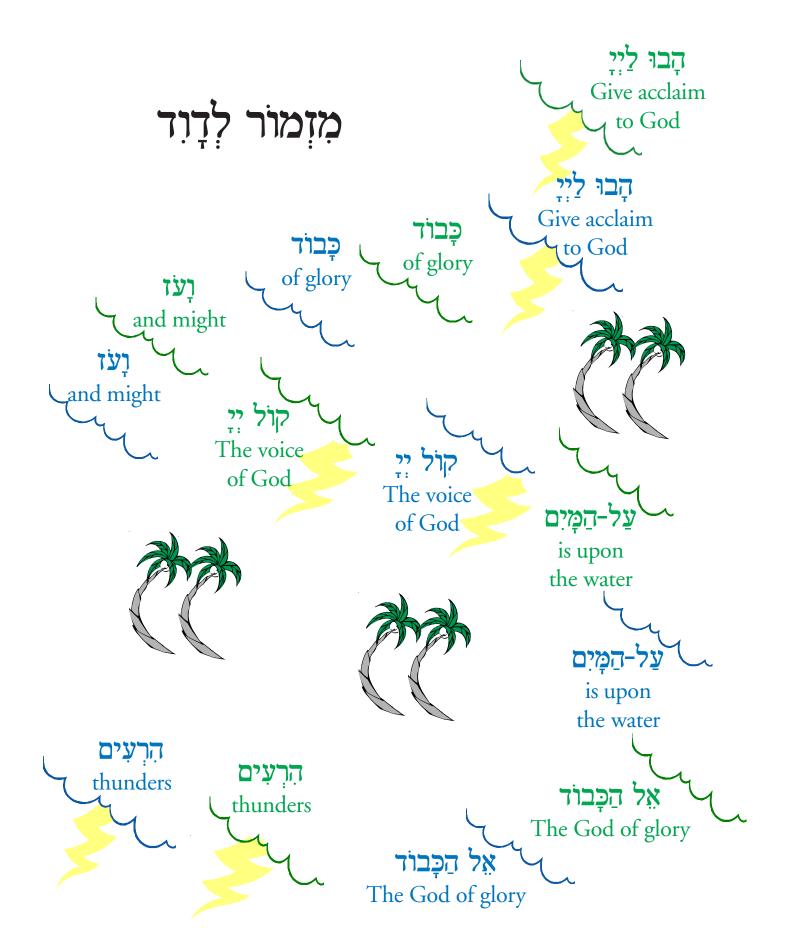


אָזְמוֹר לְדָוָד, a Psalm of David, are the first two words of Psalm 29, one of the poems in the Book of Psalms. Psalm 29 paints a dramatic picture of God's power in a raging thunderstorm. The words אָזְמוֹר לְדָוָד begin several other psalms as well, since the psalms are said to have been written by King David himself.

Psalm 29 is usually recited twice on שַׁבָּת. It first appears in קָבָּלַת שֵׁבָּת, the Friday evening service which welcomes the קַבָּלַת שֵׁבָּת. Psalm 29 is the sixth of the six psalms which lead up to לְכָה דוֹדִי.

Psalm 29 appears again during the תוֹרָה Service, just before the scroll is returned to the ark. The giving of the תּוֹרָה, as described in Exodus, had many of the thunderous qualities of the scene described in this psalm. Psalm 29 is often sung as the תּוֹרָה is lifted and carried around the sanctuary for a second time.



Psalm 29 has a special connection with the אַמִידָה. Why? קבר ליי: (give acclaim to God) appears three times in the psalm. This equals the number of opening blessings of praise in the אַמִידָה (the voice of God) appears seven times. This equals the number of total blessings in the Shabbat אָמִידָה. God's name appears 18 times in the psalm. This equals the original number of blessings in the weekday אַמִידָה. It is even possible that the אַמִידָה was first structured based on this ancient psalm.

מִזְמוֹר לְדָוִד: הְבוּ לַיִי בְּנֵי אֵלִים, הְבוּ לַיְיָ כְּבוֹד וָעֹז. הְבוּ לַיִי בְּבוֹד שְׁמוֹ, הִשְׁתַּחֵוּ לַיִי בְהַדְרַת-לְדָשׁ. קוֹל יְיָ עַל-הַמָּיִם, אֵל הַכְּבוֹד הִרְעִים, יִי עַל מַים רַבִּים. קוֹל יְיָ שַּׁבר אֲרָזִים, וַיְשַׁבֵּר יְיָ אֶת-אַרְזֵי הַלְבָנוֹן. קוֹל יְיָ שֹׁבֵר אֲרָזִים, וַיְשַׁבֵּר יְיָ אֶת-אַרְזֵי הַלְבָנוֹן. נַיַּרְקִידֵם כְּמוֹ עֵגֶל, לְבָנוֹן וְשִׁרְיוֹן כְּמוֹ בֶן-רָאֵמִים. קוֹל יְיָ חֹצֵב לַהֲבוֹת אֲשׁ. וַיַּרְקִידֵם כְּמוֹ עֵגֶל, לְבָנוֹן וְשִׁרְיוֹן כְּמוֹ בֶן-רָאֵמִים. קוֹל יְיָ יְחוֹצֵב לַהֲבוֹת אֲשׁ. וַיַּרְקִידֵם כְּמוֹ עֵגֶל, יְרָבָנוֹן הָשִׁרְיוֹן כְּמוֹ בָן-רָאֵמִים. יָי לַמַבּוּל יְיָי יָחוֹלֵל אַיָּלוֹת, יִי לַמַּבּוּל יְשָׁב, וַיִּשֶׁב יִי מֶלֶך אָעוֹלָם. יִי עֹז לְעַמּוֹ יִתָּן, יִי יִבָרֵך אָת עַמוֹ בַשָּׁלוֹם.

