

Chitas for Wednesday, Parshas Acharei Isru Chag Chof-Gimmel Nisan, 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 קאלטמאן
~ 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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~ for her 36th yartzeit, Erev Pesach ~

Mazel Tov **Mushka Gottlieb** (Amherst, MA)
~ birthday Shvi'i Shel Pesach ~
Shnas Bracha Vehatzlacha!

CHUMASH :: Parshas Acharei - Revi'i with Rashi

Now we learn about a new mitzvah!

The Yidden used to be able to bring *korbanos* wherever they wanted. They would just build a *Mizbeiach* for Hashem and they could bring a *korban* there! Now that they have this *mitzvah*, they can ONLY bring *korbanos* in the *Mishkan* or *Beis Hamikdash*.

This will keep the Yidden from doing *Avodah Zarah*, because all of their *korbanos* will be only brought in Hashem's home.

TEHILLIM :: 108 - 112

In today's *Tehillim*, we have a *posuk* that says "**Reishis Chochma Yiras Hashem**" — the beginning of *Chochma* (the first thing before we get the *chochma* of Torah) is to have *Yiras Hashem*.

A person could go to *Yeshiva* and learn a lot of Torah! He might think he is so smart, he is smarter than his teachers! He thinks he doesn't need to listen to his parents either...

That's why we need to have *Yiras Shomayim* first, because this way (as the *Gemara* explains), we can make sure that our Torah will only bring to GOOD things!

TANYA :: Likutei Amarim Perek Mem-Beis

The Alter Rebbe is showing us how to bring out the Yiras Shomayim that is hiding in our Neshama. The Alter Rebbe said that in addition to thoughts of Teshuvah to take away the distractions of the guf, we also need to spend time at the beginning of the day thinking about how Hashem is watching us.

When we think about the *posuk* of *Vehinei*, that even though Hashem is everywhere, Hashem is always watching us and making sure we are serving Hashem properly, then we will have *Yiras Shomayim*!

But what happens the rest of the day, when we can't sit down and think about it?

The Alter Rebbe tells us that by having the *hisbonenus* once, it will help us the rest of the day too! All we will need to do is remind ourselves about it, and that will already bring enough *Yiras Shomayim* to keep us behaving throughout the day the way Hashem wants!

HAYOM YOM :: Chof-Gimmel Nisan

Today is the eighth day of the *Omer*!

Chassidus teaches us about many special things that happen in *Ruchnius* every year during the *Yomim Tovim*.

For example, during Yetziyas Mitzrayim, the Etzem of Hashem was revealed to the Yidden and took them out of Mitzrayim. And every year, Hashem's Etzem shines on the first days of Pesach!

And just as Hashem protected the Yidden during Leil Shimurim, this happens again every year!

Only tzadikim are able to really feel these things the way they are in Ruchnius, but every Yid also is changed by them in a certain way.

On *Acharon Shel Pesach*, a ray of *Moshiach* shines in the world.

Even though we don't feel it the way *tzadikim* do, it helps all of us!

How?

After *Tishrei*, we don't go straight back into our regular *Avodah*. First, after *Shemini Atzeres* we have *Simchas Torah*, then we have *Shabbos Bereishis*, and then we continue with *V'Yaakov Holach Ledarko*. That slowly helps us bring the *koach* of the *Yomim Tovim* into the rest of the year.

But *Pesach* doesn't work that way! We go straight from *Acharon Shel Pesach* into the week!

How do we jump from *Pesach* right into a regular weekday?

We can do it with the *koach* of *Moshiach*! When *Moshiach* comes, Hashem will be felt in the whole world, and even a regular day's *Avodah* will feel like a *Yom Tov*! The taste of *Moshiach* that we get on *Acharon Shel Pesach* gives us the *koach* to be able to do the *shlichus* Hashem gives us, and make the *Gashmius* of the world into a place where Hashem can be felt!

SEFER HAMITZVOS :: Shiur #36 - Nusach Birchos HaTefillah

Today's Rambam and *Sefer Hamitzvos* are exactly the same! We read through the Rambam's *nusach* for *Shmoneh Esrei* and *Vidui*. It is very interesting to see what is the same and what is different in the Rambam's *nusach* and the *nusach* we *daven*!

RAMBAM :: Nusach Birchos HaTefillah

In today's Rambam, we read through the *nusach* of every possible *Shemoneh Esrei*! We see *Shemoneh Esrei* the way it is said during the week, and the changes we make on Shabbos and *Yomim Tovim*. This way, we see every different type of *Shemoneh Esrei* there could be.

RAMBAM- PEREK ECHAD :: Hilchos Matnos Aniyim - Perek Yud

This is a very important *perek* to know! It is a good idea to learn it inside.

The Rambam tells us how special it is to give *tzedakah*, and that even when we can't give, we should try to make the poor person feel good. Also, helping others to give *Tzedakah* is even BETTER than giving yourself!

