

tidbits

my father, R' Meir Zlotowitz zt'l, made sure his family was up to date on from the mundane, to the ordinary, to the 'thanks for reminding me!'

September 7th, 2018 | Parshas Nitzavim



Reminders



Daf Yomi: Erev Shabbos is Menachos 28.

This week's Pirkei Avos are Chapters 5 and 6.

Make sure to call your parents, in-laws, grandparents and Rebbi to wish them a good Shabbos. If you didn't speak to your kids today, make sure to do the same!



Next on the Calendar

- Rosh Hashanah begins this Sunday evening, September 9th.
- Tzom Gedaliah is this Wednesday, September 12th.
- Yom Kippur begins on the evening of Tuesday, September 18th.
- Succos begins on Sunday evening, September 23rd. We are now within *shloshim yom kodem hachag*, and one should have the preparations in mind, for example building a sukkah etc.)

Parshah in a Paragraph



NITZAVIM: On the last day of his life Moshe gathers the people for

a final covenant | You saw Egypt, and when you enter the land you will see the desolation of Sedom | If you turn away from Hashem, the same will happen to you | Then you will remember Hashem, and he will improve your lot once more | The Mitzvah of Teshuvah is not difficult | Hashem gives you a choice between life and death, choose life.

Don't forget to print our special **Rosh Hashana** edition!



For the Shabbos Table

"Lo vashamayim hi...velo mei'eiver layam hi...Ki karov eilecha hadavar meod"

"It is not in heaven up high... and it is not across the seas...for it is very close to you"

The Yerushalmi explains "lo vashamayim hi" as referring to Moshe Rabbeinu and "v'lo mei'eiver layam hi," as referring to Yona Hanavi. The Yerushalmi expounds on this, that a person shouldn't say to himself, "If only I had a Rebbi like Moshe who ascended the heavens then I would grow in Torah" or

"If only I had a Yona Hanavi, who descended into oceans, to inspire me then I would accept the commandments." A person shouldn't make this mistake, rather he should recognize that the ability to grow and to improve is within himself and his capabilities.

On the same Pasuk, the Ramban explains that it is referring specifically to Teshuvah, and Rashi explains that the pasuk is referring to Torah. With this Yerushalmi we can explain that the pasuk is referring to both Torah and Teshuvah. As Moshe Rabbeinu was the primary Rebbi of klal yisroel in Torah, and Yona was a Navi who brought about Teshuvah.

The Zichron Meir explains that it is very easy for a person to place the blame for his shortcomings on a lack of proper resources available to him. This is what the Torah is teaching us here, that Hashem places within our grasp, capabilities and opportunities to grow and be better. One just needs to be firm and steadfast in his commitment and pursuit, as we are not dependent on any outside forces with regard to Torah and Teshuva.

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