

# Chitas for Wednesday, Parshas Chayei Sarah Chof-Daled Mar-Cheshvan, 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  
ולעילוי נשמת אמו מרת רחל בת ר' שניאור זלמן יששכר געצל הלוי

*Chitas for the month of Cheshvan is made possible in part*

לעילוי נשמת הרה"ח הרה"ת הר"ח הרה"ח הר"ח מרדכי בן הר"ח פינחס מענטליק וליכות רפואה שלימה וקרובה לזאב יחזקאל הכהן בן מינדל

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*In the merit of our IDF for their brave battle to protect our homeland. To Klal Yisrael for comfort and honor. May our Moshiach bring peace for us now!*

Mazel Tov **Second Lieutenant Menachem Mendel Lazaroff** (Shliach in Houston, TX)

~ 7th birthday Chof-Daled Cheshvan ~

*Shnas Bracha Vehatzlacha!*

Mazel Tov **Chava Levitin** (Jersey City, NJ)

~ 7th birthday Chof-Daled Cheshvan ~

*Shnas Bracha Vehatzlacha!*

## **CHUMASH :: Parshas Chayei Sarah - Revi'i with Rashi**

Eliezer was sent as a *shliach* from Avraham, to find a *shidduch* for Yitzchak. He found Rivkah by the well, and is confident that the *shlichus* is successful. Today we learn about how Rivkah's family agrees to the *shidduch*!

Eliezer said, "Baruch (blessed is) Hashem, who did *chesed* to Avraham! Hashem brought me to the right place, to Avraham's brother's house!"

Rivkah ran to her mother and told her what happened.

Rivkah had a brother named Lavan, who was in his mother's house and heard what Rivkah said. He ran to Eliezer who was at the well.

Why did he run? Lavan saw his sister wearing the expensive jewelry that Elizer had given her. He was excited that Eliezer was rich, and he wanted to get some of that money.

Lavan acted very nice to Eliezer. He asked him why he was still standing at the well. He invited him to his house where he could rest and eat. He told him that he had even cleared out the house from *Avodah Zarah*, knowing that a servant of Avraham would be careful about that. Lavan even had made space for the camels!

Lavan and Eliezer came to the house, untied the muzzles, and fed the camels. Lavan gave Eliezer and the men who were with him water to wash their feet.

Food was served, but Eliezer didn't want to eat until he explained why he was there. He told them about

Avraham, how Avraham had made him promise to find a wife for Yitzchak, and everything that had happened. (He changed the order a little bit, so they wouldn't wonder how he had given her presents before knowing for sure that she was from the right family.)

*The Torah writes all of the details of what Eliezer said, even though we already know it from the pesukim before. Usually the Torah is very careful not to use an extra word — there are many mitzvos that are only hinted to us from one word or letter in the Torah! But here, the Torah repeats the whole story! Rashi tells us what it says in the Gemara, that this shows how precious the Avos are to Hashem. Even the plain words of their servants are more precious to Hashem than the Torah learning of their children, the Yidden in the future, after Matan Torah — “Yafeh Sichasan Shel Avdei Avos MiTorasan Shel Banim.”*

Now, Eliezer asked, “Will you let me take Rivkah back to marry Yitzchak?”

Lavan was *chutzpadik* and answered before Besuel his father. They said that they see it came from Hashem and couldn't say no. “Take Rivkah and go, like Hashem said.”

Eliezer bowed to Hashem to show thanks.

*Rashi says that we learn from this that we need to thank Hashem when we hear good news!*

## **TEHILLIM :: 113 - 118**

Today's *Tehillim* is *kapitelach Kuf-Yud-Gimmel* through *Kuf-Yud-Ches*.

Today's *Tehillim* is the *kapitelach* which make up *Hallel*!

One of the things we say in *Hallel*, in *Kapitel Kuf-Yud-Daled*, is that after Hashem took the Yidden out of Mitzrayim, He did many miracles for us!

In the next *kapitel* (*Kuf-Tes-Vov*), we say “**Lo Lanu Hashem, Lo Lanu, Ki L'Shimcha Ten Kavod.**” “Don't do it for us Hashem, don't do it for us! Do it instead to give honor to Your name.”

