

FROM CLENCHED FIST TO OPEN HAND

תְּנִי	It was taught
בְּשֵׁם	in the name of
רַבִּי מֵאִיר :	Rabbi Meir:
כְּשֶׁאָדָם בָּא	When one comes
לְעוֹלָם	into the world
יָדָיו הֵן קְפוּצוֹת	his hands are clenched
כְּלוֹמַר :	as if to say:
כָּל הָעוֹלָם כְּלוֹ	the whole world
שְׁלִי הוּא	is mine
וְאֲנִי נוֹחֵלוֹ.	and I will inherit it.
וְכִשְׁהוּא נִפְטָר	And when one takes leave
מִן הָעוֹלָם	of the world
יָדָיו הֵן פְּשׁוּטוֹת	his hands are open
כְּלוֹמַר	as if to say:
לֹא נִחַלְתִּי	I have not taken
מִן הָעוֹלָם הַזֶּה	from this world
כְּלוּם.	a single thing.