

# Decoding of the Voynich Manuscript 13

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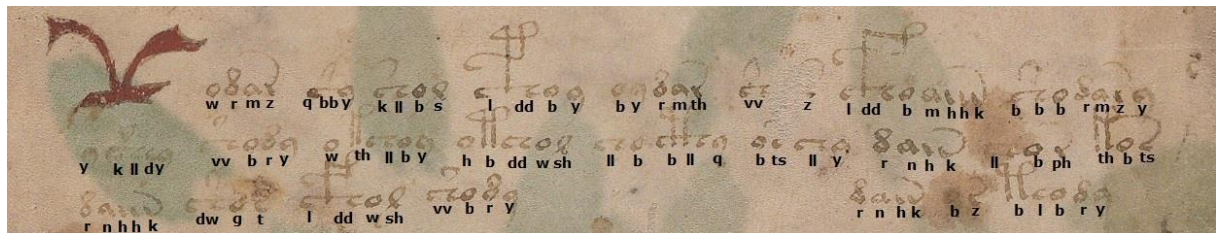
## Abstract

This document contains the transliteration and translation of the folio 1r, 2nd passage of the VMS. The text on this folio is composed of four separated passages, which address different topics. The glyphs in this passage can be identified unambiguous so the mapping into Aramaic letters and the transliteration into their Latin counterparts are clear. The presented passage is a lament over the destruction of Jerusalem and suffering of the survivors from the religious community of the “Poor” after the failed Great Jewish Revolt 66-70 CE. The end of the first line is decorated with a red icon, which in our opinion symbolises a sabbatical year (shmittah year)<sup>1</sup> in general, but the shmittah year 70 CE here in particular. A short conclusion completes this document, which we dedicate to Ukraine, a country in fight for freedom.

## 1 Decryption of the folio 1r, 2nd passage of the VMS

The following translation into English is based mainly on the lexica used in our former papers (see Decoding of the VMS 1..11)<sup>2</sup>. In our translation we try to stay as close as possible to the underlying Aramaic text. The syntax and sentence structure in the text are those of Aramaic and not English so we have occasionally to change the word order in the translated sentence to make the sentence understandable, though our aim isn't to provide the best possible English translation but to crystallize out the meaning of the text.

The abjad text (ketiv) together with the specific of Aramaic to consist of short words makes the resulting writing, whether as plain Aramaic text or as Voynich code, very compact. The English translation generates a significant longer output. The mapping to Latin letter-transliteration of Aramaic shows the following picture (f1r, 2nd passage):



The text reads as follows:

**pass for abjad - yz m rbb**

**a fierce/barbarous nation became great/many (large)**

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<sup>1</sup> see a detailed explanation in the document "Decoding of the Voynich Manuscript 10"

<sup>2</sup> mainly [Hebrew Dictionary of the Old Testament Online Bible with Strong's Exhaustive Concordance, Brown Driver Briggs Lexicon, Etymology, Translations Definitions Meanings & Key Word Studies - Lexiconcordance.com](https://www.lexiconcordance.com/)

יָצַח ya'az {yaw-az'}

1) to be strong, be **fierce** (meaning dubious)

1a) (Niphal) **barbarous** (participle)

**עַם am {am}**

1) **nation, people**

1a) **people, nation**

1b) **persons, members of one's people, compatriots, country-men**

2) **kinsman, kindred**

**עַם am {am}**

1) **people**

רָבַב rabab {raw-bab'}

1) to be or **become many**, be or become much, be or **become great**

1a) (Qal)

1a1) to be or **become many**

1a2) to be or **become great**

1a3) to be long (of journey)

2) (Pual) ten thousands

רָבַב rabab {raw-bab'}

1) (Qal) to shoot

pass for abjad - bw' khh m

going to be darkened together with

בָּוֹא bow' {bo}

1) to go in, enter, come, **go**, come in

1a) (Qal)

1a1) to enter, come in

1a2) to come

1a2a) to come with

1a2b) to come upon, fall or light upon, attack (enemy)

