These are the reckonings of the Mishkan, the Mishkan of Testimony, which were reckoned by the command of Moshe, by the hand of Isamar the son of Aharon the Kohen (38:21).	אֵלֶה פְּקוּדֵי הַמִּשְׁכָּן מִשְׁכַּן הָעֵדוּת אֲשֶׁר פָּקַד עַל־פִּי מֹשֶׁה נְבָיַד אִיתָמָר בָּן־אַהָרֹן הַכֹּהֵן (לח, כא.).
And the questions are many, since the Torah is eternal and applies at all times and to every person, and this is wondrous.	ְהַסְּפֵקוֹת רַבּוּ, מֵאַחַר שֶׁהַתּוֹרָה נִצְחִי וְהוּא נוֹהֵג בְּכָל עֵת וּזְמֵן וּבְכָל אָדָם, וְזֶה פְּלָאִי.
Furthermore, what [is meant by] "these"?	ןעוֹד, מַאי "אֵלֶּה?"?
Furthermore, the repetition of "the Mishkan, the Mishkan"?	יןעוֹד, כֶּפֶל "הַמִּשְׁכָּן מִשְׁכָּן?"?
And our Sages expounded (Shemot Rabbah 51:3) that it was taken as collateral twice, etc.—what is its relevance here?	ְוַחַז״ל דָּרְשׁוּ (שמ"ר נ״א, ג׳) שֶׁנָתְמַשְׁכֵּן ב׳ פְּעָמִים וְגוֹ׳, מַה עָנְיָנוֹ לְכָאן?
Furthermore, what is the meaning of the reckoning being specifically by Moshe and by the hand of Isamar, etc.?	יָןעוֹד, מָה עִנְיַן הַפָּקִידָה דַּוְקָא לְמֹשֶׁה וּבְיַד אִיתָמָר וְגוֹי?
And incidentally, we will explain the commandment (Devarim 25:17–18) "Remember what Amalek did to you", that it was "he struck the hindmost of you," etc.—a blow to the hind, cutting circumcisions and casting them upward (Tanchuma, Teitzei 10).	וְאַגַב נְבָאֵר מִצְנָה (דברים כ״ה, י״ז-י״ח) "זָכוֹר אֵת אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה לְךְּ עֲמָלֵק", שֶׁהוּא "וַיְזַנֵּב בְּךְּ" וְגוֹ׳, מַכַּת וֹזָנָב, חוֹתֵךְ מִילִּין וּזְרָקוֹ כְּלַפֵּי מַעְלָה (תנחומא תצא י׳).
To understand this matter—that for this, there is a war for Hashem against Amalek from generation to generation.	לְהָבִין עִנְיָן זֶה שֶׁיִהְיֶה עֲבוּר זֶה מִלְחָמָה לַה׳ בַּעֲמָלֵק מִדּוֹר דּוֹר.
And it appears to me what the Alshich wrote at the end of Malachi (3:22–24): "Remember the Torah of Moshe My servant" "Behold, I am sending you Eliyahu the prophet" "And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children" etc.	ְוְנָרְאֶה לִי דְּכָתַב הָאַלְשִׁידְּ סוֹף מַלְאָכִי (ג, כ״ב–כ״ד): "זִכְרוּ תּוֹרַת מֹשֶׁה עַבְדִּי" וְגוֹ׳ "הָנְנִי שֹׁלֵחַ לָכֶם אֵלְיָה הַנָּבִיא" וְגוֹ׳ "וְהֵשִּׁיב לַב אָבוֹת עַל בָּנִים" וְגוֹ׳.
And he explained that the destruction of the First Temple was because they abandoned My Torah (Yirmiyahu 9:11), and the Second Temple was destroyed because of baseless hatred (Yoma 9b).	וּפֵירֵשׁ, כִּי חֻרְבַּן בֵּית רָאשׁוֹן הָיָה עַל עָזְבָם אֶת תּוֹרָתִי (ירמיה ט, י״ב), וּבֵית שֵׁנִי נֶחְרַב עַל שִׁנְאַת חָנָּם (יומא :).
