

PARSHA INSIGHT

The King of Sodom said to Avrom, “Give me the people and take the possessions for yourself.” Avrom said to the King of Sodom, “I lift up my hand to Hashem... if a thread to a shoestring or anything I took of yours...” (14: 21-23)

Why did Avrohom add “I lift my hand to Hashem?” Isn’t this a superfluous comment to his refusal to be rewarded by the King of Sodom?

Take a little water and wash off your feet... (Vayeira 18:4)

Avrom thought that they were Arabs who worship the dust on their feet. (Rashi)

What is the meaning of the avoda zora of worshipping the dust on a person’s feet?

If an idol is broken, its detached parts lose their status of idol, thereby permitting a person to derive benefit from them. However, the arm and legs of an idol do not lose their status even if they are severed from the idol. (Yoreh Deah 141:2)

What is the difference between the arm / leg and the other parts of an idol?

The Likutei Besomim explains that the meaning of arms and legs being avoda zora is that people worship their successes, attributing their accomplishments to their hands and feet. Since arms and legs represent achievement of man, they retain the status of avoda zora even after they have been detached. Avrom wanted his guests to wash their feet because Arabs worship the dust on their feet, which represents the successes that they ascribe to their hard work (hands) and travels (feet).

This is the reason Avrom introduced his response to the King of Sodom with the words, “I lift up my hand to Hashem.” Avrom had just experienced success beyond the norm, as he and Eliezer overpowered the dominant armies of the four kings. Avrom was afraid that he might credit his victory to his prowess. Therefore, he told the King of Sodom, “I am abstaining from any payment for this. I need to train myself that the One who deserves the credit for this is Hashem.”

With this we can understand the posuk, **“Those who trust in Hashem will exchange strengths” (Yeshaya 40:31).**

What does it mean they will exchange strengths? The Mosuk Ha’or explains that those who trust in Hashem will exchange the thought of “My strength” for “Hashem’s strength,” and always attribute their achievements to Hashem.

HALOCHO

And I will make you a great nation, I will bless you, and make your name great, and you shall be a blessing. (12:2)

And I will make you a great nation refers to the following words of Shemone Esrei, “The G-d of Avrohom.” I will bless you refers to “The G-d of Yitzchok.” Make your name great refers to “The G-d of Yakov.” One may think we should mention all of the Avos when we conclude the brocho, therefore the posuk concludes, and you shall be a blessing, which refers to the conclusion of the brocho when we only mention Avrohom. (Pesochim 117b)

In the winter months, if one forgot to recite “Mashiv Haruach” one must repeat Shemoneh Esrei. However, if one remembers in middle of the brocho, it can be recited at any point of the brocho. Even if one remembers after completing the brocho but has not started the next brocho, one may immediately recite “Mashiv Haruach.” (Orach Chaim 114:5-6)

It is not considered a hefsek to insert “Mashiv Haruach” between the second and third brochos because the “Mashiv Haruach” will be added to the brocho of “Mechaye Ha’meisim” and it will be as if the person said, “Mechaye Ha’meisim u’Mashiv Haruach...” (Levush)

If one forgot one of the special insertions to be recited during the Shemone Esrei of Aseres Yimei Teshuva, can it be inserted immediately after their appropriate brocho?

The Maharash Alphandri maintains that it would be permissible to insert them immediately after their appropriate brocho. However, “Zochreinu L’Chaim” cannot be inserted after the completion of the first brocho. The reason is since “We conclude the brocho by **only** mentioning Avrohom,” nothing is allowed to be added to the concluding brocho. (Consult your Rov for final Halachic ruling on all the halochos discussed here)

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MRS. HELEN GELB A"H

DILEMMA

And they captured Lot and his possessions, the nephew of Avrom, and they left. (14:12)

This posuk seems to be written backwards. Why does the posuk write “the nephew of Avrom” after mentioning the possessions of Lot, which seems to indicate that the possessions were the nephew of Avrom? Shouldn’t the posuk have been written as follows, “Lot, the nephew of Avrom and all his possessions”?

A GLIMPSE OF GREATNESS

Blessed is G-d, the Most High, Who has delivered your foes into your hand... (14:20)

In 1977, the Israeli Government wanted to legalize abortion. One of the biggest advocates for this law was Chief Justice Shmuel Tamir. Being that this ruling would oppose Torah, a number of Gedolim were planning to approach Shmuel Tamir to convince him to remove his support.

Rav Refoel Levin, the son Rav Aryeh Levin, was asked to join the delegation. Rav Aryeh was the Rabbi of the prisoners who were incarcerated by the British at the time. Many of Shmuel Tamir's friends were in prison and Rav Aryeh was beloved by them. In line with this history, the members thought that Rav Refoel's presence would soften the opposition.

