

Perek א

כא: How could it be that she (Zion) has become a prostitute (you're selling your morals), when she was once so faithful? It was full of צדיקים, but now murderers.

When it came to capital court cases, and they couldn't find anything good to say, and decided to kill him, they would wait until the next day to finalize it. צדק ילין בה means they slept on justice, which was good. But now they're murderers. Murderers like quick to execute.

כב: Your silver has impurities, and your wine is diluted with water.

כג: You're all dishonest, the judges are friends with the robbers. The leaders loved bribes, they are chasing after payment. (אהב שחד ורדף שלמנים) They are not judging the orphans, and the struggles of the widow don't even make it to court.

רדף שחד means they accepted bribes. The targum yonatan says that רדף שלמנים means the judges paid each other for favors and bribes in judgement. They are all robbers themselves and scratching each others' backs.

כד: Hashem says He will get satisfaction from destroying my enemies

Why is Hashem called 3 titles? Why these unusual ones? All of the victims in כג are people that can't stand up for themselves and who are being bullied by rich and powerful people. So Hashem steps in and shows them that He is the ultimate master.

כה: I will destroy you, clean you like soap, remove your impurities.

כו: I will restore the old ways, like it used to be. You will go back to being called the faithful city.

כז: Zion will be saved by the hands of justice, its return will be through righteous behaviour.

Only when we practice משפט, will we be saved.

מהר"י קרא: When it says they will return to צדקה, it means that we will be saved when we are a people of truth and moral righteousness (whenever you have צדקה and משפט together, that is what צדקה means). דוד did these.

There are many parts of ש"ע that are based on the words and ideas found in these pasukim.

Our first requests after we ask to return to Israel is to restore the judges, punish the wicked, and reward the righteous