

P ARSHA INSIGHT

Their (the Shevotim) heart's sank and they turned trembling to one another, saying, "What is this that Hashem has done to us?" (42:28)

During Chanuka, Klal Yisroel celebrates their military victory over the Greeks. Why do we celebrate this victory through the performance of a seemingly unrelated mitzva – lighting the Menora? Wouldn't it be appropriate to commemorate a military success with a celebration that is related to it, not with an extraneous activity?

The Maayon Hashovua answers as follows. It is clear that everything that occurs to a person or nation has been sent to him / them from Heaven. Hashem's purpose in granting a military victory was not because He wanted us to be militarily superior. A victory on the battle field occurred in order to give us an opportunity to serve Him, with the objective being greater Avodas Hashem on our part.

We, therefore, celebrate through lighting the Menora, which commemorates the re-dedication of the Bais HaMikdosh, because it in itself is a manifestation of service to Hashem.

This was the outlook of the Shevotim, as well. They reached the inn and saw money in their pouches. Immediately they said, "What does Hashem want?" They clearly understood that a message from Hashem had been sent.

Chazal (Sotah 49a) say that before Moshiach arrives, the faces of people will look like the face of a dog. What do Chazal mean? The Chofetz Chaim explained that when a rock is thrown at a dog, the dog chases the rock, thinking that the perpetrator was the rock. The dog fails to realize that a person had thrown the rock.

Similarly, before the coming of Moshiach, people will think that the tragedies and difficulties that befall them (economy, terrorism etc.) are the result of circumstances and people. The call of the day before Moshiach arrives is to realize that Hashem is the One who is in control of the world and is motivating us to spiritual growth. We need to run towards Hashem, rather than chase the rocks that are thrown our way.

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**IN MEMORY OF
 DOVID MAKALSKY A"H
 ON HIS FIRST
 YARTZEIT**

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MINCHA**Chanuka Schedule:**

Thursday - Monday: No Mincha
 Tuesday: 2:30 Wednesday: 2:45

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H ALOCHO

Have meat slaughtered and prepare it... (43:16)

Have meat slaughtered and show the Shevotim that the animal was slaughtered properly. And prepare it, to show them that the gid hanoshe was removed, in accordance with the view that even before the Torah was given, the children of Yakov were not permitted to eat gid hanoshe. (Chullin 91a)

The Shevotim were not obligated according to halocho to slaughter the animals they ate but they fulfilled it because it will be a mitzva in the future. Therefore, Yosef made sure that they saw that it had been slaughtered. With the same thought, maybe the Shevotim were not prohibited to eat the gid hanoshe, but they fulfilled that halocho as well because it will be a mitzva in the future. (Tosfos)

Summing up Tosfos' question - Why did Chazal have to say that Bnai Yakov were forbidden to eat gid hanoshe before Matan Torah? Maybe in truth they weren't obligated in mitzvos before Matan Torah, but nevertheless they didn't eat it because of the future obligation?

One who unknowingly eats forbidden food is punished for his enjoyment in eating it. (Kerisus 19b)

The gid hanoshe is tasteless, just like eating wood. (Chulin 92b)

In combination of these two dinim, we can arrive at the following conclusion - one who unknowingly eats gid hanoshe will not be punished because he did not have any enjoyment from eating it.

The Klei Chemda uses the above premise to answer Tosfos's question. The din of not being punished for accidentally eating forbidden food was given to Bnai Yisroel at Matan Torah. Therefore, if the Shevotim refrained from eating gid hanoshe because of the future prohibition, they would not have been punished for eating it unknowingly. If so, why did Yosef need to show them that the gid hanoshe had been removed?

Therefore, Chazal are saying that the Shevotim didn't eat gid hanoshe because Bnai Yakov are prohibited to eat it even before Matan Torah. This would not have the exemption of eating it unknowingly. Therefore, the Shevotim needed to check the animal to ensure that the gid hanoshe was removed

Few in the hands of the many... (Al Hanisim)

When Rav Shach was an old man, he was quite weak, needing the assistance of Rav Avrohom Taub on a more constant basis. One day, a young boy appeared at the door, and Rav Taub relayed to Rav Shach his identity. Rav Shach stood up and went to greet the boy. After a very warm greeting, Rav Shach asked to be left alone with the boy for a few minutes. Rav Shach spoke with him for an hour. Upon concluding his session with Rav Shach, the boy left with a shining radiant face.

Rav Taub was shocked and asked Rav Shach, “Even if you were not the leader of our generation, is it not beyond the call of duty for an old weak man like you to assist a fourteen year old boy like that? You barely have strength for yourself, and you gave up an hour of strength for this boy. Why?”

Rav Shach responded, “This boy has some issues, without a known remedy to heal him. We must rely on Hashem to save him through a miracle. Since employing a miracle is out of Hashem’s normal behavior pattern, I went beyond my normal call of duty, so that He should also hopefully go beyond His normal practice.

WHO AM I?

1. For the Mavoi I am no good
2. I do not work for a Sukka
3. I could invalidate your Menorah
4. I was for the pit

Last week’s clues: I was caused by tranquility, I was for Lavan’s house, I jumped on him, I was a blessing in disguise.

Answer: The sale of Yosef

Congratulations to: Sorry no congratulations this week.

1. I was for the Menora
2. I was for the cows
3. I am for Shemitta
4. I was for the wheat

Last week’s clues: I caused jealousy, I was a proof of death, I was a sign of love, I was colorful.

Answer: Kesones Pasim

Congratulations to: Yerachmiel Diamond, Sorah and Naftoli Stoll

DILLEMA

Pharoah was dreaming that behold – he was standing over the river... (41:1)

The Pharoah said to Yosef, “In my dream, behold! I was standing on the bank of the river... (41:17)

In his dream, Pharoah saw himself standing over the river. However, when relating the dream, he related that he was standing on the river bank. Why did he change the story?

TORAH RIDDLE

For how many years were Bnai Yisroel in Mitzrayim? Where is that hinted to in the parsha?

Last week’s riddle: Where do we mention the kesones passim in davening?

Answer: Tefilla at the end of Birchas Kohanim

Congratulations to: Yerachmiel Diamond

SHABBOS EVENING SHIRUM

Beachwood Rabbi and Mrs. Dov Frankel
8:00 – Parsha 2425 Beachwood Blvd

KOLLEL BULLETIN

MAZEL TOV

- ♦ Mr. and Mrs. Dovid Farkas on the birth of a boy
Dr. and Mrs. Mark Berkowitz

The community is invited to a Shalom Zochor
at the Farkas home 2511 Rubyvale, after 7.45 pm.

- ♦ Dr. and Mrs. Peter Laufer on the birth of a granddaughter
- ♦ Rabbi and Mrs. Pinchos Landis on the birth of a girl

AVOS UBONIM

Motzoei Shabbos Pirchei Learning
(bring your fathers)

Zichron Chaim 2203 South Green Rd.

Grades 3 - 8 7:20 – 8:20

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