **הוד שבתפארת**

אָם מִזּוּלֵת שָׁמֵע דִּבְרֵי-פְּאֵר נָאִים וּנְכוֹנִים, לֹא יְאֵחֵר עַל אֵלֶה לְהוֹדוֹת וּלְשַׁבֵּחַ וְכָל קִנְאָה יַעֲלֶה עַל מִזְבַּח זְרִיזוּתוֹ. אָז יַצִיל נֶכֶס יָקָר, יִיַבֶּה עוֹלֶם, וְגֵם הוֹא יֵצֵא נִשְׂכָּר.

Hod in Tiferet: If someone heard from another words that are beautiful, pleasant and true, he should not delay to acknowledge and praise them and sacrifice all jealousy on the altar of his promptitude. Then he will save a treasure, beautify the world, and gain reward.

20 יסוד שבתפארת

בֵּין אֵלֶה שֶׁאֲלֵיהֶם הִתְּגַּלֶּה בִּטוּי אָדָם הַמְעוֹרֵר חֶמְלָה וְהִתְפַּצְלוּת, רָאוּי שׁתִנָּצְר רֵעוּת, שֻׁתָּפוּת, עַל מְנַת שֶׁיִּשְׁתָּמֵר וְיִשְׁתָּרִשׁ הַפָּלֶא וְגַם יִצְמַח וְיִשְׁתָּרִשׁ הַבָּלֶל יִשְׂמַח וְיָבִיא בֵּרוֹת, עֲלֵיהֶם הַכְּלָל יִשְׂמַח.

Yesod in Tiferet: Among those to whom there was revealed the expression of a human being that aroused compassion and wonder, friendship should be establish, in order that the wonder should be preserved, take root and grow and bear fruit that will give joy to the community.

21 מלכות שבתפארת

בַּאֲשֶׁר כָּל אֶחָד בַּמְדִינָה יָחֹן כָּל אֶחָד וְאֶחָד, בְּלִי קִנְאָה, כַּאֲשֶׁר הַקְּשָׁרִים הַנִּסְתָּרִים שָׁבֵּין הַיְחִידִים יִהְיוּ בְּרוּרִים, אָז יִתְפָּאֵר ה׳ בְּמַלְכוּתוֹ, בִּנְיַן עוֹלָם, יְצִיר אֲמָנוּתוֹ. Malkhut in Tiferet: When every person in the state will be compassionate to everyone, without jealousy, and when the hidden connections between individuals will be clear, then G-d will be glorified in His kingdom, the eternal building, the work of His art.

> 22 חסד שבנצח

מִי שֶׁשָּׁם עָלֵינוּ מְשִׂימָה הוּא יִתֵּן לָנוּ כֹּחַ לְחַשְׁלִימָהּ בְּיָד רָמָה וּבְכֹחַ נָאֶמָן הַנִּשְׁאָב מֵאוֹצָרוֹ מֵעַל לַזְּמָן, וְגַם לַהִתְנַגְּדוּת נַחֲזִיק חָבָּה עַד שִׁתִּתֵּן לָנוּ לִכִבּש לִבָּה.

Chesed in Netsach: The One who laid a task upon us will give us the strength to complete it with a high hand and faithful strength we shall draw from His treasuries beyond time, and we shall hold even opposition in affection until we are able to conquer its heart.

23 גבורה שבנצח

נֵם הַהַתְּמָדָה, הָעִקְבִיּוּת, טְעוּנָה בִּקֹרֶת וְאִבְחוּוּן, שֶׁמָּא הִיא מוּנָעָה בְּעַקְשָׁנוּת קִצְרַת-רְאוּת, מֵטְעֵית אָז יְנַתֵּר וְיִפָּנַע מֵחֵטְא. אַדְּ אִם יִתְבָּרֵר שֶׁהַדֶּרֶדְּ יְשָׁרָה, יֵלֵדְ וְגַם יַדְרִידְ בָּהּ, לִלֹא פִּשְׁרָה.

Gevurah in Netsach: Even constancy and consistency need critical examination, lest the source be in short-sighted and mistaken stubbornness; then one should give way and refrain from sin. But if it turns out that the path is straight, then one should walk and lead others in it without compromise.