We also learn about:

- 8 levels of *Tzedakah*
- *Tzedakah* before *davening*
- not taking *Tzedakah* unless someone really needs to.

We need to trust in Hashem Who will make sure we have everything we need!

Mazel Tov! We have now finished learning this set of halachos!

INYANA D'YOMA :: Sefiras Haomer

This week in *Sefiras Haomer*, we are working on the *midah* of *Gevurah*. *Gevurah* means to be strong: Like when we wake up in the morning, a Yid needs to be "*Gibor Ko'Ari*" — strong like a lion, to win over his *Yetzer Hara* who wants him to go back to sleep instead of going to *daven*!

We also use this *midah* to make sure we are being nice to other people: When we get upset at someone, we are strong with our *gevurah* and don't listen to our *Yetzer Hara* who wants us to scream at them! Instead we should think about how Hashem is watching what we are doing, and talk to them in a nice way.

In a few weeks, we will learn about this in Pirkei Avos: The first mishna in Perek Daled says, "Eizehu Gibor? Hakovesh Es Yitzro!" "Who is a strong person (someone with Gevurah)? Someone who wins over his Yetzer Hara!"

TEFILLAH :: First Bracha of Shemoneh Esrei

In the *Gemara*, the first *bracha* of *Shemoneh Esrei* is also called "*Avos*." That's because in this *bracha*, we mention each of the *Avos*.

Why do we speak about the *Avos* here in *Shemoneh Esrei*?

One of the reasons is because the whole reason we are able to stand here now, speaking privately to Hashem, about to ask Hashem for all of our needs, is because of the *Avos*!

Our special connection to Hashem, as Hashem's special nation, is a *yerusha* from the *Avos*.

We ask Hashem that, in the *zechus* of the *Avos*, our *tefillos* should be accepted.

HALACHOS HATZRICHS :: Isru Chag

The day after *Yom Tov* is called *Isru Chag*. The word "*isru*" means tied, connected. It is a day that connects the

regular weekdays with the *Yom Tov* that just ended.

On *Isru Chag*, we bring some of the joy of *Yom Tov* into a regular day. We eat a little bit more than usual to show that it is special, and we don't fast.

The *Gemara* says that someone who eats and drinks more on the day after *Yom Tov*, connecting it to the *Yom Tov*, it is like he built a *Mizbeiach* and brought a *korban*!

(We hint to this in *Hallel*: "*Isru Chag Ba'avosim Ad Karnos Hamizbeiach*." If you eat "*avosim*" (fatty food) on *Isru Chag*, it is like you brought a *korban* to the corners of the *Mizbeiach*.)

See the Alter Rebbe's Shulchan Aruch, siman Tof-Chof-Tes se'if yud-zayin

GEULAH U'MOSHIACH :: The Haftora of Acharon Shel Pesach

Chizkiyahu was a king over the Yidden of Yehudah in the times of the first Beis Hamikdash. He was a great tzadik, and ruled over the Yidden well.

Not far from Eretz Yisroel lived a cruel king named Sancheriv. All of the kings around him, including Chizkiyahu, gave him gifts of a lot of money so he would leave them alone. But even though Chizkiyahu gave him all of the money in his royal treasury, Sancheriv was not satisfied. He came to capture Eretz Yisroel.

Sancheriv's army was very strong, and they were able to capture all of the cities. When they reached Yerushalayim, Sancheriv decided to rest with his army outside the gates, and capture it in the morning. Sancheriv's general yelled at the Yidden, telling them to ignore Chizkiyahu and give up.

Chizkiyahu tore his clothes and went to daven in the Beis Hamikdash. He told all of the Yidden to fast and to daven, because we only win with Hashem's help.

The Navi Yeshayahu came to Chizkiyahu and told him a wonderful nevuah! Hashem had promised to save Yerushalayim and make many miracles!

Chizkiyahu had a lot of bitachon in Hashem! Even though the enemy was sleeping right outside of the gates of Yerushalayim, he knew he could trust Hashem's words. He went to sleep peacefully, not worried at all.

And the miracles started to happen! That night, the first night of Pesach, Hashem made Sancheriv's soldiers die. When Sancheriv woke up in the morning and saw his army dead, he gave up and went back home, without even shooting one arrow at Yerushalayim, just like the Navi had said!

If you look at the words of the Navi, you will see that the *nevuah* was much longer than the part about saving Yerushalayim! Hashem also promised that a great leader will come and bring the Yidden back to Yerushalayim. There will be peace throughout the world, and even lions will lie down together with lambs.

These *nevuos* are about *Moshiach*! Chizkiyahu was the person in his generation who could have become *Moshiach*, but in the end it wasn't the right time. So all of those *nevuos* are waiting to come true, very soon, when *Moshiach* comes!

This *nevuah* of Yeshayahu is the *haftora* of *Acharon Shel Pesach*. That is because *Acharon Shel Pesach* is when the light of *Moshiach* shines! And when *Acharon Shel Pesach* is over, it leaves us with *koach* to prepare the world for *Moshiach*!

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