

Times of Mashiach

THE SPRING HILL TIMES

Issue 173

Parshas Vayeitze

6 Kislev 5785

- 8 A Kiss from Hashem**
- 11 Hashem Listens to Our Tefillos**
- 27 The Perfect Job**
- 33 Don't Fear People**
- 46 Hashem Loves You**



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In Our Lives! We Love You Hashem !**

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Hashem

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May this week's issue be a zechus Refuah

Shleima Yosef Ben Reva Chasha

B'soch Shar Cholei Yisrael!

"טוב ד' לכל
ורחמיו על
כל מעשיו!"

תהלים קמ"ה

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Making a simcha? Have a Yartzeit or just want to tell Hashem how much you love Him?

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FROM THE EDITOR



The Torah describes to us how Yaakov Avinu spent twenty years caring for Lavan's sheep.

Of course there is a deeper meaning to everything in the Torah but on the level of pshat we see how the most mundane task possible on the behalf of the most 'un-holy' person that we can imagine, was a central part of Yaakov Avinu's life.

Because in reality it was not a mundane job.

If this was the situation that he was put in, then this is what Hashem wanted him to do.



A couple of week's ago, during Parshas Chayei Sarah, I was helping my wife prepare wells as a project for the children in her daycare. I told her that the work we are doing is in a sense just as holy and important as building the Beis Hamikdash. Because we are doing exactly what Hashem wants us to do.

Hashem has mapped out a life-plan for each of us. What we need to experience and what we need to achieve throughout our lives. Nothing is an accident and nothing we do is ever a waste of time.

We spend hundreds or thousands of hours each year, working, cleaning, washing, watching children, by doctors, shopping, eating, sleeping and taking care of other needs.

We are Malachim fulfilling Hashem's ratzon.

In truth, 99.9% of the time that we are busy with seemingly 'mundane tasks' we are doing chesed. We are doing exactly what Hashem is doing all time: kindness and more kindness.

Just by being a 'simple' father, mother, sister, brother etc. we are doing our families and all future generations the greatest chesed.

By saying a simple 'good morning,' 'gut Shabbos,' 'thank you or 'good bye' to the people we meet, we are spreading kindness.

A reader from Monsey, NY, sent in the following story:

I'm so glad I found your magazine and I am seeing how important it is to share these stories.

I had just eaten a sandwich for breakfast. I was driving girls to school. I turned north onto Rt 45. I passed the Shell gas station that has kosher food and whispered to Hashem that I wanted something sweet to eat. I couldn't pull over because I had to get to my first stop on time.

When my student came onto the bus, her older sister handed me a Stern's brownie bar which I gladly consumed after my students were dropped off at school.

Esther M.

We are all 'Hashem's malachim' to the people around us!

When we are there for each other, we are giving Hashem the greatest pleasure possible. A father loves it when he sees his children loving and helping each other.

What a Beautiful life Hashem has given us!

HAVE A WONDERFUL SHABBOS!

EMUNAH & BITACHON NEWS

אשר איש שלא ישכח וכן אדם יתאמץ בה!

RAIN IN NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY



Snow in Chestnut Ridge, NY

After months of beautiful sunshine with almost no rain, Hashem showered the tri-state area, from Wednesday until Leil Shabbos Parshas Chayei Sarah, with lots of wonderful rain!

In addition, children in Monsey and other places in upstate New York woke up Erev Shabbos Chayei Sarah to a surprise first snow of the season!

Hodu L'Hashem Ki Tov!

ANTISEMITISM DOWN



I was in the parking lot by Walmart and it was extremely windy and starting to rain. I saw a frum man pulling a stroller and pushing a cart with groceries heading to his car. At the same time there were two non-Jewish men running from their car toward the store to get out of the rain and wind.

The frum man's yarmulke blew off in the wind. The two men

changed their direction and ran to get it! One slipped and fell down. He got himself up, picked up the yarmulke, gave it to the Jewish man and continued running into the store out of the wind and rain! (A Spring Hill Times Reader)

CHESED AND EMUNAH



On Erev Sukkos, Rabbi Golombeck took a question for the question-and-answer section of his hotline which was called in by a girl who didn't have any new clothing for Yom Tov.

R' Hertzberg* was listening to this question, and he made a few phone calls to get money for this girl and others who wouldn't have clothing for Yom Tov!

One of the people he called, gives out gift cards for clothing before Yom Tov, and he gave Rabbi Golombeck twenty-one gift cards to various stores in New York to give out! Mi K'amcha Yisrael!

R' Golombeck knew a family, the Steins,* who didn't have an extra penny to their name, and these gift cards would be a lifesaver. He gave them the gift cards, and Mrs. Stein called Mrs. Golombeck.

Mrs. Stein told her, "We weren't able to buy anything before Yom Tov, no new shoes, no new clothing. My husband told me, "Hashem is the Kol Yachol, he can make it appear out of nowhere." I said,

"I'll believe it when I see it!"

When her husband gave her the cards, she said, "I can't believe it! This is a real Hakol Yachol story!" She bought all her kids' clothing and shoes, and she said you never saw such happy kids. They had nothing new for years and now they all got new clothing! She now follows the hotline!

JUST AFTER THEY ENTERED THE HOUSE



This year I started my preparations for Sukkos early. During Aseres Yemei Teshuvah I started building our small sukkah, in order to perform the mitzvah of sukkah calmly and with joy.

I went with the children to the porch one afternoon and put up the boards with their help, as I told them to hold here and there, strengthen one side and staple down the other... We worked energetically, happily, pleasantly, and we were deeply immersed in the task when the clock showed that it was 3:20.

At 3:30 my afternoon kollel starts, and in order not to be late, I would have to stop immediately.

I was really heavily engaged in the work, and some voice in my heart told me it was not so terrible for me to come a bit late. We would just finish banging in a few more nails, and the entire sukkah

would be standing beautifully. My inner battle didn't last long, and I told my children that we had to stop. We'd continue in the evening or the next day. "Go into the house!" I told them.

They went into the house, and two minutes later we heard a loud, frightening noise. A large, heavy board rolled from the porch above ours onto our porch, and it fell straight onto the floor of our sukkah, in the exact place where all of us had been standing a mere two minutes earlier! Baruch Hashem, no one was harmed, in the merit of my hakpadah on the times set aside for Torah learning.

(Hashgacha Pratis Newsletter)

"ARE YOU SURE IT'S THE SAME TOOTH?"



Quite some time ago I had a root canal treatment. On Friday it started hurting me a lot, and the crown was loose. I tried calling the dentist, but they weren't available to help me. In pain, I turned to the Healer of all flesh and davened that Shabbos would pass without any problems.

Baruch Hashem, the pain ceased in honor of the holy Shabbos, and on Sunday I went to the dental clinic. They took an X-ray, and the doctor told me with a serious look on his face, "You have a severe infection in your tooth. It doesn't look like we'll be able to

save it. We'll extract the tooth and put an implant in its place." In answer to my question of how much that pleasure would cost me, the doctor responded, "Four thousand five hundred shekels."

I was shocked. I am an avreich who hardly makes it to the end of the month. From where would I have such a sum? I don't take loans, and baruch Hashem, we manage from day to day. But how was I to get hold of such a huge sum?

I decided to do some hishtadlus. I started listening to the Hashgachah Pratis phone line with greater frequency in order to get chizuk. I also did a cheshbon hanefesh. I very quickly came up with the point that I needed to fix – it's connected to taking breaks in the middle of learning. The yetzer hara always lures me to speak about seemingly urgent matters, and, unfortunately, I do speak some devarim beteilim.

I decided to strengthen myself in this matter and to stop taking these breaks in the middle of learning. I would learn without interrupting and tell the yetzer hara that we would speak later... This was very difficult for me, but anyone who has gotten a taste of learning nonstop already understands that the investment pays off. Along with this chizuk, I also davened to Hashem to save my tooth.

A few days later, I went to a bigger expert and waited with a trembling heart to hear his diagnosis. I davened to Hashem the whole time, and then the big moment came – the doctor took an X-ray.

He looked at the X-ray intently and then said, "Nice, nice... your teeth are fine."

"So I don't need an implant?" I asked suspiciously.

"Implant? Why an implant? You have excellent teeth; halevei everyone had such teeth. You don't



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need any implant."

I saw the X-ray this dentist had studied, and I had seen the X-ray from two weeks earlier as well, and I was forced to say that one does not need to be a big expert to see with your own eyes how the tooth in the first X-ray looked like it was about to finish its job in this world, while the tooth in the second X-ray looked completely different. We might think that these X-rays were taken from two separate people.

I left the dentist filled with emotion, and the first thing I did in gratitude to Hashem was to relate my story on the Hashgachah Pratis phone line, with hakaras hatov for all the chizuk I received during these last two weeks.

(Hashgacha Pratis Newsletter)

EVERYTHING IS FOR THE GOOD!



I made a dentist appointment for myself to get work done. They were booking appointments about two months from then, and I made an appointment for 2:00, hoping I would be done in time to get back home by 3:15, when my husband would have to go back to yeshiva. I didn't want to make the appointment earlier than necessary, to minimize how early I would have to leave work.

A few weeks after I made the appointment, I realized that I actually had off from work that day! This itself was hashgacha pratis, and I thought to myself that I should really call back and see if I could possibly get an earlier appointment, so the timing wouldn't be so tight, just in case they were running late. I kept forgetting to call, and it wasn't until the Thursday before the Monday appointment that I finally called. The secretary took my name and birth date, and she gave me the very unwelcome news that I had no appointment booked in the system at all! This didn't make any sense, because I distinctly remembered making the appointment, and I even had it written down.

Finally, the secretary realized that the dentist had changed her schedule to leave early that day, and when they canceled her afternoon appointments some days or weeks previously, they must have forgotten to call me. I was very disappointed, because now I would have to reschedule for a regular work day. She told me that because of what happened, I would have first priority for any cancellations for Monday.

Baruch Hashem, on Sunday she called to let me know that there was a cancellation for Monday 1:00, which was exactly the time I would have wanted to go if I would have been able to choose!

It was specifically because my appointment was canceled, which had seemed "not good" that I ended up with the perfect appointment time! Also, it was only because I called so close to the appointment that she remembered on Sunday to call me. It was only because I was calling to make my appointment earlier to make sure I wouldn't make my husband late

that I even found out that my appointment had been canceled; otherwise, I would have gotten to the office and the dentist would have already been gone! (A Spring Hill Times Reader)

A KISS FROM HASHEM



R' Eli Stefansky, from Ramat Beit Shemesh, gives a daily Daf Hayomi Shiur. He has over 20,000 listeners from all over the world.

He has talmidim who haven't opened a gemara for years until they joined his shiur.

On, Tuesday, 25 Cheshvon, 5785, R' Eli planned on starting the shiur with the following question that connected to the Daf:

If someone donates a kidney does he still have ownership on his kidney. For example: Reuven donated his kidney to Shimon. A year later Shimon was in a car accident and passed away. Does Reuven have the right to take back his kidney.

Just as he was about to begin the shiur, he saw that the sponsor of the daily shiur was by a woman in honor of her husband who was donating a kidney that day!

This was the first time he had someone sponsor a shiur for a kidney donor, the day he decided to start the shiur talking about a kidney donor!

A kiss from Hashem!

The Secret of Success at Shas Chaburah

A bachur makes a siyum on Bava Kama after reviewing it 10 times.

Mendy, a bachur at Yeshiva Gedolah Tiferes Yaakov Yitzchok in Lakewood, New Jersey, shares his secret of success and simcha in being koneh a mesechta through the Shas Chaburah review program. Here's what he had to say:

"Coming out of first year Bais Medrash, I really wanted to finish a mesechta. I thought about it for a long time, and I decided what is really going to really push me is if I decide to finish Bava Kama ten times. The problem is that two or three months in, I started realizing that I was forgetting what I learned in the beginning of the zeman. Then I was losing the good feeling of satisfaction of being koneh a mesechta because I was already forgetting what I originally learned. I was a little bit down.

"At that moment, Hashem sent me one of my Rabbeim, Rabbi Yoffe shlita, and he put his arm around my shoulder and said, 'Mendy, what is

going on?'

"I told him, 'Rebbe, I wanted to finish a mesechta ten times, but I'm up to like lamed bais, and I'm already forgetting what I learned at the beginning.'

"Rebbe said, 'Mendy, I actually know a program called Shas Chabura. Go buy yourself an Artscroll Gemara.' He explained to me how it works, by chazering the daf the next day, week, month, and 3 months. The feeling of satisfaction that I will have of being koneh Gemaras by constantly chazering it in a geshmake way. It's really incredible. It gave me such chizzuk. And that's what allowed me to finish Bava Kama 10 times. Any time you open up a Gemara and someone asks you a question from that Gemara, you have seen it 7-8-9-10 times, it's a real satisfying feeling.

"When I made my siyum in Bava Kama, after I finished it ten times, I felt like a different person. I felt like a new being. The olam got inspired and requested "Talmudo B'yado" booklets to start their own program.

"I'm twenty years old now, and my



goal is to continue for another eleven years, and finish Shas when I'm thirty one. And I think it'll be seven times.

"For me, I'm so thankful to Hashem. Anybody can do this and it's a guaranteed way to add simcha and menuchas hanefesh to your life."

For more information on Shas Chabura and to get a free Talmudo Blyado booklet, call 732-447-4201

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Boy from New York Trusts in Hashem



Koby Klein, a boy from Monsey, New York had an alarm clock that was broken. He was trying to fix it, but it was not going. He then said, "Hashem is the Kol Yachol," and then the alarm clock started working!

Baruch hagever asher yivtach baHashem

Hashem is the One Who Gives Parnasah



R' Chaim, a yungerman, reported that his wife wasn't feeling well. He needed to take off a day

from work to help her, but he needed the money that he usually makes from work.

Later in the day he went to his mailbox, and there was an envelope with money from a random place. It was exactly the amount of money to the penny that he would have made had he gone to work!

Poseach es yadecha umasbia lechol chai ratzon

Hashem Is Watching Over Us



A mother from Monsey reported that they were in the attic taking things down, and their two-year-old was up there helping them, and he fell straight down to the floor below.

Nothing happened to him! Not a scratch. Not a bump.

Thank You, Hashem!

Boy Turns To Hashem And Wins Prize



I was at avos ubanim at Kehilas Spring Hill this past motzei Shabbos, and they were raffling off prizes. There was an eleven-year-old boy behind me, and I heard him say, "Hashem is hakol yachol." Sure enough, he won a prize!

Baruch hagever asher yivtach baHashem

Hashem Is So Good To Us



Binyamin, a yungerman from Eretz Yisroel, reported that his brother and sister-in-law were

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waiting for five years for a baby, and Baruch Hashem they just had a boy!

Many relatives from America flew in for the bris. The baby was yellow, so they weren't sure if the bris would be on time.

Baruch Hashem, they were able to make the bris on time!

Hodu l'Hashem ki tov ki l'olam chasdo.

Hashem Is So Good To Us



This past Sunday night, for the first time in a month or two months for many places in the Northeast, Hashem gave some wonderful rain and drizzle.

Hamichaseh shamayim b'avim hameichen la'aretz matar.

Girl Turns To Hashem



Shifra was on the bus, and there was a very loud beeping that was hurting her ears. In her mind, she started thinking that Hashem is Hakol Yachol, and imme-

diately the beeping stopped!

Baruch Hagever Asher Yivtach Bashem.

Hashem Saves Man's Life



R' Dovid reported that his son decided to give a chomesh of his earnings to tzedakah. He gave a chomesh and right after that he went into his car to go somewhere. While he was on the road a car crashed in to him. His car flew into a tree, two wheels fell off and the car was totaled but nothing happened to him. He saw clearly how the tzedakah saved him.

U'Tzedakah tatzil mimaves.

