

# Chitas for Sunday, Parshas Vezos Habracha Tzom Gedaliah (Nidcheh) Daled Tishrei, 5785

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

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

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

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*for a Refuah Sheleimah Ukrovah!*

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Shnas Bracha Vehatzlacha!

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## **CHUMASH :: Parshas Vezos Habracha - Rishon with Rashi**

*We are now starting to learn the last parsha of the Torah. It is the last day of Moshe Rabbeinu's life — Zayin Adar. Now that he finished farbrenging with the Yidden about how they should act in Eretz Yisroel, he is going to ask Hashem for brachos for each of the Shevatim.*

Moshe Rabbeinu first says how much the Yidden deserve *brachos*! Even though Hashem asked ALL of the people in the world if they wanted the Torah, only the Yidden wanted it. Hashem gave them the Torah on *Har Sinai*, like a *Chasunah*!

By *Matan Torah*, Hashem held *Har Sinai* over the Yidden like a *chuppah*! The Yidden all came closer under the mountain, because they wanted to have to keep the Torah.

The Yidden were ready to go wherever Hashem wanted in the *Midbar*.

They will also keep the Torah even when things are hard in *Golus* and it looks like Hashem is nicer to the *Goyim*! They will say, "**Torah Tziva Lanu Moshe...**" — "the Torah is like a present that belongs forever to the

‘family’ of Yidden, and we will keep it forever!”

**Reuven:** Moshe asked Hashem to forgive Reuven for moving Yaakov’s bed. He should be able to go into *Olam Haba*, and his *Shevet* should stay a *Shevet*.

**Yehudah:** Moshe asked the same *bracha* for Yehudah: Yehudah promised Yaakov that if he didn’t bring Benyamin back with him, he will lose his part of *Olam Haba*. Even though he DID bring Benyamin back, a promise of a *Tzadik* is still a promise!

But when Yehudah told the truth about doing something wrong with Tamar, it made Reuven realize that he should do *Teshuvah* too. Since Hashem will forgive Reuven, He should of course forgive Yehudah, who made Reuven do *Teshuvah*! (And right when Moshe Rabbeinu said this, Yehudah WAS let into *Olam Haba*!)

**Shimon:** Moshe didn’t give *Shevet Shimon* its own *bracha*, because Zimri was from Shimon, and many Yidden passed away in Shittim because of *Shevet Shimon*. Still, he hinted to Shimon in his *bracha* to Yehudah, by using the word “*Shema*” — like “Shimon.”

## **TEHILLIM :: 23 - 28**

Today’s *shiur Tehillim* is *kapitelach Chof-Gimmel* to *Chof-Ches*. Until *Yom Kippur*, we continue adding three extra *kapitelach*. Today we say *kapitelach Tzadik-Zayin*, *Tzadik-Ches*, and *Tzadik-Tes*.

In the first *sefer* of Rambam, *Sefer Mada*, there is a set of *halachos* where the Rambam explains how to do *teshuvah*, *Hilchos Teshuvah*.

The Rambam explains that there is a time of year where doing *teshuvah* is our main *Avodah*, the time of *Aseres Yemei Teshuvah* and *Yom Kippur*.

It is easier to do *teshuvah* when we know that Hashem is helping us!

One of the things the Rambam teaches us about this is from *pesukim* in today’s *Tehillim*! The Rambam explains how these *pesukim* show us the special help Hashem gives us to do *teshuvah*.

These *pesukim* (*Kapitel Chof-Hey*, *pesukim ches* and *tes*) talk about how Hashem shows us the right way to live. The last words of these *pesukim* are “**VeYelamed Anavim Darko**” — Hashem teaches humble people His path.

The Rambam says that this shows us two important kinds of help Hashem gives us:

- 1) Hashem sends us *Neviim* and leaders who teach us the ways of Hashem and HOW to do *teshuvah*!
- 2) Hashem makes us in a way that when we learn about the right thing to do, we will WANT to do it!

These two things together make it much easier for every Yid to do *teshuvah*!

## **TANYA :: Igeres Hakodesh Siman Chof**

In this letter, the Alter Rebbe teaches us how we can see the STRONGEST *koach* of Hashem especially in *Gashmius*. Because of this, we will feel how special it is to do a *mitzvah* with *Gashmius*!

Today, the Alter Rebbe explains how this greatest *koach* of Hashem, called *Ein Sof*, makes *Gashmius* from nothing!

The *koach* of *Ein Sof* uses the letters of the *Asara Maamaros* (the letters and words we see in *Parshas Bereishis*) to make the *Gashmius*. (We learned a bit of how this works in *Shaar HaYichud VeHaEmunah*!) In *Kabbalah*, the

Asara Maamaros are called the *Koach* of *Sefiras Hamalchus*.

That means that when we start learning *Parshas Bereishis* again on *Simchas Torah*, we will understand what we are learning! When Hashem created the world, and said “*Yehi Ohr*” (there should be light), and made light, all the way until Hashem said “*Naaseh Adam*” (we should make man) — these “words” of Hashem that made the world had the STRONGEST *koach* of Hashem in them, the *koach* of *Ein Sof*!

## **HAYOM YOM :: Daled Tishrei**

Today, we learn that the “*Tof*” of the word *Teshuvah* teaches us to be serious about doing what Hashem wants from us.

R’ Zushe of Annapoli explained that *Teshuva* has five parts. He showed how all of those parts are in the letters of the word “*Teshuvah*”!

The *Tof* stands for “**Tomim Tihiyeh Im Hashem Elokecha**” — be “*tomim*” with Hashem.

The Rebbe Rashab explained what kind of *teshuvah* there is in the words of this *posuk*. What does it mean to be “*tomim*” or have “*temimus*”? It can mean a lot of things, and there are many ways for a person to have *temimus*. But in *teshuvah* it means the kind of *temimus* that is called “*erenstkeit*,” seriousness.

*A person might joke about all kinds of things. But when it comes to something they care about very much, they stop making jokes. It is very important to them, and they take it seriously.*

As part of our *teshuvah*, we need to take what Hashem wants seriously. We need to be “*erenst*” (“serious” in Yiddish) about doing what Hashem asks us to. We need to feel how important it is to us and do it with our whole heart!

This is what the *posuk* says about Avraham, “*Umatzasa Es Levavo Ne’eman Lefanecha*,” that Hashem found Avraham’s heart truthful before Hashem. Hashem therefore made a promise to give Eretz Yisroel to his children!

What did Hashem see in Avraham’s heart? His *temimus*, the way he took his *Avodas Hashem* seriously and followed whatever Hashem wanted him to do.

## **SEFER HAMITZVOS :: Shiur #194 - Mitzvas Lo Saasei #107, Asei #107**

1) (*Mitzvas Lo Saasei #107*) If we decided that a certain animal will be for a *Korban Asham*, we can’t change it afterwards and bring it as a *Korban Chatas*! It has to be the SAME animal for the SAME *Korban*.

We learn this *mitzvah* from a *posuk* in *Parshas Bechukosai*: לא יקדיש איש אתו  
The details of this *mitzvah* are explained in *Perek Hey* of *Mesechta Temurah*.

*Now we start a new Sefer of Rambam, and a new set of halachos, about Tumah and Tahara!*

2) (*Mitzvas Asei #107*) The first *mitzvah* of this *Sefer* is that if someone gets *Tomei* with *Tumas Meis* (the *tumah* from a body after the *neschama* leaves it), he needs to follow the *halachos* about how he becomes *tomei* and how the *tumah* gets passed on.

This *mitzvah* includes all of the *halachos* of *Tumas Meis* which are written in *Parshas Chukas*.

## **RAMBAM :: Hilchos Temurah - Hilchos Tumas Meis**

*In today’s Rambam, we finish learning the halachos of Temurah.*

**Perek Daled:** In this *perek*, the Rambam teaches us what happens if an animal that is supposed to be a *Korban* or a *Temurah* has a baby! The Rambam finishes this *sefer* with a lesson from the *halachos* of *Temurah* that will help us in our *Avodas Hashem*!

*Now we have finished Sefer Korbanos! Then we start learning a NEW sefer of Rambam, the 10th sefer, Sefer Tahara! The first set of halachos is Hilchos Tumas Meis, about the kind of tumah that comes from the body of a person who passed away.*

**Perek Alef:** The Rambam explains how a person can get *Tumah*.

**Perek Beis:** This *perek* teaches us what can give *Tumas Meis*.

## **RAMBAM– PEREK ECHAD :: Hilchos Me'ilah - Perek Vov**

This *perek* teaches what the person needs to be doing with something for it to be counted as the *aveira* of *me'ilah*. If it is something that becomes worth less when it is used, if it becomes worth at least a *perutah* less, it is called *me'ilah*.

## **INYANA D'YOMA :: Tzom Gedaliah**

*Tzom Gedaliah is one of the four times a year we fast because of the Beis Hamikdash being destroyed.*

*After the Churban of the first Beis Hamikdash, Nevuchadnetzar let a man named Gedaliah be the governor of the Jews in Mitzpah. He was a good ruler, and helped the Yidden start to farm the land so they would be able to live. He listened to the Navi Yirmiyahu and kept all of the mitzvos. Many Yidden who had run away came to Mitzpah, and it looked like the Yidden would slowly be able to grow again, and then hopefully come back to Yerushalayim!*

*But a man named Yishmael, who came from a family of Jewish kings, was jealous. He decided to kill Gedaliah. People tried to warn Gedaliah what Yishmael wanted to do, but he thought it was just Lashon Hara and he ignored the warning. On Rosh Hashana, Yishmael ben Netanya came and killed Gedaliah and many of the Yidden who were with him.*

*Now the Yidden who were left were very afraid! Nevuchadnetzar would be furious that his governor was killed! Now there was no chance of rebuilding the Jewish nation in Eretz Yisroel.*

*Even though Yirmiyahu warned them not to, the Yidden ran away to Mitzrayim. And just like he warned them, soon they were killed by the Egyptians.*

*We don't fast on Rosh Hashana, so we fast the day after Rosh Hashana.*

The Rebbe tells us that we have to learn from *Tzom Gedaliah* to have more *Ahavas Yisroel*. The other fasts are because of things the *Goyim* did, but this was from a *Yid* who was jealous! We need to make sure to have a lot of *Ahavas Yisroel* and be careful that if we are jealous, it only brings us to learn from the other person's good things and try to be like him — not *chas veshalom* to hurt anyone in any way.

*Here is a link to a halacha newsletter about Tzom Gedaliah.*

## **TEFILLAH :: Tehillim**

There are certain times that we *daven* every day. We *daven Shacharis*, *Mincha*, and *Maariv*. We say *Modeh Ani* right when we get up, and *Kriyas Shema She'al Hamitah* before we go to sleep.

During the day, we also can *daven* to Hashem, either in our own words, or using the holy words of *Tehillim*. Dovid Hamelech put together the *Tehillim* so we would have the words to beg Hashem to help us.

Usually, we don't say *Tehillim* at night, based on the *Kisvei Ho'Arizal*.

But during the *Aseres Yemei Teshuvah*, we do say *Tehillim*, even at night!

*See Sefer Haminhagim*

## **HALACHOS HATZRICHS :: Tzom Gedaliah**

Yidden have a *minhag* to give extra *tzedakah* on a fast day, like today. Some people have a *minhag* to give the amount of money they would have spent on food to *tzedakah* before *Mincha*. (This is in addition to adding in giving *tzedakah* because of the *Aseres Yemei Teshuvah*.)

The Rebbe encouraged us to also follow an old *minhag* to say “*Divrei Kibushin*” after *Mincha* on a fast day. *Divrei Kibushin* are words that inspire us to do *teshuvah*! Either someone can speak or *farbreng* about doing more and better in our *Avodas Hashem*, or we can say a *Kapitel Tehillim* about *Teshuvah*, or at least we should read or think about things that inspire us to come closer to Hashem.

*See Halachos U'Minhagei Chabad, p. 35-36*

## **GEULAH U'MOSHIACH :: Moshiach NOW**

During World War II, the Frierdiker Rebbe started a new campaign about *Moshiach*: “*L’alter L’Teshuvah, L’alter L’Geulah!*” If we do *Teshuvah* right away, the *Geulah* will come right away!

At the same time that the Frierdiker Rebbe was telling everyone that *Moshiach* could come RIGHT NOW, the Frierdiker Rebbe was also working on spreading *Yiddishkeit* and setting up *chadorim* — projects that take a long time.

People were confused! If *Moshiach* is coming right now, then we don't need to worry about making a new *cheder* or sending a *shliach* to a faraway town! *Moshiach* will take care of it.

When they asked the Frierdiker Rebbe, they were told that there is an example for this in the Torah!

In the *midbar*, the Yidden traveled to many places. In some of these places, they stayed for a long time — up to 19 years. In others, they left after just one day! But no matter what, they had to set up the whole *Mishkan* and the whole *Machaneh* as if they were going to stay for a very long time. So they had two feelings together: They were ready to leave in one day if they had to, but they were set up to stay for a very long time!

In *Golus*, we also have to have these two feelings. We need to have full *bitachon* that Hashem will make *nisim* and *Moshiach* will come RIGHT NOW! But at the same time, we need to plan things based on the way they are in *Golus*. Of course, we will be VERY happy if we don't need to finish those plans, because *Moshiach* will take care of them for us!

*See farbrengen Parshas Vayeishev, 5717*

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