During the time of *Golus*, we don't see Hashem's *nissim* as much. That's why we ask Hashem to treat us in a way of *nissim* — not because of how we act, but because we are Hashem's nation. We ask Hashem to do this just for the sake of Hashem's holy name, which will get honor by the *chesed* Hashem will do with Yidden.

## **TANYA :: Igeres Hakodesh Siman Lamed**

*What if someone started giving \$100 to tzedakah every week, but then they started to earn less money at work? Should they start giving \$50 instead? The Alter Rebbe says no! In today's Tanya, the Alter Rebbe explains why it's so important to keep giving the same amount of tzedakah, even if you have less money.*

The *Gemara* says that if someone stops coming to *shul*, Hashem asks where they are. And the same thing is with other *mitzvos* too — if someone stops doing a *mitzvah*, Hashem “asks” about it! He is waiting for them to do their *mitzvah*.

Our *tzedakah* brings *chayus* of Hashem into the world from very high places in *ruchniyus*. We need to give at least the same amount of *tzedakah*, so at least the same amount of Hashem's special *chayus* (and not *chas veshalom* less) will keep coming into the world!

## **HAYOM YOM :: Chof-Daled Mar-Cheshvan**

It is easy to look around and see people who have better *gashmiyus'dike* things than us — a nicer computer, or bike, or fancy toy.

But that's not how we should think!

For *gashmius* things, we should look around and see someone who has even LESS *gashmius* than us — someone who has NO bike at all or NO toys. That will make us thank Hashem for all of the things we DO have!

It is also easy to look around and see someone who is less *frum* than us, or less *Chassidish* than us. That makes us feel proud of ourselves, since we think we are better than they are.

But that's not how we should think!

In *ruchnius* things, we should look at someone who has even MORE *mitzvos* than we do. We should look at how someone else *davens* with more *kavana*, or has good *midos*, or goes on *mitvzoyim* more often.

We should ask Hashem to help us learn from that person, and give us *koach* to become better!

## **SEFER HAMITZVOS :: Shiur #200 - Mitzvas Asei #107**

Today's *mitzvah* is the same one as yesterday:

(*Mitzvas Asei #107*) When a *neshama* leaves a body, the body becomes *Tomei*. Someone who touches or is in the same house as the body gets some of this *Tumah* too, called *Tumas Meis*. Today's *mitzvah* is to follow all of the *halachos* about this *tumah*!

## **RAMBAM :: Hilchos Tumas Meis**

In today's Rambam (*Perakim Yud-Ches, Yud-Tes, and Chof*), we learn more about how *Tumas Meis* can spread inside of a house.

One of the things the Rambam teaches is that “***Derech Hatumah Latzeis, Ve'ein Darka Lehikanos***” — *tumah* goes out of things, but doesn't come in. *Tumah* can come out of even a closed container to make the whole house *tamei*, but it doesn't go into a sealed container and make things inside of it *tamei*.

So for example, if there are dishes inside of a sealed box in a house that has *Tumas Meis* inside, the dishes stay *tahor*, even though the whole house is *tomei*. The *tumah* doesn't go inside of the box.

But if there is *Tumas Meis* inside of a sealed box inside of a house, the whole house becomes *tomei*. The *tumah* that is inside of the box goes out of it.

## **RAMBAM- PEREK ECHAD :: Hilchos Taaniyos - Perek Gimmel**

Today the Rambam teaches us about the fasts the *Beis Din* set up when no rain is falling.

## **INYANA D'YOMA :: Sameiach Bechelko**

*Imagine you are feeling sad that you don't have a new backpack this year. Instead you are using the same old one from last year. Is that the right way to feel?*

Or imagine that you are making yourself happy by thinking about how you daven much more nicely than everyone else in your class. Is that the right way to feel?

Someone wrote to the Rebbe once, telling the Rebbe that things were a bit hard for him. His *parnasa* was not so good, but he had *bitachon* that things would get better. His children were not doing as well in *Yiddishkeit* as he hoped, but he made himself feel better by realizing that at least they were better than some others.

In the Rebbe's answer, he saw that it's not always good to be happy with the way things are!

The Rebbe answered with the words of a *posuk*, "***Bashomayim Mimaal Ve'al Haaretz Mitachas***." In the Torah, this is saying that "In the heavens above and on the earth below, there is nothing aside for Hashem!"

In many *sefarim*, these words are explained in another way: ***Bashomayim***, in *Shomayim* things, meaning about Hashem and *kedusha*, we look ***Mimaal***, above — we look at people on a HIGHER level than us and try to be like them.

Only in *Gashmius* things, "***Al Haaretz***," things that are on the earth, we look "***Mitachas***," below. In those things we look at people who have less than us, and realize that we should be happy with what we have. Then we will truly feel rich — "*Aizehu Ashir, Hasameiach Bechelko!*" "Who is rich? Someone who is happy with what he has."

*This is the same idea as what we learned today in Hayom Yom. Many times the Rebbe would remind Chassidim that it's good to be happy with our Gashmius, but we should always look at others to see how to make our Ruchnius better!*

*See Igros Kodesh chelek Hey, page 237*

## **TEFILLAH :: Yud-Beis Pesukim - Veshinantam**

The eighth *posuk* of the *Yud-Beis Pesukim* is *Veshinantam*.

This *posuk* tells us that parents and teachers have a responsibility to teach Torah all the time and everywhere!

***Veshinantam Levanecha*** — You should teach the Torah to your children and your students

***Vedibarta Bam*** — And discuss the words of Torah

***Beshivtecha Beveisecha*** — When you are sitting in your house

***Uvelechtecha Vaderech*** — And when you are traveling

***Uveshachbecha Uvekumecha*** — And when you go to sleep, and when you wake up!

We might look at this *posuk* and think that we will do what the *posuk* says when we get older. We aren't parents or teachers yet! We can ask our parents to do it, but we can't do it ourselves.

But the Rebbe says that *Veshinantam Levanecha* IS for kids too!

When we share the words of Torah we know with another child who doesn't know it, we are also teachers!

To be good teachers, we need to make sure to learn in a way of *Veshinantam*! The word *Veshinantam* comes from a word that means sharp and clear. We should make sure that the Torah we know is very clear in our minds, and that we are behaving according to what we know!

*Der Rebbe Redt Tzu Kinder vol. 5, p.294*

## **HALACHOS HATZRICHOS :: Driving at Night**

Did you ever go on a long trip in a car?

If we drive at night, the Rebbe says that we shouldn't just drive straight through. We should stop every hour for about 10 minutes.

*See Mikdash Melech vol. 4 p. 490, Shulchan Menachem vol 1 p. 357*

## **GEULAH U'MOSHIACH :: The Alef of Geulah**

What is *Geulah*?

One way to know is by looking at the word itself! As we learned, the word "*Geulah*" has the same letters as the word "*Golah*" (*Golus*) — just with an extra *alef*. This teaches us that *Geulah* comes to add something new to *Golus*, which will change it into *Geulah*!

The Rebbe taught us three things we can learn about *Geulah* from this *Alef*:

- 1) *Alef* is the same letters as ***Aluf***, which means master — *Alufo Shel Olam*, the Master of the world, Hashem! In the times of *Geulah*, the whole world will recognize that Hashem is in charge of the world.
- 2) *Alef* is connected to the word ***Ulfena*** (like in the *posuk*, "*Aalefcha Chochmah, Aalefcha Binah*) to learn. In the times of *Geulah*, the whole world will learn and live according to the Torah!
- 3) *Alef* is the same letters as the word ***Peleh***, a wonder — there will be many wonders and *nissim* in the time of *Geulah*, and we will have new and wonderful secrets of Torah!

But there is another reason why the word *Geulah* is made up of the letters of *Golah*: Because it is our *avodah* in *Golah*, in *Golus*, which makes the *Geulah* possible!

In fact, even in *Golus* we can start getting the world ready for the *Alef* of *Geulah* — according to all the things the *Alef* teaches us!

- 1) *Alufo Shel Olam* — We should work on making sure everything we do is *Lesheim Shomayim*, for Hashem. When we eat, drink, work, or play, we should remember that Hashem is in charge of the world and we are doing these things to serve Hashem!
- 2) *Aa'lefscha Chochmah* — We should start learning extra Torah already!
- 3) *Peleh* — We shouldn't only wait for the new secrets of Torah that we will have in the *Geulah*, we should learn the secrets of Torah we have now, by learning *Chassidus*!

Of course, we shouldn't only do this ourselves. We should help others too, so we can bring in the *Alef* and change the world from *Golah* to *Geulah*!

*Based on the sicha from Parshas Emor 5751*

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