And to rectify that sin through two things, so they will merit to build the Third Temple, which is the final one—He said: "Remember the Torah of Moshe My servant"—to rectify the sin of the destruction of the First House.	וּלְתַקֵּן הַחַטְא הַהוּא בִּשְׁנֵי דְבָרִים כְּדֵי שֶׁיִּזְכּוּ לִבְנוֹת בַּיִת שָׁלִישִׁי שֶׁהוּא הָאַחַרוֹן – אָמַר: "זִכְרוּ תּוֹרַת משֶׁה עַבְדִּי" – לְתַקֵּן חַטְא שֶׁל חָרְבַּן בֵּית א׳.
And corresponding to the rectification of the second sin, He said: "Behold, I am sending" so they will merit peace, etc.	וְנֶגֶד תִּיקּוּן חֵטָא ב׳ אָמַר: "הָנְנִי שֹׁלֵחַ" וְגוֹ׳ – שֶׁיִּזְכּוּ לְשָׁלוֹם וְגוֹ׳.
And may your soul delight in understanding.	ָרַבְּקּח״ח.
And it appears to me that what our Sages said—that the destruction of the First Temple was because they abandoned My	ְוְלִי נִרְאֶה דְּמַה שֶׁאָמְרוּ חֲז״ל חֻרְבֶּן בֵּית א׳ עַל עָזְבָם אֶת תּוֹרָתִי, דְּאָם הָיָה בִּטוּל תּוֹרָה בֵּינֵיהֶם, וַדַּאי הוּא נִגְלֶה וּמְפוּרְסָם.

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Torah—if there had truly been neglect of Torah among them, surely it would have been obvious and well-known.		
And if so, why, when he asked the sages and the prophets [why the Temple was destroyed], did they not explain it?	ןאָם כֵּן, מַאי טַעְמָא כְּשֶׁשֶּׁאַל לַחֲכָמִים וְלַנְּבִיאִים – מַאי טַעֲמָא לֹא פַּרְשׁוּהוּ?	
And so too, the great commentators questioned this, in the <i>Megillas Setarim</i> of Rabbeinu Yonah—see the <i>Maharsha</i> .	ְרֵבֶן הָקְשׁוּ גְדוֹלֵי הַמְפָּרְשִׁים, בִּמְגִלֵּת סְתָרִים דְּרַבֵּינוּ יוֹנָה בן עָיֵן בְּמוֹהַרְשׁ״א	
Rather, certainly these Torah scholars were engaged in Torah.	אֶלָא וַדַּאי עָסָקוּ בַתּוֹרָה אֵלוּ הַתַּלְמִידֵי חֲכָמִים.	
And as long as there was unity between the masses and the Torah scholars—even though there was baseless hatred among the scholars, as stated in the Gemara Yoma (ibid)—	וְכֶל זְמֵן שֶׁהָיָתָה אַחְדוּת בֵּין הָמוֹנֵי עָם לְתַלְמִידֵי חֲכָמִים, אַף־עַל־פִּי שֶׁהָיְתָה שִּׂנְאַת חִנָּם בֵּין תַּלְמִידֵי חֲכָמִים – (כְּדְאִיתָא בְּש״ס דְּיוֹמָא (שֶׁם	
nevertheless, the Torah would protect and shield everyone.	מָבָּל מָקוֹם הָיְתָה הַתּוֹרָה מָגֵן וּמַצִּיל עַל כֻּלָּם.	
Not so when the hatred of the masses against the Torah scholars intensified, and there was division between them—	מַה שֶׁאֵין כֵּן כְּשֶׁגָּבְרָה הַשִּׂנְאָה שֶׁל הֲמוֹנֵי עָם לְתַלְמִידֵי הַבָּמִים, וְהָיָה פֵּירוּד בֵּינֵיהֶם – חֲכָמִים, וְהָיָה פֵּירוּד בִּינֵיהֶם	
they were not able to protect those who were not engaged in Torah.	לא הָיוּ יְכוֹלִין לְהָגֵן עֲלֵיהֶם – עַל אֵלוּ שֶׁלֹא עָסְקוּ בַתּוֹרָה.	
And this is what it means: "because they abandoned My Torah," and it is explained in the Midrash Eichah (Petichta 2), that it refers to their abandonment of the Torah scholars—see there.	וְזֶהוּ שֶׁאָמַר: "עַל עָזְבָם אֶת תּוֹרָתִי", וּפֵרֵשׁ בְּמִדְרַשׁ אֵיכָה (פְּתִיחָתָּא דְאַיכָ״ר סִימָן ב׳) – דְּקָאֵי עַל עָזְבָם הַתַּלְמִידֵי חֲכָמִים – עַיֵּן שֶׁם.	