A Psalm of David. Give acclaim to Adonai of Glory and Might. Bow down to Adonai in the splender of holiness. The voice of God is upon the waters. The voice of God thunders. The voice of God echoes with power and majesty.

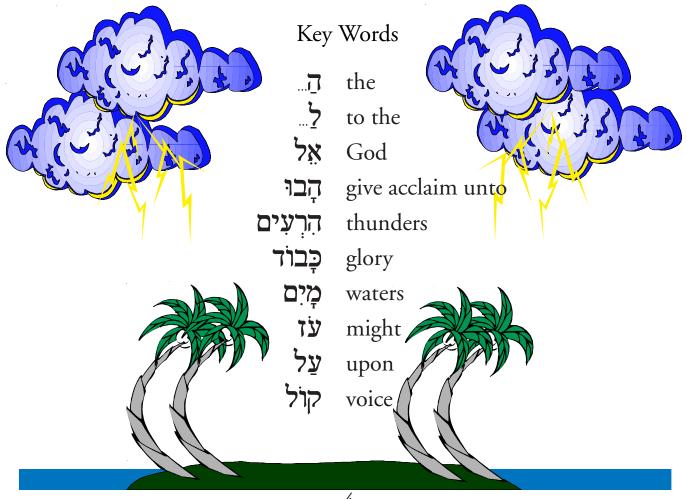
7

Key Phrases

קָבוּ לַיִיָ כְּבוֹד וְעֹז Give acclaim to the God of glory and might

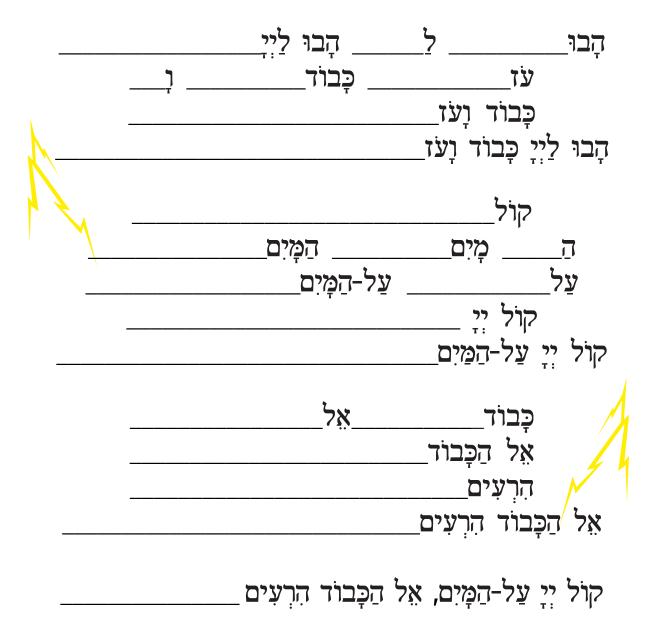
קוֹל יְיָ עַל-הַפָּיִם, אָל הַכָּבוֹד הִרְעִים

The voice of God is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders.



עַל-הַמַּיִם

As we learned earlier, the phrase קול יי, the voice of Adonai, appears seven times in this psalm. Some commentators say this represents seven unique qualities in the voice of God -one voice, one קול, for each of the seven days of creation. Use your unique קול to practice the key words and phrases on the previous page. Then translate into English, below.

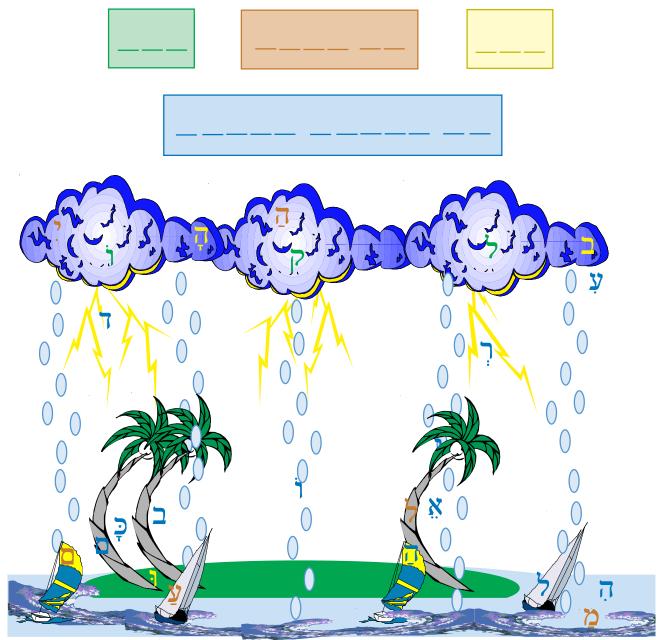


אָל הַכָּבוֹד

1. קבוד means _____. How often does כָבוֹד appear below? ____ 2. Circle "the voice of God" each time it appears in the psalm. 3. Underline "Give acclaim to God" each time it appears. 4. Class Reading Game: The teacher will call out one of the following words or phrases, plus a number: a) Voice of God (1-7); b) Give acclaim to God (1-3); or c) God. (1-18). Locate and call out the line number which contains the requested word or phrase. 5. Practice reading Psalm 29 until all lines are smooth. מזמור לדוד: הַבוּ לַיִיַ בָּגֵי אָלִים, הַבוּ לַיִיַ כָּבוֹד וַעֹז. .1 הָבוּ לַיִיָ כְּבוֹד שָׁמוֹ, הִשְׁתַּחֲווּ לַיִיָ בְהַדְרַת-קֹדָשׁ. .2 קוֹל יִיַ עַל-הַמַּיִם, אָל הַכָּבוֹד הָרִעִים, .3 יִיַ עַל מַיִם רַבִּים. .4 קוֹל יִיָ בַּכֹּחַ, קוֹל יִיָ בָּהָדָר. .5 קוֹל יִיָ שׁבֵר אַרָזִים, וַיִשַׁבֵּר יִיָ אָת-אַרְזֵי הַלְּבָנוֹן. .6 וַיַּרִקִידֵם כּמוֹ עֵגֵל, לְבָנוֹן וְשִׂרְיוֹן כְּמוֹ בֶן-רְאָמִים. .7 קוֹל יִיַ חֹצֵב לַהַבוֹת אֲשׁ. .8 קוֹל יְיָ יָחִיל מִדְבָּר, יָחִיל יְיָ מִדְבַּר קָדִשׁ. .9 קוֹל יִיָ יִחוֹלֵל אַיָּלוֹת, .10 ַנַיֶּחֲשֹׁף יְעָרוֹת, וּבִהֵיכַלוֹ כַּלּוֹ אוֹמֵר כַּבוֹד. .11 יִיָ לַמַּבּוּל יָשָׁב, וַיָּשָׁב יִיָ מֵלָך לְעוּלָם. .12 יִיָ עֹז לְעַמּוֹ יִתֵּן, יְיָ יְבְרֵךְ אֶת עַמּוֹ בַשָּׁלוֹם. .13

הרְאָים

Psalm 29 describes God's כָּבוֹד, glory, and עוֹד, might, in a raging thunderstorm. The storm below has blown apart key words and phrases from this psalm. Find the letters and vowels scattered in the scene. The colors will tell you which square they belong in. Once you have gathered all the letters and vowels, you must unscramble (and translate) them. This will restore them to their original form.





Reading Drill

Psalm 29 ends with:

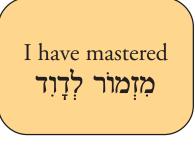
God will give על, strength, to God's people. God will bless the people with שָׁלוֹם.

This last verse can also be found in the Talmud, at the end of a passage describing the giving of the תוֹרָה on Mount Sinai - the sounds, the thunder, the power. עֹז, strength, is sometimes said to refer to the תוֹרָה itself. Thus it is not physical power but the doing of מָּצְוֹת that brings the blessings of שָׁלוֹם.

Psalm 29 is chanted at the end of the תּוֹרָה service on שַׁבָּת. Below are some verses from Psalm 24, which is chanted at the end of the תּוֹרָה service on festivals. Can you find any key words from Psalm 29 in this passage?

- נ אָאָרים רָאשׁיכֶם וְהַגֶּאָׂאוּ פִּרְחֵי עוֹלָם וְיָבוֹא. 1
 - 2. אֶלֶך הַכָּבוֹר: אִי זֶה אֶלֶך הַכָּבוֹר יְהוָה אָזּוּז וְגִבּוֹר
 - 3. יְהֹוָה גִּבּוֹר מִלְחָמָה: שְׂאוּ שְׁעָרִים רָאשֵׁיכֶם וּשְׂאוּ
- 4. פּּרְחֵי עוֹלָם וְיָבֹא אֶלֶך הַכָּבוֹר: מִי הוּא זֶה אֶלֶך הַכָּבוֹר
 - 5. יְהֹוָה צְּבָאוֹת הוּא מֶלֶך הַכָּבוֹד מֶלְה:

When you have completed the chapter, and have your Psalm 29 reading lines checked off, your teacher will give you a sticker!



8