

PARSHA INSIGHT***Bilaam answered "If Balak will give me his houseful of silver and gold" (22:18)***

If a person's actions are based on the following three attributes, he is a student of Avrohom. A person with a 1) good eye 2) humble spirit and 3) meek soul. However, a person whose actions are motivated by the following three attributes is a student of Bilaam. One with an 1) evil eye 2) arrogant spirit and 3) greedy soul. The students of Avrohom enjoy this World and inherit the World to Come. However, the students of Bilaam inherit Gehinom and descend into the well of destruction... (Avos 5:22)

What is the definition of a 'good' eye and an 'evil' eye? A 'good' eye means a person's attitude towards others, which creates within him a desire to do chesed, a la Avrohom. However, how did the 'bad' eye of Bilaam cause him to want to destroy Klal Yisroel?

Avrohom was blessed with material wealth and used it to benefit others. He hosted travelers, fed them and taught people about Hashem. On the other hand, Bilaam used his money to destroy others. When Balak asked him to curse Bnai Yisroel, Bilaam responded, "*If Balak will give me his houseful of silver and gold...*" (22:18). Bilaam was ready to curse Bnai Yisroel, as long as he received a hefty payment. However, he was not able to fulfill his desire because Hashem didn't allow him.

The difference between Avrohom and Bilaam was in the way they used their material wealth - to assist other people or hurt them. Bilaam didn't want to destroy Bnai Yisroel per se. Bilaam wasn't a rabid anti - Semite. He only wanted to destroy them because by destroying them he would be able to amass wealth. The meaning of Bilaam's 'bad' eye is that it was focused only on himself, rather than on other people.

It would be reasonable to assume that one who follows Bilaam's ideology would be financially secure. Since such a person does not share his wealth - he hoards it - he should be quite secure and content. Yet the Mishna says that one who follows Avrohom's path will enjoy this world, while one who follows the course of Bilaam will meet personal destruction.

What governs this variation in ideology? The differentiating factor is whether a person allows money to govern him or if he governs his money. Avrohom was in control of his desires, and therefore, money could not force an alien behavior upon him. Bilaam was controlled by money, and if the way to get money was by cursing an entire people and destroying them, so be it.

H ALOCHO***Behold the people will arise like a lion cub... (23:24)***

When they arise in the morning, they arise like a lion cub to say Shema. (Rashi)

Rav Channan bar Rava was teaching Chiya, the son of Rav. Rav Channan quoted Rav Zecharia ben Kefutol. Rav motioned that the name is Kevutol, not Kefutol. Why did Rav motion this correction, and not verbalize it? He was reciting Shema.

Is one permitted to motion while reciting Shema? One is not permitted to motion during the first parsha of Shema. Since Rav did motion, we must deduce that Rav motioned when he was reciting the second parsha of Shema. (Yoma 19b)

Why is it necessary to answer that Rav was reciting the second parsha of Shema? Couldn't the heter to motion be that Rav stopped the recitation of the first parsha in order to motion the correction?

There are two ways to understand why one is not permitted to motion while reciting Shema. 1) Not to interfere with his concentration. 2) Not to equate the importance of what he is motioning about with the recitation of Shema.

The Shulchan Aruch (Orach Chaim 63:6) rules in accordance with the above Gemora, and adds the posuk that is the source for this halocho - "And you shall speak in them." The Gemora in Yoma explains this posuk to mean that Shema must be considered by a person as a staple in life, not a trivial issue.

If Rav would have stopped reciting Shema in order to motion, it would have been showing indifference to Shema. Therefore, Rav had to wait until he reached the second parsha of Shema, where one is permitted to motion.

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DILEMMA***Who has counted the dust of Yakov...? (23:10)***

The numerous mitzvos that Bnai Yisroel fulfill on dust, as not plowing with an ox and donkey, not planting kilayim, the ash of the pora aduma... (Rashi)

If Bilaam made reference to mitzvos that are related to ash and dust, there must be something unique about that quality. What is so special?

I shall see him, but not now, I shall look at him, but it is not clear. (24:17)

This is referring to Moshiach, who Billam saw in the future of Bnai Yisroel, but was too far away to see... (Ramban)

On an Erev Shabbos, Rav Yakov Neiman came to visit the Chofetz Chaim. The Chofetz Chaim asked him, "What are people in the street saying in regard to Moshiach?"