Only that the Midrash interprets it as not supporting them—see there.	רָק שֶׁפֵּירוּשׁ הַמִּדְרָשׁ קָאֵי עַל שֶׁלֹּא הָחֶזִיקוּ בִּידָם – עַיֵּן שָׁם.	
But according to our interpretation, it is literal: due to hatred and division of hearts, no one protects his fellow.	– קאֵי כִּפְשׁוּטוֹ: עַל שִׂנְאָה וּפִירוּד לְבָבוֹת אֵין אֶחָד מָגן עַל חֲבֵירוֹ.	
As I have written in my explanation of what the <i>Tur</i> wrote in <i>Orach Chaim</i> , laws of Rosh Hashanah (Siman 581), in the parable of the dignitaries of the country who went out to greet the king:	ּכְּמוֹ שֶׁכֶּתַבְתִּי בְּבֵיאוּר מַה שֶּׁכָּתַב הַטּוּ"ר או״ח הָלְכוֹת ר״ה (סִימָן תקפ״א) בְּמָשֶׁל גְּדוֹלֵי הַמְּדִינָה שֶׁיָּצְאוּ :לְקַרַאת הַמֶּלֶךְ	
If they acted on behalf of the people, it is favorable—see there.	אָם עָשׂוּ בִּשְׁלִיחוּת הַמְּדִינָה – מוּטָב, עַיֵּן שָׁם.	
Therefore, the First Destruction was due to the hatred of the masses toward the Torah scholars.	אָם כֵּן – חָרָבָּן רָאשׁוֹן – עָלוּ לְשִׁנְאַת הָמוֹנֵי עָם לְתַלְמִידֵי חָכָמִים.	
Not so [with] the destruction of the Second Temple, when the accusation fell upon the Torah scholars themselves.	מַה שֶׁאֵין כֵּן חַרְבָּן בֵּית שֵׁנִי, שֶׁנָּפְלָה קַטֵּיגוֹרְיָא בְּתַלְמִידֵי חָבָמִים עַצְמָן.	
And this is what our Sages said (Yoma ibid): that they would eat with one another, and stab one another with the swords of their tongues.	וְזֶה שֶׁאָמְרוּ חֲז״ל (יוֹמָא שֶׁם): שֶׁאוֹכְלִין זָה עִם זָה, וְדוֹקְרִים זָה אֶת זָה בַּחֲרָבוֹת שֶׁבִּלְשׁוֹנָם.	

As it says (Yechezkel 21:17): "Sword etc."	ישֶׁנָּאֱמַר (יְחֶזְקַאל כ״א, י״ז): "מְגוֹרֵי" וְגוֹ'.
And this means—as the Maharsh"a wrote on the Mishnah (Avos 3:3) "Three who ate…"—that even after the fact, ideally nothing good comes from large gatherings of people for eating.	וְרַ"ל, דְּכָתַב מוֹהַרְש״א בַּמִּשְׁנָה (אָבוֹת פ״ג מ״ג) "שְׁלשָׁה שֶׁאָכְלוּ", בְּדִיעֲבַד – דְּלֶכַּתְּחָלָּה אֵין דָּבָר טוֹב יוֹצֵא בִּמְסִבַּת אֲנָשִׁים הַרְבֵּה לַאָּכִילָה.
For this reason it is written (Shemos 23:25): "And you shall serve the Lord your God, and He shall bless your bread" – in singular form.	דְּלָכֵן כָּתִיב (שְׁמוֹת כ״ג, כ״ה): "וַעֲבַדְתָּם אֵת ה׳ אֱלֹקֵיכֶם – וּבַרַךְ אֶת לַחְמְדְּ" – לְשוֹן יָחִיד
And the established advice is to engage in Torah etc., and may your soul delight in understanding.	וַעֲצָה הַיְּעוּצָה — שֶׁיַעֲסוֹק בַּתּוֹרָה וְגוֹ׳, וְדַפְּח״ח.
And they not only were not acting post-facto, but were intentionally eating together in large gatherings.	ןהַם – לֹא דַי שֶׁלֹא הָיוּ בְּדִיעֲבַד, אֶלָּא שֶׁאוֹכְלִין זָה עִם זָה לְכַתְּחִלָּה בְּמְסִבָּה הַרְבֵּה.
