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Typography and *Kavanah*:
The Prayerbook Page Layout

Bruce J. Pfeffer

Thesis submitted in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for
Ordination

Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion
5760/2000

Referee, Dr. Richard S. Sarason
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עֲשׂוֹת סִפְרִים דְּרַבָּה אֵין קֵץ
קִהְלַת יִבְיִב

Of making many [prayer-]books there is no end.
Eccl. 12:12

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Dr. David Weisberg suggested I conduct some of my thesis-research for his class, *The Canon and Masorah of the Hebrew Bible*. In this way, I broadened the aspects of my investigations.

My family and my friends helped me along these past several years when I decided I was going to leave the engineering world and enter the Rabbinic world. (Perhaps some people said, "An engineer? What was he thinking?")

My thesis advisors: Dr. Richard S. Sarason on liturgy and Professor Herbert C. Zafren on bibliography -- I honestly cannot think of a better team! They were a

great help. Their knowledge and experience are vast. They probably both feel that they do not need to be formally thanked, since as advisors, their job is to help and advise. Nonetheless, there is a difference between merely assisting and “taking stock” in an activity. I think they enjoyed working on this topic as much as I did. I hope another rabbinical student will ask them to co-advise a future thesis. I hope they will agree to do it again.

Several people reviewed the typescript and made numerous suggestions and corrections. They are Richard S. Sarason and Herbert C. Zafren, my thesis advisors; Francine L. Pfeffer, my younger sister; Sylvia F. Pfeffer, my mother; and Amy Beth Kressel, my wife. My thesis is a better thesis because of their comments. Any errors or unclear passages that remain, do so on account of my stubbornness alone.

Back to my beautiful and intelligent wife, Dr. Amy Beth Kressel. She realized I wanted to study the prayerbook page layout, and she suggested I follow up on it. I might have dropped the idea before I even began if she hadn't encouraged me to continue on. Amy has been supportive and has shown incredible patience. Thank God I met her!

DIGEST

Often, when people consider prayerbooks, if they consider prayerbooks, they probably concern themselves with the content of the prayers. Designing a prayerbook, or any book for that matter, is, in a sense, a thankless job. If it is done well, most worshipers will not give it any thought. But the book itself, the construction, format, etc., can be an effective guide, or a hindrance to prayerfulness --- to *kavanah*. If a prayerbook is designed in such a way that it seems obvious -- i.e., one feels comfortable and could not imagine it being any other way -- then it can enhance prayer. This is especially a concern for communal Jewish prayer. Prayerbooks can enhance the choreography/ritual of worship.

For the prayerbook to be comfortable so that, at times, one can forget it is there, requires careful thought and consideration.

The design of the page can involve thought to the quality of the paper, the ink, the size and shape of the page, the size and shape of the textblock, and so on. The layout of the prayers, similarly requires thought. The method of demarcating prayers, the harmony among the different typefaces chosen, the clarity of the type, and so on. By carefully considering these and other matters, one can design a prayerbook to help the worshiper.

This thesis considers and examines the prayerbook from the perspective of its design. Specifically, topics examined include the following: a prayerbook's outward appearance and the materials used in its construction; the design and shape of the page, and the design and shape of the textblock; the layout of the prayers on the page; the flow and flexibility of the prayer service, i.e., the flow of the book; the history and evolution of the Hebrew alphabet; some drawbacks and positive aspects of the contemporary Hebrew alphabet, and some ideas toward improved letter-forms; and the representation of God's name in print and in writing.

INTRODUCTION

Keva and Kavanah

As people, we talk to each other every day. We may voice words almost automatically, or we may think our thoughts through before we speak. Oral communication can be highly flexible, since the opportunity to change the words is immediate if desired. In addition, oral communication is often two-way. Questions can be asked and answered, and the direction of the conversation can be modified

based on the response received.

With oral communication, both a “speaker” and a “listener” are involved. If the listener relays the information to a third party, then he becomes a speaker to a new listener. When this process is repeated several times, some of the original communication, the “text,” may be unintentionally altered. Hopefully, the essence will survive; but the details, or the specific wording, may change, for better or for worse -- but change nonetheless. The listener is aware of the “ease of change.” Even if the text remains unchanged, the *perception* of the listener may be that the text *has changed*.

Oral communication can be understood as generally flexible, and therefore not completely reliable.

The words we speak can be recorded on paper or other media. This can be an aid to oral communication, as when one first writes words that he will later speak; or it can be a new form of communication -- recorded communication.¹ When the written text is received, the “listener” has the ability to see the words. If he wishes, he can read them aloud, thereby seeing and hearing the words simultaneously, perhaps gaining a better understanding of the writer’s intention. The written, printed, incised, or otherwise recorded text will last longer than the spoken word and so can be seen as more reliable, more correct. Even if the text were, in fact, altered, the

¹ Although it is not accurate, I frequently use the words “written,” “writing,” etc. and “printed,” “printing,” etc. interchangeably.

perception of the listener may be that the text *is fixed*. There is an aura of permanence.

But what is gained in reliability can be lost in flexibility; i.e., words are committed to a lasting medium such as paper before the “speaker” knows what the response of the “listener” might be. Questions might not be anticipated and therefore might be left unanswered.

Printed texts can be understood as fixed and therefore correct.

So, while oral communication is flexible, written or printed text is fixed. Put another way, oral words convey *kavanah*; written words indicate *keva*. If one strives for *kavanah*, if one wishes to encourage creativity, allowing people to concentrate on the meaning behind the words, then one would do well to keep the text oral and flexible so that it can easily be reinterpreted. If, on the other hand, one strives for *keva*, if one wishes people to receive the “proper” unaltered text, then one would do well to keep the text printed and fixed so that it can correctly be received.

*

The concept of a dividing line between the oral and the written is misleading. It would seem that the oral mode is the one for *kavanah* while the printed is the one for *keva*. But actually, there is a fluidity between the two. The oral and the written easily flow back and forth. Words spoken can be put to paper; they then become recorded. The recorded words can be read; they then return to the oral state. In

addition, it is incorrect to view the oral as flexible and the printed as fixed. Just as an oral text transmitted from person to person can change over time, so too a printed text transferred from person to person can change over time. It may take a little longer; that makes sense. Obviously the recorded word can last longer than the spoken word. The spoken word disappears once uttered, but the recorded text remains. But even the written, or printed word, is temporary. Eventually the written text turns to dust. Sometimes the written text is copied before it decomposes, just as the oral word heard is sometimes remembered or recorded (via tape, etc.). The oral or the written transfer of a text can save it from extinction. But the text is ultimately likely to be changed through oral repetition or through transference to a semi-fixed medium such as writing.

*

Both the way a text is preserved and the way a text is presented profoundly affect the text itself: the makeup of the text (*keva*) and the perception of the text (*kavanah*). This is true for oral texts and for written texts.

For the oral process of transmission, the ability of one's memory and the intention of the transmitter (preservation or innovation) are two factors affecting the text's *keva*, the composition of the text. A speaker's talent (or lack thereof) can affect a text's *kavanah*; it can, for example, cause an oral text to come to life or fall flat. Compare a brilliantly told story or the well-timed delivery of a joke with the mistiming of a punch line.

For the written process of transmission, the tools, material, and technology available, as well as the skills of the scribe (printer, etc.), affect the text's integrity. Both a traditional scribe and current scanning software (for converting a printed document into a digital text file) are likely to make a few errors per page: a breakdown in the *keva*, a change in the text. The presentation of the text (choice of punctuation, for example) can affect its *kavanah*.

Consider the text: "that that is is that that is not is not is not that it it is." Most people would find it incomprehensible, but if the proper punctuation is added, we instead have: "That that is, is. That that is not, is not. Is not that it? It is!"²

Another example is the old story of the man who was swimming in a pool. A security guard informed him that the pool was a private pool, this fact was indicated by a sign, and he would have to leave. The man explained that the security guard was mistaken; the pool was a public pool, the sign indicated as much, and the security guard did not know how to read. Together, they went to the posted sign. The sign had no punctuation. The security guard said, "See, it says 'Private pool. No swimming allowed!'" To which the man responded, "No, no, no. You have it all wrong. The sign says, 'Private pool? No. Swimming allowed!'"³

*

² I first heard this word-riddle during my middle-school days from Mr. Terrence Seymour of the Glen Ridge Public Schools, New Jersey.

³ There are numerous variations and sources for this story.

When we consider communication, both oral and written, we are considering much of the conversation. Much, but not all. Our communication includes not only the words we speak or write, but also the accompanying actions, among them hand gestures, facial expressions, body movement, etc. Sometimes this body language is ritualized. When we greet an acquaintance, for example, we may offer a handshake. An old friend might be given an embrace. Both playwrights and dance choreographers include stage directions in order to define the body movements of their artistic productions.

Most written material does not include such stage directions. Prayerbooks often include such instructions so that an individual or a congregation can engage not only in the verbal language of prayer, but also in the ritual language of prayer.

*

Artifacts

People go through their lives giving thought -- or not -- to much of what they do. This can be seen through the objects used by a society. From a bowl, for example, one might learn something of its use, as well as something of the craftsman who fabricated it. Was the bowl a utilitarian product, designed chiefly for function? Was the bowl a piece of art, designed mainly for its aesthetic value? The craftsman may have put a lot of thought into the design and production of the bowl, or it might have been a rushed project, made with hardly a thought at all.

In addition, as new methods of production are developed, the old methods either become obsolete or may be preserved for their aesthetic value. One generation's technology may become the next generation's art.⁴ One can still purchase bowls made on a potter's wheel, but the commonly used dishes and bowls are mass-produced. Similarly, paintings and drawings were once the dominant forms of recording images. By the late 1800s, this function of paintings and drawings had been taken over by photographs. Painting and drawing remained, but primarily as art forms. It seems that photography may soon give way to the new "digital photog-

⁴ One generation's *keva* becomes the next generation's *kavanah*

raphy.” Then the silver/chemical photographic process will exist mainly as an art form. The same is true of the written word.

Early “writing” on stones, then on clay tablets and pottery shards, eventually gave way to writing on parchment (or other animal skins) and paper. Several pieces of parchment (or paper) could be sewn together to form a scroll or a codex (a manuscript book). With the development of the printing press, the handwritten scroll and codex became rare items. (Rare, but not extinct. In the Jewish world, Torah scrolls, *megillot*, *mezuzot*, *ketubot*, etc. are still written by scribes and similarly diplomas, documents, etc. are sometimes hand-produced on special materials.)

Objects such as bowls, jugs, tools, paintings and photographs, are artifacts from which we can learn much about those who made them and those who used and owned them. Their value to anthropologists and archaeologists is well known.

Books too, are artifacts. The text, format, design, and construction of books can be examined to learn more about those who produced the books and those who used the books. That is to say, by studying books as artifacts, we can try to understand the motivations of their producers and the motivations of their users. Specifically, in the case of Jewish prayerbooks, one can discover how the motivations of the Jewish community and the motivations of the scribes/printers merged in the prayerbooks they produced and used.

The text of prayerbooks, that is, the fluid or fixed nature of the text and its meaning, is an area of research I do not address here. Rather, I examine the design

and construction of prayerbooks (mainly design). What elements of prayerbook design enhance a worshiper's prayerfulness?⁵ What elements of the design reveal the constraints of the printer?

*

⁵ Will the *keva* enhance the *kavanah*?

Typography

One might expect typography to be the art of designing type. While type design has a major impact on typography, it is not the whole picture. Typography is the art of using type for communication, such as in the designing of a book. A few definitions of typography follow:

Typography may be defined as the craft of rightly disposing printed material in accordance with specific purpose; of so arranging the letters, distributing the space and controlling the type as to aid to the maximum the reader's comprehension of the text.⁶

Typography means more than 'writing with type.' . . . The intelligent arrangement of the words is the first duty of the typographer. Equally important is the job's appearance -- a good typographer must know how to make the text easiest for the reader's eyes. He has not, however, unlimited freedom; some limitations are imposed on design by the techniques of printing. Technical integrity is just as important in designing for print as an understanding of the contents and skill in making them readable.⁷

Typography is the craft of endowing human language with a durable visual form, and thus with an independent existence.⁸

⁶ Stanley Morison, "First Principles of Typography," The Fleuron 7 (1930): 1.

⁷ Jan Tschichold, Asymmetric Typography, trans. Translated by Ruari McLean (Toronto: Cooper & Beatty, Limited, 1967), 54-55.

⁸ Robert Bringhurst, The Elements of Typographic Style, Second edition, revised & enlarged edition. (Point Roberts, WA: Hartley & Marks, Publishers, 1999), 11.

When designing a book, the art of typography is not “art for art’s sake.”⁹ The typographer has a thankless job.

Any disposition of printing material which, whatever the intention, has the effect of coming between author and reader is wrong. It follows that in the printing of books meant to be read there is little room for “bright” typography.¹⁰

Immaculate typography is certainly the most brittle of all the arts. . . . For most people, even impeccable typography does not hold any particular aesthetic appeal. In its inaccessibility, it resembles great music. Under the best of circumstances, it is gratefully accepted. To remain nameless and without specific appreciation, yet to have been of service to a valuable work and to the small number of visually sensitive readers -- this, as a rule, is the only compensation for the long, and indeed never-ending, indenture of the typographer.¹¹

Typography, like most other sorts of designing, is essentially a means to an end; and the end is not the self-satisfaction of the designer but the contribution he or she makes to the effectiveness of whatever is presented to the public.¹²

The typographic performance must reveal, not replace, the inner composition. Typographers, like other artists and craftsmen -- musicians, composers and authors as well -- must as a rule do their work and disappear.¹³

*

⁹ In other projects, such as advertisements, the art of typography can be more of a “self-expression” of the artist.

¹⁰ Morison, “First Principles,” 1.

¹¹ Jan Tschichold, The Form of the Book: Essays on the Morality of Good Design (Point Roberts, Washington: Hartley & Marks, Inc., 1991), 6-7.

¹² Walter Tracy, Letters of Credit: A View of Type Design, (Boston: David R. Godine, Publisher, Inc., 1986), 9-10.

¹³ Bringhurst, Typographic Style, 21.

What -- Prayer?

“What -- typography?” This is the second question people ask me (or they wonder to themselves). The first question goes something like this: “So, I heard you’re a fifth-year student now at HUC. What are you writing your thesis on?”

The answer to “What -- typography?”, is, of course, “Yes, typography.” But naturally that is not what they are asking. The real question is likely not “*what?*” but rather “*why?*” People wonder, “Why prayerbook design? Why the layout of prayers?”

*

Certainly, as a rabbinical student, I have given much thought to the content of prayers. But the content of the prayers is not the whole story. The context of the prayers may be as important as their content.

One meaning of the “context” of prayers is the setting in which the words are prayed. This is often in a community -- a synagogue, Temple, or *beit kneset*. But buildings are only part of a setting. They only describe the “where” of prayer. The “what” of prayer is one of the other parts. The “what” is not limited to the words; it includes the rhythms, melodies, movements and other patterns of our prayer-ritual. The “when” of prayer is also one of the other parts. For me, the “when,” “what” and

“where” of prayer can serve as a link to other places and times of prayer. This could mean other places and times that I prayed or tried to pray; it could be an attempt to link with the places and times that other Jews prayed, or tried to pray.

A second meaning of the “context” of prayers is the place the words are set, that is, the page on which they are printed. Before I was a rabbinical student I followed along in the prayerbook, but I probably only recognized the major prayers. I don’t think I knew a rubric from a blue-brick. Over the past few years I have waded back and forth through the prayerbook. It has become littered with those little yellow Post-it[®] notes, pencil marks, pieces of paper, etc. My fellow students have had similar experiences. One of my friends has a different *Gates of Prayer* for each different occasion. Each is marked in red ink, so that he will easily find his way. . . .

It is fair to say that I have given much thought to prayerbook design. The clarity of the letters, the layout of the prayers and the design of the book may, at times, help us think about the prayers. At other times, the same features may allow us to almost forget the prayerbook altogether.

*

There is much oral and written literature on humanity’s search for God, and there is much more yet to be written and said.

What is prayer? An attempt to come closer to our fellow Jews, and, perhaps with their help, an attempt to come closer to God.

*

Methods

At first I had a vague idea. I knew I wanted to examine the format of books, possibly prayerbooks, but I was not certain of what response I would get. Had anyone written anything on the layout of prayerbooks? Would anyone take the subject seriously?

I discovered that although not much had been written on the specific subject of prayerbook layout, quite a bit has been written on the layout and design of books in general, more than could be absorbed in a year and a half. I knew very little about bibliography and virtually nothing about typography. I am still no expert in either of these fields, but I now have an appreciation for what I have yet to learn.

*

I began by examining and comparing prayerbooks -- some of the standard liturgies and some which are innovative, and so on. I aimed to find examples from different geographic locations and different time periods. I did not have a standard data collection sheet; I was learning what to look for as I went along. This means that many of my observations are not formally recorded. I have been working on a prayerbook observation sheet; I hope to soon put it to use.

There were many fine prayerbooks that were worthy of study that did not make it into my thesis. I spent many hours measuring the various type styles and sizes of the fine 1717 prayerbook *Sha'ar Hashamayim*. It is a large prayerbook, and I was unable to digitize the materials on my equipment. With hindsight, I ought to have had the HUC-JIR Klau Library staff digitize it on their superior equipment. Well, that is a project for a future day.

*

A word on digitizing, scanning, etc. Scanners and digitizers can provide far more data than many printers can handle. As my laser-jet printer produces three-hundred dots per inch (dpi), I tried to ensure that the facsimiles showed as much detail as that allowed.¹⁴ I found that converting the color images into black and white “line-drawings” seemed to work better than using the “half-tone” process.

The software I used did not always do what I wanted it to do. Perhaps I did not know how to “ask” properly; perhaps I was seeking something I could not have. At times the drawing proportions changed; at times the files became too large to handle. In the end, it came together. Please understand: I have tried to maintain the proportions of the originals. In most cases, the size has been reduced, or, occasionally, enlarged.

*

¹⁴ The final thesis was printed on a six-hundred dpi printer. I was unable to “re-digitize” the images.

It was necessary to choose one part of the prayerbook for study. An open-ended study would have been more difficult. Since Shabbat morning services would be found in prayerbooks of all geographic locations and in all time periods, that was the service chosen for study. Occasionally I have selected a text from another service to demonstrate some feature.

I aimed to describe prayerbooks in the main section of the thesis and make suggestions at the end. At times suggestions have crept into my descriptions as well.

*

There were various difficulties I did not anticipate.¹⁵ For example, what unit of measure would be the most appropriate? It seemed a simple enough question. The publishing industry uses points. There are scales easily available marked in points. There are twelve points in a pica. Since a pica is 4.22 mm or 0.1660 inch, a point is 0.3515 mm or 0.01383 inch.

I soon learned, though, that there are a few systems currently in use. The system described above (with the pica and point) is the American-British system. Continental Europe, on the other hand, has a Didot point with twelve Didot points in a cicero (the cicero corresponds to the pica). The Didot point is 0.38 mm or 0.01483 inch.

The pica and point system is convenient because it almost correlates with the

¹⁵ Data on points etc. is from two excellent sources: Tracy, Letters of Credit; Bringhurst, Typographic Style.

enduring foot and inch system common in America. One pica is close to one sixth of an inch.

Unfortunately, because the pica almost correlates to one sixth of an inch, a third system has developed. For lack of a better term, there are the *desk top publishing* (DTP) point and pica. Most digital publishing systems (True Type, PostScript, etc.) use this DTP pica and point. The DTP pica is exactly one sixth of an inch, while the DTP point is exactly one seventy-second of an inch.

With all the confusion, it made sense to use the metric system. Nearly all measurements are given in metric.¹⁶

*

Finally, a note on the epigraph. The Hebrew text, from Ecclesiastes 12:12, “עשות ספרים הרבה אין קץ” is a facsimile taken from the first printed prayerbook, the *Machzor Rome* printed in 1485/1486. Indeed, there is no end to making books. May there be no end to making prayerbooks.

*

¹⁶ Finding two almost-the-same point systems was enough to send me running for cover. This almost gave me an excuse to use my favorite decimal-inches (hundreths of an inch), but I went with the metric system. Americans are almost comfortable with millimeters. On the other hand I believe the rest of the world has given up on the inch, foot, and yard. What a pity.

THE BOOK

A BOOK AND ITS COVER

The first thing one notices about a book is its outward appearance: the shape, size and weight, the color and other aspects of the binding. Upon opening a book, one confronts the paper: its size, color and quality. There may be additional features, such as a clasp to keep the book closed, or a ribbon bookmark. Although we are frequently warned “Don’t judge a book by its cover,” one can learn much about a book by its cover and other general features before reading it. A small light book, for example, will travel well, while a large book will wear well. A silver binding or lavish paper or parchment suggests a wealthy owner.

Bindings

Prayerbooks have been produced with all kinds of bindings. They can be found bound in leather, parchment, silver, cardboard, wood; there may be clasps to close the book; the binding may be original, or the book may have been rebound; the

quires (gatherings or groupings of leaves) may be sewn together, or trimmed and glued;¹⁷ the leaves may be some variety of paper or occasionally vellum. Of the many possibilities, only a few examples can be given here.

Sha'ar Hashamayim (1717) measures 26.9cm high x 22.4cm wide, and is approximately 11cm thick. Clearly it is designed to be supported while used, either by a table or a reader's stand. The large size makes this book good for study or reading at a podium. The Koren *Seder Hatefilah L'shabbat* (1993) measures 19.0cm (h) x 13.0cm (w); and it is approximately 1½cm thick. This book can be held while sitting or standing and is easily carried. *Ha'avodah Shebalev* (1990/1991) is available in two sizes. The standard version measures 24.3cm x 17.5cm, and the small size measures 14.7cm x 9.0cm. Both are approximately 2cm thick. With two sizes available, this prayerbook has varied purposes: the larger edition does well as an all-purpose book, at home and at synagogue; the smaller edition is well suited for travel.

Clasps

Some books are equipped with clasps to keep the books closed. The French *Séder Hathephiloth* (1885), bound in leather, has decorated metal corners that

¹⁷ The process of cutting the folds of the quires and attaching the leaves to the book cover with glue was used in some book production from about 1840 to about 1870. The glue was not permanent. In the mid-twentieth century this process was revived (with an allegedly improved adhesive and usually called "perfect" binding) giving us the ubiquitous paperback books. Philip Gaskell, *A New Introduction to Bibliography* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1972), 234.

complement the clasp. The fourteenth-century prayerbook, MS # 1099, was bound with two clasps (of which the stubs remain). There is a twelfth-century Jewish reference to book clasps in *Sefer Chasidim*: “If one is unable to press the leaves of a book together in order to fasten the clasp, he shall not place his knees upon it to force it close[d].”¹⁸

Paper

The paper used affects the longevity and use of a book. In *Siddur Kol Bo Derech Hahayyim Hashalem* (1943), the paper is brittle; the book’s leaves seem as if they will soon fall apart. The book, while not new, is just under sixty years old. *Sha’ar Hashamayim*, over 180 years old, is in better shape; the pages are still strong. The printer of *Siddur Kol Bo* seems to have used a high-acid paper, perhaps with a high woodpulp content, to lower book production costs. Such papers came into regular use in the mid-nineteenth century; their lack of stability may not have been well realized.¹⁹ In addition to varying in strength, paper also varies in color.

Chlorine bleach, used in the manufacture of paper as far back as the 1790s, allowed

¹⁸ § 918. Michael Adler, “A Mediaeval Jewish Bookworm,” *The Bookworm: An Illustrated Treasury of Old-Time Literature* 3rd ser. (1890): 254-255; Joshua Bloch and others, *Hebrew Printing and Bibliography*, selected and preface by Charles Berlin (New York: The New York Public Library; KTAV Publishing House, Inc., 1976), 167; Fritz Bamberger, *Books are the Best Things: An Anthology from Old Hebrew Writings* (Cincinnati: Society of Jewish Bibliophiles, 1962), 14. Adler and Bloch point out the rarity of a twelfth-century reference to book clasps.

¹⁹ Gaskell, *New Bibliography*, 221-222.

increased production of white paper. Today nearly all white paper is bleached. This has driven the market to prefer the stark-white paper.²⁰

Contents

A quick survey of a book's contents will inform us of its purpose. In the cases of *Sha'ar Hashamayim* (1717) and *Seder Hatefilah L'shabbat* (1993), for example, the size of the book and the book's content match the its purpose well. *Sha'ar Hashamayim*'s large size is matched by its comprehensive nature. It contains prayers for the whole year, Psalms, the weekday Torah portions, extensive commentary, etc. Hence it is clearly intended for congregational use. The portability of *Seder Hatefilah L'shabbat* is well suited to its contents. The volume contains neither commentary nor daily liturgy. Rather it is primarily a *chumash*, containing the complete text of the Torah and the Shabbat *Haftarah* portions. The Shabbat liturgy is the final section of the book. This brings the book up to 544 pages. In order to keep the book light, it uses thin paper. While the paper is not completely opaque, the thin paper negates the need for the user to juggle two books (a prayerbook and a Pentateuch), thus eliminating a possible distraction during worship.

²⁰ Ibid., 214; Tschichold, *The Form of the Book*, 169. Tschichold yearns for the old days. "The slightly écru tone that unbleached paper took on [was] from the linen and the sheep's wool, the original material from which paper was made." Ibid.

Bookmarks

Occasionally prayerbooks are found with bookmarks. In *Séder Hathephiloth* (1885) an unattached blue/black cord is found. One cannot be certain if this bookmark came with the book, was added by a worshiper, or, more likely, was originally attached and fell out of the binding. One end has a knot with approximately three centimeters of unraveling cord.

Some prayerbooks have a ribbon bookmark bound in the book. *The Union Prayerbook*, from the 1895 edition on to *Gates of Prayer: The New Union Prayerbook* (1975), can be found with the bookmark, generally red, although, in the older copies, it is sometimes detached or missing. The bookmark was probably provided to help keep one's place in the service — helpful for when the service leader temporarily deviates from the sequential paginated prayers (Torah portion, supplemental reading, etc.). In *Gates of Prayer*, the bookmark can come in handy if a worshiper wishes to follow along in the romanized Hebrew (Hebrew rendered in the English alphabet) in the back of the book. Two bookmarks would be more helpful.²¹

There is at least one prayerbook with an additional bookmark. In fact, *Das*

²¹ The romanized Hebrew prayers in the back of the book are generally presented in the same order as they are in the service section (front of the book). In the back, however, there are neither English translations nor the additional English-language prayers. This means that a worshiper using the romanized prayers will have to flip back and forth several times between the two sections to keep up with the service. With only one ribbon bookmark provided, the worshiper could repeatedly move the ribbon back and forth, or hold the page with a finger, or use some handy object (such as the synagogue bulletin) as a second bookmark.

jüdische Gebetbuch (1997) has three bookmarks — in three colors — red, yellow and green. This feature will likely assist worshipers, and will be equally helpful to the service leader, so that he may lay out “a path” in advance, much as is often done these days with the yellow Post-it[®] notes.

PAGE DESIGN

Shape and Proportion

After examining the size and style of books, paper, etc., the next feature of prayerbooks examined by the perceptive or curious reader is the page format. The shape of the page, the shape and position of text on the page, and the white space surrounding the text all set the mood for the book. One can observe the optical balance (or imbalance) of the page. The center of a page, for example, appears to be higher than the actual measured center.²²

Properly designing the book page according to the book's proposed use can help determine the book's success.²³ Pages that are too wide, for example, could make a book difficult to handle. But the wide page might be better suited for a book with wide diagrams or pictures, or with several columns.²⁴

The shape of the textblock affects the perceived time and concentration

²² Ada Yardeni, The Book of Hebrew Script: History, Palaeography, Script Styles, Calligraphy & Design, translation, drawings and design by the author (Jerusalem: Carta, 1997), 302, 305; Martha Stewart, "Before framing, think about the matting," The Cincinnati Enquirer 15 Jan 2000: D1.

²³ A well designed book will match the typeface to the book shape. For example "the contours of the letters o and n closely resemble the proportion of the page." Tschichold, The Form of the Book, 58.

²⁴ Bringhurst, Typographic Style, 143-162.

needed for reading. A wide column suggests pondering over the words, but if it is too wide it can be difficult to find one's place when starting to read a new line. A tall column aids in fluid reading, but if the column is too narrow, then it may be better suited for a magazine or newspaper since it suggests casual reading.²⁵

The placement of the textblock can have a positive effect (motivate) or a negative effect (bore) a reader. A square block of text with equal margins on all sides has, in a sense, too much stability. Imagine a person standing on two feet. As long as his two feet are firmly on the ground, he is literally "grounded;" he is not going anywhere. In the same way, the perfectly symmetrical block of text can be uninviting. It is much easier to be unaffected by it than to engage it.

Continuing the analogy: For a person to walk, he has to give up his stability, he must lose his balance. When he walks, he is actually falling and regaining his balance with each and every step. To encourage reading, the layout should likewise encourage motion. A layout with the text placed high on the page and toward the spine works well. This may at first seem an awkward layout. But consider the two facing pages. The two spine margins together balance the fore-edge margins. The two textblocks balance each other. There is harmony and suggested motion. The reader is encouraged to start at the top and move down the page.²⁶

²⁵ Ibid., 163.

