

Malach appointed over death is known as the ס-ם, numerical value 100.²³ Dovid wanted to reverse the 100 הלה to קללות. In fact, קללה consists of the letters הלל (symbolizing Bracha) ק (numerical value 100).

We see the idea of 100 Brachos from an earlier origin. In the episode of Yakov fighting with the Malach, the שטן (Malach) took the 100 Brachos.²⁴ ויגע בכף יריכו; the שטן hit the ball of Yakov's thighbone.²⁵ The word כף has a sum of 100. Thus, Yakov's name was changed to ישראל since Yakov symbolizes אמת as it says תתן אמת ליעקב. Adding 100 (Brachos) to אמת (441) we get a result of 541, the same as ישראל.²⁶

לעילוי נשמת אברהם יצחק בן שמואל עזריאל

²³ The Chasam Sofer says the 100 Brachos we say daily is to nullify the power of the ס-ם, Gematria 100.

²⁴ The Satan, Yetzer Hara and Malach Hamaves are one and the same (Baba Basra 16a). This is the Malach Yakov fought with.

²⁵ Breishis 32:26. The end letters of נפש וטיט אין (Yeshaya 57:20-21) spell שטן because that is what the שטן is. One way to fight that is as the next Pasuk there says- through the Shofar. Is it any wonder that we blow 100 Shofar blasts on Rosh Hashana (Tur 592), counteracting the Satan's power. After all Rosh Hashana is called יום תרועה (Pinchas 29:1), a day to break the Yetzer Hara, the Satan (תרועה is a broken sound which alludes to breaking the Yetzer Hara- Sefer Hachinuch 311.). This explains the dictum לעולם אל יפתח אדם פיו לשטן (Brachos 19a) as we do it through the Shofar which is just a sound, not words.

²⁶ Also אמת without the ך which represents Hashem (א equals one referring to אהרן) spells מת. Who is the Malach of מת? The Gemara (Brachos 5b) teaches us that אמת refers to תורה. תורה היים is called תורת היים, thereby counteracting death.