

מִי כְּמֹכָה

Root – ל – א

Meaning – Root for the names of God

Names of God with the same root: אֱלֹהִים אֱלֹהֵינוּ אֵל

אֵל שַׁדַּי

Other names of God: יְהוָה יְיָ הַשֵּׁם הַמְּקוּם

The **מִי כְּמֹכָה** is found at the end of the section of the **שְׁמַע** and its blessings and just before the Amidah. Parts of the prayer are said out loud by the leader and other parts are said out loud by all.

The **מִי כְּמֹכָה** expresses our absolute faith in the one God. We make it clear that historically and today we trust in God to protect us, to save us, and to be our support in all times of our lives and in all situations.

Traditionally, the **מִי כְּמֹכָה** is believed to have been sung by the Hebrews as they were crossing the divided Red Sea. The story is told that as the Hebrews were fleeing the Pharaoh and Egypt they were trapped between the Egyptian army and the Red Sea. Even though Moses raised his staff, the waters did not part. Moses plunged his staff into the water and still they did not part. The people cried and prepared themselves to be slaughtered by the Egyptians. At that point, one man, Nachson, showed that he had complete faith in God. He began singing the **מִי כְּמֹכָה** and walked into the great sea. As he walked the water reached his knees. He still sang and he kept walking. The water reached his waist but still he sang and kept walking. The water reached his shoulders and he continued. The water reached his chin and he could still be heard singing and he still walked on. At the moment the water completely covered Nachson's mouth and nose so that he could not breathe, God parted the waters. Shown the way by Nachson, the Hebrews began singing and passed through the divided waters.

Vocabulary and Translation

Who is like you – כְּמִכָּה

Awesome – נוֹרָא

Doing – עֹשֶׂה

Wonder (Miracle) – פְּלֵא

In/With Holiness - בְּקִדְוָה

Past Root

כ - ר - ב - Blessed -

ר - ה - ב Choose -

Who is like you among the gods (that are worshiped)?

Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in splendor, doing wonders?