

Chitas for Shabbos Kodesh, Parshas Acharei Third Day of Chol Hamoed Pesach - Shabbos Chol Hamoed Pesach Yud-Tes Nisan, 5784

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

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

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

Chitas for the month of Nissan is made possible in part

לעילוי נשמת הרה"ח הרה"ת הר"ר משה פינחס בן הר"ר אברהם מרדכי הכהן כ"ץ • הרה"ח הרה"ת הר"ר מרדכי בן הר"ר פינחס מענטליק וליכות רפואה שלימה וקרובה לזאב יחזקאל הכהן בן מינדל

Chitas for the month of Nissan is made possible in part

לעילוי נשמת הרה"ח אברהם אהרן הלוי בן הו"ח שניאור זלמן יששכר געציל רובאשקין ~ ליום הירצויט שלו ט' ניסן

Chitas for the month of Nissan is made possible in part

L'ilui Nishmas **Miriam Necha A"H bas R' Moshe sheyichye**
~ for her 36th yartzeit, Erev Pesach ~

This week is dedicated

L'ilui Nishmas

Yitzchak Eliyahu ben Lipman Kosofsky ~ 14 Nissan
Baila bas Chaim Prus ~ 19 Nissan

Mazel Tov **Second Lieutenant Mussie Kotlarsky** (East Lakeview Chicago)

~ 8th birthday Yud-Tes Nisan ~

Shnas Bracha Vehatzlacha!

CHUMASH :: Parshas Acharei - Shvi'i with Rashi

We learned yesterday that a Yid's marriage is very holy!

The Torah says that the *goyim* in Eretz Yisroel were not acting in a very holy way. This bothered Hashem so much, that they were pushed out of Eretz Yisroel! Now that the Yidden are about to go into Eretz Yisroel, they need to be extra careful that they are not acting the way the *goyim* were. They need to act differently, since they are Hashem's special nation!

- Two men can't get married to each other.
- People can't get married to animals.

If someone does these *aveiros*, even if the *Beis Din* can't punish them, Hashem gives them a kind of *kareis*, cutting off their *chayus* from Hashem so they will pass away young, without having children.

Keeping these *mitzvos* shows that we understand that Hashem is in charge of the world, and knows what is good for us. We understand that He will punish us if we *chas veshalom* do these *aveiros*, and we understand

that Hashem will reward us for acting the way He asks us to!

TEHILLIM :: 90 - 96

The first *kapitel* in today's *Tehillim* was written by Moshe Rabbeinu. Dovid Hamelech later put it in *Tehillim*. It starts with the words "**Tefillah LeMoshe, Ish HaElokim.**" "A *Tefillah* by Moshe Rabbeinu, a person of Hashem."

Why is Moshe Rabbeinu called an "*Ish HaElokim* — a person of Hashem"?

Hashem is everything and everything is Hashem — but we can't see Him! Hashem made the world because he wanted Yidden to act in a certain way that will make Hashem happy here.

But if we can't see Hashem, how do we know how to act? That's why Hashem gave Yidden a Moshe Rabbeinu, who is "a person of Hashem." A Moshe Rabbeinu has two parts — one part of him that is "of Hashem" — very close to Hashem so he knows what Hashem wants, but he is also "a person" — so he can teach us what we need to do!

There is ALWAYS a *Nasi*, like Moshe Rabbeinu, who helps the Yidden do what Hashem wants at that time. Now, of course, the Rebbe is our Moshe Rabbeinu!

The Rebbe told us that we are about to see the *Geulah*, and we need to strengthen *Yiddishkeit* and learn and spread *Chassidus* everywhere! We need to get excited about the *Geulah* and ask Hashem for *Moshiach* NOW!

TANYA :: Likutei Amarim Perek Mem-Beis

The Yidden are like sheep, and we have shepherds. (These shepherds are also our special *Ushpizin* guests on *Sukkos*!) They each help our *Avodas Hashem*.