And the remedy is to engage in Torah.	וְהַתַּקֶנָה – לַצְסוֹק בַּתוֹרָה.
But instead, they would stab each other with the swords of their tongues—	ןהֵם – דּוֹקְרִין זֶה אֶת זֶה בַּחֲרָבוֹת שֶׁבִּלְשׁוֹנָם –
in order to show off their sharpness, like a sharp sword, to pierce the other who is greater than them.	לְהַרְאוֹת חַרְפּוּת שֶׁלָּהֶם כְּחֶרֶב חַדָּה – לִדְקוֹר אֶת הַשֵּׁנִי, שֶׁהוּא גָדוֹל מִמֶּנוּ
And this caused the destruction of the Second Temple, and the lengthening of the exile until this sin is repaired.	וְזֶה גָּרַם חַרְבָּן בֵּית שֵׁנִי, וְנֶאֶרְכוּ יְמֵי הַגָּלוּת – עַד שָׁיִּתְקַן חֵטְא זֶה.
And this is what it says (Hoshea 10:2): "Their heart is divided; now they are guilty."	ן וָדָה שֶׁאָמַר (הוֹשֵׁעַ י׳, ב׳): "חָלַק לְבָּם, עַתָּה יֶאְשָׁמוּ".
For the Torah scholars are the heart of Israel, as it says (Shoftim 5:9): "My heart is with the lawgivers of Israel."	כִּי הַתַּלְמִידֵי חֲכָמִים – הֵם לְבָּם שֶׁל יִשְׂרָאֵל, כְּמוֹ שֶׁכָּתוּב "(שׁוֹפְטִים ה׳, ט׳): "לָבִּי לְחוֹקְקֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל".
And when there is division between them, their heart is divided.	וּרָשֶׁיֵּשׁ פַּירוּד בֵּינֵיהֶם – חָלַק לָבָּם.
And as is written in the <i>Tikkunim</i> (Tikkunei Zohar 161b): "Praiseworthy are all who wait for Him" (Yeshayahu 30:18)—see there.	וּכְמוֹ שֶׁכֶּתוּב בַּתִּיקוּנִים (תִּקוּנֵי זוֹהַר תכ״א נ״ב): אַשְׁרֵי כָּל חוֹכֵי לוֹ" (יְשַׁעְיָה ל׳, י״ח) – עַיֵּן שֶׁם".
And it [the verse "אלה"] is the numerical value of "Elah" (אלה).	וְהוּא גִּימַטְרִיָיא "אֵלֶ"ה".
And this appears to me [to be] the explanation of the verses in Tehillim (12:3): "With a heart and a heart they speak."	וְזֶה נִרְאֶה לִי פֵּירוּשׁ פְּסוּקֵי תְּהִלִּים (י״ב, ג׳): "בְּלֵב וָלֵב יִדְבַּרוּ
For "לבם" (their heart) has the numerical value of 72, [which corresponds to] the Name ע"ב.	פִּי "לְבָּם" מִסְפָּרוֹ ע"ב – שֵׁם ע"ב.
And now their heart is divided, and it became two hearts.	וְעַתָּה – חָלַק לָבָּם, וְנַעֲשׂוּ שְׁנֵי לְבָבוֹת.

And this is what it says: "With a heart and a heart" — which also equals 72, like "לבם".	ן זֶהוּ שֶׁאָמַר: "בְּלֵב וָלֵב" – מִסְפָּרוֹ ע"ב כְּמוֹ "לְבָּם".
And this caused, Heaven forbid, a separation between the first two	וְזֶה גָּרַם ח"ו פֵּירוּד בֵּין בּ׳ אוֹתִיוֹת רָאשׁוֹנוֹת שֶׁל הַשֵּׁם
letters of the Name and the latter two.	לְב׳ אַחֲרוֹנוֹת
Therefore its punishment is also: "May Hashem cut off" (Tehillim ibid, 4), which has two meanings, so to speak—and understand this.	לָכַן עֲנָשׁוֹ גַּם־כֵּן: "יִכְרֹת ה׳" (תְּהִלִּים שֶׁם, ד׳) – יֵשׁ בּוֹ ב׳ פֵּירוּשִׁים כְּבָיָּכוֹל, וְהָבֵן.