> 24 תפארת שבנצח

בְּמַאֲבָק מְמֻשָּׁךְּ וְנֶאֱמָן אַרְגִּישׁ בְּנוֹכְחוּת הָרַחֲמָן אוֹחֵד וּמְעוֹדֵד אוֹתִי וְגַם מַרְאָה לִי תּוֹרָתוֹ שָׁאֵין בָּהּ פְּנָם שָׁתַּשְׂכִּילֵנִי, וְגַם אֶת הַזּוּלַת, וּבִמְתִינוּת אֱעֵבֹד אֶת הַמֵּחְלָט. Tiferet in Netsach: In the constant faithful struggle I feel the presence of the Compassionate One supporting and encouraging me and showing me His Torah which is without defect so that it will make me wise, and also others, in order that with moderation I may serve the Absolute.

25 נצח שבנצח

מִי שֶׁלְבּוֹ תָּמִיד עֵר וּמוּדַע שֶׁבְּחַבּוֹ יֵשׁ אוֹתָהּ נְקוּדָה שֶׁהַבּוֹרֵא מִתּוֹכוֹ לְתוֹכוֹ נָפַח לֹא יֻפְתַּע מִמְּאוֹרַע, לֹא יִפֹּל בַּפַּח, כִּי מִן הֶעָתִיד לָבֹא יִרְאֶה אֶת הַכּּל וְגַם יָאִיר לְרֵעהוּ שֵׁלֹּא יִכְשׁול.

Whoever's heart is always alert and aware that within it is hidden that point which the Creator breathed into him from Himself will not be surprised by events nor fall into a trap, for he will see everything from the standpoint of the future, and will also light the way so that his comrade will not stumble.

> 26 הוד שבנצח

לוּ אַמְשִׁיךּ בְּעֶזְרַת הי צְבָאוֹת בְּדֶרֶךּ טוֹבָה שֶׁהוּא נוֹתֵן לִי לִרְאוֹת בְּאוֹר שִּׁכְלִי שָׁנָּטַע בִּי מִבְּרֵאשִׁית בְּאוֹר תּוֹרָתוֹ שָׁנָתַן לִי בֶּן אַשְׁחִית, עַל פִּי פְּסַק מוֹרִי שֶׁדְּבַר הי יַבְהֵר וְתַעֵּמֹד לִי גַּם עַצַת חָבֵר.

Hod in Netsach: May I continue with the help of the L-rd of Hosts in the good way which He lets me see in the light of the reason which He planted in me from creation, in the light of His Torah which he gave me lest I mess up, according to the decision of my teacher who explains G-d's word, and may the counsel of my friend also sustain me.

27 יסוד שבנצח

רַק מִי שֶׁלֹא נִמְשַׁךְ אַחֲרֵי חוּשָׁיוּ לִקְשׁׂר עִם הַחוֹלֵף קְשָׁרִים שֶׁל שָׁוְא יוּכַל לְהַעָנוֹת לַמְּסָרִים שֶׁהָעוֹלֶם הַבָּא תָּמִיד מֵזְרִים וָגֵם יוּכַל כָּבָר כָּאן לְהִתִּקַשֵּׁר

ַעָם רֻעִים הַקָּשׁוּבִים לְמַה שֵׁיִשָּׁאֵר.

Yesod in Netsach: Only the one who has not been drawn by his senses to make vain connections with the transitory will be able to respond to the messages which the Coming World is always streaming, and will also be able to connect, even here, with those who are attentive to what will remain.

28 מלכות שבנצח

עַל סְמַדְּ דְּמוּתִי הָאֵיתָנָה נִבְנֵית יֵשׁוּתִי, כָּבוֹד וָשֶׂגֶב לָהּ אַבְנֵט, וְהִיא כּוֹלֶלֶת נַּם כְּבוֹד חָבֵר, אָם שׁוּתָף הוּא לִי, עִם יָרִיב, בְּעוֹלֶם עוֹבֵר, וְאַף הֲדַר הַכְּלָל, שֶׁהוּא קָבוּעַ בָּאוֹר, אֵין לוֹ שָׁנָה, אֵין לוֹ שָׁבוּעַ.

Malkhut in Netsach: According to my permanent pattern my being is built, and honor and loftiness are its girdle, and it also includes respect for my fellow, be he my ally or my rival in the transient world, and also respect for the community, which is established in the light that has neither year nor week.

