

Chitas for Wednesday, Parshas Devarim Rosh Chodesh Menachem Av Alef Menachem Av, 5780

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Shnas Bracha Vehatzlacha!

CHUMASH :: Parshas Devarim - Revi'i with Rashi

Moshe Rabbeinu reminds the Yidden that because of what was done, only the children of those who left Mitzrayim will be able to go to Eretz Yisroel.

Having to stay in the Midbar: Hashem told the Yidden, "You complained that the children would get hurt if you tried to go to Eretz Yisroel, and now THEY will be the only ones to go live there!" The Yidden had to take a LONG detour, and stay in the *Midbar* for 40 years, until this generation of adults all passed away.

Some Yidden decided to go to Eretz Yisroel without permission. Hashem told Moshe to warn them, but they didn't want to listen. They went, and Hashem didn't help them — the Emori came and attacked them.

Even though the Yidden begged Hashem to let them go to Eretz Yisroel after all, Hashem didn't let. The Yidden had to go back and travel into the desert, farther away from Eretz Yisroel, for 38 years.

TEHILLIM :: 1 - 9

Today we start the *Tehillim* again from the beginning! Today's *kapitelach* are *Kapitel Alef* until *Kapitel Tes*.

Many times when Yidden were in trouble, the Rebbe would speak about a *posuk* from one of today's *kapitelach*: "**Mipi Olelim Veyonkim Yisadeta Oz**" — "from the mouths of children and babies You get *koach* to destroy the enemies." The Rebbe explained that the *koach* of the Torah and *mitzvos* of children is what gives us *koach* to

destroy all of our enemies!

From this *posuk* we learn that when even a very small child or a baby says words of Torah or does a *mitzvah*, it is able to protect Yidden everywhere!

This is why *chinuch* of small children is so important, because it helps keep all Yidden safe!

TANYA :: Igeres Hateshuvah Perek Yud-Alef

A Yid always needs to be besimcha! Even if he did an aveira, he STILL needs to always be besimcha!

If he's thinking about the aveira he did (Teshuva Tata'ah), he should be happy since he knows that Hashem for sure forgives him!

And of course, when he is learning Torah and doing mitzvos with an extra chayus (Teshuvah Ila'ah), then he is FOR SURE besimcha!

Now the Alter Rebbe tells us one more thing where a Yid might think that he should be sad — but even then, he needs to be besimcha! What is that?

Dovid Hamelech says in *Tehillim* that we should always remember our *aveiros* (*Vechatasi Negdi Somid*). If a person is always remembering his *aveiros*, won't he get sad?

The Alter Rebbe says no! Really, it's just the opposite! That's a GREAT reason to be *besimcha*! Why?

Dovid Hamelech isn't saying that you need to THINK about your *aveiros* all the time, just that you should remember that they exist.

Instead, any time when someone does something you don't like, or something happens from Hashem that you don't like, you can remember your *aveiros* and say "*Zol Zain A Kaparah!*" Any time something happens that doesn't seem so good, you can think about that *aveira* for a second and say, "Okay Hashem, now You gave me a *kapara* for the *aveira!*"

So when Dovid Hamelech says to remember our *aveiros*, it doesn't mean to be always thinking about them to make us sad, just that we should always remember that they exist. This will help us accept uncomfortable things in life happily!

We'll see more about this IY"H tomorrow!

HAYOM YOM :: Alef Menachem Av

Today we learn something very special about *Moshiach's* humility:

Moshiach will teach Torah to ALL of the Yidden — to the *Avos* and *Moshe Rabbeinu*. That shows us how great *Moshiach* is, that he can even teach such great *tzadikim*! Still, *Moshiach* will ALSO teach even very simple Yidden who don't understand very much.

This shows that *Moshiach* is so humble! Even though he is very great, he will learn with everyone!

SEFER HAMITZVOS :: Shiur #13 - Mitzvas Lo Saasei #10, #47, #60, #6, #5, #2, #3, #4, #15, Asei #186, Lo Saasei #23, #24

Now we have started learning Hilchos Avodah Zarah, the halachos about not serving Avodah Zarah. Hashem gave us

many mitzvos about keeping away from Avodah Zarah, so we will be learning many mitzvos every day while we learn these perakim!

1) (Mitzvas Lo Saasei #10) We are not allowed to learn about or think about Avodah Zarah, for example to learn about a religion which is Avodah Zarah. We are also not allowed to look at and think about an image of Avodah Zarah, like a picture or statue.

We learn this mitzvah from a posuk in Parshas Kedoshim: אֵל תִּפְנוּ אֶל הָאֱלִילִים

2) (Mitzvas Lo Saasei #47) “VeLo Sasuru” — This is a mitzvah for our thinking. We are not allowed to feel free in our mind to think into non-Torah ideas. Our thoughts need to be only according to the way Torah teaches us. The second half of this mitzvah is not to let our minds get too busy thinking about taavos, enjoying things which won't help our Avodas Hashem. (This is one of the 6 Mitzvos Temidiyos, the mitzvos we need to keep ALL the time.)

