

PARSHA INSIGHT

And became strong - very, very much so (b'meode meode), and the land became filled with them. (1:7)

What does the posuk want to teach us with the words “very, very much so”? Why is the extreme strength of Bnai Yisroel important information?

She gave birth to a son, and he (Moshe) named him Gershom, for he said, “I have been a stranger in a foreign land.” (2:22)

And the name of the other was Eliezer, for “The G-d of my father came to my aid, and He saved me from the sword of Pharaoh.” (Yisro 18:4)

In chronological order, Moshe was first saved from the sword of Pharaoh and then ran away to a foreign land. Why did Moshe name his first son representing the latter occurrence?

The Chofetz Chaim answers that the name Gershom alludes to Moshe’s secret to becoming successful. Moshe wanted to name his first son with the name that would represent the key to becoming an outstanding person. The following is the key – The more a person focuses on the physical world and grows attached to it, the less he will grow spiritually. Moshe knew that this perspective was the reason he had developed into Moshe.

Although the name Gershom was due to Moshe’s being a stranger when he ran away from Mitzrayim, it also hinted to his feelings of being a stranger and a temporary resident on planet earth. This was because he knew that his true home was not the physicality of earth.

With this concept, the Chasam Sofer explains why the Torah emphasizes the “meode”. The word *meode* refers to money (Berochos 54a). The posuk is telling us that Bnai Yisroel became strong and involved in their money. The physical aspect of life was a primary focus of their lives.

When Bnai Yisroel focus on Torah and mitzvos, they “reach the stars,” like Moshe did. On the other hand, if they focus on their earthly needs, they arouse the hatred of the nations and are subjected to the enslavement of Mitzrayim.

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DILEMMA

During those many days, it happened that the king of Mitzrayim died, and Bnai Yisroel groaned because of the work and they cried out. (2:23)

“He (Pharaoh) died” means that he became afflicted with leprosy; he would slaughter Jewish children and bathe in their blood to alleviate his pain. (Rashi)

If the new hardship was their children being murdered in order to supply Pharaoh with blood for his baths, why were Bnai Yisroel crying out because of the work? Shouldn’t their children being murdered have been the reason for their crying?

H ALOCHO

And a new king arose over Mitzrayim, who did not know Yosef. (1:8)

Rav and Shmuel argued, one said it was a new king, and the other said it was the old king but he is called new because he made new decrees. (Rashi)

“Who is the man who has built a new home and has not inaugurated it? Let him go and return to his house, lest he dies in war and another man will inaugurate it.” (Shoftim 20:5)

If a person renovated his house, is he included in the exemption of “building a new house” and thereby excluded from going to war, or not?

The Ben Yihoyoda answers that Rav and Shmuel’s positions on the words “new king” apply to this question. If the words “new king” only refers to a new king, similarly the definition of a “new house” would be a new house. Therefore, a renovated house would not exempt its owner from going to war.

However, according to the opinion that a “new king” can refer to an old king with new rules, then the words “new house” could also mean an old house with renovations. This would allow an owner of a renovated house to return home from a war.

The Egyptians enslaved Bnai Yisroel with crushing harshness. (1:13)

The enslavement was crushing because they assigned the work intended for men to women and the work anticipated for women to men. (Sotah 11b)

It was crushing because the Egyptians made the women mix the mortar, which required the women to roll up their sleeves and compromise on their modesty. (Ben Yihoyodo)

Rav Koldeski related the following incident during his eulogy for his mother-in-law, Rebitzen Kanievsky:

The Rebitzen heard from her mother-in-law, the Steipler's wife, the following mesora - if a woman keeps her whole arm covered, she will merit having sons who are Torah scholars.

When the Rebitzen would make gefilte fish, she had to roll up her sleeves a little in order to keep them clean. I walked into the house while the Rebitzen was in middle of making her fish. She insisted that I sit down for a cup of coffee, but would not serve it until she rolled down her sleeves.

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@BeachwoodKollel.com.
- 3) You can only earn a ticket for answering questions from that week's "Oneg Shabbos"

**Month of Kisleiv / Teiveis:
Radio Controlled Helicopter**

TORAH RIDDLE

"An Egyptian man..." (2:19)

How did this statement affect Moshe's burial?

Last week's riddle: How did the embalment of Yakov cause the salvation of Ninveh?

Answer: Since Pharaoh sent the doctors to embalm Yakov, he merited that Yona was sent to tell him, when he was the king of Ninveh, that the city would be destroyed, if the people do not do teshuva.

PIRCHEI

There is no Shabbos Afternoon Pirchei this week.

WHO AM I?

(A Torah Personality)

1. I am not a Braisa
2. I set my own table
3. Two lights
4. I was born on 18
5. I was released on 19

Last week's clues: I am known for my mesholim, I was known for my oratory skills, I have a voice and a star, I rebuked the Gaon, I was the "Wholesome" Magid.

Answer: The Dubno Magid, Rav Yakov Kranz, whose yartzeit is 17 Teves. He was famous for his mesholim and oratory skills. His seforim include Kochav m'Yakov, and Ohel Yakov. The Vilna Gaon asked the Dubno Magid to come give him some mussar.

Congratulations to: Yerachmiel Diamond, Hunger Family, Krash Family, Yehuda Neiman, Y.D. Solomon,

BNOS

2:30 - 3:30

K: Aliza Elias 4381 University Pkwy.

1: Nechama Fishbane 2415 Laurelhurst

2-3: Sikowitz 2438 Milton

Please Note Change

4: Chani Fleisher 14449 Summerfield

AVOS UBONIM

Motzoei Shabbos

Grades 3 - 8
(bring your fathers)

7:00 - 8:00: Zichron Chaim
(2203 S. Green Rd.)

7:45 - 8:45: Aleksander Shtiebel
(4380 Univ. Parkway)

BULLETIN

MAZEL TOV

- ♦ Mr. and Mrs. Danny Gottesman on the birth of a girl
Dr. and Mrs. David Gottesman
- ♦ Rabbi and Mrs. Pinchos Klahr on the engagement of Brocha
- ♦ Dr. and Mrs. Shlomo Koyfman on the Bar Mitzva of Yitzchok
- ♦ Rabbi and Mrs. Motty Perlstein on the birth of a girl
- ♦ Rabbi and Mrs. Eli Schwadron on the birth of a boy
Shalom Zachor 8:00-10:00 / Bris Shabbos Morning at 11:30
At their home 2416 Laurelhurst Rd
- ♦ Coby Socher on his marriage to Sharon Schwam
Dr. and Mrs. Abraham Socher / Dr. and Mrs. David Schwam

(Related to the Week)

1. I was for the burning bush
2. I am for the Bais HaMikdosh
3. I am for chalitzta
4. In Rus I am for acquisition

Last week's clues: I am for hard work, I am for the time of Moshiach, I give you no break, I am closed.

Answer: The break between parshas vayigash and vayichee.

Congratulations to: Hunger Family, Krash Family,