²⁶ Ibid., 163-164

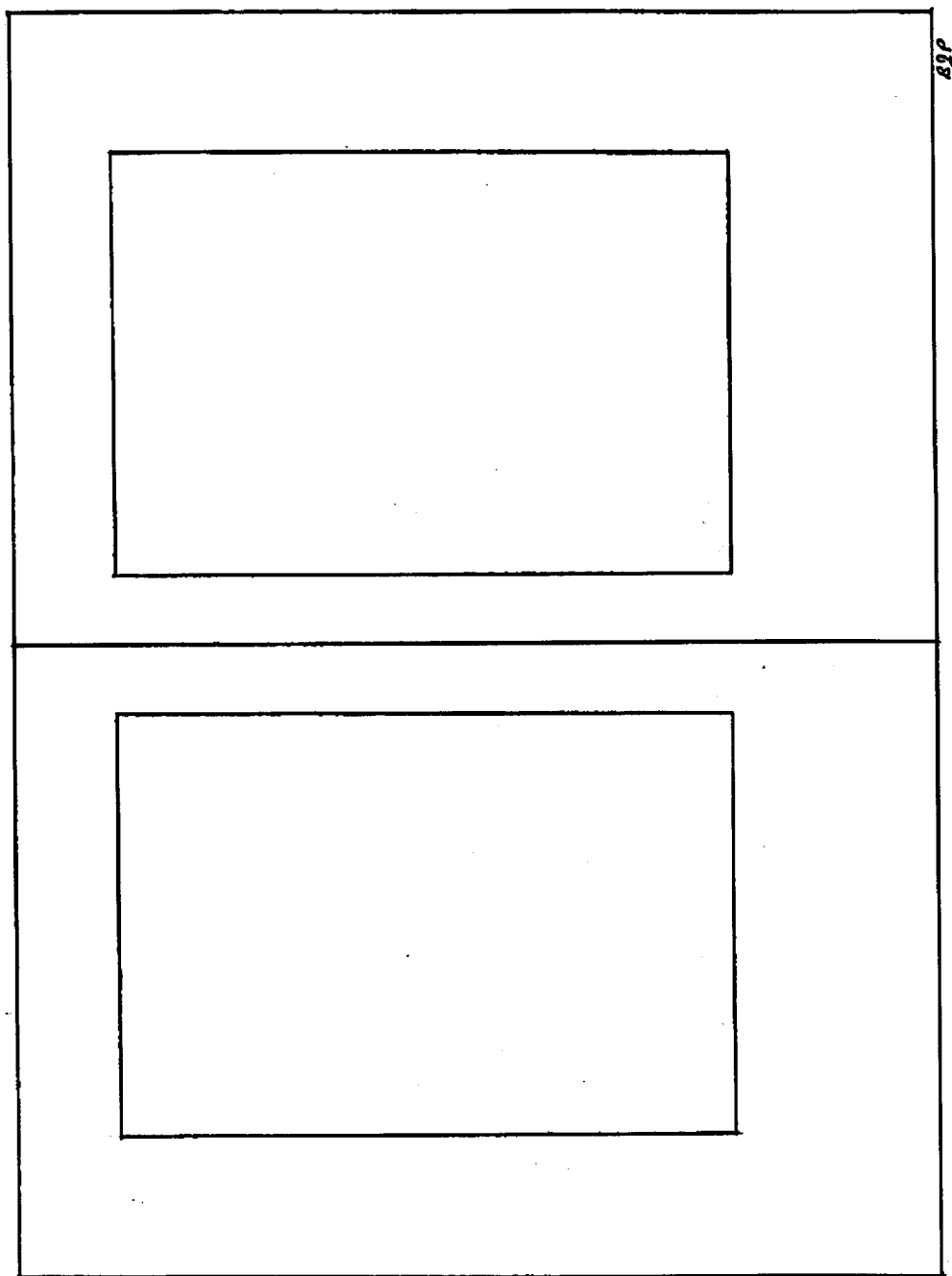


Figure 2 Sample layout of two-page spread.

Books have utilized various page designs. Medieval books often match the page proportion with the textblock proportion. Renaissance books may instead use complementary, or contrasting proportions.²⁷ (For more on proportions see the appendix)

Another feature of the classical page layout is the sizeable margins, especially on the outer and bottom edges of the page. These margins provide room for your thumbs while you read.²⁸ In addition, handwritten notes are found in the margins of many prayerbooks, though this was probably not the original intention of the wide margins.

Other factors influence the page design, such as the size and type of book, the text (the desired demarcation of prayers, the placement of commentaries, etc.) and the cost of materials (paper or vellum).

A pocket-size book is on the narrow side, and cannot afford large margins. In addition the pages might not lie flat (as with a paper-back book). Such a book would likely have its textblock centered horizontally on the page slightly above the optical center.²⁹

The size and thickness of the paper affect the size and weight of the book, and so the publisher may decide to use narrower margins to make the book more portable

²⁷ Ibid., 162-163.

²⁸ Stanley Morison, "First Principles," 7-8.

²⁹ Ibid., 8.

or to cut costs. For example, during World War II, publishers were faced with paper shortages, and as a result books were made with narrow margins. Less white space per page yields more words per page and fewer pages per book.

In a well-designed page, there is harmony between the shape of the textblock and the shape of the page. Some scholars believe that medieval scribes and early printers ensured this harmony by following formulas for page design. They would determine the textblock shape, margin sizes, and even line height according to the size and shape of the two-page spread. If this was so it was not a matter of “public record.” They kept these formulas as workshop secrets. But by carefully measuring the page, the textblock, the margins, etc., of many early manuscript and printed books, researchers have derived formulas used by the early book designers.³⁰

With prayerbooks, one can similarly analyze the editor’s page design. It is difficult to determine the page shape and design precisely, because many variables interfere. For example, a certain amount of text could be one line too long to fit on a particular page. The text proportion may have been varied (increased by the extra line) to make it fit.³¹ In addition, many early books, being rebound, have had pages trimmed, altering the original design. In addition, this trimming (or the original production) can leave the page slightly crooked, making accurate measurement

³⁰ Jan Tschichold, typographer and book designer, derived a canon of good page design based on his extensive research. Tschichold, Form of the Book, 36-64.

³¹ Bringhurst, Typographic Style, 178.

difficult. While much can be learned from the page, one cannot expect to prove or disprove any theories of page design based on a few samples. One can only speculate.

Examples follow.

Klau Library, Cincinnati

MS # 1099, fifteenth-century manuscript prayerbook on vellum:

Page:

$$\begin{array}{lcl} w & = & \text{width} = 15.50 \text{ cm} \\ h & = & \text{height} = 20.40 \text{ cm} \end{array}$$

$$P = \text{page proportion} = h/w = 1.32$$

Textblock:

$$\begin{array}{lcl} m & = & \text{measure} = \text{width of textblock} = 10.20 \text{ cm} \\ d & = & \text{depth} = \text{height of textblock} = 13.35 \text{ cm} \end{array}$$

$$T = \text{textblock proportion} = d/m = 1.31$$

$$\lambda = \text{line height} = \text{depth/no. of lines} = 13.35/15 = 0.89 \text{ cm}$$

$$\begin{array}{lcl} \text{Margins:} & s & = \text{spine (back)} = 2.05 \text{ cm} \\ & t & = \text{top (head)} = 2.50 \text{ cm} \\ & e & = \text{fore-edge (front)} = 3.26 \text{ cm} \\ & f & = \text{foot (bottom)} = 4.59 \text{ cm} \end{array}$$

}

The textblock proportion and the page proportion are nearly the same.

Depending on how much material was removed from each of the three exposed edges when the book was rebound, the page proportion might have been altered somewhat.

We might speculate, from theoretical proportions, how much trimming from the original size has taken place.

Machzor Rome, vol. 1, 1485-86 (vellum ed.)

Page:

$$\begin{array}{lcl} w & = & \text{width} = 18 \text{ cm} \\ h & = & \text{height} = 27.05 \text{ cm} \end{array}$$

$$P = \text{page proportion} = h/w = 1.5$$

Textblock:

$$\begin{array}{lcl} m & = & \text{measure} = \text{width of textblock;} \quad m = 13.44 \text{ cm} \\ d & = & \text{depth} = \text{height of textblock;} \\ & & (d_1 \text{ is from a textblock with 33 lines}) \quad d_1 = 19.60 \text{ cm} \\ & & (d_2 \text{ is from a textblock with 34 lines}) \quad d_2 = 20.20 \text{ cm} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{lcl} T & = & \text{textblock proportion} = d/m \\ & & (T_1 \text{ represents a textblock with 33 lines}) \quad T_1 = m/d_1 = 1.46 \\ & & (T_2 \text{ represents a textblock with 34 lines}) \quad T_2 = m/d_2 = 1.50 \end{array}$$

$$\lambda = \text{line height} = \text{depth/no. of lines} = 0.6 \text{ cm}$$

(line height calculated by using data from several pages:

$$\sum \text{of textblock depths} / \sum \text{no. of lines.})$$

$$\begin{array}{lcl} \text{Margins:} & s & = \text{spine (back)} = 1.75 \text{ cm} \\ & t & = \text{top (head)} = 2.07 \text{ cm} \\ & e & = \text{fore-edge (front)} = 2.43 \text{ cm} \\ & f & = \text{foot (bottom)} = 4.91 \text{ cm} \\ & & f = 2e \text{ (approx.)} \end{array}$$

נתקן בנחמה לעמו ישראל ביום שבת קדש. **שנך** יי ארדנו יתקדש וזכרך מלכנו יתפאר
 בשמים כמעל ועל הארץ מתחת ועל כל שבח מעשה ידך והבאורות אשר יצרת המה יפ
 יפארוך סלה. **תתברך** צורנו מלכנו וגואלנו בורא קדושים ישתבח ויתפאר **שנך** מל
 מלכנו יוצר משרתים ואשר משרתיו כלם עומדים ברום עולם ובשמיים ביראה יחד קול
 גדברי אלהים היום ומלך עולם כלם אדונים כלם ברורים כלם גבורים כלם עושים באימה
 וביראה ויצון קנינים וכלם פותחים את פיהם בקדושה ובטהרה ובברכים ובשבחים ומקד
 ומקדשים לאל שמו האל המלך הגדול הגבור והגורא קדוש הוא וכלם מקבלי עליהם עול
 מכות שמים זה מה ונותנים באהבה דשות זה לזה להקדש ליוצרים בנחת רוח בטפה ברו
 ביראה בניעמה ובקדושה כלם כאחד עונים ביראה ואומרים קדוש קדוש קדוש יי צבאות
 מלא כל הארץ כבודו. **ודאופנים וחיות הקדש כלם כרעש גדול מתנשאים**
לעצמם משבחים ואומרים ברוך כבוד יי מנמו **לאל כבוד נעמית**
 יתנו למלך אל חי לעד וקיים זמירות יאמרו ותושבחות יסמיעו כי הוא לבדו פועל גבורות ע
 עשה חרשות בעל מלחמות זורע צדקות נדא תהלות בירא רפואות מצמיח ישועות ארון
 הנפלאות המחדש טובו בכל יום תמיד מעשה בראשית באמר לעשה אדנים גדולים כי
 לעולם חסדו. **ובחסדי נתנם להאר על הארץ ברוך אתה יי יוצר הבאורות**
עולם אהבתנו יי אלהינו חמלה גדולה ותורה חמלה עלינו אבינו כיכנו
בעבור אבותינו שבטנו כך ותלמים לעשות כצות חקי חיים כן תרגנו
 ותלמינו אבינו אב דרחמן דברחם רחם נא עלינו ותן בלבנו להבין ולהשכיל ולשמע לל
 ולומר ולומר לשמור ולעשות ולקיים את כל דברי תלמוד תורתך באהבה והאירה עינינו
 בנצח תיך ודבק לבנו ליראתך ויחד לבבנו לאהבה וליראה את **שנך** כי שם קדשך הגדול
 באמת נקרא עלינו עשה עמנו בעבור כבוד שמך האל הגדול הגבור והגורא מודה בא
 באהבה תרים קרננו ותמלך עלינו והושענו למען שמך כי כך כמחנו לא גבור ובשמך
 הגדול חסנו לא נכלם ולא נכשל לעד ולעולם עד כי אבינו וארדנו אתה ורחמך וחס
 וחסדך הרבים אל יעזובנו נצח סלה ועד ונגילה ונשמחה בישועתך והבא עלינו ברכה וש
 ושלוש מדה מארבע כנפיות הארץ ותליכנו מדה קוממיות לארצנו כי אל פועל ישועות
 אתה ובעז בחרת מכל עם ולשון וקרבנו לשמך הגדול סלה באמת להודות לך ולהודות ב
 באמת ובאהבה. **ברוך אתה יי הבורא בעמי ישראל בארבה** **אמן** **אל תתן כלום**
שמע **ישראל יי אלהינו יי אחד** **ברוך** שם כבוד מלכותו לעולם ועד
 ואהבת את יי אלהיך בכל לבבך ובכל נפשך ובכל מאודך והיו הדברים ה
 ואלה אשר אנכי מצוך היום על לבבך ושננתם לבניך ודברת בם בשבתך בביתך וכליתך
 בדרך ובשבבך ובקמך וקטרתם לאות על ידך והיו לשופות בין עניך וכתבתם על מ
 מחות ביתך ובשעריך. **והיה אם שמעו תשמעו אל מצותי אשר אנכי**
מצו אתכם היום לאהבה את יי אלהיכם ולעבדו בכל לבבכם ובכל נפשכם ונתתי בטח

Figure 5 Machzor Rome, volume 1, 27a, Klau Library, Cincinnati.

THE LAYOUT

PAGE LAYOUT

Ragged and Justified Texts

In a *ragged* setting, the lines of text begin *flush*, at a common imaginary vertical line, and end haphazardly, producing a ragged vertical line. (With English texts this would mean flush left / ragged right, while with Hebrew texts it would be flush right / ragged left.) This and all the preceding paragraphs in this thesis are set ragged. Prayerbooks can be found set ragged, but generally the texts are justified.

In a *justified* text, the lines of text begin and end flush, with common vertical lines. (For both English and Hebrew texts, justified means flush left / flush right.) This and the next paragraph are justified. The text is considered justified even when there is an intentional indentation at the beginning of, and/or a gap at the end of, the paragraph.

Scribes and printers have used several methods to justify the lines of Hebrew text.

To avoid inappropriate gaps, letters can either be squeezed or elongated.³² Early printers and scribes sometimes inserted drawings or extra letters at the end of a line of text instead of, or in addition to, squeezing or elongating letters.

(For examples, see above, figures 3, 4, and 5.)

³² The practice of varying the widths of certain letters, familiar in Hebrew and Arabic writing and printing, is sometimes referred to as “Semitic justification” (even when used for non-Semitic languages). Bringhurst, Typographic Style, p. 191.

Paragraph Demarcation

The history of what we consider the paragraph is interesting. Medieval scribes marked the beginning of a group of sentences with a symbol, ¶, generally in red ink. The new group of sentences did not necessarily begin on a new line. With early printing, a gap was left in the text so that the symbol could later be added by a *rubricator* (*rubrum* = red). During the late middle ages, the practice developed of beginning the new group of sentences at a new line. Printers continued to leave the gap (but now consistently at the beginning of a line) so that the red ¶ could be added later. Often the symbol was omitted. Eventually the space (the indentation) was all that was needed to mark a paragraph.³³

In contemporary printing, paragraphs typically begin with an indentation. The first paragraph after a heading, however, need not be indented, since it is obviously a beginning of a new set of sentences, a new idea.³⁴

³³ Tschichold, Form of the Book, 105; Tschichold, Asymmetric Typography, 32.

³⁴ Ibid.; Tschichold, Designing Books: Planning a book; A typographer's composition rules; Fifty-eight examples by the author, translated by Joyce Wittenborn (New York: Wittenborn, Schultz, Inc., 195?) 60, 17; Bringhurst, Typographic Style, 39. In this thesis, the previous paragraph began without an

An outdented paragraph is an alternative not commonly used for general text. It is an effective method, though.³⁵ (In addition to this paragraph, examples may be seen in the “works consulted,” below.)

There are various other methods of marking the start of a new paragraph.

Some book designers prefer relying on the white space that follows the last line of the previous paragraph to mark the break between paragraphs, as demonstrated in this paragraph. But the length of the final line of a paragraph varies: the break could, at times, be completely missed.³⁶ ○A symbol (any of many, such as ○, used here, or the traditional ¶, etc.) could mark a new paragraph, either at the beginning of a new line, or in the middle of a line.³⁷

indentation as a demonstration of this printing-convention (of not indenting the first paragraph following a heading). I, for the most part, otherwise follow the typescript-convention, and begin paragraphs, even after headings, with an indentation.

³⁵ Ibid., 40.

³⁶ Tschichold, *Asymmetric Typography*, p. 32. In Tschichold's earlier work, his paragraphs begin flush left (without indentations). He later abandoned this practice. See: Jan Tschichold, *The New Typography: A Handbook for Modern Designers*, trans. Translated by Ruari McLean. Introduction by Robin Kinross, Weimar and Now: German Cultural Criticism 8, eds. Martin Jay and Anton Kaes (Berkeley: A Centennial Book-University of California Press, 1995).

³⁷ Bringhurst, *Typographic Style*, 40. Gill's *Essay on Typography* uses this method for marking paragraphs. Eric Gill, *An Essay on Typography*, 2nd edition (London: Sheed & Ward, 1936).

Block paragraphs, popular in business correspondence, seem similar to the format of relying on the white space at the end of the previous paragraph. But these paragraphs are separated with additional vertical white space (generally an extra line) both before and after (as done here).³⁸

For sub-sections, there are often sub-headings. When there are no subheadings, the temptation arises to announce the new sub-section by leaving an extra white line (as demonstrated immediately above this paragraph). This extra line, however, could be missed if it coincides with the end of a page. To avoid any ambiguity, a mark is centered in the intervening line. As with a paragraph beginning after a heading, there is no need to indent after a sub-heading, or after a marked sub-section.³⁹

*

IN BOOKS from before 1770, chapters were typically introduced with enlarged decorated letters. In addition to decoration, the large letter alerted the reader that a new chapter had begun. Beginning the first word (or words) with small capitals is a current alternative.⁴⁰

*

³⁸ Bringhurst, Typographic Style, 40.

³⁹ Tschichold, Designing Books, 17; Tschichold, Form of the Book, 30.

⁴⁰ Ibid., 29-30.

The methods used for demarcating chapters, sub-sections and paragraphs in secular writing are similar to the methods used to demarcate prayers and the prayer sub-sections.⁴¹

Prayer Demarcation

A prayerbook is only successful if it fulfills the worshiper's needs. At least two extremes are possible: Does the worshiper plan to concentrate on each prayer, each paragraph, each sentence, each word (or even each letter)? Does the worshiper wish to go through the prayers as a continuous stream of words/consciousness (or unconsciousness)? Both of these views could be seen as valid or as ridiculous. But it may be possible to demarcate prayers and sections of prayers to help and not hinder prayerfulness for most worshipers.

There are a few patterns that prayerbooks have often used over the centuries. One popular style (used in these few paragraphs) emphasizes the first word of a prayer (or of a paragraph). For example (figure 6), in *Tikun Shlema* (1793), note on the right-side page, the new paragraph that begins after the centered text “*ani Adonai Elohechem.*” The first word, *emet*, is flush right. The next word on this line and the first word of the next line are equally indented. The last line

⁴¹ When Hebrew is used, there is a notable difference. In Hebrew texts, one generally does not find initial letters highlighted or enlarged. Instead, the first word is highlighted or enlarged (if that method of demarcation is chosen).

of this section, *meolam . . . ayn elohim zulatecha* is centered. This pattern repeats with variations as needed. The last line might or might not be centered. The first word might use a larger type. (This is similar to the *drop cap* except that in Hebrew the whole word is typically treated as a unit.) Note that on the left-side page, in the *amidah*, the word *baruch* uses a larger typeface indicating, in this case, the beginning of a new rubric.

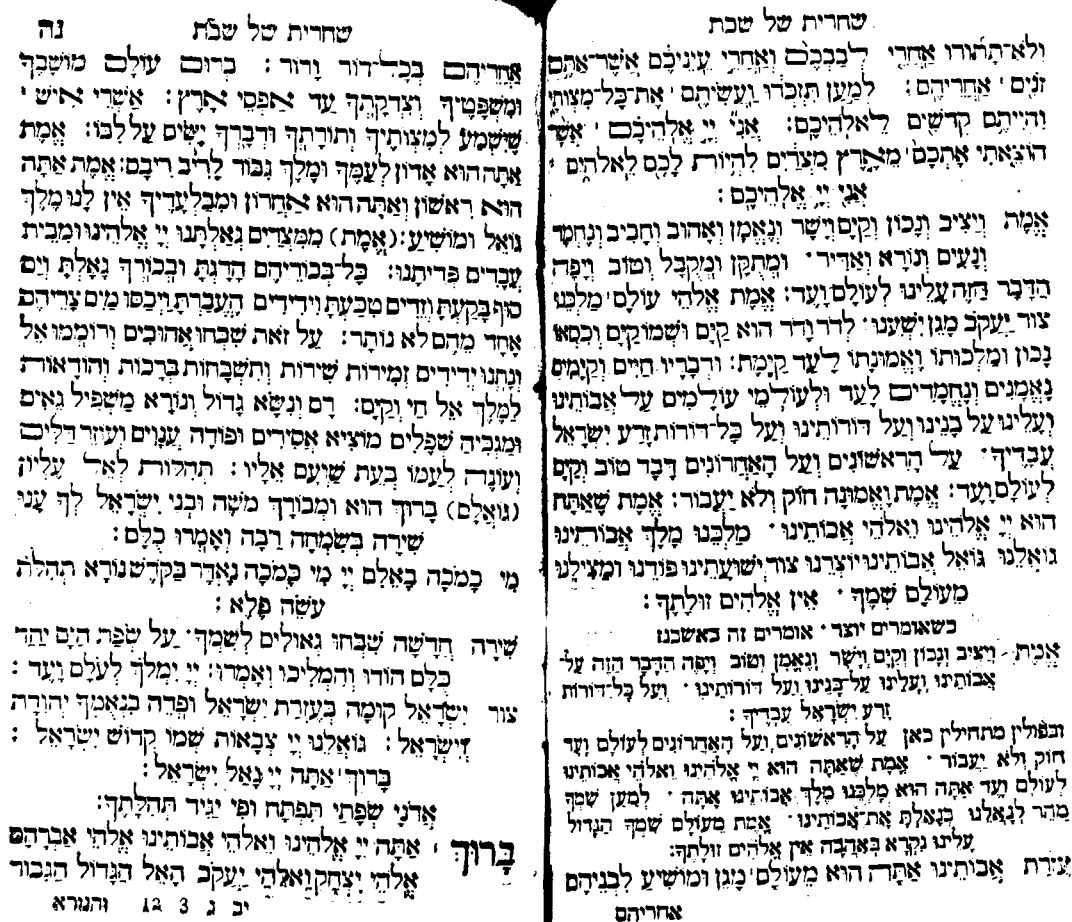


Figure 6 Tikun Shlemah (1793), 54b-55a.

56 MORNING SERVICE FOR THE SABBATH.

Minister:

אלהי נשמה

MY God, the soul which Thou hast given unto me came pure from Thee. Thou hast created it, Thou hast formed it, Thou hast breathed it into me, Thou hast preserved it in this body and, at the appointed time, Thou wilt take it from this earth that it may enter upon the life everlasting. While the soul animates my being I will worship Thee, Sovereign of the world and Lord of all souls. Blessed be Thou, O Lord, in whose hands are the souls of all the living and the spirits of all flesh.

רבון כל העולמים

LORD of all worlds! Not in reliance upon righteousness or merit in ourselves do we make our supplications to Thee; but trusting in Thine infinite mercy alone. For what are we, what is our life, what our goodness, what our power? What can we say in Thy presence? Are not all the mighty men as naught before Thee and those of great renown as though they had never been; the wisest as if without knowledge, and the men of understanding as if without discernment? Behold, nations are but as a drop of water; they are accounted as the grains of dust in the balance. Many of our actions are vain; and our days pass away like a shadow. Our life would be altogether vanity, were it not for the soul, which, fashioned in Thine own image, gives us assurance

ALTHOUGH one would expect consistency within a given book, the first word might or might not be enlarged, and the last line might or might not be centered. Several factors could explain this. There are sometimes instructions, commentaries, or alternate texts included on the page. These variables can lead to narrow

Figure 7 *Union Prayer-Book* (1895) 1905 printing, page 56.

columns, which lead to a breakdown of the format (as has happened on this page due to the insertion of an illustration); it is not always apparent.

As discussed, many prayerbooks enlarge or otherwise highlight the first word of a prayer. Sometimes the highlighted word begins the prayer, while at other times, it is a heading (and the first word is repeated in the text.)

Other books simply demarcate prayers in the way that is commonly used in other contemporary printing. The text is right and left justified with the exception of the first and last lines. The first line of text begins after an indentation and the last line has a gap after the text ends. These few paragraphs demonstrate this method.

There can be lines of text that are centered, as in Heidenheim's *Israelitisches Gebetbuch* (1836). These may include congregational responses, introductory lines of prayers, seasonal insertions, instructions or comments, and so on.



Figure 8 *Israelitisches Gebetbuch* (1836), 162-163.

In the seventeenth-century manuscript of prayerbook fragments from Kaifeng, a different method for separating sections in the prayers can be found. A gap is left in the text.

The gap can be at the beginning of a line of text, appearing to be the same as is often done in contemporary printing.

A gap may instead be left in the center of a line. In this case, there would be text on both ends of a line. A gap may also be left at the end of a line, again appearing to be similar to contemporary printing.

Although these gaps may appear similar to contemporary conventions, this type of gap calls to mind the method used in the Tiberian *mesorah*: the use of the *petuhah* and the *setumah* (though in the *mesorah*, the breaks do not always correlate with what we consider logical breaks in the text).

The *petuhah*, the open paragraph, begins a new line. The preceding text ends with an open-ended-gap. If the text on the preceding line either (a) came close to the end of the line (so that there was insufficient space for at least three letters), or (b) actually extended to the end of the line, then it would not be obvious that an open break had been intended. Under these conditions, a blank line would be inserted before the text commenced.

The *setumah*, the closed paragraph, begins at the end of the same line in which the old paragraph ended. Thus there is a close-ended-gap. If the text on the preceding line either (a) came close to the end of the line (so that there was insufficient space for at least three letters), or (b) actually extended to the end of the line, then the new text would not be able to begin

on the same line. Under these conditions, the new paragraph would begin on a new line, and would be indented⁴².

One possible explanation for this phenomenon in the Kaifeng prayerbook might be that the scribe was accustomed to writing biblical texts. When instead he had a prayerbook to copy, he continued using the masoretic conventions. He was consistent: he used the *masorah* format for prayers *and* for biblical texts within the prayerbook.

Most prayerbooks examined are also consistent. But they consistently do *not* use *masorah* format, neither for prayers, nor for biblical texts.

⁴² Page H. Kelley, Daniel S. Mynatt, and Timothy G. Crawford, The Masorah of Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia: Introduction and Annotated Glossary (Grand Rapids, Michigan: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1998), 155-156, 167; Israel Yeivin, Introduction to the Tiberian Masorah, translated and edited by E. J. Revell, The Society of Biblical Literature Masoretic Studies 5, editor Harry M. Orlinsky (N.p.: Scholars Press; Society of Biblical Literature; The International Organization for Masoretic Studies, 1980), §74.

יָסֵם לַעֲשִׂייתָ לְיָדֵיכֶם אֵתֵנוּ וְכָרָאֵם אֶתְכֶם מִצֻּת יְיָ וְעֲשִׂיתֶם
 וְיָסֵם וְלֹא תִתְּנוּ אַחֲרֵי לִבְכֶּם וְאַחֲרֵי עֵינֵיכֶם אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם זֹנִים
 אַחֲרֵיהֶם לִמְעַן תִּזְכְּרוּ וְעֲשִׂיתֶם אֶתְכֶם מִצֻּת יְיָ וְהֵייתֶם קְרוֹשִׁים
 לֵאלֹהֵיכֶם אֲנִי יְיָ אֱלֹהֵיכֶם אֲשֶׁר הוֹצֵאתִי אֶתְכֶם מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם
 הֵיוֹתְכֶם לֵאלֹהִים אֲנִי יְיָ אֱלֹהֵיכֶם אֲמֵת וַיַּעֲבֹד
 גִּבּוֹן וְקִיָּים יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאֵמָן אֲהַב וְחָבִיב נִחְמָד וְנָעִים נֹרָא וְאֲדִיר
 חֲזָק מִתְּקוֹן וְקוֹבֵל וְנִפְאֵר טוֹב וְיָפֵה הִדְבֹּר הַזֶּה עָלֵינוּ
 לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד אֲמֵת אֱלֹהֵי עוֹלָם מִלְפְּנֵי עֵצָה יַעֲקֹב מִגֵּן
 יִשְׁעֵנוּ לְהוֹר וְהוֹר הוּא קָיָם וְשֵׁמוֹ קָיָם כִּסְאֵי גִבּוֹן וְאֵל כְּבוֹדוֹ
 וְאֵל מוֹעֵתוֹ קִיָּיִם דְּבָרָיו חַיִּים קִיָּיִם לְעַד וְלְעוֹלָמֵי עוֹלָמִים עָלֵינוּ
 וְאֵל אֲבוֹתֵינוּ עַל בְּנוֹתֵינוּ עַל כָּל רוּחֵינוּ עַל הָרָאוֹנוֹת וְעַל

הָאֲחֵרִים וְדָבָר טוֹב וְקִיָּים בְּאֵמֶת חֹק וְלֹא עֲבוֹר
 אֵמֶת שְׁאֵתָהּ הוּא יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ מִלְפְּנֵי יְיָ
 אֲבוֹתֵנוּ וְאֵלֵינוּ וְאֵל אֶת אֲבוֹתֵנוּ וְיִצְרָנוּ וְעֵצָה יַעֲקֹב
 אֲנִי לְנוּ מֵעוֹלָם הוּא שְׁמֵךְ וְאֵין לְנוּ אֱלֹהִים עוֹד וְיִתְּנָה
 עֲזָרָת אֲבוֹתֵנוּ וְאֵתָהּ הוּא מֵעוֹלָם יִגְן וְמוֹשִׁיעַ לְבִי הוּא יִשְׁמָרֵנוּ
 וְכָל הוֹר וְהוֹר כְּרוֹם עוֹלָם מוֹשִׁיעַ וְשׁוֹמֵר וְעֵצָה יַעֲקֹב
 מִפְּנֵי אֲרִץ אֵמֶת אֲשֶׁר אֵינוֹ יִשְׁרָאֵל וְיִתְּנָה
 וְדָבָר וְחֲסִידָה יִשִּׁים עַל לִבּוֹ אֵמֶת אֵתָהּ הוּא אֲדִיר לְנוּ
 וְיִתְּנָה עֲזָרָת לְיָדֵיכֶם לְאֲבוֹת וְכָנִים אֵמֶת אֵתָהּ הוּא אֲדִיר
 וְאֵתָהּ הוּא אֲחֵרִים וְיִתְּנָה עֲזָרָת וְיִתְּנָה מוֹשִׁיעַ אֵמֶת אֵתָהּ הוּא אֲדִיר
 וְיִתְּנָה עֲזָרָת לְיָדֵיכֶם לְאֲבוֹת וְכָנִים אֵמֶת אֵתָהּ הוּא אֲדִיר

Figure 9 MS 924, 34-35, Klau Library.

