

# *On The Miracle Of Recovery*

*M*enachem Mendel of Kotzk said:  
“Whoever believes in miracles is a fool;  
and whoever does not believe in miracles is an atheist.”  
We are neither fools nor apostates.

Three times daily in the midst of the Amidah prayer we acknowledge  
Rock and Shield that saves in every generation  
our souls that are given in God’s tender care  
Three times daily we give thanks for the wonders  
and the miracles that are daily  
with us evening, morn and noon.

Surely we have read of miracles in days past  
In the turbulent waters on which Noah’s ark navigated  
in the splitting of the sea in Moses’ day  
in the falling of bread from the heaven that nourished our people  
throughout forty years in the wilderness.

But miracles today? In our times?  
Each day morning, noon and night?  
Miracles in our time?  
Where do we look for these in our daily lives?

Not in the violation of logic,  
in the laws of identity, and contradiction and excluded middle  
Not in the violation of nature  
Our wine is wine, our bread bread, our water water.



The Amidah prayer speaks of daily miracles, “nisim”  
not acts of magic mocking nature, torturing logic  
In Hebrew miracle is called “nes” – sign  
Sign, the root of the term “SIGN-IFICANCE”

Signs that call attention to ordinary moments  
extraordinary in their transformation of our lives.

Illness threatens our song and laughter  
Sickness casts its shadow over our promises  
Malady bleak and painful, murders hope.

How, our weakness is countered with new and awesome energy  
Godliness penetrates our skin and bones  
Godliness pours its healing medicines into the vessels of our vitality  
Godliness produces research men and women  
practiced physicians and nurses  
upon whom we call evening, morn and noon.

Godliness in the form of family who stand close to our bed  
Hold our hands, rub our shoulders, moisten our lips with their love  
Godliness revealed in curative powers within us  
Godliness expressed in our resolution “I will not die but live.”

Give us spine and heart and wisdom to our organs  
Open our eyes to see wonder  
open our ears to hear new sounds  
inhale through our nostrils new fragrance. walk with our  
own feet  
open our mouths with thanksgiving.

Daily testimony witness to every natural moment  
that raises us up from melancholy to transcendence.

Blessed the Godliness present in all things and ways  
Blessed Thou who has enabled me to live in the midst of my family  
to reach this day in the presence of my friends  
with the benedictions of my community  
Blessed the hidden miracles we daily uncover  
The renewal that helps us lift the stone from frightened hearts  
Blessed the remembrance of yesterday’s remission  
and tomorrow’s promise  
Blessed the gifts we exchange with each other  
morning, noon and night.

