

# Chitas for Sunday, Parshas Haazinu Chof-Daled Elul, 5780

לעילוי נשמת ר' יוסף בנימין בן ר' מנשה קאלטמאן ~ sponsored by Rabbi Aryeh & Esther Kaltmann

Chitas for the month of Elul is made possible in part  
לעילוי נשמת

הרה"ח הרה"ת הר' משה פינחס בן הר' אברהם מרדכי הכהן כ"ץ  
הרה"ח הרה"ת הר' מרדכי בן הר' פינחס מענטליק  
ולזכות רפואה שלימה וקרובה לזאב יחזקאל הכהן בן מינדל

Chitas for the month of Elul is made possible in part  
**Dovid & Malkie Smetana**

~ May they have tremendous hatzlacha in all of their endeavors! ~

Chitas for the month of Elul is made possible in part  
לזכות רחל בת ראשא ראזע  
לרפואה שלימה וקרובה

Chitas for the month of Elul is made possible in part  
~ by the Sachs Family ~

**for a Refuah Sheleimah Ukrovah to Chaim Shneur Zalman Yehuda ben Hinda Yocheved**  
and all those in need

This week is sponsored Lizchus  
**Perl Leah bas Sara Esther**  
~ for a Refuah Sheleimah Ukrovah! ~  
Moshiach now!

Mazel Tov **Goldie Rosenfeld** (Shluchah in Aventura, Florida)  
~ 4th birthday Chof Elul ~  
Shnas Bracha Vehatzlacha!

Mazel Tov **Sara Rivka Chana bas Zelda** (proud Sergeant Major in Tzivos Hashem)  
~ birthday Chof-Gimmel Elul ~  
Shnas Bracha Vehatzlacha!

## **CHUMASH :: Parshas Haazinu - Rishon with Rashi**

Today we start to learn the song *Haazinu*, that Moshe Rabbeinu taught the Yidden before he passed away.

The sky and the earth should hear what I say  
Because they'll be there forever, like they're here today!  
So no Yid will ever be able to say  
"I didn't hear about the *mitzvos*, no way!"

The sky and the earth are able to give  
Rain to fall and plants to grow, so the Yidden can live.  
So they can reward the Yidden if they do  
The things Hashem is asking them to!

The Torah is like rain, that everything needs  
(People and animals, and even seeds!)  
Torah makes everyone happy, and also  
Learning Torah makes us grow!

When in the *Beis Hamikdash* you hear Hashem's name  
Say good things about Hashem — say *Baruch Sheim!*  
Everything Hashem does is fair, you bet!  
He will give everyone what they deserve to get.

If not good things keep happening, life feels like no fun  
You should know that it's because of things YOU have done!  
Hashem loves you and chose you, but what did you do?  
You weren't smart, and didn't do what Hashem told you to!

## **TEHILLIM :: 113 - 118**

Today's *shiur Tehillim* is *Kuf-Yud-Gimmel* to *Kuf-Yud-Ches*, the *kapitelach* of *Hallel!* We also say three *kapitelach* for *Chodesh Elul* — *Ayin*, *Ayin-Alef*, and *Ayin-Beis*.

There is a *posuk* in today's *Tehillim*, in *Kapitel Kuf-Yud-Ches*, that says "**Hashem Li Be'ozroi, Va'ani Ereh Be'Son'ai.**" "Hashem is with me, with my helpers, and I will see my enemies fall."

How can Dovid Hamelech say that he has helpers, and that Hashem is WITH his helpers? Who is a helper except for Hashem?

*Chassidus* explains that the "helpers" are the *Gashmius* things in the world. Hashem put a piece of *kedusha* into the *Gashmius* things, and when we use them for the right reasons, we get this *kedusha* and it helps us!

So a person needs to use *Gashmius* things in the world (like food and drink), and then, his *davening* and learning will help him!