Rav Yakov answered, "They do not even talk about him." The Chofetz Chaim was shocked. "Don't people know that there is an obligation to "Wait and hope for Moshiach? How could they be so oblivious and not discuss him?"

On a different Erev Shabbos, the mispalelim in the Radin Yeshiva were waiting to commence Mincha. The Chofetz Chaim was sitting in his seat next to the Aron Kodosh but was not yet ready to begin davening. He was looking around, as if he was waiting for someone.

After a few minutes, the Rosh Yeshiva, Rav Moshe Londinski told a bochur, "Go tell the Chofetz Chaim that it is already too late for Moshiach to come today. We can now accept Shabbos."

TORAH RIDDLE

Bilaam arose in the morning and saddled his she-donkey... (22:21)

Hashem said, "Wicked one, Avrohom preceded you, as it says "And Avrohom got up early in the morning and saddled his donkey". (Vayeira 22:3) (Rashi)

Who else got his animals ready for riding, even though it should have been done by his servants?

Last week's riddle: Which three mountains were not flattened by the Ananei HaKavod? **Answer:** Har Sinai, Har Ha'har and Har Nevo. **Congratulations to:** Lisa Adler Family, Dan Lowenthal, Y.D. Solomon, Tuli Stoll, Ricky Prizant

WOMEN'S LECTURE SERIES

Rabbi Ephraim Nisenbaum
Dangers & Lessons of Golus
Zichron Chaim - Yavne
Shabbos 5:15 pm

SUMMER PROGRAM

Shachris - 8:30
Followed by learning
Chavrusas will be arranged

RAFFLE RULES:

MONTHLY RAFFLE

1) Earn one ticket for every week that you correctly answer a "Who Am I" or "Torah Riddle".

2) Only answers that are submitted via email will qualify. OnegShabbos@Beachwoodkolel.com.

3) You can only earn a ticket for answering questions from that week's "Oneg Shabbos"

Month of Tammuz:

"Kenneth Cole Dress Watch with Steel Band"

WHO AM I?

(A Torah Personality)

1. I died in the 18th century
2. I am known as holy
3. My student was a riddle
4. Son of the Spice Merchant
5. I gave you a Light and Beautiful Fruit

Last week's clues: I was murdered, My Rebbi taught us how to speak, I am known for the Koveitz, My death saved American Jewry, I was taken to the fort. **Answer:** Rav Elchonon Wasserman hy"d was murdered by the Nazis at Fort Nine, outside of Slabodka. His Rebbi was the Chofetz Chaim. He wrote many seforim, such as the Koveitz Shiurim, Koveitz Heoros and Koveitz Ma'amorim. When Rav Elchonon and his talmidim were about to be killed by the Nazis, he addressed them as follows. "Let us have the proper intentions as we are slaughtered as korbonos. If we will be pure korbonos, we will be a kaporo for our brethren in America and save them." **Congratulations to:** Lisa Adler Family, Efrogymson Family, Dan Lowenthal, Shraga Faivel Scheinbaum, Y.D. Solomon

(Related to the Week)

1. I will be when I will not be
2. Delayed
3. I am referred to as "... of the fourth"
4. I am the beginning of the end

Last week's clues I am named for matzo, I saved the nephew, Fugitive, "Fallen ones". **Answer:** Og
Congratulations to: Lisa Adler Family, Benyamin Mayer Efrogymson, Ronen & Tal Lowenthal, Yossi Lundner, Neil Parks, Y.D. Solomon, Tuli Stoll, Gretchen Shapiro and Ricky Prizant

KOLLEL BULLETIN

MAZEL TOV

- ♦ Rabbi and Mrs. Arieh Friedner on the birth of a boy Shalom Zachor in their home 14500 East Carroll Blvd. after 9:30
- ♦ Mr. and Mrs. Lenny Glazer on the marriage of Sima
- ♦ Rabbi and Mrs. Sholom Ber Chaikin on the engagement of Eli
- ♦ Rabbi and Mrs. Shneur Zalman Denciger on the engagement of Malky
- ♦ Rabbi and Mrs. Binyomin Schwartz on the birth of a girl Mr. and Mrs. Mordechai Koval

CONDOLENCES

- ♦ The Friedlander Family on the passing of Mr. Yeruchem Friedlander
- ♦ The Teitelbaum and Rosenberg families on the passing of Mrs. Eva Teitelbaum