

PARSHA INSIGHT

I turned and descended from the mountain as the mountain was burning in fire, and the Luchos were in my hand. Then I saw and behold, you had sinned... you made yourselves a molten calf... (9:15 - 16)

How could Bnai Yisroel sin when in the background they could see Har Sinai still aflame? By viewing this scenario, didn't they realize the miraculous existence of Hashem and recall their feelings at Matan Torah? In addition, with having just eaten man in the morning, why would they think that they needed a new god, when they were 'mamesh' experiencing Hashem providing sustenance for them?

And now, Yisroel, what does Hashem, your G-d, ask of you? Only to fear Him, your G-d, to go in all His ways and to love Him, and to serve Hashem, your G-d, with all your heart and all your soul. (10:12)

Rebbi Chanina taught, "Everything is in the Hands of Heaven, besides fear of Heaven, as the posuk says, "What does Hashem ask of you? But to fear him..." (Berochos 33b)

There are many items listed in this posuk, not only yiras shomayim. Why did Rebbi Chanina only deduce that fear of Heaven is not in the hands of Heaven. Why wouldn't that apply to all the other mitzvos listed in the posuk?

The Ramban answers that without a pre-existing recognition of Hashem and without internalizing Hashem's existence, it is impossible to properly fulfill any of the other mitzvos of the Torah. Therefore, the main thrust of the posuk is that Bnai Yisroel should fear Hashem. After having achieved fear of Him, it is possible for a person to implement the list in the posuk properly.

With the premise of the Ramban, we can answer the above question. It is true that there was clear proof of Hashem's existence and interaction with Bnai Yisroel. However, miracles do not cause belief in Hashem. Only Torah study and mussar bring a person too totally believing in Hashem.

Therefore, it was quite possible that even with Bnai Yisroel observing the miraculous burning of Har Sinai and eating the man sent by Hashem, they still could have feelings of rebellion.

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BEIN HAZMANIM

Mincha 7:50
Night Seder will follow
Maariv 9:50

HALOCHO

Bind them as a sign on your arms and let them be ornaments between your eyes. (11:18)

One must first put on tefilin on his arm, and then on his head (as is the order in the posuk). (Menochos 36a)

If one puts on the Tefilin of the head first and then on the arm - is that considered that he has transgressed a positive command? Would it invalidate his fulfillment of the mitzva because it is a mitzva being performed through an aveira?

The Ritva (Suka 30b), based on the interpretation of the Chemdas Shlomo (Orach Chaim 30), says that in order for a transgression to make a mitzva into a mitzva performed through an aveira, it must cause the mitzva item to become an aveira item.

The Imrei Bina (Orach Chaim 9) points out that when the Tefilin in the case above was first placed on the head, the Tefilin of the arm did not become an aveira item. Therefore, the performance of the mitzva is not invalidated on account of being performed through a transgression.

PARSHA DILEMMA

And what He did to Doson and Avirom, the sons of Eliav, the sons of Reuven, when the earth opened its mouth, swallowed them, their households and their tents... (11:6)

Korach was the one who initiated the machlokes and caused the earth to open its mouth. Why didn't Moshe make reference to Korach? Why did Moshe only mention those who joined the machlokes and not those who instigated it?

A GLIMPSE OF GREATNESS

He afflicted you and let you hunger, then He fed you the man ... in order to make you know that not by bread alone does man live, rather by everything that emanates from the mouth of Hashem man lives. (8:3)

Rav Salimon Mani zt"l explained this posuk based on the following incident.

There was a couple in his community who were very poor. The husband was a letter writer, who utilized his fine penmanship and command of the language to achieve a parnasa. One Erev Shabbos there wasn't any food in the house, without money to purchase food either. Seeing that there weren't any options available, the husband said to his wife, "Without any possibilities left for me, I am going to the Bais Medrash to learn."

After learning for a few minutes, a messenger from his wife arrived with the following message, "There is someone at home that needs a letter written. Please come home." He went home, wrote the letter and was compensated for his work. Now that he had some money, he quickly went to the store to buy their Shabbos needs.

Upon his return, he noticed that the letter had been forgotten on his desk. On Sunday, the man returned and said, "I realized that I did not need the letter - you can tear it up."

His wife was perplexed and said, "Obviously Hashem wanted us to have the money. He set up that this person should ask you to write a letter for him, even though in the end he didn't need it. But I do not understand - why did Hashem leave us for a while without money? Why didn't He send the person earlier so that we would not have had to undergo the pain of being without money?"

Her husband replied, "If Hashem would have sent the job immediately, we wouldn't have noticed the hashgocho in receiving the job. In order for us to recognize Hashem's assistance, He needed to leave us hanging for a while."

This story personifies the words of the posuk, "Hashem afflicted us in order that we should know and recognize that everything comes from Him."

WHO AM I?

1. I was for Yakov
2. I was for Moshe
3. I am not for the doctor
4. I am for trampling

Last week's clues: I was split onto two, I appear twice, I was commanded once, I was given twice. **Answer:** Luchos
Congratulations to: Yerachmiel Diamond, Ady Green

-
1. I am the second of three
 2. I am plural
 3. I have blessings
 4. I have curses

Last week's clues: Of me there are four, We ask different types of questions, We need different types of answers, We are discussed in the spring.

Answer: The Four Sons

Congratulations to: Yerachmiel Diamond, Ady Green

TORAH RIDDLE

Which posuk in this parsha is used in Shemoneh Esrei?

Last week's riddle:

What day of the year is Tu B'Av compared to?

Answer: Yom Kippur.

Congratulations to: Ady Green

EVENTS

WOMEN'S LECTURE SERIES

Rebitzin Schur

Stories of Tanach as Related in Chovos Halevovos

Zichron Chaim – Yavne

Shabbos 5:15 pm

Kollel Summer Davening and Learning Program
(Elementary, High School and Bais Medrash)

Shachris - 8:30

Followed by learning

Chavrusas will be arranged

Please submit your answers to OnegShabbos@BeachwoodKollel.com. Answers will IY"Y appear in next week's issue

KOLLEL BULLETIN

MAZEL TOV

- ♦ Mr. Arnold Altman on the marriage of Isaac
- ♦ Rabbi and Mrs. Hillel Drazin on the Bar Mitzva of Yona
- ♦ Rabbi & Mrs. Mordechai Freedman on the birth of a girl
Rabbi & Mrs. Moshe Freedman
- ♦ Mr. and Mrs. Avrohom Gold on the engagement of Chana

- ♦ Dr. and Mrs. Michael Grinblatt on the marriage of Dov
- ♦ Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Schabes on the marriage of Yitzie
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Schabes
- ♦ Mr. and Mrs. Ariel Solowitch on the birth of a girl
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Solowitch
- ♦ Mr. and Mrs. Nossan Wiedemann on the birth of a boy

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