

Three Hebrew Passages (Numbers 6, Isaiah 55, Psalm 103)

Pronunciation Key (pronunciations are based on Modern Israeli Sefardic Hebrew and North American English)

a – ah, as in paw, papa, palm	ai – as in eye, my, high
e – short, as in met, fled, jet	ay – as in eye, my, high
i – long: as in bee, me, see; short: as in is, his, miss	ey – long a, as in late, day, May
o – long, as in oh, no, flow	ch – throaty, as in Pesach, Lechem, Menachem (not Chernobyl or ciao)
u – long, as blue, moon, noon	

For a chart of the Hebrew letters and vowels download the [Hebrew and Aramaic Transliteration](#) (PDF).

Since Hebrew reads right to left and English left to right, the transliterated words beginning on the left represent the Hebrew words beginning on the right. For example, the first word in the text below—וַיְדַבֵּר—is “vaydabeyr.”

Number 6:22–27 (Aaronic Blessing)

Translation	Transliteration	Hebrew Text
22 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,	vaydabeyr Adonai el Moshe leymor	וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר:
23 “Speak to Aaron and to his children, saying, ‘Thus you shall bless the children of Israel. You shall say to them:	dabeyr el Aharon ve’el banayv leymor koh tevarachu et beney Yisrael amor lahem	דַּבֵּר אֶל־אַהֲרֹן וְאֶל־בָּנָיו לֵאמֹר כֹּה תְבַרְכוּ אֶת־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אָמֹר לָהֶם:
24 The LORD bless you and keep you;	yevarechechah Adonai veyishmerechah	יְבָרֶכֶךָ יְהוָה וַיִּשְׁמְרֶכָּהּ:
25 The LORD make His face shine on you, and be gracious to you;	ya’eyr Adonai panayv eylechah vichunekah	יָאֵר יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיְחַנֶּכֶךָ:
26 The LORD lift up His countenance on you, and give you peace.’	yissa Adonai panav eylechah veyaseym lecha shalom	יִשָּׂא יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיִּשֶׂם לְךָ שָׁלוֹם:
27 So shall they invoke My name on the children of Israel, and I then will bless them.	vesamu et shmi al beney Yisrael va’ani avaracheym	וְשָׂמוּ אֶת־שְׁמִי עַל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאֲנִי אֲבָרְכֶם:

Isaiah 55:8–11 (The Word Like Rain)

Translation	Transliteration	Hebrew Text
8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, declares the LORD.	ki lo machshevotai machshevoteychem velo daricheychem derachai ne'um Adonai	כִּי לֹא מַחְשְׁבוֹתַי מַחְשְׁבוֹתֵיכֶם וְלֹא דַרְכֵיכֶם דַּרְכֵי יְהוָה:
9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts	ki gavhu shamayim mey'aretz keyn gavhu derachai midarcheychem umachshevotai mimachshevoteychem	כִּי־גָבְהוּ שָׁמַיִם מֵאָרֶץ כֵּן גָּבְהוּ דַרְכֵי מִדְרָכֵיכֶם וּמַחְשְׁבוֹתַי מִמַּחְשְׁבוֹתֵיכֶם:
10 For as descends the rain and the snow from heaven, and do not return there without watering the earth and making it bear and sprout, and furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater;	ki ka'asher yeyreyd hageshem vehasheleg min hashamayim veshamah lo yashuv ki im hirvah et ha'aretz veholidah vehitzmichah venatan zera lazorey'ah velechem la'ochel	כִּי כַאֲשֶׁר יֵרֵד הַגֶּשֶׁם וְהִשְׁלֵג מִן־הַשָּׁמַיִם וְשָׁמָּה לֹא יָשׁוּב כִּי אִם־הִרְוָה אֶת־הָאָרֶץ וְהוֹלִידָהּ וְהִצְמִיחָהּ וְנָתַן זֶרַע לְזֹרַע וְלֶחֶם לְאֹכֵל:
11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.	keyn yiheyeh devari asher yeytzey mipi lo yashuv elai reykam ki im asah et asher chafatzti vehitzli'ach asher shlachtiv	כֵּן יִהְיֶה דְבָרִי אֲשֶׁר יֵצֵא מִפִּי לֹא־יָשׁוּב אֵלַי רֵיקָם כִּי אִם־עָשָׂה אֶת־אֲשֶׁר תִּפְצְצֵתִי וְהִצְלִיחַ אֲשֶׁר שְׁלַחְתִּיו:

Psalm 103:8–14 (Father Compassion)

Translation	Transliteration	Hebrew Text
8 The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.	rachum vechanun Adonai erech apayim ve'rav-chased	רַחוּם וְחַנוּן יְהוָה אָרַךְ אַפַּיִם וְרַב־חַסֵּד:
9 He will not always strive with us, nor will He keep His anger forever.	lo-lanetzach yariv ve'lo le'olam yitor	לֹא־לִנְצַח יִרִיב וְלֹא לְעוֹלָם יִטּוֹר:
10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.	lo chachata'eynu asah lanu v'elo ha'avoteynu gamal aleynu	לֹא כַחַטָּאֵינוּ עָשָׂה לָנוּ וְלֹא כְעוֹנֹתֵינוּ גָמַל עָלֵינוּ:
11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him.	ki higvo'ah shamayim al-ha'aretz gavar hasdo al-yereyav	כִּי כַגְבוֹהַ שָׁמַיִם עַל־הָאָרֶץ גָּבַר חַסְדּוֹ עַל־יִרְאָיו:
12 As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.	kirchoq mizrach mima'arav hirschik mimenu et-pesha'eynu	כִּרְחֹק מִזְרַח מִמְּעַרְב הִרְחִיק מִמֶּנּוּ אֶת־פְּשָׁעֵינוּ:
13 Just as a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him.	keracheym av al-banav richam Adonai al-yerey'av	כְּרַחֵם אָב עַל־בָּנָיִם רַחֵם יְהוָה עַל־יִרְאָיו:
14 For He Himself knows our frame; He is mindful that we are but dust.	ki-hu yadah yitzreynu zachur ki-afar anachnu	כִּי־הוּא יָדַע יִצְרֵנוּ זָכוֹר כִּי־עָפָר אֲנַחְנוּ: