Chitas for Tuesday, Parshas Yisro Chof Shevat, 5784

For the safety and security of the Yidden in Eretz Yisrael and the success of the soldiers fighting for its protection

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

מוקדש לחיזוק ההתקשרות לכ"ק אדמו"ר זי"ע נשיא דורנו ~ ע"י ברוך בן רחל ומשפחתו

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Mazel Tov **Chana Katz** (Shlucha in La Quinta, California) ~ 7th birthday Chof Shevat ~ Shnas Bracha Vehatzlacha!

CHUMASH :: Parshas Yisro - Shlishi with Rashi

Yisro came to join the Yidden. When he saw Moshe Rabbeinu busy with the Yidden full time, he suggested that Moshe delegate some of the work to proper judges.

Moshe Rabbeinu asked Hashem whether Yisro's suggestion was the right thing, and Hashem agreed that Yisro's plan was good. So Moshe followed Yisro's advice.

Moshe chose the best judges he could for the Yidden. The Yidden asked these judges their questions, and if it was a very hard question they brought it to Moshe.

Yisro stayed to watch Moshe setting up the judges, and then he decided to go back to Midyan to help the rest of his family become Yidden too.

TEHILLIM :: 97 - 103

Today's kapitelach are Tzadik-Zayin through Kuf-Gimmel.

Here are the first and last *pesukim* of today's first *kapitel*:

ה' מַלָּדָ הַּגֵל הָאָרֵץ יִשְׂמְחוּ אִיִים רַבִּים

Hashem Malach Tageil Ha'aretz — When Hashem will show His *malchus*, the world will be happy

Yismechu Iyim Rabim — The many islands will be joyful!

And the last *posuk*:

שָׂמָחוּ צַדִּיקִים בַּה' וְהוֹדוּ לְזֵכֵר קַדְשׁוֹ

Simchu Tzadikim BaHashem — Be happy with Hashem, *tzadikim*

Vehodu Lezeicher Kadsho — And praise Hashem's holy Name!

TANYA: Likutei Amarim Perek Chof-Gimmel

What happens when someone drives a car? Does the car decide where it wants to go, or how fast it should go? Of course not! The car goes only wherever the driver wants it to go!

When we do a *mitzvah*, our body is like the "car" for Hashem's *ratzon*, what Hashem wants! We can feel like Hashem is "driving" us!

The *Avos* are called the *Merkavah* (wagon) in the *Medrash*. Every moment of their lives, they felt what Hashem wanted, and only did those things. Hashem was "driving" them!

That's what happens when every Yid does a *mitzvah* — he becomes united with *Achdus Hashem*.

HAYOM YOM :: Chof Shevat

Today's Hayom Yom teaches us about our minhag in Netilas Yodayim before eating bread.

The Rebbe Rashab writes in one of his letters that our *minhag* is to wash our hands three times on each hand for *Netilas Yodayim*. (Some people do only two times, but it is a special *hidur* to pour water THREE times.)

The Rebbe Maharash would also do it this way, and would leave a little bit of water in his hand after pouring for the third time, to rub his hands together (*shifshuf*) after the *bracha*.

SEFER HAMITZVOS:: Shiur #283 - Mitzvas Asei #245

Today's *mitzvah* (*Mitzvas Asei #245*) is — you guessed it, the very same *mitzvah* again! When we buy things and sell things (or even give presents), there are rules in Torah about how to do it, and who the things belong to when.

RAMBAM:: Hilchos Shluchim VeShutfim

In today's Rambam, we learn more about partners:

In **Perek Hey** we learn about what happens when one of the partners doesn't do what they agreed. If he sold the potatoes for too cheap, he needs to pay his partner back for the money that was lost. But if he sold them for more money than they decided on, they need to split the extra money equally!

Perek Vov teaches us about a kind of partnership where one person just gives the money, and the other person does all the work. This called *Eisek*.

Perek Zayin tells us what happens when the person doing all the work doesn't do it right.

RAMBAM - PEREK ECHAD :: Hilchos Maachalos Asuros - Perek Beis

Today's Rambam teaches us many *halachos* about kosher animals! We learn about not eating non-kosher animals or bugs, whether they are crawling or flying or live in the water.

INYANA D'YOMA :: Ahavas Yisroel

Here's a story with a lesson about *Ahavas Yisroel*, that the Rebbe told over at a *farbrengen*.

One time, when the Rebbe Rashab was still a little boy, he was playing a game with his older brother, the Raz"a (R' Zalman Aharon). They were playing a game of Rebbe and *chossid*, something they were used to seeing at home!

The Rebbe Rashab pretended that he was a *chossid* coming into *Yechidus*. "Rebbe," he said. "I need a *tikun*! What should I do?"

"What did you do wrong?" asked the Raz"a, who was pretending to be the Rebbe.

"I cracked nuts on Shabbos," answered the Rebbe Rashab, "and I only found out afterwards that the Alter Rebbe says we aren't allowed to do that on Shabbos."

The Raz"a told him, "your tikun is to be careful to daven and say brachos only from a siddur, and not by heart!"

The Rebbe Rashab didn't agree to do this as a tikun!

When his mother (Rebbetzin Rivka) asked why, the Rebbe Rashab answered that it wouldn't help — because his brother is not a Rebbe. When a Rebbe helps a Yid, he sighs before he answers, because it bothers him too! Since the Raz"a didn't sigh, his advice won't help either.

The lesson we learn from this story is not just for a Rebbe, but for each of us! Before we give advice to another person who is going through a hard time, we should try to feel their pain, and it should bother us too.

TEFILLAH :: Hodu (Part One)

After the Yidden came into Eretz Yisroel, the Mishkan was set up in Shilo. After many years, the Pelishtim captured Shilo and took the Aron with it! The Mishkan was set up again in Nov, a different city. The Pelishtim were punished for taking the Mishkan, and gave it back. But the Aron was brought to Kiryas Ye'arim, and the Yidden were afraid to move it. When the city of Nov was killed by Shaul Hamelech, the Mishkan was moved to Givon, where it stayed until the Beis Hamikdash was built. Dovid Hamelech very much wanted to build the Beis Hamikdash, but Hashem didn't let him. Dovid Hamelech brought the Aron to the holy city of Yerushalayim, where it stayed in a tent until the Beis Hamikdash was built.

While the *Aron* was in a tent in Yerushalayim, Dovid Hamelech asked that the *pesukim* from *Hodu* until "*Vehalel LaHashem*" (the first half of *Hodu*) that were said at the time of the *Korban Tomid* in the *Mishkan* should be said in front of the *Aron* each day.

The pesukim said at the time of the Korban Tomid of the morning are from the words "Hodu" until "Uvinviai Al Tareiu," and then the pesukim from there until "Vehalel LaHashem" were said at the Korban Tomid of the afternoon. These pesukim are written down in Divrei HaYamim in Nach.

These words of *Hodu* are all about praising Hashem! In our *siddur*, it is said right before the section of *Pesukei Dezimra*, where we speak about Hashem's greatness. Since the *pesukim* in *Hodu* were said in connection with the *Korban Tomid*, we also say it right after *Korbanos*, just before we start *Pesukei Dezimra*.

HALACHOS HATZRICHOS :: Borer

We are learning the halachos of borer on Shabbos, separating something from a mixture, which is one of the Lamed-Tes Melachos.

We learned yesterday that even though taking off the peels of fruits or vegetables could be considered *borer*, since it is *Derech Achilah* we are allowed to take off the peels before eating them.

Still, we follow the other conditions of *Derech Achilah*, and do it with a knife or our hand, and only right before we eat them.

Even though we would be allowed to take off the shells of nuts on Shabbos, the same way we peel fruits, the Alter Rebbe says that we should not do it.

After taking off the shell, there might be small pieces of the shell left on or mixed in with the nuts. We would need to take the nut out from those pieces (and not take out the pieces of shell) so it wouldn't be *borer*, and that is not easy to do.

Even if we manage to take off the shell completely, without leaving any pieces, the shells are *muktza* and we are not allowed to move them.

Since it is so hard to eat nuts with shells without doing the *isur* of *borer* or *muktza*, the Alter Rebbe says that it is better not to eat them at all.

We should only eat nuts on Shabbos if the shells were taken off before Shabbos.

See Hilchesa Rabsa Leshabbata (printed in the back of the siddur)

GEULAH U'MOSHIACH :: Everyone Will Hear About It

In this week's *parsha*, Yisro joins the Jewish people!

The Torah tells us that he hears about the many *nissim* that Hashem did for the Yidden, and wants to learn from such a special nation!

This is also something that will happen when *Moshiach* comes! The *Navi* says, "*Kimei Tzeis'cha Me'eretz Mitzrayim Arenu Niflaos*," that there will be *nissim* like there were at the time of *Yetziyas Mitzrayim*. All of the nations will hear about the these *nissim*, and they will all want to learn how to serve Hashem from such a special nation.

See sicha to children, Yud-Zayin Shevat Tof-Shin-Mem-Gimmel

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