29 **חסד שבהוד**

מְכֶּל צִבְאוֹת עוֹלֶם הי מֵזְרִיחַ הוֹדוּ לֵלֵב שָׁאֵין עָלָיו בָּרִיחַ שֶׁל גַּאֲנָה, אֶלָּא לִרְנָחָה פָתוּחַ הוּא לִקְלֹט בְּאַהֲבָה, וּבְכָל מִפְּגָּשׁ שֶׁבְּיוֹמוֹ קוֹרֶה מִקַבָּל אֵת הַשָּׁלִיחִים שֵׁל הַבּוֹרֵא.

Chesed in Hod: From all the hosts of the world G-d makes his light shine into the heart that does not have a bolt of pride but is open wide to receive with love, and in every encounter that occurs in his day will welcome the messengers of the Creator.

30 גבורה שבהוד

יֵשׁ שֶׁאָדָם שׁוֹמֵעַ תּוֹכֵחָה שָׁיִּצְרוֹ יְבַקֵּשׁ לְהַשְׁכִּיחָהּ. מִכָּל פִּנּוֹת עוֹלָם עֲלוּלִים לְהַגִּיעַ רְמָזִים שָׁיַּרְאִיבוּ לָאֲנִי הַפָּגִיעַ. אַךְּ עֲלֵי לִהִתְחַיֵּק וּלִהוֹדוֹת

לִמִי שֵׁחָסַךְ מִמֵּנִּי עוֹד לִטְעֹת.

Gevurah in Hod: Sometimes a person will hear a rebuke which his inclination will try to make him forget. From all corners of the world hints may arrive that will be painful to the vulnerable ego. But I must strengthen myself and thank those who prevented me from continuing to err.

31 תפארת שבהוד

כָּכָל שֶׁלֵב אָדָם נִפְתַּח לִרְאוֹת בְּהִתְפַּצְלוּת-חֶמְלָה כָּל הַצּוּרוֹת, בְּמִדָּה שֶׁיִּתְיַחֵס לְכָל אַחַת מֵהֶן בְּצֶדֶק שָׁיַשְׁרֶה וַחַת, גַּם לְמִדַּת הַהוֹדָיָה יִגְרֹם לְהִתְפַשִּׁט לְמַשָּׁה וּבַמָּרוֹם.

Tiferet in Hod: The more a person's heart opens to see with admiration and compassion all the forms, to the extent that he relates to each one of them with justice that will create gratification, he will also cause the quality of gratitude to spread out below and above.

32 נצח שבהוד

עָמֹק בַּלֵב שוֹכֶנֶת הַכְּרָה שָׁכָּל מַה שָׁבָּרָא לְטוֹב בָּרָא. גַּם כַּאֲשֶׁר מִקְרֵי הַוְּמָן מְעִיבִים עַל אוֹר פָּנָיו, אֲנַחְנוּ חַיָּבִים לְהַחֲזִיק טוֹבָה אֵלָיו וּלְכָל מִי שָׁאֵימַתֵּי עַשֵּׂה טוֹב עִמַּדִי.

Netsach in Hod: Deep in the heart there dwells the recognition that all He created, He created for good. Even when events of time overcloud the light of His countenance, we must retain gratitude to him, and to everyone who ever did me a kindness.

33 הוד שבהוד

עַל הַבְּרִיאָה שֶׁבָּרָאתָ יֵשׂ מֵאַיִן עַל עִמֶק אֲמִתְדְּ הַסְּמוּי מֵעַיִן עַל יְכֹלֶת נְטוּעָה בְּנִשְׁמוֹתֵינוּ לְהוֹדוֹת וּלְהִתְעַלוֹת עַל חֲטָאֵינוּ עַל צָבָא הַחֲבֵרִים הַמַּחַזִירִים עַל צָבָא הַחֲבֵרִים הַמַּחַזִירִים

אור הוֹדָיָה -- קוֹל הוֹדָיָה אָרִים.

Hod in Hod: For the Creation which You created from nothing, for the depth of Your truth which is hidden from the eye, for the ability implanted in our souls to admit to our sins and rise above them, for the host of comrades who reflect the light of gratitude, I raise a voice of thanksgiving.

34 יסוד שבהוד

לְאֵלֶה הַנִּצְּבִים כְּצְנּוֹרוֹת בֵּין עוֹלָמִים, לְהַעֲבִיר אוֹרוֹת מִן הָעֶלְיוֹן אֶל אֹפֶל יֵשׁוּתֵנוּ נוֹדָה, שָׁתִּתְעוֹרֵר גַּם בְּקַרְבֵּנוּ אוֹתָהּ הַנְקוּדָה בָּהּ נִדְּמֶה לָהֵם, וִנְזָּהֵר מִן הַשָּמֵא.