Hashem Listens To Our Tefillos



R' Rosenbaum reported that he had a special siddur that they only sell in Eretz Yisrael. His son Shloimy really wanted the same siddur, but R' Rosenbaum kept on telling him that he only has one and they don't sell it in America. Shloimy said he's go-

ing to learn shtark and he's going to daven that Hashem should send him to siddur.

Later that day, someone came in from Eretz Yisrael and told R' Rosenbaum, "I have a present for you!" It was that siddur, and Shloimy got what he wanted!

Baruch Shomaya Tefilla

Anti-Semitism on the Decline



Chaim, a boy from Lakewood, NJ, reported that he was playing frisbee with his friend. By mistake, he threw it the wrong way, and it flew into a forest.

There was a non-Jew standing where it landed, and he brought back the frisbee to them!

Thank You, Hashem

Boy from Lakewood Wins Raffle



Shmuel Dovid Newman, from Lakewood, New Jersey, reported that he was in a learning program, and they made a raffle for a sefer. He had bitachon that he

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was going to win, and he won the raffle!

Baruch hagever asher yivtach baHashem

Man from Monsey Trusts in Hashem



R' Yitzchok Ahron Sternfeld was traveling into Williamsburg. He was visiting a friend who lives on Keap St., across the street from two wedding halls. It's a very hard street to find parking. He said, "Hashem, I have bitachon that when I come, right then someone's going to pull out of a spot, and I'm going to have a place to park."

That is exactly what happened!

Baruch hagever asher yivtach baHashem

Hashem is Watching Over Us



A baby girl in the Rosen family swallowed an adult medication, and Baruch Hashem nothing happened to her!

Hinei Lo Yanum V'lo Yishan Sho-

mer Yisroel

Hashem is Running a Perfect World



Gitty, a girl from Monsey, NY, needed to bring a hammer to school for a project, but she forgot about it.

She was then reading the Spring Hill Times. When she read the section of the five things to thank Hashem for, she saw "Thank You Hashem for hammers," and that reminded her to bring a hammer to school!

Mashgiach min hachalonos meitzitz min hacharakim

Anti-semitism in England on the Decline



R' Avishai Berkowitz in Manchester, England reported they needed change. He decided to go into a gas station to get some change. He thought to himself that they might not want to

give him change unless he buys something. He then thought that he hears all the time how anti-Semitism is on the decline.


He decided to try and the non Jewish Muslim worker was very happy to accommodate him and offered him coins or notes, whatever he wanted!

Thank You, Hashem

Young Boy Trusts in Hashem



Avraham Levi Molojana report-



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ed that there was a raffle for a soda that he wanted to win. He was having bitachon for a few minutes, and Baruch Hashem, he won the raffle!

Baruch hagever asher yivtach baHashem

Hashem is the One Who Gives Us Food



R' Yitzchok Ahron Sternfeld was visiting his friend in Williamsburg, and he brought along supper for himself and intended to eat with his friend. His friend said he does not have supper, and he needs to go to the store to buy food.

R' Yitzchok Ahron told him that he does not know why, but for some reason he packed two portions that day, and his friend was able to join him for supper!

Eini chol eilecha yisabeiru, v'ata nosein lahem es achlum b'ito

Boy from New York Davens to Hashem

12-year-old Dovid from Monsey, NY wanted to trade something that he owns with a friend, but he was not able to find it. He turned to Hashem and said, "Hashem, you could help me find it. Hashem, you could help me find it."



As he said it the second time, he found the item that he was looking for!

Vihaya terem yikra'u od heim midabrim v'ani eshma

Boy from New York Thanks Hashem



Eleven-year-old Yaa-kov Zev Rand from Chestnut Ridge, NY was helping take apart the sukkah and five beams together with the schach fell on his head.

Baruch Hashem all he got was a bruise!

Hodu laHashem ki tov ki l'olam chasdo

We Are All Living Off Hashem's Chesed

R' Shmuel, a yunge-man from Yerushalayim, reported that every year he makes a cheshbon of the many nisim that happened



to him throughout the year in regards to receiving money in unexpected ways. He said normally he has about 70 nissim. This past year he had an extra expense that he had to send his daughter to seminary and he made a cheshbon. He got 60 nissim throughout the year where he got money in unexpected ways, but one of those times he received 60,000 shekel!

Hashem was clearly taking care of him!

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I Poured Out My Soul Before Hashem

Wellsprings of Wisdom

Deep down, every person possesses wellsprings of wisdom and many positive virtues. Hashem isn't stingy with us; He gives everything in abundance and in the best possible way.

However, there are barriers within us that block these wellsprings.

Our main task is to simply remove the barriers, open ourselves up, take all our potential — all the wonderful qualities and strengths that we possess — and make it a reality.

Avraham's Two Kidneys

Chazal (Bereishis Rabbah 95:3) ask, "Before the Torah was given, from where did Avraham Avinu learn it?"

They answer, "His two kidneys became like two jugs of water that were flowing with Torah." Rabbi Levi explained that he learned Torah from within himself. We think this was a special miracle that Hashem did for Avraham Avinu, but it wasn't!

A person must be aware that Torah lies within himself, in his nefesh.

The book is available in your local Judaica store

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LIVING WITH HASHEM

By Rabbi Zevy Golombeck

Editor's note: Many of these stories are from months ago

Happy House



R' Jacob, Rabbi Golombeck's neighbor, was smiling from ear to ear. Rabbi Golombeck asked him, "Why are you so happy!"

He answered, "Well, let me explain to you, first of all, I borrow The Spring Hill Times every week. My kids love it, and it brings us positivity in the air." R' Jacob added, "My father-in-law, Rabbi Schwartzman (who has written many seforim and gives chaburahs in BMG) tells us that 'he lives off The Spring Hill Times' and 'It's an unbelievably positive newspaper.' My father-in-law gets the Spring Hill Times every week.

This week, we went to him for Shabbos, so my family was jumping for joy. They were so excited. Usually, they have to borrow the Spring Hill times after Shabbos.

This week they got a special treat, they were able to read it on Shabbos!

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Hashem is in Charge



Mrs. Landau's* baby was admitted to the hospital, and the hospital said they were going to keep them over Shabbos for observation. It was Friday morning, and the parents wanted to go home in time for Shabbos. Unfortunately the doctor said that the policy is that they first need to see the baby getting better first.

They said "Hashem, you're the one in charge of making rules and regulations, please help us be home in time for Shabbos."

The doctor came back and said, "I see the baby getting better so quickly, yes, the baby is in perfect health and you can go home!"

Hashem Charges Phone



Mrs. Klein's* phone wasn't charging. She tried this outlet and this plug and this charger and this phone. Nothing was working. It had a very low battery and she said, "Hashem, nothing is working. The red light is not going on. I'm walking away. I'm not even looking at it. I'm going to come

A LIFE WITH BITACHON HOTLINE

By Rabbi Golombeck

- 1 Today's YESOD/Vort on Bitachon
- 2 Today's STORY of Bitachon
- 3 ANSWERS to Questions asked (Answers to 4 new questions each day)
- 4 This week's connection of Bitachon to the PARSHAH
- 5 QUOTE from Sefer "Bitachon Weekly"
- 6 Summary of Rabbi Yehudah Mandel's Thursday VAAD
- 7 Today's STORY how Bitachon helped someone through a Nisayon
- 8 ARCHIVES (proceed as regular: 1 for Yesod/Vort section, 2 for story etc.) Press 8 again for Listening Instructions
- 9 RECORD your Questions, Stories & Comments
- * Back to previous menu
- 0 SONGS of Emunah & Bitachon (To listen continuously to all the songs, First press 8 and then 0)

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back in two hours. I have bitachon that is going to be charged."

She came back, and it was fully charged!

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The Nose

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Our nose also has an additional function - it helps produce sound. Even though the main organ and place that sound is produced are the vocal cords and the sound box which is around it, our nose is also involved and it effects and enhances the production. It's our nose that causes the sound to resonate.

Additionally, when our voice travels through our nose it gets amplified, making it louder. The influence that the nose has on our voice is very apparent when someone has a common cold. Even if his throat is clear and it is only the nose that is congested, it affects the way he sounds. This is true even if his nose is just partially blocked. If you speak to him for a minute, even just over the phone, you can pick up that he has a cold - his voice sounds different, it sounds lower, deeper and muffled. A cold affects everyone's speech, but it can be a nightmare for a chazzan or a singer. His voice loses its regular tone and richness. He needs a clear nose to do his job well. Through our nose, Hashem gave us a gift - a loud rich voice.

In addition to all the various functions that our nose does, it's also a special gift that Hashem gave us that does a lot for our appearance. Hashem created the human face beautiful. One of the most essential parts of the human face is the nose, which is based directly in the center of the face and the face is perceived as built around it. Now, one can argue that we only perceive the human face as nice because that is what we are used to and anything else that would be there would similarly be perceived as nice. But it is hard to believe that man's face would be perceived as nice - if instead of a nose we had a long grey trunk like an elephant, or if instead of a nose, we had a large thick horn like a rhinoceros. So too, the human face, which is a beautiful tzelem Elokim, would be missing a lot of its unique special look if the center would be empty and clear like another forehead, try to picture that. We can show the centrality of the nose and the beauty of the face is in the way that people relate to it.

The place of the face that people do plastic surgery on is the nose. People are aware of the role that the nose plays in the overall look of the face, with the nose being the central part.

Everything Created Reflects HaShem's Glory

By Tzvia Ehrlich-Klein, Jerusalem

Kangaroos: Part 1

Did you know that a kangaroo is the largest animal of all the animals in the world that can hop? And that there are almost 60 different species (kinds) of kangaroos in the world!

Kangaroos and wallabies are both part of the marsupial family. That means that both of these types of animals have a pouch on the front of their bodies. The pouch opens horizontally (from left to right). This makes it easy and possible for the mother kangaroo or wallaby to always carry her little babies around with her all of the time, wherever she goes.



Kangaroos are much larger than wallabies. A kangaroo can grow to be as tall as 6½ feet tall [two meters tall], and it can weight over 100 pounds (50 kilograms). Wallabies, on the other hand, only sometimes can weigh more than 44 pounds (20 kilograms).

The “Musky Rat Kangaroo” is the smallest kind of kangaroo. It weighs about one pound (less than ½ kilo), and is about 14 inches (0.35 meters) long from the tip of its nose to the tip of its long tail. The largest species of kangaroo is the Red and Grey Kangaroo. It can weigh up to 200 pounds (almost 100 kilos). Sometimes the Red and Grey Kangaroo can even grow to be 7 feet tall (2.13 meters tall) -- taller than a person!!

A male (boy) kangaroo is called a “buck” or a “boomer,” and a female kangaroo is called a “doe.” A young and /or baby kangaroo is called a “joey.”

Kangaroos and wallabies allow their young to live in the pouch even after they are physically able to leave the pouch. In fact, a mother kangaroo often keeps two joeys in the pouch at the same time — one tiny baby and one fully grown one.

That certainly can make life easier for the young joey!!

As we said previously, the kangaroo is the largest animal of all the types of animals in the world that can hop. Though there are almost 60 different species (kinds) of kangaroos, all kangaroos have large ears that they can turn in any direction. This means that they have excellent hearing — and that means that they can pick up sounds that are very, very far away. This is extremely important because kangaroos are not fierce animals like lions and tigers, and so they therefore have to be able to hear if an enemy is coming. (Isn't it really exciting to see how HaShem has given everything in the world exactly and perfectly whatever it needs!)

The tail of a kangaroo is extremely muscular, and very long. In fact, its tail is almost as long as the kangaroo's entire body! This is important because a kangaroo usually hops wherever it goes, and the long, strong tail helps the kangaroo keep its balance and not fall over while it is hopping along. Idea: you try hopping across a room holding both of your feet together (as if you are davening Shmone Esrey), and then try hopping across the same room on only one foot holding the other leg bent behind you. It's easier, right?

In an emergency, some kangaroos can hop 43 miles (69.2 kilometers) per hour, but they get tired quickly. Usually kangaroos hop at a speed of about 12 miles per hour — and they can keep on hopping at that speed for hours and hours!

There are five claws on each of a kangaroo's two front feet. They use these claws like we use a comb — to comb their “hair” (i.e., fur). They run their claws through their fur to smooth out any tangles and to comb out any dirt. Since they are outside almost all of the time, kangaroos spend a lot of time grooming themselves so that they can be clean!

What an amazing world HaShem has made! [Material was based on Zoobooks, Wildlife Education, Ltd. series.]

Tzvia Ehrlich-Klein is the author of *HASHEM'S WONDERFUL WORLD: CLOUDS* [Adir Press], the 4 Menucha books: *I LIVE WITH MY MOMMY*; *WORD FUN FOR EVERYONE: KOSHER WORD GAMES*; *YOU'RE JOKING! THE KOSHER JOKE BOOK* and *YOU'RE JOKING AGAIN*; and the 4 Feldheim books *ON BUS DRIVERS*, *DREIDELS AND ORANGE JUICE*; *ON CAB DRIVERS*, *SHOPKEEPERS AND STRANGERS*; *ON BUS STOPS*, *BAKERS AND BEGGARS*. She has also edited several books including *COPYRIGHT IN JEWISH LAW* (Feldheim) and *TO DWELL IN THE PALACE* (Feldheim), an anthology on life in Israel. Ask for her books at Jewish bookstores or directly from the publishers. She made aliya in 1971, and lives in Jerusalem.

Hashem Wants You to Enjoy His World

A Guide to Discovering Hashem's Kindness
Everywhere You Turn



By R' Yehuda Schonfeld

from Judaica Press

Practical Mindfulness

The essence of a person is his mind. Where a person's thoughts go, that's where he is! Based on this, we can suggest some methods for enjoying life:

- Make a list of enjoyable things you have experienced in your life. This can include special moments in the past, such as memorable childhood moments. Every person can make a long list of this type. Reading the list will then take you to those times and places and reinforce your confidence that life is meant to be enjoyed.

- Another exercise is to think of something good you have and imagine losing it. For example, you can imagine that your car was impounded by a traffic police officer. This will intensify your feelings of happiness that you still have the car! The more you work on this kind of imagery, the more you will appreciate your possessions.

- Draw up a list of people who have less than you. This list can include people who

have no spouse, children, or home of their own, or those who are ill. Then read the list occasionally to remind yourself of how fortunate you are. Although we may know people who have less than us, seeing a list in front of our eyes can have a far greater effect than just having a dim awareness in the back of our minds.



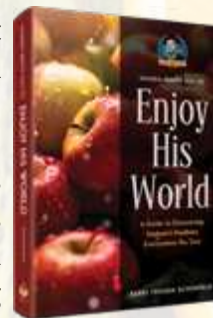
- Another way to increase one's enjoyment of life is to keep a list of challenges that you are currently dealing with. Such challenges almost always resolve with the passage of time. You can then quickly review all those past crises and feel the relief and happiness of no longer having those problems. Too often, when we daven to Hashem, He answers our tefillos, and then we forget we ever had a problem. It's a much bet-

ter idea to remember that we did—and that our tefillos were answered. This will remind us that Hashem really is taking care of us and shielding us from harm.

- Learn to see things through other people's eyes. Your friends and extended family may not be accustomed to the good things you have. When they come to your house, they may "ooh" and "aah" over your children, your house, or your car. Listen to their words and let it remind you of how much good you already have. This will really impact your appreciation and happiness in life.

To be continued...

R' Schonfeld is available to speak publicly on the topic of Enjoying Olam Hazeh. He can be reached for comments and questions at EnjoyHisWorld@gmail.com.





By: Rabbi Eliezer M. Niehaus

This column is part of the "ASHER TO THE YATZAR" initiative. If you would like to receive the monthly leaflet, please email ashertotheyatzar@gmail.com. Please try to say Asher Yatzar from a card or poster as a *zechus* לע"נ my daughter אסתר ע"ה בת יבלחט"א אליעזר מנחם

A Matter of Life and Death!