And this is [the meaning of] what Amalek did—he is the evil	ן זָהוּ שֶׁעָשָׂה עֲמָלֵק – הוּא הַיֵּצֶר הָרָע, כְּמוֹ שֶׁכַּתַב
inclination, as the Alshich wrote (see there: Devarim 25:18).	ָרָבָרִים כ״ה, י״ח (דְּבָרִים כ״ה, י״ח).
And this seems to me [the meaning of]: "He struck the hindmost of you" — a blow to the hind.	ָןזֶה נִרְאֶה לִי: "וַיְזַבֵּב בְּךָּ" – מַכַּת זָנָב.
Meaning: that this limb (the male organ) causes unity.	ר"ל – כִּי אֵיבָר זָה גּוֹרֵם אַחְדוּת.
And he (Amalek) caused separation below among Israel, and Heaven forbid causes separation of the letters of the Name above, as explained above.	וְהוּא עָשֶׂה פֵּירוּד לְמַטֶּה בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל, וְח"ו גּוֹרֵם פֵּירוּד אוֹתִיּוֹת הַשֵּׁם לְמַעְלָה, כְּנַ"ל.
And this is what it says: "He cut the circumcisions and cast them upwards"—and understand this.	וָזָהוּ שֶׁאָמַר: "חָתַךּ מִילִין וּזְרָקוֹ כְּלַפֵּי מַעְלָה", וְהָבֵן.
And therefore: "For a hand is on the throne of Kah" (Shemos 17:16),	(וְלָכֵן: "פִּי־יָד עַל־כֵּס יָ-הּ" (שְׁמוֹת י״ז, ט״ז,
for the Name [of Hashem] is not complete all the days of the exile because of baseless hatred,	שָׁאֵין הַשֵּׁם שָׁלֵם כָּל יְמֵי מֶשֶׁךְ הַגָּלוּת עֲבוּר שִׂנְאַת חָנָם,
until the future time when the chametz, which is the evil inclination, will be removed,	עַד לֶעָתִיד שֶׁיִּבְעַר חָמֵץ – הוּא הַיֵּצֶר הָרַע,
through the sending of Eliyahu the prophet,	עַל־יְדֵי שֶׁיִּשְׁלַח אֵלִיָּהוּ הַנָּבִיא,
"And he will return the heart of the fathers to the children and the heart of the children to their fathers" (Malachi 3:24),	ְוָהֵשִּׁיב לֵב אָבוֹת עַל־בָּנִים וְלֵב בָּנִים עַל־אֲבוֹתָם"" ((מַלְאָכִי ג׳, כ״ד,
for there was separation between the masses—called	שֶׁהָיָה פֵּירוּד בֵּין הֲמוֹנֵי עָם הַנִּקְרָאִים בָּנִים, וּבֵין הָאֲבוֹת
"children"—and the fathers, who are the Torah scholars,	קָמָידֵי חָכָמִים –,
which caused the destruction of the First Temple.	שֶׁהוּא גָרַם חָרְבָּן בֵּית רָאשׁוֹן.
And this causes the Second [Temple's] destruction,	ָןזֶה גוֹרֵם חֻרָבָּן ב׳,
for division was made among the Torah scholars themselves due to	שֶׁנַּצְשָׂה פֵּירוּד בֵּין תַּלְמִידֵי חָכָמִים עַצְמָם מִחְמַת קפּוּחַ
livelihood jealousy,	,פַּרְנָסָה
as I have written about this elsewhere.	ָכְמוֹ שֶׁכַּתַבְתִּי בָּזֶה בְּמָקוֹם אַחֵר.
Therefore, it says twice: "He will return the heart of the fathers to the children and the heart of the children to their fathers,"	וְלָכֵן כָּפַל בּ׳ פְּעָמִים: "וְהֵשִׁיב אָבוֹת עַל בָּנִים וּבָנִים עַל אֲבוֹתָם,"אֲבוֹתָם

to rectify the two aforementioned matters.	לָתַקֵן שָׁנֵי הַדְּבָרִים הַנַּ"ל.
Then our Redeemer will come speedily in our days, Amen, may it be His will.	אָז יָבוֹא גוֹאֲלֵנוּ בְּמְהֵרָה בְּיָמֵינוּ – אָמֵן כֵּן יְהִי רָצוֹן.