

Prayer for Rain (English Translation)

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Source: From Sourcebook 2014: Cultivating Justice

Af-Bri (Anger-Health) is the name of the angel of rain; he thickens and forms clouds, he empties them and to cause rain. Water to crown the valley's vegetation, may it not be withheld because of our debt. In the merit of the faithful ancestors protect the ones who pray for rain. Blessed are you, Hashem, shield of Abraham. You are eternally mighty, my Lord, the resuscitator of the dead; abundantly able to save. May the angel of rain give us portions of the segregated rain, to soften the wasteland's face when it is dry as rock. With water you showed your might in the Torah, to soothe with its drops those in whom was blown a soul, to keep alive the ones who recall the strengths of the rain." God is implored to provide healthful rain to us in the merit of our forefathers, in connection with whom water-related verses are cited: Our God and the God of our forefathers: Remember Abraham, who was drawn behind You like water. You blessed him like a tree re-planted alongside streams of water. You shielded him, you rescued him from fire and from water. You tested him when he sowed upon all waters. For his sake, do not hold water back! Remember Isaac born with the tidings of, 'Let some water be brought. 'You told his father to slaughter him - to spill his blood like, water. He too was scrupulous to pour his heart like water. He dug and discovered wells of water. For the sake of his righteousness, grant abundant water! Remember the one [Jacob] who carried his staff and crossed the Jordan's water. He dedicated his heart and rolled a stone off the mouth of a well of water, as when he was wrestled by an angel composed of fire and water. Therefore You pledged to remain with him through fire and water. For his sake, do not hold water back! Remember Moses drawn forth in a bulrush basket from the water. They said, 'He drew water and provided the sheep with water.' At the time your treasured people thirsted for water, he struck the rock and out came water. For the sake of his righteousness, grant abundant water! Remember Aaron over the Temple, who made five immersions in the water. He went to cleanse his hands through sanctification with water. He called out and sprinkled [blood bringing] purity as with water. He remained apart from a people who were impulsive like water. For his sake, do not hold water back! Remember the twelve tribes You caused to cross through the split waters, for whom You sweetened the bitter taste of water. Their offspring whose blood was spilt for You like water. Turn to us - for woes engulf our souls like water. For the sake of their righteousness, grant abundant water! For you are Hashem, our God, Who makes the wind blow and makes the rain descend. For blessing and not for curse. Amen! For life and not for death. Amen! For plenty and not for scarcity. Amen!