1a2c) to come to pass

1a3) to attain to

1a4) to be enumerated

1a5) to **go**

1b) (Hiphil)

1b1) to lead in

1b2) to carry in

1b3) to bring in, cause to come in, gather, **cause to come**,  
bring near, bring against, bring upon

1b4) to bring to pass

1c) (Hophal)

1c1) to be brought, brought in

1c2) to be introduced, be put

**כָּהָה kahah {kaw-haw'}**

1) to **grow weak, grow dim, grow faint, falter, be weak, be dim, be darkened, be restrained, be faint, fail**

1a) (Qal) to **grow dim, grow faint**

1b) (Piel) to **faint, grow weak, grow faint**

**כִּהֵה keheh {kay-heh'}**

1) **dim, dull, colourless, be dark, faint**

- אָמ am {am}
  - 1) nation, people
    - 1a) people, nation
    - 1b) persons, members of one's people, compatriots, country-men
  - 2) kinsman, kindred
- אָמ am {am}
  - 1) people
- אָיִם im {eem}
  - 1) with
    - 1a) with
    - 1b) against
    - 1c) toward
    - 1d) as long as
    - 1e) beside, except
    - 1f) in spite of
- אָיִם im {eem}
  - 1) with
    - 1a) **together with**, with
    - 1b) with, **during**

#### pass for abjad - bd dl z

#### killing/extermination (of) the poor, then/at that time

- אָבָד 'abad {aw-bad'}
  - 1) perish, vanish, go astray, be destroyed
    - 1a) (Qal)
      - 1a1) perish, die, be exterminated
      - 1a2) perish, vanish (fig.)
      - 1a3) be lost, strayed
    - 1b) (Piel)
      - 1b1) to **destroy, kill**, cause to perish, to give up  
(as lost), **exterminate**
      - 1b2) to blot out, do away with, cause to vanish, (fig.)
      - 1b3) **cause to stray**, lose
    - 1c) (Hiphil)
      - 1c1) to **destroy, put to death**
        - 1c1a) of divine judgment
        - 1c2) object name of kings (fig.)
- אָבָד 'abad {ab-ad'}
  - 1) to perish, vanish
    - 1a) (P'al) shall perish
    - 1b) (Aphel) destroy
    - 1c) (Hophal) be destroyed
- אָבָד 'obed {o-bade'}
  - 1) destruction
- אָבָד 'abad {aw-bad'}
  - 1) to work, serve
    - 1a) (Qal)
      - 1a1) to labour, work, do work
      - 1a2) to work for another, serve another by labour

- 1a3) to serve as subjects
- 1a4) to serve (God)
- 1a5) to serve (with Levitical service)
- 1b) (Niphal)
  - 1b1) to be worked, be tilled (of land)
  - 1b2) to make oneself a servant
- 1c) (Pual) to be worked
- 1d) (Hiphil)
  - 1d1) to compel to labour or work, cause to labour, cause to serve
  - 1d2) to cause to serve as subjects
- 1e) (Hophal) to be led or enticed to serve
- עָבַד abad {ab-bad'}
- 1) to make, do
  - 1a) (P'al)
    - 1a1) to make, create
    - 1a2) to do, perform
  - 1b) (Ithp'al)
    - 1b1) to be made into
    - 1b2) to be done, be wrought, be performed, be executed, be carried out
- עָבַד abad {ab-awd'}
- 1) work

**דָּל dal {dal}**

**1) low, poor, weak, thin, one who is low**

אָז 'az {awz}

**1) then, at that time**

1a) temporal expressions

1a1) **then** (past)

1a2) then, if...then (future)