Rav Shimshon Pincus points out that there is something very unique about the beracha of Asher Yatzar. In Shemoneh Esreh, most of the time we go straight to the request. ברוך עלינו – please give us *parnasah*. Please forgive us etc. Regarding דעת, we first make a statement and then the request. We say אתה חונן לאדם דעת – You graciously endow man with wisdom. After that we request, חננו מאתך דעה בינה והשכל – please give us wisdom! However, in Asher Yatzar, we make a statement without any request. We declare that if our digestive system would get blocked: אי אפשר להתקיים – it would be impossible to survive and to stand before You. We would expect that afterwards, Chazal would establish that we continue with a heartfelt request that we stay healthy and that nothing should get blocked! But no, we just end off with thanks to Hashem for this wonderous body. Why is this so? Rav Pincus explains with the following *mashal*.

Little Yankel entered his father's study and waited for his attention. After a few moments, his father looked up and said, "Yankel, I am very busy now, could you come back a little later?" "But Tatty," said Yankel, "my bicycle is broken and without it, I can't go to the store, can you please fix it for me?" "Yankel," answered his father, "I know it would help you to have your bike, but it is possible to get there without your bike. I am very very busy now, please ask me tomorrow." A few minutes later, his son Dovid walks in. "Tatty, I have a test tomorrow on Mishnayos, and I don't know them. Can you teach it to me?" "Dovid," answers his father, "I would love to learn with you, and it is really important to know them, but unfortunately, I cannot stop now. Come to me in an hour and I will help you." Suddenly, in bursts his child Chaim and shouts "Tatty, I fell and I am gushing blood!" His father jumps up from his desk and runs over to stop the bleeding!



Says Rav Pincus, when it comes to matters of life and death, no explanations or requests are needed. Everything else gets put on the side and it is dealt with immediately. This is exactly what is happening in the *beracha* of Asher Yatzar. We tell Hakadosh Baruch Hu that it is so clear that if any of the openings or cavities in our body would rupture or get closed, we could not exist! This is a matter of life and death! No more need be said. That statement is the greatest request possible.

Last week we printed a story that was sent by a reader about how his entire digestive system stopped working as a result of a gall bladder removal. He wrote how these words of Asher Yatzar became a painful reality. When his system started working again, he literally said the beracha with tears of joy in his eyes! After printing this story, I found out that other people also went through this unpleasant experience, for various reasons. Let's say these words with conviction and truth. The more we are aware that our body is so fragile, and that without Hashem's constant involvement we would be in serious trouble, the more Hashem will continue to make sure everything runs smoothly.

Rabbi Niehaus is the author of "Oasis: Experience the Paradise of Shabbos" and "HEAVENWORDS: Elevate your Tefillah and Yourself". He is the Rosh Kollel of Kollel Zichron Aharon Yaakov in Kiryat Sefer and is a rebbi in Yeshivas Beis Dovid and Yeshivas Imrei Binah in Yerushalayim.

Living With Appreciation

R' Daniel Shasha

When Leah had her fourth son, she named him Yehudah (from the word to thank), stating, "this time I will thank Hashem" (29:35). Our Rabbis teach (Berachos 7b) that from when the world was created, there was nobody who thanked Hashem until Leah. Surely this is very hard to understand. After all, does this mean that all the tzadikim before her didn't thank Hashem? In fact, the Torah tells us that the Avos used to build a mizbeach out of gratitude to Hashem. So how could this be?

The Maharam Shick explains that Leah was the first person to make a permanent reminder of Hashem's kindness, by naming her son Yehudah. Every time Leah would say his name, she would be reminded of the tremendous kindness that Hashem did for her. Therefore, her entire life, she would be reminded of this great kindness from Hashem. Accordingly, we read this verse rhetorically: "Only this time I should thank Hashem? No, I will always thank Him by calling my son this name." (Maharam Shick, Berachos 7b)

So, Leah was the first to thank Hashem in such a way and this is what Chazal were referring to.

We can learn from Leah to make a permanent sign in order to remember a kindness which Hashem did for us. This will ensure that we won't forget it, even decades after. One way we can do this is to write down what we are grateful for in a journal and review it every so often. This practice is nothing new. In fact, over 800 years ago, Rabbeinu Tam encouraged both writing such a journal and reviewing it once a week. Rav Chaim Shmulevitz was quoted as saying that just as we have the Megilas Esther, really every Jew should write their own Megilas Esther, keeping track of all the miracles that they constantly experience.

The Mir Yeshivah miraculously survived the war and witnessed countless miracles that defied all odds. Rav Chatzel Levenstein, the mashgiach at the time, ensured that all these miracles were written down in a megillah to make sure they would not be forgotten. It is known as Megilas Nes.

Writing what we are grateful for helps bring blessing into our lives. As the Zohar writes, when we

praise Hashem, we will be showered with more blessing, so this practice also ensures that we will enjoy an abundance of goodness in our lives.

In fact, there are stories of those who have undertaken to record a gratitude journal when encountering a certain challenge and saw with their own eyes how the situation drastically improved. This is but one example.

A girl living in New York started to suffer from breathing difficulties. She went to many experts, but they all said they had never seen anything like her condition before and didn't know what was causing the problem. The only advice she received was that she should go to Arizona, where the air is drier. However, she was there for three weeks, and it didn't help much. The girl and her family returned home feeling despondent and helpless. She resolved that each night she would write in a journal ten good things that happened to her that day; and thank Hashem for these favors. On the forty-first day, she wrote, "I am breathing well and without pain. It is like I was never sick, thank You, Hashem! (Be'er HaParashah, Rav Elimelch Biderman)

Writing them down isn't the only suggesting to remember these kindnesses. We can think of other ways too. This story is just one possible example.

Rabbi Yitzchak Zilberstein recounted that he once went to visit a prominent talmid chacham in his study. He was surprised to see that the wall was full of newspaper clippings. He noticed that the clippings recorded events when there was great danger at stake, yet Hashem saved us. These clippings were just from one month alone! One clipping reported the capture of a terrorist who was on the verge of carrying out a large attack. Another recorded a rocket that fell in Sderot, yet miraculously no one was physically injured. The talmid chacham told Rabbi Zilberstein, "For many years I used to have feelings of gratitude, but they always wore off. I hear about stories of Nissim, yet just forgot about them after time. I decided to make a permanent reminder of the kindnesses that occurred. I looked out for news articles which discussed recent salvations and to stick them onto my wall, in order that I don't forget Hashem's great kindnesses and how He is always looking out for us."

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Let Us Thank Hashem for the...



Flowers..

As well as being a nice gift, the thousands of beautiful species of flowers that exist enhances the world's beauty.

The Chazon Ish was filled with emotion upon gazing at a single flower and was captivated by it's beauty.

1.

When Klal Yisrael speak about the wonders and awesome phenomena of Hashem... the angels praise Him for having such a precious nation. (Zohar vol. 2 p. 40b)

3.

Mankind was created to praise and to thank Hashem as well as to serve and fear Him. Those who do so are upholding the world. (Shitah Mikubetzes, Berachos 6b)

2.

Through song and praises to Hashem we can open the gates of Heaven. When these gates are open, we can request whatever we need. (Tiferes Shlomo, Ki Sisa)

4.

Were it not for Klal Yisrael's songs and praises to Hashem, the world would not have been created. (Midrash Otiyots DeRabbi Akiva 1)

Inspiring Quotes

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Chizuk Corner

Rabbi Y. Y. Friedman

A few weeks ago, we wrote about how our daily Brachos can be full of meaning with the five steps. We concluded that this applies to the Bracha on Mitzvos as well.

Now we would like to elaborate how when we conclude with the Bracha on the Mitzva we can be thankful and joyful for the Mitzva that we are about to perform.

The truth is that as we mentioned in the past, our generation has been blessed with an abundance and luxuries that surpass the ancient Kings and queens of the past. Yes, we have so much to be thankful for and we are.

However, we should know that on top of all that, it still doesn't come close to the love that Hashem displayed by giving us His precious mitzvos. Besides for the great reward that awaits a person for his mitzvos, each mitzva is itself a treasure on its own merit.

If you stop any Yid and ask him to sell you his mitzva for a huge sum of money, he will turn you down. We know and understand that every mitzva is priceless and no money in the world can buy a mitzva.

Now I would like to do an exercise with our esteemed reader. I want you to close your eyes and picture the following scenario.

One fine day after work or yeshiva you are passing by a store that sells lottery tickets. You suddenly feel an urge to buy a ticket.

You enter the small store and you see that the lottery is now standing at seven hundred million dollars. You head over to the register and you buy the ticket. Then you exit the store and you head home.

A few days later you pass by the store and you once again enter the store and you ask the man behind the counter if he knows the winning numbers. "Sure, one second," he responds.

The man starts saying the numbers slowly. You stare at your ticket with wide eyes as he seems to be reading your ticket. He finally concludes with the last number as you are standing there in shock.

The reality is still not sinking in, and you pinch yourself hard to make sure that it's not a dream. Your adrenaline starts soaring and your excitement is mounting and your heartbeat is racing at a dangerous pace.

"I won! I won!," you scream and everyone crowds around you. Everyone is jubilant and everyone congratulates you with a hearty mazal tov!

You run into your car and you speed off with your jalopy, which is probably going to be your last ride as you are thinking about getting your dream car.

You come flying into the house at top speed and you burst into the door shouting on top of your lungs "I won, I won, You won. Our life has just taken off to a glorious future".

Understandably, the entire family is joyfully dancing and singing as they sit down to a festive meal to their great fortune.

That Shabbos, you throw a five-star Kiddush to celebrate your great.

You are flying high and we can all relate to this.

As extreme and abstract it may sound to us but every one of us on a daily basis has more reason to be joyful than this person in the mashal.

Dovid Hamelech says in Tehillim "sas anochi



al imrasecha k'motzai shalal rav." Hagaon Rav Dan Segal Shlit"a says the following insight on this Pasuk:

Dovid Hamelech is telling us: Sas Anochi- My whole essence is of extreme joy.

Al Imrasecha- On a Mitzva or one word of Torah.

Kimotzei shalal rav- Like someone that chances upon a tremendous treasure without any toil.

Rav Dan concludes that we can clearly see how much ecstasy and excitement Dovid Hamelech Yisroel had for a Mitzva and for the Torah.

Now this level of excitement and ecstasy seems way beyond our reach, but I have good news to tell you. There will come a time which is hopefully today or tomorrow that we will all have these feelings and I am sure that you realize what I am getting at.

Moshiach! If you want to get an appreciation and an excitement for this era then think about the Mashal that we brought before and try to

make it real. Play out the story that it really happened to you.

Now take this idea of adrenaline and excitement and let's plug it into our daily lives. Imagine living with this ecstasy every day throughout the day. It sounds like a fantasy, but we know that it's real and it is going to happen.

Very soon when the Shofar starts blowing, we will sing and dance with joy like never before.

However, as we mentioned in a previous article we can start singing and dancing now as we

realize that yes, we have the winning ticket. We just need to retrieve our prize which will be arriving with much celebration and with a powerful Shofar as the Navi tells us.

Let us, together, wait and yearn for this great day with love and achdus for another Yid and for Hashem our Loving Father, Who is Waiting for this great day even more than us. Let's get ready to greet Him.



**SERVING HASHEM
IS**

CANDY!!!

Zichru Toras Moshe

Rabbi Moshe Hirschberg

PROTECTED THE INMATE



R' Avraham Eidelman

Already at a young age, Reb Avraham had the affection of the Beis Halevi. When Reb Avraham was six years old, the Beis Halevi was brought to Brisk, Reb Avraham's hometown, to serve as its Rav, and as the years went on, the respect only grew. The Beis Halevi's family relayed that there were only two "baalebatim" who the Rav entrusted, one of them being Reb Avraham. The two families grew very close.

Reb Avraham would awake every day to daven vasikin, which was prefaced by a seder of learning that started at chazos.

One wintry Friday, before WWI, the Eidelman's heard thumping on their front door. There were two scary-looking government officials staring them in the eye. "We are here to imprison the homeowner — Avraham Eidelman."

"Imprison him? For what?" the family asked.

"The front lawn was neglected, and he must therefore go to prison." The city of Brisk, along with some surrounding cities, had a

regulation that the cleanliness of the city's streets was the responsibility of the homeowners. This meant that the regular townsmen had to shovel the snow, rid the garbage etc. of the street bordering their property. The government appointed officers to enforce the law and made sure that everybody obeyed.

The Eidelman children were frantic. "Prison, for not maintaining a lawn?!"

Mrs. Eidelman began pleading, "We've hired help to maintain the orderliness of our home, but he got drunk, leaving our home and the lawn a dump." At that time the Eidelman family lived comfortably, able to afford cleaning help to maintain the house. But unsurprisingly, the words fell on deaf ears.

Rebbetzin Slava, Reb Avraham's wife, offered to fill her prestigious husband's decree, but the officers wouldn't hear of it.

Reb Avraham was thus arrested and taken to the prison. Before departing, his rebbetzin filled a bag with Shabbos delicacies to make the best of the tzaddik's ordeal.

But that bag only made his stay more miserable. As he got to the custodial, all the internees charged at him to rob the food he was carrying, as many of them hadn't met up with such luxurious foods in many years. Losing that food would mean a lot to Reb Avraham, for besides losing his Shabbos meals, he would have no other kosher food. The prison wasn't serving custom-made meals for their convicts.

But, with the help of Hashem, this disappointment was short-lasting. From the other end of the cell, they heard a thunderous

voice: "Don't you start up with this man! Woe to the one who takes even a morsel of food, for I will take revenge!" That was all they had to hear, and they backed off.

The dark-looking criminal then approached Reb Avraham and welcomed him with a Shalom Aleichem. "Do you remember me?"

"No. Who are you?" asked Reb Avraham.

The inmate reiterated how, many years ago, there had been an unhandsome fellow collecting tzedakah in the shul. The congregants tried sending him out assuming that he was a non-Jew, but he refused. He was planning to stay until he'd get his necessary funds, however long it would take, and only then would he leave.

The congregants spoke amongst themselves and agreed that the way they'd get him to leave was by not inviting him to any Shabbos seudah. So, as the shul was emptying on Friday night, no one invited this pauper, and he watched as the whole shul emptied out, nobody caring to acknowledge him. He felt embarrassed and low. Only the very last person, Reb Avraham Eidelman, who knew that he was a Jew, ignored the other townsmen and kindheartedly showed that collector proper respect and dignity and invited him to his seudah.

"You know who that beggar was?" the inmate then asked Reb Avraham. "That was me! You were the only one who showed me respect at that humiliating time. You made me feel like a human, and now I'm here to ensure that you're repaid at your humiliating time."

"But what brings you here?" asked Reb Avraham.

"At that time, my income was meager, and I needed food to support my wife and children, so I started robbing horses. They caught on to this last robbery, and I've been confined ever since."

This inmate assured Reb Avraham that throughout his "visit," he'd stand nearby to safeguard the protection of Reb Avraham, and so he did. For the next few days the inmate stood at Reb Avraham's side (Shared by R' Lipa Hess, a descendant of Reb Avraham, author of *Hilchos Erev Pesach Sechal BeShabbos*).

THE PERFECT JOB

There was once a Rosh Yeshiva who paid a visit to R' Nachum Deutsch. Hanging on the wall, the visiting rosh yeshiva saw a



picture of R' Nachum's beloved rebbi and mentor — R' Shlomo Freifeld. The Rosh Yeshiva acknowledged that he had recently seen the same picture when he had visited a friend of his on the outskirts of Yerushalayim. There, the host began retelling a story that he knew firsthand:

There was a Yiddish boy, whom we'll call Sam, who unfortunately found himself wrapped up in the grips of the social revolution of the times. He had been a young, respectable-looking bachur, but after he'd taken his life in a different direction than that of his yeshiva days, he soon found himself totally lost and on

his own — in every way. His hair was long, his clothes were unrespectable rags, and he was living in the dumps — disheveled, dirty, and also starved with no financial support in his new "lifestyle."

