



בְּרִכּוֹת הַהַפְּטָרָה

Haftarah Blessings

The **הַפְּטָרָה** reading is a selection from one of the books of **נְבִיאִים** (Prophets). Five haftarah blessings, **בְּרִכּוֹת הַהַפְּטָרָה**, accompany the reading—one before the reading and four after it. They reflect different aspects of Jewish belief.

Blessing Before the Haftarah Reading

The blessing before the haftarah praises God for the teaching of the prophets. Fill in the blanks in the blessing with the words from the list below. Then read the complete blessing.

בְּאֵמֶת וְצֶדֶק עֲבָדוּ טוֹבִים הַבּוֹחֵר
בְּנְבִיאִים עִמּוֹ הַנְּאֻמְרִים בְּחָר

1. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר _____
chose

2. _____, וְרָצָה בְּדַבְרֵיהֶם
good prophets

_____ in truth spoken

3. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, _____, בְּתוֹרָה, וּבְמֹשֶׁה
God's servant the one who chooses

4. וּבִישְׂרָאֵל _____, וּבְנְבִיאֵי הָאֱמֶת
and righteousness God's people

READING RULE

“Eye” Ending / “Ahv” Ending

The vowel sounds וּ and וּ followed by ם at the end of a word have the sound “eye” (אֶבֶתִי, אֶדְנִי).

Add ם to the following words to change the ending vowel sound to “eye.” Then read each word.

שֵׁד _____ ח _____ שְׁפֹת _____ אֱלֹהֵ _____

When ך follows ם or ם at the end of a word, the combination םך or םך has the sound “ahv.”

Add ך to change the ending vowel sound to “ahv.” Then read each word.

יְדֵי _____ עֵינָי _____ אֱלֹהֵי _____ רַגְלֵי _____ אֶהְבֵי _____ בְּמִצּוֹתַי _____

WORD BUILDING

Read each word-part. Then read each whole word.

.....
דְּבָרִי	רִי	דָּבַר	4. דְּבָרִי
.....
לִירְאֵי	אֵי	לִירָא	5. לִירְאֵי
.....
בְּמַרְוֵי	מֵי	בְּמַרְוֵי	6. בְּמַרְוֵי
.....

Wise Words

Read this saying from the great teacher and sage Hillel (Pirke Avot 1:14).

If I am not for myself, who is for me? אִם אֵין אֶנִי לִי, מִי לִי?
And if I am only for myself, what am I? וְכִשְׂאֵנִי לְעַצְמִי, מָה אֶנִי?
And if not now, when? וְאִם לֹא עַכְשָׁיו, אֵימָתִי?

What is Hillel teaching us? _____

IN CONCLUSION

Below is the concluding sentence for each of the five haftarah blessings.

Read each one aloud and look for key words you know. Then write the number of the Hebrew sentence next to its matching English meaning.

.....
1. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, הַבּוֹחֵר בַּתּוֹרָה, וּבְמֹשֶׁה עַבְדּוֹ, וּבִישְׂרָאֵל עַמּוֹ,
וּבְנְבִיאֵי הָאֱמֶת וְצֶדֶק.

.....
2. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, הָאֵל הַנֶּאֱמָן בְּכָל־דְּבָרָיו.

.....
3. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, מְשַׂמַּח צִיּוֹן בְּבָנֶיהָ.

.....
4. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, מִגֵּן דָּוִד.

.....
5. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, מְקַדֵּשׁ הַשַּׁבָּת.

___ Praised are You, Adonai, Shield of David.

___ Praised are You, Adonai, who makes Zion rejoice with her children.

___ Praised are You, Adonai, who sanctifies Shabbat.

___ Praised are You, Adonai, faithful in all your words.

___ Praised are You, Adonai, the One who takes delight in (chooses) the Torah, and in Moses, God's servant, and in Israel, God's people, and in the prophets of truth and righteousness (justice).