פִּדְבֵּר הַהִיט וְכִכּוֹרֵי אֵלֶיךָ וַיִּם סוּף בְּקֶעֶת חֲדָשׁ עֲבָדֶיךָ
 וַיִּדְרִים עֲבָדֵי מִים וַיִּכְסּוּ מִים עֲרֵיכֶם אֶחָד מֵהֶם לֹא יָדָע
 וְעַל זֹאת שָׁכְחוּ אֲהָבִים וְרוֹמְמוֹ לֹא יָדָעוּ יְדִידִים וְזִמְרוֹת
 שִׁירֹת תְּנוּפָחוֹת לְמֶלֶךְ אֵל חַי וְקַיִם רֵם וְנֶשֶׁא גִדּוֹל גִּבּוֹר
 וְנוֹרָא מִשְׁפִּיל גִּמְלוֹת עַד אֶרֶץ מִגְבִּיָּה שְׁפָלִים עַד מְרוֹם
 מוֹצִיא אֲסִירִים וְפוֹדֶה עֲנָוִים וְעוֹזֵר הַלֵּים וְעוֹנֶה לַעֲמֹלֵי יָמָם
 בְּעֵת שׁוֹעֵם אֱלֹהֵי תְהִלָּה לֹאֵל עֲלִיּוֹן בְּרוּךְ הוּא מֶשֶׁה וְכָל
 בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לְךָ אָמְרוּ שִׁירָה בְּשִׂמְחָה רַבָּה וְאָמְרוּ כוֹלֵם
 מִי כְמוֹכָה בָּאֵלִים מִי כְמוֹכָה נֶאֱדָר בְּקֹדֶשׁ נוֹרָא תְהִלּוֹת
 עוֹשֶׂה פֶלֶא מִי מְלוֹךְ לְעוֹלָם וְעַד וְנֶאֱמַר גּוֹאֲלֵנוּ
 צְבָאוֹת יְצִמְנוּ קֹדֶשׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל

שְׁפָרַת תִּפְתָּחוּ וְפִי יִגִּיד תְהִלָּתְךָ
 בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ אֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ אֱלֹהֵי אֲבֹתֵינוּ אֱלֹהֵי
 יִצְחָק וְאֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב הָאֵל הַגָּדוֹל הַגִּבּוֹר וְהַנּוֹרָא אֵל עֲלִיּוֹן
 גִּבּוֹר וְנֹסֵדִים טוֹבִים וְקוֹנֵה הַכֹּל זֹכֵר חֲסֵד אֲבוֹת וּמְרַחֵם
 עַל יִצְחָק וְיַעֲקֹב וְנֶאֱמַר לֹאֵל לְזֶרַע אַחֲרֵיהֶם מֶלֶךְ מַחְמֵן
 וְנֶאֱמַר בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ מֶלֶךְ אֲבֹתֵינוּ
 וְנֶאֱמַר גִּבּוֹר לְעוֹלָם מֶלֶךְ מִתִּים אַתָּה רֵב לְהוֹשִׁיעַ
 מִשִּׁיב הָרוּחַ וּמִדֵּי הַגֶּשֶׁם מְכַלֵּל הַיָּם בְּחֶסֶד מִחֵה מֵתִים
 בְּחַמִּים רַבִּים רֹפֵא חוֹלִים וְסוֹמֵךְ נַפְלִים וְנֶאֱמַר אֲסִירִים
 וְנֶאֱמַר אֲמִתִּי לִישׁוֹנֵי עֵפֶר מִי כְמוֹכָה בְּעַל גְּדִירוֹת וְנֶאֱמַר
 וְנֶאֱמַר מִגְבִּיָּה אֲמִתִּי וְנֶאֱמַר אֲמִתִּי לְחַיִּים לְעוֹלָם

Figure 10 MS 924, 36-37, Klau Library

Much attention has been given to distinguishing among prayers or sections of prayers. Some prayerbooks also mark the conclusion of a prayer, or the point at which the service leader traditionally resumes the prayer out loud. In the two examples shown, note the markers (♦ and □) before the words *sheken* and *b'rakhot*.

220

תפלת שחרית לשבת יום טוב

שׁוֹכֵן עַד. מְרוֹם וְקָדוֹשׁ שְׁמוֹ. וְכַתוּב רָגְנוּ
צַדִּיקִים בְּיַי לְיִשְׂרָאֵל גְּאוּנָה תְהִלָּה:

בְּפִי יִשְׂרָאֵל תְּתַהַלֵּל. וּבְדַבְרֵי צַדִּיקִים תִּתְקַבֵּל.
וּבְלִשׁוֹן חֲסִידִים תִּתְרוֹמֵם. וּבִקְרֹב קְדוֹשִׁים תִּתְקַדָּשׁ:

וּבְמִקְהֵלוֹת רַבְבוֹת עַמְּךָ בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּרָנָה
יִתְפָּאֵר שְׁמֶךָ מִלְּכֵנוּ בְּכָל יוֹר דְּדוֹר. ♦ שְׁכֵן חוֹבֶת כָּל
הַיְצוּרִים לְפָנֶיךָ יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאַלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ. לְהוֹדוֹת
לְהַלֵּל לְשַׁבַּח לְפָאֵר לְרוֹמֵם לְהַדָּר לְבָרוּךְ לַעֲלֹה וּלְקַלֵּס
עַל כָּל דְּבַר שִׁירוֹת וְתַשְׁבְּחוֹת דָּד בְּן יֵשׁי עֲבָדֶיךָ
מִשִּׁיחָךָ:

יִשְׁתַּבַּח שְׁמֶךָ לְעַד מִלְּכֵנוּ. הָאֵל הַמֶּלֶךְ הַגָּדוֹל
וְהַקְדוֹשׁ בְּשָׁמַיִם וּבָאָרֶץ. כִּי לָךְ גְּאוּנָה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ
וְאַלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ שִׁיר וְשִׁבְחָה הַלֵּל וְזִמְרָה עוֹ
וּמְשִׁלָּה גִצָּח גְּדֻלָּה וּגְבוּרָה תְהִלָּה וְתִפְאָרֶת קִרְשָׁה
וּמִלְכוּת ♦ בְּרָכוֹת וְהוֹדָאוֹת מַעֲתָה וְעַד עוֹלָם. בְּרוּךְ
אַתָּה יי אֵל מֶלֶךְ גָּדוֹל בְּתַשְׁבְּחוֹת. אֵל הַהוֹדָאוֹת.
אֲדוֹן הַנִּפְלְאוֹת. הַבּוֹחֵר בְּשִׁירֵי זִמְרָה. מֶלֶךְ אֵל חַי
הָעוֹלָמִים:

Figure 12 Prayer Book for Jewish Personnel in the
Armed Forces of the United States (1984), 220.

ובמקלות רבבות עמך בית ישראל ברנָה יתפאר שמך
מלכנו בכל־דור ודור. □ שכן חובת כל־היצורים לפניך
יהיה אלהינו ואלהי אבותינו, להודות להלל לשבח, לפאר
לרומם להדר, לברך לעלה ולקלס על כל־דברי שירות
ותשבחות דוד בן־ישי עבדך משיחך.

*In this berakhah we affirm that our eternal King
will always be praised*

ישתבח שמך לעד, מלכנו, האל המלך הגדול והקדוש
בשמים ובארץ. כי לך נאה, יהוה אלהינו ואלהי אבותינו,
שיר ושבחה, הלל וזמרה, עז וממשלה, נצח גדלה וגבורה,
תהלה ותפארת, קדשה ומלכות, □ ברכות והודאות מעתה
ועד עולם. ברוך אתה יהוה אל מלך גדול בתשבחות, אל
ההודאות, אדון הנפלאות, הבוחר בשיירי זמרה, מלך אל חי
העולמים.

*On Shabbat before Yom Kippur,
Psalm 130, on page 134, may be added*

HATZI KADDISH

Reader:

יתגדל ויתקדש שמה רבא בעלמא די ברא כרעותה, וימליך
מלכותה בחייכון וביומיכון ובחיי דכל־בית ישראל, בעגלא
ובזמן קריב, ואמרו אמן.

Congregation and Reader:

יהא שמה רבא מברך לעלם ולעלמי עלמא.

Reader:

יתברך וישתבח ויתפאר ויתרומם ויתנשא, ויתהדר ויתעלה
ויתהלל שמה דקדשא, בריך הוא לעלא (לעלא מכל־) מן
כל־ברכתא ושירתא, תשבחתא ונחמתא דאמירן בעלמא,
ואמרו אמן.

Citations, Notes, Instructions and Commentary

The prayerbook page is not limited to the words of prayer. The worshiper may be offered instructions on matters such as which prayers to recite on which occasions, how to recite the prayers (out loud or silently, standing or sitting), who should say which prayer (the service leader or the congregation), where to turn in the prayerbook to find the next part of the service, and so on. In addition, he may find simple or extensive commentary on the prayers, the history of the prayer, and the laws surrounding the prayer. Finally, the worshiper may be offered citations explaining the source of a prayer, or additional notes of a technical nature, such as a translation of an unusual term, etc.

*

Instructions are generally given in the place they are needed. They are, in a sense, stage directions; they instruct the members of the community, explaining to each member what his role is.⁴³ These instructions are usually brief, are set in a different typeface from the prayer text, and, if they are given in Hebrew, they generally do not have vowels.

*

⁴³ Lawrence A. Hoffman, "The Liturgical Message," in his Gates of Understanding: A companion volume to Shaarei Tefillah: Gates of Prayer, (New York: Central Conference of American Rabbis; Union of American Hebrew Congregations, 1977), 147, note 28 on page 166.

Citations identifying the sources for prayers sometimes precede the text, sometimes are found in marginal notes, and sometimes are not given at all. Less commonly, citations could also appear in a footnote or in an endnote. Occasionally, the note citations are gathered together in a separate book.⁴⁴

Notes, such as translations or explanations of terms, are generally given at the bottom of the page. (Examples follow below.)

*

There are several methods commonly used for presenting commentaries. Some prayerbooks place the commentary on the bottom of the page (sometimes below a horizontal line). Alternately, the commentary text may be treated as part of a running text, that is, it is a section that interrupts the prayer text. Another layout method is to surround the prayer text with the commentary. These commentaries are often linked to the prayer texts through association with a word from the text. The first word of the section commented on might be enlarged, highlighted, etc. in the commentary as it is in the prayer. (Examples follow below.)

*

⁴⁴ For example, Chaim Stern and A. Stanley Dreyfus, “Notes to Shaarei Tefillah,” Gates of Understanding, ed. Lawrence A. Hoffman (New York: Central Conference of American Rabbis; Union of American Hebrew Congregations, 1977) 177-269.

קריאת שמע וברכות

שחרית לשבת וליום טוב

קריאת שמע וברכות

כשמתפללים במנח שליח צבור אומר:

בָּרְכוּ אֶת יְהוָה הַמְּבָרָךְ.

והקהל עונה:

בָּרוּךְ יְהוָה הַמְּבָרָךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

שליח צבור חוזר ואומר:

בָּרוּךְ יְהוָה הַמְּבָרָךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

ברכת "יוצר אור", הברכה הראשונה שלפניה

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, יוֹצֵר
אֹר וְבוֹרֵא חֹשֶׁךְ עֹשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם וְבוֹרֵא אֶת הַכֹּל.

ביום טוב שאינו שבת אומרים המאיר לארץ:

הַכֹּל יוֹדוֹךָ וְהַכֹּל יִשְׂבַּחְךָ

וְהַכֹּל יֹאמְרוּ: אֵין קְדוֹשׁ כִּיְהוָה.

הַכֹּל יְרוֹמְמוֹךָ סֵלָה יוֹצֵר הַכֹּל

הָאֵל הַפּוֹתַח בְּכָל יוֹם דְּלִתּוֹת שַׁעֲרֵי מִזְרַח,

וּבּוֹקֵעַ חֲלוֹנֵי רָקִיעַ,

מוֹצִיָּא חֲמָה מִמְּקוֹמָהּ וְלִבְנָה מִמְּכוֹן שְׁבֻתָּהּ

(*) ליום טוב שאינו שבת

הַמֵּאִיר לְאֶרֶץ וְלִדְרִים עָלֶיהָ בְּרַחֲמִים, וּבְטוֹבוֹ

מַחֲדִּשׁ בְּכָל יוֹם תְּמִיד מַעֲשֵׂה בְּרָאשִׁית. מָה רַבּוֹ תְּהִלָּתְךָ

מַעֲשֵׂיךָ יְהוָה, כָּלֵם בְּחֻכְמָה עֲשִׂיתָ, מְלָאָה הָאֶרֶץ

קִנְיָנְךָ: הַמֶּלֶךְ הַמְּרוֹמֵם לְבָדוֹ מְאֹד, הַמְּשַׁבֵּחַ

סלה - לעולם. ובוקע - ופותח.

שחרית לשבת וליום טוב

ברכת טלית

ברוך אתה יהוה אלהינו מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו
במצותיו וצונו להתעטף בציצית:

מה טבו אהליך יעקב, משכנותיך ישראל: ואני ברב	במדבר כד
חסדך אבוא ביתך, אשתחווה אל היכל קדשך	תהלים ה
ביראתך: יהוה אלהתי מעון ביתך ומקום משכן	שם כו
כבודך: ואני אשתחווה ואכרעה, אברכה לפני יהוה	
עשי. ואני תפלתי לך יהוה עת רצון, אלהים ברב	שם סט
חסדך, ענני באמת ישעך:	

*

אדון עולם אשר מלך	בטרם כל יציר נברא.
לעת נעשה בחפצו כל	אזי מלך שמו נקרא.
ואחרי ככלות הכל	לבדו ימלך נורא.
והוא ה' והוא הוה	והוא יהיה בתפארה.
והוא אחד ואין שני	להמשיל לו להחבירה.
בלי ראשית בלי תכלית ולו העז והמשנה.	
והוא אלי וחי גואלי	וצור חבלי בעת צרה.
והוא נסי ומנוס לי	מנת פוסי ביום אקרא.
בדוד אפקיד רוחי	בעת אישן ואעירה.
ועם רוחי גותי	יהוה לי ולא אינא:

*

הנני מוכן ומזמן לקיים מצות בוראי.
כמו שכתוב בתורה:
"ושמרתם את השבת":

שמות לא

*

שחרית של שבת

מן מורט פון שחרית די ברכות מול די (אמוריס) נאך מנדר ביו מן (יסתבח) מול דר נאך היבט מן דאס
 נשמת פלחי • תברך את שמך יי אלהינו • ורוח כד בשר תפא
 ותרוםם זכרה מלפנו תמיד : מן העולם ועד העולם אמת
 ומבלעדך אין לנו מלך נואל ומושיע : פודה ומציל ומפרנס ומרחם
 בכל עת צרה וצוקה אין לנו מלך אלא אמת • אלהי הראשונים
 והאחרונים • אלה כל בריות • ארון כד תולדות • המהלל בן
 התשבוחות • המנהיג עולמו בחסד • ובריותיו ברחמים : וי לא ינו
 ולא יישן • המעורר ישנים • והמקיץ רדומים • והמשיח אלמים
 והמתיר אסורים • והסומך נופלים • והזוקק כפופים • לה לבדך אנחנו
 מודים : אלו פינו מלא שירה בים • וקשוננו רנה כהמון גליו • ושפתותינו
 (שבת) כמרחבי רקיע • ועינינו מאירות כשמש וירח : וירינו (פרוש)
 כנשרי שמים ורגלינו קלות כאילות : אין אנו מספיקין להודות לך
 אלהינו ואלהי אבותינו : ולברך את שייך • על אחת מאלהי אלה
 אלפי אלפים • ורבי רבבות פעמים • הטובות שעשית עם אבותינו
 ועמנו : ממצרים גאלתנו יי אלהינו : ומבית יעקבים פדיתנו

ברעב

נשמת דאס מול פון מול דאס לעבט טוט לובן דיין נאמן גאט מונד גאט • מול דר מוטס • מול דר קרמטייער ויטוסט
 מול דר היטו דיין גרעטנים מונד קינג סטעטיגליך פון מיכא הער מול ביו מין דר מיכא קייט ביסטו גאט •
 זגיר דין חבן איר קיין קיין דר לור מול קיין העלר דער דא מול לויט מול כיסיראס מול ספיוט מול מרכאס
 מין מול לייט דא לייט מול בינויקאס • הבן איר קיין קיין גאט דר דאס דר ערסטן מול דר לעלן מין
 מול ביסטנים מין הער מול גבארני דער דאס ווערט גפרון אט מול ביראונג דער דאס רעגירט זיין וועלט אט גמאר
 מול ביסטנים אט באראהענליקייט • מול גאט מין דער דאס נייט סאמט מול נייט סאמט דר דאס דר וועקט די ס'לענא
 מול דר דאס אטאט מנעוועלן דאס מין טיפן סאמל זיין מול דר דאס אטאט דיר די פטאון מול דר דאס אטאט זיין דר גמאר
 דר דער דאס מונדיר לייט די פמאלין • מול דער דאס מול ריכט די ניר גבוקטן לוי דיר מליין דנקן איר ווען גלייך מאנד
 הער פון גימאג מין דאס הער • מול מונדיר לויט גלייך מאל דאס ברואן זינד מינדן מול מונדיר לעלן ווערן פון אט לוב מול
 ווייט דאס הימל • מונדיר מין וועלן זיכטן מין מול די (לבה) מול מונדיר הער ופאהן מול גספרייט זיין מול
 מריר דאס הימל מול מונדיר פיס וועלן גרינג זיין מין הינד דענוך קענטן איר דיר נייט גינג דנקן גאט מונדיר גאט
 גאט מונדיר פאסרן • מול לויט דיין נאמן מול מיינס פון טוינטן טוינט אט טוינט מול לעהן טוינט אט לעהן טוינט
 פון דאס העסט גיטון אט מונדיר עלטרן מול אט מול מין (אלרית) העסטן גאט מונדיר גאט מול
 מרליט • מול פון דעס הינד דאס איר זיין גוועסן קיעלעט

Figure 18 Korban Mincha (1792), 113b.

Hebrew Rendered in Vernacular

Romanization, transcription and the more commonly used (yet perhaps misunderstood) *transliteration* are terms which defy simple definition; they are often used as synonyms. Transcription is the rendering of one language in symbols or letters of a different alphabet. Romanization is the rendering of a language in the Latin alphabet. Practically speaking, for English-readers of Hebrew prayers, transcription and romanization amount to the same thing: Hebrew prayers rendered “in English.”⁴⁵ There are several methods of transcription, or romanization, with several purposes; this leads to confusion.

For prayerbooks, the standardized general-purpose romanization of Hebrew is probably the best choice. Werner Weinberg, describes this system in his book How Do You Spell Chanukah?⁴⁶ This romanization scheme allows readers of English to read Hebrew prayers without knowledge of Hebrew.

⁴⁵ Werner Weinberg’s explanation differs slightly from mine: “*Romanization* refers to rewriting in the Latin alphabet texts in a different script. It is a cover term for both *transliteration* and *transcription*, which in their narrow meanings signify a sign-for-sign and a sign-for-sound rendition, respectively.” Werner Weinberg, How Do You Spell Chanukah? A General-Purpose Romanization of Hebrew for Speakers of English, Bibliographica Judaica 5, edited by Herbert C. Zafren (Cincinnati: Hebrew Union College Press, 1976), 12.

(Romanization would not, of course, serve as a cover term for transliteration and transcription in the scripts of Arabic, Cyrillic, Greek, etc.)

⁴⁶ Ibid. Weinberg’s book on a general-purpose romanization system sets the standard for general-purpose systems -- literally. It was adopted as part of ANSI Standard Z39.25.

Another method of romanization, often preferred by scholars, is *transliteration*. In transliteration, each letter of one alphabet is represented by a symbol or letter of a different alphabet. Transliterated Hebrew, for example, would have a different and unique letter or symbol for each of the following: א, ע, ט, ת, ז, ס, ש, צ, ש, ב, ב, ו, etc. Transliteration is reversible, that is, one can read transliterated Hebrew, and re-create the same words using the Hebrew alphabet.

For most people, true transliteration is difficult for reading Hebrew prayers. The word מצוה, for example, might be rendered as mšwh. If vowels were added to the Hebrew to make the word מצוה, it might be represented as mišwāh. Most Americans would more easily recognize *mitsvah*, or *mitzvah*, as the word is commonly transcribed. Transliterated Hebrew could easily block a worshiper's sense of *kavanah*. While it is true that a proper transliteration would enable the scholar to re-create Hebrew, and perhaps lead to increased *kavanah*, this is unnecessary if the Hebrew text is also provided.

Multiple Texts

There have been many solutions to the challenge of page design when more than one text for a given prayer is provided. The placement of texts sometimes highlights one text over the others; at times the multiple texts are treated equally.⁴⁷

The prayers are often translated into a vernacular language. In addition, the Hebrew text is sometimes rendered in the vernacular alphabet. While presenting the translation of prayers is an old practice, presenting the transcription of prayers is a fairly new phenomenon.

When one wishes to include a prayer and its translation, there are several layout possibilities. If one wishes to include the prayer and its transcribed version, again there are several workable methods. But when one wishes to include three renditions of a prayer, that is, the Hebrew text, the translation, and the transcribed text, it is a more difficult process. If in addition, the editor decides to put in alternate texts as well, then the situation becomes even more difficult. Before examining the three-text difficulty, the two-text presentation can be examined.

Two Texts. One method is to present the two texts on facing pages. Since Hebrew reads from right to left and most other languages read from left to right, the Hebrew is typically placed on the right, and the vernacular on the left. Some

⁴⁷ This concern is not limited to Jewish prayerbooks. Multilingual countries such as Canada must constantly consider this question. Bringhurst, Typographic Style, 22.

prayerbooks set the Hebrew and vernacular texts in parallel columns. Other prayerbooks present the translation on the bottom of the page.

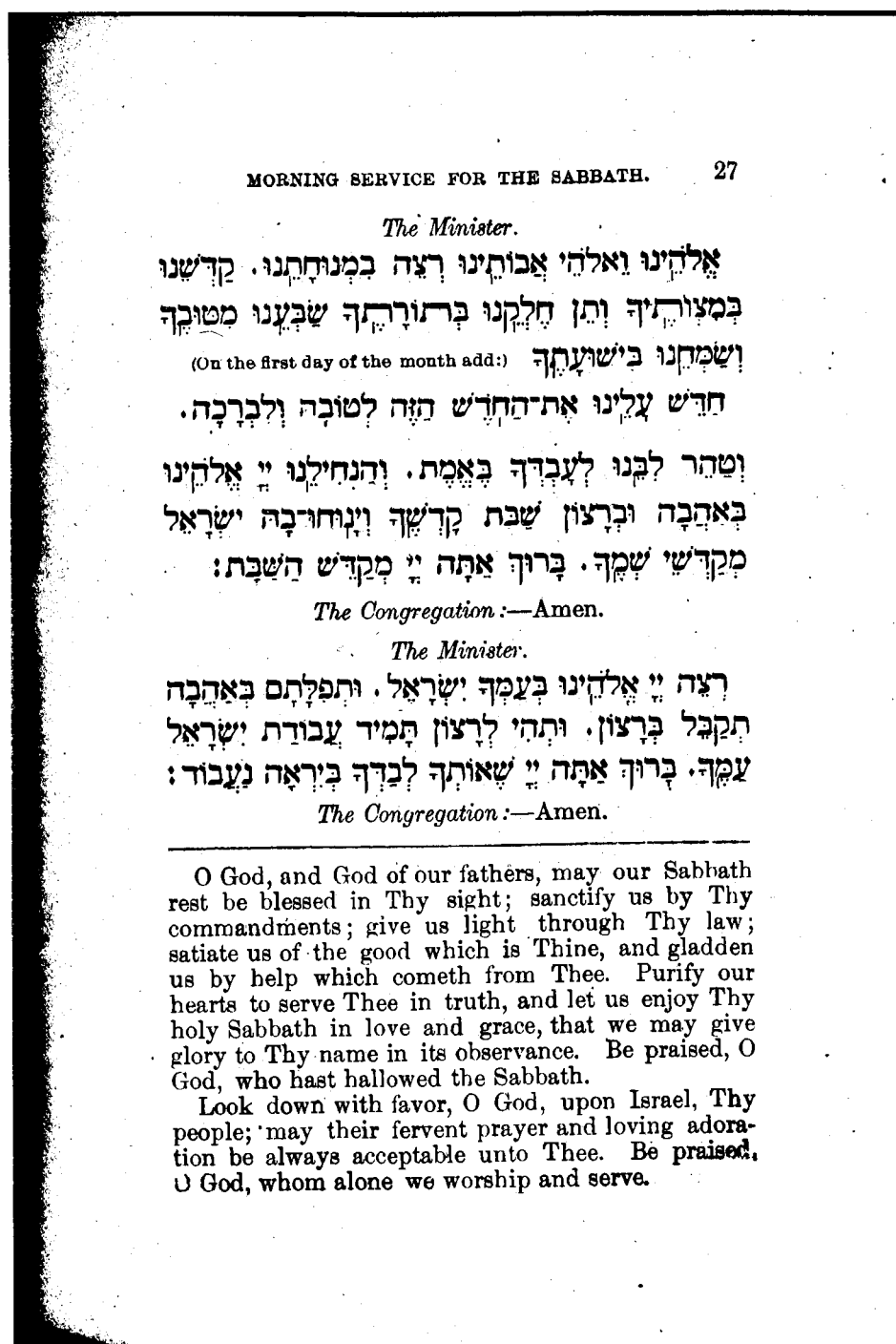


Figure 20 *Olat Tamid* (1896, 1913 printing), 27.

Из Египта Ты спас нас, Господи;
из дома рабства освободил;
в голодное время питал, в изобильные годы насыщал;
от меча избавил, от мора уберег,
от лютых и неминуемых болезней исцелил.

Доныне Ты по великой милости Своей всегда помогал нам, не
оставлял нас Своим милосердием, не покинь же нас, Господи
Боже наш, и впредь — во веки веков.

Ибо все уста возносят Тебе благодарность и клянутся в
верности, всякий человек преклоняет пред Тобою колена,
как сказано: "Возгласят все кости мои: Господи, кто подобен
Тебе, спасающему бедняка от руки сильного, нищего и
убогого — от обирающих их?" Ты слышишь жалобу бедняка,
внемлешь воплю убогого и спасаешь его. Кто подобен Тебе,
кто сравнится с Тобою, Бог великий, могучий и грозный,
Владыка единоначальный неба и земли?

В праздники ведущий службу вступает здесь.

האל Ты — Бог Вседержитель, и мощь Твоя беспредельна;
Ты — велик, и грозен в чудесных деяниях Твоих, от века и до
века прославляемо имя Твое.

Ты — Владыка восседающий на высоко вознесенном престо-
ле,

В субботу ведущий службу вступает здесь.

שוכן Ты пребываешь вовеки, Ты — свят, Всевышний имя
Тебе.

Пс 33:1 Так говорит псалмопевец: "Восхваляйте, праведники, Госпо-
да, чистым душой подобает славить Его".

Чистые душою Тебя превознесут,
Праведные Тебя благословят,
Благочестивые воспоют имя Твое святое,
Святые Тебя прославят.