1a3) earlier

1b) logical expressions

1b1) in that case

1b2) that (being so)

pass for abjad - vv thm r

the chief<sup>3</sup> to be (was) burned (up),

וָּ vav {vaw}

1) **hook, peg, nail, pin**

**אָתָם atham {aw-tham'}**


**1) (Niphal) to be burned up, be scorched**

אָר ar {awr}

1) enemy, adversary, foe

אָר ar {awr}

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<sup>3</sup> we know from the context on other folios that the logogram  (vv, bb) was frequently used to symbolise the chief or bishop of the Jerusalem Community of the “Poor” - whether as a syllabic abbreviation of a concrete word like וָּ (hook, peg) in the meaning of “anchor” or not. The text suggests that the principal/bishop of the Community was executed by the Romans

1) enemy, adversary, foe

רָעַע ra'a' {raw-ah'}

1) **to be bad, be evil**

1a) (Qal)

1a1) to be displeasing

1a2) to be sad

1a3) to be injurious, **be evil**

1a4) **to be wicked, be evil (ethically)**

1b) (Hiphil)

1b1) to do an injury or hurt

1b2) **to do evil or wickedly**

1b3) mischief (participle)

2) to break, shatter

2a) (Qal)

2a1) to break

2a2) broken (participle)

2a3) to be broken

2b) (Hithpolel) to be broken, be broken in pieces, be broken asunder

רָעַע r@'a' {reh-ah'}

1) (P'al) to crush, break, shatter

**pass for abjad – yb**

**the wicked/evil enemy,**

אָיַב 'ayab {aw-yab'}

1) to be hostile to, to be an enemy to

1a) (Qal)

1a1) to be hostile to

1a2) to treat as an enemy

אָיַב 'oyeb {o-yabe'}

1) (Qal) **enemy**

1a) personal

1b) national

**pass for abjad - y bd dl**

**which blotted out/exterminated/put to death/caused to perish the poor**

אָיַב 'ay {ah'ee}

1) where?, whence?

2) **which?**, how? (in prefix with other adverb)

אָיַב 'iy {ee}

1) not

**אָבַד 'abad {aw-bad'}**

1) **perish, vanish, go astray, be destroyed**

1a) (Qal)

1a1) **perish, die, be exterminated**

1a2) **perish, vanish (fig.)**

1a3) **be lost, strayed**

1b) (Piel)

**1b1) to destroy, kill, cause to perish, to give up**  
(as lost), exterminate

**1b2) to blot out, do away with, cause to vanish, (fig.)**

**1b3) cause to stray, lose**

**1c) (Hiphil)**

**1c1) to destroy, put to death**

**1c1a) of divine judgment**

**1c2) object name of kings (fig.)**

**אָבַד 'abad {ab-ad'}**

**1) to perish, vanish**

**1a) (P'al) shall perish**

**1b) (Aphel) destroy**

**1c) (Hophal) be destroyed**

**אָבַד 'obed {o-bade'}**

**1) destruction**

**עָבַד abad {ab-bad'}**

**1) to make, do**

**1a) (P'al)**

**1a1) to make, create**

**1a2) to do, perform**

**1b) (Ithp'al)**

**1b1) to be made into**

**1b2) to be done, be wrought, be performed, be executed, be carried out**

**דָּל dal {dal}**

**1) low, poor, weak, thin, one who is low**

**pass for abjad - sb' llk**

**to be satisfied/surfeited (in a bad sense), these/those**

**שָׂבַע saba' {saw-bah'}**

**1) to be satisfied, be sated, be fulfilled, be surfeited**

**1a) (Qal)**

**1a1) to be sated (with food)**

**1a2) to be sated, be satisfied with, be fulfilled, be filled, have one's fill of (have desire satisfied)**

**1a3) to have in excess, be surfeited, be surfeited with**

**1a3a) to be weary of (fig)**

**1b) (Piel) to satisfy**

**1c) (Hiphil)**

**1c1) to satisfy**

**1c2) to enrich**

**1c3) to sate, glut (with the undesired)**

**שָׂבַע saba' {saw-baw'}**

**1) plenty, satiety**

**1a) plenty (of breadstuffs)**

**1b) satiety**

**שָׂבַע soba' {so'-bah}**

**1) satiety, abundance, fullness**

**1a) satiety**

1b) abundance

שָׂבַע sabea' {saw-bay'-ah}

1) **sated, satisfied, surfeited**

1a) sated, abounding, satisfied

1b) **surfeited (bad sense)**

אֵלֶּךְ 'illek {il-lake'}

1) **these, those**

pass for abjad - yb bq/bq'