We learn this mitzvah from a posuk in Parshas Shelach: וְלֹא תתורו אֲחֵרֵי לְבַבְכֶם וְאַחֲרֵי עֵינֵיכֶם

3) (Mitzvas Lo Saasei #60) “Birchas Hashem” — We are not allowed to give the opposite of a bracha to Hashem.

We learn this mitzvah from a posuk in Parshas Mishpatim: אֲלֵקִים לֹא תִקְלֵל

The details are explained in Mesechta Sanhedrin perek Zayin.

4) (Mitzvas Lo Saasei #6) We are not allowed to do things to an Avodah Zarah if that is how it is served, even if it is not bowing down to it or bringing it korbanos. So if a certain Avodah Zarah is served by throwing a rock at it, we aren't allowed to throw a rock (even though it's okay to throw rocks in other places where they won't hurt anyone!)

We learn this mitzvah from a posuk in Parshas Yisro: וְלֹא תַעֲבֹדֵם

The details are explained in Mesechta Sanhedrin perek Zayin.

5) (Mitzvas Lo Saasei #5) We are not allowed to bow to or bring korbanos to ANY Avodah Zarah, even if that's not how most people worship that Avodah Zarah.

We learn this mitzvah from a posuk in Parshas Yisro: לֹא תִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה לָהֶם וְלֹא תַעֲבֹדֵם

The details are explained in Mesechta Sanhedrin perek Zayin.

6) (Mitzvas Lo Saasei #2) We are not allowed to make an idol ourselves or pay someone else to make an idol, even if we won't use it.

We learn this mitzvah from a posuk in Parshas Yisro: לֹא תַעֲשֶׂה לְךָ פֶסֶל וְכָל תְּמוּנָה

The details are explained in Mesechta Avodah Zarah.

7) (Mitzvas Lo Saasei #3) We are not allowed to make an idol for someone else who will use it as an Avodah Zarah, even for someone who is not Jewish.

We learn this mitzvah from a posuk in Parshas Kedoshim: וְאֱלֹהֵי מַסֵּכָה לֹא תַעֲשֶׂוּ לָכֶם

The details are explained in Mesechta Avodah Zarah.

8) (Mitzvas Lo Saasei #4) We can't make a statue of a person, even just because it looks pretty.

We learn this mitzvah from a posuk in Parshas Yisro: לֹא תַעֲשֶׂוּן אֶתִּי אֱלֹהֵי כֶסֶף וְאֱלֹהֵי זָהָב לֹא תַעֲשֶׂוּ לָכֶם

The details are explained in Mesechta Avodah Zarah perek Gimmel.

9) (Mitzvas Lo Saasei #15) We are not allowed to say things that get a group of people to do Avodah Zarah. A

person who does this is called a *Madiach*.

We learn this *mitzvah* from a *posuk* in *Parshas Mishpatim*: לא יִשְׁמַע עַל פִּיךָ
The details are explained in *Mesechta Sanhedrin perek Yud*.

10) (*Mitzvas Asei #186*) If there is a city of people who serve *Avodah Zarah*, we need to burn it down! This is called an *Ir Hanidachas*, a city that let themselves be convinced by a *Madiach* to serve *Avodah Zarah*.

We learn this *mitzvah* from a *posuk* in *Parshas Re'eh*: וְשָׂרְפֶתָּ בָאֵשׁ אֶת הָעִיר וְאֶת כָּל שְׂלָלָהּ
The details are explained in *Mesechta Sanhedrin*.

11) (*Mitzvas Lo Saasei #23*) We can't rebuild an *Ir Hanidachas* after it was burned down.

We learn this *mitzvah* from a *posuk* in *Parshas Re'eh*: וְהִיְתָה תָּל עוֹלָם לֹא תִבְנֶה עוֹד
The details are explained in *Mesechta Sanhedrin perek Yud*.

12) (*Mitzvas Lo Saasei #24*) We can't take anything from an *Ir Hanidachas* — it ALL needs to be burned.

We learn this *mitzvah* from a *posuk* in *Parshas Mishpatim*: לא יִשְׁמַע עַל פִּיךָ
The details are explained in *Mesechta Sanhedrin perek Yud*.

RAMBAM :: Hilchos Avodas Kochavim

Perek Alef: In today's Rambam, the Rambam explains how people starting serving *Avodah Zarah* in the first place. Of course Adam *Harishon* knew that Hashem created the world! How did so many people start *davening* to idols?

At first, it was just a little mistake — people thought that since Hashem created the sun and moon, they need to show the sun and moon special *kavod*. Then later, they forgot that Hashem made the sun and moon in the first place...

Later, Avraham *Avinu* thought for a long time and realized that Hashem created the world! He started teaching everyone again to *daven* only to Hashem, and NOT to *Avodah Zarah*.

In **Perek Beis**, the Rambam explains to us why we have so many *mitzvos* to keep us away from *Avodah Zarah*: Because it is easy for a person to make a mistake. We sometimes have questions about Hashem and Torah, but many times we just didn't know enough to really understand. If we just do whatever we think makes sense, it is very easy to end up serving *Avodah Zarah*. So we have many *mitzvos* to keep us from making a mistake!

