

CONGREGATION KODIMOH

SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

A. 109

Lecture on P'sim

→ Ak

3' P's - no 2 Se'ir'el

I - Author - Solomon - P'sim on 3 stages:

youth - P'sim - love

middle - P'sim - wisdom

old - P'sim - disappointment

II - Story - series love songs - 3 characters - shepherdess, shepherd, King....

III - History & Import.

1 - almost excluded from Canon - only love song

2 - but AKiva - P'sim P'sim P'sim, P'sim P'sim P'sim

3 - interp: love song bet. q-a and "ojs.

also - "ojs and "iel ... many

- many diverse interps, none absolute....

- return to an interp'n later

IV - Style - rich oriental imagery, wealth of metaphor, elegance of style.

1 - will read some passages to give idea style. Hebrew & Eng.

2 - ~~To give idea sty~~ chose "spring" passage, since that is

where we read today.

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3rd Ex

-2-

Ex 15

3- read: 10-13 פסוקים 10-13 [Spring]

* (plus interp of Midrash that SINAN refers to exodus-at time of 10 to spring, - that SIN, i.e. Moses + Israel sing SINAN. Thus no connection)

V. Fact of powerful love - and infinite possible varieties of interp - bet. G-d + Israel kept alive flame ~~hope~~ J. said.

- its melody - picture of Jew etc.
- the beauty of a people making love to G-d. In human sum metaphors, yet superhuman devotion; fleshy images, yet highly spiritual realities.

This is the eternal love of Israel for its G-d:

וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל מֹשֶׁה וְאֶל אֶלְיָשָׁר בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לֵאמֹר
וְאֵלֶיךָ יָשֻׁבוּ וְאֵלֶיךָ יִשְׁתָּחֲוּ וְאֵלֶיךָ יִשְׁתָּחֲוּ וְאֵלֶיךָ יִשְׁתָּחֲוּ

"Many waters cannot quench [this] love, neither can the floods drown it".

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VI - ONE INTERP (J.B.)

- 1- why say in Fri. Nights, & at end of 102
- 2- Girl as tragic-love poem -
describe APPROACH & Retreat (use small list-verbs)
- 3- hence, the religious interp of this drama reaches heights of spiritual ecstasy in the excitement of approach & melancholy of retreat; the surging joy of near-culmination, & the tragedy of frustration.
- 4- For here is the Jewish soul yearning for its beloved - for G-d's world, for Divine peace & spiritual bliss. i.e. (12) P.F.R.
- 5- girl is י"א ל"א פ"א - rest from physical labor, י"א ל"א נ"א.
- 6- girl as beloved - י"א ל"א פ"א - י"א ל"א פ"א
- 7- girl is thus the approach of י"א ל"א, i.e. utopia, the beloved.
- 8- but - Retreat! frustration at י"א ל"א when leaves.

שיר השירים ק"ל - 4-

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9- :: sings ק"ל on Fri-Night -
and last verse - וְיָשָׁב -

this is a send-off with a hope for return, hope for permanent
reunion, when they will be with each other never to separate.

10. desire for a permanent rest - וְיָשָׁב וְיָשָׁב וְיָשָׁב וְיָשָׁב וְיָשָׁב -
the great future, עוֹלָם, the eternal Sabbath

10- Thus too on נוד. We have celebrated שירה in midst
of exile. An illusion - no memories שירה leave, the
dark bitter exile sets in again. Hope for permanent
שירה. Midrash on last verse - see Soncino.

These are the powerful emotions of ק"ל, charged not by secretions
of the glands, but by secrets of the soul; this is the eternal love-
song of Israel for ^{her} G-d; Israel will remain loyal to her beloved
protector, though He ~~see~~ may seem far off; for soon, soon He
will return, + with him bring an eternal Sabbath, and an eternal Redemption.