

9.3.4

23a (מעשה ששלחו לחוני) → 24b (שאינן דורן דומה יפה)

1	על משמתי אַעמדה וְאָתְיָאָהָה עַל מְצוֹר וְאַצְפָּה לְרֵאוֹת מַה יִּדְבֵּר בֵּי וְמָה אֲשִׁיב עַל תּוֹכְחָתִי: חֲבֻקֹק ב, א
2	יְשֻׁמַּח אֲבִיךָ וְאִמְךָ וְתִגַּל יוֹלְדֶיךָ: מְשָׁלִי כג, כה
3	וְתִגְזֹר אוֹמֵר לְךָ וְעַל דְּרָכֶיךָ נִגְהָ אֹר: כִּי הִשְׁפִּילוּ וְתִאֲמַר גֹּה וְשַׁח עֵינַיִם יוֹשְׁעִי: יִמְלֹט אִי נָקִי וְנִמְלֹט בְּבֵר כְּפִיָּה: אִיּוֹב כב, כח-ל
4	שִׁיר הַמַּעֲלוֹת בְּשׁוּב ה' אֶת שִׁיבַת צִיּוֹן הֵינּוּ כְּחֻלְמִים: תְּהִלִּים קכו, א
5	שִׁיר הַמַּעֲלוֹת מִמַּעַמְקִים קְרֵאתִידָה ח': תְּהִלִּים קל, א
6	וְהִיא אִם מַעֲיָנִי הַעֲדָה נִגְשָׁתָה לְשִׁנְיָה וְעָשׂוּ כָל הַעֲדָה פֶּר בֶּן בְּקָר אֶחָד לְעֵלָה לְרִיחַ נִיחַח לָהּ וּמִנְחָתוֹ וְנִסְכּוֹ כְּמִשְׁפָּט וְשִׁעִיר עִזִּים אֶחָד לְחֻטָּת: בַּמ' טו: כד

I. Expansion on story of חוני המעגל

- a. Includes: v1 – חבוקוק as model for חוני
- b. Rabbis: applied vv. 2-3 to him
- c. His wonder: about v4 and his miraculous “nap” of 70 years
 - 1. He preferred: death to loneliness: או מיתותא או מיתותא
 - 2. Wondrous story: about חלקיה חוני, אבא חלקיה חוני, and his wife
 - 3. Inspirational story: about הנחבא חוני, another grandson of חוני
- d. Distinction: between חסידי א"י and חסידי בבל
 - 1. He would have a public gathering to pray for rain (ר"ח ור"ה) חסידי בבל
 - 2. He would act quietly, w/o fanfare –even family members didn't know (ר' מני father of ר' יונה) תקיפי א"י
 - 3. Tales of חוני: how his father (from the grave) helped him with troubles of חוני
 - a. And: how חוני helped him:
 - i. With his relatives: poor then rich
 - ii. With his wife: attractive then unattractive
 - iii. חוני voluntarily gave up ability to help others (with wisdom?)
- e. Stories: of חוני who had no compassion on his son or daughter (both died young)
 - 1. Stories: about his donkey who would bring back the rental fee herself
 - a. Only: if it was exactly correct!
- f. Story: of חוני's excessive philanthropy and his daughter's dowry
- g. Stories: about fasts declared by חוני בי during era of ר"ל
 - 1. חוני declared fast, only began raining
 - a. When: he bewailed the difference between himself and חוני הנביא
 - b. חוני and ר"ל in time
 - i. They: they fasted anyway, since their קבלה was based on חבירו
 - ii. And: they didn't need an independent commitment
 - c. חוני the “small”: reproved חוני בי as the cause for no rain
 - i. Per: v6 – being “eyes” of חוני, the status of the entire nation depends on theirs
- h. Stories: of fasts declared by רבי and רב
 - 1. רבי wasn't successful, but a ש"ץ was
 - a. Because: he lived in poor town & worked hard to bring wine for חבירו והבדלה
 - i. And: said it on their behalf
 - 2. רב wasn't successful, but a ש"ץ was –
 - a. Because: he was a teacher who didn't favor the children of the rich
 - i. And: he kept a fishery and if a student wasn't doing well he would bribe him,
 - a. Using: the “fish as bait”
- i. Stories: of רבי and רבה
 - 1. רבה declared a fast; rain only came when he bemoaned his failure
 - 2. רבה was unsuccessful and was challenged as to why he, who was more proficient at study and deeds than רבה יהודה (who didn't understand עוקצין) who was, nonetheless, successful at bringing rain (the generation was faulty)