Chitas for Friday, Parshas Vezos Habracha Erev Sukkos Erev Shabbos Kodesh Yud-Daled Tishrei, 5784 - Shnas Hakhel

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Shnas Bracha Vehatzlacha!

CHUMASH :: Parshas Vezos Habracha - Shishi with Rashi

In today's Chumash, Moshe Rabbeinu finishes giving brachos to the Yidden before he passes away. Moshe Rabbeinu said many beautiful things to the Yidden! Here are some of them:

Because Hashem takes care of the Yidden, they will all feel safe to live in Eretz Yisroel, everyone in their own part. They won't need to all squeeze together into the same place because they are scared of the *Goyim*!

Moshe didn't need to say more details of the brachos — the Yidden have brachos in EVERYTHING!

Now Moshe finished writing the *Sifrei Torah*, because he will soon go onto *Har* Nevo and pass away.

TEHILLIM :: 72 - 76

In *Kapitel Ayin-Gimmel*, Dovid Hamelech says "**Beheimos Hayisi Imach**" — "I am like an animal with You," and in the next *posuk* "**Va'ani Tomid Imach**" — "I am always with You."

The Alter Rebbe explains in *Perek Mem-Vov* of *Tanya* that Dovid Hamelech put this in *Tehillim* with *Ruach Hakodesh* on behalf of the Yidden in *Golus*.

Tzadikim are able to feel and appreciate the Ruchnius that comes down when they do a mitzvah. But compared to them, we are like animals who have no idea what is happening!

Still, just because we don't appreciate it doesn't mean it isn't there! Hashem really IS with us when we do a *mitzvah*! Even if we don't understand or see the *Ruchnius* things that are happening, they still are there.

This is especially true now, as we go into the *Yom Tov* of *Sukkos*. We are told that every day of *Sukkos* we have special guests, both the regular *Ushpizin* and the *Chassidishe Ushpizin*. Even though we may not feel that they are coming to visit, it doesn't take away from the fact that these *tzadikim* are really here and celebrating *Sukkos* together with us.

See Igeres Hakodesh of the Frierdiker Rebbe, letter #3246

TANYA :: Igeres Hakodesh Siman Chof-Alef

The Alter Rebbe is writing this letter to *Chassidim* who have been giving *Tzedakah* to the *Tzadikim* and *Chassidim* who lived in Eretz Yisroel.

Every city had a *Gabbai* who would collect the *tzedakah* from the *Chassidim*. Once a year, a messenger would come and collect this money from all of the cities, and bring it himself to Eretz Yisroel.

Many *Chassidim* would give whatever amount they were planning to give only at the end of the year.

The Alter Rebbe is telling the *Chassidim* that this is not a good idea! Instead, they should give smaller amounts as soon as they have them — every week, or at least every month.

The Alter Rebbe gives two reasons:

1) First of all, as we learned yesterday, it is important to have *Zerizus* in every *mitzvah*! We shouldn't push off doing *mitzvos*, we should be doing them right away! We learn from Avraham *Avinu* how important this is — his reward from the *Akeidah* came mainly from doing the *mitzvah* with *Zerizus*!

This is especially true for the *mitzvah* of *tzedakah*, which saves a person from harm.

2) Second of all, doing a *mitzvah* many times makes a bigger difference than just doing it once!

The Rambam teaches, based on the *Mishnah*, that when a person gives *tzedakah* many times, he becomes more *aidel*! For example, if a person gives \$300 or \$400 one time a year to *Tzedakah*, he gave a lot of *Tzedakah*. But if he gives \$1 every day, he also gets used to giving! This makes him a more *aidel* person and a better Yid.

According to *Chassidus*, it is also better to give *tzedakah* more often. Giving *tzedakah* brings the *Shechinah* out of *Golus*! Every time we do the *mitzvah* of *tzedakah*, we are taking the *Shechinah* a little more out of *Golus*!

So to become more *aidel* ourselves, and to bring the *Shechinah* out of *Golus* faster, we need to be giving *tzedakah* much more often!

That's why Chassidim should give every week or month to the Gabbai Tzedakah, instead of only once a year, to be given to the Chassidim in Eretz Yisroel!

HAYOM YOM :: Yud-Daled Tishrei

In today's Hayom Yom, we learn some of the Minhagei Chabad of how to prepare the Lulav and Esrog:

Our *Minhagim*: We only use 2 *Aravos*, but we can use many extra *Hadassim*! (There were many years when Rebbe used 36!)

Here's how we tie the *Lulav* and *Esrog*: We use five rings — two just on the *Lulav*, hiding a little bit from the *Hadassim* and *Aravos*, and 3 close together (within one *tefach* — about 3 inches) around the 3 *minim*.

It is a *hiddur mitzvah* to put the *Lulav* together on *Erev Yom Tov*, and in the *sukkah*!

SEFER HAMITZVOS:: Shiur #160 - Mitzvas Lo Saasei #139, #112, Asei #65

Today we learn 3 more *mitzvos* about *Korbanos*:

1) (Mitzvas Lo Saasei #139) A Kohen is usually able to eat from a Korban Chatas. But a kohen can NOT eat from any Korban Chatas that has its blood sprinkled inside of the Kodesh or the Kodesh Hakodoshim (on the Mizbeiach Haketores, the Paroches, or the Aron).

