

Chitas for Thursday, Parshas Vezos Habracha Yud-Gimmel Tishrei, 5784 - Shnas Hakhel

לעילוי נשמת ר' יוסף בנימין בן ר' מנשה קאלטמאן
~ by Rabbi Aryeh & Esther Kaltmann ~

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This week is sponsored
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~ by his family ~

Mazel Tov **Bayla Deitsch** (Shlucha in Chandler, Arizona)
~ Bas Mitzvah Yud-Gimmel Tishrei ~
May she grow as a Bas Chabad and bring much nachas to the Rebbe and her family!

Mazel Tov **Sergeant Moussia Dechter** (Downtown Phoenix, Arizona)
~ 7th birthday Yud-Gimmel Tishrei ~
Shnas Bracha Vehatzlacha!

Mazel Tov **Meir Shlomo Feller** (proud soldier in Tzivos Hashem)
~ 1st birthday Yud-Beis Tishrei ~
Shnas Bracha Vehatzlacha!

Mazel Tov **Yossi Prus** (Doylestown, PA)
~ 7th birthday Yud-Gimmel Tishrei ~
Shnas Bracha Vehatzlacha!

Mazel Tov **General Boruch Shmuel Oirechman** (Shliach in Tallahassee, Florida)
~ 10th birthday Yud-Gimmel Tishrei ~
Shnas Bracha Vehatzlacha!

Mazel Tov **Yossi Azimov** (Shliach in South Brunswick, NJ)
~ 2nd birthday Yud-Gimmel Tishrei ~
Shnas Bracha Vehatzlacha!

CHUMASH :: Parshas Vezos Habracha - Chamishi with Rashi

Moshe is giving brachos to the Shevatim before he passes away:

First Moshe gives a bracha to **Shevet Dan**: They live in a place near the border, and they get a bracha to be very strong to keep the Yidden safe!

To **Shevet Naftali**: They are happy with the part of Eretz Yisroel Hashem gave them! They will be able to

catch a lot of fish in the Kinneres, which is in their part.

Asher should have many sons. They will make the rest of the Yidden happy because they will trade oil and fruit for grain. Asher's daughters will be beautiful, and the rest of the Yidden will want to marry them.

Shevet Asher will have so much olive oil!

The mountains in Asher's part of Eretz Yisroel have metal inside, and they protect the Yidden from anyone coming to attack the Yidden from the top (north) of Eretz Yisroel.

Now Moshe gives a bracha to ALL of the Yidden:

Your soldiers are strong, and keep the borders of Eretz Yisroel safe, as if they were locked tightly with metal locks that can't be broken!

All of your life will be wonderful, and you will have plenty of *parnasa* — as much as you serve Hashem every day.

There is no one like Hashem! Hashem helps you, and keeps you safe.

TEHILLIM :: 69 - 71

In one of today's kapitelach (Ayin-Alef) there are FOUR niggunim! It was the Rebbe's 70th birthday kapitel and chassidim were so happy that they made many niggunim!

One of them is on the words "**Kemofes Hayisi LoRabim, VeAta Machsi Oz.**" Dovid Hamelech says, "I was an example to many people, and You give me strength!" When a Yid acts in a way that will be a *Dugma Chaya* for other people, Hashem gives him the *koach* to have *hatzlacha*!

TANYA :: Igeres Hakodesh Siman Chof-Alef

Today we start a new letter in Igeres Hakodesh. Can you guess what it's about? That's right, about giving Tzedakah!

This letter has something NEW about *tzedakah*. We need to do it with *zerizus*, very quickly — not to push it off until later!

Zerizus is very special. The *chachomim* tell us that the *Akeidah* — when Avraham Avinu went to bring Yitzchak as a *korban* — is not the whole reason why we always ask Hashem to help us in its *zechus*. Lots of Yidden had *Mesiras Nefesh* later, and Hashem didn't even give them a clear command like He talked to Avraham Avinu! The main reason we ask for *brachos* in the *zechus* of the *Akeidah* is because Avraham Avinu did it with *ZERIZUS*.

This teaches us how important it is to have *zerizus* in all of our *mitzvos*!

We especially need to have *zerizus* in giving *tzedakah*. *Tzedakah* has a very strong *koach*: it protects us from many not good things.

Even though it was already decided on *Rosh Hashana* and *Yom Kippur* what will happen during the year, Hashem judges us again each day, to see if we will bring those *brachos* down. That's why every day again we need to earn these tremendous *brachos* by giving *tzedakah* with *zerizus*!