Yesod in Hod: To those who are set up as channels between worlds, to transmit lights from the Highest to the darkness of our being, we shall give thanks, so that within us too there may awaken the point in which we resemble them, and we shall guard ourselves from impurity.

35 מלכות שבהוד

שָׁמוּר בָּעוֹלָם לְכָל אֶחָד וְאַחַת מָקוֹם לָגוּר שָׁם וְלִפְּעֹל בְּנַחַת, וְרוּחַ כְּלָל מֵאִיר לָהֶם דַּרְכָּם עַד שָׁיַּגִּיעוּ אֶל מְנַת חֶלְקָם, וְקוֹל תּוֹדָה עוֹלֶה עַל כַּדְ תָּמִיד מִלֵב הַכָּלֵל שָׁבָּלֵב כָּל הַיַּחִיד.

Malkhut in Hod: For everyone there is reserved in the world a place to dwell and to act in tranquillity, and the spirit of the whole lights their way until they reach their allotted portions. And for this a voice of thanks goes up constantly from the heart of the community that is in the heart of the every individual.

36 חסד שביסוד

לְלֹא אַהֲבַת עוֹלָם הָיָה הָעוֹלָם נִשְׁאָר בְּגֶדֶר אִלֵּם וְנֶעֶלָם. בְּאַהֲבָה הִדְבִּיק הַבּוֹרֵא חֶלְקִיק בָּחֵלִקִיק אֲחֵר. לַכֵּן צַדִּיק בְּצַדִּיק בָּחֵלִקִיק אֲחֵר. לַכֵּן צַדִּיק בְּצַדִּיק

יִדְבַּק, וְהָעוֹלָם לֹא יִתְפּוֹרֵר כִּי אָם יַחֲזִיק מֵעֲמָד וְיִשְׁתַּפֵּר.

Chesed in Yesod: Without eternal love the world would have remained mute and concealed. With love the Creator stuck particle to particle. And thus a righteous person will stick to a righteous person, and the world will not crumble but will hold up and grow better.

37 גבורה שביסוד

מֵעַל לַכּּל יַקְפִּיד אָדָם עַל עִנְיֵן הַטּהַר, כִּי עָלָיו כָּל הַבִּנְיָן מִשְׁתָּת וְעָלוּל לִקְרֹס אִם תִּשְּׁחֵת אָת חֲבֵרוֹ, כִּי עַל כָּל עַמוּדָיו עוֹמֵד הַבַּיִת; נִזְדַּקֵּק יַחְדַּוּ

Gevurah in Yesod: Above all a person should be particular about purity, for upon it the whole structure is founded and is liable to crumble where purity is impaired. And one should also caution one's fellow against sin, for the house stands on all its pillars; we shall refine ourselves together.

38 תפארת שביסוד

מִי שֶׁמְרַחֵם עַל הַבְּרִיּוֹת וְלֹא סָתַם אָזְנָיו בִּפְנֵי קְרִיאוֹת הַנֶּעֶזָבִים, לְפִתּוּיֵי יִצְרוֹ יִסְתֹּם אוֹתָן, וִיקַיֵּם דְּבָרוֹ. אָזַי בְּצֵל נֶאֱמָנוּתוֹ יִצְמַח שָׁפֵר וַחֵן, וִהַעוֹלֵם יִשְׂמֵח

Tiferet in Yesod: Whoever has compassion on people and has not closed his ears to the cries of the abandoned will close them to the temptations of his inclination, and will keep his word. Then in the shadow of his faithfulness beauty and grace will grow and the world will be glad.

> 39 נצח שביסוד

תְּמִימֵי-דֶּרֶךּ, טְהוֹרֵי-לֵבָב, אֵינָם תָּמִיד אֲהוּבִים עַל עֵרֶב-רָב, וְלֹא תָּמִיד זוֹכִים לְאַהֲדָה מִמִּי שֵׁהַצְלָחָה לוֹ קַנֵה מִדָּה.

אַדְּ מִי שָּׁאֵינוֹ מְשָׁרֵת הַזְּמָן יִדבַּק בָּהֵם וִיִדאַג לְהַעַצִימָם.