longing for/desiring to tear down/cut to pieces/break down <sup>4</sup>

יָאַב ya'ab {yaw-ab'}

1) (Qal) **to long, long for, desire**

בִּיקְעָה biq'a' {bik-aw'}

1) **plain**

בָּקַע baqa' {baw-kah'}

1) to split, cleave, break open, divide, break through, rip up, **break**

**up, tear**

1a) (Qal)

1a1) to cleave, cleave open

1a2) to break through, break into

1b) (Niphal)

1b1) to be cleft, be rent open, be split open

1b2) to be broken into

1c) (Piel)

1c1) to cleave, **cut to pieces**, rend open

1c2) to break through, **break down**

1d) (Pual)

1d1) to be ripped open, be torn open

1d2) to be rent

1d3) to be broken into

1e) (Hiphil)

1e1) to break into

1e2) to break through

1f) (Hophal) to be broken into

1g) (Hithpael) to burst (themselves) open, cleave asunder

pass for abjad - z mr w

(of) at that time an otherwise/rather bare place

אָז 'az {awz}

1) **then, at that time**

1a) temporal expressions

1a1) **then (past)**

1a2) then, if...then (future)

1a3) earlier

1b) logical expressions

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<sup>4</sup> Jerusalem wird geschleift

1b1) in that case

1b2) that (being so)

**מֵעַר ma'ar {mah'-ar}**

**1) bare, naked place, nakedness**

**1a) bare place**

**1b) nakedness, pudenda (exposed in punishment)**

אוּ 'ow {o}

1) or, **rather**

1a) implying that the latter choice is preferred

1b) or if, introducing an example to be seen under a particular principle

1c) (in series) either...or, whether...or

1d) if perchance

1e) except, or else

2) whether, not the least, if, **otherwise, also, and**, then

pass for abjad - tsbth ph' bl

a boundless, worthless mourning/lamenting

צָבֹת tsebeth {tseh'-beth}

1) **bundles**

1a) of grain

**אֶפֶס epha' {eh'-fah}**

**1) worthless, of nought**

**אֶפֶס ophe' {of-eh'}**

**1) branch, foliage**

אָבַל 'abal {aw-bal'}

1) **to mourn, lament**

1a) (Qal) to mourn, lament

1a1) of humans

1a2) of inanimate objects (fig.)

1a2a) of gates

1a2b) of land

1b) (Hiphil)

1b1) to mourn, cause to mourn (fig.)

1c) (Hithpael)

1c1) to mourn

1c2) play the mourner

אָבֵל 'abel {aw-bale'}

1) **mourning**

1a) for the dead

1b) because of calamity

1c) of rites of mourning

2) mourner (subst.)

2a) for the dead

2b) for calamity

אָבֵל 'ebel {ay'-bel}

1) **mourning**

1a) for the dead

1b) for rites of mourning (metaph)

1c) mourning garb



1d) period of mourning

pass for abjad - l' khn r'

without a priest, friend/intimate/fellow

לֹא lo' {lo}

1) not, no

1a) not (with verb - absolute prohibition)

1b) not (with modifier - negation)

1c) nothing (subst)

1d) **without** (with particle)

1e) before (of time)