One day, he found an advertisement in the newspaper for a job as a janitor in a local yeshiva. With no better option, he called to apply. Sam showed up to the interview and was ushered into the office of the esteemed rosh yeshiva, Rav Shlomo Freifeld. Before he knew it, the rosh yeshiva was in a deep discussion about his origin. Sam disclosed that he was a former talmid of a highly respected European yeshiva and had been a full-time learner.

When Rav Freifeld heard that, he immediately offered a better paying job than the janitorial work Sam thought he was coming for.

Sam's eyes lit up. "What's that?"

"To become a maggid shiur!"

"Rabbi, what are you talking about?" Sam replied in shock. "A maggid shiur?!"

"Yes, yes, I mean it," R' Shlomo confirmed. "You've learned in a respectable yeshiva for a few years, and you probably know how to give over a good shiur on a blatt Gemara. I have a couple of wild guys (R' Shlomo attracted all sorts), and there are those who even I can't talk to, but I'm sure that you'll connect well to them. If you'd deliver a shiur to them, I'm certain it'll be unbelievable!"

THE RIGHT CANDIDATE

"But Rabbi," Sam protested, "I have hair down until my waist!"

"We don't have a dress code; look, I've got payos down till there. What's the difference?"

And the more Sam would try to argue otherwise, the more he realized that nothing would work

to convince R' Shlomo that he wasn't fit for the job. "So, what is the yeshiva learning?" Sam asked.

"The yeshiva is learning Bava Metzia. Preparing a shiur won't take you a day, so I'll give you until Monday. Monday morning start the sugya of 'tokfo Cohen.' I'm sure you'll be prepared by then."

Well, Sam took R' Shlomo's confidence in him and started preparing a shiur. He knew he couldn't come to the yeshiva in his current state of attire, so he went out and bought a yarmulke, tzitzis, a white shirt, and black pants, etc., to look the part and begin teaching Torah!

"And do you know who that was?" the friend outside Yerushalayim asked the visiting Rosh Yeshiva. "That was me. I was that boy who strayed, and if not for Reb Shlomo's foresight and belief in me, who knows where I'd be?!"

The Rosh Yeshiva then concluded to Rav Nachum, "I'm telling you this story so that you should know who R' Freifeld was."

This friend of mine runs a Kollel in the outskirts of Yerushalayim. He and his family of ten, all of whom are shomer Torah and mitzvos, all came to be because of a Yid who saw through his outward dress and looked at his pnim. He saw a sterling neshama and knew that there was something worthy of respect, worthy of acknowledgment, and worthy of being loved! That outlook saved his life, and B"H he was zocheh to build a beautiful family." (As told by Rav Ephraim Wachsman)

R' Moshe Hirschberg is the author of "Zichru Toras Moshe — Heartwarming Stories for the Shabbos Table." To receive the Weekly Zichru Toras Moshe please call 732 569 8111 or email: the.zichru.toras.moshe@gmail.com

Did you know, whenever you see a yid, the initial reaction of a person is to be judgmental and to start focusing on his flaws, on his chesronos. The initial reaction is to say, "Oh, he does this wrong, he does that wrong!" The more chashuv he is, the more you posul him! You say,

By: Rabbi Zevy Golombeck

"He's supposed to be a Rosh Yeshiva, a Rav, and he does all these things wrong...." We look to pasul people.

First of all, this is the biggest tzaar to give Hashem. Just like no parent wants you to look down at his children, Hashem doesn't want you to look down at His children.

My Rebbe gave me over a mesorah from his Rebbeim, from R' Gershon Lipman, and the Chofetz Chaim told R' Yaakov Galinsky this yesod, that the way you're supposed to look at every yid nowadays, is no expectations. We're 2,000 years in galus! Do you know that 99% of Jewish people fell to the way-side. We're from the 1% that's still shteiging and striving, still shomer Torah u'mitzvos. You're supposed to look at every yid and say way, wow, he's wearing a yarmulka, wow, she's wearing a sheitel, look, he's davening, look, she says tehillim! That's how you're supposed to look at every yid.



Start with your spouse, start with your kids, start with your parents, start with your siblings, start with your cousins and relatives and neighbors, and then every yid. Hashem wants you to look at every yid with zero expectations. "Wow, 2,000 years in galus, he still wears a yarmulka!" Do you know that it's greatest pleasure you can give Hashem, that's what every parent wants. By looking at people this way, we're doing ourselves the biggest favor, because that's how Hashem will look at us, wow 2,000 years in galus and look at what he's still doing!

Gold Mines

Based on the teachings of Rav Yehudah Mandel

By: R' Baruch Rosenstock

R' Shimshon Pincus Zt"l says over a beautiful yesod, Hashem is so close to us, but he is super close when things are going hard and it's hard to feel Hashem's love. He explains that hard times are compared to a



mechitza – a divider, just like a mechitza allows for things to come close (for example a mechitza allows ladies to come into shul) so too whenever it's hard to see Hashem's hashgocha and you feel there is a divider, you should know that this is because Hashem is really super close to you.

Likewise he says Hashem is more close to us in today's generation than in previous generations, because in our generation there is so much tumaah and imperfections. Today's generation with all its shortcomings, is also a mechitza, which is a vehicle to bring Hashem much closer to us. He says we are so lucky to be born in such a generation because Hashem is so accessible in our generation much more than other generations.



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Ahavas Yisrael

The Chinuch Chaburah

R' Tzvi Moshe Schultz

Ashkenazim and Sephardim

Disclaimer: The information here is researched. We tried to make sure it's accurate, but we are human and mistakes do happen. We apologize in advance for any errors.

term Sephardi more generally refers to any Jew who originates from a Moslem country. Germany was a Christian country. Therefore, the term Ashkenazi more generally refers to any Jew who originates from a Christian country. In Medieval times, the Christian and Moslem worlds had almost no contact with each other. Rashi and Tosafos weren't known in Spain, and the Rambam wasn't known in France and Germany. The Ashkenazim and Sephardim lived in two completely separate worlds, and they therefore developed many different practices.

- Both Ashkenazim and Sephardim contain many different subgroups. For example, Ashkenazim include Jews from Germany, England, Russia, Poland, and Hungary. Sephardim include Jews from Syria, Morocco, Iran, Iraq, and Uzbekistan. Each subgroup has many differences. Nevertheless, there are certain generalities that apply to most people in each group.

- Well-known differences between Ashkenazim and Sephardim:

1. Ashkenazim and Sephardim have slightly different pronunciations of Hebrew. For example, Ashkenazim say "saf," while Sephardim say "taf."

2. Their nusach hatefillah is different. Ashkenazim daven Nusach Ashkenaz, while Sephardim daven Nusach Eidot Hamizrach. Different subgroups also have slightly different nuschaos within each group]

3. Sephardim will name their children after living grandparents, while Ashkenazim will only name their children after relatives who have passed away.

3. Ashkenazim cover their Torahs in velvet covers, and the Torah lies flat on the bimah when it is being read. Sephardim keep their Torahs in hard cases, and the Torah stands upright while being read.

4. In an Ashkenazi shul, the seats usually face the front. In a Sephardi shul, they face the bimah.

5. In Sephardi households, only the father lights a menorah on Chanukah. In Ashkenazi households, everyone lights their own menorah.

6. Ashkenazim say hamotzi on matzah, while Sephardim say mezonos.

7. Ashkenazim stand when during Kaddish, while Sephardim sit.

8. Most Ashkenazim don't wear a tallis until they're bar mitzvah, while Sep-

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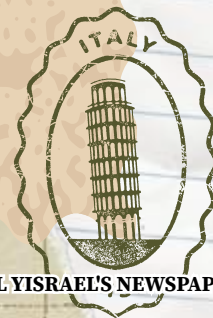
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THE SPRING HILL TIMES - KLAL YISRAEL'S NEWSPAPER

lets get to know our family



hardim wear a tallis at a younger age.

9. Ashkenazim make two berachos on tefillin, while Sephardim only make a bracha on the shel yad.

10. Ashkenazim stand when putting on tefillin, while Sephardim sit while putting on the shel yad, and stand while putting on the shel rosh.

11. Ashkenazim make a bracha on the half hallel said on Rosh Chodesh, while Sephardim don't.

- Ashkenazi stringencies/ Sephardi leniencies:

1. Ashkenazim don't eat kitniyos on Pesach, while Sephardim do.

2. Ashkenazim keep stricter laws of aveilus starting from Rosh Chodesh Av. Sephardim only start from shavua shechal bo (the week when Tisha B'Av begins).

3. Ashkenazim accepted the cherem of Rabbeinu Gershom not to marry two wives. Sephardim never accepted this (although in the modern-day state of Israel they are not allowed to have two wives).

- Sephardi stringencies/ Ashkenazi leniencies:

1. Sephardim say birkas kohanim every day, while Ashkenazim only say it on Yom Tovim (except in Eretz Yisroel, where they also say it every day).

2. Sephardim say selichos starting from Rosh Chodesh Elul. Ashkenazim only start from the week before Rosh Hashana.

3. Sephardim don't wear sheitels, but Ashkenazim do.

4. Sephardim don't eat fish together with milk, but Ashkenazim do.

5. Sephardim are more strict with bishul akum. Ashkenazim hold it's enough if the Jew either turns on the fire or puts the pot on the fire. Sephardim require both.

6. Sephardim are more strict with checking the lungs of a schechted animal for blemishes. Ashkenazim hold that if something can be peeled off, then it is not a tereifah, but Sephardim are strict that it is not kosher, and the lungs must be completely smooth.

7. Sephardi women wash mayim acharonim, while Ashkenazi women do not.

to be continued

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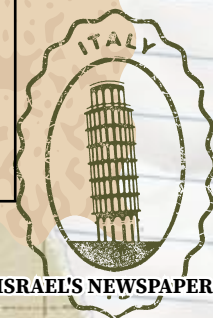
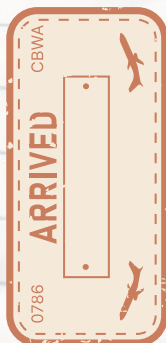
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A BURST OF INSPIRATION

With Rabbi Label Lam



And Yaakov left Beer Sheva, and he went to Charan. (Breishis 28:10)

Why did it mention his departure? Because the departure of a righteous man from a place makes an impression. While the righteous man is in the city, he is its beauty, he is its splendor, he is its majesty. When he departs, its beauty has departed, its splendor has departed, its majesty has departed. – Rashi



I heard a wonderful question last year accompanied by a beautiful and wise answer. Why is that same description not mentioned before about either of the two previous Avos – Fathers? They traveled to and from a number of places but the impact of their leaving a place is never explicitly or implicitly worthy of mention. Why not?

Avraham and Yitzchok were people who, in the course of their life, achieved much wealth and fame. They were men of influence and renown. They lived on the stage of history at various times in their adult life. Of course, their arrivals and departures were felt. It's almost too obvious to be worthy of mention.

Yaakov however, was characterized as a simple man who dwelled in tents. He was a student of Torah and he lived a quiet, humble, and unassuming life. During his days and years in Beer Sheva he might as well have been an invisible man. Who could have and would have known about his scholarship and righteousness. Everything he did was not evident to the eye of society. He was practically hidden in plain sight. His world was an inner world. How could he be recognized as the glory and splendor of the city while he was still there? It was not apparent at all.

However, after his departure the true stature of who it was that they had in their midst became discernable. Then it became clear and palpable. The sun suddenly set on Beer Sheva. Such a shame to wake up after the fact and to be aware when it's already too late. So, what was Yaakov doing for Beer Sheva while living a private life and pursuing Torah scholarship? What was that splendor and glory? How would we know to appreciate today even if it was staring us in the face?

When I heard this beautiful idea, it occurred to me that this is perhaps the reason that Yaakov was shown and we are treated to for all time a vision of the ladder stretching from earth to heaven. Reb Chaim Velozhin explains the ladder in Nefesh HaChaim as a continuum of human potential. This is the paradigm of a human being spanning and bridging large and disparate continents. The angels that are depicted traveling up and down are the results of what the man is doing down here in the world of action.

His every thought, speech, and deed generate ripples and waves up to the heavenly realm and then their echo reverberates and rains back down on to the earth their profound influence. This is the awesome power of who we really are. That's the good news and the bad news. The good news is that every thought we think and each word we utter and any move we make is shaking the higher and lower worlds. The bad news is that every thought we think and each word we utter and any move we make is shaking the higher and lower worlds.

Now we can understand that Avraham and Yitzchok sent out horizontal waves as well, influencing the world in ways that could be seen and measured. They were also shaking up the world in a vertical direction but that became known to us and the world through Yaakov. That a man can sit alone, remaining undetected, and with his holy thoughts, and utterances, and private deeds be lighting up a city and the world could not have been understood or appreciated until Yaakov left and the ladder revealed the reality of realities.

Good Shabbos!

By: Rabbi Chaim Tzvi Blau

Bitachon Lower

The Quote - The Lesson - The Story

THE QUOTE: Fear of man comes from forgetting Hashem. The Novi Yeshayahu says (51: 12), מִי אַתָּה -וְתִירָאִי מֵאָדָם וּמִן הַבֶּן -אֲדָם הָצִיר -יָנִתָּן "Who are you who fears from a man who will die, from a son of man who like grass will be cut down? וְתִשְׁכַּח ה' -עֵשֶׁךְ -נוֹטָה שָׁמַיִם -וְיִסַּד אֶרֶץ -וְתִפְחֹד -תִּמְיֵד כָּל-הַיּוֹם You have forgotten Hashem Who made you, and you are constantly in fear ... " If a person would bear in mind that everything that exists on this earth is made by Hashem, he would not be afraid."

THE LESSON: What makes this idea so incredible and amazing is that the Navi is teaching us how not to fear people. The Navi is also telling us the root for why we fear people. That it all boils down to not putting Hashem into the picture. As soon as we put Hashem into the picture and that Hashem created him, how can we be afraid of man?

THE STORY: HARAV SHABSI YUDELEVITCH USED TO raise money to build Mikvaos in Eretz Yisroel. He once went to collect from a crowd and realized that they were not going to give so much money. He told them as follows. "I did not come here to preach, rather, I came to tell you a story (to a story everyone was willing to listen).

There was a person in Yerushalayim whose name was Mr. Veitenberg. He was known to be one of the stingiest people in the world, to the point that he was not stingy only with others; he was stingy with himself as well. He was an extremely wealthy individual, yet he did not spend a penny.

One time, they needed to build a Mikvah in Yerushalayim and they didn't have the funds to finish building it. They turned to Reb Shmuel Salant, and asked him to help them. Reb Shmuel agreed and said to them that he wanted to go to the home of Mr. Veitenberg. They told him that it was no use trying, as he does not give money to anyone, not even to himself! Reb Shmuel said, "You asked me to help you and this is where I want to go."

When they got to the home of Mr. Veitenberg, he asked the Rov what he had come for. Reb Shmuel told

him that he was collecting money to build a Mikvah and he wanted him to give a nice donation. Mr. Veitenberg looked at Reb Shmuel and said to him, "You are the smartest man in Yerushalayim. You know there is no chance I am going to give you a donation, so why did you come?"

Reb Shmuel told him the following words, "Mr. Veitenberg, there is going to come a day when you are going to die. All of your money won't save you from dying. And on that day, the Chevra Kadisha will come and bury you, and your Neshama will go up to the בית דין של מעלה.