Perek Gimmel teaches us *halachos* about when something a person does is considered *Avodah Zarah*. If a person makes a statue of a person, he gets punished, but it is fine to paint a picture of someone.

RAMBAM- PEREK ECHAD :: Hilchos Yesodei HaTorah - Perek Alef

In *Perek Alef*, the Rambam teaches us the first, most important thing we need to know before we learn anything else in the whole Torah: To know that there is only one Hashem, that He created everything, that He controls everything, and that nothing could exist without Hashem. We can't see Hashem, but we know that He is always there!

INYANA D'YOMA :: The Nine Days

Especially during the Nine Days, Yidden think about how hard it is to live without the *Beis Hamikdosh*, and

to be in *Golus*. There are many things we are not allowed to do in the Nine Days, like swimming and doing laundry, because we are mourning, like an *avel* (*chas veshalom*) for the *Beis Hamikdash*.

But, the Rebbe says, a Yid needs to be *besimcha*! That will bring *Moshiach* closer!

So what ARE we allowed to do in the Nine Days that will bring us *Simcha*? Learning Torah! Like we learned today, when you finish learning a part of Torah it brings *simcha*! (On Shabbos, we will finish a whole *sefer* of *Chumash*!)

The Rebbe made a *takanah* that every day of the Nine Days we should be part of a *Siyum* on a *Mesechta* of *Gemara*, since that is a way that we ARE allowed to be happy during this time. This kind of *simcha* will for sure bring *Moshiach* closer!

The Rebbe said that children should be part of these *siyumim*, even if they don't understand the *siyum* at all! (We see an example for this from *Shulchan Aruch*, that we bring a *bechor* to a *siyum Erev Pesach*, even if he is very little.)

Visit Chabad.org/siyum for a daily *siyum* by NCFJE!

See *Sefer Hasichos Tof-Shin-Nun-Alef* p. 719 (*children participating in siyumim*)

TEFILLAH :: Birchos HaTorah

According to *Kabbalah*, the *brachos* that we say in *Birchos HaTorah* are considered three separate *brachos*.

- 1) **Al Divrei Sorah** — we bless Hashem for the *mitzvah* of learning Torah!
- 2) **Vehaarev Na** — we ask that our Torah learning should be enjoyable, that it should be lasting, that our children and *Klal Yisrael* also appreciate it, and that we learn for the right reasons!
- 3) **Asher Bachar Banu** — we thank Hashem for choosing US to give His special gift to, and that Hashem is *Nosein HaTorah*, constantly giving it to us!

Some say that the three *brachos* are because of the three parts of Torah: *Mikra* (*Tanach*), *Mishna*, and *Medrash* (sources and reasons for the *halachos* of Torah and the deeper meanings of *pesukim*).

HALACHOS HATZRICHS :: The Nine Days

Do you know the *halachos* of the Nine Days? Here are some of the things we aren't allowed to do:

- We don't eat *fleishigs* — even things that are cooked with *fleishigs*, like the soup part of chicken soup. (We are allowed to taste a bit of the Shabbos food before Shabbos to make sure the spices are good.)
- We don't take baths or showers unless we are dirty!
- We don't cut our nails or our hair (we can cut our nails *Lekavod Shabbos*).
- We don't wear "fresh" clothes that are nice and just washed
- We don't go swimming or boating

We don't do these things to remind us how sad we are that we don't have the *Beis Hamikdash* back yet.

But when *Moshiach* comes, these will be very HAPPY days!

- The Rebbe tells us to make a *siyum* every day of the Nine Days, to have *simcha* in a way that we ARE allowed!

Here is a detailed guide with the halachos of the Nine Days, by Rabbi Lesches from Melbourne, Australia: [Link](#)

GEULAH U'MOSHIACH :: Moshiach Will Be Our King

After the times of Shlomo Hamelech, the Yidden were split into two groups — one group followed the *Malchei Yehudah*, and the other followed the *Malchei Yisrael*. The *Navi* Yechezkel told the Yidden a *nevuah* that when *Moshiach* comes, the Yidden won't be split anymore! They will all be one nation, with one king.

Hashem promises:

וְעַבְדִּי דָוִד מֶלֶךְ עֲלֵיהֶם וְרוּעֵה אֶחָד יִהְיֶה לְכֻלָּם וּבְמִשְׁפָּטֵי יִלְכוּ וְחֻקֹּתַי יִשְׁמְרוּ וְעָשׂוּ אוֹתָם

Ve'avdi Dovid Melech Aleihem — My servant, Dovid (*Melech Hamoshiach*, who comes from Dovid) will be a king over them

VeRo'eh Echad Yihiyeh Lechulam — And one “shepherd” will take care of them all. (A leader of the Yidden is like a shepherd, who watches and takes care of each of his sheep.)

U'veMishpatai Yeileichu — The Yidden will follow in the ways of My *mishpatim* (this is a type of *mitzvah* that we understand)

Ve'chukosai Yishmoru — And they will hold my *Chukim* in their hearts (this is a type of *mitzvah* we don't understand)

Ve'asu Osam — And they will do all of these *mitzvos*.

See Yechezkel perek Lamed-Zayin posuk Chof-Daled

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