אֵין la' {law}

1) no, not, nothing

**כַּהֵן kahan {kaw-han'}**

**1) to act as a priest, minister in a priest's office**

**1a) (Piel)**

**1a1) to minister as a priest, serve as a priest**

**1a2) to be or become a priest**

**1a3) to play the priest**

**כֹּהֵן kohen {ko-hane'}**

**1) priest, principal officer or chief ruler**

**1a) priest-king (Melchizedek, Messiah)**

**1b) pagan priests**

**1c) priests of Jehovah**

**1d) Levitical priests**

**1e) Zadokite priests**

**1f) Aaronic priests**

**1g) the high priest**

**כַּהֵן kahan {kaw-hane'}**

**1) priest**

**רֵעַ rea' {ray'-ah}**

**1) friend, companion, fellow, another person**

**1a) friend, intimate**

**1b) fellow, fellow-citizen, another person (weaker sense)**

**1c) other, another (reciprocal phrase)**

pass for abjad - yl l'

(is) no help/of no avail

אֵיל 'eyal {eh-yawl'}

1) strength

2) **help**

יָעַל ya'al {yaw-al'}

1) (Hiphil) to gain, profit, benefit, **avail**

**לֹא lo' {lo}**

**1) not, no**

**1a) not (with verb - absolute prohibition)**

**1b) not (with modifier - negation)**

- 1c) nothing (subst)**
- 1d) without (with particle)**
- 1e) before (of time)**
- אֵל la' {law}**
- 1) no, not, nothing**

pass for abjad - tsb ql lb

**pain/grieve/sorrow bends/crooks (in) the midst/heart,**

אָצַב atsab {aw-tsab'}

- 1) to hurt, **pain, grieve**, displease, vex, wrest
  - 1a) (Qal) to hurt, **pain**
  - 1b) (Niphal) to **be in pain, be pained, be grieved**
  - 1c) (Piel) to vex, torture
  - 1d) (Hiphil) to cause pain
  - 1e) (Hithpael) to **feel grieved**, be vexed
- 2) to shape, fashion, make, form, stretch into shape, (TWOT) worship
  - 2a) (Piel) to shape, form
  - 2b) (Hiphil) to form, copy, fashion

אָצִיב atsab {ats-ab'}

- 1) to **pain, grieve**
  - 1a) (P'al) pained (participle)

אָצַב etseb {eh'-tseb}

- 1) **pain, hurt, toil, sorrow, labour, hardship**
  - 1a) **pain**
  - 1b) hurt, offense
  - 1c) toil, **hardship**

2) vessel, creation, object

3) (TWOT) idol

אָצַב otseb {o'-tseb}

- 1) **pain, sorrow**
- 2) idol

**אָקַל aqal {aw-kal'}**

**1) to bend, twist**

**1a) (Pual) to be bent out of shape, be distorted, be crooked**

לב leb {labe}

1) **inner man**, mind, will, **heart**, understanding

1a) **inner part, midst**

1a1) **midst** (of things)

1a2) **heart** (of man)

1a3) **soul, heart** (of man)

1a4) mind, knowledge, **thinking, reflection**, memory

1a5) inclination, resolution, determination (of will)

1a6) conscience

1a7) **heart** (of moral character)

1a8) as seat of appetites

1a9) as seat of emotions and passions

1a10) **as seat of courage**

לבב leb {labe}

1) **heart**, mind

pass for abjad - bl l'

**mourn/lament not**

אָבַל 'abal {aw-bal'}

1) to **mourn, lament**

1a) (Qal) to **mourn, lament**

1a1) of humans

1a2) of inanimate objects (fig.)

1a2a) of gates

1a2b) of land

1b) (Hiphil)

1b1) to **mourn**, cause to mourn (fig.)

1c) (Hithpael)

1c1) to **mourn**

1c2) play the mourner

אָבַל 'abel {aw-bale'}

1) **mourning**

1a) for the dead

1b) because of calamity

1c) of rites of mourning

2) mourner (subst.)