הקב"ה is going to tell you that He loaned you millions of dollars – it was a loan and He asked you to give twenty percent back to צדקה – and you didn't listen to Him. Why not?! And you are going to look at the רבוננו של עולם and say, You know why I did not give any צדקה? Because nobody ever came to ask me for money!" So today, I came to ask you for money, and like this you will have no excuse why you did not give צדקה!

Mr. Veitenberg trembled as the words of Reb Shmuel penetrated his heart. He told Reb Shmuel, "I know I am not capable of giving money. Yet I am going to give the Rov the keys, and the Rov can take as much money as he wants, I just do not want to know about it." Reb Shmuel took enough money to finish building the Mikvah and to run it for a few years.

מצוה גוררת מצוה – Mr. Veitenberg's heart opened up and he went from being the stingiest man in Yerushalayim to being the biggest בעל צדקה. He paid from beginning to end – millions of Liro - for the entire project of Batei Veitenberg (in Meah Shearim) – without anyone even asking him. Because he had the זכות of one מצוה, this developed into the זכות for another מצוה and another מצוה.

Postscript: Reb Shabsi Yudelevitch ended up raising a large amount of money from the crowd he was addressing.



Sparks of Bitachon

PARSHAS VAYEIZEI | 5785 | ISSUE NO. 7

PARSHA SPARKS

After seven years of excruciating work, Yaakov went to his wedding expecting to marry Rochel and was tricked into marrying Leah instead. The next morning Yaakov approached his father-in-law and, with no anger at all, asked him for an explanation and agreed to another seven years of grueling labor.

HaRav HaGaon R' Yeruchem Levovitz, zt"l, and HaRav HaGaon R' Chatzkel Levenstein, zt"l, both explain that Yaakov was able to remain completely calm and level headed only because he had perfect Emunah and Bitachon. Yaakov lived with the complete understanding that a bal bechirah simply has no koach to affect another person - such a thing does not exist.

If he got angry, it would mean that he thought Lavan had the power to affect him, wrong him, hurt him or harm him. Instead of seeing Lavan as the cause of the situation, he only saw HaKadosh Boruch Hu, his loving, caring Father.

STORIES WITH A SPARK

Mrs. Z.C. Schwartz from Skver was recently nifteres at the age of 98.

Many years previously, her married daughter and baby granddaughter were killed in the famous number 2 bus bombing on the way to the Kosel. Mrs. Schwartz flew to Eretz Yisroel to sit shiva.

While sitting shiva, the media came in to report on the situation. With all of their cameras focused on her, they asked her to describe how furious she was - her anger at the vicious Arabs murderers for taking innocent lives. "This is your chance to send a message to the world," they urged her.

Mrs. Schwartz responded, "Bombs? Arabs? Terrorist attack? I am sorry but I do not see any of that. All I see is my loving, caring, Father in Heaven who decided, in His Wisdom, that my daughter and granddaughter had fulfilled their mission in This World."

The reporters sat there in shock, their mouths hanging open, upon hearing this strong affirmation of faith. It was perhaps the first time in their lives that they were privileged to witness the fiery Bitachon of a bereaved and grieving Yiddishe Mama

Sparks
of
wisdom

“ No benefit or harm can come about from any created being; rather, everything that occurs comes straight from HaKadosh Boruch Hu. (Chovos Halevavos) ”

The Darkest Moment

Q *My boss just called me up and said, "Your co-worker told me that you're not doing your job properly. Therefore, I've decided that it's time for you to look for a new job."*

I feel as if my world has just caved in. Until this moment, I was secure, with a well-paying job, and now I'm left without a source of income. How can I move on?

A The Mashgiach, HaRav HaGaon R' Chatzkel Levenstein, zt"l, said of himself:

"I was orphaned at a young age. When I was a young man, just over Bar-Mitzva, I went into business to help my mother support the family. I would work all week, and on Friday, I would come home with money.

"One Erev Shabbos after I was done working, I stopped in at the mikveh Lekovod Shabbos. Afterward, on my way home, I noticed that my pocket felt strangely light. I slipped my hand inside and touched – nothing! All my money had been stolen!

"At first I was crushed. I had just toiled an entire week to earn this money. Now, in one moment, all of it was gone..."

"But then I started thinking: If hard-earned money can be taken so easily, this is not where I want to invest my efforts or live my life. I would rather invest in something more permanent, something that can never be taken from me."

Reb Chatzkel decided to travel to Radin to learn in the Chofetz Chaim's yeshiva. At the time, HaRav HaGaon R' Yerucham Levovitz, zt"l, had just been appointed Mashgiach of the Radin Yeshiva. The first shmuess Reb Yerucham delivered was on the topic of living with Emunah. Reb Chatzkel had never heard anything so powerful in his life! Years later, Reb Chatzkel recalled, "After hearing that shmuess, I saw how much I was falling short in my Avodas Hashem. My tefillin

weren't tefillin, my tzitzits weren't tzitzits and my Emunah was not true Emunah!"

For the rest of his life Reb Chatzkel invested his efforts in the pursuit of eternal values: his own growth in Emunah and Bitachon and inculcating the fruits of his labors into his talmidim. Reb Chatzkel later reflected, "What I had thought was the darkest moment of my life turned out to be the brightest."

With the loss of your employment, Hashem is showing you that your job and your money are transitory and that material possessions do not have inherent worth. When you experience the impermanence of Gashmiyus, you internalize with clarity that living with Emunah and Bitachon is the only thing that has intrinsic value.

Now that you do not have employment, throw your burden onto HaKadosh Baruch Hu. Say, "Hashem, I don't know where my next job is coming from. However, one thing I do know. It's not my job that gives me Parnassah. My income is only from You, Hashem." When you are truly convinced that your Parnassah is in only Hashem's hands, He will lead you to your next job.

As a result, this black moment in your life will become the best thing that ever happened to you. You will see clearly that Hashem sent you this situation to help you fulfill the purpose for which you were created: to truly understand that there is no strength, no power, no Source - except for HaKadosh Boruch Hu.

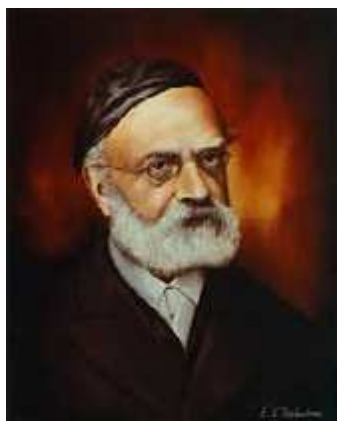
If you were asked to choose the factors that most powerfully affected Yaakov Avinu's climb to greatness, perhaps you would guess that it was growing up in the home of Yitzchok and Rivka, or learning diligently for 14 years in Yeshivas Shaim V'aiver without sleeping in a bed. If, however, you look in the Medrash, it says that Yaakov reached his greatest potential in the house of Lavan.

The possuk says that Yaakov Avinu left Lavan's house with tzohn (sheep), eved (servants), shifcha (maidservants) and chamor (donkeys). Chazal say "tzohn" refers to Klal Yisroel. "Eved" refers to Moshe Rabeinu who was the quintessential Eved Hashem. "Chamor" refers to the donkey of Moshiach, and "shifcha" hints at Rus. It was specifically during his time with Lavan that Yaakov was able to maximize his greatness and produce Klal Yisroel, Moshe Rabbeinu, Moshiach and Rus.

Chazal tell us which individuals will be qualified to give testimony regarding the greatness of Yaakov Avinu. It will not be Yitzchok and Rivka or Shaim V'aiver. Lavan will be the one to bear witness to the righteousness of Yaakov.

HaRav HaGaon R' Avigdor Miller, zt"l, tells us that this is what we have to learn from Yaakov Avinu. The harder a situation is, the more of an opportunity it is for us to grow and bring out our full potential.

בשבילי הרב שמשון רפאל הירש זצ"ל



וידר יעקב- נדר לאמר -אם יהיה אלוקים עמדי ושמרני- בדרך הזה -אשר אנכי- הולך ונתן לי לחם- לאכול ובגד- ללבוש : ושבתי בשלום -אל בית- אבי והיה- ה' לי לאלוקים : (פ"כ פ"כ, כ"א)

מעיר רבינו שבשונה מברכת כהנים שפותחת הברכה ביברך ד' שמשמעה היא שיתברכו הנכסים, וממשיכה הברכה בוישמרך שמשמעה היא שמירת הנכסים.

ואילו יעקב מבקש תחילה שמירה, ושמרני בדרך הזה. ורק לאחר מכן מבקש יעקב את הברכה של ונתן לי לחם לאכול ובגד ללבוש. ומוסיף יעקב לבקש ושבתי בשלום אל בית אבי, ומבטיח והיה ה' לי לאלוקים.

מה ביאור בקשתו של יעקב?

מבאר רבינו שבקשת יעקב באומרו ושמרני בדרך הזה אינה בקשת שמירת הממון או הגוף, לאחר שיתן לו ה' לחם לאכול ובגד ללבוש. יעקב מבקש מה' שמירה על הקניינים הרוחניים והמוסריים שרכש יעקב עד יציאתו לדרך. שהרי יעקב עוזב את ביתו בערום ובחוסר כל אל הלא נודע כדי לבנות את ביתו שלו, ביקש יעקב סיועא דשמיא מיוחדת במלאכה הקשה של בניית הבית שרבים חללים הפילה ברדיפת הפרנסה והממון אשר עלולה להפסיד את כל מעלותיו הרוחניות,

כמו שדרשו חז"ל ושמרני בדרך ירמוז לגילוי עריות, ושפיכת דמים, ועבודה זרה, ולשון הרע שנקראו דרך (מדרש רבה על פ' ויצא).

כשיהודי בונה את ביתו בבקשה הראשונה היא בניית בית מתוך שמירה על השלמות הרוחנית והמוסרית. ורק לאחר מכן מבקש יעקב ונתן לי לחם לאכול ובגד ללבוש.

וכשתושג השלמות הרוחנית והגשמית אז מבקש יעקב ושבתי בשלום אל בית אבי בחזרה לחיק משפחתו הטבעית עם משפחתו הפרטית שלו.

ומוסיף יעקב " והיה ה' לי לאלוקים."

מבאר רבינו שהרי שם הויה מורה על נתינה ושפע ושם אלוקים מורה על גבול ומידה בתנאי השימוש בשפע.

ומבטיח יעקב השפע הגדול שאקבל מה' יתברך במידת הויה יהיה לי לאלוקים. כלומר אשתמש בו רק במידה ובתנאי שיהיה השימוש כפוף לרצון ה' כמו שאמר ה' "גאלתי אותכם - להיות לכם לאלוקים" כלומר כדי שתחיו בטהרה לפי רצון ה' את חייכם שקיבלתם מה' וזה שאמר יעקב "היה ה' לי לאלוקים."

מנוחה ושקט אור ליהודים יום שבתון יום מקדשים.

THE WONDERFUL GIFT OF SHABBOS

How fortunate are we to receive a נשמה יתירה on Shabbos, upgrading us with Kedusha. This benevolent gift affords us the strength to start the upcoming week, anew with a fresh and improved outlook on HASHEM'S AMAZING WORLD.

אלקט האלקי אבותינו
החל עלינו את ששת ימי המעשה הבאים לקראתנו לשלום

עולם-חסד יבנה

*Love and kindness are never wasted.
They impact people in positive ways.
The one who receives it, is blessed.
And you the giver is also blessed.*

העושה חסד עם אחד מ ישראל
מעלה עליו הכתוב כאילו
עשה חסד עם כל ישראל

BS"D

Nkasef HaNekudos

WITH ACHING HEARTS

(Parshas Vayeitzei)

By Mrs. S. Mordechai

As he fled his brother

Eisav HaRasha's wrath,

*Yaakov Avinu was escorted by malachim
every step of his path.*

*Bearing the blessings of both of his par-
ents, he left the home of his birth.*

*Like his fathers before him, Yaakov trav-
eled to daven at the holiest place on earth.*

*Yaakov could feel the Kedusha
in the air.*

*He knew that Hashem's Divine Presence
had always rested there.*

*He protected his head with twelve stones,
one for each future son.*

*For the Nation of G-d, they would become,
the stones joined as one.*

*There Yaakov encountered Kail Shakai, the
G-d of his fathers Avraham and Yitzchok,
Who assured him: "You will inherit this
Holy Land. My promise is as solid as a
rock."*

*Kail Shakai told Yaakov that He would
safeguard him wherever he would sojourn
and to this soil Yaakov would surely re-
turn.*

*Yaakov dreamt of a ladder that reached to
the Gate of Heaven.*

*He knew Hashem, Yisborach, was his Ever-
lasting Even.*

*In awe and gratitude, Yaakov sanctified
the stone, which had protected his head,
with shemen zayit*

*in the Makom that would be for us, Yaa-
kov's children, Har HaBayit.*

*The House of G-d, Yaakov called this awe-
some ground on Har HaMoriah,
but it would be millenia before a home
would be built there for Hashem's Shechi-
na.*

*Of our Bayis HaGadol V'Hakadosh, after
thousands of years we still
remain bereft*

*while we trust that, G-d's Mountain, His
Shechina HaKedosha has never left.*

*In His Great Mercy, Hashem allowed one
wall of Bayis Shaini to survive earthquakes
and enemies*

*to be a steadfast remnant where we would
find solace through the centuries.*

*It is the Holiest Site on earth for
every Jew;*

*where we feel most tangibly the Presence of
HaKadosh Baruch Hu.*

*Throughout this long galus our Kosel has
been our mainstay.*

*We pour out our hearts to Hashem, facing
these sacred stones, and pray.*

*Conquerors came and went, changing
hands of control*

*often keeping Yidden from davening at the
Kosel, which is so close to our soul.*

*Three thousand, five hundred and forty-
two years after Yaakov Avinu found the
Gate of Heaven;*

*Yidden were reunited with the Holy Ma-
kom where Yaakov had encountered G-d,
our Everlasting Even.*

*In Taf Shin Caf Zion: during the Sefira of
Chesed Sh'B'Malchus, Omer day forty
three;*

*Kail Shakai, showered us with Chesed and
to daven at Kasleinu, Yidden were once
again unrestricted and free.*

*The Shofar was sounded loud and clear
with a blast
that could be heard by Yaakov Avinu and
his fathers back through the doros to the
past.*

*Shema Yisrael was shouted
amidst rivers of tears.*

*Hashem Echad echoed through genera-
tions of Yiddishe ears.*

*Every Jewish Neshama feels the Kedusha
in the air*

*and is grateful to be close to the Divine
Presence that has always rested there.*

*But this is not the destiny for which our
souls long!**

*We hear the silence of empty space where
there should be joyous song!*

*A gaping wound remains behind the Kosel
HaMaaravi, our beloved wall.*

*"From the depths of our souls, Melech Chai
V'Kayam, we Yaakov's children, beseech
You and call:*

*"On this Heilige Soil where Yaakov Avinu
dreamt and slept,
for these thousands of years, along with
Your Shechina, we have wept.*

*"With aching hearts, for our final Bais Ha-
Mikdash, we cry out to You as we longing-
ly wait:*

*Please send Moshiach Tzidkeinu NOW
and build Your Eternal Home at Heaven's
Gate!"*

With Blessings Reaching to Heaven for Our Everlasting Even and
R. Yitzchok Kaufman (The Spring Hill Times); R. Zev Golombeck
(The Bitachon Hotline); Mattis Kantor (Chabad Timeline of
Jewish History); Luach-HebCal Counting of the Omer 1967/5727;
Chanan Morrison: Rav Kook Torah (The Kotel: Stones with Hearts,
Yom Kippur: The Shofar at the Kotel); R. Reuven Chaim Klein
(Ohr Someach: What's in a Word? Like aa Rock part 1,2-5779)

**Warm Up Your Heart
With Ahavas Hashem!**



The Spring Hill Times

Bulletin Board

**MAZEL
TOV!**

Mazal Tov to R'Moshe Yaraslowitz and family (Lakewood, NJ) on the birth of a new baby boy!