р. Ицхак Ривка

БЕ-ФИ ЙЕШАРИМ ТИТРОМАМ
У-В-ЛИВРЕЙ ШАДИКИМ ТИТБАРАХ
У-ВИ-ЛШОН ХАСИДИМ ТИТКАДАШ
У-В-КЕРЕВ КДОШИМ ТИТЛАЛ

ממַצִּים גְּאֻלָּתָנוּ, יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ,
וּמַבִּית עֲבָדִים פְּדִיתָנוּ,
בְּרָעַב זִנְתָּנוּ, וּבִשְׂבָע כִּלְכַלְתָּנוּ,
מִחֶרֶב הִצַּלְתָּנוּ וּמִדָּבָר מִלִּטְתָּנוּ,
וּמִחֲלָיִם רָעִים וּנְאֻמִּים דִּלִּיתָנוּ.

עַד הֵנָּה עֲזָרוֹנוּ רַחֲמֶיךָ, וְלֹא עֲזָבוֹנוּ חַסְדֶּיךָ, וְאֵל
תַּשְׁטֵנוּ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ לְנֶצַח.

כִּי כָל פֶּה לְךָ יוֹדֶה, וְכָל לִשׁוֹן לְךָ תִּשְׁבַּע, וְכָל בֶּרֶךְ
לְךָ תִּכְרַע, בְּדָבָר שְׂקֵתוֹב: "כָּל עֲצָמָי תִּאֲמָרְנָה:
יְהוָה מִי כָמוֹךָ, מַצִּיל עָנִי מִחֶזֶק מַמְּנוֹ וְעָנִי וְאֲבִיוֹן
מִגּוֹזְלוֹ"; שׁוֹעֵת עֲנִיִּים אַתָּה תִּשְׁמַע, צַעֲקַת הַדָּל
תִּקְשִׁיב וְתוֹשִׁיעַ. מִי יִדְמֶה־לְךָ וּמִי יִשׁוּהֶ־לְךָ וּמִי
יַעֲרֶךְ־לְךָ, הָאֵל הַגָּדוֹל הַגִּבּוֹר וְהַנּוֹרָא, אֵל עֲלִיוֹן קוֹנֵה
שָׁמַיִם וָאָרֶץ:

תהלים נה

הָאֵל בְּתַעֲצוּמוֹת עֲזָרְךָ, הַגָּדוֹל בְּכַבוֹד שְׁמֶךָ, הַגִּבּוֹר
לְנֶצַח, וְהַנּוֹרָא בְּנוֹרְאוּתֶיךָ,
הַמֶּלֶךְ הַיּוֹשֵׁב עַל כִּסֵּא רֵם וְנוֹשֵׂא,

שׁוֹכֵן עַד, מְרוֹם וְקָדוֹשׁ שְׁמוֹ:

וְכָתוּב: "רַנְּנוּ צְדִיקִים בַּיהוָה, לִישְׁרִים נֶאֱמָר תִּהְלֶה":

ס"ו

ШОХЭН АД, МАРОМ БЕ-КАДОШ ШМО. БЕ-ХАТУВ:
"РАНЕНУ ЦАДИКИМ БА-АДОНаЙ. ЛА-ЙЕШАРИМ
НАВА ТИЛА"

בְּפִי יִשְׁרִים תִּתְרוֹמֵם
וּבְדַבְרִי צְדִיקִים תִּתְבָּרַךְ
וּבְלִשׁוֹן חֲסִידִים תִּתְקַדֵּשׁ
וּבִקְרֹב קְדוּשִׁים תִּתְהַלֵּל:

(סימן יצחק רבקה)

In order to help the student learning Hebrew, other methods of translation placement have been used. In *Magil's Linear Prayer Book*, the columns are narrower, with only a few words per line. This makes it easier to compare the two languages. Another interesting method is *Abraham's Inter-Linear Prayerbook*. Under each Hebrew word is its definition. One might think this would be easier to use, but, actually, since English goes from left to right, and Hebrew goes from right to left, it can be very confusing.

The *Metsudah Siddur* also provides a linear translation, but with only one Hebrew and one English column per page.

Where Magil has narrow columns, with both languages beginning with text set flush, the Metsudah has both languages beginning ragged and ending in the center set flush.

The two languages balance each other out, and so it looks nice.

Nevertheless, it is more difficult for reading and praying.⁴⁸

To better illustrate, this section is set ragged left, flush right, as is the English text in the *Metsudah Siddur*.

If all this is still confusing, see the sample texts below.

⁴⁸ Since Hebrew reads from right to left, a flush right / ragged left text is easy to read, just as English, which reads from left to right, does well set flush left / ragged right. When a text is set so that it begins ragged, like Hebrew set ragged right, or English set ragged left, it becomes difficult to read more than a few lines. Ibid., 23-24.

Gates of Prayer (1975) contains English and Hebrew text in tandem blocks

well described by Lawrence Hoffman:

The English and Hebrew begin at their respective left or right margins but do not run to the margin at the opposite side of the page. Thus one can pray in English and bypass the intermediary Hebrew, since his English orientation results in his seeing the Hebrew as indented, and optional. The same is true of the Hebrew reader, who will view the page from a right to left orientation and consider the English indented and optional. At first a page looks like a patternless jumble to someone familiar with the highly formalized structure of the *Union Prayer Book*. But selective perception can be counted on to make worship(p)ers see each page according to a gestalt which they themselves invent as their congregational norm.⁴⁹

This layout was a noteworthy experiment. One can, in theory, read the English or Hebrew unencumbered by the other language. In practice, though, it still looks like a “patternless jumble” to one familiar with the structure of any traditionally designed book.

*

⁴⁹ Hoffman, “The Liturgical Message,” 158.

סדר השכמת הבקר.

ORDER OF RISING IN THE MORNING.

and God of my fathers,
that it be counted
the commandment of
before thee,
as if I had fulfilled it
with all its details,
and its particulars,
and its meanings,
and the 613 com-
mandments
that depend on it.

Amen! Selah!

ORDER OF PUTTING ON THE

שליט גרול.

Before putting on the שליט גרול, examine the מצוה
and say the following:—

Psalm cly.

1. Bless, O my soul,
the Lord.

O Lord my God,
thou art very great,
with splendor and
majesty
thou hast clothed thee.

2. Thou coverest thyself
with light

as with a garment,
Thou spreadest out the
heavens
like a curtain.

I am here enwrapping
my body

ואלהי אבותי

שתיא חשוכה

מצות ציצת

לפניך

כאלו קיימתי

בכל פרטיה

ודקדוקיה

וכגולותיה

ותרינג מצות

התלויים בה.

אמן סלה :

תהלים קד.

א ברכי נפשי

את יי.

יי אלהי

גדלת מאד.

הוד וקדר

לבשת:

ב עושה

אור

כשלמה.

נוטה שמים

בפרצה :

תריני מתעטף

נפשי

When a man awakes in the
morning from his sleep, and
while yet in his bed,
he shall say:—

I give thanks

before thee,

King,

living

and ever-existing,

that thou hast restored

in me

my soul

with pity.

Great is

thy faithfulness.

After washing his hands, he
shall examine the fringes
of the מצוה של
מצות קטן
and say:—

Blessed art thou, O Lord

our God,

King of the universe,

who has sanctified us

by his commandments,

and has commanded us

concerning the com-
mandment of the fringes.

May it be thy will,

O Lord my God

בהקץ תאדם בבקר
משנתו ובעודנו על
משכבו יאמר זאת:

מוודה אני

לפניך

מלך

חי

וקיים

שהחזרת

בי

נשמת

ברחמך.

רבה

אמונתך :

אחרי רחצו את ידיו

יבדוק הציצת של

המצות קטן

ויאמר:

ברוך אתה יי

אלהינו

מלך העולם

אשר קדשנו

במצותיו

ואננו

על מצות

ציצת :

יהי רצון מלפניך

יי אלהי

Figure 22 Magil's Complete Linear Prayer Book, part 2 (1908), 33

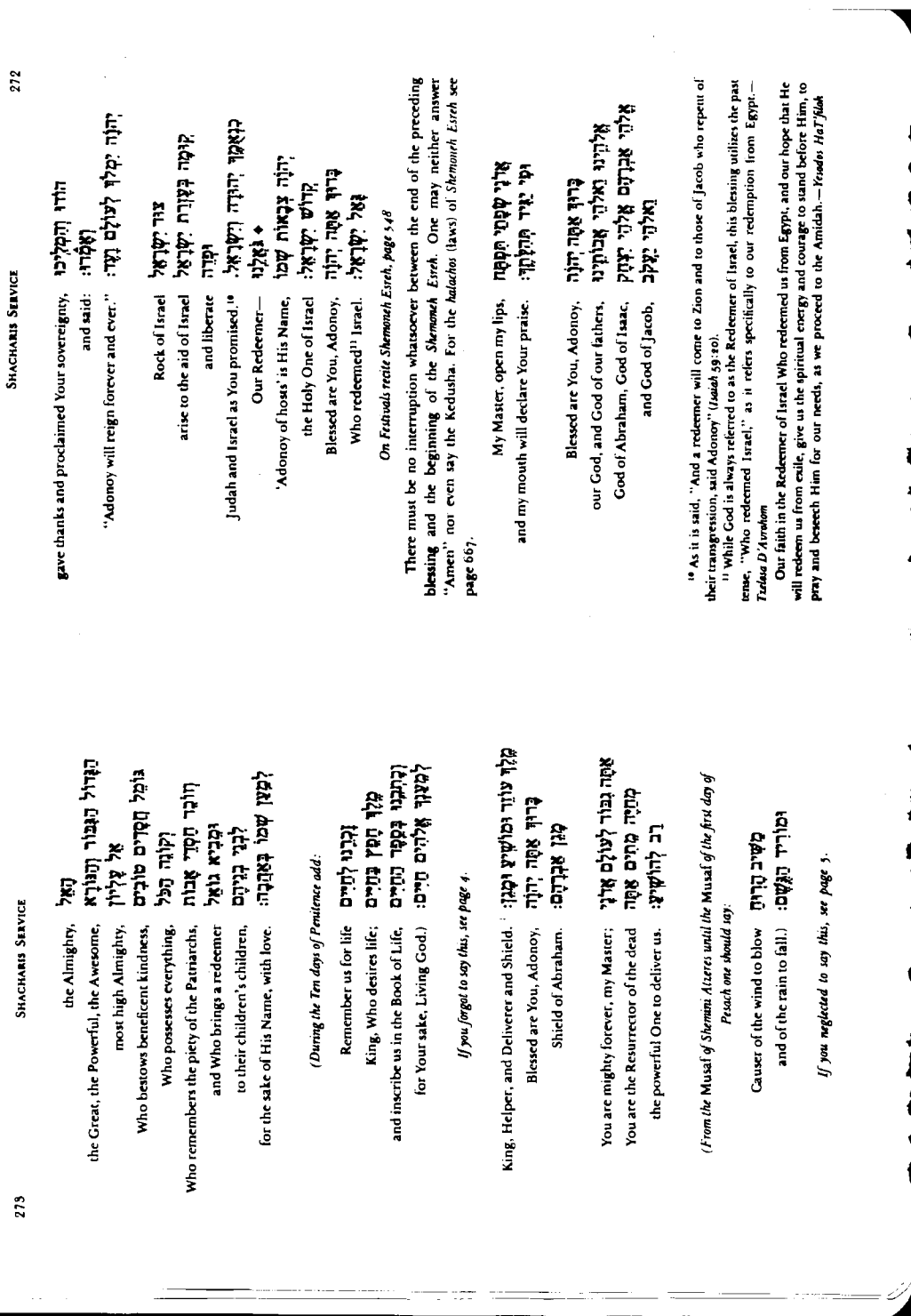
בְּנִפּוֹת הָאָרֶץ • וְחֻלִּיכֵנוּ קוֹמָמִיּוֹת
 corners of the earth, and conduct us securely
 לְאַרְצֵנוּ: כִּי אֵל פּוֹעֵל יְשׁוּעוֹת אַתָּה •
 to our land, God who worketh salvation thou art;
 וּבָנוּ בְּחֶרֶת מִכָּל עַם וּלְשׁוֹן •
 and us hast thou selected from all people and languages,
 וְקִרְבָּתֵנוּ לְשִׁמְךָ-הַגָּדוֹל סֶלָה בְּאֵמֶת •
 and brought us near unto thy great name in truth;
 לְהוֹדוֹת לְךָ וּלְיִחְדָּךְ בְּאַהֲבָה •
 unto thee, to give thanks and to declare thy unity in love.
 בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי הַבּוֹחֵר בְּעַמּוֹ
 Blessed art thou, O Lord! who hath chosen his people
 יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּאַהֲבָה:
 Israel in love.

An Individual says.

אֵל מֶלֶךְ-נֶאֱמָן:
 God, the Faithful King.
 שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ יי-אַתָּה:
 Hear O Israel! the Lord our God.
 בְּרוּךְ שֵׁם כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתוֹ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד:
 Blessed be the name of the glory of his kingdom for ever and ever.
 וְאַהֲבַת אֶת-יי אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּכָל לִבְּךָ
 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart
 וּבְכָל נַפְשְׁךָ וּבְכָל מְאֹדְךָ: וְהָיָה
 and with all thy soul, and with all thy might, and shall be

Figure 23 Abraham's Interlineary Tephilloth (1877), 250.

Figure 24 *The Metsudah Siddur* (1983), 272-273



❖ MORNING BLESSINGS ❖

Recite the following collection of verses upon entering the synagogue:

מִה טָבוּ How goodly are your tents,* O Jacob, your dwelling places, O Israel.¹ As for me, through Your abundant kindness I will enter Your House; I will prostrate myself toward Your Holy Sanctuary in awe of You.² O HASHEM, I love the House where You dwell, and the place where Your glory resides.³ I shall prostrate myself and bow, I shall kneel before HASHEM my Maker.⁴ As for me, may my prayer to You, HASHEM, be at an opportune time; O God, in Your abundant kindness, answer me with the truth of Your salvation.⁵

אֲדוֹן עוֹלָם Master of the universe,* Who reigned before any form was created, At the time when His will brought all into being — then as 'King' was His Name proclaimed. After all has ceased to be, He, the Awesome One, will reign alone. It is He Who was, He Who is, and He Who shall remain, in splendor. He is One — there is no second to compare to Him, to declare as His equal. Without beginning, without conclusion — His is the power and dominion. He is my God, my living Redeemer, Rock of my pain in time of distress. He is my banner, a refuge for me, the portion in my cup on the day I call. Into His hand I shall entrust my spirit when I go to sleep — and I shall awaken! With my spirit shall my body remain. HASHEM is with me, I shall not fear.

יִגְדַּל Exalted be the Living God* and praised, He exists — unbounded by time is His existence.* He is One — and there is no unity like His Oneness. Inscrutable and infinite is His Oneness.

(1) Numbers 24:5. (2) Psalms 5:8. (3) 26:8. (4) Cf. 95:6. (5) 69:14.

basic principles that every Jew is required to believe. In Rambam's view to deny any of them constitutes heresy.

יְהוָה אֵל אֶחָד — Unbounded by time is His existence. If God's existence were timebound, it would be no different in kind from that of any

living, but not eternal, being. Rambam comments that the principle of God's timelessness, with neither beginning nor end, implies that He cannot be dependent in any way on any other being; the timebound is inherently inferior to the timeless. Nothing can exist without God, but He depends on no one and on nothing.

❖ ברכות השחר ❖

Recite the following collection of verses upon entering the synagogue:

מִה טָבוּ אֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב, מִשְׁכְּנֶיךָ יִשְׂרָאֵל. וְאֲנִי בְּרַב חֶסֶדךָ אָבוֹא בֵּיתְךָ, אֲשַׁמְחֶה אֶל הַיִּכָּל קִדְשְׁךָ בִּירְאָתְךָ. יְהוָה אֶהְבֵּתִי מֵעוֹן בֵּיתְךָ, וּמְקוֹם מִשְׁכַּן כְּבוֹדְךָ. וְאֲנִי אֲשַׁמְחֶה וְאֶכְרַע, אֶבְרָכָה לְפָנֶי יְהוָה עֲשֵׂי. וְאֲנִי תַפְלִיתִי לָךְ יְהוָה, עַת רְצוֹן, אֱלֹהִים בְּרַב חֶסֶדךָ, עֲנֵי בְּאֵמַת יִשְׁעֶךָ.

אֲדוֹן עוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר מֶלֶךְ, בְּשֶׁרם כָּל יָצִיר וְנִבְרָא. לַעֲת נַעֲשֶׂה בְּחִפְצוֹ כָּל, אֲנִי מֶלֶךְ שְׁמוֹ נִקְרָא. וְאַחֲרֵי כָּלֹת הַכֹּל, לְבָדוּ וּמְלוֹךְ נִקְרָא. וְהוּא הָיָה וְהוּא הוֹנֶה, וְהוּא יִהְיֶה בְּתִפְאָרָה. וְהוּא אֶחָד וְאֵין שֵׁנִי, לְהַמְשִׁיל לוֹ לְהַחֲבִירָה. כְּלִי רִאשִׁית כְּלִי תְּכֵלִית, וְלוֹ הָעוֹ וְהַמְשִׁירָה. וְהוּא אֵלֵינוּ גָּאֹלִי, חֲנוּךְ חֲבִלִי בַּעַת צָרָה. וְהוּא נָסִי וּמְנוֹס לִי, מִנֵּת כּוֹסֵי בַּיּוֹם אֶקְרָא. בִּירוֹ אֶפְקִיד רַחֲמִי, בַּעַת אִישָׁן וְאֶעֱיֶדָה. וְעַם רוּחִי גִוְהִי, יְהוָה לִי וְלֹא אֵירָא.

יִגְדַּל אֱלֹהִים חַי וְשֹׁמֵר, נִמְצָא וְאֵין עַת אֶל מְצִיאֹתוֹ. אֶחָד וְאֵין יָחִיד בְּיָחִידוֹ, נִעֲלָם וְגַם אֵין סוֹף לְאַחֲדוּתוֹ.

❖ מְבָרָכִים הַשַּׁחַר ❖

מִה טָבוּ — How goodly are your tents. The Sages interpret this praise of Israel as a reference to its 'tents of learning and prayer'. In a deeper sense, the Jewish home achieves its highest level when it incorporates the values of the synagogue and study hall. This collection of verses expresses love and reverence for the synagogue that, in the absence of the Holy Temple, is the place where God's glory resides among Israel.

אֲדוֹן עוֹלָם — Master of the universe. This inspiring song of praise is attributed to R' Shlomo ibn Gabirol, one of the greatest early *paytanim* [liturgical poets], who flourished in the eleventh century. The daily prayer service is inaugurated with the Name **אֲדוֹן** to recall the merit of Abraham, the first one to address God

with this title [Genesis 15:2] (Eitz Yosef), and the one who instituted the morning prayers [Berachos 26b] (Vilna Gaon).

The song emphasizes that God is timeless, infinite and omnipotent. Mankind can offer Him only one thing: to proclaim Him as King, by doing His will and praising Him. Despite God's greatness, however, He involves Himself with man's personal needs in time of pain and distress. The prayer concludes on the inspiring note that, lofty though He is, HASHEM is with me, I shall not fear.

יִגְדַּל — Exalted be the Living God. This song of uncertain authorship summarizes the 'Thirteen Principles of Faith' expounded by Rambam [Maimonides] in his *Commentary to Mishnah, Sanhedrin*, ch. 10, and stated succinctly in the famous *Ani Maamin* prayer (p. 178, see commentary there). They comprise the

SHABBAT

All rise

שמע וברכותיה

ברכו אתי המברך!

Praise the Lord, to whom our praise is due!

ברוך אתי המברך לעולם ועד!

Praised be the Lord, to whom our praise is due,
now and for ever!

• • •

CREATION

יוצר

"ברוך אתה, יי אלהינו, מלך העולם, יוצר אור ובורא חשך,
עשה שלום ובורא אתה הכל.

"Praised be the Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who makes
light and creates darkness, who ordains peace and fashions all
things.

המאיר לארץ ולדרים עליה ברחמים, ובטובו מחדש
בכל יום תמיד מעשה בראשית.

With compassion He gives light to the earth and all who dwell
there; with goodness He renews the work of creation continu-
ally, day by day.

מה רבו מעשיך, יי כלם בחכמה עשית, מלאה הארץ
קנייך.

How manifold are Your works, O Lord; in wisdom You have
made them all; the earth is full of Your creations.

תתברך, יי אלהינו, על שבת מעשה ידיך, ועל מאורי אור
שעשית: יפארוך. סלה. ברוך אתה, יי, יוצר המאורות.

Let all bless You, O Lord our God, for the excellence of Your
handiwork, and for the glowing stars that You have made:
let them glorify You for ever. Blessed is the Lord, the Maker
of light.

*For a fuller version of Yotzer, see page 315.

SHABBAT

ברוך אתה, יי, אל מלך, גדול בתשבות, אל ההודאות,
אדון הנפלאות, הבורח בשירי זמרה, מלך אל חי
העולמים.

Blessed is the Lord, the Sovereign God, the Lord of wonders
who delights in song, the Only One, the Life of the universe.

READER'S KADDISH

חצי קריש

יחידל ויחידש שמה רבא בעלמא דרבא כרעותה,
וימליך מלכותה בחייכון וביומיון ובחיי דכלבית
ישראל, בעלמא ובזמן קריב, ואמרו: אמן.

יהא שמה רבא מברך לעלם ולעלמי עלמיא.

יתברך וישתבח, ויתפאר ויתרום ויתנשא, ויתהדר
ויתעלה ויתהלל שמה דקודשא, בריך הוא, לעלם ו
דליברכתא ושרתא, תשבתתא ותתתא דאמירו בעלמא,
ואמרו: אמן.

Let the glory of God be extolled, let His great name be
hallowed in the world whose creation He willed. May His
kingdom soon prevail, in our own day, our own lives, and
the life of all Israel, and let us say: Amen.

Let His great name be blessed for ever and ever.

Let the name of the Holy One, blessed is He, be glorified,
exalted and honored, though He is beyond all the praises,
songs, and adorations that we can utter, and let us say:
Amen.

• • •

While the decision of whether or not to include transcribed prayers is argued today among the rabbis, it is apparently needed by members of the community. So it is becoming more and more of a regular feature in the prayerbooks of all branches of Judaism in America.

In *Gates of Prayer* (1975) the transcribed prayers are in a separate section in the back of the book. These pages contain transcription and Hebrew in parallel columns with the transcription on the left and Hebrew on the right. The services, as described above, contain alternating blocks of English and Hebrew text. As the transcribed texts provided do not constitute a complete service, their use requires constant flipping back and forth of the pages, with frequent announcements of which pages can be used, and so on.

Alternatively, the Hebrew and romanized Hebrew can be placed in the same way as Hebrew and vernacular texts are presented: facing pages, facing columns, tandem paragraphs, etc.

As described above, the Hebrew text is typically placed on the right, while the English (or other vernacular) is typically placed on the left. This seems logical, since to read English one begins on the left edge, and to read Hebrew one begins on the right edge. This way people can easily read the language they desire without giving it any thought.

When transcribed Hebrew is introduced, the same pattern is generally followed. But here a problem develops. With English and Hebrew, the texts are

different languages; but, in this case, both texts represent Hebrew. The choice of which side to read is no longer based on which language one wants to read. Native speakers of English are generally more comfortable with the English alphabet than with the Hebrew alphabet. In addition, they are accustomed to beginning on the left edge of the page. An automatic process of reading from the left side may override the desire to read the Hebrew text.

Occasionally one finds a page or two with the Hebrew on the left, and the English on the right. Both texts then begin at the center of the page, or at the spine of the two pages. This is a little uncomfortable, but every time you begin a new line you have a new opportunity to switch sides -- to switch languages, whereas with the usual presentation of texts, every time you begin a new line, you are too far from the starting point of the other language to easily shift over.⁵⁰

כָּל הָעוֹלָם כָּלוֹ / KOL HA'OLAM KULO
 כָּל הָעוֹלָם כָּלוֹ Kol ha'olam kulo
 גֶּשֶׁר צָר מְאֹד gesher tzar me'od
 וְהֵעָקָר לֹא לִפְתּוֹחַ כָּלָל: veba'ikar lo lefahed kelal.

The entire world is a very narrow bridge.
 The essential thing is to have no fear at all.

Figure 27 *Kol Haneshamah: Shabbat Vehagim* (1994), 848.

⁵⁰ David A. Teutsch, "Introduction," *Kol Haneshamah: Shabbat Vehagim*, (Wyncote, Pennsylvania: The Reconstructionist Press, 1994), xxiv-xxv.

מָעוֹז צוּר יְשׁוּעָתִי,	Ma-oz tzur y'shu-a-ti,
לֶךְ נָאֵה לְשִׁבְחִי,	l'cha na-eh l'sha-bei-ach,
תִּכּוֹן בֵּית תְּפִלָּתִי,	ti-kon beit t'fi-la-ti,
וְשֵׁם תּוֹדָה נִזְבַּח.	v'sham to-da n'za-bei-ach.
לֵעִת תַּשְׁבִּית מַטְבַּח	L'eit tash-bit mat-bei-ach
וְצַר הַמִּנְבַּח,	v'tzar ha-m'na-bei-ach,
אִז אֶגְמוֹר, בְּשִׁיר מִזְמוֹר,	az eg-mor, b'shir miz-mor,
חֲנֻכַּת הַמִּזְבֵּחַ.	cha-nu-kat ha-miz-bei-ach.

Figure 28 *Gates of Prayer for Shabbat and Weekdays: A*
Gender Sensitive Prayerbook (1994), 179.

See the chart below for additional examples of text with parallel columns, both Hebrew on the right and on the left:

(left/right)	<i>Shabbat Manual</i> (1972)	<i>Gates of Prayer</i> (1975)	<i>Gates of Prayer for Shabbat</i> (1993/2)	<i>Gates of Prayer: Gen. Sens.</i> (1994)	<i>Kol Haneshamah: Shabbat Vehagim</i> , 3rd ed. (1994)
Eng. /Heb.	pages 20, 33, 38, 39	285, 297, 305, 310, 318, 721		105, 136, 174, 176, 177, 178	
Heb. /Eng.	17, 22, 23, 32		76		513
RmnzdHeb/Heb ("trnsr."/ Heb)	39	729-779 (most of these pages)		165, 166, 168, 170, 171, 175	513 (also has English transl. on facing page)
Heb/RmnzdHeb (Heb/"trnsr.")			84, 85, 90	161, 179	838-841, 846-848

Three Texts. When three texts are included, things become more difficult.

They are often placed in tandem, as in *Gates of Prayer for Shabbat and Weekdays*.

Unfortunately the three versions do not always end up on the same page.

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE

Ruler of all the living, Your ways are ways of love. You remember the faithfulness of our ancestors, and in love bring redemption to their children's children for the sake of Your name.

ON SHABBAT SHUVAH ADD:

Remember us unto life, Sovereign who delights in life, and inscribe us in the Book of Life, that Your will may prevail, O God of life.

You are our Sovereign and our Help, our Redeemer and our Shield. We praise You, Eternal One, Shield of Abraham, Protector of Sarah.

GOD'S POWER

גבורת

אֱתָהּ גִּבּוֹר לְעוֹלָם, אֲדֹנָי, מַחֲיָה הַכֹּל אֱתָהּ, רַב לְהוֹשִׁיעַ.
מִכָּלֵל חַיִּים בְּחֶסֶד, מַחֲיָה הַכֹּל בְּרַחֲמִים רַבִּים. סוֹמֵךְ
נוֹפְלִים, וְרוֹפֵא חוֹלִים, וּמַתִּיר אֲסוּרִים, וּמַקְיֵם אֲמוּנָתוֹ
לְיֹשְׁבֵי עֵפָר. מִי כְמוֹד בָּעַל גְּבוּרָתוֹ, וּמִי דוֹמָה לָךְ,
מִלֵּךְ מִמִּית וּמַחֲיָה וּמַצְמִיחַ יְשׁוּעָה?

ON SHABBAT SHUVAH ADD:

מִי כְמוֹד, אֵב רַחֲמִים, זֹכֵר צִדְקוֹ לְחַיִּים בְּרַחֲמִים?

וְנִאֲמָן אֱתָהּ לְהַחְיֹת הַכֹּל. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, מַחֲיָה הַכֹּל.

A-ta gi-bor l'o-lam, Adonai, m'cha-yei ha-kol a-ta, rav l'ho-shi-a.
M'chal-keil cha-yim b'chesh-sed, m'cha-yei ha-kol b'ra-cha-mim ra-bim.
So-meich no-l'im, v'ro-fei cho-lim, u-ma-tir a-su-rim, u-m'ka-yeim eh-
mu-na-to li-shei-nei a-far. Mi cha-mo-cha ba-al g'vu-rot, u-mi do-meh
lach, meh-lech mei-mit u-m'cha-yeh u-matz-mi-ach y'shu-a?
V'neh-eh-man a-ta l'ha-cha-yot ha-kol. Ba-ruch a-ta Adonai, m'cha-yei
ha-kol.

Eternal is Your might, O God; all life is Your gift; great is Your power to save!

Figure 29 *Gates of Prayer for Shabbat and Weekdays* (1994), 115.