2a) for the dead

2b) for calamity

אָבַל 'ebel {ay'-bel'}

1) **mourning**

1a) for the dead

1b) for rites of mourning (metaph)

1c) mourning garb

1d) period of mourning

לֹא **lo'** {lo}

1) **not, no**

1a) **not (with verb - absolute prohibition)**

1b) **not (with modifier - negation)**

1c) **nothing (subst)**

1d) **without (with particle)**

1e) **before (of time)**

לֹא **la'** {law}

1) **no, not, nothing**

pass for abjad - shwd dbh

**destroying/devastating dismay!**

שׁוּדָה shuwd {shood}

1) (Qal) to **ruin, destroy**, spoil, **devastate**

דָּאַבָּה d@'abah {deh-aw-baw'}

1) **faintness, dismay, failure of mental energy**

pass for abjad - ybl l' th w

rather carry away/bear along nothing from

יבל yabal {yaw-bal'}

1) to bring, lead, **carry**, conduct, **bear along**

1a) (Hiphil)

1a1) to **bear along**, bring

1a2) to **carry away**, lead away

1a3) to lead, conduct

1b) (Hophal)

1b1) to be borne along

1b2) to be borne (to the grave)

1b3) to be brought, be led, be conducted

יבל y@bal {yeb-al'}

1) (Aphel) to bring, **carry**, **bear along**

לֹא lo' {lo}

1) **not, no**

1a) **not (with verb - absolute prohibition)**

1b) **not (with modifier - negation)**

1c) **nothing (subst)**

1d) **without (with particle)**

1e) **before (of time)**

לֹא la' {law}

1) **no, not, nothing**

אִתְּ with {ayth}

1) with, near, together with

1a) with, together with

1b) with (of relationship)

1c) near (of place)

1d) with (poss.)

1e) **from...with, from** (with other prep)

אוֹ or {o}

1) or, **rather**

1a) implying that the latter choice is preferred

1b) or if, introducing an example to be seen under a particular principle

1c) (in series) either...or, whether...or

1d) if perchance


1e) except, or else

2) whether, not the least, if, otherwise, **also, and**, then

pass for abjad - yr b vv

the city (of) father chief<sup>5</sup>,

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<sup>5</sup> we know from the context on other folios that the logogram  (vv, bb) was frequently used to symbolise the chief or bishop of the Jerusalem Community of the "Poor" - whether as a syllabic abbreviation of a concrete word like יָ (hook, peg) in the meaning of "anchor" or without this reference

עיר iy {eer}

- 1) excitement, anguish
- 1a) of terror
- 2) **city, town** (a place of waking, guarded)
- 2a) **city, town**

**אב 'ab {awb}**

- 1) **father of an individual**
- 2) **of God as father of his people**
- 3) **head or founder of a household, group, family, or clan**
- 4) **ancestor**
  - 4a) **grandfather, forefathers -- of person**
  - 4b) **of people**
- 5) **originator or patron of a class, profession, or art**
- 6) **of producer, generator (fig.)**
- 7) **of benevolence and protection (fig.)**
- 8) **term of respect and honour**
- 9) **ruler or chief (spec.)**

**אב 'ab {ab}**

1) **father**

וַי vav {vaw}

- 1) **hook, peg, nail, pin**

pass for abjad - y d llk y

which forever (became) these heaps of ruins

אי 'ay {ah'ee}

- 1) where?, whence?
- 2) **which?**, how? (in prefix with other adverb)

**עד ad {ad}**

- 1) **perpetuity, for ever, continuing future**
  - 1a) **ancient (of past time)**
  - 1b) **for ever (of future time)**
    - 1b1) **of continuous existence**
    - 1c) **for ever (of God's existence)**

**עד ad {ad}**

prep

- 1) **as far as, even to, until, up to, while, as far as**
  - 1a) **of space**
    - 1a1) **as far as, up to, even to**
  - 1b) **in combination**
    - 1b1) **from...as far as, both...and (with 'min' - from)**
  - 1c) **of time**
    - 1c1) **even to, until, unto, till, during, end**
  - 1d) **of degree**
    - 1d1) **even to, to the degree of, even like**

conj

- 2) **until, while, to the point that, so that even**

אלק 'illek {il-lake'}

- 1) **these, those**

עי iy {ee}

1) ruin, **heap of ruins**

Last line

- Right-

pass for abjad - yr' bl bw'

dreadful/trembling lament comes upon/falls upon/is put on

יָרָא yare' {yaw-ray'}

1) to **fear**, revere, **be afraid**

1a) (Qal)