**MAZEL
TOV!**

Mazal Tov to R' Dov Nosson Freundlich and family (Lakewood, NJ) on the birth of a new baby boy!

Dear subscriber

Each week, we give the magazines to a mailing company. In order for you get it in time for Shabbos, it goes in the mail over a week before Shabbos.

Sometimes a magazine won't reach its destination. Even if you never get it, we paid for printing and mailing it.

If you don't get your magazine please let us know and we will extend your subscription.



Smile!
Hashem is taking care of you!

**MAZEL
TOV!**

Mazal Tov to R' Binyamin Schwab (Chestnut Ridge, NY) on the birth of a new baby boy!

**MAZEL
TOV!**

Mazal Tov to R' Yechiel Stern and family (Lakewood, NJ) on the birth of a new baby girl!

**MAZEL
TOV!**

Mazal Tov to R' Eli Weinberg and family (Toms River, NJ) on the birth of a new baby boy!

Help the Spring Hill Times Grow!

We are looking for a volunteer to help manage the subscription system.

Dear Subscriber

We try our best to make sure all our charges are correct. We may make mistakes and the system sometimes has errors. Please check over your credit card statements and make sure everything is okay.

Please say that you are moichel if a mistake never gets discovered and taken care of. Thank you!

contest contest contest!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Would you like to be part of bringing the geulah closer while winning prizes?

Here's how:

AN HOUR BEFORE SHABBOS YOU NEED TO BE:

- 1) *Dressed for Shabbos*
- 2) *Have your bedroom cleaned*
- 3) *Do an extra job likoved shabbos*

To enter the raffle Please call: (845)-501-7131

Every shabbos mevorchim there will be two raffles

1-ages 6-12

2-ages 13+

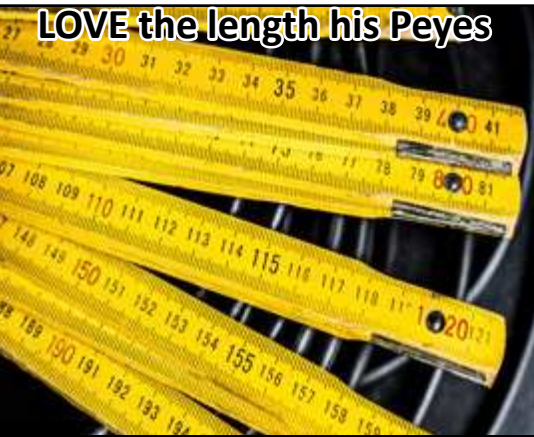
Please call between 3:00 & 3:30

CRYSTAL CLEAR VISION



WHEN YOU SEE

LOVE the length his Peyes



LOVE his ideas!



LOVE his successes!



LOVE the color of his
shoes



LOVE the leader he follows



LOVE the type of hat he
wears



LOVE the nusach he uses to
talk to Hashem with



LOVE his occupation



Don't Accuse!
Don't Judge!
Don't Convict!





ANOTHER YID:

**Remember that he is
part of your family!**



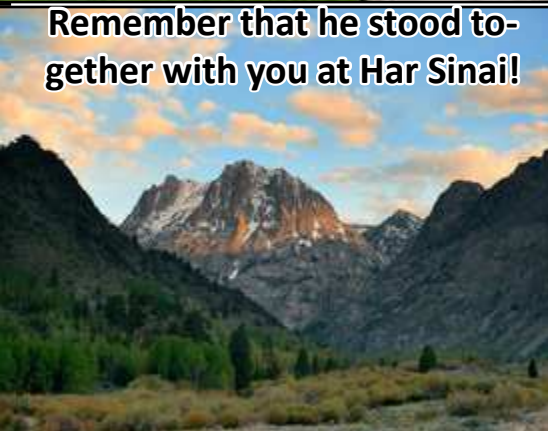
**Remember that he is
your other half!**



**Remember that Hashem cre-
ated the world just for him!**



**Remember that he stood to-
gether with you at Har Sinai!**



**Remember that Hashem
loves him to no end!**



Give him a smile!



**See his chelek Elokei
m'mal his neshama!**



**Hold his hand and help
him through life!**



**Accept him and love him
to pieces!**



Story Time

Stories From 'A Life With Bitachon'

Edited by Sari Grunwald

#1874: his story was called in by a Mrs. Pearl. One of her daughters developed a corn (an area of thickened skin) on her foot and it was uncomfortable. They went to the doctor, and the doctor said, "You're going to have to schedule a procedure to get it removed."

They made an appointment, but the child really didn't want a doctor doing things to her foot. She wished the corn would just disappear, the same way it had come. "Do these corns ever go away on their own?" she asked. "Sorry," the doctor said, "It doesn't work like that. You're going to need a procedure." It looked like there was no way to avoid it.

The day before the appointment, Mrs. Pearl and her daughter were discussing the matter, when Mrs. Pearl said, "One second. If we go with Teva, with laws of nature, then you're going to need a procedure. But if we believe Hashem is the Kol Yachol, then the same Hashem who made the corn grow on your foot can just make it disappear and vanish into thin air. Let's leave it up to Hashem."

A few hours later they noticed that the daughter's foot looked different. They checked more closely, and lo and behold, the corn had simply fallen off by itself! No procedure was necessary!



#1875: This story was called in by a very, very choshuva yungerman, R' Lazer Preissler. He has a relative who suffers from kidney stones. Every time the relative would get an attack, the pain would go from bad to worse until it was unbearable, and the relative would have to be hospitalized.

During the most recent attack, the pain began intensifying as usual, and the family thought the patient would have to be hospitalized again. Then they remembered to say, "One second. Who caused all this pain? Who made these kidney stones appear? It's our loving, caring father, HaKadosh Baruch Hu, the Ribono Shel Olam. He's the Kol Yachol- He can do anything. The same way Hashem brought it, He can make it disappear."

They started being Mechazek and singing songs of Bitachon. As they sang, the patient started feeling the pain getting less and less. Before they knew it, it had disappeared and vanished into thin air!



#1876: This story was called in by a Mrs. Holstein. She was trying to use her calling card to dial



Eretz Yisrael on her landline, but the calling card was not working. Then she tried to use the card on her cell phone, but it didn't work either. She went back and forth several times, alternately trying her landline and her cell phone, but the call simply did not go through.

"What should I do now?" she thought. "I really have to make this phone call, and it's just not happening!"

Then she had an idea. She called "A Life with Bitachon" hotline and chose to listen to the story of the day. Amazingly, the story was about somebody who was trying to call another person and the phone wasn't ringing and she wasn't getting through! Then, the person in the story said, "Who's in charge of making phones ring? Who's in charge of people's phone calls? It's my loving, caring, father, HaKadosh Baruch Hu the Ribono Shel Olam. It's not Verizon; it's not AT&T; it's not the phone. It's only Hashem." Then the person in the story tried to call once more, and she got through immediately!

Mrs. Holstein said, "Wow! I was busy going from phone to phone trying the calling card and it wasn't working - but now I have a very simple solution. I just have to say, 'It's not the calling card; it's not the phone; it's only Hashem.'"

After strengthening herself in Emunah and Bitachon, Mrs. Holstein tried to place the call again. This time the calling card worked beautifully, with the best service, better than ever!



#1877: This story was called in by a Mrs. Newman who had heard an amazing Bitachon story from her friend Mrs. Eisenstein.

Mrs. Eisenstein had recently had a new baby, and she had also moved into a brand-new apartment building. One day she stepped into the hallway to check on something, and the door closed automatically behind her. Unfortunately, her key – and her new baby – were locked in the apartment!

"Oh, no, what should I do?" thought Mrs. Eisenstein. "My baby is in the apartment. I don't have the key. The manager does have a key but he lives quite far and he's never around. This is a huge problem!"

Then she had a thought. "Do I need a Fisher Price, Play-Doh, Clay-Doh key to get into my apartment? I need a REAL key. A Bitachon key. A loving, caring father, HaKadosh Baruch Hu key. He's the one in charge of opening the door."

A moment later Mrs. Eisenstein looked up and saw the manager walking by. She called out to him, and he said, helpfully, "Yes, what would you like?"

"I'm locked out of my apartment," she told him.

"Oh, I have a master key right here," he replied.

In a matter of seconds, he got the door open with the best service, better than ever! ❖



The Bitachon Perspective

Q & A with Rabbi Zevy Golombeck
By R' Shalom Yedidya Klatzko

Q. What are the guidelines as to how much hishtadlus we are required to do, and when can we rely on bitachon?

A. It depends on your level of bitachon. The more bitachon you have, the less hishtadlus you need to do; the less bitachon you have the more hishtadlus you need to do.

The way to determine which level you are holding on is: if you think that doing more hishtadlus will be beneficial, Hashem wants you to do more hishtadlus. But if you feel that you've done enough, and you trust that Hashem will give you whatever was nigzar for you anyway, you don't have to do more hishtadlus.

In order to gain a clearer picture on where you are holding, ask yourself, 'If I rely on bitachon and I don't get the results I wanted, am I going to regret not having done more hishtadlus?' If you will regret your decision, that reveals that you are not holding on the level to understand that whatever happened to you would've happened anyway, rather you think that the world operates according to cause and effect. Hence, Hashem's hanhogah with you is that of cause and effect, and you are required to do more hishtadlus in order to get what is coming to you.

However, if you assess that you won't regret your decision, and you'll tell yourself that whatever happened would've happened anyway, that indicates that your level of bitachon is high. Since you realize that everything is coming from Hashem, Hashem will arrange that you get your needs without having to do hishtadlus.

Rabbi Zevy Golombeck

Illuminating Words of Chazal

"Everything about Hashem, His Torah and His world is supposed to bring out positive emotions and help us have a healthy relationship with Hashem." Rav Yehuda Mandel

We say in tachanun every day that Dovid davened to Hashem that he should fall into His hands and not into a human being (he should be punished through Hashem not through a human being) because Hashem has mercy.

We hear on 'A Life With Bitachon' that there's no such thing as a person, it's all Hashem and the person is just a puppet. So if Dovid was deserving a punishment what difference would it make if Hashem used a human being or not?

Before we say the answer to this question, we have to realize never to learn k'pshuto any chazal or any passuk that seem to go k'neged the basic foundations of emunah and bitachon. R' Chaim Epstein said that you have to have a black box and whenever you see a chazal or a Rishon or Acharon that say anything k'neged our mesorah and hashkafos of emunah and bitachon, we put it in the black box and say we don't understand it and when Mashiach comes he will explain it to us. Don't ever think that there's machlokes in our emunah, that there could be different shittos. Therefore a person should never think that it sounds like there's a koach to a baal bechira. We all know the mesorah that our parents brought us up with all the way up to Moshe Rabbeinu: altz is Hashem. Everything is from Hashem without any exceptions to the rules. That's why the Chinuch says lo sikom lo sitor, you're not even allowed to take revenge. We don't take revenge because everything is from Hashem. Everything Hashem does is good. And therefore, first we have to learn what not to say. What not to say is to ever think that a baal bechira has a koach.

R' Avigdor Miller says that's why the shores of the word emunah means steadfast. Like Moshe Rabbeinu's hands was yadav emunah, it was steadfast. It means it has to be iron. It means a person's emunah has to be iron, not wishy-washy. A lot of people could think, oh there's a machlokes, there's a koach to a baal bechira... Do you know that by just believing that there's a machlokes that means that your emunah is not steadfast. That makes it that you're not a ma'amin! Emunah can't be wishy-washy, it has to be solid iron. A person has to be able to know with conviction that there's

only ONE way of thinking, and that is that there's no koach to a baal bechira whatsoever. People are powerless creatures. Powerless, powerless, powerless. And therefore, every person is a puppet, every person is run by strings, and every person is just doing exactly what Hashem wants them to do and no human being can affect anybody's life. That's the hakdama.

R' Avigdor Miller explains that the Torah was written in a way that if you read kipshuto you can make mistakes and can fall into the trap of not being a maamin. Hashem is testing us to see our loyalty, our devotion. Are you going to give a koach to someone else? Or are you going to realize that there's no such thing, everything is Hashem from start to finish and everything in between? So we have to realize that it's all a test to see if we'll learn the truth or fall into the trap of the yetzer hara.

So now that we know that it's the trick and the trap of the yetzer hara, and we know what it doesn't mean, so what does it yes mean that Dovid davened not to fall into the hands of a person? So it means like this. Hashem decrees on Rosh Hashana different types of gezeiros. There's one type of gezeira where Hashem decrees you're a tzaddik. No baal bechira will ever come close to you, you have nothing to worry about. Another type of gezeira is that Hashem decrees: I see that you're back and forth, sometimes you're doing the right thing, sometimes not, I'm going to put you in the hands of a baal bechira and he's going to point a gun at you and then we're going to see, hasatan mekatreig bishaas hasakana, if you have enough zechusim to live. Hashem says, if a person doesn't have enough zechu-

Continued on page 58

Hashem Loves You

Years ago, I heard HaGaon HaRav Eitan Feiner Shlita share that a Rav named Rav Yosef* in Eretz Yisroel was sitting with a group of three Baalei Teshuva, Doron*, Natan*, and Sgt. Yoav*. Rav Yosef brought them all freshly cut slices of Hashem's juicy geshmak watermelon to enjoy, and asked them if they knew which Bracha is made to thank Hashem for this enjoyable gift.

Doron said, "The Bracha is Ha'dama." Natan disagreed and said, "I think the Bracha is HaEitz." Sargent Yoav declared, "I believe the correct Bracha is Shehakol." Rav Yosef then asked, "I understand how Doron and Natan could disagree, but why do you, Sgt. Yoav, think that the Bracha is Shehakol?"

Sgt. Yoav explained, "Recently, I was leading soldiers into enemy territory to perform an important military operation. It was before dawn and the roads were super dark. As we were getting closer to the home of a major terrorist, we suddenly realized that we were being ambushed! Five enemy tanks were hiding behind thick trees and were secretly watching our every move, and now completely surrounded us from all sides!

"With only moments to spare, I understood that there was no hope at all unless Hashem would save us. I asked my men if they knew any Tefilos to recite, but sadly, no one knew anything at all! Finally, one soldier screamed, 'I know a very potent and powerful Tefila that might save us! It goes like this - Baruch Ata Hashem Elokenu Mel-ech HaOlam Shehakol Nihyeh Bidvaro!' He then immediately shot a missile at the tank in front of us, and shockingly, it was a bullseye! The tank exploded in front of our eyes! But there were still more enemy tanks against us. So, we all recited in unison Baruch Ata Hashem Elokenu Melech

HaOlam Shehakol Nihyeh Bidvaro - we then felt an enemy's anti-tank missile hit us head on! We thought it was all over. But Hashem made it hit the spot on our tank with the strongest armor, and we were able to quickly deflect it before it exploded. We then recited once more with all of our strength, Baruch Ata Hashem Elokenu Mel-ech HaOlam Shehakol Nihyeh Bidvaro, and kept shooting our strongest missiles nonstop. Hashem displayed His endless power and our shots were direct hits! The enemy tanks exploded before our own very eyes.

"I saw firsthand how the Bracha of Shehakol literally saved my life and the life of my men. Later, I learned the meaning of this special Bracha, that 'EVERYTHING happens only by the word of Hash-

em', and by proclaiming this, one can be saved from all harm and protected with a special protection.

"And that's why I thought that the Bracha would be Shehakol on your watermelons, because if Shehakol worked to neutralize strong enemy tanks, it surely would work on watermelons!"



Sgt. Yoav turned around his life and became a full-fledged Baal Teshuva. Every time he recites the Bracha of Shehakol, he feels so loved and cared for by Hashem. He feels how Hashem is always watching him and protecting him with such exact precision.