HAYOM YOM :: Yud-Gimmel Tishrei

Today is the Yartzeit-Hilula of the Rebbe Maharash. His Ohel is in Lubavitch.

The letter we will soon be learning in *Igeres Hakodesh* is *Siman Chof-Beis*. It is important to know that not the whole letter is printed in *Tanya*! The beginning and end of the letter are not printed there.

This whole letter was first printed in *Hatamim*.

At the beginning of this letter is the *Takanos Liozna*, the detailed rules the Alter Rebbe made about when people could come to the Alter Rebbe in Liozna. Part of the rules is that everyone had to have a set time when they were allowed to come, and it wasn't easy to change that time. The part of this letter that we learn in *Tanya* is part of the *Takanos* — that when they come, they shouldn't ask about *Gashmius*, but only *Ruchnius*. (This letter was also later printed in the Alter Rebbe's *Igros Kodesh*, which includes — in the introduction to the newer version — a detailed history of these *Takanos*.)

SEFER HAMITZVOS :: Shiur #159 - Mitzvas Asei #63, Lo Saasei #146, Asei #64

Today we are starting a new set of *halachos*, about how to bring *korbanos*. We learn three *mitzvos* about this:

1) (*Mitzvas Asei #63*) When we bring the *Korban Olah*, we need to follow the rules the Torah teaches of how to bring this kind of *korban* properly!

This *mitzvah* comes from the words of the *pesukim* in *Parshas Vayikra*: אָדָם כִּי יִקְרִיב מִמֶּם קֶרְבָּן לַיהוָה וְגו' אִם עֲלָה קֶרְבָּנוּ מִן הַבֶּקָר

2) (*Mitzvas Lo Saasei #146*) We are not allowed to eat any of the *Korban Olah* — all of it gets burned on the *Mizbeiach*. This *mitzvah* also includes *me'ilah*, not using anything that belongs to the *Beis Hamikdash*.

We learn this *mitzvah* from a *posuk* in *Parshas Reeh*: לֹא תֹכַל לֶאֱכַל בְּשַׁעֲרֵיךָ וְגו' כָּל נִדְרֵיךָ אֲשֶׁר תִּדֹר

3) (*Mitzvas Asei #64*) When we bring a *Korban Chatas* (a *korban* that we bring for an *aveira*), we need to follow all of the *halachos* of how to bring it right.

We learn this *mitzvah* from a *posuk* in *Parshas Tzav*: זֹאת תֹּרַת הַחֻטָּאת וְגו'

RAMBAM :: Hilchos Maaseh HaKorbanos

In today's Rambam, we start to learn about how to bring *korbanos*!

Perek Alef: We learn some general rules about *Korbanos* — which kinds of animals we are allowed to bring, and which *Korbanos* are brought by individual people and which are brought by all of the *Yidden* together, as a *tzibur*.

Perek Beis: The Rambam teaches us about the *Nesech* (wine) and *Mincha* (flour and oil) that we bring along with each *Korban*. We learn how much we bring for each kind of *Korban*.

Perek Gimmel: This *perek* teaches us about people bringing a *Korban* together, and about doing the *mitzvah* of *Smicha*. *Smicha* is when the person bringing the *korban* puts his hands on it and says before Hashem the things he did wrong, called *Vidui*. If someone brings a *Korban Shelamim*, he doesn't say *Vidui*, he only speaks about the greatness of Hashem!

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

In today's first *perek* we learn *halachos* about *Bedikas Chometz*.

One interesting *halacha* is that if a person sees a mouse go into his house with a piece of *chometz*, and then he sees crumbs on the floor, he needs to look through the whole house until he finds the *chometz*. This is because we say that the mouse probably put the piece of *chometz* down somewhere, and didn't eat it, since mice don't leave crumbs when they eat!

But if you see a baby go into the house with *chometz*, and you find crumbs, you can say that the baby probably already ate the *chometz*, and these are the crumbs from it — because babies do leave crumbs! So then, you wouldn't need to check the whole house again.

INYANA D'YOMA :: Chassidishe Yom Tov

Today is the yahrzeit of the Rebbe Maharash.

Before the Rebbe Maharash was nistalek, he asked for a clock. He put a feather in a certain place so that the clock wouldn't go further when it got there. That was the minute that he passed away!