1a1) to **fear**, **be afraid**

1a2) to **stand in awe of**, **be awed**

1a3) to fear, reverence, honour, respect

1b) (Niphal)

1b1) to **be fearful**, **be dreadful**, **be feared**

1b2) to cause astonishment and awe, be held in awe

1b3) to inspire reverence or godly fear or awe

1c) (Piel) to **make afraid**, **terrify**

2) (TWOT) to shoot, pour

יָרָא yare' {yaw-ray'}

1) **fearing**, reverent, afraid

יָרַע yara' {yaw-rah'}

1) (Qal) to **tremble**, **quiver**

**אָבַל 'abal {aw-bal'}**

**1) to mourn, lament**

**1a) (Qal) to mourn, lament**

**1a1) of humans**

**1a2) of inanimate objects (fig.)**

**1a2a) of gates**

**1a2b) of land**

**1b) (Hiphil)**

**1b1) to mourn, cause to mourn (fig.)**

**1c) (Hithpael)**

**1c1) to mourn**

**1c2) play the mourner**

**אָבַל 'abel {aw-bale'}**

**1) mourning**

**1a) for the dead**

**1b) because of calamity**

**1c) of rites of mourning**

**2) mourner (subst.)**

**2a) for the dead**

**2b) for calamity**

**אָבַל 'ebel {ay'-bel}**

**1) mourning**

**1a) for the dead**

**1b) for rites of mourning (metaph)**

**1c) mourning garb**

**1d) period of mourning**

בוא bow' {bo}

1) to go in, enter, come, go, come in

1a) (Qal)

1a1) to enter, come in

1a2) to come

1a2a) to come with

1a2b) to **come upon, fall** or light **upon**, attack (enemy)

1a2c) to come to pass

1a3) to attain to

1a4) to be enumerated

1a5) to go

1b) (Hiphil)

1b1) to lead in

1b2) to carry in

1b3) to bring in, cause to come in, gather, cause to come,  
bring near, bring against, bring upon

1b4) to bring to pass

1c) (Hophal)

1c1) to be brought, brought in

1c2) to **be introduced, be put**

pass for abjad - zb kh nr

(the) deserted/let alone/abandoned/leaving, disheartened/cowed scattered

אָזַב azab {aw-zab'}

1) to **leave**, loose, forsake

1a) (Qal) to **leave**

1a1) to **depart from, leave behind, leave, let alone**

1a2) to **leave, abandon**, forsake, neglect, apostatise

1a3) to let loose, set free, let go, free

1b) (Niphal)

1b1) to be left to

1b2) to be forsaken

1c) (Pual) to **be deserted**

2) to restore, repair

2a) (Qal) to repair

**כָּאַה ka'ah {kaw-aw'}**

**1) to be sad, be disheartened, be cowed**

**1a) (Niphal) to be disheartened, be cowed**

**1b) (Hiphil) to make sad**

**כֹּה koh {ko}**

**1) thus, here, in this manner**

**1a) thus, so**

**1b) here, here and there**

**1c) until now, until now...until then, meanwhile**

**נָעַר na'ar {nah'-ar}**

1) a shaking, **scattering**

- Left -

pass for abjad - yr b vv

the city (of) father chief<sup>6</sup>

עיר iyṛ {eer}

1) excitement, anguish

1a) of terror

2) **city, town** (a place of waking, guarded)