As we say in our Sefer Hashem Loves You (available by pressing 9 on the Hashem Loves You Hotline) 'Hashem is always taking care of us, and He turns our worst moment into our very best moment!'

Hashem loves us!

Note: The correct Bracha on watermelon is HaAd-ama.

Taken from The Hashem Loves You Hotline 267-833-0596



RAIN!!!!!!



Dear Editor,

Thank you so much for this life changing magazine.

I want to share a story of how I read news in a local newspaper, and it greatly worried me.

The magazine said that Brooklyn barely had rain this month and there was a drought watch. They advised people to be more careful with their water usage, etc.

This news greatly worried me. Pictures of thirst, no food, dirty clothes etc filled my mind. There were nearby forest fires which people said were because of the dry season. The fumes were very unpleasant, and that added on to my nerve wracking fears.

We had beautiful sunshine, but I was disappointed, and couldn't enjoy the weather as I should have.

I davened to Hashem fervently that we should get rain. Two days after davening, we had a little rain! However there still wasn't sufficient rainfall.

A week later, we had light rain again.

The next day, I woke up and there was real rain falling! Puddles on the streets! The forecast said

there might even be a thunderstorm!

People were commenting that they never were so excited about rain before!

Thank You, Hashem, for the rain, and for answering my tefilos! I said I would publicize this story when we get rain.

I want to point out that in contrast to what I read in the local paper that filled me with anxiety, the Spring Hill Times instructs people to enjoy the weather, whatever it is.

Thank you for all that you do!

-A Reader, Brooklyn, NY

THUNDER AND LIGHTNING!



Hi, I just wanted to share a quick story of how I felt Hashem's amazing love!

This past Wednesday night, November 20th, was the first time it rained in months here in Lakewood. I was hearing thunder all evening, but hadn't had the chance to make the bracha of Kocho Ugvuraso because I had been busy saying other tefillos that I usually say before going to bed. (Editor's note: Please ask your Rav what to do in such a case)

Finally, once I was fully ready to go to sleep, I opened my siddur to where the bracha is located so I could read it while saying it, which is something I like to do if I'm able to. I then went over to the window hoping to also see lightning so I could recite the bracha of Oseh Maaseh Bereishis too.

I was standing by the window for

a good few minutes without catching any sight of lightning, while davening in my heart that Hashem should make the lightning appear so I could make the bracha.

Then the thought occurred to me to go to the door that leads to the backyard and see if any lightning will appear there. I was standing by the door looking out the window with my siddur opened for less than a minute when I saw a few flashes of lightning! I then made the bracha reading it from inside the siddur and when I finished there was a loud rumbling of thunder so I was able to recite that bracha as well!! I felt so unbelievably loved by Hashem that He enabled me to make both those brachos before going to sleep!!!

-A Reader, Lakewood, NJ

ANTI-SEMITISM ON THE DECLINE



I'm a bachur who is learning in Eretz Yisrael. I forgot my phone in a taxi. I wasn't sure what to do. I didn't know the taxi driver, the taxi company, the taxi's license plate... and I really didn't know what to do.

I started calling random numbers of taxis but no one really knew what to do. So I went to the same spot where I was the night before when I got the taxi, and I saw an Arab taxi driver there. I asked him if he can help me track down my phone. The Arab called a few people until they eventually tracked down the taxi driver who had the phone. The driver was an Arab as well. He drove back and gave me the phone without charging me any extra money!

-Mordechai, Yerushalayim

REMEMBERING THE MIRACLES, THE CHESSED AND THE TESHUVA

From Last Year - 5784

WHAT SEEMED BAD, SAVED THEIR LIVES!

Rabbi Lieberman* grew up on a secular kibbutz. With Hashem's help, he was Chozer B'Teshuvah and moved away. A few months ago, an old friend from the kibbutz, Yishai,* called and asked Rabbi Lieberman to get him tefillin, but not to tell anyone that he was donning tefillin and saying Shema.

After Simchas Torah, he called to tell R' Lieberman how Hashem saved him.

On the Shabbos of Simchas Torah, Yishai got up at 6:30 in the morning to the sound of the air-raid siren. A moment later, a rocket fell near his home, and the house was instantly dark; the electricity was cut off. All the electronic devices, including the refrigerator, stopped working. This was a very serious problem, because Yishai was a diabetic, and his insulin injections needed refrigeration. Since he didn't know when the problem would be fixed, he needed to find someone who had a refrigerator who could host him.

Yishai hurried to the home of a friend, where everything was still in working order. A few seconds later, a rocket fell in his friend's courtyard as well. The friend, who had only recently completed renovations on his magnificent home, watched as the front wall blew up. This was a special wall made completely of glass, and it cracked with a

huge crash, its shards spreading everywhere. Baruch Hashem, although the outside of the house was a picture of total destruction, the interior of the house remained stable. Yishai and his friend ran to the sealed room and locked themselves inside.

Not knowing what was going on outside, they stayed in the sealed room, and not until 18 hours later did soldiers come to save them. Yishai was overtaken with emotion at the fact that he was actually alive. They were literally in the inferno, and b'chasdei Hashem they were saved!

Afterward it became clear that two things that had seemed to be terrible were in actuality what saved them: First - his diabetes. Because it was urgent for him to find a working refrigerator for his insulin, he hurried to his friend's home. The rocket that landed near his home caused him to leave it, and thus he was saved from the terrorists who later burst into his home and found it empty.

Second, the exterior wall of his friend's home blew up dramatically, and the glass shards spread over a large expanse, giving the impression that the entire home was destroyed. Seeing the exploded wall, the terrorists assumed that the house had already been "taken care of" on the inside as well, and they skipped over it.

Yishai and his friend saw clearly how the things that seemed bad

were actually good! [Kav Hashgacha Pratis]

GUNS ARE IN HASH-EM'S CONTROL

Daniel* lived in one of the settlements near Gaza. He was on his way to hakafos in shul, and suddenly a terrorist came up to him and pointed his gun at him.

The terrorist pulled the trigger, and nothing happened. He tried again, and no bullet emerged! The terrorist started checking the gun to find the problem, and Daniel escaped. He ran away quickly and hid among the trees. He hid there for hours.

On Motzaei Shabbos, he called his family to tell them that Hashem had saved him! [Kav Hashgacha Pratis]

SHABBOS SAVED HIM!

A Yid Recounted:

I went with my son to the Rosh Yeshivah to get a brachah for Rosh Hashanah. The Rosh Yeshivah greeted us warmly and blessed us. Then he asked, "How did you get here?"

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"In a taxi," I said.

"Perhaps the driver also wants a brachah?" The Rosh Yeshivah asked.

I told him I would check, and I went out to call the driver. He was excited by the idea that the Rav wanted to bless him, and he came with me into the Rav's home.

"Do you agree to accept something upon yourself?" the Rosh Yeshivah asked. "Something small," agreed the driver, who was not wearing a kippah. "Commit to keeping Shabbos during the month of Tishrei," the Rav proposed. The driver committed to this, and he received a bracha for a shanah tovah.

When friends invited him to the festival that would be taking place in the South, which was to be held on Simchas Torah, he was tempted to join them, but he decided to stay true to his promise and stayed home. He kept Shabbos, and the Shabbos safeguarded him! [Kav Hashgacha Pratis]

HASHEM LOVES THE JEWISH NATION

A non-Jewish worker in a yeshiva went over to the 8th grade Rebbi and said, "We are so sorry for what you are going through. Our whole family is praying for the Jews."

CHESED SAVES TWO FAMILIES

About a year ago, Yehuda was driving on a road in Eretz Yis-

rael. He noticed a car stuck on the side of the road. He pulled over. The driver, a non-frum yid, by the name of Yaakov told him that he ran out of gas. They were waiting already for a half hour. Yehuda was the first one to stop for them.

Yeudah told him, "No problem, I'll go to the nearest gas station and buy gas for you."

Yehuda went and came back with the gas. Yaakov offered to pay him but Yehuda would not sell his mitzvah for any money in the world.

Yaakov was so overtaken with the care Yehuda showed that he went to the back of his car where he had a bumper sticker that put down Chareidim and pulled it off.

Yehuda kept up a connection with Yaakov. At one point he invited Yaakov who lived in Kibutz Be'eri to come to him for Shabbos to Bnei Brak to see how wonderful Shabbos is. Yaakov agreed. It was right before Rosh Hashana and he wasn't sure which Shabbos would be good for Yaakov to come. Yehuda called his Rav. His Rav told him bring them for Simchas Torah. Yehuda said, "But I'm supposed to going to my parents in Sderot for Simchas Torah." So the Rav said, "Bring your father too to Bnei Brak."

After Simchas Torah they saw the huge neis Hashem did. Yehuda's parents lived right on top of the Police station in Sderot that was attacked on Simchas Torah. Yaakov and his family lives in Kibutz

Beeri. All of his neighbor in the Kibbutz were attacked.

B"H, because they were in Bnei Brak they were saved!

HASHEM SAVES SHUL

Kav Hashgacha Pratis reported that a Shul in Ofkim, after Simchas Torah, looked over their security cameras. They noticed that when they reached Shmonei Esrei, the terrorists came to shul and stood outside but they didn't hear any noise so they thought it was empty. and they left!

הנה לא - ינום - ולא יישן - שומר ישראל!

HASHEM LOVES THE JEWISH NATION

There is a coffee shop in Manhattan that's owned by a frum Yid. The store had Arab workers. Because of what's going on in Gaza, they all said they don't want to work for the Yid anymore.

Non-Jews in the area heard about it, and they said "We don't want the Jew to lose his business." They worked it out and got workers for him to keep the store going!!

Starbucks around the corner heard what happened. They told the Yid, "Take our machines! We will do whatever it takes to help you out!"

Goyim offered to work in the Yid's coffee shop, without asking for pay!

כי אני ד' אלוקיך מחזיק ימיך!

THIS WEEK

Stories Reported in The Spring Hill Times from Previous Years' Issues

VAYEITZEI 5782 ISSUE 26

MR. FRED (R' SHLOMO MEIR) TELLER Z"L



By his son R' Hanoch Teller

...Notwithstanding his quiet and refined nature, if the honor of the Almighty or of others was at stake, he knew how to voice opposition.

About 45 years ago, a Jewish community center in a nearby town was conducting its annual carnival on a Sunday that fell on Tisha B'av.

Sam Shoshan z"l declared that this must be protested and my father bought in. So did many others, but when it came to actually protesting, the scene was reminiscent of the zekanim approaching Pharaoh; by the time the promised caravan of cars arrived at the JCC, it was no longer a caravan; one guy had to get gas, another guy's dog needed an emergency appendectomy, Berel wished to look if he had a dog, Shmerel had to check the tire-pressure of his spare, twelve other guys got

lost, and only Teller was left to protest. He held his poster aloft and picketed every ride and attraction, ruining everyone's party. (I was the kid hiding in the corner, pretending I wasn't related.)

....

Everyone commented upon how Reb Shlomo Meir was perennially dignified, refined... and happy. He conducted and concluded a glorious life doing precisely what he wanted to do with no regrets and certainly no sense of entitlement.



I distinctly recall how one summer day he was sitting on his porch eating some cottage cheese and remarked: "I don't deserve this!"

The man had experienced untold hardships, building his life brick grateful and appreciative[ii]. Therefore, he was constantly in a state of happiness, irredeemably optimistic.

יהי זכרו ברוך

VAYEITZEI 5783 ISSUE 76

EVERYTHING IS FOR THE BEST!

A Yid said that when he was in yeshiva from age of 7-11, boys would bother him and he didn't really have friends.



One day, a new boy came to his class and he decided to befriend him. This new boy told

him that the day before he met a Hatzolah member who showed him the Heimlich Maneuver to know what to do if someone chokes. So he showed it to his new friend.

The next day, he was eating candy and he started choking. He was trying to call for help but nobody understood what he wanted. He quickly remembered his friend doing the maneuver and he did it on himself and was saved!

He realized that by not having friends all those

years, Hashem was saving his life. He also said that when he was in mesivta it was hard for him to find chavursas. Now he sees that it was a brocha. He now knows how to learn on his own! [Kav Hashgacha Pratis]

NOT EVEN FOR 100,000 SHEKEL!

Benny, a non-frum Yid in Eretz Yisrael, owns a convenience store where he sells lottery tickets.



One day, an old man came in and purchased a scratch off lottery ticket and asked him to check and see if he won. He scratched it off and saw that the man won 100,000 shekel. He tried telling the man that he won, but the old man was confused and did not understand what he was telling him. So Benny asked him for his son's phone

IN HISTORY

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number.

He called the son. The son came down to the store and helped his father redeem his 100,000 shekel.

Benny told his non-religious friends this story and his friends asked him why he gave it to him; He should have just kept it for himself. Benny answered that it was not honest and he does not regret doing the right thing.

A few days later, Benny bought a lottery ticket and won 185,000 shekel! When he told his friends they were so amazed. He was right to give it to the rightful owner!

He got so much chizuk from this story that he is now on his way back to keeping Torah and mitzvos! [Kav Hashgacha Pratis]

BOYS LOVE HASHEM!

It was so amazing last week. We had two Ohr



Samei'ach boys for Shabbos night meal, one from Toronto and one from Colombia. Towards the end of the meal, we were waiting for everyone,

so we could begin bentching. Someone gave the bochurim the Spring Hill Times. They loved it! Their eyes were glued! They could not stop reading. One of them was thrilled and loved the colorful comics too.

We found some back copies and gave them those too. They were so so happy! One said he would tell his family about it.

We felt it was a big Kiddush Hashem - they had never seen anything like it!

Thank you,

A Reader - Kiryat Sefer

VAYEITZEI 5784 ISSUE 124

"HASHEM, I DID MY PART, NOW I AM LEAVING IT UP TO YOU!"

Mrs. Weinberg's* two daughters needed new shoes. They needed a specific type, color, and they had to fit it into a tight budget.



She went with her daughters to the local shoe stores.

They returned empty-handed and she said, "'Hashem, I did my part; now I am leaving it up to You!."

Later on that day, her aunt called, "I have two pairs of beautiful, stunning, brand new pairs of shoes that my daughters don't want, and I wanted to see if you could use them."

She told her the shoe's style color and size, and they matched exactly what they were looking for!

[R' Zevy Golombeck]

DINNER ON THE FRIEND!

Mrs. Ulman* was overworked and she simply wasn't up to making dinner. She turned to Hashem and said, "I may not know how to take care of my children but You could get us a free night - a free supper."



Later on that day, a friend who she hadn't spoken to in seven years, called.

Her friend said "I need a yeshua for something. As a zchus that Hashem should make me happy, I want to make someone else happy. So, I would like to make you an offer. I would like to take you and your whole family out for supper! You could order whatever you want, take what ever you want."

They never saw so much food! They were never treated out so well in their entire life!

[R' Zevy Golombeck]

PASSING BY SOMEONE? SHOW HIM A SMILE! GREET HIM NICELY!

TRAVELING THE PATH OF OUR GEDOLIM

The Steipler Gaon was an extraordinary Talmid Chochom and Gadol Batorah. This story is about his consideration for others.

As soon as Yom Kippur was over, the Steipler started preparing for Sukkos. He would gather Schach only from a private property with permission from the owner. Every year, he took his schach from the Ponovizher yeshiva campus with the permission of the Ponovizher Rav.

Seeing how the Steipler came every year to ask permission for the very same thing, the Ponovizher Rav declared that he gave his full permission for the removal of the schach for all the coming years! But it didn't help- each and every year the Steipler asked permission again to remove a few branches.

When he went to buy daled minim, he would enter a store and thoroughly examine what was on display. If he didn't find anything that satisfied him, he would return to one of the stands whose contents he had already rejected and purchase one Hadas. Those who accompanied the Steipler were astonished! Just minutes before he had carefully looked over the whole pile and rejected each one- and now without a single glance he bought the first Hadas he saw.

