

## Parashat D'varim: 2 Samuel 22:29-37

In parashat D'varim, Moses reflects on the past 40 years of leadership, as he lead the Israelites out of Egypt and toward the promised land. He offers words of encouragement to the community, knowing that challenging days still lie ahead. The confident and encouraging message of this selection from 2 Samuel, in incredible poetry, beautifully complements the moment. This poem is similar in many ways to the song of the Sea (Exodus 15).

### שמואל ב כב: כט - לז 2 Samuel 22:29-37

- (כט) **כט** (29) You, O God, are my lamp;  
כִּי־אֲתָה נִירִי יְהוָה  
וַיְהוֶה נִגִּיהַ חֹשֶׁךְ:  
Adonai lights up my darkness.
- (ל) **ל** (30) With You, I can rush a barrier;  
כִּי בָכָה אֲרוֹץ גְּדוּד  
בְּאֵלֹהֵי אֲדֹלְגַשׁוּר:  
With my God, I can scale a wall.
- (לא) **לא** (31) The way of God is perfect, God's word  
הָאֵל תָּמִים דְּרָכּוֹ אִמְרַת יְהוָה צְרוּפָה  
מִגֵּן הוּא לְכָל הַחֹסִים בּוֹ:  
is pure. Adonai is a shield to all who take  
refuge in God.
- (לב) **לב** (32) Yea, who is a god except Adonai? Who  
כִּי מִי־אֵל מִבְּלַעֲדֵי יְהוָה  
וַיְמִי צוּר מִבְּלַעֲדֵי אֱלֹהֵינוּ:  
is a rock except God?
- (לג) **לג** (33) My God, my mighty stronghold,  
הָאֵל מְעוֹזֵי תְּהִלָּה  
וַיַּתֵּר תָּמִים דְּרָכָי:  
Who kept my path secure;
- (לד) **לד** (34) Who made my legs like a deer's, And  
מִשְׁנֵה רַגְלֵי כַּאֲיִלוֹת  
וַעֲלֵה בְּמַתֵּי יַעֲמֹדָנִי:  
set me firm on the heights;
- (לה) **לה** (35) Who trained my hands for battle, So  
מִלְמַד יָדַי לְמִלְחָמָה  
וַנִּתַּת קֶשֶׁת־נְחוּשָׁה וְרַעֲתִי:  
that my arms can bend a bow of bronze!
- (לו) **לו** (36) You have granted me the shield of  
וַתְּתֹן־לִי מִגֵּן יְשׁוּעָה וַעֲנֹתֶךָ תִּרְבְּנִי:  
Your protection, and Your providence has  
made me great.
- (לז) **לז** (37) You have let me stride on freely, and  
מִתְּתִיב צַעֲדֵי מִתְּתִיב וְלֹא מְעַדוּ קַרְסְלֵי:  
my feet have not slipped.