A few days before the meeting, Rav Refoel called Rav Michel Shtern, a member of the delegation and said, "Since we are working against the impossible, we must daven. If we do not storm the Heavens with tefilos, we will never be successful." Rav Michel Shtern organized many tefilos on behalf of the success of this meeting.

When the Rabbonim arrived at the office of Shmuel Tamir, he asked the Rabbonim to introduce themselves. When he heard Rav Refoel introduce himself, he was excited, "Your father Rav Aryeh was our Rabbi," and he honored Rav Refoel to present the request.

Rav Refoel said, "Before I submit my request I want to relate a story. Many years ago my father was approached by a couple. The woman was expecting a baby and the husband wanted that she should abort the baby. The woman refused, so they came to Rav Aryeh for advice. Rav Aryeh sat with them for a long time and impressed upon the husband the importance of bringing more Jewish children into the world. He also pointed out that the child would be an asset to them in their old age"

"Because of my father's efforts, the husband consented and a few months later the woman gave birth to a healthy boy. Their family name was Tamir and they named him Shmuel."

In shock at how close he was to not even being born, Shmuel quickly called his elderly mother and asked her to confirm the story. Very apologetically, she admitted to the story and added, "Times were different then. Please do not be upset with us."

With that knowledge in hand, Shmuel Tamir turned to the Rabbonim and said, "Do not be concerned. As long as I am Chief Justice, this law will not pass in the Knesset."

As they walked out of the meeting, Rav Michel turned to Rav Refoel and asked him, "I do not understand. You knew about this story for a while. You knew you had the trump card to win the argument. So why did you bother me to arrange all the tefillos?"

Rav Refoel responded, "Stories do not have power. Do you think we would have met success without being blessed from Hashem? With Hashem's Will, my story had the desired results."

RAFFLE RULES:

- 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 Cheshvon:
Ninjago 658 piece Lego Set**

PIRCHEI

5:20: Zichron Chaim-Yavne
3rd - 4th: Rabbi Levi - Dock
5th - 6th: Rabbi Giffin -
Back Room

KOLLEL BULLETIN

MAZEL TOV

- Mr. and Mrs. Yisroel Harris on the birth of a boy

CONDOLENCES

- Shamir Family on the passing of Mrs. Batya Shamir

TORAH RIDDLE

Why should Yitzchok be named Yitzchok? (2 Reasons)

Last week's riddle: What is the similarity and dissimilarity between Noach and Moshe?
Answer: Both Noach and Moshe were saved from the water in a floating device. Moshe's did not have tar on the inside, Noach's did.

Congratulations to: Hershy and Gavi Krash, Dovid Lefkowitz,

BNOS

2:30 - 3:30

K: Yitty Siegfried 2423 Laurelhurst

1st: ETTY Aron 14455 Summerfield

2nd-3rd: Ahuva Schwartz 14470 E. Carroll

4th: Chaychu Denciger 2436 Claver

5:00 - 6:00

5th-6th: Esther Bluma Garfinkel 2506 Claver

Ice Skating Sunday @ Pavilion. 5:00 -6:30

WHO AM I?

(A Torah Personality)

1. I am known for crying
2. I was known for not crying
3. I sacrificed for my sister
4. My sister sacrificed for me
5. My husband's curse killed me

Last week's clues: I died without children, I taught the Stick of the Levi, My plan is in affect daily, The multi-story Yeshiva I built still stands, My fanfare killed me. **Answer:** Rav Meir Shapiro. His talmid, Rav Shmuel Vosner wrote the sefer Shevet Halevi. Rav Mer Shapiro was the one who created the Daf Yomi. The Yeshiva in Lublin still stands today. When the Yeshiva was opened, Rav Meir Shapiro made a big event with tremendous fanfare, in order to lift the regard that people viewed Torah. However, he said, that he knows this will cause an Ayin Hora which will harm him. **Congratulations to:** Lisa Adler Family, Ehrlich Family, Krash Family, Dan Lowenthal, Y.D. Solomon, Sorah Stoll

(Related to the Week)

1. Avrohom
2. Yehoshua
3. Sorah
4. Yakov

Last week's clues: My name is for non-Jews, I needed gloves not mittens, Was I righteous?, I was permitted to eat meat. **Answer:** Noah **Congratulations to:** Lisa Adler Family, Ronen Lowenthal, Y.D. Solomon, Sorah & Naftoli Stoll, Ezra Taylor, Neil Parks,

OnegShabbos@BeachwoodKollel.com

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216-382-5314