363 / SHACHARIS FOR SABBATH AND FESTIVALS SHEMA AND ITS BLESSINGS

b'chol l'vov'cho, בְּכֹל לְבָבְךָ.
with all your heart,
 uvchol nafsh'cho, uvchol m'odecho. וּבְכֹל נַפְשְׁךָ, וּבְכֹל מַאֲדְךָ.
with all your soul and with all your resources.
 V'ho-yu had'vorim ho-ayle, וְהוּוּ הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה,
 asher onóchi m'tzav'cho ha-yôm, אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי מִצְוֶה הַיּוֹם,
Let these matters that I command you today be
 al l'vovecho. עַל לְבָבְךָ.
upon your heart.
 V'shinantom l'vonecho, וְשִׁנַּנְתָּם לְבָנֶיךָ.
Teach them thoroughly to your children
 v'dibarto bom וְדִבַּרְתָּ בָּם,
and speak of them
 b'shivt'cho b'vaysecho, בְּשִׁבְתְּךָ בְּבֵיתְךָ,
 uvlecht'cho vaderech וּבִלְכַתְּךָ בְּדֶרֶךְ,
while you sit in your home, while you walk on the way,
 uv'shochb'cho, uvkumecho. וּבְשֹׁכְבְּךָ וּבְקוּמְךָ.
when you retire and when you arise.
 Ukshartom l'os al yodecho, וּקְשַׁרְתָּם לְאוֹת עַל יָדְךָ,
And you shall bind them as a sign upon your arm*
 v'ho-yu l'tôtofôs bayn aynecho. וְהוּוּ לְטֹטְפוֹת בֵּין עֵינֶיךָ.
and they shall be tefillin between your eyes.
 Uchsavtom al m'zuzôs bay-secho, וּכְתַבְתָּם עַל מְזוֹזוֹת בֵּיתְךָ,
 u-vish-orecho. וּבִשְׁעָרֶיךָ.
And write them on the doorposts of your house and upon your gates.
 ■ We declare Israel's collective commitment to observe God's mitzvot, and the recognition that our national success or failure is dependent on this observance.
 V'HO-YO im shomô-a tishm'u וְהִיָּה, אִם-שָׁמַעַתְּ שִׁמְעוּ
 el mitzvôsai, אֶל מִצְוֹתַי,
And it will come to pass that if you continually hearken to My commandments
 asher onóchi אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי
 m'tza-ve eschem ha-yôm, מִצְוֶה אֲתֹכֶם הַיּוֹם,
that I command you today,
 l'ahavo es Adónoy Elôhaychem, לְאַהֲבָה אֶת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם
to love HASHEM, your God,
 ul-ovdô וּלְעַבְדוֹ,
and to serve Him,

362 / שַׁחֲרִית לַשַּׁבָּת וְיוֹם טוֹב
 Ki Ayl pó-ayl y'shu-ôs oto, כִּי אֵל פּוֹעֵל יִשׁוּעוֹת אַתָּה,
For You effect salvations, O God;
 u-vonu vocharto mikol am v'loshôn. וּבָנוּ כְּחַרְתָּ מִכָּל עַם וּלְשׁוֹן.
and You have chosen us from among every people and tongue.
 V'kayravtonu l'shimcho hagodol וְקָרַבְתָּנוּ לְשִׁמְךָ הַגָּדוֹל
 selo be-emes סֵלָה בְּאֵמֶת,
And You have brought us close to Your great Name forever, in truth,
 l'hódôs l'cho ul-yachedcho b'ahava. לְהוֹדוֹת לְךָ וּלְיַחְדְּךָ בְּאַהֲבָה.
to offer praiseful thanks to You, and proclaim Your Oneness with love.
 Boruch ato Adónoy, בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה,
 habôchayr b'amô yisro-ayl הַבּוֹחֵר בְּעַמּוֹ יִשְׂרָאֵל
 b'ahavoh. בְּאַהֲבָה.
Blessed are You, HASHEM Who chooses His people Israel with love.

CONGREGATION RESPONDS: Omayn — אָמֵן

THE SHEMA

■ The Shema is our acceptance of and submission to the absolute Sovereignty of God.

IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THE RECITATION OF THE SHEMA, CONCENTRATE ON FULFILLING THE POSITIVE COMMANDMENT OF RECITING THE SHEMA DAILY, ONCE IN THE EVENING AND ONCE IN THE MORNING. IT IS IMPORTANT TO ENUNCIATE EACH WORD CLEARLY AND NOT TO RUN WORDS TOGETHER.

ONE PRAYING WITHOUT A MINYAN BEGINS WITH THE FOLLOWING THREE-WORD FORMULA:

Ayl melech ne-emon. אֵל מֶלֶךְ נֶאֱמֵן.

God, trustworthy King.

RECITE THE FIRST VERSE ALOUD, WITH YOUR RIGHT HAND COVERING YOUR EYES, AND CONCENTRATE INTENSELY UPON ACCEPTING GOD'S ABSOLUTE SOVEREIGNTY.

SH'MA yisro-ayl, שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל,

Adónoy Elôhaynu, Adónoy e-chod. יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ, יְהוָה אֶחָד.

Hear, O Israel: HASHEM is our God, HASHEM, the One (and Only).

In an undertone:

Boruch shaym k'vôd malchusô בְּרוּךְ שֵׁם כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתוֹ

l'ôlom vo-ed. לְעוֹלָם תָּעֵד.

Blessed is the Name of His glorious kingdom for all eternity.

■ We return God's love by studying His Torah and committing ourselves to observe the Torah with all our resources and being.

WHILE RECITING THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH, CONCENTRATE ON ACCEPTING THE COMMANDMENT TO LOVE GOD.

VOHAVTO ays וְאַהֲבַת אֵת

Adónoy Elôhecho, יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ,

You shall love HASHEM, your God,

Figure 30 ArtScroll Transliterated Linear Siddur: Sabbath and Festival (1998), 362-363.

The German *Jüdische Gebete: Für Schabbat und Wochentage*, (1996), is a trilingual prayerbook: Hebrew, German and English. The Hebrew is on the right page, and the German and English are in parallel columns on the left page; the German is printed on the right side of the page, English on the left side. In each of the three languages, the traditional *Amidah* is closer to the page's fore-edge, while the *Amidah* text which includes the matriarchs is closer to the spine.

תפלת שהרית לשבת

אֲמֵת וַיֵּצֵיב וְקִים וּמַקְבֵּל וְטוֹב הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה עָלֵינוּ
לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד: אֲמֵת אֱלֹהֵי עוֹלָם מִלְּפָנֶיךָ צוּר
יָעֻקֵּב מִגֵּן יִשְׁעָנוּ לְדוֹר וָדוֹר הוּא קִים וּמַלְכוּתוֹ וְאֱמוּנָתוֹ
לְעַד קִיָּמָה: אֲמֵת שְׁאֵתָהּ הוּא יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי
אֲבוֹתֵינוּ. פוֹדֵנוּ וּמַצְלֵנוּ מֵעוֹלָם הוּא שְׁמֶךָ אֵין אֱלֹהִים
זוּלָתְךָ:
עֲזֹרֵת אֲבוֹתֵינוּ אַתָּה הוּא מֵעוֹלָם. מִגֵּן וּמוֹשִׁיעַ לָהֶם
וּלְבָנֵיהֶם אַתָּה הוּא כָּל־דּוֹר וָדוֹר: אֲשֶׁרִי אִישׁ שִׁישְׁמַע
לְמִצְוֹתֶיךָ וְתוֹרָתְךָ וּדְבָרְךָ יֵשִׁים עַל־לִבּוֹ: אֲמֵת אַתָּה הוּא
רִאשׁוֹן וְאַתָּה הוּא אַחֲרוֹן. וּמַבְלַעְדֶּיךָ אֵין לָנוּ מֶלֶךְ גּוֹאֵל
וּמוֹשִׁיעַ:
צוּר יִשְׂרָאֵל. קוֹמָה בְּעֶזְרֵת יִשְׂרָאֵל. גֹּאֲלֵנוּ יְיָ צְבָאוֹת שְׁמוֹ
קְדוֹשׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ גֹּאֵל יִשְׂרָאֵל:

אֲדֹנָי שְׁפָתַי תִּפְתָּח וּפִי יַגִּיד תְּהִלָּתְךָ:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ. אֱלֹהֵי אֲבֹרָהֶם. אֱלֹהֵי יִצְחָק. וְאֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב. הָאֵל הַגָּדוֹל הַגִּבּוֹר וְהַנּוֹרָא. אֵל עֲלִיּוֹן. גּוֹמֵל חֲסָדִים טוֹבִים קוֹנֵה הַכֶּל וְזוֹכֵר חֲסָדֵי אֲבוֹת וּמַבְיָא גּוֹאֵל לְבָנֵי בְנֵיהֶם לְמַעַן שְׁמוֹ בְּאַהֲבָה: מֶלֶךְ עוֹזֵר וּמוֹשִׁיעַ וּמַגֵּן. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ מִגֵּן אֲבֹרָהֶם:	בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ. אֱלֹהֵי אֲבֹרָהֶם וְאֱלֹהֵי שְׁרָה. אֱלֹהֵי יִצְחָק וְאֱלֹהֵי רִבְקָה. אֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב אֱלֹהֵי רַחֵל וְאֱלֹהֵי לֵאָה. הָאֵל הַגָּדוֹל הַגִּבּוֹר וְהַנּוֹרָא. אֵל עֲלִיּוֹן. גּוֹמֵל חֲסָדִים טוֹבִים קוֹנֵה הַכֶּל וְזוֹכֵר חֲסָדֵי אֲבוֹת וְאֱמָהוֹת וּמַבְיָא גּוֹאֵל לְבָנֵי בְנֵיהֶם לְמַעַן שְׁמוֹ בְּאַהֲבָה: מֶלֶךְ עוֹזֵר וּמוֹשִׁיעַ וּמַגֵּן. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ מִגֵּן אֲבֹרָהֶם וְשְׁרָה:
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Figure 31 *Jüdische Gebete: Für Schabbat und Wochentage* (1996), 57. Right-side page. Margins reduced considerably.

SABBATH MORNING SERVICE

MORGENGEBET FÜR SCHABBAT

After the silence all services continue here:

Nach einer kurzen Zeit der Stille wird der Gottesdienst fortgesetzt mit:

Ge'ulah

Ge'ulah

Your word is true forever. It is certain for us, it is firm, accepted and good. It is true that the Eternal is our Sovereign; the strength of Jacob, the defender of our safety. God endures from generation to generation. God's rule and faithfulness stand firm forever. It is true that You are the Eternal our God, and God of our ancestors, who rescues and delivers us. So were You ever known. There is no God besides You.

Dein Wort ist die Wahrheit. Es ist beständig, anerkannt und gut. Gott, du bist die Wahrheit, dir unser Schutz, gebührt unsere Ehre. Du bist der Fels Jakobs, der Schutzschild zu unserem Heil. Beständig bist du von Generation zu Generation. Deine Herrschaft und deine Treue haben immerwährenden Bestand. Du, Ewiger, bist in Wahrheit unser Gott und der Gott unserer Vorfahren. Unser Erlöser und unser Erretter – das ist von jeher dein Name. Es gibt keinen anderen Gott außer dir.

It is You who always helped our ancestors. In every generation You were the shield and saviour for them and their children after them. Happy indeed are those who hear Your commands, and set Your teaching and Your word upon their hearts. It is true that You are the first, and that You are the last, and besides You we have no Sovereign who rescues and saves us.

Die Hilfe unserer Vorfahren warst du schon seit immer. Du warst für sie ein Schutzschild. Du warst ihre Hilfe, – für sie und für ihre Kinder und ihre Enkel in jeder Generation. Wohl dem Menschen, der sich nach deinen Geboten richtet, und sich deine Weisung und dein Wort zu Herzen nimmt. Dies ist wahr: Du bist der Anfang und du bist das Ende. Und außer dir gibt es für uns nichts, das uns erlösen und helfen kann.

Rock of Israel, rise up to the aid of Your people Israel. The Creator of all, the Holy One of Israel rescues us. Blessed are You God, who rescues Israel.

Fels Israels, erhebe dich, um Israel zu helfen! Unser Erlöser, der alle Kreatur versorgt, Heiliger Israels, das ist sein Name. Gepriesen seist du, Ewiger. Du erlöst Israel.

Amidah

Amida

My God, open my lips and my mouth shall declare Your praise (Ps 51:17).

„Gott, öffne meine Lippen, dass mein Mund deinen Ruhm verkünde!“ (Ps 51,17)

GOD OF HISTORY

GOTT DER GESCHICHTE

One of the following two paragraphs:

Einer der beiden Absätze:

Blessed are You, our God and God of our ancestors, God of Abraham, God of Isaac and God of Jacob, the great, the mighty and the awesome God, God beyond, generous in love and kindness, and possessing all. You remember the good deeds of our ancestors and therefore in love bring rescue to the generations, for such is Your being. Sovereign who helps and saves and shields. Blessed are You God, the shield of Abraham.

Blessed are You, our God and God of our ancestors, God of Abraham and God of Isaac and God of Jacob, the great, the mighty and the awesome God, God beyond, generous in love and kindness, and possessing all. You remember the good deeds of our ancestors and therefore in love bring rescue to the generations, for such is Your being. Sovereign who helps and saves and shields. Blessed are You God, the shield of Abraham and Sarah.

Gepriesen seist du, Ewiger, unser Gott und Gott unserer Väter, Gott Abrahams, Gott Isaaks und Gott Jakobs. Du bist groß und mächtig, furchtbar und über alles erhaben. Du vollbringst Wohltaten. Alles hältst du in deiner Hand. Du erinnerst dich an die Frömmigkeit unserer Vorfahren und bringst deshalb liebevoll ihren Enkeln Erlösung um deines Namens willen. Du wachst über unser Leben und hilfst uns, du bist Rettung und Schild. Gepriesen seist du, Ewiger, unser Gott, Schutzschild Abrahams.

Gepriesen seist du, Ewiger, unser Gott und Gott unserer Väter und Mütter, Gott Abrahams und Gott Saras, Gott Isaaks und Gott Rebekkas, Gott Jakobs, Gott Rahels und Gott Leas. Du bist groß und mächtig, furchtbar und über alles erhaben. Du vollbringst Wohltaten. Alles hältst du in deiner Hand. Du erinnerst dich an die Frömmigkeit unserer Vorfahren und bringst deshalb liebevoll ihren Enkeln Erlösung um deines Namens willen. Du wachst über unser Leben und hilfst uns, du bist Rettung und Schild. Gepriesen seist du, Ewiger, unser Gott, Schutzschild Abrahams und Saras.

Figure 32 *Jüdische Gebete: Für Schabbat und Wochentage* (1996), 58.
Left side page.

Occasionally one finds three parallel texts in three adjacent vertical columns. In *Kol Haneshamah: Shabbat Vehagim* (1994) a table for creating alternative *brachot* introductory formulas presents Hebrew in the center column, transcribed Hebrew on the left, and English on the right.

עטיפת טלית

It is customary to wrap oneself in the tallit before reciting the blessing that follows. After the blessing is recited, the tallit is placed across the shoulders. In some congregations the blessing is said in unison.

בְּרַכֵּי נַפְשִׁי אֶת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי גְדֻלַּת מְאֹד הוֹר וְהִדְר לְבָשֶׁת: עֲטָה
 אֹר בְּשִׁלְמָה נוֹטָה שָׁמַיִם בִּירִיעָה:
 בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
 אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו
 וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַתְעַשֵּׂף בְּצִיצִית:

Baruh atah adonay eloheynu melech ha'olam
 asher kideshanu bemitzvotav
 vetzivanu lehitatef batzitzit.

Many contemporary Jews are reciting *berahot*/blessings in ways that reflect their theological outlooks and ethical concerns. At any place where a blessing occurs in the liturgy, the following elements can be combined to create alternative formulas for *berahot*. This can be done by selecting one phrase from each group to form the introductory clause.

I	Baruh atah adonay Beruhah at yah Nevareh et	בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה בְּרוּכָה אַתָּה יָה נִבְרַךְ אַת	Blessed are you Adonay Blessed are you Yah Let us bless
II	eloheynu hashehinah eyn ha'ayim	אֱלֹהֵינוּ הַשְׁכִּינָה עֵין הַחַיִּים	our God Shehinah Source of Life
III	<u>melech</u> ha'olam hey ha'olamim <u>ruah</u> ha'olam	מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם חַי הָעוֹלָמִים רוּחַ הָעוֹלָם	Sovereign of all worlds Life of all the worlds Spirit of the world

143 / ATIFAT TALLIT/DONNING THE TALLIT

Figure 33 *Kol Haneshamah: Shabbat Vehagim* (1994), 143.

Some prayerbooks present two texts in parallel columns, and a third centered text, below. An excellent example of this is Isaac M. Wise Temple's *Avodat HaLev*. On the right-hand page are the three texts, Hebrew, transcription and translation. On the left-hand page are interpretive prayers, meditations, etc. The pages are numbered, for example, 18a (right-side) and 18b (left-side).

HODA-AH

<p><i>Mo-dim a-nach-nu lach, sha-a-ta hu, Adonai Eloheinu ve-i-lo-hei a-vo-tei-nu v'i-mo-tei-nu l'o-lam va-ed. Tzur cha-yei-nu, ma-gein yish-ei-nu, A-ta hu l'dor va-dor. No-de l'cha un'sa-peir t'hi-la-te-cha, al cha-yei-nu ham'su-rim b'ya-de-cha, v'al nish-mo-tei-nu hap'ku-dot lach, v'al ni-se-cha she-b'chol yom i-ma-nu, v'al nif-l'o-te-cha v'to-vo-te-cha she-b'chol eit, e-rev va-vo-ker v'tzo-ho-ra-yim. Ha-tov ki lo cha-lu ra-cha-me-cha, v'ham'ra-cheim ki lo ta-mu cha-sa-de-cha, mei-o-lam ki-vi-nu lach.</i></p> <p><i>V'al ku-lam yit-ba-rach v'yit-ro-mam shim-cha, mal-kei-nu, ta-mid l'o-lam va-ed.</i></p> <p><i>V'chol ha-cha-yim yo-du-cha se-la, vi-ha'lu et-shim-cha be-e-met, ha-Eil y'shu-a-tei-nu v'ez-ra-tei-nu se-la. Baruch Ata Adonai, ha-tov shim'cha u-l'cha na-e l'ho-dot.</i></p>	<p>מודים אנחנו לך, שאתה הוא, יי אלהינו ואלהי אבותינו ואמותינו לעולם ועד. צור חיינו, מגן ומגן, אתה הוא לדור ודור. נוֹדָה לך וְנִסְפֹּר תְהִלָּתְךָ, עַל חַיֵּינוּ הַמְסוּרִים בְּיָדְךָ, וְעַל נַשְׁמוֹתֵינוּ הַמְקוּדוֹת לָךְ, וְעַל נַפְשֵׁךָ שֶׁבְּכָל יוֹם עִמָּנוּ, וְעַל הַקְּלָאוֹתֶיךָ וְטוֹבוֹתֶיךָ שֶׁבְּכָל עֵת, עֶרֶב וּבֹקֶר וְצִהְרִים. הַטּוֹב כִּי לֹא כָלוּ רַחֲמֶיךָ, וְהַמְרַחֵם כִּי לֹא תָמוּ מִסְדֶּיךָ, מֵעוֹלָם קוֹיֵנוּ לָךְ.</p> <p>וְעַל כָּלֶם יִתְבָּרַךְ וְיִתְרַומֵם שְׁמֶךָ, מְלִכֵנוּ, תָּמִיד לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.</p> <p>וְכָל הַחַיִּים יוֹדוּךָ סֵלָה, וְיִהְלְלוּ אֶת שְׁמֶךָ בְּאֵמֶת, הָאֵל יִשְׁעֵינוּ וְעֲזָרָתֵנוּ סֵלָה. בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, הַטּוֹב שְׁמֶךָ וְלֹךְ נֶאֱמָה לַהוֹדוֹת.</p>
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We gratefully acknowledge that You are the Lord our God and God of our people, the God of all generations. You are the Rock of our life, the Power that shields us in every age. We thank You and sing Your praises: for our lives, which are in Your hand; for our souls, which are in Your keeping; for the signs of Your presence we encounter every day; and for Your wondrous gifts at all times, morning, noon, and night. You are Goodness: Your mercies never end; You are Compassion: Your love will never fail. You have always been our hope.

For all these things, O Sovereign God, let Your name be forever exalted and blessed.

O God, Our Redeemer and Helper, let all who live affirm You and praise Your name in truth. Blessed are You, Lord, Your name is Goodness and to You it is fitting to give thanks.

- 18a -

Figure 34 *Avodat HaLev* (1999), p. 18a. Right-side page.

BOOK LAYOUT

Book Direction

When praying, as when reading a book, one eventually has to pause to turn the page. Assuming the simple case, where the next page for the prayer-service is the next page in the book, the only decision the worshiper needs to make is which direction the book is bound. That is to say, do the pages turn from left to right, or do they turn from right to left? This may seem a trivial matter, but it is not. Generally the direction of the book is determined by the language used. An English book would go left to right, while a Hebrew book would go right to left.

Most Jewish prayerbooks that I examined open as would Hebrew books, from the right. But the left-side-opening prayerbooks are not uncommon. The *Union Prayerbook*, from the 1895 edition on to 1940 edition (printed as late as 1978) opens left to right. Although it contains prayers in Hebrew and English, it was used mainly by English-speaking Jews, and so the book is structured in the “English” direction. The *Gates of Prayer: The New Union Prayerbook* (1975), the *Union Prayerbook*’s successor, is available opening in either direction, from the left or from the right.⁵¹

⁵¹ Hoffman, “The Liturgical Message,” 156.

Sign Posts⁵²

Running Heads. To help orient the worshiper, running heads, or running footers⁵³ can help to orient worshipers much as travelers are reminded where they are by observing highway signs and mile-markers.

Travel Signs. Additional assistance is helpful when one must skip a page or two, or continue in another part of the book.

In *Kol Haneshamah* (1994), when a prayer is continued on a new page, one of two different arrows is provided to remind you which way to turn the page.⁵⁴

וְאַלְהֵי לְאַהֶ: ←

Figure 35 *Kol Haneshamah*
(1994), 295.

veylohey le'ah ←

Figure 36 *Kol Haneshamah*
(1994), 295.

⁵² Bringhurst, *Typographic Style*, 20-21.

⁵³ I would have preferred “running feet.” Oh well.

⁵⁴ In this book the pages always continue to the left; but if you were reading an English prayer, you might have automatically turned the page to the right. A sideways “u-turn” arrow reminds you to go to the left. This is similar to crossing a street in London. Cars drive on the left side of the street, unlike most of the world, which drives on the right side of the road. A pedestrian tourist from America, for example, will instinctively look to the left before crossing the street. For this reason, on the street the words “look right→” are provided to ensure the safety of pedestrians.

In *Siddur Lev Chadash* (1995), when you are directed to skip several pages and continue in the middle of a page, the heading is well marked.

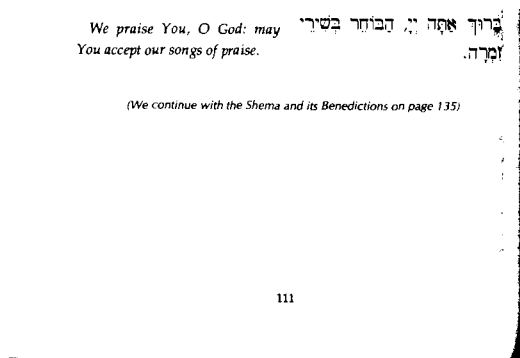


Figure 37 *Siddur Lev Chadash* (1995), 111
(bottom section).

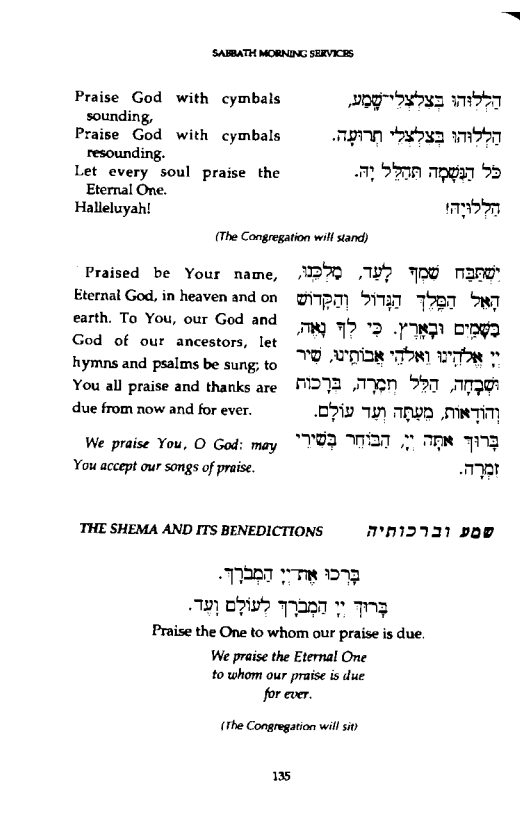


Figure 38 *Siddur Lev Chadash* (1995), 135.

Flexibility

Providing Options. Liberal prayerbooks often strive for flexibility. A few of the methods used include the following: providing thematic readings⁵⁵ and providing several introductions for one service, as in *Siddur Lev Chadash* (1995); providing multiple services, as in *Gates of Prayer* (1975); or the arrangement of words, to provide a choice of how to read the text, as in *Kol Haneshemah* (1994).

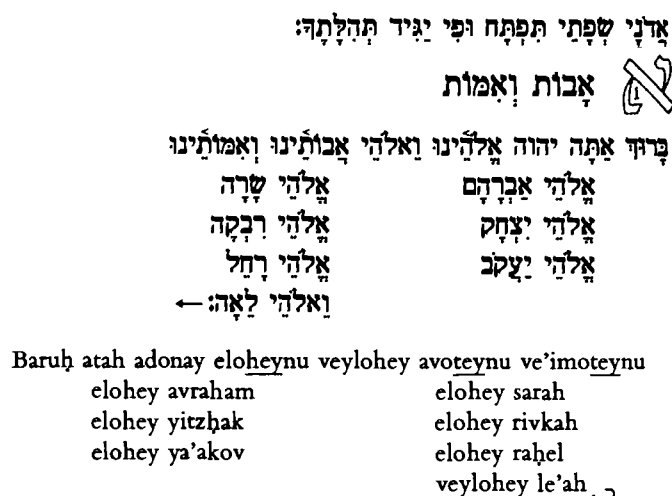


Figure 39 *Kol Haneshamah* (1994), 295. This is the left-side page. Note that the names can be read in rows or in columns. The right side page (294) provides the translation in the same format.

⁵⁵ There are sufficient thematic readings for each week of the year.

Another method is provided in *M'kor T'filah* (1987).⁵⁶ This coil-bound book contains numerous readings before, in the midst of, and after the traditional rubrics. There are page numbers, but there is no index, no table of contents, and there are no running heads or footers. It is flexible in that it contains a bit of everything. The service leader and worshipers who use the book become familiar with it and thrive on its design. It takes the multiple choice system to the extreme.

Adapting a Text. Many congregations have adapted prayerbooks by pasting prayers, songs, etc. into the cover, or onto a page in the book. Sometimes this may fit into the “providing options” category, but often the congregation wishes to provide its congregants with liturgy that follows their custom. With today’s computerized desk-top publishing this can be taken even farther -- a customized prayerbook could be made for any given congregation.

I had thought of this as a new phenomenon until I came across two copies of the 1895 *Union Prayerbook* with several additional leaves added. The leaves are difficult to detect: they are professionally produced, the typography closely matches the prayerbook, and they are carefully attached so they appear to be original. Unfortunately both copies that I examined were rebound, removing information that would help identify the congregation for which they were customized. I plan on

⁵⁶ *M'kor T'filah* is a congregation-designed prayerbook from Congregation M'kor Shalom (Mt. Laurel, New Jersey). Many congregations design their own prayerbooks. Most are “cut and paste” productions.

looking for additional copies among the “duplicates” of the Klau Library’s holdings.

Of the two copies, one is a 1905 printing, and one is a 1906 printing. Both were printed in New York at the press of Stettiner Brothers. I examined an additional copy of the 1905 printing from the same press for comparison -- this copy is without the added pages. Thus I was able to determine that these two books were, in fact, customized.

Of the several customized pages, two are shown below, page 92* and 104*. For comparison page 65 is also provided.

Note the length of the ascender on the *lamed*. On page 104*, in the *aleinu* prayer the *lamed* is clearly different than the standard type. Page 92* seems to be a good match.

On both pages, 92* and 104*, note the period is a raised dot, while in the regular printing, on page 65, the period is a lower dot.

The *aleinu*, on page 104*, begins with a broken *ayin*. This *ayin* can also be found on the other pages with the *aleinu* and in both copies of the customized prayerbook. Only the header was changed. For example, instead of “MORNING SERVICE FOR THE SABBATH.”, on page 48[*] we find “EVENING SERVICE FOR THE SABBATH.”

רצה יהוה אלהינו בעמך ישראל ותפלתם
באהבה תקבל ברצון ותהי לרצון תמיד עבודת
ישראל עמך:

מודים אנחנו לך שאתה הוא "אלהינו ואלה
אבותינו לעולם ועד צור חיינו מגן ישענו אתה הוא
לדור ודור נודה לך וגספר תהלתך על חיינו
המסורים בידך ועל גשמונתנו הפקודת לך ועל
נסיך שבכל יום עמנו ועל גפלאותיך וטובותיך
שבכל עת ערב ובקר וצהריים הטוב כי לא-כלו
רחמיך והמרחם כי לא חמו חסדיך מעולם קנינו דך:
אלהינו ואלהי אבותינו ברכנו בברכה המשלשת
בתורה הבתובה על ידי משה עבדך האמורה מפי
אחרן ובניו כהנים עם קדושה כאמור: יברכה "פניו
וישמרה: יאר "פניו אליה ויחנה: ישא "פניו
אליה וישם לה שלום:

שם שלום טובה וברכה חן וחסד ורחמים עלינו
ועל כל ישראל עמך ברכנו אבינו כלנו כאחד באור
פניך כי באור פניך נתת לנו "אלהינו תורת חיים
ואהבת חסד וצדקה וברכה ורחמים וחיים ושלום

Figure 40 *Union Prayer-Book* (1895, 1905 printing), 92*.