## **TANYA :: Igeres Hakodesh Siman Yud-Zayin**

*This is another letter where the Alter Rebbe gets Chassidim excited to give Tzedakah:*

As Yidden, we need to know that we need to do something to get something! Hashem gives us things — but we need to do SOMETHING to get them.

There are two kinds of *Chayus* that Hashem gives to the world:

- 1) **Memalei Kol Almin** — this is the kind of *Chayus* that makes everything in the world have different *kochos*.
- 2) **Sovev Kol Almin** — this *Chayus* is the same for everything, but it is a much greater *chayus!*

(The first *chayus*, we can almost "see," because we see how everything in the world is different, and has different jobs!)

To bring the second kind of *Chayus*, *Sovev Kol Almin*, into the world, we need to deserve it! How? We give *Tzedakah*!

## **HAYOM YOM :: Chof-Daled Elul**

Everything we see or hear needs to help us serve Hashem better!

When we look at the world around us, we see how amazing it is! Look at the huge mountains, the millions of stars in the sky, beautiful flowers, and people who can do so many things. All of this comes from Hashem's *Chesed* — the *midah* of giving and showing.

There is another *midah* of Hashem, called *Gevurah* — holding back. Hashem's *Gevurah* is as strong as His *Chesed* — it is just as amazing that Hashem can HIDE in the world as it is that Hashem can make all of these exciting things!

The *Avodah* of a Jew is to use the *kochos* of his *neshama* to FIND Hashem — to realize that Hashem is always making everything happen. When we recognize this, we know that EVERYTHING we see or hear is really only happening because HASHEM is making it happen! If it happens to us, it must be that Hashem wants us to know about it. Why does Hashem want us to know about it? It will help us do a better job in serving Hashem — the whole reason we were created!

The Frierdiker Rebbe writes that earlier generations of *Chassidim* would always think this way. We need to try to act like them too — to learn from EVERYTHING we see and hear, which will help us do a better job in our *shlichus* of serving Hashem!

## **SEFER HAMITZVOS :: Shiur #66 - Mitzvas Asei #153, #59**

Today in *Sefer Hamitzvos*, we learn the same *mitzvah* (*Mitzvas Asei #153*) for the last time: How the *Beis Din* needs to make a calendar and calculate the months and the years. This is the *mitzvah* of *Kiddush Hachodesh*.

We learn this *mitzvah* from a *posuk* in *Parshas Bo*: הַחֹדֶשׁ הַזֶּה לְכֶם רֵאשִׁי

The details are explained in *Mesechta Sanhedrin perek Alef*, *Mesechta Rosh Hashana* and *Brachos*.

Today we also learn a new *mitzvah*, (*Mitzvas Asei #59*) to blow trumpets at certain times. We blow them when we bring the special *korbanos* of *Yom Tov*, a happy time. We also blow them in a sad time — when we are *davening* to Hashem because hard things are happening. They can remind us that it's from Hashem, and we have to do *teshuvah*.

We learn this *mitzvah* from a *posuk* in *Parshas Behaalosecha*: וּבְיָוִם שְׂמַחְתֶּם וּבְמוֹעֲדֵיכֶם וּבְרֵאשֵׁי חֳדָשֵׁיכֶם וּתְקַעְתֶּם בַּחֲצֹצְרוֹת

The details are explained in *Sifri*, *Mesechta Rosh Hashana*, and *Mesechta Taanis*.

## **RAMBAM :: Hilchos Kiddush HaChodesh - Taaniyos**

In today's Rambam, we are finishing the *halachos* of *Kiddush Hachodesh*! In *perek Yud-Ches* and *Yud-Tes*, we learn more about how the *Beis Din* knows if the witnesses are telling the truth that they saw the moon. They make calculations to figure out if it is possible to see the moon on a certain night.

But just because there IS a new moon doesn't mean that anyone can see it! Sometimes the moon is very low in the sky and someone needs to be on top of a mountain to see it, or it might be hidden behind clouds.

