



HAFTORAH INSIGHTS

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Dimensions of Divine Harmony

YESHAYAHU 54:1 - 55:5

וְכָל-בְּנֵיךָ לְמוֹדֵי ה' וְרַב שְׁלוֹם בְּנֵיךָ

And all your children shall be disciples of Hashem, And great shall be the peace of your children. (Yeshayahu 54:13)

The blessing of peace is woven throughout our tefillot — concluding the *Shemoneh Esrei*, punctuating *Birkat Kohanim*, and echoing in countless verses and prayers. We yearn for a world of ultimate peace — a time and space where harmony prevails, and all dwell together beneath a shared canopy of understanding and unity.

Our Haftorah, with its tone of consolation, supports this vision: וְרַב שְׁלוֹם בְּנֵיךָ — peace will be *rav*, abundant and far-reaching among your children. Yet in his *Iyunei Haftorah*, Rav Avraham Rivlin, longtime *Mashgiach* of Yeshivat Kerem B'Yavneh, offers a subtle and profound insight. He reads *rav* not as “much,” but as “many.” Can peace, he asks,

be *many*?

If peace can be *many*, it suggests multiplicity — that peace exists not as a single, static state but in many forms. Rav Rivlin explains that peace is multi-dimensional, composed of layers and levels of harmony: between nations, within communities, among friends, and inside the human heart. Each form of peace demands balance — a careful dance between differing needs, values, and goals.

True *shalom* emerges when we acknowledge and honor the presence of the *many* — when we forgo the narrowness of self and make space for the other. The *rav* — the multitude of perspectives and desires — becomes absorbed into the wholeness of *shalom*.

Today, as we continue to pray for *shalom*, this vision feels especially urgent. The call for וְרַב שְׁלוֹם בְּנֵיךָ is not only for vast peace but for *many* “peaces” — the restoration of calm to broken hearts, safety to our children, unity within our people, and quiet strength for those who defend our Land. Each layer of *shalom* brings us closer to the wholeness we seek, where the *many* become one — where the harmony of heaven touches the struggles of earth, and peace, in all its forms, is finally complete. ■

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