MORNING SERVICE FOR THE SABBATH.

104*

ADORATION.

(Congregation standing.)

Minister:

עלינו לשבח לארון הכל לתת גִּדְלָה לַיָּצֵר
בראשית ששם חִלְקֵנוּ בְּתוֹרָתוֹ וּגְדָלֵנוּ בַּעֲבוּדָתוֹ:

Choir and Congregation:

וְאַנְחֵנוּ בִּזְמַנֵּינוּ וּמִשְׁתַּחֲוִים וּמוֹדִים
לִפְנֵי מֶלֶךְ מַלְכֵי הַמַּלְכִּים הַקְדוֹשׁ בְּרוּךְ הוּא:

(Congregation sitting.)

Minister:

שֶׁהוּא נוֹטֶה שָׁמַיִם וְיוֹסֵד אֶרֶץ וּמוֹשֵׁב יִקְרוֹ
בְּשָׁמַיִם מִמַּעַל וּשְׂכֵינָת עִזּוֹ בְּגִבְהֵי מִרְמִים הוּא
אֱלֹהֵינוּ אֵין עוֹד אֶמֶת מַלְכֵנוּ אָפֶס זִלְתּוֹ בְּכַתוּב
בְּתוֹרָתוֹ וַיִּדְעַת הַיּוֹם וְהַשַּׁבָּת אֶל־לִבְכָּה בִּי יי הוּא
הָאֱלֹהִים בְּשָׁמַיִם מִמַּעַל וְעַל הָאֶרֶץ מִתַּחַת אֵין
עוֹד:

עַל בֶּן גִּבְהָהּ לָהּ יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ לִרְאוֹת מִהֲרָה
בְּתַפְאֲרָתָהּ עֲזָה לְהַעֲבִיר גִּלּוּלִים מִן הָאֶרֶץ
וְהָאֱלִילִים בְּרוֹת יִבְרָתוֹן לְתַקֵּן עוֹלָם בְּמַלְכוּת
שְׁדֵי וּבִלְבָּנֵי בֶשֶׁר יִקְרָאוּ בְּשִׁמְךָ לְהַפְטוֹת אֵלֶיךָ
כָּל־רִשְׁעֵי אֶרֶץ יִקְרֻוּ וַיִּדְעוּ כָּל־יֹשְׁבֵי חֶבְלֵי בִי

Figure 41 *Union Prayer-Book* (1895, 1905 printing), 104*.

Minister :

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו ואלהי אבותינו. אלהי
אברהם אלהי יצחק ואלהי יעקב. האל הגדול
הגבור והנורא. אל עליון. גומל חסדים טובים.
וקנה הכל וזכר חסדי אבות. ומביא גאלה לבני
בניהם. למען ישמו באהבה: מלך עוזר ומושיע
ומגן. ברוך אתה יי מגן אברהם:

אתה גבור לעולם אדני. רב להושיע. מכלכל
חיים בחסד. מחיה הכל ברחמים רבים. סומך
נופלים ורופא חולים ומתיר אסורים. ומקים אמונתו
לישני עפר. מי כמותך בעל גבורות. ומי דומה לך.
מלך ממית ומחיה ומצמיח ישועה: ברוך אתה יי
נטע בתוכנו חיי עולם:

(Congregation standing.)

נקדיש את שמך בעולם. בשם שמקדישים
אותו בשמי מרום. בכתוב על-יד נביאך. וקרא
זה אל-זה ואמר:

Choir and Congregation :

קדוש קדוש קדוש יי צבאות. מלא כלהארץ
כבודו:

Figure 42 *Union Prayer-Book* (1895, 1905 printing), 65.

LETTERS AND SYMBOLS

PALEOGRAPHY

A Brief History of Hebrew Letters

The art and science of the Hebrew letters, their creation and formation, is bound together with the history of the Hebrew alphabet and the history of writing in general. Written language evolved and continues to evolve over time. The letter-forms changed because of external conditions, such as the influence of letter-forms in use by other peoples, and they changed because of internal conditions, such as the methods and speed of writing, the equipment and materials used for writing, and the writer's level of skill.

The earliest writing most likely evolved from pictures. At first, drawings were used to represent words. Later, with hieroglyphs, the old symbol for one word might be used to represent the word, or the same sound in a new or foreign word. Cuneiform writing, where signs represent syllables or words, was an improvement, but was still complex.⁵⁷ Proto-Canaanite, and later Phoenician, alphabetic systems in which a unique sign is used for a unique sound, helped pave the way to simpler

⁵⁷ Friedrich Friedl, Nicolaus Ott, and Bernard Stein, Typography: An Encyclopedic Survey of Type Design and Techniques Throughout History (New York: Black Dog & Leventhal Publishers, Inc., 1998), 78-81, Yardeni, Hebrew Script 3.

writing and simpler deciphering and reading. The Phoenicians, as traders, traveled the Mediterranean, and so their language spread.⁵⁸ Indeed, the ancient Hebrew script was very similar to Phoenician script.

The ancient Hebrew script was used through the end of the First Temple period. By this time, Phoenician was no longer the language of commerce; Aramaic was the dominant language and script of the region. The Israelites in Babylonian exile adopted the Aramaic script. Once the Persians conquered Babylon in 539 BCE, the Israelites were able to return to the land of Israel where the people had similarly adopted the Aramaic script. Since the Persians adopted Aramaic as the language and script for official documents, Aramaic use was even more widespread and was carefully written by professional scribes. This trend continued until Alexander the Great conquered Persia (323 BCE). Then Greek became the international language. Once Aramaic's "international" use had ended, local Aramaic scripts developed independently, eventually becoming the scripts of different languages. Such is the case with the Israelites. With their return from the exile, the Israelites wrote in the Aramaic alphabet. It became the dominant writing among the Israelites, and it evolved into the "square" Hebrew script recognizable today.⁵⁹

From the early square Hebrew script, the elegant 'Eastern' Hebrew script developed "in the early centuries CE with the sanctification of the Hebrew letter-

⁵⁸ Ibid., 3, 7.

⁵⁹ Ibid., 23-44.

signs and the fixing of rules for preserving the Torah scribal tradition.”⁶⁰ By the ninth through the eleventh centuries, this calligraphic script dominated the Jewish Middle East.

The letter-forms continued to evolve. Medieval Jews who wanted a copy of a book might have purchased a copy, or they might have hired a professional or non-professional scribe to make a copy -- but more likely, they might have made a copy of the book for themselves. Widespread writing, including this “non-professional” writing, led to the further evolution of the calligraphic Hebrew script and the evolution of additional non-calligraphic Hebrew scripts.⁶¹

Various Hebrew scripts developed over the centuries and in different geographic regions. During the second half of the fifteenth century, with the invention and development in Europe of printing from moveable type, Hebrew

⁶⁰ Ibid., 87.

⁶¹ “. . . at least half the medieval Hebrew manuscripts were personal, user-produced books, copied by educated persons or scholars for their own use, and only half, or most probably less than half, were produced by hired scribes, whether professional or occasional.” Malachi Beit-Arié, “Transmission of Texts by Scribes and Copyists: Unconscious and Critical Interferences,” Bulletin of the John Rylands University Library of Manchester 75.3 (1993): 39.

While Jewish texts were being copied by professional and non-professional hands, Latin/Greek/Christian texts were centrally controlled: they were copied in monasteries or universities. Malachi Beit-Arié, Hebrew Codicology: Tentative Typology of Technical Practices Employed in Hebrew Dated Medieval Manuscripts (Jerusalem: The Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities, 1981), 11; Malachi Beit-Arié, “Transmission of Texts”, 38; Yardeni, Hebrew Script, 88.

printing soon followed.⁶² Printers selected the best local manuscripts, with the local Hebrew scripts, as models to copy for their Hebrew typefaces. This led to a relatively large variety of Hebrew typefaces, both square and rabbinic⁶³, for a relatively small number of books. After the expulsion of Jews from Spain and Portugal, and the success of the Italian-based Soncino family in Hebrew printing, the variety of typefaces narrowed. Hebrew type was modeled on the “successfully” printed Hebrew books. For the most part, this meant square and rabbinic type following the Sephardic writing style.⁶⁴

⁶² Hebrew printing began about 1470.

Moshe Rosenfeld, Hebrew Printing From its Beginning until 1948 (Jerusalem: 1992); David Werner Amram, The Makers of Hebrew Books in Italy: Being Chapters in the History of the Hebrew Printing Press (London: Holland Press Ltd., 1963), 14-15, 23-24; Yardeni, Hebrew Script, 102.

⁶³ Rabbinic type, is often referred to as “Rashi” type, because it is often used for commentaries of Rashi. Rashi, of course, would likely have written in an Ashkenazi script. The typeface commonly called “Rashi” type is a form of a Sephardic script.

⁶⁴ Herbert C. Zafren, “Variety in the Typography of Yiddish: 1535-1635,” Hebrew Union College Annual 53 (1982): 157; Herbert C. Zafren, “Early Yiddish Typography,” Jewish Book Annual 44 (1986-87):, 110; Yardeni, Hebrew Script, 102-103.

Analyzing the Hebrew Letters

From the vast research analyzing writing, a few views are briefly commented on below. The research presented bears on the readability of Hebrew.

Basic Rules of Hebrew Paleography. Ada Yardeni, epigraphy and paleography expert, presents basic rules of Hebrew Paleography in her work.⁶⁵ Paleography involves the study of writing and its evolution. It is useful in identifying the time and place of manuscripts, inscriptions, etc. These rules may also be helpful typographically, as examining the Hebrew alphabet paleographically helps one better understand the Hebrew alphabet and perhaps view the strengths and weaknesses of a particular Hebrew script.

- Each letter has a “root” which can be broken down into a few basic strokes.
- The letters are differentiated from each other by the direction of the strokes and by their meeting-points.
- The direction of the strokes and their meeting-points may change. When these changes become systematic (common among several handwritings of a common place and time) they are considered stylistic changes.
- Each letter develops at its own rate. (A document can contain earlier styles of some letters and later styles of other letters.)

⁶⁵ Ibid., 134-143.

- Letters from the script-style of a specific time and place may resemble different letters from the script-style of a different time and place. (This results from the different histories of the letters-forms.)
- Most Hebrew script-styles have groups of letters having similar graphic components.
- The individual letters of the different script-styles have a limited number of components. Some of these components may be similar in several letters of a given script-style.
- Stylistic changes have several causes (as described above in “A Brief History”) including the time and place, the writing implements and materials, the speed of writing, and the influence of other scripts.

Graphemics and Diachrony. Harvey Minkoff's research compares the development of writing with the development of linguistics.⁶⁶ While linguistics is outside the scope of this thesis, he does investigate the development of Hebrew / Yiddish cursive script from medieval Hebrew square script.

Graphemes, i.e., letters, are made up of their strokes. These strokes can be identified by their location, length, and shape. When letters are compared to each other, one may find features that are unique, and features that are held in common.⁶⁷

The unique features of square Hebrew letters,, i.e. features that help distinguish one letter from another are the following:

⁶⁶ Harvey Minkoff, “Graphemics and Diachrony: Some Evidence From Hebrew Cursive,” *Afroasiatic Linguistics* 1 (1975): 193-208.

⁶⁷ Minkoff refers to the unique features as *emic*, or as having minimal contrast. Common features, he refers to as *etic*, or as redundant.

- The number of strokes.
- The location of strokes.
- The difference in stroke length.
- The type of corner, i.e., “flush or overlapping.”

The square Hebrew letters are not identifiable by the unique features of curves and diagonals, i.e., the shape of the strokes is a common, or redundant feature.

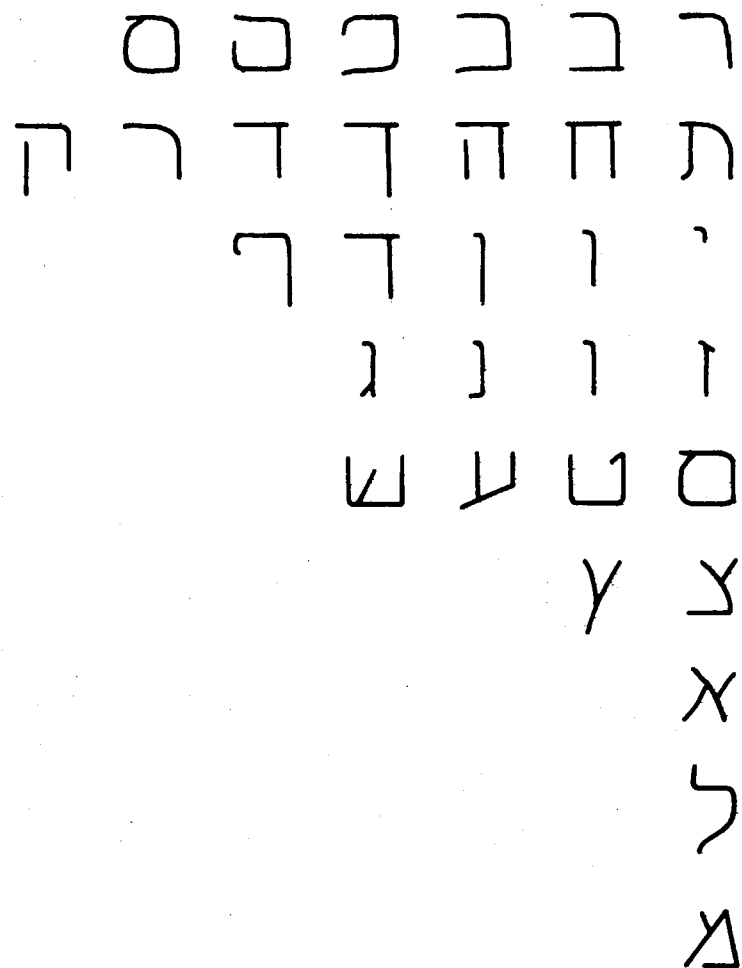


Figure 43 Harvey Minkoff's figure 1, "Modern square graphemes arranged in minimal and nearly minimal pairs. (Some graphemes appear more than once.)" I.e., the letters are arranged in groups with similar features. Page 200.



Fig. 2. Minimal pairs based on stroke length.

Figure 44 Minkoff, 201. Similar letters distinguishable by stroke length.

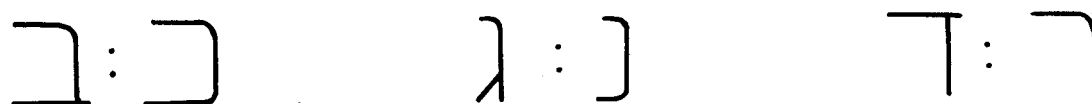


Fig. 3. Minimal pairs based on type of corner.

Figure 45 Minkoff, 201. Similar letters distinguishable by type of corner.

Minkoff holds that the gradual evolution of Hebrew/Yiddish cursive writing (1) ended the conservation of the common features of the letters, and (2) amplified their unique (and perhaps previously minor) features.

The letters ך, ה, ח, and ת shared two similar strokes: a high horizontal stroke, and a vertical stroke on the right side of the letter. These strokes were not the defining strokes of the letters, so, over time, they were simplified; they became curves or diagonals.

Three letter pairs, ג -- ן, ב -- כ, and ד -- ך, are distinguished by the type of corner. In ג, כ, and ך, letters with flush corners, the corner was rounded; in ג, ב, and ד, letters with an “overlapping” corner, the corner was freely exaggerated and distorted.

	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3
koph	𐤀	𐤁	𐤂 / 𐤃
he	𐤄	𐤅	𐤆
heth	𐤇	𐤈	𐤉
tav	𐤊	𐤋	𐤌

Fig. 5. Evolution of diagonals and curves in *koph*, *he*, *heth* and *tav*.

Figure 46 Minkoff, 203. Development of similar letters.

	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3
gimmel	𐤍	𐤎	𐤏
nun	𐤐	𐤑	𐤒
beth	𐤔	𐤕	𐤖
kaph	𐤗	𐤘	𐤙
daleth	𐤛	𐤜	𐤝
resh	𐤞	𐤟	𐤠

Fig. 6. Distortion of *emic* contrasts in type of corner.

Figure 47 Minkoff, 203. Reduction of common features; amplification / exaggeration of unique features.

Hebrew Reform Advocate. Michael Landmann proposes reforms of the Hebrew alphabet.⁶⁸ He is bitter about contemporary Hebrew script; his bitterness may cause most people to ignore his research.⁶⁹ This is unfortunate because he successfully describes some of the drawbacks of current Hebrew script and he reviews others' findings on reading research. A few of his observations on Hebrew include the following:

- excessive similarity among groups of letters,
- lack of curves (lack of contrast between round and straight strokes),
- emphasis of horizontal strokes,
- excessive similarity in tops of letters,
- insufficient number of ascenders and descenders,
- insufficient variety in letter width.

These characteristics make letter and word recognition difficult. When alphabets with more variety in shape and size are used, letters become more recognizable, and the reader more easily learns to recognize and read groups of letters together, as words, instead of letter-by-letter.

⁶⁸ Michael Landmann, Reform of the Hebrew Alphabet, edited and translated by David J. Parent, Illinois Language and Culture Series: A Series of Scholarly Monographs and Translations on a Wide Variety of Subjects in the Humanities, vol. 1 (Ann Arbor, Michigan: Applied Literature Press; University Microfilms International, 1976).

⁶⁹ "In six days God made the world. And behold! It was very good. Then the devil came. He made the Hebrew alphabet. And behold! It was very bad. Indeed it is truly diabolical. . . . The Jews are one of the most gifted peoples on earth. Yet they write and print with an alphabet far more primitive and archaic than many others." Ibid., 1.

While the upper-third to upper-half of the letters is the part most perceived in reading, in Hebrew letters, it is exactly this part of the letters that is the least recognizable. That is to say, the domination of common upper horizontal strokes force the eye to examine the bottom of the letters to recognize the word.

Ascenders, vertical strokes extending above the typical height of the letters, would be helpful in letter and word recognition, but there is only one Hebrew letter, ל, with an ascender. Descenders, vertical strokes extending below the typical height of the letters, while not as beneficial as ascenders, are also helpful in reading, but there are only a few, ך, ם, ן, ף, and ץ.

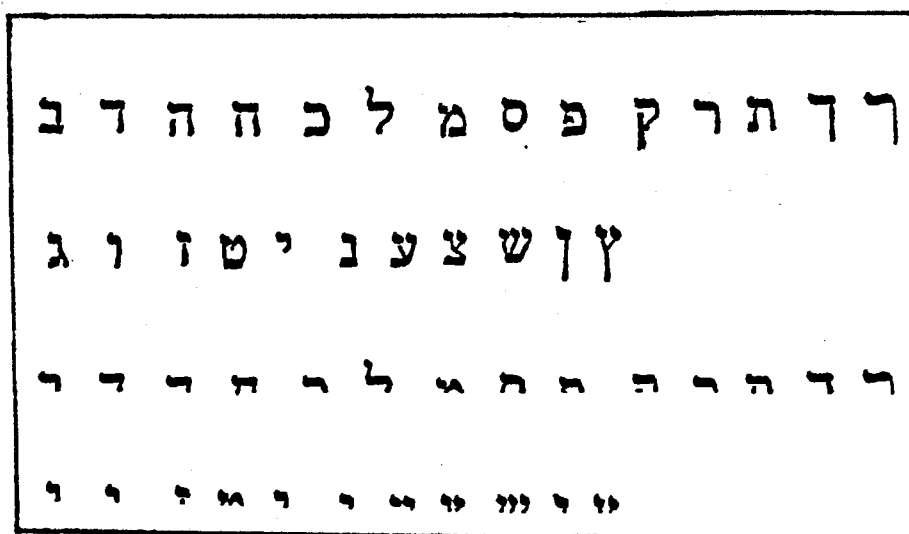


Table 3. Fourteen letters of the Hebrew alphabet have flat tops. An additional eleven letters have the same "small heads" on top. If only the upper half of the letters is seen, the individual letters are scarcely distinguishable. See page 56.

Figure 48 Michael Landmann, *Reform of the Hebrew Alphabet*, xxi.

TYPOGRAPHY

Horizontal Emphasis

As described above (see Paleography) early Hebrew typefaces were modeled after local scribes' writing. Over time the variety of typefaces narrowed. Typefaces based on Sephardic writing style, but with Ashekenazi-influenced emphasis on horizontal strokes, became popular. The thick horizontal strokes that originated from the angle of the writing implement can be seen in many typefaces to this day.⁷⁰

(Examples follow below.)

⁷⁰ Yardeni, Hebrew Script, 114, 160.

צור ישראל, קומה בעזרת ישראל, ופדה כנאמך יהודה
 וישראל. גאלנו יי צבאות שמו, קדוש ישראל.
 ברוך אתה, יי, גאל ישראל.

Figure 52 *Gates of Prayer* (1975), 305.

צור ישראל, קומה בעזרת ישראל,
 ופדה כנאמך יהודה וישראל.
 גאלנו, יי צבאות שמו, קדוש ישראל.
 ברוך אתה יי, גאל ישראל.

Figure 53 *Gates of Prayer for Shabbat and Weekdays:
 A Gender Sensitive Prayerbook* (1994), 113.

צור ישראל, קומה בעזרת ישראל,
 ופדה כנאמך יהודה וישראל. גאלנו יי צבאות שמו,
 קדוש ישראל. ברוך אתה יי, גאל ישראל.

Figure 54 *Gates of Prayer for Shabbat: A Gender Sensitive Prayerbook*
 (1992), 57. Note that this example has less horizontal emphasis than
 the previous two examples.

לְאֹהֲבֵי חֲדָתָהּ וְאֵין לָמִיד מִכְשׁוֹל יִהְיֶה
 שִׁלּוּם כְּחִילָהּ וְשִׁלּוּם בְּאֶרְמְנוֹתָיִךְ לְמַעַן
 אֲחִי וְרַעִי אֲדַבֵּרָה נָא שִׁלּוּם כֶּדֶר לְמִעֲוֹן
 בֵּית אֱלֹהֵינוּ אֲבִיקָשָׁה טוֹב לָךְ יְיָ עֲזֹז לֵעַ
 לְעַמּוֹ וְהִנֵּה יִבְרַח אֶת עַמּוֹ בְּשִׁלּוּם קָדִישׁ

כָּל חַיִּי

תְּבַרְכֵּךְ

אֶת

שְׁמִיךְ

שְׁמִיךְ

יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְרוּחַ כָּל בָּשָׂר תִּסְאֶר וְתִדְוָמָם
 זְכָרְךָ מִלְכֵנוּ תִּמְיִיד מִן הָעוֹלָם וְעַד הָ
 הָעוֹלָם אֲתָה אֵל וּמִבְלַעֲדֶךָ אֵין לָנוּ מִן
 מִלְךָ זֵאֵל וּמִיֹּשִׁיעַ פִּוְדָהּ וּמִצִּיל וּמִפֶּ
 וּמִפְרָצֵם וּמִדְּחֵם בְּכָל עֵת צָרָה וְצָנָקָה
 אֵין לָנוּ מִלְךָ אֵלָּא אֲתָה אֱלֹהֵי הָרָאשִׁין

Figure 55 MS 1099, (before 1500) 60a.

Vertical Emphasis

Hugh J. Schonfield, in 1932, was concerned that the Hebrew alphabet would be held back typographically if it had to rely on a script that emphasized horizontal strokes. He proposed a new alphabet, with a vertical emphasis, and had several typeface designs made which corresponded to several English typefaces. (For example, a *Caslon* Hebrew, an *Ultra Bodoni* Hebrew, etc.) The drawings include upper and lower case letters in eight different typefaces.⁷¹

Schonfield was not alone in his yearning for a new, more Western style alphabet. In 1928, Tschichhold wrote,

The emphatically national, exclusiv[e] character of [the German] national script . . . [and that] of the Russians or the Chinese -- contradicts present-day transnational bonds between people and forces their inevitable elimination. To keep to these types is retrograde. Roman type is the international typeface of the future. These important changes must come, since they express the actual spirit of our age and are required by the technical forms of the present and indeed the future.⁷²

⁷¹ Hugh J. Schonfield, The New Hebrew Typography, trans. Intro. Stanley Morison (London: Denis Archer, 1932).

⁷² Jan Tschichold, The New Typography: A Handbook for Modern Designers, translated by Ruari McLean, (Berkeley: A Centennial Book-University of California Press, 1995), 74-75.



page
thirty-
seven

Copyright by Hugh J. Schonfield, 1931

3

Figure 56 Hugh J. Schonfield, *The New Hebrew Typography* (1932), 37. "Caslon Hebrew." Designed by Schonfield, drawn by Bertram F. Stevenson.

THE NEW HEBREW TYPOGRAPHY—SPECIMEN ALPHABETS

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THE HATIKVAH

First Two Verses and Refrain

(Title in "Caslon" type Hebrew Old Face Heavy, 18 point. Verses in 14 point. Refrain in "Caslon" type Italic, 18 point. Repetition of Refrain in 10 point Italic)

page thirty-one

Figure 57 "Hatikvah." reproduced from Hugh J. Schonfield, *The New Hebrew Typography* (1932), 31. Actual size, margins reduced.

Use of Multiple Typefaces

Varied styles of type are often used on the same page to provide different information. This can enable a worshiper to focus-in, or pass-over a specific instruction or text. With multiple typefaces, contrast in size and style ought to be considered. To achieve good harmony, styles should contrast yet be agreeable. If the styles are too similar, the effect is not right. So too, if the typefaces are too close in size. Alternately, one typeface in different sizes could also be used successfully.⁷³

Achieving balance between Hebrew and English is more problematic than achieving a balance between typefaces of one language. Hebrew has limited curves, diagonals, ascenders and descenders, while English has plenty of curves, diagonals ascenders and descenders. A mathematical balance might not equate to an optical

⁷³ Yardeni, Hebrew Script, 312-313

balance.⁷⁴ Likewise, achieving an aesthetically pleasing balance might not yield an easily readable balance.

*

Two different typefaces are commonly used to differentiate the standard prayer text from instructions or from the text used on special occasions. Frequently square (Hebrew) type is used for the standard prayers while rabbinic type is used for instructions. But rabbinic type could also be used for the alternate prayer, as in the *Machzor Rome* (1485/1486). In this example, the rabbinic type, used for prayer texts, is pointed! Rabbinic text is generally unpointed. (The Klau library has a second copy of the *Machzor Rome*, which is currently on loan to another institution. When it is returned I will compare the two, to determine if the vowels were printed, or were added after printing. I believe they were printed.)

Sample follows below.

⁷⁴ “When a long-limbed Greek is paired with a short-limbed Latin, the difference will stand out. Large disparities in x-height are far more obvious still. . . . In the digital medium, it is easy to match the torso of any Greek face to that of any Latin face exactly, through microscopic adjustments in size. But an optical, not mathematical, match is the goal. Classical Greek, beneath its cloud of diacritics, needs more room to breathe than roman type.” So too with Hebrew. Bringhurst, *Typographic Style*, 112.



כל מי תברך את שמך יי אלהינו ורוח כל בשר תפאר ותרום זכרך מלכנו מן העולם ועד
ועולם אתה הוא אל ומבלעדך אין לנו כלך גואל עוזר ומשיע פודה ומציל מפרגס ומרחם

אלהי הראשונים והאחרונים אלוד כל בריות ארץ
כל תולדות המהולל ברוב חסד ורחמים ורחמים
עולמו בחסד וברחמים ורחמים ורחמים ורחמים
המעיד ימים והמקץ ימים ורחמים ורחמים ורחמים
ומשא חוליס ולך אכחנו מודים

נבל עת צרה וצוקה אין לנו מלך אלא אתה
ולך אנחנו מודים אלהינו מלא שירה
מס ולשוננו רנה כהמון גליו ושפתותינו כ
טבח כמרחבי רקיע ועינינו באירות כשמש
וח ודינו פרושות כגשרי שמים ורגליו ק
קלות כאילות אין אנו מספיקין להודות לך

יי אלהינו ואלהי אבותינו ולברך את שמך על אחת מאלף אלפים ורבי רבבות הט
ושבות שעשית עמנו ועם אבותינו כמצרים גאלתנו ומכית עבדים פדיתנו ברעך זנתנו ו
ושבע כלכלתנו מחרב הצלתנו ומדבר מלשתנו ומחלאים רעים ורבים דליתנו עד הנה ע
קרונו רחמך ולא עזבונו אל יעזבונו רחמך וחסדך יי אלהינו לכן אברים שפלת בנו ו
וחונן שמה שנפחת באפינו ולשון אשר שמת בפינו הן הם יודו ויברכו וישבחו את שמך
יי אלהינו כי כל פה לך יודה וכל לשון כד תשבע וכל כרד לך תכרע וכל קומה לפניך ת
תשתחוה וכל הלבבות ייראוך וכל קרב וכליות יזמרו לשבח כדבר שנאמר כל עצמותי ת
תאמרנה יי מי כמוך :

וי ידמה לך ווי יסוה לך ווי יערוך לך ווי יעשה לך ווי יעשה לך ווי יעשה לך
יעשה כמעשיך וכנכוונותיך האל הגדול
תגור והנורא אל עליון קונה שמים וארץ
האל בתעצמות עוזך הגדול ולכבוד שמך
תגור לגשח כוראיתך כהללך וכעבךך ו
ונקד את שם קדשך ודוד עבדך אמר ל
למנוך ברכי כפטי את הוכל קרבי אתשם
קדשו

שירות ותושבחות שאמר דוד בן ישי עבדך משיחך
שתבח שמך לעד מלכנו האל המלך הגדול והקדוש בשמים ובארץ כי לך נאה יי אלהינו
ר ב

Figure 58 *Machzor Rome*, leaf 26a. Klau Library, Cincinnati.