The Rambam explains what the *Beis Din* does if nobody sees the moon for many months — they can't just

make every month be 30 days long, because that will mess up the calendar! The *Beis Din* follows a pattern, like we do nowadays: one long month, and then one short month. That way, even if there are no witnesses, the Yidden will all be keeping a proper calendar.

One of the questions the *Beis Din* asks people is, “Which way was the moon pointing when you saw it?” The Rambam explains how the *Beis Din* knows if their answer makes sense: It depends on where the sun is! The part that we can see of the moon is because the sun is shining on it and making it lit up. (You can try this yourself using a ball and a flashlight in a dark room!)

The sun’s “path” (orbit) around the earth and the moon’s orbit aren’t like two circles on a flat piece of paper. They are both tilted in different directions, so sometimes the sun is a little bit higher or lower in the sky than the moon is. Since it is shining down at the moon, or up at the moon, it makes the moon look like it’s pointing in a different direction! (You can try this with your flashlight too!)

The Rambam tells us how to calculate this ourselves, so we can know which way the moon should be pointing on *Rosh Chodesh*.

We also learn the first *perek* of a new set of *halachos* about fasts that the *Chachomim* make for the whole town. If something scary happens, we need to *daven* to Hashem of course, and also fast to ask for Hashem to help us. The Rambam talks about WHO needs to fast, and WHEN we’re not supposed to make this kind of fast.

The Rambam says that if a person says that something just happened by chance, it is cruel! Hashem wants us to do *teshuvah*, and by saying that it was just by nature, it will stop us from doing *teshuvah* properly, and we won’t be able to get all of Hashem’s special *brachos*.

## **RAMBAM– PEREK ECHAD :: Hilchos Tefillah - Perek Daled**

There are five things that we need to take care of before *davening*, or else we are not allowed to *daven*:

- 1) Washing our hands
- 2) Making sure we are *tznius’dik*
- 3) The place has to be appropriate for *davening* (not in a bathroom or garbage dump)
- 4) Making sure there is nothing distracting us (like making sure we don’t need to go to the bathroom)
- 5) Making sure we can have *kavana* (like not to *daven* when we are angry)

## **INYANA D'YOMA :: Elul**

In the month of *Elul*, we look at each of our *mitzvos* and figure out how we’re doing — to make sure we will do even better in the coming year! Now we’re going to look at a very big and important *mitzvah* — the *mitzvah* of *Kibud Av Va’eim*.

Our parents are very special. They are Hashem’s partners in bringing our *neshamos* into the world! Someone who is a partner with Hashem in this important job for sure deserves a lot of respect! We also owe so much to our parents for everything they have done for us, and we have a lot of *Hakoras Hatov* we need to show!

Of course, the *mitzvos* of Hashem are greater and higher than any reason that can be given for them! The *Chachomim* gave us reasons so we should also appreciate the *mitzvah* in our mind.

The Torah gives us some rules in how to show this *Derech Eretz* and *Hakoras Hatov* to our parents, and here are some of the *halachos*:

- 1) If a Mommy or Tatty have a place that they always sit in, we shouldn’t sit there.

- 2) We should treat what our parents say with respect, and not say things like “I don’t think so,” or even “that’s right.” We can’t just talk to them like we would talk to our friend.
- 3) When a Mommy or Tatty are in a room with us, that is special! When they come in, we should stand up to show them *kavod* — at least one time in the morning and at night.
- 4) We need to give them food or drink if they want it.

*Are you wondering why a lot of people don’t do these things? That’s because a Tatty and Mommy are allowed to decide they don’t need this kavod, and if they do, the kids can show kavod in different ways. Even if our parents don’t mind, though, we should still try to keep some of these halachos!*

But here are some things that we always NEED to do:

- 1) We need to listen to what our Mommy and Tatty tell us.
- 2) It is a very big *aveira* to hit a Mommy or Tatty or curse them — even worse than the *aveira* of hitting or cursing any other Yid!