They are:

Avraham, Yitzchak, Yaakov, Moshe, Aharon, Yosef, Dovid

For example, Avraham gives us Chesed, and Yitzchak gives us Gevurah.

Moshe gives the *neshama* of a Yid the *koach* to be able to REALLY FEEL Hashem! (Moshe showed us Hashem by *Kriyas Yam Suf* and on *Har Sinai*, and his *Neshama* gives Yidden the *koach* that we can feel Hashem too!)

But that's not it! There is also a Moshe Rabbeinu in every generation — the Rebbe of that time. The Rebbe gets the strong *koach* of Moshe Rabbeinu so that he can teach Yidden in his time about Hashem, so that they can feel Hashem in a real way!

This way, we can really feel that "*Vehinei Hashem Nitzav Alav*" — that Hashem is watching us, and we'll be able to have the *Yirah* that the Alter Rebbe teaches us about in *Tanya*.

When we look at a picture of the Rebbe, it helps us remember that Hashem is watching us!

Do you know something special? The place where the Alter Rebbe tells us about "Vehinei Hashem" is the Tanya for Yud-Alef Nissan in a leap year! Now we understand why — because the Rebbe is the one who gives us the koach to feel that posuk!

HAYOM YOM :: Yud-Tes Nisan

Today is the fourth day of the *Omer*!

In the year *Tof-Shin-Gimmel*, the year the *Hayom Yom* was written, today was *Shabbos*. We learn some of the *minhagim* for *Shabbos Chol Hamoed*: In the last paragraph of *Lecha Dodi*, we say “*Besimcha*” instead of “*Berina*” because it’s part of *Yom Tov*! When we say *Shalom Aleichem* and the other paragraphs before *Kiddush*, we say them quietly.

The Rebbe Rashab once explained how *Mah Nishtana* is talking about the *Geulah*!

Mah Nishtana — How is this night (this *Golus*) different from every other *Golus*?

Each one of the four questions shows us how this last *Golus* is different, and prepares us for the *Geulah*!

The first question is about dipping. Dipping is the idea of becoming *tahor*, like dipping in a *mikvah*. It shows us that in this *Golus* we “dip” twice, which makes us ready for the final *Geulah*!

1) ***Ain Anu Matbilin*** — In every other *Golus*, the *Golus* didn’t make us *Tahor* because we had to go back into *Golus* afterwards, but (*Halayla Hazeh*,) after THIS *Golus* we will become *Tahor* in TWO ways! Our *Guf* will become *Tahor*, AND we’ll be able to feel the *Neshama*!

The second question is about *matzah*. *Matzah* is flat, like a person who has *bittul*, and *chometz* is puffed up — *yeshus*, like a person who has *gaavah*. This *Golus* prepares us so that we will not have any more *gaavah*, any more *chometz*!

2) ***Anu Ochlim Chameitz O Matza*** — After every other *Golus*, we had our *Neshama*, which is like *matzah*, and ALSO our *Yetzer Hara*, which is like *Chometz*. But after THIS *Golus*, we’ll only have our *Neshama*, our “*matzah*,” because Hashem will take away the *Yetzer Hara*!

The third question is about vegetables. *Yerakos*, vegetables, also means green. This is the idea of jealousy, since when someone is jealous, the *Chachomim* say that their face turns green. This *Golus* gets us ready for the time when we’ll only have a GOOD kind of jealousy!

3) ***Anu Ochlim She’ar Yerakos*** — In all other kinds of *Golus*, people were jealous in lots of different ways. After THIS *Golus*, *Tzadikim* will be jealous (like *Maror*, in the strongest way) of how close other *Tzadikim* are to Hashem.

The fourth question is about leaning. *Chassidus* says that in *Ruchnius*, leaning is the idea of enjoying a feeling of *Taanug*, a very good feeling for the *neshama*.

