

Discourse 39

*“Aryeh Sha’ag Mi Lo Yirah –
A lion has roared, who shall not fear”*

Shabbat Parshat Re’eh, Shabbat Mevarchim Elul, 5722

By the grace of *HaShem*, blessed is He,

1.

The verse states,¹³³⁷ “A lion (*Aryeh*-אריה) has roared, who shall not fear.” This verse relates to the month of Elul, for as known, the ShaLa”H stated¹³³⁸ that the early sages gave a sign for the word “Lion-*Aryeh*-אריה,” as an acronym for “Elul-אול, Rosh Hashanah-ראש השנה, Yom HaKippurim-יום הכפורים, and Hoshaana Rabba-הושענא רבא.” We can add that it states in Talmud,¹³³⁹ “One who sees a lion (*Aryeh*-אריה) in a dream should rise early and recite the verse, ‘A lion (*Aryeh*-אריה) has roared, who shall not fear,’ before a different verse,¹³⁴⁰ ‘A lion (*Aryeh*-אריה) has gone up from his thicket etc.,’ precedes it.”

In the order of the months of the year, this matter applies to the month of Av and the month of Elul, as understood from the teaching of our sages, of blessed memory,¹³⁴¹ “A lion (*Aryeh*-אריה) has risen in the constellation of the lion (Leo-*Aryeh*-אריה) and destroyed the lion (*Ari’el*-אריאל).” The words

¹³³⁷ Amos 3:8

¹³³⁸ Shnei Luchot HaBrit, Mesechet Rosh HaShanah 213a

¹³³⁹ Talmud Bavli, Brachot 56b

¹³⁴⁰ Jeremiah 4:7

¹³⁴¹ Yalkut Shimoni, Yirmiyahu, Remez 259

“A lion (*Aryeh*-אריה) has risen” refer to Nebuchadnezzar about whom it is written, “A lion (*Aryeh*-אריה) has gone up from his thicket etc.” The words “in the constellation of the lion (Leo-*Aryeh*-אריה)” refers “when Yerushalayim went into exile in the fifth month.”¹³⁴² The words, “and destroyed a lion (*Ari’el*-אריאל)” refers to “Ariel (אריאל), the city where David camped.”¹³⁴³

[It continues and states], “on condition that a lion (*Aryeh*-אריה) will come in the constellation of the lion (Leo-*Aryeh*-אריה) and rebuild the lion (*Ari’el*-אריאל).” The words “A lion (*Aryeh*-אריה) will come” refer to the Holy One, blessed is He, about whom it is written, “A lion (*Aryeh*-אריה) has roared, who shall not fear.” The words, “in the constellation of the lion (Leo-*Aryeh*-אריה)” refers to the [verse],¹³⁴⁴ “I shall transform their mourning into joy.” The words, “and rebuild the lion (*Ari’el*-אריאל),” is [as in the verse],¹³⁴⁵ “The Builder of Yerushalayim is *HaShem*-יהוה; He will gather in the outcast of Israel.”

That is, through the matter [indicated by the verse], “A lion (*Aryeh*-אריה) has roared, who shall not fear” we bring about the negation of the matter [indicated by the verse], “A lion (*Aryeh*-אריה) has gone up from his thicket.” This is through revealing the intention in the matter of “A lion (*Aryeh*-אריה) has risen... and destroyed,” on condition that “a Lion (*Aryeh*-אריה) will come... and rebuild etc.” This refers to the construction of

¹³⁴² Jeremiah 1:3 – The month of Av.

¹³⁴³ Isaiah 29:1

¹³⁴⁴ Jeremiah 31:12

¹³⁴⁵ Psalms 147:2; Also see the beginning and end of the discourse entitled “*Boneh Yerushalayim*” 5629 (Sefer HaMaamarim 5629, p. 294).

the third Holy Temple whose greatness will be far superior to the first and second Holy Temples, as it states,¹³⁴⁶ “The glory of this latter Temple will be greater than [that of] the first,” as explained before¹³⁴⁷ at length.¹³⁴⁸

¹³⁴⁶ [Haggai 2:9]

¹³⁴⁷ In the preceding discourse of this year 5722, entitled “*Gadol Yihiyeh* – The glory of this latter Temple will be greater,” Discourse 38.

¹³⁴⁸ This is where the transcript preserved of this discourse concludes.