

The men of Yisroel

כֹּד וְאִישׁ־יִשְׂרָאֵל

were pressured on that day (to fight the Plishtim).

נִגְשׁ בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא

Shaul made the nation swear

וַיִּשָּׂאֵל שְׂאוּל אֶת־הָעָם

saying,

לֵאמֹר

“Cursed is the man

אָרוּר הָאִישׁ

who would eat bread (or anything else)

אֲשֶׁר־יֹאכַל לֶחֶם

until the evening,

עַד־הָעֶרֶב

and I will take revenge

וְנִקַּמְתִּי

from my enemies.”

מֵאֹיְבֵי

The entire nation did not taste

וְלֹא טָעַם כָּל־הָעָם

bread.

לֶחֶם:

The entire land (i.e. nation)

כֹּה וְכָל־הָאָרֶץ

had come to the forest

בָּאוּ בַּיַּעַר

and there was honey (or nectar)

וַיְהִי דְבַשׁ

עַל-פְּנֵי הַשָּׂדֶה: on the face of the field (i.e. the ground).

The nation came to the forest      כִּי וַיָּבֹא הָעָם אֶל-הַיַּעַר  
and behold there was a flow of honey      וַהֲנִיחַ הַלֶּךְ דְּבַשׁ  
and there was nobody who was  
reaching (with) his hand      וְאִין-מַשִּׁיג יָדוֹ  
to his mouth (to eat the honey)      אֶל-פִּיו  
for the nation was afraid      כִּי-יִרָא הָעָם  
of the oath.      אֶת-הַשְּׁבֻעָה:

But Yonatan did not hear      כִּי וַיּוֹנְטָן לֹא-שָׁמַע  
when his father made the nation      בְּהַשְּׁבִיעַ אָבִיו אֶת-הָעָם  
swear  
and he extended      וַיִּשְׁלַח  
the edge of the stick      אֶת-קִצְתָּהּ הַמַּטֵּה  
that was in his hand      אֲשֶׁר בְּיָדוֹ

and he dipped it

וַיִּטְבֹּל אוֹתָהּ

in the “forest of honey” (i.e. the honeycomb).

בְּיַעֲרַת הַדְּבַשׁ

He put his hand by his mouth

וַיִּשָּׁב יָדוֹ אֶל-פִּיו

and his eyes lightened.

וַתֵּאָרְנָה [וַתֵּאָרְנָה] עֵינָיו:

A person from the nation answered

כֹּחַ וַיַּעַן אִישׁ מִהָעָם

and he said,

וַיֹּאמֶר

“Your father made swear

הַשְּׁבַע הַשְּׁבִיעַ אָבִיךָ

the nation saying,

אֶת-הָעָם לֵאמֹר

‘Cursed is the man

אָרוּר הָאִישׁ

who will eat bread today.’

אֲשֶׁר-יֹאכַל לֶחֶם הַיּוֹם

And the nation became tired.”

וַיַּעַף הָעָם:

Yonatan said,

כֹּחַ וַיֹּאמֶר יוֹנָתָן

“My father has muddled the land!

עָכַר אָבִי אֶת-הָאָרֶץ

See now

רְאוּ-נָא

how my eyes have become brightened

כִּי-אָרוּ עֵינָי

because I have tasted

כִּי טַעַמְתִּי

this little bit of honey.

מֵעֵט דְּבֶשׂ הַזֶּה:

Certainly,

ל אַךְ

if the nation would have  
eaten today

כִּי לֹא אָכַל אָכַל הַיּוֹם הַעַם

from the spoils of their enemies

מִשָּׁלַל אֹיְבָיו

that he (i.e. the nation) had found,

אֲשֶׁר מָצָא

then now

כִּי-עַתָּה

would there not be a greater hit

לֹא-רָבַתָּה מַכָּה

against the Plishtim?"

בַּפְּלִשְׁתִּים:

They hit on that day

לֹא נִיכָּן בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא

against the Plishtim

בַּפְּלִשְׁתִּים

from Michmas to Ayalon

מִמִּכְמָשׁ אֵילָנָה

and the nation became very tired.

וַיֵּיָּאֵף הָעָם מְאֹד:

The nation turned

לֵב וַיֵּעֲט [וַיַּעַשׂ] הָעָם

to the spoils

אֶל-הַנְּשָׁלָל [נְשָׁלָל]

and they took sheep and cattle

וַיִּקְחוּ צֹאן וּבָקָר

and sons of cattle

וּבְנֵי בָקָר

and they slaughtered it to the ground

וַיִּשְׁחֲטוּ-אֶרְצָהּ

and the nation ate with the blood.

וַיֹּאכַל הָעָם עַל-הַדָּם:

They told Shaul saying,

לֵב וַיִּגִּידוּ לְשָׁאוּל לֵאמֹר

“Behold the nation

הִנֵּה הָעָם

are sinning to Hashem

חַטָּאִים לַיהוָה

to eat with the blood!”

לְאֹכַל עַל-הַדָּם

He said,

וַיֹּאמֶר

“You have rebelled (against Hashem)!”

בְּגַדְתֶּם

Roll to me today

גִּלְגָּל־אֵלַי הַיּוֹם

a large stone.”

אָבֵן גְּדוֹלָה:

Shaul said,

לֵד וַיִּנְאֹמֶר שְׁאוּל

“Spread among the nation

פָּצוּ בָעַם

and you shall say to them,

וַאֲמַרְתֶּם לָהֶם

‘Bring forth to me

הַגִּישׁוּ אֵלַי

each man his ox

אִישׁ שׁוֹרוֹ

and each man his sheep

וְאִישׁ שִׂיָּהוּ

and you shall slaughter here (or “with this” i.e. a sharpened knife)

וַשְׁחַטְתֶּם בְּזֶה

and you shall eat

וַאֲכַלְתֶּם

and you shall not sin to Hashem

וְלֹא-תַחַטְּאוּ לַיהוָה

to eat with the blood.”

לֶאֱכֹל אֶל-הַדָּם

The entire nation brought forth

וַיִּגִּישׁוּ כָל-הָעָם

each man his ox in his hand

אִישׁ שׁוֹרוֹ בְּיָדוֹ

שְׁמוּאֵל א' פָּרָק י"ד פְּסוּקִים כ"ד-ל"ה

that night

תַּלְיָלָה

and they slaughtered there.

וַיִּשְׁחָטוּ-שָׁם:

Shaul built

לֵה נִיבֵן שְׂאֵל

and altar to Hashem.

מִזְבֵּחַ לַיהוָה

That is the one he started (with)

אֵתוֹ הֵחֵל

to build altars

לְבָנוֹת מִזְבֵּחַ

to Hashem.

לַיהוָה: