

## PARSHA INSIGHTS

**... beware for yourself and greatly beware for your soul (4, 9)**

*Rav Yochanan and Rav Elozor said, "The Torah was given forty days after Moshe ascended the mountain. The soul of a person is created after forty days of conception (an embryo is formed after forty days - Rashi). One who studies Torah will have his soul protected; whoever does not study Torah, leaves his soul unprotected."*

*In the Yeshiva of Rav Yishmoel it was taught, "It is comparable to a man who entrusts a precious item to his servant to watch and warns him, "If you lose it, I will take your soul as a replacement for the item." (Menochos 99b)*

The first Chazal stated that without Torah study a person leaves his soul unprotected. What did Rav Yishmoel add by comparing non-study of Torah to a servant who didn't watch the item he was given and forfeited his soul due to his master's harsh instructions?

The addition of Rav Yishmoel can be explained with the following premise of the Imrei Binah (1, 13).

*One who wishes to support Torah can stipulate with those who study that he will support them and in exchange receive part of their reward for studying Torah. (Rema Yoreh Deah 246, 1)*

*Rav Hai Gaon was asked, "Can one give money to another person in order to receive part of the reward received by the one who studied Torah?" Rav Hai Gaon answered, "Do you think that Torah reward is something that one could carry around in his pocket and give away to whomever he wishes?" (MaHaram Elshakar 101)*

In order to reconcile these seemingly two contradictory opinions, the Imrei Binah explains that there are two rewards given to those who study Torah. 1) Torah sustains a person automatically because it is the spiritual sustenance of a person. 2) There is an additional reward that Hashem grants to those who study Torah.

Rav Hai Gaon and the Rema are addressing the two different benefits received by one who studies Torah. Rav Hai Gaon is addressing the automatic spiritual sustenance received by one who studies Torah. It cannot be transferred, just as one can't transfer the nutrients he received from eating food to another

person. However, the Rema is discussing the additional reward Hashem gives to those who learn. That reward can be transferred to others who support Torah study.

With the above premise, the Avodas Leivav explains the additional concept taught in the Yeshiva of Rav Yishmoel. Just as a master may punish his slave for not watching an expensive item, he may also give him an extra reward for doing the job properly. So too, an extra reward is reserved for a person who studies Torah.

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***Lest you raise your eyes to the heavens and see the sun, moon and the stars, the entire legion of the heavens, and you will be drawn astray, bow to them and worship them...(4, 19)***

*It is forbidden to derive benefit from an item that was worshipped as an idol. (Avodah Zorah 12b)*

Since the moon and sun have been worshipped by people as idols, how can we derive pleasure and benefit from them?

*One cannot restrict an item from usage that does not belong to him (Pesochim 90a)*

Why not? 1) It belongs to another person. 2) The one forbidding the item has no rights to it.

The Oneg Yom Tov (107) maintains that a person cannot prohibit an item which belongs to others because he has no rights to the item.

Based on this premise, the Chavatzeles Hasharon answers that although the sun and moon do not belong to people, however, due to no one having rights to them, it is impossible to apply a forbidden status on an idol. Since they never became idols, it is permitted for people to derive benefit from them.

## TABLE TALK

### PARSHA DILEMMA

***And make them known to your children and your children's children. (4, 9)***

"Make them known to your children" teaches that one has an obligation to teach Torah to his sons. Where is the source that obligates a person to teach Torah to his grandchildren? Therefore, the posuk ends with, "and your children's children". (Kidushin 30a)

Grandchildren are halachically considered children. (Yevomos 70a)

Since grandchildren are considered sons, why is it necessary to have another posuk to teach that one is obligated to teach his grandchildren?

### WHO AM I?

1. I am for the morning
2. I am on your head
3. I bear testimony
4. I was said for Yakov

**Last week's clues:** I am not weights, No AAA, Trip but no fall, 42.

**Answer:** The travels of Bnai Yisroel

### WHO AM I?

1. I am what I am on
2. For the gate
3. Also the door
4. I am slanty

**Last week's clues:** I am for down, For me there are 6 (primary), I need signs, Run.

**Answer:** *Ir Miklat*

### TORAH RIDDLE

What is the Torah hinting to with the word Va'eschanon?

**Last week's riddle and answer:** On which day of Av did the Bais HaMikdash burn down?

**Answer:** 10th of Av

Please send "Who Am I" and "Torah Riddle" answers to [onegshabbos@beachwoodkollel.com](mailto:onegshabbos@beachwoodkollel.com) by next Wed.

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### A GLIMPSE OF GREATNESS

**Which nation is so great that it has a G-d close to it, as is Hashem our G-d, whenever we call to Him... (4, 7)**

Rav Yechezkel Abramsky zt"l was exiled to Siberia during World War I and related the following personal incident that occurred.

"Life in Siberia was difficult. There was a period of time that the suffering we endured made life unbearable, worse than death. One morning I woke up and thought to myself, 'what am I getting up for? Another day of abuse? If I was able to perform mitzvos or learn Torah, I would be willing to suffer the pain. But I have nothing. Why should I get up in order to be beaten by the Russians?'

"As I woke up and began reciting Modeh Ani, I uttered the words "rabba emunosecha" (great is Your faithfulness). Understanding the meaning of those words, I realized that although the Russians could prevent me from performing mitzvos and studying Torah, there is one thing that cannot be taken from me - Hashem's special relationship with me. I concluded that it is worthwhile to wake up in the morning and face their beatings and abuse in order not to lose the special relationship I have with Hashem."

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