In addition to differentiating prayer texts, the use of different typefaces can assist in the choreography of ritual. In *Gates of Prayer* (1975), for example,

The type-face is intended to suggest how the service might be conducted. We employ Roman type for 'Reader', *italics* for 'All Reading', and sans-serif (in the English) for Hebrew passages that will usually be sung. However, congregations may continue to follow their established custom, or they may choose to experiment with different patterns.⁷⁵

SHABBAT

לְדוֹר וָדוֹר נִגִּיד נִדְלָהּ, וְלִנְצַח נִצָּחִים קִדְשָׁתָךְ נִקְדִּישׁ.
וְשִׁבְחָךְ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מִפִּינוּ לֹא יִמּוּשׁ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.
בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ, הָאֵל הַקָּדוֹשׁ.

To all generations we will make known Your greatness, and to all eternity proclaim Your holiness. Your praise, O God, shall never depart from our lips. Blessed is the Lord, the holy God.

All are seated

• •

MOST PRECIOUS OF DAYS

קְדוּשַׁת הַיּוֹם

יִשְׁמְחוּ בְּמַלְכוּתְךָ שׁוֹמְרֵי שַׁבָּת וְקוֹרְאֵי עֲנֵנִי. עִם מְקֻדְשֵׁי
שְׁבִיעִי כָּלֵם יִשְׁבְּעוּ וְיִחַעֲנֻנוּ מְטוֹבָךְ. וְהַשְׁבִּיעֵי רָצִיתָ בּוֹ
וְקִדְשָׁתוֹ. חֶמְדַּת יָמִים אוֹתוֹ קָרָאתָ, נִכְרָ לְמַעֲשֵׂה בְּרֵאשִׁית.

Those who keep the Sabbath and call it a delight shall rejoice in Your kingdom. All who hallow the seventh day shall be gladdened by Your goodness. This day is Israel's festival of the spirit, sanctified and blessed by You, the most precious of days, a symbol of the joy of creation.

•

THE SABBATH AND ITS HOLINESS

אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, רָצָה בְּמִנוּחֵינוּ. קִדְשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתֶיךָ
וְתָן חֶלְקֵנוּ בְּתוֹרָתְךָ. שְׂבַעֲנוּ מְטוֹבָךְ, וְשִׂמְחָנוּ בִּישׁוּעָתְךָ,
וְטַהַר לִבֵּנוּ לְעִבְדֶּךָ בְּאַמֶּת. הַנְּחִילֵנוּ, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, בְּאַהֲבָה
וּבְרָצוֹן שַׁבַּת קִדְשְׁךָ, וְיִגְוָחוּ בְּהָ יִשְׂרָאֵל מְקֻדְשֵׁי שְׁמֶךָ. בְּרוּךְ
אַתָּה, יְיָ, מְקֻדֵּשׁ הַשַּׁבָּת.

Our God and God of ages past, may our rest on this day be pleasing in Your sight. Sanctify us with Your Mitzvot, and let Your Torah be our way of life. Satisfy us with Your goodness, gladden us with Your salvation, and purify our hearts to serve You in truth. In Your gracious love, O Lord our God, let Your holy Sabbath remain our heritage, that all Israel, hallowing

328

Figure 59 *Gates of Prayer* (1975), 328.

⁷⁵ "A Note on Usage," *Gates of Prayer*, xiv.

Among prayerbooks that provide English responsive readings, the typeface may alternate between roman and italic or oblique (as described for *Gates of Prayer* above) or the leader's readings and the congregational readings instead may be differentiated by texts that alternate between flush left and an indented line. Some prayerbooks use both methods. Examples follow below.

Note how the *Union Prayerbook* (1940) uses type face and indentation *and* gives instructions as well. The passage is headed "*Responsive Reading*," and the first two readings are labeled "Reader" and "Congregation." Although this may seem like "overkill," the seemingly redundant directions will likely become invisible to the worshipers.

Samples begin on the next page.

102 MORNING SERVICE FOR THE SABBATH.

Responsive Reading:

אשרי

Minister.

HAPPY are they who dwell in Thy house, they shall continually praise Thee.

Congregation.

Happy are they who thus know Him ; happy the people whose God is the Eternal.

I will extol Thee, my God, O King, and I will bless Thy name forever and ever.

Every day I will bless Thee, and I will praise Thy name for ever and ever.

Great is the Lord and highly to be praised ; His greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall praise Thy works to another, and shall declare Thy mighty deeds.

I will speak of the glorious honor of Thy majesty, and of Thy wonderful works.

And men shall speak of the might of Thy deeds, and shall declare Thy greatness.

They shall remember Thy great goodness, and sing of Thy righteousness.

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger, and rich in mercy.

The Lord is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works.

All Thy works praise Thee, O God, and Thy holy ones bless Thee.

They proclaim the glory of Thy kingdom, and speak of Thy power.

Figure 60 *Union Prayer-Book* (1896, 1905 printing), 102.

MORNING SERVICE FOR THE SABBATH 115

Reader

ברוך שמו

Praised be He who by His creative word called the universe into being. Praised be He who sustains it by His might. Praised be He who orders it in His wisdom and establishes the world in righteousness.

Congregation and Reader

Praised be Thou, O God, for Thy manifold mercies unto us, for our heritage of faith, for visions of truth and of duty and for the courage to remain true to our higher nature amid trials and temptations. Thy servants in all generations have found joy in worshiping Thee with pure hearts. With psalms and songs they glorified Thy name. We too would adore Thee with prayers of thanksgiving and with deeds of lovingkindness.

Responsive Reading

Reader

Happy are they who dwell in Thy house, they are continually praising Thee.

Congregation

Happy are they who thus know Him; happy is the people whose God is the Lord.

I will extol Thee, my God, O King, and I will bless Thy name forever and ever.

Every day I will bless Thee, and I will praise Thy name forever and ever.

Great is the Lord and highly to be praised; and His greatness is beyond our finding out.

One generation shall praise Thy works to another, and shall declare Thy mighty acts.

Figure 61 *Union Prayerbook* (1940), 115.

Happy are they that dwell in Thy house;
They will ever praise Thee.

Happy is the people who thus fare;
Yea, happy is the people whose God is the Lord.

PSALM 145

A Psalm of praise; of David.

I will extol Thee, my God, O King,
And I will bless Thy name for ever and ever.

Every day will I bless Thee,
And I will praise Thy name for ever and ever.

Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised;
His greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall laud Thy works to another,
And shall declare Thy mighty acts.

On the majestic glory of Thy splendor,
And on Thy wondrous deeds will I meditate.

And men shall proclaim the might of Thy tremendous acts;
And I will recount Thy greatness.

They shall make known the fame of Thy great goodness,
And shall exult in Thy righteousness.

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,
Long forbearing, and abundant in kindness.

The Lord is good to all,
And His tender mercies are over all His works.

All Thy works shall praise Thee, O Lord,
And Thy faithful ones shall bless Thee.

They shall declare the glory of Thy kingdom,
And talk of Thy might;

To make known to the sons of men His mighty acts,
And the glorious majesty of His kingdom.

Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
And Thy dominion endureth throughout all generations.

The Lord upholdeth all who fall,
And raiseth up all who are bowed down.

The eyes of all look hopefully to Thee,
And Thou givest them their food in due season.

Thou openest Thy hand,
And satisfiest every living thing with favor.

Figure 62 Silverman, *Sabbath and Festival Prayer Book* (1946, 1967 printing), 76.

SHABBAT

עוד יגובון בשיבה, דשנים ורעננים יהיו,
להגיד פרישר יי, צורי, ולא-עולתה בו.

*The righteous shall flourish like palms,
grow tall like cedars in Lebanon.
Rooted in the house of the Lord,
they shall be ever fresh and green,
proclaiming that the Lord is just,
my Rock, in whom there is no wrong.*

• •

אשרי

אשרי יושבי ביתך; עוד יהללוך סלה.
אשרי העם שככה לו; אשרי העם שיי אלהיו.

*Happy are those who dwell in Your house;
they will sing Your praise for ever.
Happy the people to whom such blessing falls;
happy the people whose God is the Lord.*

Psalm 145

תהלה לך דוד.
ארוממה, אלהי המלך, ואברכה שמך לעולם ועד.
בכל-יום אברכה, ואהללה שמך לעולם ועד.

*I will exalt You, my Sovereign God;
I will bless Your name for ever.
Every day will I bless You;
I will extol Your name for ever.*

גדול יי ומהלל מאד, ולגדלתו אין חקר.
דוד לך דוד ישבח מעשיה, וגבורתיה יגידו.

*Great is the Lord and worthy of praise;
His greatness is infinite.
One generation shall acclaim Your work to the next;
they shall tell of Your mighty acts.*

Weekday services continue here (from page 61), as do all other services

God's glory endures forever; may God rejoice in His creatures. May the Lord be praised now and forever. Praised be He from East to West. The Lord is exalted beyond all nations, His glory extends beyond the heavens. Your glory, Lord, endures forever, Your fame throughout all generations. The Lord established His throne in Heaven. His sovereignty encompasses all. The heavens rejoice and the earth is glad; the nations declare: "The Lord is King." The Lord is King, the Lord was King, the Lord shall be King throughout all time. The Lord shall be King forever and ever; many peoples shall vanish from His land. The Lord thwarts the designs of such nations, He foils the plans of such peoples. Many plans rise in human hearts, but the designs of the Lord are fulfilled. For when He spoke it came to be; He issued a command and the world took form. The Lord has chosen Zion, He desired it for His dwelling place. The Lord has chosen Jacob for Himself, the people Israel as His treasure. The Lord will not abandon His people, He will not forsake His heritage. God, being merciful, grants atonement for sin and does not destroy. Time and again He restrains wrath, refuses to let rage be all-consuming. Save us, Lord. Answer us, O King, when we call.

Blessed are they who dwell in Your house;
they shall praise You forever.

PSALM 84:5

*Blessed the people who are so favored;
blessed the people whose God is the Lord.*

PSALM 144:15

A Psalm of David.

I glorify You, my God, my King; I praise You throughout all time.

Every day do I praise You, exalting Your glory forever.

Great is the Lord, and praiseworthy;
His greatness exceeds definition.

*One generation lauds Your works to another,
declaring Your mighty deeds.*

They tell of Your wonders, and of Your glorious splendor.

They speak of Your greatness, and of Your awesome power.

They recall Your goodness; they sing of Your faithfulness.

96 P'SUKEI D'ZIMRA

PSALM 84:5; 144:15

Blessed are they who dwell in Your house;
they shall praise You forever.

*Blessed the people who are so favored;
blessed the people whose God is Adonai.*

PSALM 145: 115:18

A Psalm of David.

I glorify You, my God, my Sovereign;
I praise You throughout all time.

Every day do I praise You, exalting Your glory forever.

Great is Adonai, and praiseworthy;
God's greatness exceeds definition.

*One generation lauds Your works to another,
acclaiming Your mighty deeds.*

They tell of Your wonders and Your glorious splendor.
They speak of Your greatness and Your awesome power.

They recall Your goodness; they sing of Your faithfulness.

Adonai is gracious and compassionate;
patient, and abounding in love.

Adonai is good to all; God's compassion embraces all.

All of Your creatures shall praise You;
the faithful shall continually bless You,

*recounting Your glorious sovereignty,
telling tales of Your might.*

And everyone will know of Your power,
the awesome radiance of Your dominion.

*Your sovereignty is everlasting;
Your dominion endures for all generations.*

Adonai supports all who stumble,
and uplifts all who are bowed down.

*The eyes of all look hopefully to You,
and You provide their food in due time.*

You open Your hand; Your favor sustains all the living.

Figure 65 Siddur Sim Shalom for Shabbat and Festivals (1998), 96.

Note page 20 of *Gates of Prayer for Shabbat and Weekdays* (1994). The

responsive readings progress in this fashion:

	<u>line</u>	<u>reader</u>
1	a. Leader:	● Eternal truth it is that You alone are God,
2		And there is none else.
3	b. Congreg.:	<i>May all the world rejoice in Your love</i>
4		<i>And exult in Your justice.</i>
5	c. Leader:	Let them beat their swords into plowshares;
6	d. Congreg.:	<i>Let them beat their spears into pruning-hooks.</i>
7	e. Leader	Let nation not lift up sword against nation;
8		let them study war no more.
9	f. Congreg.:	<i>You shall not hate another in your heart;</i>
10		<i>You shall love your neighbor as yourself.</i>
11	g. Leader	Let the strangers in your midst be to you as the native;
12		For you were strangers in the land of Egypt.
13	h. Congreg.:	<i>From the house of bondage we went forth to freedom</i>
14		<i>So let all be free to sing with joy.</i>

This reading is fourteen lines long. If it were broken into two line segments, there would have been seven parts. An odd number of parts would mean that if the service leader begins the responsive reading, then the leader also ends the reading. Perhaps, in order to force an even number of readings, lines five and six were split. In this way, there being eight parts, the service leader can begin the reading, and the congregation can finish it.

This pattern is troublesome, and the typography does not help. There is no indentation, only the different typeface. This prayer generally confuses the service

leader.⁷⁶ It probably first happens with lines 5 and 6. The leader, having previously read two lines of type, tries to read line 6 thinking it is his second line. When he hears the congregation reading line 6, he recognizes his “error.” For his next reading he compensates by reading only line 7, not realizing that it is only the first of his two lines in part e. He then waits for the congregation to respond. When they do not read line 8, he is momentarily confused, and eventually he recognizes his next line and continues.

The first cause of confusion is the 2 -- 2 -- 1 -- 1 -- 2 -- 2 -- 2 -- 2 pattern.

The second cause of confusion is that lines 5, 6, 7 and 8 all begin with the word “let”:

- 5 Let them beat their swords into plowshares;
- 6 *Let them beat their spears into pruning hooks.*
- 7 Let nation not lift up sword against nation;
- 8 let them study war no more.

Compare the typography of *Gates of Prayer for Shabbat and Weekdays* (1994) with that of *Gates of Prayer for Shabbat* (1992), as shown below.

⁷⁶ This reading trips up most service readers at the HUC-JIR Cincinnati chapel.

WEEKDAY MORNING SERVICE

way, when you lie down and when you rise up. Bind them as a sign upon your hand; let them be symbols before your eyes; inscribe them on the doorposts of your house, and on your gates.

Be mindful of all My Mitzvot, and do them: so shall you consecrate yourselves to your God. I am your Eternal God who led you out of Egypt to be your God; I am your Eternal God.

REDEMPTION

גאולה

אַמֶּת וְיָצִיב וְיָשָׁר וְקִים וְטוֹב וְיִפָּה הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה עָלֵינוּ לְעוֹלָם
וָעֶד. אַמֶּת שְׁאֵתָהּ הוּא יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ וְאֲמוֹתֵינוּ,
יוֹצְרֵנוּ צוּר יְשׁוּעָתָנוּ, פּוֹדֵנוּ וּמַצִּילֵנוּ מֵעוֹלָם הוּא שְׁמֶךָ, אֵין
אֱלֹהִים זוּלָתְךָ. אַמֶּת אֵתָהּ הוּא רֹאשׁוֹן וְאַתָּה הוּא אַחֲרוֹן,
וּמַבְלַעְדִּיךָ אֵין לָנוּ מוֹשִׁיעַ. מִמַּצְרִים גָּאֵלְתָּנוּ, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ,
וּמִבֵּית עֲבָדִים פָּדִיתָנוּ. מֹשֶׁה וּמַרְיָם וּבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לְךָ עָנוּ
שִׁירָה בְּשִׂמְחָה רַבָּה, וְאָמְרוּ כָלָם:

• Eternal truth it is that You alone are God,
and there is none else.

*May all the world rejoice in Your love
and exult in Your justice.*

*Let them beat their swords into plowshares;
Let them beat their spears into pruning-hooks.*

*Let nation not lift up sword against nation;
let them study war no more.*

*You shall not hate another in your heart;
you shall love your neighbor as yourself.*

*Let the stranger in your midst be to you as the native;
for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.*

*From the house of bondage we went forth to freedom,
so let all be free to sing with joy:*

Shabbat Morning Service

- True and enduring are the words spoken by our prophets.

*You are the living God;
Your word brings life and light to the soul.*

You are the First and the Last:
besides You there is no redeemer or savior.

You are the strength of our life, the Power that saves us.
Your love and Your truth abide for ever.

You have been the help of our people in time of trouble;
You are our refuge in all generations.

Your power was manifest when we went free out of Egypt;
in every liberation from bondage we see it.

May Your law of freedom rule the hearts of all Your children,
and Your law of justice unite them in friendship.

*May the righteous of all nations rejoice in Your love
and triumph by Your power.*

O God, our refuge and our hope, we glorify Your name now
as did our people in ancient days:

מִי־כִמְכָּה בְּאֵלִים, יְהוָה? מִי כִמְכָּה, נֹאדָר בְּקֹדֶשׁ,
נוֹרָא תְהִלָּת, עֲשֵׂה פֶלֶא?

שִׁירָה חֲדָשָׁה שְׁבָחוּ גְאוּלִּים לְשִׁמְךָ עַל־שִׁפְתֵי הַיָּם;
יַחַד בְּלֵם הוֹדוּ וְהִמְלִיכוּ וְאָמְרוּ: יְהוָה יִמְלֹךְ לְעֹלָם וָעֶד.

Mi cha-mo-cha ba-ei-lim, Adonai? Mi ka-mo-cha, ne-dar ba-ko-
desh, no-ra t'hi-loht, o-sei feh-leh?

Shi-ra cha-da-sha shi-b'chu g'u-lim l'shi-m'cha al s'fat ha-yam;
ya-chad ku-lam ho-du v'him-li-chu v'am'ru: Adonai Yim-loch l'o-lam
va-ed!

Vowels and Accents

One can be familiar with the Hebrew alphabet, and still have difficulty in pronouncing Hebrew properly. This is partly because some of the vowel signs can have more than one meaning and, therefore, more than one pronunciation. For example, the *kamatz* (ֿ) can be “long” (*kamatz gadol*) or “short” (*kamatz katan*). The *shva* (ֿ) can be vocal (*shva na*) or silent (*shva nach*). In addition, Hebrew words, generally accented on the ultimate syllable, are sometimes accented on the penultimate syllable.

Since these factors tend to add confusion, several attempts have been made to guide the reader to the correct reading of the Hebrew prayers. One approach is to encourage a solid grasp of the grammar. If one has the rules and patterns internalized, proper pronunciation will be easier. But worshipers have different levels of Hebrew proficiency, and besides, reliance on grammar could well interfere with a worshiper’s prayerfulness. There are a few guides that clarify pronunciation for particular prayerbooks, such as Weinberg’s “Hebrew Wordstress in the Prayerbook

[UPB],” and *Kamats Katan and Gadol* in “Gates of Prayer”.⁷⁷ But such guides do not exist for every prayerbook; even if they did, it would be a cumbersome method of learning proper pronunciation. Only a few worshipers would be likely to go through the tedious process of learning or memorizing the proper pronunciations of prayers. Perhaps this is why a number of marks have been used to assist in proper reading of Hebrew text.

⁷⁷ Werner Weinberg, “Hebrew Wordstress in the Prayerbook [the *Union Prayer Book*, Newly Revised Edition],” *CCAR Journal* (1968): 67-75; Werner Weinberg, *Kamats Katan and Gadol* in “Gates of Prayer” (Cincinnati: Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion, 1976).

Kamatz. The *kamatz* (,) generally appears to be a small “T” below the letter.

Alternately it is a small dash, with a suspended dot below. The *kamatz* pronunciation:

kamatz gadol -- a as in papa or in father.

kamatz katan -- o as in often; not as in job nor as in Job.⁷⁸

There have been many proposals for a new sign for the *kamatz katan*.

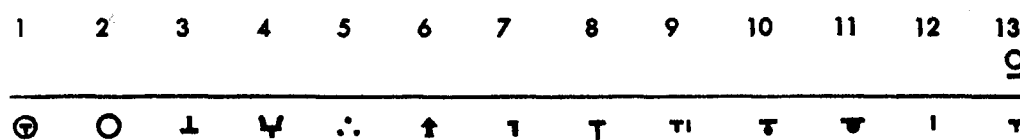


FIG. 1

Figure 68 Werner Weinberg, *Studies in Bibliography and Booklore* 10 (Winter 1971/72), 4.

Of the thirteen *kamatz katan* proposals described by Weinberg, only the long-tailed kamatz (no. 8 above) is currently used. It is found in both the *Rinat Yisrael* and *Ha'avodah Shebalev*. The original proposal called for a lengthened vertical line for the *kamatz katan*, and a lengthened horizontal line for the *kamatz gadol*. Unfortunately, only the *kamatz katan* was adopted, thus giving us a paradox: the *kamatz katan* (“small” *kamatz*) is the *kamatz* that is large. Nonetheless, this *kamatz katan* is fairly easy to identify while reading.

⁷⁸ Werner Weinberg, How Do You Spell Chanukah? A General-Purpose Romanization of Hebrew for Speakers of English, *Bibliographica Judaica* 5, ed. Herbert C. Zafren (Cincinnati: Hebrew Union College Press, 1976), 31.

Another rather common *kamat兹 katan* is a horizontal line (as with the *patach*) with a dot underneath it. Sometimes the horizontal line retains a fragment of the vertical line, as if the dot were originally connected. This is in use in the Koren *Siddur*, the Conservative *Sim Shalom*, and the Reform *Gates of Prayer for Shabbat and Weekdays*. This *kamat兹 katan* can be difficult to read. In addition, this same sign has been used (and is still in use) as a *kamat兹* (*gadol* and *katan*).

Another *kamat兹 katan* worthy of mention is a variation of *kamat兹* no. 4 above. Instead of the wings going up, they go down. This is the *kamat兹 katan* used in the Reconstructionist prayerbook, *Kol Haneshamah: Shabbat Vehagim*.

For the *hataf kamatz*, (ֿ) some prayerbooks use the modified *kamat兹 katan* with the *shva*, while others do not.

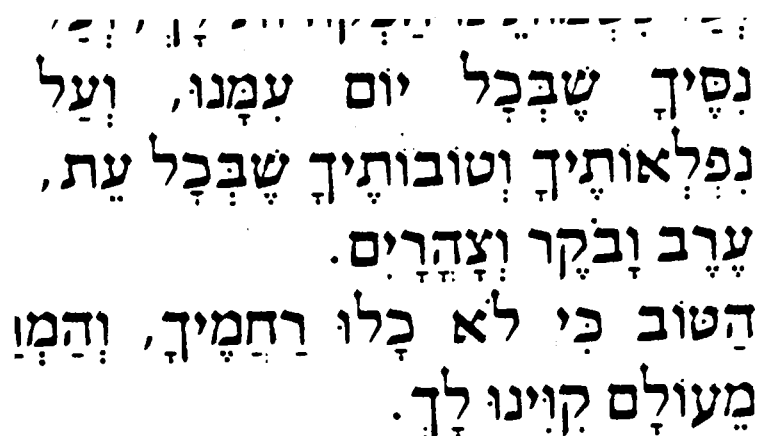


Figure 69 Koren, *Seder Hatefilah L'shabat* (1993), 67.

וְעַל נַפְלְאוֹתֶיהָ וְטוֹבוֹתֶיהָ
 שְׁבַכְל־עַת, עֶרֶב וּבֹקֶר וְצַהֲרָיִם.
 הַטּוֹב כִּי לֹא כָלוּ רַחֲמֶיהָ,
 וְהַמְרַחֵם כִּי לֹא תָמוּ חֲסָדֶיהָ,
 מֵעוֹלָם קִוִּינוּ לָהּ.

Figure 70 *Siddur Sim Shalom for Shabbat and Festivals* (1998), 126.

נִשְׁמוֹתֵינוּ הַפְּקוּדוֹת לָךְ, וְעַל
 נִסִּיךָ שְׁבַכְל יוֹם עַמָּנוּ, וְעַל
 נַפְלְאוֹתֶיהָ וְטוֹבוֹתֶיהָ שְׁבַכְל
 עַת, עֶרֶב וּבֹקֶר וְצַהֲרָיִם. הַטּוֹב
 כִּי לֹא תָמוּ חֲסָדֶיהָ, מֵעוֹלָם קוּי

Figure 71 *Sidur Rinat Yisrael, Ashkenaz*, (1983), 264.

הַמְּסוּרִים בִּיָּדְךָ, וְעַל נִשְׁמוֹתֵינוּ
 נִסִּיךָ שְׁבַכְל יוֹם עַמָּנוּ, וְעַל
 שְׁבַכְל עַת, עֶרֶב וּבֹקֶר וְצַהֲרָיִם

Figure 72 *Ha'avodah Shebalev* (1990/1991), 82.

וְדוֹת לָךְ וְעַל נִסִּיךָ שְׂבַכְכָּל יוֹם עֹנֶה
 לִלְעִית עָרֵב וּבֶקֶר וְצִהָרִים: הַטּוֹב
 יֵא תָמוּ חֲסָדֶיךָ מֵעוֹלָם קִוִּינוּ לָךְ:

Figure 73 *Kol Haneshamah: Shabbat Vehagim* (1994), 315.

שְׂבַכְכָּל-יוֹם עֲמָנוּ וְעַל נֶפֶשׁ
 עָרֵב וּבֶקֶר וְצִהָרִים. **
 וְהִמְרָחֵם כִּי לֹא-תָמוּ חֲסָדֶיךָ

Figure 74 Spiro, *Complete Weekday Service: A Musical Siddur* (1980), 76.

11 V'-SHA-LOM. V'- TOV B'-E-NE-CHA L'-VA-
 v'-sho-lom. v'- tov b'-e-ne-cho l'-vq-

12 RECH ET A-M'-CHA YIS- RA- EL B'-
 rech es a-m'-cho yis- rq- el b'-

13 CHOL ET U-V'-CHOL SHA-AH
 chol es u-v'-chol sho-oh

Figure 75 Ibid., 78.

Rafeh/Macron. The *rafeh* (̄) is a small horizontal line over a letter. This same sign has been used for two purposes.⁷⁹

It lets the reader know that a *dagesh* was intentionally omitted from the letter. When a ב is written, one might not be sure if it were supposed to be a *bet* or a *vet*. The *rafeh* eliminates any question. For *bet*, a *dagesh* is added, בּ. For *vet*, a *rafeh* is added, ב̄. With this use, the *rafeh* can be found on the *b-g-d-k-f-t* letters (ת, פ, כ, ד, ג, ב).

The second use of the *rafeh* is to indicate that a *shva* is a vocal *shva*, and thus begins a new syllable.

Other signs for vocal *shva*. The *Metsudah Siddur* uses an upside-down *sekol* (◌̣) above a vocal *shva*. This mark looks much like the cantillation sign *sekol*.

⁷⁹ In addition to its two uses in Hebrew, the macron is often used to mark long vowels in many languages and in many romanized languages, Bringhurst, Typographic Style, 281.

שבענו מטובך ושמח נפשנו בשיעריך
 וטהר לבנו לעבדך באמת והנחילנו
 באהבה ורצון שבתות קדשך ויניחו
 כם כל ישראל עמך אהבי שמך
 ברוך אתה יהוה מקדש השבת:אמן
 רצה יהוה אלהינו בעמך
 ישראל ובתפלתם שעה והשב העבודה

Figure 76 MS 930, Klau Library,
Cincinnati. From Kaifeng, China.

1 אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ רְצֵה בְּמִנוּחָתֵנוּ, קִדְּשֵׁנוּ
 2 בְּמִצְוֹתֶיךָ, וְתֵן חֶלְקֵנוּ בְּתוֹרָתֶךָ. שִׁבְעֵנוּ מִטּוֹבֶךָ, וְשִׁמְחֵנוּ
 3 בִּישׁוּעָתֶךָ, וְטַהֵר לִבֵּנוּ לְעִבְדֶּךָ, בְּאֵמֶת, וְהִנְחִילֵנוּ יְיָ
 4 אֱלֹהֵינוּ, בְּאַהֲבָה וּבְרָצוֹן שִׁבְת קִדְשֶׁךָ, וְיִנְיֹחוּ בָּהּ יִשְׂרָאֵל
 5 מִקִּדְּשֵׁי שִׁמְךָ. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, מְקַדֵּשׁ הַשַּׁבָּת:
 6 רְצֵה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ בְּעַמֶּךָ יִשְׂרָאֵל וּבְתַפְלָתָם, וְהַשֵּׁב אֶת
 7 הָעֲבוּדָה לְדָבִיר בֵּיתֶךָ וְאִשֵּׁי יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְתַפְלָתָם בְּאַהֲבָה
 8 תִּקְבַּל בְּרָצוֹן, וְתֵהִי לְרָצוֹן תָּמִיד עֲבוּדַת יִשְׂרָאֵל עִמָּךְ.

Figure 77 De Koven, *A Prayer Book With Explanatory Notes* (1965).

And in the seventh [day], You took pleasure
and made it holy.
“Most desirable of days,” You called it,
in commemoration
of the work of the [world’s] beginning.

