

מִי כְּמַכָּה

מִי כְּמַכָּה בְּאֵלִים יִי

מִי כְּמַכָּה נְאֻדָּר בְּקִדְשׁ

נֹרָא תְהִלַּת עֲשֵׂה פְּלֵא



מִי כְּמֹכָה

Root: א - ל - ה (ה)

Meaning - Root for the names of God and also the word “God”

Word in the prayer with the same root: בְּאֱלֹהִים

Names of God with the same root: אֱלֹהֵינוּ אֱלֹהִים אֱלֹהִים

Other names of God: יְהוָה יי

The **מִי כְּמֹכָה** is found at the end of the second section, “The **שְׁמַע** and Its

Blessings,” just before the Amidah. Parts of the prayer are recited out loud by the leader, and other parts are recited out loud by all.

The **מִי כְּמֹכָה** expresses our absolute faith in one God. We make it clear that

historically and today we trust in God to protect us, to see us, and to be our support in all times of our lives and in all situations.

A midrash tells this story of the parting of the Red Sea. As the Israelites escaped from Pharaoh and Egypt they became trapped between the Egyptian army and the Red Sea. Even though Moses raised his staff, as instructed by God, the waters did not part. Moses then plunged his staff into the water, and still the waters did not part. The people cried and prepared themselves to be slaughtered by the Egyptian army. At that point, one man, Nachshon, 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 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 Nachshon’s mouth and nose, so that he could not breathe, God parted the waters. Shown the way by Nachshon, the Israelites began singing, and passed through the divided waters on the dry seabed.

Vocabulary

is like you - כְּמִלְכָּה/כְּמִלְכָּה	Who - מִי
awesome - נוֹרָה	in/with holiness - בְּקֹדֶשׁ
wonders (miracles) - פְּלָה	doing - עֹשֶׂה

Past Roots

place, put שׁ-י-מ	bless ב-ר-כ
	choose ב-ח-ר

Translation

Who is like You among the gods, Adonai
Who is like You, majestic in holiness,
Awesome in splendor, doing wonders