Netsach in Yesod: Those whose way is perfect and whose heart is pure are not always loved by the masses nor do they always gain support from those whose standard is success. But whoever is not a servant of time will cleave to them and take care to strengthen them.

40 הוד שביסוד

בְּתוֹךְ הֲמוֹן אָדָם גֵשׁ יְחִידִים שָׁרוּחָם וּבְשָּׁרָם מִתְאַחֲדִים לְפַרְנֵס וּלְזַכּוֹת אֶת הָאֻמָּה וּבָרְאשׁוֹנָה אֶת מִי שָׁיַּכִּירֵם בָּצַנֵוָה וּבִמְסִירוּת יִשָּׁרִתֵּם.

Hod in Yesod: Among the mass of humanity there are individuals whose spirit and flesh are united to the commandment of G-d, and it is laid upon them to nourish and uplift the nation, and especially those who humbly recognize them and devotedly serve them.

41 יסוד שביסוד

נַפְשִׁי הַשּׁוֹקֵקָה לְהָטָהֵר לִקְרָאת הַטָּהוֹר מִפֶּנָּה יְמַהֵּר וְתָתְקַשֵּׁר אֵלָיו בְּחֵשֶׁק רָב וְנֵם תִּשְׁאַף לִמְשׁׂךְ אֶת הַצְּעִיר לִשָּׁמֹר כַּל צֵו אֵלקִים נֵּדוֹל וְזַעִיר לִשָּׁמֹר כַּל צֵו אֵלקִים נֵּדוֹל וְזַעִיר.

Yesod in Yesod: My soul which longs to be purified hastens toward the purer person and connects with him with great desire, and finds all service to him pleasant, and also longs to draw the young to keep each of G-d's commandments, great or small.

42 מלכות שביסוד

נֶגֶד עֵינֵי נַפְּשִׁי הַפִּזְדַּקֶּקֶת תַּצְמֹד הַקְּהִלָּה הַפִּשְׁתּוֹקֶקֶת לֶאֶסֹף וּלְסִדֵּר אֶת כָּל פְּרָטֶיהָ לְאַחוֹת וּלְהַתְּאִים כָּל נִשְׁמוֹתֶיהָ, וּמִי שֶׁבָּה מַרְגִּישׁ יִתֵּן בִּטּוּי

לָכְמִיהָתָהּ, וָלֹא יִשִּׁמֵע פִּתּוּי.

Malkhut in Yesod: Before the eyes of my soul as it becomes purer there stands the community which longs to gather and arrange all of its particulars, to join and harmonize all its souls, and whoever feels its presence will give expression to its longing and not hear temptation.

43 חסד שבמלכות

בְּאַהֲבָה נִבְרָא אָדָם בִּדְמוּת אֲדוֹן עוֹלֶם, וְחֵשֶׁק הַשְּׁלֵמוּת נִתַּן בְּנִשְׁמָתוֹ, וּמִסְּבִיבוֹ נִבְרָא עוֹלֶם עַל מְנַת שָׁיְּחַבְּבוֹ: כְּלַל יִשְׂרָאֵל, מִכְלל הַיְּצוּרִים, שָׁאֵלֵיהֵם חָבַּת רְבּוֹן יַזְרִים. שָׁאֵלֵיהֵם חָבַּת רְבּוֹן יַזְרִים.

Chesed in Malkhut: With love man was created in the semblance of Lord of the World, and the desire for perfection was put into his soul, and around him a world was created that he might love it – the congregation of Israel, the assemblage of creatures, to whom he should stream the affection of the sovereign.

44 גבורה שבמלכות

אָדָם, מוּדַע לַכְּלֶל בּוֹ הוּא שָׁרוּי, יַדַע גַּם בְּהֶכְרֵחַ שֶׁהוּא קָרוּי לְהַכִּיר בִּבְהִירוּת אֶת מְקוֹמוֹ וְלֹא לִפְרֹץ מֵעֶבֶר לִתְחוּמוֹ וְגַם לַחֲבֵרוֹ עַל כַּדְּ יָעִיר עַל מִנַת שֵׁמִּבְּפִנִים תִּנַצֵל הַעִיר.

Gevurah in Malkhut: A person who is conscious of the community within which he dwells will also necessarily know that he is called to recognize clearly his place and not to trespass beyond his field, and should also put his comrade on guard about this so that the city may be saved from within.

