

## PARSHAH INSIGHTS

***Perhaps there are fifty righteous people in the midst of the city, would you even obliterate ... (18, 24)***

What is the meaning of “righteous people in the **midst** of the city?” Avrohom’s stressing the word ‘midst’ seems to imply a specific point – What is it?

Rav Bunim M’Peshischa zt’l answered that one of the qualifications a righteous person must have in order to protect others is that he must also be involved in the issues of his constituents. He must address the problems of others, in addition to his concern for his own development. Only these types of righteous people are able to protect their group. This is the meaning of righteous people in their ‘midst.’

Rav Yosef Patznofsky zt’l explained in another manner. There are people who when they are in the Bais Medrash or shul appear as the finest and most righteous people. As soon as they step into the outside world, they lose their righteousness and behave improperly.

When Avrohom was asking if there were righteous people in the ‘midst’ of the city, he meant to ask if even while they are in the middle of the city - outside of the Bais Medrash - they are also righteous. Only people who behave in a righteous manner - no matter their locale - have the ability to save a city.

***..... now return the man’s wife, for he is a prophet .... (20, 7)***

*Since he is a prophet, he knows you did not defile her (and would take her back as his wife). (Rashi)*

The Gur Arye asks as follows – Why does Avrohom’s knowledge through prophecy that Sorah had not been defiled permit him to retain her as a wife, when the halocho is that a law based on a Word from Heaven is not valid (*ain mashgichim b’bas kol*)?

The Gur Arye answers that the axiom that Heaven has no input on the rulings of man is only after Hashem gave Torah to man. Since this episode with Sorah occurred before Hashem gave Torah to man, a prophecy whose source is Heavenly has a place in judging an incident or issue.

Another approach to answer this question is as follows. The halocho that ‘Heaven has no impact on a judgment’ is only in

regard to how a judge should rule. However, Heaven/prophecy can clarify what actually occurred in order for a judge to issue a ruling (Kovetz Shiurim 2). Regarding Sorah, Avrohom only had to know if Sorah was defiled or not. Based on the clarification from Heaven of what happened, Avrohom was able to issue a ruling.

## TABLE TALK

### PARSHA DILEMMA

***Hashem appeared to him in the plains of Mamre... (18, 1)***

*He (Mamre) is the one who Avrohom asked if he should adhere to Hashem’s command regarding circumcising himself. Mamre encouraged Avrohom to fulfill the command. (Rashi)*

Hashem commanded Avrohom to circumcise himself. Was there any doubt in Avrohom’s mind whether to execute the command? If Mamre had told Avrohom not to circumcise himself, would Avrohom have listened to him? So why did Avrohom ask him?

#### WHO AM I?

- 1 Blowy reminder
- 2 I didn’t bind a sefer
- 3 I caused blindness
- 4 I am tenth

**Last week’s clues:** I was in the Teiva, My end was Yehoshua’s beginning, I had a Lot to be thankful for, I am not sorry.

**Answer:** Sorah

#### WHO AM I?

- 1 I made people laugh
- 2 I am the second
- 3 Mincha is mine
- 4 Korban

**Last week’s clues:** My time is eight, I was at thirteen, One before one hundred, I am not a treat, rather a...

**Answer:** Bris Milah.

**Congratulations to:** Shlomo Davidovich, Shauli Farkas, Chaim Joseph, Zevi Klein, Ronen Lowenthal

## TORAH RIDDLE

Why is the halocho that one must tie their left shoe first?

**Last week's riddle and answer:**

How old was Avrom when he went to Eretz Yisroel for the first time?

**Answer:** 70.

Please send "Who Am I" and "Torah Riddle" answers to [onegshabbos@beachwoodkollel.com](mailto:onegshabbos@beachwoodkollel.com) by next Wed. and be entered in a raffle for a **"Toyota 4x4 Remote-Control Truck"** For the months of Cheshvan/Kislev. The answers will IY" appear in next week's issue

## A GLIMPSE OF GREATNESS

*He (Avrohom) lifted his eyes and saw three men standing before him... (18, 2)*

*...One to heal Avrohom. Refoel who healed Avrohom traveled from there to save Lot. (Rashi)*

Rav Shlomo Kluger zt'l was appointed to the position of Rabbi of Brod. Shortly after his arrival, he was honored to be the sandek at a bris. Upon arriving at the scene of the bris, he saw that the family was not too excited about moving forward with the bris. In fact, Rav Shlomo was quite puzzled as to their procrastinating in performing the bris. After asking a few questions, he learned that the father of the infant was on his deathbed in the next room. The family was waiting for the father to pass away, in order to name the child after him.

Rav Shlomo Kluger commanded them to perform the bris immediately and not to delay it until the passing of the father. Adhering to the Rov's bidding, they performed the bris immediately. Shortly after, the father began to show signs of improvement and eventually totally regained his health.

The entire city was abuzz with the miraculous healing powers of their new Rov. When Rav Shlomo Kluger heard that the people thought he was a miracle worker, he explained that he merely derived his decision from the above Rashi. "One may ask," Rav Shlomo explained, "Are there a lack of angels in Heaven that required Hashem to send down only one angel to perform two tasks - to heal Avrohom and save Lot? Why did Hashem send one angel for two chores?"

Rav Shlomo answered that Lot was unworthy for an angel to descend from Heaven specifically for him. The only way an angel would be able to save Lot would be if the angel had already descended for another purpose. Then the angel would also be able to perform the second mission of saving Lot."

"The same was the case with the ill father," explained Rav Shlomo. "He did not merit that the healing angel Refoel should descend specifically to heal him. Once the angel was descending in order to come to the bris to heal the baby, the angel would also heal the father. I did not perform a miracle. I just applied a lesson from the Torah to everyday life."

## KOLLEL BULLETIN BOARD

### MAZEL TOV

Rabbi and Mrs. Chaim Sturman on the birth of a boy  
Shalom zachor at 2439 Elmdale after 8:30

Dr. and Mrs. Peter Laufer on the birth of a granddaughter

Dr. and Mrs. Stanley Warn on the birth of a grandson

### CONDOLENCES

Mrs. Ilka Gordon on the loss of her mother

### Pirchei

1-2 Grade: 4:35 at Yavne (Downstairs)

3-4 Grade: 2:55-3:25 at the Kollel

5-6 Grade: 2:55-3:25 at the Kollel

7-8 Grade: 5:15 Shiur/Seder at Yavne (Upstairs)

### Bnos

Kdg: Tzipora Weiser - 14379 Washington

1-2 Grade: Peshi Busel - 14470 Summerfield

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: Etty Aron - 2501 Laurelhurst

4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Sari Fine - 4511 University Pkwy.

5-6 Grade: Dena and Shira Nisenbaum - 2362 Milton

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If you wish to have an announcement or event posted on the Kollel Bulletin Board or to sponsor an issue, call 216-626-KYCM (5926) or email [onegshabbos@beachwoodkollel.com](mailto:onegshabbos@beachwoodkollel.com).

### NEW FRIDAY NIGHT LEARNING PROGRAM

Beginning next Friday night,

Parshas Chayei Sara,

the Kollel Bais Medrash will be open  
for men and boys to come and learn.

Cholent will be served.