וּבְשִׁבְעֵי רְצִיַת בּוֹ
וְקִדְּשָׁתוֹ.
חֶמְדַּת יָמִים אוֹתוֹ קָרָאתָ.
זְכוֹר
לְמַעֲשֵׂה בְּרֵאשִׁית:

Our God, and God of our fathers,
be pleased with our rest,
sanctify us with Your commandments
and give us our share in Your Torah;
satisfy us from Your goodness
and gladden us with Your deliverance,
and purify our hearts to serve You in truth.
And give us as our inheritance,
Adonoy our God,
in love and in pleasure
Your holy Sabbath;
and may Israel rest thereon—
the sanctifiers of Your Name—
Blessed are You Adonoy,
Sanctifier of the Sabbath.

אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ
רְצֵה בְּמִנוּחֵינוּ.
קִדְּשֵׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתֶיךָ
וְתֵן חֶלְקֵנוּ בְּתוֹרָתְךָ
שִׂפְעֵנוּ מִטּוֹבְךָ.
וְשִׂמְחֵנוּ בִּישׁוּעָתְךָ.
וְטַהַר לִבֵּנוּ לְעִבְדֶּךָ בְּאֵמֶת.
וְהִנְחֵלֵנוּ
יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ
בְּאַהֲבָה וּבְרִצּוֹן
שַׁבַּת קִדְּשֶׁךָ.
וְיָנוּחוּ בּוֹ יִשְׂרָאֵל
מִקִּדְּשֵׁי שְׁמֶךָ:
בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה
מְקַדֵּשׁ הַשַּׁבָּת:

Be pleased, Adonoy, our God,
with Your people Israel and their prayer
and restore the service
to the Holy of Holies in Your abode
and the fire-offerings of Israel;
and accept their prayer, lovingly and willingly.
And may You always find pleasure
with the service of Your people, Israel.

רְצֵה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ
בְּעַמֶּךָ יִשְׂרָאֵל וּבִתְפִלָּתָם.
וְהָשִׁב אֶת הָעֲבוֹדָה
לְדָבִיר בֵּיתְךָ
וְאֲשֵׁי יִשְׂרָאֵל.
וְתִפְּלָתָם בְּאַהֲבָה תִּקַּבַּל בְּרִצּוֹן
וְתִהְיֶה לְרִצּוֹן תָּמִיד
עֲבוֹדַת יִשְׂרָאֵל עִמָּךְ:

Meteg. The *meteg* (,) is a short vertical line found under a letter. It is often used to indicate the stressed syllable, especially when the penultimate syllable is stressed, the assumption being that if no stress is marked, then the ultimate syllable is stressed. Dr. Weinberg pointed out the difficulty with this use of the *meteg*. The Tanach uses a *meteg* to indicate a secondary stress. Two different uses for the same symbol might prove confusing. In addition, when a biblical text is used in a prayerbook, the cantillation mark/musical accent that indicates the primary accent might have been removed, while the *meteg* might have been left behind, thus misleading the reader that the secondary accent is the primary accent.⁸⁰

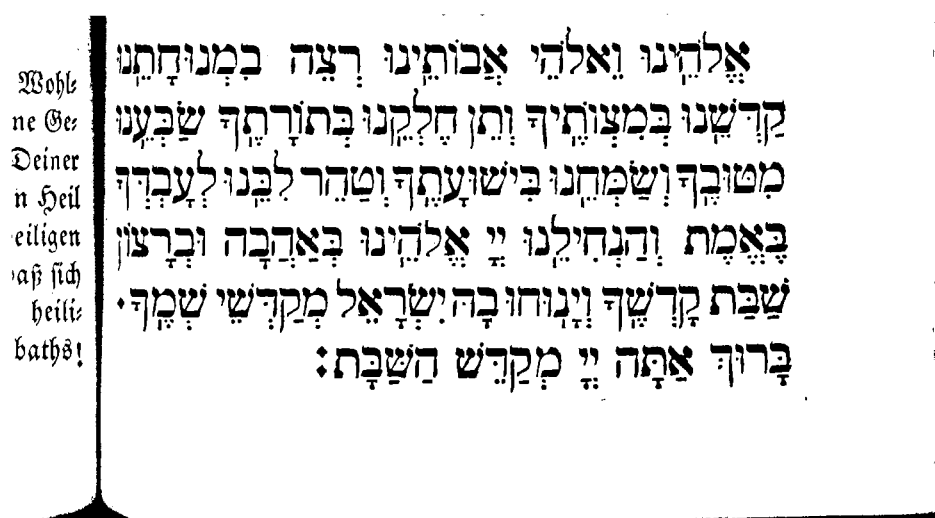


Figure 79 Heidenheim, *Israelitisches Gebetbuch* (1836), 164.

⁸⁰ Werner Weinberg, "Hebrew Wordstress in the [UPB]," 69.

Other signs of stress. The *meteg* is not the only sign used to indicate the stressed syllable. *Siddur Rinat Yisrael* uses two different signs for stressed syllables. When the accent is on the penultimate syllable, a small < is placed above the next to last syllable. When the ultimate syllable is accented, but one might have incorrectly expected the penultimate syllable to be accented, a small ∞ is placed above the last syllable. This dual symbol system has the advantage of allowing the reader to associate one symbol for penultimate stress, and a different symbol for final stress.

While the < is similar to the *mapach* and *yetiv* cantillation mark, the < to indicate stress is used above the letters, while the *mapach* and *yetiv* are always below the letters. The ∞ is similar to the *zarcah* and could lead to some confusion.

וּמִקְבֵּל, וְטוֹב וְיָפָה, הַדְּבָר הַזֶּה עָלֵינוּ לְעוֹלָם
וָעֵד. אֱמֶת, אֱלֹהֵי עוֹלָם מְלֻכָּנוּ, צוֹר יַעֲקֹב מִגֵּן
יִשְׁעָנוּ, לְדֹר וָדֹר הוּא קַיָּם וְשְׁמוֹ קַיָּם, וְכִסְאוֹ נָכוֹן,
וּמִלְכוּתוֹ וְאַמוּנָתוֹ לְעֵד קַיָּמֶת. וְדַבְּרֵי חַיִּים
וְקַיָּמִים, נְאֻמִּים וְנַחֲמִידִים לְעֵד וּלְעוֹלָמֵי
עוֹלָמִים, עַל אֲבוֹתֵינוּ וְעָלֵינוּ, עַל בְּנֵינוּ וְעַל

Figure 80 *Sidur Rinat Yisrael*, Ashkenaz (1983), 258.

THE TETRAGRAMMATON

Rendering God's Name

According to tradition, God's name was only spoken at the Temple in Jerusalem, by the High Priest on Yom Kippur. To this day, when praying, Jews avoid pronouncing God's name. In fact no one can be certain how the tetragrammaton is properly pronounced.

This awe for God's name has expanded to the written/printed text as well. "In some of the [Qumran] scrolls the tetragrammaton and occasionally the word 'El' appear in the ancient Hebrew letters. In others, from a somewhat later period, the tetragrammaton appears as four short downstrokes (these first became three and then two Yods in manuscripts from the Middle Ages)."⁸¹ Perhaps by writing God's name in what amounts to an un-pronounceable symbol, the scribes were trying to protect God's name from being spoken.

⁸¹ Yardeni, Hebrew Script, 44.

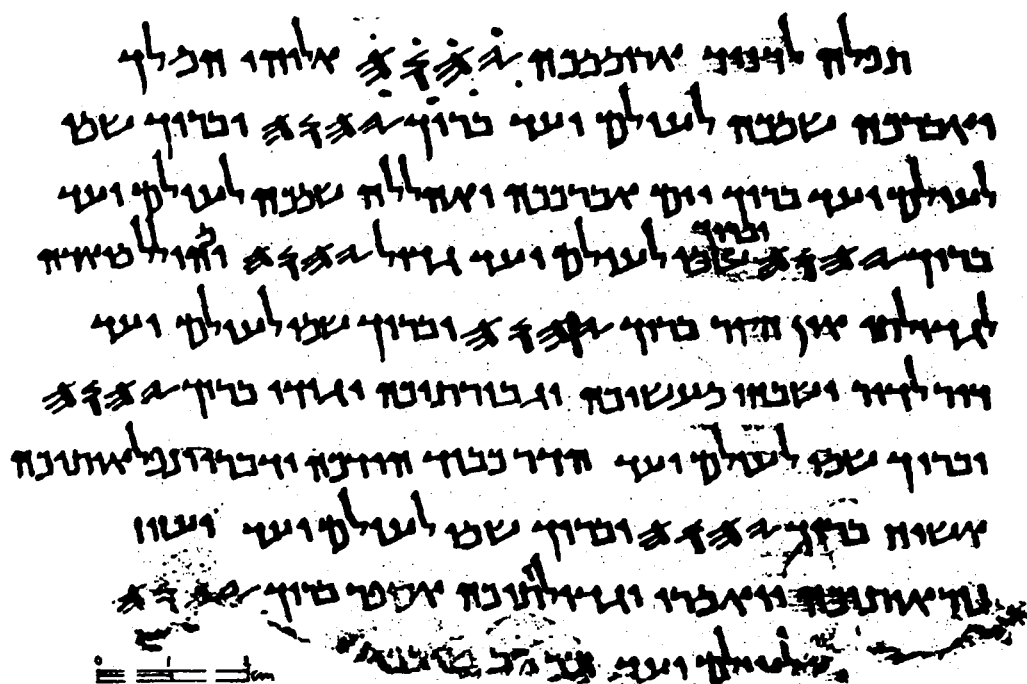


Fig. 63. The Jewish Herodian book-hand in the Psalms scroll from Qumran (11QP5; The Rockefeller Museum of Antiquities, Jerusalem)

Figure 81 Yardeni, *Hebrew Script*, 57.

The scribe who created Klau Library MS # 1099 often combined the letters \aleph and \lrcorner into one of two ligatures. Both of these ligatures appear to be an \aleph with the ascender of the \lrcorner attached. They correspond with two decorative \lrcorner s found in the manuscript. Both ligatures are used for introducing rubrics. In addition, one of these ligatures can be found in the text of the prayers in words such as *Elohainu*, *Elohim*, *El*, and *Yisrael*. For representing the tetragrammaton two *yuds* are followed by what appears to be an upside-down *vav*, to which is attached the same ligature.

A few examples (from two different sections of the manuscript) of the $\aleph\lrcorner$ ligatures are shown below.



Figure 85 Ms. 1099, leaf 51b.

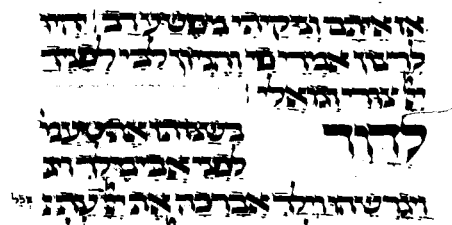


Figure 82 Ms. 1099, leaf 13b.



Figure 86
ibid.



Figure 83
ibid.



Figure 87 Ms 1099, leaf 147a.

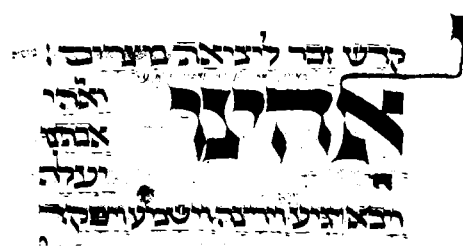


Figure 84 Ms 1099, leaf 146b.



Figure 91 Ms 1099, 146b



Figure 88 Ms1099, 87a.

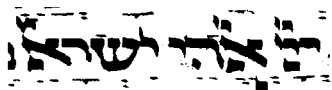


Figure 92 Ms1099, 147a



Figure 93 Ms 1099, 146b



Figure 89 ibid.



Figure 94 147b.



Figure 90 ibid.

Two of the Kaifeng manuscript fragments represent two different methods of representing the tetragrammaton. MS # 930 writes out the letters, and adds the vowels indicating the pronunciation *Adonai*, as is common today. MS # 924 uses an abbreviation that appears to be three 's with a horizontal line above them and an additional ' , or a mark above the line. This abbreviation is used in the identical parts of the liturgy where in MS # 930 the tetragrammaton is written in full. The manuscripts are clearly written by different hands.

These are shown below.

עַל־יְהוָה וַיִּבְרָא גֹאֲלֵי לְיִזְרְעֵם אַחֲרֵיהֶם מֶלֶךְ מַחְמַן
 מוֹשִׁיעַ וַיִּמְגֵּן בְּרִידָה אֶת־יְיָ מִגֵּן אֲבֹרֹתָם
 אֶת־הַגְּבוּר לְעוֹלָם יְיָ מַחֲיָה מֵתִים אֶת־רֵב לְהוֹשִׁיעַ
 מִשִּׁיב הַרְחֹק וּמִזִּידֵי הַגִּשְׁם מִכָּל־כָּל חַיִּים בְּחֹסֶד מַחֲיָה מֵתִים

Figure 95 Klau Library MS 924, from Kaifeng, China, 19a/p.37.

וַיִּמְגֵּן בְּרִידָה אֶת־יְיָ מִגֵּן אֲבֹרֹתָם
 אֶת־הַגְּבוּר לְעוֹלָם יְיָ מַחֲיָה מֵתִים
 אֶת־רֵב לְהוֹשִׁיעַ מִשִּׁיב הַרְחֹק
 וּמִזִּידֵי הַגִּשְׁם מִכָּל־כָּל

Figure 97 Ibid., p. 26.

מֶלֶךְ בְּחֹמֶן מוֹשִׁיעַ וַיִּמְגֵּן בְּרִידָה
 אֶת־יְיָ מִגֵּן אֲבֹרֹתָם: אֶת־יְיָ
 אֶת־הַגְּבוּר לְעוֹלָם יְיָ מַחֲיָה מֵתִים
 אֶת־רֵב לְהוֹשִׁיעַ מִזִּידֵי הַגִּשְׁם מִכָּל־כָּל

Figure 96 Klau Library MS 930, from Kaifeng, China, p. 18.

בְּרִידָה אֶת־יְיָ מִגֵּן

Figure 99 Ibid.

יְיָ שִׁפְתֵי

Figure 98 Enlargement from Klau MS 924, 19a.

בְּרִידָה אֶת־יְיָ מִגֵּן

Figure 100 Enlargement from Klau MS 930, p.26.

The *Machzor Rome* (1485/1486) represents the tetragrammaton in a few ways: with a symbol similar to that of MS 1099; with two י's; and with three י's, the central י being elevated.

Elohim is printed with a ך where one would expect to find ה.

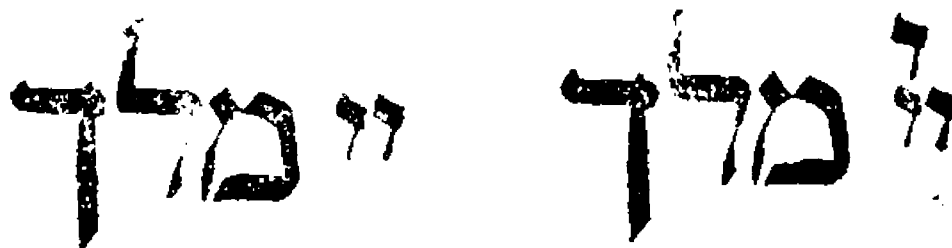


Figure 102 Ibid.

Figure 101 *Machzor Rome*, 23b.

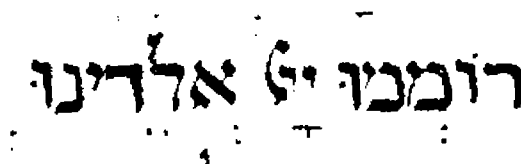


Figure 103 Ibid.

ויהללו לשמך הטוב באמת ברוך אתה יי' הטוב שמך ורך נאה להודות
ואלה אבותינו ברכנו בברכה ובשולשת בתורה ובתורה על יד
כשה עברך ואמורה מפי אהרן ובניו כהנים עם קדושך באמו
יברכה יי' וישמך יאר יי' פניו אליך ויהנה ושא יי' פניו אליך וישם לך שלום

אלדינו

Figure 104 *Machzor Rome*, 28b.

SUGGESTIONS

Books are for Reading

Before we consider the prayerbook, we would do well to consider the conditions needed to read a book. This is such an obvious step, we generally take it for granted. “Two constraints reign over the proportions of a well made book: the hand and the eye. A healthy eye is always about two spans away from the book page, and all people hold a book in the same manner.”⁸²

For the “healthy eye,” one would hope for good lighting. For weak eyes, good lighting is even more important. When confronted with poor lighting, one might compensate with a clearer, large-print prayerbook.

For the hand, a book has to be light enough to be easily held; heavy books may need to be supported, perhaps with a reading desk. Few synagogues, though,

⁸² Tschichold, The Form of the Book, 36.

have reading tables for congregants.⁸³

Some anecdotal evidence: ¶Sanctuary lighting varies, but it is easy to find shadows where one would hope for light; from time to time I have found myself reading “in-the-dark.” ¶About fifteen years ago, at High Holy Day services with my family, a woman, perhaps in her eighties, was having trouble reading her copy of *Gates of Repentance*. We went to the usher and got her a large-print copy. She was very happy that we went through all the trouble; unfortunately the large-print edition was too heavy and bulky for her to use. ¶I recall a small Jerusalem synagogue with reading desks, but this is clearly the exception: synagogues generally do not have congregational reading desks.

*

Proper design of a sanctuary’s lighting and seating would most likely improve the usability of prayerbooks. That is, however, outside the scope of this thesis. Prayerbooks can be designed for use under various lighting and seating arrangements; large-print editions could be published in addition to the standard-print editions. To ensure that the prayerbook does not become unmanageable, it could be offered both

⁸³ “There are two major categories of books : those we place on a table for serious study, and those we read while leaning back in a chair, in an easy chair, or while traveling by train. . . . The books we study should rest at a slant in front of us. Few, however will go to such length. To bend over a book is just as unhealthy as the usual writing position enforced by a flat table. . . . Even at the turn of the century, clergymen and government officials used to do their writing standing up behind a small desk: a healthy and reasonable position for writing and reading that has, alas, become rare.” Ibid., 36-37.

as a complete prayerbook and as a partial prayerbook. A Shabbat prayerbook, for example, would be lighter than a complete, all-purpose, prayerbook. To allow greater flexibility, the page numbering could be consistent across the various versions. This would mean that in a Shabbat or week-day prayerbook the page numbers might seem to jump from time to time, as not all of the books would have all of the pages. But this would allow a congregation to simultaneously use several different books -- some standard-print, some large-print, some complete, some only for Shabbat.

*

Prayerbooks are for Praying

While many books (such as a novel) may be designed to be read as a continuous flow of text, perhaps once or twice, a prayerbook is generally designed as a book to be used over and over again. The novel does not require many sign posts; where one stops reading, one will likely continue reading.

A prayerbook, on the other hand, contains more texts than will be used on any one occasion. Headers, instructions and well prepared pages help to orient and to guide the worshiper. If the prayerbook guidance seems almost self-evident, as if not much thought is needed to comprehend the instructions, then all the better. But much thought is needed to design that prayerbook.

*

Thought can be given to which texts are central to prayer and to which version of texts are preferred (Hebrew, translation, transcription, etc.). For example, if one wishes to protect the worshiper from being hindered / encumbered by the Hebrew, then the texts should be presented to allow one to avoid the Hebrew. If,

however, one wishes to encourage Hebrew literacy, then Hebrew should be presented more prominently.

For study purposes, three texts placed side-by-side is difficult, but may be possible. For prayer, it may be better to place only two texts side-by-side, and place the third text immediately below. Another alternative would be to place the second and third text around the primary text *Mishna* style.

*

Hebrew text has to be clear and legible. Some people may believe that in an ideal world, it might be possible to completely re-vamp the Hebrew alphabet. I am not one of those people. I am convinced, however, that some of Schonfield's and Landmann's concerns about Hebrew script are valid. In many typefaces, there are Hebrew letters which are difficult to distinguish from each other.

*

With the advent of "desk-top" publishing there are more Hebrew typefaces than in the past. That means there are more good typefaces, and there are more bad typefaces. Hundreds of typefaces are not needed. A few good ones are -- in both Hebrew and English.

We can be flexible in the choices we provide for printed prayerbooks. If the CCAR prayerbook could be customized in 1905, then it certainly can be in 2000. Some people will never be happy -- you can't please everyone, nor should you try. But if congregations are going to cut and paste their own prayerbooks, we should give

them the tools they need to do it well: better software, better typefaces, and better ideas.

*

An expert on prayer is not necessarily an expert on prayerbooks. It follows that one who sees the positive and negative aspects of various prayerbooks designs is not necessarily the person to be in charge of designing one. It is important to enlist the best book-designers/typographers available. I cannot stress this enough. It is also important to seek out the best Hebrew and English typefaces available, not only for print, but for the computer monitor as well. It may be even better to have new typefaces designed. The balance between aesthetically pleasing and easily readable Hebrew type is difficult; it is especially important, perhaps more important for those who are not proficient in Hebrew. The balance between Hebrew and English is also a difficult one. These are issues that ought to be addressed by the professional typographers.⁸⁴

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⁸⁴ I am aware that I am repeating myself, I only wish to emphasize the point.

APPENDIX: Proportions

Much of a book's design is determined by the shape of the page. When the page is designed, therefore, one would do well to consider the paper available, that is, the dimensions of the paper used in printing. One sheet can be printed with several pages such that when the sheet is folded several times a gathering is formed. When the outside edges are trimmed, the gathering forms several pages in the proper sequence. The dimensions and proportions of this gathering are linked to the dimensions and proportions of the original sheet of paper.

On a simple level, if a single sheet of paper is folded in half to give us two leaves (four pages) then each leaf is simply half the size of the original sheet. To calculate the proportions, though, requires a bit more work.

I have become fascinated by proportions, reciprocals, and so on, but for many,

such topics belong in a book kept at the bedside. When all else fails, one can simply read a few lines, and the promise of sleep will soon become a reality. While this information is included for those who are fascinated, or even mildly interested, it is placed in an appendix so that those who do not yet wish to fall asleep will not trip over the numbers. (The material that follows is derived, in part, from The Elements of Typographic Style, chapter 8 (Brighurst).)

Two measurements are necessary to calculate proportion. For page proportion, these are width and height of the page. If we have a sheet of paper 36 inches wide by 48 inches high (held vertically), we would probably represent the dimensions as “36 x 48 in.” To show the proportion, the numbers can be presented without the units of measure as 36:48. To be understood, it would be more correct to “reduce” the proportion to 3:4 (using the common factor of twelve).

The proportion is commonly presented by a number alone. For the page proportion, divide the height by the width. In our example: page proportion = $1.\overline{3}$.⁸⁵ “ $1.\overline{3}$ ” can also be understood as “1:1. $\overline{3}$.”

Here follow the computations.

$$\begin{array}{rcll}
 \underline{36 \times 48 \text{ in.}} & 36:48 & = & [36] : [48] \\
 & & = & [36 \div 12] : [48 \div 12] \\
 & & = & [3] : [4] \\
 \text{proportion} & = & & 3 : 4
 \end{array}$$

⁸⁵ The horizontal bar over the three indicates that the three is a repeating number, i.e. 1.3333333333 and so on. $1.\overline{3}$ might be represented as 1.333, as an approximation.

Of course, using either 36:48 or 3:4 yields the same result:

$$\begin{aligned}
 36:48 &= [36] : [48] &= 3:4 &= [3] : [4] \\
 &= [36 \div 36] : [48 \div 36] &= &= [3 \div 3] : [4 \div 3] \\
 &= [1] : [\frac{48}{36}] &= &= [1] : [\frac{4}{3}] \\
 &= [1] : [1.\overline{3}] &= &= [1] : [1.\overline{3}] \\
 \text{proportion} &= 1:1.\overline{3} &= &= 1:1.\overline{3}
 \end{aligned}$$

Proportion expressed as a number alone:

$$\begin{aligned}
 48 \div 36 &= 1\frac{1}{3} = 1.\overline{3} \\
 4 \div 3 &= 1\frac{1}{3} = 1.\overline{3} \\
 \text{proportion} &= 1.\overline{3}
 \end{aligned}$$

If the 36 x 48 in. sheet were held horizontally, so that it measured 48 inches wide by 36 inches high, it would be described as “48 x 36 in.” As before, this page proportion could be presented several ways:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \underline{48 \times 36 \text{ in.}} \quad 48:36 &= [48] : [36] \\
 &= [48 \div 12] : [36 \div 12] \\
 &= [4] : [3] \\
 \text{proportion} &= 4 : 3
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 4:3 &= [4] : [3] \\
 &= [4 \div 4] : [3 \div 4] \\
 &= [1] : [\frac{3}{4}] \\
 &= [1] : [0.75] \\
 \text{proportion} &= 1 : 0.75
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 36 \div 48 &= \frac{3}{4} = 0.75 \\
 3 \div 4 &= \frac{3}{4} = 0.75 \\
 \text{proportion} &= 0.75
 \end{aligned}$$

When the 36 x 48 in. sheet is held vertically, the proportion is $1.\overline{3}$; when it is held horizontally, as a 48 x 36 in. sheet, the proportion is 0.75. It may not be

immediately obvious, but there is a correlation between the two proportions.

<u>36 x 48</u>	<u>48 x 36</u>
3:4	4:3
1:1. $\overline{3}$	1:0.75
1. $\overline{3}$	0.75
$\frac{4}{3} = 1\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{3}{4}$

The proportions have a reciprocal relationship. That is to say, $y = 1/x$, and $x = 1/y$.

This may be easier to follow if the proportions are thought of as fractions. The proportion of the sheet seen vertically is $\frac{4}{3}$. The proportion of the sheet seen horizontally is $\frac{3}{4}$; $\frac{3}{4}$ is the reciprocal of $\frac{4}{3}$.

If the 36 x 48 in. sheet is folded or cut in half (dividing the long edge in half) we have a sheet that is 24 x 36 in. This gives us a new set of proportions.

<u>24 x 36</u>	<u>36 x 24</u>
2:3	3:2
1:1.5	1:0. $\overline{6}$
1.5	0. $\overline{6}$
$\frac{3}{2} = \frac{6}{4} = 1\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{2}{3}$

Again, the proportions are in a reciprocal relationship; $\frac{2}{3}$ is the reciprocal of $\frac{3}{2}$.

Folding this sheet in half (as before, dividing the long edge in half) gives us an 18 x 24 in. sheet. The proportions follow:

<u>18 x 24</u>	<u>24 x 18</u>
3:4	4:3
1:1. $\overline{3}$	1:0.75
1. $\overline{3}$	0.75
$\frac{4}{3} = 1\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{3}{4}$

As can be seen, these proportions are the same proportions as for 36 x 48. When this 18 x 24 sheet is folded in half, the resulting 12 x 18 sheet will have the same

proportions as the 24 x 36 sheet, and so on.

Folding or cutting the sheet in half changes the proportion from $\frac{4}{3}$ to $\frac{3}{2}$ and back again. (The reciprocal proportions similarly alternate between $\frac{3}{4}$ and $\frac{2}{3}$.) The four proportions follow below:

<u>“shape ׀”⁸⁶</u>			<u>“shape ׀”</u>	
3:4	4:3		2:3	3:2
1:1. $\overline{3}$	1:0.75		1:1.5	1:0. $\overline{6}$
1. $\overline{3}$	0.75		1.5	0. $\overline{6}$
$\frac{4}{3}=1\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{3}{4}$		$\frac{3}{2}=1\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{2}{3}$

Careful observation shows us a mathematical relationship between the two shapes. The proportion for ׀ , $\frac{4}{3}$, is twice that of $\frac{2}{3}$, the “reciprocal” proportion of ׀ ($\frac{4}{3} \div 2 = \frac{2}{3}$, or if you prefer, $1.\overline{3} \div 2 = 0.\overline{6}$). In the same manner we find that the proportion for ׀ , $\frac{3}{2}$, is twice that of $\frac{3}{4}$, the “reciprocal” proportion of ׀ ($\frac{6}{4} \div 2 = \frac{3}{4}$, or $1.5 \div 2 = 0.75$).

Other page shapes also have counterpart shapes, for example,

<u>“shape ׀”</u>			<u>“shape ׀”</u>	
4:5	5:4		5:8	8:5
1:1.25	1:0.8		1:1.6	1:0.625
1.25	0.8		1.6	0.625

Here too, the proportions are mathematically related. We find 1.25, the proportion of ׀ , is twice that of 0.625, the “reciprocal” proportion of ׀ . We also find 1.6, the proportion of ׀ , is twice that of 0.8, the “reciprocal” proportion of ׀ .

⁸⁶ The choice of using Hebrew letters to identify page shape (such as shape ׀ , shape ׀ , etc.) was arbitrary. I could have used English letters (shape b , shape c , etc.) or numbers (shape 2, shape 3, etc.).

There is only one page shape that is self duplicating, that is, when it is folded in half, it yields itself.

	<u>“shape N”</u>
$1:\sqrt{2}$	$\sqrt{2}:1$
$\sqrt{2}$	$1/\sqrt{2}$
1.414	0.707

The square root of two, 1.414 is twice that of 0.707, the *reciprocal of itself*. This proportion is used for the A0 sheet, which is popular in Europe. The A0 sheet has an area of 1m^2 . One half of the A0 is A1, half of the A1 is the A2, and so on. The A4 is $8\frac{1}{4} \times 11\frac{5}{8}$ in, or 21.0 x 29.7 cm.

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