

יִשְׂרָאֵל הֵם נַעֲשִׂים אֲדוֹנִים לְבַעֲלֵיהֶם, כְּמוֹ שֶׁאָמְרוּ

Masters of Their Exile

THE TEACHING

A short teaching about Israel in exile (גלות). Israel become masters over their masters (אֲדוֹנִים לְבַעֲלֵיהֶם).

Wherever they come in exile, at first they are subdued there, but afterwards they conquer the very place of their exile.

For Israel raise up and elevate all the low and fallen places (הַמְּקוֹמוֹת הַשְּׁפֵלִים וְהַנְּפֹלִים). That is why in exile they are called בְּנֵי הַגּוֹלָה.

MAIN POINTS

- As the Sages said (in Sanhedrin): “כָּל מְקוֹם שֶׁהֵם הוֹלְכִים, נַעֲשִׂים שָׂרִים לְאֲדוֹנֵיהֶם,” “wherever they go, they become princes over their masters.”
- At first they are subdued in exile (כְּבוּשִׁים בַּגּוֹלָה), but afterwards they become masters and conquer that place.
- The Sages say: “עֲתִידִין בֵּיתֵי תַרְטִיאוֹת וְקַרְקָסָאוֹת, שֶׁיִּלְמְדוּ בָּהֶן תּוֹרָה בְּרַבִּים,” “theatres and circuses are destined to be places where Torah is taught in public”, as it says: “וְיִנְשָׂאָר גַּם הוּא לְאַלְקֵינוּ” (זכריה ט:ז), “and he too will remain for our Elokim.”
- Though they later become masters and lift everything, at first they wander in exile (נָע וְנָד בַּגּוֹלוֹת). So they are called בְּנֵי הַגּוֹלָה.
- And the letters of גּוֹלָה are the initials of “וְיִנְשָׂאָר גַּם הוּא לְאַלְקֵינוּ”: for afterwards they lift up everything.

A PRACTICAL TAKEAWAY · OUR OWN REFLECTION

Wherever life has placed you, even somewhere that feels low and far, you were sent there to lift it up.

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