2a) **city, town**

אב 'ab {awb}

1) **father of an individual**

2) **of God as father of his people**

3) **head or founder of a household, group, family, or clan**

4) **ancestor**

4a) **grandfather, forefathers -- of person**

4b) **of people**

5) **originator or patron of a class, profession, or art**

6) **of producer, generator (fig.)**

7) **of benevolence and protection (fig.)**

8) **term of respect and honour**

9) **ruler or chief (spec.)**

אב 'ab {ab}

1) **father**

וּ vav {vaw}

1) **hook, peg, nail, pin**

pass for abjad - shwd dl

ruined/destroyed, the poor

שוד shuwd {shood}

1) (Qal) to **ruin, destroy, spoil, devastate**

דל dal {dal}

1) **low, poor, weak, thin, one who is low**

pass for abjad - t gwd kh

misused/deceived attacking here/in this manner


תעע ta'a' {taw-ah'}

1) to **deceive, misuse**

1a) (Pilpel)

1a1) to be a mocker, mock

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<sup>6</sup> we know from the context on other folios that the logogram  (vv, bb) was frequently used to symbolise the chief or bishop of the Jerusalem Community of the “Poor” - whether as a syllabic abbreviation of a concrete word like וּ (hook, peg) in the meaning of “anchor” or without this reference



- 1a2) mocker (subst)
- 1b) (Hithpalpel)
- 1b1) to ridicule
- 1b2) mocking (participle)

**גוּד guwd {goode}**

**1) to invade, attack**

**1a) (Qal) to attack**

כֹּה koh {ko}

1) **thus, here, in this manner**

1a) **thus, so**

1b) **here**, here and there

1c) until now, until now...until then, meanwhile

כָּה kah {kaw}

1) **here**, so far, **thus**

pass for abjad - hn r

**the same/who (was) the enemy/foe**

הֵן hen {hane}

1) they, **these, the same, who**

**אֶר ar {awr}**

**1) enemy, adversary, foe**

**אֶר ar {awr}**

**1) enemy, adversary, foe**

## 2 English translation

The plain English translation (synonyms separated by /, added prepositions, explanations or alternative spelling in brackets):

**a fierce/barbarous nation became great/many (large)  
going to be darkened together with**

**killing/extermination (of) the poor, then/at that time  
the chief to be (was) burned (up),**

**the wicked/evil enemy,  
which blotted out/exterminated/put to death the poor**

**to be satisfied/surfeited (in a bad sense), these/those  
longing for/desiring to tear down/cut to pieces/break down  
(of) at that time a rather bare place<sup>7</sup>**

**a boundless, worthless mourning/lamenting  
without priest, friend/intimate/fellow  
(is) no help/of no avail**

**pain/grieve/sorrow bends/crooks (in) the midst/heart,**

---

<sup>7</sup> the depopulated Jerusalem had been razed

mourn/lament not  
destroying/devastating dismay!

rather carry away/bear along nothing from  
the city (of) chief father,  
which forever (became) these heaps of ruins

Last line

- Right-

dreadful/trembling lament comes upon/falls upon/is put on  
(the) deserted/let alone/abandoned/leaving, disheartened/cowed scattered

- Left –

the city (of) chief father  
ruined/destroyed, the poor  
misused/deceived attacking here/in this manner  
the same/who (was) the enemy/foe

### 3 Conclusion

This short passage from the folio 1r is a lament over the destructed city of Jerusalem after the Great Jewish Rebellion 66-70 CE as for Jerusalem, while the siege of Masada lasted until 73 CE. The text reveals, that the Jerusalem Community of the “Poor” together with its priesthood was nearby exterminated, the city razed by the enemy:

*the wicked/evil enemy, which blotted out/exterminated/put to death the poor  
to be satisfied/surfeited (in a bad sense), these/those  
longing for/desiring to tear down/cut to pieces (of) at that time a rather bare place*

In the last words of the passage the author appeals to break with the past and not to carry away any remembrance of the lost city. The two comments in the last line, which in our view don't belong to the original text, merely convey in repetition the above narration. At the end of the first line a red icon in form of a rising bird symbolises the year of the event, the sabbatical (shmittah) year 70 CE (see also the document “Decoding of the Voynich Manuscript 10” for details).