We learn this mitzvah from a posuk in Parshas Tzav: וָכַל חַטַאת אָשֶׁר יוּבָא מִדָּמַה אֵל אֹהֶל מוֹעֶד לְכַפָּר בַּקֹדֶשׁ לֹא תָאָכֵל בַּאָשׁ חִשְּׂרֶף

2) (Mitzvas Lo Saasei #112) A bird that is brought for a Korban doesn't get shechted with a knife, it gets shechted with a very sharp fingernail! This is called Melikah. It is a mitzvah for the Kohen to make sure not to cut off the whole head when he is shechting it.

This mitzvah is learned from a posuk in Parshas Vayikra: וְמַלָּק אָת רֹאשׁוֹ מְמוּל עַרְפּוֹ וְלֹא יָבַדִּיל

3) (Mitzvas Asei #65) We need to follow all of the halachos about how to bring a Korban Asham. We learn this mitzvah from the posuk in Parshas Tzav: וֹאָת הּוֹרֶת הָאָשֶׁם

RAMBAM :: Hilchos Maaseh HaKorbanos

In today's Rambam, we learn more about bringing *Korbanos*.

Perek Daled: We learn about WHEN *Korbanos* are allowed to be brought (during the day) and also what we need to think about when we bring the *Korban* — *Kavana*!

Perek Hey: This *perek* teaches us WHERE we bring *Korbanos*, and how we give the different parts of the *Korban* to Hashem.

Perek Vov: We learn EXACTLY how to bring a *Korban Olah!*

RAMBAM - PEREK ECHAD :: Hilchos Chomeitz Umatzah - Perek Gimmel

In this *perek*, we finish learning about *Bedikas Chometz*. We also learn about *Bittul Chometz*, making our *chometz* counted as not worth anything, and about *Biur Chometz* — getting rid of the *chometz*.

INYANA D'YOMA :: Mivtzoyim

Once in the city of Rostov, they couldn't get very many *Esrogim* for *Sukkos*. They only had one or two *Esrogim* for the whole town!

One person who was lucky enough to have an *Esrog*, shared it with everyone so that everyone could do the *mitzvah*. Of course, when a lot of people touch an *Esrog*, especially if they have wet hands (like if they went to the *Mikvah* before!) it makes the *Esrog* turn brown!

Someone came over to that Yid, and asked him why he was letting everyone use his *Esrog*. "Don't you know that the *mitzvah* is to have a beautiful *Esrog*? Why are you letting everyone use it and turn it brown?"

The Yid answered, "The most beautiful *Esrog* is one that is used by so many Yidden!"

Many people spend a lot of money on *Esrogim*, to buy one that is very beautiful. That is very nice and is certainly a *hiddur mitzvah*, but the REAL beauty of an *Esrog* is when we bring it on *mivtzoyim* and help so many Yidden who don't even know they need a *Lulav* and *Esrog*, so that they could do the *mitzvah*! THAT is when we have a real beautiful *Esrog*!

Are you ready for your mivtzoyim this Sukkos? How many Yidden are you planning on helping this year to do this special mitzvah?

TEFILLAH :: Amidah for Shalosh Regalim

On the *Shalosh Regalim*, including *Sukkos*, we don't say the regular *Shemoneh Esrei*. There is a special *Amidah* for the *Shalosh Regalim*.

The way it is set up is similar to Shabbos. There are three *brachos* at the beginning mentioning the praises of Hashem and the *zechus* of the *Avos*, three *brachos* at the end thanking and praising Hashem, and one *bracha* in the middle about the *inyan* of the *Yom Tov*.

We start the middle *bracha* with *Ata Vechartanu*. Before speaking about the special *Yom Tov*, we first speak about how Hashem chose US to give it to! We say that Hashem picked us to be His nation. Hashem loves us and wanted us specifically. Hashem raised us up above the other nations, made us holy with His *mitzvos*, and gave us the *zechus* to carry Hashem's name — to be HASHEM's nation.

We will IY"H see the rest of the middle bracha over the next two shiurim.

HALACHOS HATZRICHOS :: Erev Sukkos

On *Erev Sukkos*, there is an *inyan* to give a lot of *tzedakah*.

The Mitteler Rebbe writes in a maamar, "Tzorich Lefazer Maos L'aniyim B'Erev Sukkos" — "You should generously give money to the poor on Erev Sukkos."

There were many years when the Rebbe encouraged us to keep this special *minhag* of adding in giving extra *tzedakah* on *Erev Sukkos*, and also on *Chol Hamoed*.

See Shevach Hamoadim, Kitzur Hilchos Sukkos

GEULAH U'MOSHIACH :: Talking about Moshiach

When Moshe Rabbeinu was born, Yidden were very happy. Among each other, they spoke about the fact that Amram, the Jewish leader of the time, had a baby boy Moshe!

When Moshe was taken to Paraoh's palace, the Yidden were very worried. Their holy leader Amram's son was taken away!

When Moshe ran away from Mitzrayim, Yidden didn't forget about him. They always remembered him and spoke about him, until Hashem had *Rachmonus* and listened to what the Yidden were *davening* for. Then the *Geulah* came through Moshe Rabbeinu.

The same is true with this last *Golus*. We need to constantly talk about and think about *Moshiach*, and he will come!

See Sefer Hasichos Tof-Reish-Tzadik-Tes p. 330

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