45 תפארת שבמלכות

לְהַאֲזִין לְדִבְרֵי אִישׁ שְׁלוֹמוֹ תּוֹךְ נִפְיוֹן לֶרֶדֶת לִמְקוֹמוֹ בְּגוּפוֹ, בִּיחָסִיו, בַּזְּמָן, בֶּחָלָל, פֵּרוּשׁוֹ לְהַחֲזִיר שִׁנּוּי שֶׁחָל בַּעוֹלֵם, כַּאֲשֵׁר אוֹרַת פַּנֵיו סִלְּקָה--

לַהַחַזִּירָהּ, לִקַבֶּל פָּגֵי הַמַּלְכָּה.

Tiferet in Malkhut: To listen to the words of one's friend while attempting to put oneself in his place – in his body, his relationships, in space, in time – is to reverse the change that occured in the world when the light of His countenance was withdrawn – to return that light, to welcome the queen.

46 נצח שבמלכות

לא אֲרָעִי צֵרוּף הַנְּפָשׁוֹת שָׁבֶּחָלָל וּבַיְּמָן כָּאן נִפְגָּשׁוֹת שָׁדָּוְקָא מֵן הָעֶלְיוֹן יָצָא הַצַּו שִׁדְּוָקָא אֵלֶה יְדַבְּרוּ יַחְדָּו וִישַׁתְּפוּ פְּעוּלָה עַל מְנַת לִיצוֹר כָּדָמוּת הַעִיר עַלֵיהַ אֵין מַצוֹר.

Netsach in Malkhut: Not random is the combination of the souls who in space and time meet here. From the Most High the command went forth that just these should speak together and cooperate to create a semblance of the city that cannot be besieged.

47 הוד שבמלכות

מִי שָׁאָמַר ייאָמֵןיי אַחֲרֵי בְּרָכָה שָׁאָמַר חֲבֵרוֹ, יוֹתֵר זָכָה מִפֶּנּוּ ; וְהַנַּצְשֶׂה צִנּוֹר לְקוֹל הַנָּדוֹל מִפֶּנּוּ, שוֹכֵן אוֹר וּמִתְנַּלֶּה בּוֹ עֶצֶם הוֹד מַלְכוּת הַמֵּלֶךָ, שַׁמִּמֵנּוּ כַּל סַמְכוּת.

Hod in Malkhut: The one who says "amen" after a blessing said by his fellow earns more merit than he. Whoever becomes a channel for the voice of one greater than himself dwells in the light, and in him is revealed the essence of the majesty of the king from whom all authority is derived.

48 יסוד שבמלכות

ישׁ בָּעוֹלָם אָדָם הַמְּסֻנָּל לְהוֹצִיא אֶת עַם הי מִמְּעֲנָל הַיִּסוּרִים, לָהֶם הוּא נִדּוֹן כְּשָׁאֵינוֹ מַכִּיר נְצִיג הָאָדוֹן, וְיֵשׁ בְּלֵב כָּל אָדָם רָצוֹן לִמְצאׁ

ָהָאָדָם הַהוּא, וְלִשִּׁמֹעַ עַצָּתוֹ.

Yesod in Malkhut: There is in the world a man capable of leading the people of G-d out of the circle of sufferings to which they are condemned when they do not recognize the representative of the Master, and there is in the heart of everyone the will to find that man and to hear his advice.

49 מלכות שבמלכות

יְהִי רָצוֹן שֶׁכֶּל הַנּוֹעֲדִים בְּחַג הַהִּתְאַחֲדוּת יִהְיוּ עִדִים לַהֲדַר מַלְכוּתוֹ שֶׁל הָאֶחָד הַמִּשְׁתַּקֵּף בְּכָל אֶחָד וְאֶחָד עַל מְנַת שֶׁיֶּה לָזֶה נִתֵּן כָּבוֹד וָאֵת אֵדוֹנֵנוּ שִׁכֶם אֵחָד נַעַבֹּד.

Malkhut in Malkhut: May it be Your will that all those who assemble on the feast of unification may be witness to the majesty of the kingdom of the One which reflects itself in each one, in order that we may give honor to one another and serve our Lord with one shoulder.

תם ונשלם שבח לבורא העולם

FINISHED AND COMPLETED, PRAISED BE THE CREATOR OF THE WORLD