

# Haftarah for Va-ye'lekh

Isaiah 55:6 - 56:8

*This translation was taken from the JPS Tanakh*

<sup>6</sup> Seek the Lord while He can be found,  
Call to Him while He is near.

<sup>7</sup> Let the wicked give up his ways,  
The sinful man his plans;  
Let him turn back to the Lord,  
And He will pardon him;  
To our God,  
For he freely forgives.

<sup>8</sup> For My plans are not your plans,  
Nor are My ways your ways

— declares the Lord.

<sup>9</sup> But as the heavens are high above the earth,  
So are My ways high above your ways  
And My plans above your plans.

<sup>10</sup> For as the rain or snow drops from heaven  
And returns not there,  
But soaks the earth  
And makes it bring forth vegetation,  
Yielding seed for sowing and bread for eating,

<sup>11</sup> So is the word that issues from My mouth:  
It does not come back to Me unfulfilled,  
But performs what I purpose,  
Achieves what I sent it to do.

<sup>12</sup> Yea, you shall leave in joy and be led home secure.  
Before you, mount and hill shall shout aloud,  
And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

<sup>13</sup> Instead of the brier, a cypress shall rise;  
Instead of the nettle, a myrtle shall rise.  
These shall stand as a testimony to the Lord,  
As an everlasting sign that shall not perish.

## Chapter 56

<sup>1</sup> Thus said the Lord:

Observe what is right and do what is just;  
For soon My salvation shall come,  
And my deliverance be revealed.

<sup>2</sup> Happy is the man who does this,  
The man who holds fast to it:  
Who keeps the sabbath and does not profane it,  
And stays his hand from doing any evil.

<sup>3</sup> Let not the foreigner say,  
Who has attached himself to the Lord,  
"The Lord will keep me apart from His people";  
And let not the eunuch say,  
"I am a withered tree."

<sup>4</sup> For thus said the Lord:  
"As for the eunuchs who keep My sabbaths,  
Who have chosen what I desire  
And hold fast to My covenant —

<sup>5</sup> I will give them, in My House  
And within My walls,  
A monument and a name  
Better than sons or daughters.  
I will give them an everlasting name  
Which shall not perish.

<sup>6</sup> As for the foreigners  
Who attach themselves to the Lord,  
To minister to Him,  
And to love the name of the Lord,  
To be His servants —  
All who keep the sabbath and do not profane it,  
And who hold fast to My covenant —

<sup>7</sup> I will bring them to My sacred mount  
And let them rejoice in My house of prayer.  
Their burnt offerings and sacrifices  
Shall be welcome on My altar;  
For My House shall be called  
A house of prayer for all peoples."

<sup>8</sup> Thus declares the Lord God,  
Who gathers the dispersed of Israel:  
"I will gather still more to those already gathered."