4) ***Bein Yoshvim Uvein Mesubin*** — After every *Golus*, we feel *Taanug*, a very good feeling of closeness to Hashem. There are different ways to feel *Taanug*, but after THIS *Golus*, we will all feel the HIGHEST and BEST level of *Taanug*!

SEFER HAMITZVOS :: Shiur #32 - Mitzvas Asei #19

Today in *Sefer Hamitzvos*, we learn the same *mitzvah* again (*Mitzvas Asei #19*) — to thank Hashem after we eat — that’s *bentching*!

We learn this from a very famous *posuk* in *Parshas Eikev*, which we also say in *bentching*: וְאָכַלְתָּ וְשָׂבַעְתָּ וּבְרַכְתָּ אֶת ה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ

It means, “And you will eat, and you will be full, and you will *bentch* Hashem.”

The *halachos* about this *mitzvah* were first written down in *Gemara Brachos*. The Rambam put it in order in the *halachos* of *brachos* in *Sefer Ahava*, which we are learning now. The practical *halacha* which we follow is in *Shulchan Aruch Orach Chayim* (the first section), from *siman Kuf-Pey-Beis* and on, and the Alter Rebbe’s final

version is in *Seder Birchos Hanehenin*.

RAMBAM :: Hilchos Brachos

Perek Daled: We learn when a person might need to make a *bracha* again. For example, if you decided to *bentch*, and then changed your mind and wanted to eat again, you would need to make another *bracha* — even if you hadn't *bentched* yet.

Another *halacha* we learn is that if you made a *bracha* and the food got ruined before you could eat it, you should say “*Baruch Shem Kevod Malchuso Le'olam Va'ed*” right away. By speaking about the *kavod* of Hashem right after saying the *bracha*, the *bracha* is not counted as being said for no reason.

Perek Hey: In this *perek*, we learn who is *chayav* in *bentching*. Children need to *bentch* because of *Chinuch*.

We also learn about making a *mezuman*.

Perek Vov: In this *perek*, we learn about washing our hands for a *seudah*, and *Mayim Acharonim*. The Rambam says that *Netilas Yodayim* for a *seudah* is a *mitzvah* from the *Chachomim*, but *Mayim Acharonim* is for a *sakana*, so you need to be even MORE careful with *Mayim Acharonim*!

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

Now we will learn the *halachos* about *Maaser*. First we review the *halachos* about the order of giving *Terumah* and *maaser*:

- 1) First we pick whatever grew and prepare it to be used. (For example, we separate the wheat kernels, or we squeeze the juice from the grapes.)
- 2) Then we take 1/50th for *Terumah Gedolah*, which goes to the *Kohen*.
- 3) Next we take 1/10th of what's left for *Maaser Rishon*, which goes to the *Levi*. (He needs to take *Terumas Hamaaser*, 1/10th of what he got, for the *Kohen*.)
- 4) Finally, we take another 1/10th of what is left for *Maaser Sheini*. On the first, second, fourth, and fifth years after *Shemita*, this is for the owner to eat in Yerushalayim. On the 3rd and 6th years, it is *Maaser Oni* — for the poor.

When a person has *Maaser Oni*, he needs to give any poor person that comes to his field at least enough to make him full. If he has a poor relative or friend, he can set aside up to half of the *Maaser* for him. If he has *Maaser Ani* at home, he can go give it to a certain person if he wants, or else he needs to give at least a *kezayis* to anyone who comes and asks.

INYANA D'YOMA :: Mesechta Sotah

During Sefiras Haomer, every day Chassidim learn Mesechta Sotah, which has 49 pages, like the 49 days of the Omer! (Later we will see this in Hayom Yom.)

In today's page of *Sotah*, we are starting to learn about how a *Yid* has to be very careful not to be a *Baal Gaavah*. A *Baal Gaavah* thinks he is very important and he needs to have whatever he wants, even if it's not exactly what Hashem wants.

That's why the *Chachomim* said that if somebody is a *Baal Gaavah*, it's like he is serving *Avodah Zarah chas*

veshalom! Because he only thinks about what HE wants, and doesn't remember that we are here in the world to do what Hashem wants. That's like *Avodah Zarah* because he's forgetting that Hashem is really the One in charge.

When we learn this, it helps us make our Midos better, which is what we are supposed to do during Sefira!

TEFILLAH :: Mesiras Nefesh

The Alter Rebbe says in *Tanya* that when we *daven* and learn Torah, it's really a kind of *Mesiras Nefesh*.

Why? It doesn't put us in danger!

The words "*Mesiras Nefesh*" mean "to give up the *neshama*." When a person does *Mesiras Nefesh*, he gives up the life of his *guf* and returns his *neshama* to Hashem. We do the same thing, in a different way, when we *daven*!

When we don't pay attention to our *guf* like we usually do, we are having *Mesiras Nefesh*, giving up part of its life! We eat before *davening* if we need to, so that it won't bother us in the middle of *davening*. We focus completely on the words of our *tefillos* and on our connection to Hashem. Our *neshama* is returned to the way it felt when it was in *Gan Eden*, when nothing *Gashmius'dik* distracted it!

That's a kind of *Mesiras Nefesh*.

So when it comes time to stand before Hashem and *daven*, we need to do it in a way of *Mesiras Nefesh*. At least during *Shema* and *Shemoneh Esrei* (the most important parts of *tefillah*), we should forget about all of our *Gashmius* distractions. Only think about how the *neshama* is speaking directly to Hashem, asking to have *hatzlacha* in fulfilling the *shlichus* it has in the world, and about the *nachas* Hashem has from a Yid in this world connecting to Hashem through *davening* and keeping Torah and *mitzvos*.

See Tanya end Perek Mem-Alef

HALACHOS HATZRICHOS :: Besamim

Usually on *Motzei Shabbos*, we make a *bracha* over *besamim* during *Havdalah*. But on *Motzei Shabbos Chol Hamoed Pesach*, we do not use *besamim*.

It is *asur* to benefit at all from *chometz* on *Pesach*, and we are extra careful in case the *besamim* might have some *chometz* mixed in.

GEULAH U'MOSHIACH :: Everyone Will Know Hashem

In *Perek Mem-Beis* in *Tanya*, the Alter Rebbe brings a *posuk* that the *Navi Yirmiyah* says about *Le'asid Lavo* (*Yirmiya 31:33*):

"...לֹא יִלְמְדוּ עוֹד אִישׁ אֶת רֵעֵהוּ וְאִישׁ אֶת אָחִיו לְאֹמֵר דַּע אֶת ה' כִּי כִּיְלָם יִדְעוּ אֹתִי לְמִקְטָנָם וְעַד גְּדוּלָם נֶאֱמַר ה'..."

Velo Yelamdu Od Ish Es Rei'eihu — When *Moshiach* comes, a person won't have to teach his friend anymore

Ve'ish Es Achiv — And a person won't need to teach his brother anymore

Leimor De'u Es Hashem — Telling him, "Know Hashem!"

Why won't we have to teach anyone about knowing Hashem when *Moshiach* comes?

Ki Kulam Yeidu Osi — Because EVERYONE will know Hashem!

Lemiktanam Ve'ad Gedolam — From young children to old people, they will ALL know Hashem!

Ne'um Hashem — So says Hashem.

The Alter Rebbe also brings this posuk in the introduction to Tanya. The Alter Rebbe asks that if someone doesn't understand something in the Tanya, he should go to the greater Chassidim who will help him. They shouldn't act humble, and should share what they know! The Alter Rebbe finishes off with this posuk as a bracha, that soon we should be zoche to the time when we won't need to teach each other, because everyone will know Hashem!

- Credits, sponsorships, and contact info at KidsChitas.org -