אדון הכל ושבזי Master of All R' Shalom Shabbazi שבזי

17 תימן ♦ מאה Yemen ♦ 17th Century

אֲדוֹן הַכֹּל מְחַיֶּה כָּל נְשָׁמָה Master of all, who gives life to all souls יָצַו חַסְדּוֹ לְבַת נָדִיב חֲכָמָה Will bestow his kindness on the wise noble's daughter לְבוּשָׁה מֵעֲנַן תֹּאַר יִקְרוֹ Dressed in clouds of His glory וּמַשְׁפַּעַת עֲלֵי כָל הָאֲדָמָה She flows over the entire land שָׁאוֹן גַּלֵּי גְּבוּל יַמִּים תְּעוֹרֵר Rousing the roaring waves of the sea's border וְעָם דּוֹדָהּ בָּצָלוֹ נֵעֱלָמָה Yet hidden within her lover's shade בָּחֵן בַּעִלָּהּ שָׁבָטֵינוּ תִּנַהֵל With her husband's grace let her guide our tribes וּמַעֵלָתָהּ מְהַדֶּרֶת וְרָמָה Her upper chamber is splendid and exalted. זְמִירוֹת מִכְּנַף אֶרֶץ שְׁמַעְנוּם We hear songs from the ends of the earth צָבִי צַדִּיק בְּמִזְרָחָה וְיָמָה "Glory to the righteous in the East and the West" יִשָּׁרִים הוֹלְכִים תָּמִיד בִּישֵׁר The righteous always walk with honesty נְקָיִים הֶם בְּלִי עָוֹן וְאַשְׁמָה Innocent without iniquity or guilt שָׁמוּעָתָם לְטוֹב כָּלָם בָּרוּרִים All chosen for their good name, וְלָהֶם נִכְסְפָה נַפְשִׁי בְּתֵימָה My soul yearns for them in Teiman צַרִי גָּלְעָד שָׁלַח לָנוּ יִדִידִי Send us the balsam of Gilead, My beloved בְּצִיּוֹן נִשְּׂמְחָה גֶּבֶר וְעַלְמָה

Let man and woman rejoice in Zion!

Translated by Abigail Denemark with advisory support from Dr. Jonathan Decter

(Translation follows Joseph Tobi's notes in Shirat Tor HaZahav as well as commentary on Piyut.org.il)

Notes:

- 2. The 'noble's daughter' refers to God's shekhina, the soul, and the people of Israel.
- 3. For God's presence being revealed in a cloud, see Exodus 13:21
- 5. See Psalms 65:8
- 6. See Song of Songs 2:3
- 9. See Isaiah 24:16 for this line and the following line
- 13. Based on the text of the blessing Yotser Ha-me'orot found before the morning Shema
- 15. See Jeremiah 8:22