



Tashlich: The Art of Letting Go



What is Tashlich?

Tashlich comes from the Hebrew word meaning "to cast," referring to the intent to cast away our sins. Tashlich is usually performed on the first day of Rosh Hashanah. If the first day of Rosh Hashanah falls on Shabbat, Tashlich is done on the second day of Rosh Hashanah. It may be performed throughout the 10 Days of Repentance, or even until Hoshanah Rabba (the last day of Sukkot), except on Shabbat.

At the water, now we stand
with our breadcrumbs in our hand,
Our sins we hope to toss away,
because we celebrate Tashlich today.

On Rosh Hashanah, we work to be better,
but don't fall in or you'll get "wetter".

So take a hand full, get ready to throw-
and up to God may our prayers go.

Hope your hearts are filled with cheer
and may we all have a happy New Year!

Let us cast away the sin of deception, so that we will mislead no one in word or deed, nor to pretend to be what we are not.

Let us cast away the sin of vain ambition which prompts us to strive for goals which bring neither true fulfillment nor genuine contentment.

Let us cast away the sin of stubbornness, so that we will neither persist in foolish habits nor fail acknowledge our will to change.

Let us cast away the sin of envy, so that we will neither be consumed by desire for what we lack nor grow unmindful of the blessings which are already ours.

Let us cast away the sin of selfishness, which keeps us from enriching our lives through wider concerns, and greater sharing, and from reaching out in love to other human beings.

Before the bread is cast into the water, the following may be recited:

Is there any divinity save You who forgives the sins and pardons the transgressions of the remnant, Your people? You do not maintain anger forever, for You delight in love. You will return to us compassionately, overcoming the consequences of our sin, hurling our sins into the depths of the sea. You will keep faith with Jacob, showing enduring love to Abraham, as You promised our ancestors in days of old. Micah 7:18-20

מִי־אֵל כְּמוֹךָ נִשְׂא עוֹן וְעֵבֶר עַל־פְּשַׁע לְשֹׂאֲרֵית נִחַלְתּוֹ,
לֹא הֶחְזִיק לְעַד אָפוּ כִּי חָפֵץ חַסֵּד הוּא. יָשׁוּב יִרְחַמְנוּ
יִכַּבֵּשׁ עֲוֹנוֹתֵינוּ וְתִשְׁלַיֵךְ בְּמַצְלוֹת יָם כָּל־חַטָּאתָם. תִּתֵּן
אֶמֶת לִיעֲקֹב חַסֵּד לְאַבְרָהָם אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁבַּעְתָּ לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ
מִימֵי קֶדֶם. מִיכָה ז יח-כ