

גְבוּרוֹת

Root – ג-ב-ר

Meaning – hero, power

Words in the prayer with the same root גְבוּרוֹת גְבוּר

The גְבוּרוֹת is the second prayer of the Amidah, coming just after אָבוֹת Like the אָבוֹת the גְבוּרוֹת is recited out loud by the congregation during the Shabbat morning service.

This prayer speaks of God's power. Among the powers listed are being mighty forever, causing the wind to blow and the rain to fall, sustaining our lives, supporting the fallen, healing the sick, freeing the captive, and keeping faith with all. The prayer tells us that there is none like God.

One of the main themes of this prayer is that it is God who gives life to all and takes life from all. In traditional Judaism this came to mean (among other things) that God can give life to the dead – called resurrection.

Over the years the Jewish belief in resurrection has come to mean different things to different groups of Jews:

- Bringing the dead back to life literally when the Messiah arrives;
- Renewing the plants, animals, and the Earth through rain; and
- A metaphor for humans upon waking up each morning from sleep.

Whatever one believes, the main point of the prayer is that God's power is all encompassing and sustains us throughout our lives, during good times and bad.

Vocabulary

You are – אַתָּה

Mighty – גְבוּר

Lord, Rule – אֲדֹנָי

The Living – חַיִּים

In Kindness – בְּחֶסֶד

Past Roots and Prefixes

ב - ח - ב - Choose

ב - ר - כ - Bless

י - י - ח - Life, live

ל - א - Root of the names of God

ב - א - Father

מ - א - Mother

מ - י - ש - Place, Put

ל - ד - ג - Great large

נ - ת - נ - Give

ל - To, For

ו - And

ב - In, on, with

Translation

You are mighty forever Adonai. You are the one who gives life to the dead with great salvation.

(You are) the one who sustains the living in kindness, who revives the dead with great mercy, supports the fallen, and heals the sick, and frees the captives, and maintains his faith with those who sleep in the dust.

Who is like you Master of mighty deeds and who compares to you oh Ruler who creates life and death and brings forth salvation.

You are faithful to revive the dead.

Blessed are you, Adonai, who brings the dead back to life.