

Adorning the Bride with Jewels of Torah

1. Deuteronomy 32:11

Like an eagle who rouses its nestlings, Gliding down to its young, So did [God] spread wings and take them, Bear them along on pinions;

כְּנֶשֶׁר יַעֲיִיר קָנָה עַל-גּוֹזְלָיו יִרְחֹף
יִפְרֹשׁ כְּנָפָיו יִקְחֵהוּ יִשְׁאֲהוּ עַל-
אֲבָרָתוֹ:

2. Zohar iii, 47a-47b

Adonai will battle for you and you shall hold your peace!" (Exodus 14:14)

ה' יִלָּחֶם לָכֶם וְאַתֶּם תִּתְּרוּ:

This means: "you need not utter a word to cause a vibration above: The initiative has already come from there." Blessed are the Israelites since the Holy one singled them out for fellowship from all the nations and gave them the Torah and the Sabbath of our love.

3. Pirke Avot 3:14

Rabbi Akiva used to say: "Beloved are human beings, for we are created in the image of God; but it was by a special love that it was made known to us that we were created in the image of God" (Genesis 9:6).

הוּא הָיָה אוֹמֵר, חֲבִיב אָדָם
שֶׁנִּבְרָא בְּצֶלֶם. חֶבֶה יִתְּרָה נִדְעָה
לֹא שֶׁנִּבְרָא בְּצֶלֶם, שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר
(בְּרֵאשִׁית ט) כִּי בְּצֶלֶם אֱלֹהִים
עָשָׂה אֶת הָאָדָם.

4. Solomon Ibn Gabirol

I have made You my refuge, my terror and trembling.
And when straitly besieged I have made you my tower;
When to the left and to the right I have sought for a helper,
I could look for dear life to no aid but Your power.
More than all earthly treasure I have made You my portion.
Through all cares the delight and desire of my days,
In the flood of your love I have rapture eternal and prayer is but an occasion for praise.

5. Judah Al-Harizi

Awake, O right hand of God, behold my heart
Within me melts as water-streams that start.
If You will help me, I'll be helped.
If You my hand will stay, then I'll be stayed.
And when along the road I fear the foe,
"If You will go with me, then I will go" (Judges 4:8).

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6. Psalm 77:17-21

The waters saw You, O God,
 the waters saw You and were convulsed;
 the very deep quaked as well.
 Clouds streamed water;
 the heavens rumbled;
 Your arrows flew about;
 Your thunder rumbled like wheels;
 lightning lit up the world;
 the earth quaked and trembled.
 Your way was through the sea,
 Your path, through the mighty waters;
 Your tracks could not be seen.
 You led Your people like a flock
 in the care of Moses and Aaron.

יְאֹדָה מַיִם אֱלֹהִים
 רָאָה מַיִם יַתְּחִילוּ
 אֵף יִרְגְּזוּ תַהֲמוֹת:
 זָרְמוּ מַיִם עֲבוֹת
 קוֹל נִתְּנוּ שִׁחָקִים
 אֶף־חֲצָצִידִי יִתְחַלְכוּ:
 קוֹל רַעְמֶיךָ בִּגְלִגָּל
 הָאִירוּ בְּרָקִים תְּכָלֵד
 רָגְזָה וַתִּרְעַשׂ הָאָרֶץ:
 בַּיָּם דִּרְכֶּךָ
 וַשְּׁבִילְךָ בַּמַּיִם רַבִּים
 וְעִקְבוֹתֶיךָ לֹא נִדְעוּ:
 נָחִיתָ כְּצֹאן עֲמֶיךָ
 בְּיַד־מֹשֶׁה וְאַהֲרֹן:

7. Exodus Rabbah 29:9

Rabbi Abahu said in the name of Rabbi Yohanan:
 “When the Holy One gave the Torah, no bird chirped,
 no fowl flew, no ox bellowed, not one of the wheel
 angels stirred a wing, not one of the seraphim said,
 ‘Holy holy holly!’ The sea did not roar, creatures did not
 speak. The whole world was hushed into breathless
 silence. It was then the Voice went forth: ‘I am Adonai
 you God’” (Exodus 20:2).

אָמַר רַבִּי אַבְהוּ בְּשֵׁם רַבִּי יוֹחָנָן,
 כְּשֶׁנָּתַן הַקָּדוֹשׁ בְּרוּךְ הוּא אֶת
 הַתּוֹרָה, צִפּוֹר לֹא צָוַח, עוֹף לֹא
 פָּרַח, שׁוֹר לֹא גָעָה, אוֹפָנִים לֹא
 עָפוּ, שְׂרָפִים לֹא אָמְרוּ קְדוֹשׁ
 קְדוֹשׁ, הַיָּם לֹא נִזְדַּעְזַע, הַבְּרִיּוֹת
 לֹא דָּבְרוּ, אֶלֶּא הָעוֹלָם שׁוֹתֵק
 וּמְחֹרֵשׁ, וַיֵּצֵא הַקּוֹל: אֲנֹכִי ה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ,