

PARSHA INSIGHTS

I came today to the spring of water and said, “Hashem, G-d of my master Avrohom, if You would graciously make me successful on the way on which I go... (24, 42)

“Today I left and today I came” teaches that his (Eliezer’s) trip was miraculously shortened. (Rashi).

Eliezer had witnessed great miracles during his trip to Charan. In addition, his trip was shorter than usual, a miracle unto itself. This should be clear proof that his mission was blessed by Hashem and he would be successful. If so, why did he find it essential to daven to Hashem for success?

The Maayon Hashovua answers that it is always necessary for a person to daven. Even if everything is going well, there is no guarantee that it will continue. One must always beseech Hashem to maintain His Kindness to him.

Eliezer did not allow his prior successes to lull him into a false sense of security. In order to find favor once again in Hashem’s Eyes, he davened for success.

Then Lavan and Besuel answered, “The matter stemmed from Hashem...” (24, 50)

Rebbi Acha taught, “The conversations of the servants of our Forefathers are dearer to Hashem than the Torah study of their descendants. Their conversations are wholly recorded in the Torah, yet there are halochos that are only derived from inferences in pesukim. (Rashi)

Why would Hashem choose to fully record the conversations of the servants of our Forefathers?

Rav Moshe Feinstein explained that the purpose of creation was to spread the Honor of Hashem. Since the conversation of Eliezer was the cause for realizing that, “The matter stemmed from Hashem”, it must be documented in full, in order to advance the Honor of Hashem further. On the other hand, halochos in the Torah will bring honor to Hashem’s Name whether they are written explicitly or not.

He spoke to Ephron, within earshot of the members of the land, saying, “If you would heed me and give me the price of the field...” (23, 13)

Thus the field with its cave was confirmed as Avrohom’s as an estate for a burial site, from the children of Cheis. (23, 20)

Avrohom had purchased the field from Ephron, not from the people of Cheis. Why does the posuk say “from the children of Cheis?”

We must first understand why Avrohom needed to speak to Ephron while the people of Cheis were overhearing their conversation?

One is not permitted to designate a cemetery within fifty amos of city limits. (Bava Basra 25a)

When a field is sold, the neighboring owners have the right to overrule the sale of the field and buy it for themselves. (Bava Metziah 108a)

In order to bury Sorah, Avrohom had to contend with two issues. 1) He had to be sure that the people of Cheis would not be interested in the plot. 2) He would be permitted to designate this plot of land for a cemetery.

Avrohom purposely had the people of Cheis, who were the closest neighbors, present at the time of the sale of the land. He wanted them to witness the sale and hear if they were interested in the land. When they did not contest the sale to him, they relinquished their rights to the field.

Secondly, Avrohom was required to ask if he could use the land for a cemetery. Permission for the land to be used as a cemetery also had to be granted by the people of Cheis. Although the posuk attributes the sale of the land by the people of Cheis, it is only in regard to its use as a burial place. The land was sold to Avrohom by Ephron, its owner, however, the people of Cheis had to first show that they had no interest in the land and had to agree to its usage as a cemetery.

TABLE TALK

PARSHA DILEMMA

She (Rivka) descended to the spring, filled her jug, and ascended. (24, 16)

It does not say that she drew the water, only that she descended to the spring. This is because the water rose up to her, and she did not need to bend down and draw it (Beraishis Rabba 60)

So she (Rivka) hurried ... and kept running to the well to draw water... (24, 20)

Why did she need to draw water? Why didn’t it rise up to her as it did when she went to draw water the first time?

WHO AM I?

1. I spoke a lot
2. I did a little
3. Don't confuse with a pencil
4. I am the opposite of Avrohom

Last week's clues: I was from Sodom, I now have a sodium content, I looked, I'm not a foundation although I'm a pillar.

Answer: Lot's wife

Congratulations to: Yerachmiel Diamond, Ady Green, Kruger Family (Modiin), Tal and Ronen Lowenthal, Boruch Neiman, Neil Parks, Ita Esther Rotenberg, Sorah, Shifra Perel, Naftoli & Yocheved Miryam Stoll

WHO AM I?

1. We had light all week
2. Our dough was fresh
3. For us it was cloudy
4. We are one and two

Last week's clues: I was the first for day eight, I am the second of the three, I am named for laughter, My brother tried to kill me.

Answer: Yitzchok

Congratulations to: Yerachmiel Diamond, Ady Green, Kruger Family (Modiin), Ronen and Tal Lowenthal, Neil Parks, Ita Esther Rotenberg, Sorah, Shifra Perel, Naftoli & Yocheved Miryam Stoll

A GLIMPSE OF GREATNESS

So she (Rivka) hurried ... and kept running to the well to draw water... (24, 20)

Eliezer was amazed at her enthusiasm to do a mitzva, and that is why he chose her for Yitzchok. (Seforno)

A non-Jew planned a terrible scheme to bring harm to the Jewish people. He studied about Judaism, reached a level of understanding it and enrolled in the yeshiva of Rav Yonoson Eibshitz. His plan was to hear derogatory statements about non-Jews and relay them to the public. This would create a tremendous uproar in the non-Jewish sector and bring the ultimate destruction of the Jewish community.

During his first day in Yeshiva, the Rosh Yeshiva entered and looked around to see how the bochurim were learning. Upon seeing the new student, he went over to him and engaged him in conversation. It didn't take long for Rav Eibshitz to realize that this student had other motivations and he confronted him. The boy was forced to admit to his ill intentions.

The boys at the yeshiva were amazed at the Rosh Yeshiva's ability to figure out that there was a problem. Rav Eibshitz explained, "It is not a big deal. A Jew has a neshomo that longs for Torah and spirituality. We 'shuckle' when we are involved in spiritual activity because our soul is jumping and yearning for more."

"When I entered the Bais Medrash I saw all the bochurim learning with excitement. One person looked as if he was trying to solve a complex math problem. I immediately realized that it is impossible for that person to be a Jew. How could a person learn without enthusiasm? I therefore interrogated him, and sure enough revealed his real identity and intentions."

TORAH RIDDLE

Sorah's lifetime was one hundred years, twenty years, and seven years... (23, 1)

What connection is there between Sorah and Queen Esther?

Last week's riddle:

One who prays on behalf of another person and needs a salvation for that very same issue, will be answered first. (Bava Kama 92a)

Where do we see an application of this in this parsha?

Answer: When Avrohom davened for Avimelech to be healed – he merited that his wife Sorah would be healed, and would be able to have a child. **Congratulations to:** Yerachmiel Diamond, Ady Green, Dan Lowenthal, Sorah Stoll

Please send your "Who Am I" and "Torah Riddle" answers to onegshabbos@BeachwoodKollel.com by next Wednesday. The answers will IY"YH appear in next week's issue

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Mrs. Sylvia Pollack on the passing of her mother

Pirchei 5:05

Grades 3 – 4: Zichron Chaim – Yavne (Dock) 2475 S. Green

Pirchei

Grades 5 – 6: No Pirchei this week!

Pirchei 3:00

Grades 7 – 8: Rabbi Alexander Charlop 14500 Summerfield

Bnos 2:30 - 3:30 (Please be considerate and pick up on time)

Grades K - 1 Batya Klein *Please note change* 2425 Claver

Grades 2 - 3 Naama Ireland *Please note change* 2440 Claver

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Kollel Davening Schedule

Shacharis 7:30

Mincha 2:45

Maariv 7:45 / 9:50

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