The Steipler explained that he was aware of the fact that people paid attention to where he went- and had he looked through a whole store and bought nothing, word could get out that "the Steipler won't buy in this store!"

One of his greatest fears was causing someone financial loss- and he would do anything to prevent it.



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family, friends and neighbors.**

Dear Readers in England,

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Where in the Parsha do we find a connection with these pictures?

Parsha Fun



VaYeiTzei#114

To hear the answer to the question, press x14 # 114 on the Chaishek HaTorah Line 8457204040

Yakov Avinu wanted to build a nation. He approached Lavan with an exact calculation. "For Rachel I'll work seven years. An amazing job I'll do - have no fears!" Yakov Avinu kept his word and not even once did he slumber. But why in his offer did he pick seven years as his number?

פרשת ויצא

1. Which תפילה did Yaakov establish?
2. How many years was Yaakov in the Yeshiva of בית עבר?
3. Why did Hashem write his name on Yitzchok in his lifetime?
4. Why did Yaakov need Hashem to be with him?
5. What מוסר did Yaakov tell the shepherds?
6. Where do we find that Yaakov was strong?
7. Why did Lavan kiss Yaakov?

If you would like to submit answers and be entered into a raffle for a \$25 gift card, please call 9294964093. Cheder Bnei Torah. To get this Parsha sheet emailed to you every week, send a request to torahshleimah@gmail.com. Sponsorship opportunities available. לעילוי נשמת ר' בנימין זאב בן ר' נתן ז"ל קאפפערל תנצב"ה Sponsored

Answers for the Parsha Pictures

Sunset: The sun set early.

Drum: Lavan claimed he would have accompanied Yaakov out with drums...



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5

Weekly



Thank You's

By: R' Simcha Elefant Yerushalayim
Ir Hakodesh
לזכות משה יהודה בן שושנה

Thank You, Hashem, for Drills! We can so easily make holes in all different materials and screw things together!



Thank You, Hashem, for Fruit Drinks! Such yummy delicious drinks, prepared for us out of Your delicious fruits!



Thank You, Hashem, for Floor Wipes! Want to do a small clean up? It's already prepared, easy and mess free!



What's a school bus?
You needed to walk your child to school.
In the rain, snow, ice and mud...



&

SCHOOL BUS IS RUNNING LATE?



Thank Hashem for this wonderful gift of safe and steady busing!





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I'm prescribing 3 medications for you.

Patient

As hard as I try, my house is always a mess. I need to clean the same room multiple times a day.

Please help!

1. The cleanest places in the universe are the cemeteries. Messes are a sign of life!
2. A messy house means that you have a happy healthy house. Children don't cherish memories of having clean houses when they were young but they do cherish all the fun, happiness and love they experienced in their childhood.
3. Every mess is an opportunity for you to work on your middos! It's an express way to eradicate anger, frustration from your system. It's an easy way to become more understanding and patient. There is nothing more exhilarating than having an upside down house and all the children haywire but being able to keep your cool and accept the situation without resentment!

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Stay Fit!

**Remind Yourself that Hashem
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WONDER DIET
Lose Aveiros Naturally



Just Tell Hashem That You Are Sorry!



LET US IMAGINE

Let us imagine for a moment that the world as we know it was turned on its head, and inanimate objects suddenly became animate, with minds of their own...

Everyday objects would suddenly have the ability to decide whether or not to obey their owners. In the morning, people would try to put on their clothing, but the clothes would wriggle right out of their grasp. Shoes would start pinching their owners' toes, ties would start choking throats, and buttons would pop right off. Yarmulkas and hats would fly off heads, ponies would slide off ponytails... Lenses would pop out of eyes, braces would dig into teeth and gums...

After getting dressed for the better part of an hour, people would try to sit down by the kitchen table for a cup of coffee. However, the chair would decide that it would rather not support someone else's weight, and would pull out just as the person sat down, resulting in a very sore body or c"v much worse, especially for the elderly... Then, to avoid being consumed, the coffee would jump out of the cup, scalding many people and objects in the process...

After such a nightmarish morning, people would try going to work, only to feel the ground literally being pulled out from beneath their feet as the side-

walk decided it wanted to take a walk...

They would then get into their cars, but unfortunately, cars had just discovered their own power... Thrilled with their ability to speed, cars would conduct races with their fellow cars. The humans inside would desperately slam on the brakes, but the automobiles would be enjoying themselves too much to stop... This would c"v lead to thousands of deadly accidents. Alternatively, cars would get "tired" or "not in the mood" and would refuse to move, even in the middle of the highway! This would c"v lead to even more accidents... The traffic lights would get bored of just sitting and watching and would want to join the action below. They would swing wildly to try to escape the wires holding them in place. This would disable their ability to direct traffic and dangerously distract people. If a traffic light would fall, c"v, it could easily cause death and severe injuries...

Mothers would try pleading with their obstinate strollers, "Stroller, sweetie, please let me use you to take the baby for a walk! I'll take you home in just one hour." Finally, the stroller would relent, only to start rolling super fast in the middle of a busy street!

After a long day, people would return home to discover that

their very altruistic house had decided to solve the housing problem and had therefore "moved" to a poor neighborhood. Of course, the house had caused itself and others tremendous damage along the way... To make matters worse, the lawn had decided that "the grass *is* greener on the other side", and had therefore "moved" onto their neighbor's property...

Those who were fortunate enough to retain their homes would sit down to supper, but their chairs would pull out from beneath them. The table would refuse to hold all the food and would fold its legs beneath itself, causing mess, waste, and injuries...

The mother would struggle to put on oven mitts in order to remove the food from the oven. When she would finally manage to get them on and keep them on, the oven would refuse to open due to the cold air that would enter it. After pulling and pulling, the oven would shoot open with such force that she would be knocked down. The oven door would then close, necessitating a repeat of the past few minutes of torture...

Shades would open and close at will and doors would slam or refuse to open...

Firefighters would struggle with their hoses and fire extin-

Continued on next page

guishers, trying to get them to turn on. Meanwhile, their ladders would run away, leaving them stranded on top of burning buildings...

Planes would take off at will; passengers would sit on flights for three days, hoping that the plane would finally start to fly... Some planes would land and then take off again before the passengers would have a chance to disembark. Other planes would take off right before passengers would begin to board, leaving people stranded. Millions of people would miss simchos and levayos, never show up to business meetings, give up on long-awaited vaca-

tions, be stranded in dangerous, scary places, and lose tons of money spent on tickets... This is besides the tremendous danger of unmanned aircraft crashing into other flying objects or crash-landing in inhabited areas!"v!

The amount of accidents, injuries, traumas, inconveniences, and aggravations that would occur if the world functioned like this is scary to imagine. Life would be one long nightmare (if one could live long in such a dangerous world!).

Who used such unbelievable wisdom, talent, and creativity to assign each level of creation the pre-

cise abilities it needs to function harmoniously with all the other elements in the universe?

Who, in His infinite mercy and kindness, created the world in such a way that scenarios such as those described above could not possibly occur?

Who?!

Our loving, caring Father, Hakadosh Baruch Hu, King of the universe, that's Who!!!! Thank You, Hashem, again and again, for Your endless love and mercy which You show upon us constantly, 24/7, 365 days a year!! We love You, Hashem!!!

Continued from page 45

sim then he can get affected and get hurt, or if he has enough zechusim then nothing will happen to him.

But it's all Hashem, and Hashem decreed this on Rosh Hashana, and Hashem wanted everything to happen. So whatever's happening is what Hashem wants to happen. This is how Hashem runs the world, it's called hanhagas Hashem, He runs the world that if a person is put in the hands of a baal bechira you need a lot of zechusim to combat that. Now Hashem knows that you're going to be put in the hands of a baal bechira, and He wants you to be put in the baal bechira, and He wants you to go through this test to see if you have enough zechusim to combat it. That's how He's running this world. So it's all programmed from Hashem that this is how He runs the world. If you're put biyad baal bechira, that means that Hashem says: okay, now you don't want him to do anything to you, you need a lot of zechusim. But when a person gets put biyad Hashem, he doesn't need as much zechusim because Hashem says: I'm going to act with you with rachmanus, you don't have to have as much zechusim to combat

middas hadin straight from Hashem.

That's the answer to your question. That Dovid HaMelech was saying I don't want to be put biyad baal bechira. Not that a baal bechira has a koach, but if the gezeira is that Dovid HaMelech should fall biyad baal bechira, then he's going to need a lot more zechusim to combat that the baal bechira shouldn't be able to affect him. If the baal bechira would affect him, that's all what Hashem wanted, that's how Hashem runs the world. So it comes out that he was asking that he doesn't want to be put in that situation because he doesn't want that he might need a lot of zechusim and he might not have it. He was saying, Hashem, please let me fall only in Your hands which that you don't need as many zechusim to be me'orer the middas harachamim over the middas hadin. And like this he'll have an easier chance to be me'orer middas harachamim.

So the answer to your question is that of course everything is from Hashem, it's just how Hashem runs the world. If a person falls biyad baal bechira he needs a lot more zechusim to be me'orer the middas harachamim, and if you fall biyad Hashem then you need less zechusim. Dovid HaMelech was asking to fall biyad Hashem, not biyad



Suggestions for Last Week's Case: The seller rased the price of the house at last minute and Baruch and Miri needed to back out and were distraught.



- It is clear that Hashem was saving them from making a bad move, and has much better things in store for them.
- Perhaps the original price was in fact significantly lower than the average, and the new price is actually closer to normal.
- Perhaps they were saved from dealing with a tough, perhaps dishonest seller. They should be very thankful for that.
- While it is true they may never actually see with their eyes (in this world) why this had to happen, Hashem has only their best interest in mind!
- It's all just a setup from Hashem to give them the opportunity to grow. The gain they will have from not getting angry and upset is far greater than buying the house!



Meir was generally careful to turn off his cell phone before attending shiurim.

One evening he was attending a large shiur in his neighborhood, where a famous speaker was imploring the community to increase their awareness of being respectful of others. It was at that point that his phone rang, blaring loud funky music.

It took him a few seconds (which felt like an hour) to finally find and silence the phone. He was completely mortified!

Help Meir have ayin tova for his situation.



You can send your suggestions for the AYIN TOVA CASE to:

ayintovanewsletter@gmail.com

Or call [Israeli daytime hours only]: USA: 8312446019 Eretz Yisrael: 0527605409

Yeshivishe Stories

The Chinuch Chaburah

R' Tzvi Moshe Schultz

There was a certain bochur in the Volozhin yeshiva who was considered to be a great baki. Once, while they were eating lunch, someone asked this bochur where a certain Gemara is located. He didn't know the answer. He became very embarrassed that someone like him, who had a reputation of being a baki, didn't know where a Gemara was. He immediately stood up, ran out, and went to a shul to start learning.

He stayed in that shul for seven years without coming out, and when he finally left, he was a gadol batorah!

Rav Chaim Volozhiner commented that although it was not right what this bochur did, since he left without bentching, if he hadn't run out immediately, he never would have achieved the greatness in Torah that he did.



Rav Chaim Volozhiner & The Gra

The possuk in the Torah says וראו עמי -הארץ כי- שם ה' נקרא עליך- ויראו ממך, the nations of the world will see that the name of Hashem is upon you, and then will fear you. The גמרא שבראש אל תפלין explains.

There was a period of time when the Vilna Gaon went into a self-imposed exile and traveled around anonymously. Once, he stayed at a certain Jewish-owned inn. In the morning, while the innkeeper was davening, he was attacked by bandits. He started to scream, and the Vilna Gaon came out of his room, wearing his tefillin.

The bandits took one look at him and started to tremble in fear. Then, they ran away. The innkeeper, who did not recognize his guest, asked the Vilna Gaon why they ran away from them. He responded simply, based upon the Gemara in Berachos, that they saw his tefillin shel rosh and became afraid. The innkeeper asked that he too had been wearing tefillin, and they hadn't been scared of him.

The Vilna Gaon explained that the Gemara didn't say תפלין שעל הראש, tefillin on the head, it said שבראש, in the head. It's not enough to simply be wearing the tefillin. One has to internalize their message, so that they are in his head.



Think about this

A. Why was it necessary for the bochur to leave right away?

B. If he needed to do this in order to become great in Torah, then why did Rav Chaim Volozhiner say that he still did the wrong thing?

A. What is the message of the tefillin shel rosh that we should internalize?

B. Why would internalizing that message make goyim scared of us?

More Chinuch Opportunities:

For Mechanchim: Join the Chinuch Chaburah, and share ideas and materials with rebbeim from around the world.

Send the message "subscribe" to: chinuchchaburah@gmail.com

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Mr. Middos

KIBUD AV VAEM, KIBUD AV VAEM, KIBUD AV VAEM

MIDDOS ALERT!! SHMUEL FROM LAKEWOOD



TTO: WHO SPILLED THE MILK ON THE KITCHEN FLOOR...?

LOW-KIBUD OF VAEM - IMPORTANT, YESIREE!
FOR YOU, AND ME

Whethere IT'S GOING TO BED, OR DOING A CHORE
MIDDOS KIDS DO IT, FOR SURE!

HIGH - KIBUD AV VAEM

MAKE SURE YOU LISTEN BY THE COUNT OF 3)


KIBUD AV VAEM, MAKE SURE EVERYTHING THEY SAY YOU DO
VERY QUICKLY

KIBUD OF VAEM, LISTEN TO WHAT THEY SAY

SO TATTY, MOMMY AND HASHEM'LL BE PROUD, HOORAY!



BY AHUVA ROTHENBERG




Ba'al Bitachon

A person who knows that everything comes from his loving, capable and reliable father.

V/S.

Alchemist

A person who can take plain materials and turn them into gold using a chemical process.



One would think that an Alchemist is always assured to have whatever he wants. However, in the sha'ar bitachon we learn 10 ways that the ba'al bitachon is superior to an alchemist.

#10: If people would know the alchemist secret, that would be the cause for his death.

You know I had no choice, otherwise you would have started investigating my money.



Mr. A. L. Chemist, thank you for agreeing to be interviewed on this weeks episode of "The secret of wealth". Please tell us the secret of your success

Hard work... Blah, blah blah... I always stay late at the office to finish every job.... Blah, blah blah....




I hope it wasn't too obvious that there is really no legal way for me to get this wealthy at my job. If my secret is discovered I can be killed....




In contrast when people know that an individual is a ba'al bitachon they will admire him because of it.

I need a guest speaker for the bitachon 24/7 event next week.




Why do you look so worried reb yid? It says in Tehillim that if you are Boteach in Hashem you will see a yeshuah! Not maybe, definitively. All that Hashem does is for our good.



I know, Mr Bitachon is a perfect guest speaker. He is in the hospital with his daughter and still giving chizzuk! I'm sure he will inspire everyone else as much as he inspired me.

It says in the sha'ar Bitachon...



By: Miri Mincer

Recap: Refael's father was very sick in hospital. Different family members were taking seven hour shifts, in order that someone would constantly be with him. Refael's exsauting shift was almost over when his sister, that was meant to be the next shift called. She said that she wouldn't be able to come for her shift.

By: N.L. Ross



This story was heard from R' Fishel Shachter on the Stories to inspire hotline.

Parshas Toldos תשפ"ג, my first comic was published in The Spring Hill Times. I would like to publicly thank Hashem for giving me two complete years of making comics for The Spring Hill Times! I have seen amazing hashgacha countless times while making the comics, and in my life in general!

I would also like to show my hakaras hatov to my parents and the editor of this beautiful publication for giving me this opportunity.

A big thank you to all the sources of the stories seen on these pages!



*Hashem is
Wonderful!*

*Life is
Wonderful!*

*Klal Yisrael is
Wonderful!*

ומלאה הארץ
דעה את ד'

**SPREADING HASHEM'S
GOODNESS ALL AROUND
THE WORLD**