The Rebbe tells us again and again that *chassidim* need to learn from the Rebbe Maharash how to act in a way of *Lechat'chila Ariber*. The Rebbe Maharash said that everyone thinks that if something gets in the way of doing what you should, try to find other ways to do it. But the Rebbe Maharash says that you should just DO what you need to, and not even THINK about that thing that is getting in the way!

There are a lot of stories of the Rebbe Maharash that are called “*Baal Shem'ske Hanhaga*” — that he did things in a way of miracles, to make sure that everything was done exactly in the right way and that nothing got in the way.

We also need to decide to do *mitzvos* and *Mivtzoyim* and not to be worried about problems that can come up along the way. When we do what Hashem wants, we will be able to jump right over all of the problems!

What did today, Yud-Gimmel Tishrei, look like in 770 with the Rebbe? What would it feel like to be there today? Watch tonight's “Tishrei Up-Close” video, made by JEM for kids, to find out! videos.jem.tv/good-night (free registration required)

TEFILLAH :: What Do We Live For?

In *davening*, we ask Hashem for all of the things we need.

Chassidus shows us that this is not the only reason for *davening*. When we reach out to Hashem, we are connecting to Hashem! During the time of *davening*, we are able to stop all of our busy work for a few minutes, and think about our connection to Hashem. We remind ourselves why we are here in this world at all — in order to serve Hashem!

In honor of *Yud-Gimmel Tishrei*, we will learn a story about this from the Rebbe Maharash:

The two oldest sons of the Rebbe Maharash were the Raza and the Rashab. One day, when they were playing outside, they had an argument about the difference between Yidden and Goyim.

The Raza said that Yidden are more special because of all of the Torah that they learn, and the kavana they have when they daven.

But the Rebbe Rashab said that couldn't be. Because many Yidden COULDN'T learn Torah or have kavana, but they still had to be different than goyim!

When the Rebbe Maharash heard about their argument, he called them over. He told them to bring Ben-Tzion, a

simple Yid who helped in their house. The Rebbe Maharash asked Ben-Tzion a few questions:

“Ben-Tzion, did you eat?”

“Yes,” Ben-Tzion answered.

“Did you eat well?”

Ben-Tzion shrugged. “Well? I ate enough, Boruch Hashem.”

The Rebbe Maharash asked further: “Why do you eat?”

“So I can live,” Ben-Tzion said.

“And why do you need to live?”

“To be a Jew and do what Hashem wants,” Ben-Tzion answered with a sigh.

Then the Rebbe Maharash asked that the coachman, Ivan, come. The Maharash asked Ivan the same questions:

“Ivan, did you eat?”

“Yes!” Ivan answered.

“Did you eat well?”

Ivan smiled. “Yes, I did!”

“And why do you eat?”

“I need to eat so I can live,” Ivan said.

“And why do you need to live?”

“To enjoy a good drink of mashke and something good to eat!” Ivan answered.

The Rebbe Maharash thanked Ivan.

Now his sons were able to see for themselves what is special about even a simple Yid. Even a simple Yid realizes that his purpose in the world is to serve Hashem, not just to enjoy life.

The time of *davening* is a very good time for us to remind ourselves why we need to live, and to make sure we’re living that way!

HALACHOS HATZRICHOS :: Do it Too!

Putting up a *sukkah* can be hard work! Many times, it makes more sense to have someone else do the building. Your older brother, a neighbor, or a hired carpenter might do a better job putting up a strong *sukkah*, in much less time than it would take you!

Still, we want to give *kavod* to the *mitzvah* of *sukkah*, by not letting someone else do the WHOLE job. Even if someone else is building most of the *sukkah*, we should still make sure to be part of it! We at least help put up some of the *s’chach*, so that we will participate in this special *mitzvah* too.

See *Shevach Hamoadim, Sukkos*

GEULAH U'MOSHIACH :: Shabbos

The days before Shabbos are a preparation for Shabbos, and the *Zohar* says that Shabbos gives a *bracha* to all of

the days of the week.

When we prepare so we can celebrate Shabbos properly, then the *kedusha* of Shabbos helps us in our *avodah* the rest of the week: We'll remember what the *gashmius* is really there for — to help us act the way Hashem wants! We'll be able to find Hashem in all of the *gashmius* things!

Golus is like the days of the week, and *Geulah* is like Shabbos. The times of the *Geulah* will be like one long Shabbos, and every Shabbos is a taste of the *Geulah*! When we celebrate Shabbos properly, we can also take the *chayus* of the *Geulah* and bring it with us into the rest of the week!

See *Sefer Hasichos* 5749 and 5751

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