And the BIGGEST *kavod* that we should show for our parents is to make them proud of us by going in the ways of Hashem and living like a *mentch* — to give them *Yiddishe, Chassidishe nachas!*

## **TEFILLAH :: Meloch**

The *Shemoneh Esrei* of *Shacharis* on *Rosh Hashana* is a lot like the *Shemoneh Esrei* on *Yom Tov*. We just add 5 paragraphs asking for *Moshiach* during the first three *brachos*, and the changes for the *Aseres Yemei Teshuvah*. Like on every *Yom Tov*, we say *Ata Vechartanu*, how Hashem chose Yidden as His special nation, and *Yaaleh Veyavo*.

On *Yom Tov*, after *Yaaleh Veyavo*, we ask Hashem to give us the special *brachos* of that *Yom Tov*.

On *Rosh Hashana*, we say a *bracha* that shows us what *Rosh Hashana* is all about! Here are some of the words from this *bracha*:

***Meloch Al Ha’olam Kulo Bichvodecha*** — Hashem, You should rule over the world with Your glory! ...***Veyeida Kol Pa’ul Ki Ata Pe’alto*** — Everything You made should know that You made it

...***Veyomar Kol Asher Neshama Be’apo: Hashem Elokei Yisrael Melech***... — Everything with a *neshama* should say: Hashem, the *Aibershter* of the Yidden, is King, and rules over everything!

This is the main *inyan* of *Rosh Hashana*: Accepting the *Malchus* of Hashem again!

In the *Michtav Kloli* (a letter of the Rebbe written for every Yid around the world) for *Rosh Hashana*, the Rebbe would often quote this paragraph, which shows us the main *avodah* of this *Yom Tov*!

## **HALACHOS HATZRICHOS :: Foods for Rosh Hashana**

In *Shulchan Aruch*, it mentions that we eat sweet things, as a sign that we should have a sweet year. It also tells us about eating things which have names that remind us of something good. For example, the word “carrots” in Yiddish is “*merren*,” which also means to multiply. It hints to the *bracha* that our families and our *mitzvos* grow and multiply!

We don’t eat foods that are sour or bitter on *Rosh Hashana*. (Even at a *farbrengen* on *Rosh Hashana*, *chassidim* don’t say *Lechaim* on *mashke*, which is very bitter.)

The Alter Rebbe tells us not to eat nuts, because they make us have more saliva. Since a main part of *Rosh Hashana* is *davening*, we don't eat foods that will make us have more saliva, which will make it harder to say the words of *davening* clearly.

We have a *minhag* to first dip the *challah* in honey, which we also do during all of the special meals connected to *Yom Tov*, until *Hoshaana Rabbah*.

## **GEULAH U'MOSHIACH :: Eliyahu Hanavi**

The *Navi* Malachi told the Yidden many beautiful *nevuos* about the coming of *Moshiach*! One of the things he tells the Yidden is that the Yidden should always remember the Torah and its *mitzvos*, the way they were given to Moshe Rabbeinu on *Har Sinai*.

In the *zechus* of the Torah and *mitzvos* we do during *Golus*, Hashem will send us Eliyahu *Hanavi* to prepare us for the *Geulah*!

Hashem says:

הִנֵּה אֶנְכִי שֹׁלֵחַ לְכֶם אֶת אֱלֹהֵי הַנְּבִיא לְפָנַי בּוֹא יוֹם ה' הַגְּדוֹל וְהַנּוֹרָא

***Hinei Anochi Sholeiach Lachem*** — Look, I will send the Yidden

***Eis Eliyah Hanavi*** — Eliyahu *Hanavi*

***Lifnei Bo Yom Hashem Hagadol Vehanora*** — Before the great day of Hashem — the day when *Moshiach* comes!

*And what will Eliyahu Hanavi's shlichus be? How will he get us ready for the Geulah? We will IY"H see in the next posuk!*

*See Malachi perek Gimmel posuk Chof-Gimmel*

- Credits, sponsorships, and contact info at [KidsChitas.org](http://KidsChitas.org) -