

## צור ישראל Tzur Israel

Siddur Sim Shalom page 114

1. צור ישראל, קומה בעזרת ישראל,

2. ופדה כנאמך יהודה וישראל.

3. גאלנו יי צבאות שמו, קדוש ישראל.

4. ברוך אתה יי גאל ישראל.

Rock of Israel, rise for Israel's defense.

Fulfill Your promise to deliver Judah and Israel.

Our savior, whose name is “master of Armies”, is the holy one for Israel.

Praised are You Adonai, Redeemer of Israel.

## Big idea: Rock of Israel

*Tzur Yisrael*, translated as “Rock of Israel”, is a prayer that is asking God, our strong protector – our rock – to protect and help us. *Tzur Yisrael* is one of the many Jewish names for God.

### Did you know?

In the Jewish tradition, many names have a meaning. Biblical characters often have names that are explained – for example, Jacob’s Hebrew name “Ya’akov” literally means “to follow” in Hebrew, because as a

twin, he was born holding to his brother’s foot! His brother “Esau” has a name (“Esav”) that means “hairy” because he was born with a lot of hair!

God has many names in Judaism – some are unique names, like “*Elohim*”, while others describe what we think of God –

“The blessed Holy One” (הַקְּדוֹשׁ בְּרוּךְ הוּא), or “Master of the World” (אֲדוֹן עוֹלָם).

In this prayer, *Tzur Israel* is one of the names for God, and another name is also mentioned: “*Adonai Tz’vaa-ot*” (יְיָ צְבָאוֹת) which translates to “Master of the Troops.”

The name for God we see most often is typically written as יְיָ or יהוה but we actually pronounce it: “Adonai”.

### Key words:

צוּר - rock

יִשְׂרָאֵל – Israel / the Jewish people

קְדוֹשׁ - holy

יְיָ - Adonai

שְׁמוֹ - His name

בְּרוּךְ - blessed

