

WEEK OF

Aug 06 2017

14 Av, 5777

WEEKLY PARSHA NEWSLETTER

BS"D



Parshat Ekev

By: Rabanit
K. Sarah Cohen

PARSHA

HALACHA

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QUOTES

DAVEN FOR

PARSHAT EKEV

"Release Me, and I shall destroy them and release their name from under the heavens...."

Not often does Hashem tell anybody to leave Him alone. But then again, Moshe Rabeinu (a"h) is not just "anybody."

This week, Moshe Rabeinu (a"h) recounts the sad tale of Chet Ha'egel when the Jews miscalculated his expected return date from Har Sinai. Fearing that Moshe Rabeinu would never return from his heavenly mission, the Jews made themselves a Golden Calf and worshipped it proclaiming, "This is our god that took us out of Egypt."

In the aftermath of this tragedy, Hashem wished to destroy the Jewish Nation and rebuild a new one with Moshe Rabeinu as its leader.

"Release me," said Hashem, "and I will destroy them and build a new nation from you" (Devarim 9:14)).

Immediately after the words, "release me," Moshe Rabeinu went into action.

In Sefer Shemot, it details how he pleaded, convinced, and reasoned with Hashem with a multitude of persuasive arguments that calmed His anger. The Jews were spared.

What is troubling is Moshe Rabeinu's chutzpah. Did not Hashem specifically tell him, "Leave Me alone"? What prompted this audacity to defy a direct command of G-d? The answer can be explained with a story.

Herbert Tenzer was a distinguished New York congressman in the 1960s. He was an observant Jew who was a proud activist and was instrumental in providing relief for many Holocaust survivors. A few months before he died, he related the following story:

The energetic and often outspoken Rabbi Eliezer Silver (a"h) of Cincinnati, Ohio was a prominent force in the Vaad Hatzalah Rescue Committee.

He worked tirelessly throughout the gruesome war years and their aftermath to save and place the victims of Nazi wickedness. In addition to his prominence in the Jewish world, Rabbi Silver enjoyed a personal relationship with the very powerful Senator Robert Taft of Ohio.

Rabbi Silver had a very difficult request that needed much political pressure and persuasion to accomplish. He asked Mr. Tenzer to accompany him to the Senator.

"Senator Taft!" he exclaimed, with a distinct accent in which the "s" would sound as "sh," with a high pitched tone of emotions.

REFUAH SHLEIMAH
&
HATZLACHAH

Yonah bat Henya
 Michael ben Yonah
 Ro'ee ben Rachel
 May bat Ilana
 Ben Tzvi ben Ilana
 Gidon ben Esther
 Esther bat Mazal
 Yosef ben Devorah
 Yaffa bat Rivka
 Baruch Chai ben Zoya
 Rivkah bat Malkah
 Nissan ben Liza
 Gavriel ben Toviyo
 David ben Liza
 Baila Chava
 bat
 Sorka
 Freida Leah
 bat
 Pesha Rachel
 Yehoshuah Mordechai
 ben
 Leah Gita
 Chaim Yehudah
 ben
 Aidel
 Efrat
 bat
 Shifra Tanya
 Irin
 bat
 Sonya



"I have a very important and difficult request!"

Rabbi Silver continued with a plea of his case to obtain a certain number of visas for some refugees who may not have met all the criteria.

Senator Taft looked disinterested non-committed. He thought for a while then grimaced. He slowly and carefully stretched his response.

"It would be difficult and burdensome," he began. "But technically, it can be done."

Rabbi Silver did not hear anything except the last three words. "IT CAN BE DONE?"

He shouted with joy. "SHO DO IT!" Needless to say the stunned Senator got to work immediately and obtained the visas for the desperate Jews.

Moshe Rabeinu heard one line from Hashem, "leave Me alone and I will destroy them."

That was his cue. The Gemara of Berachot explains that when hearing those words, Moshe Rabeinu knew that it now all depended on him. The only way Hashem would destroy His people was if Moshe Rabeinu left Him alone. And he did not.

Moshe Rabeinu badgered and pleaded with Hashem and we were spared. In life there are many cues. This week, Moshe Rabeinu teaches the nation that when you get your cue, you should not miss it - even if it takes a little chutzpah.

RESUME

"Hey Sam, I hear you know the head honcho at Techno Inc. I have an application I placed there for a high position there. Could you do me a favor and give the boss a call on my behalf?"

Sam could say 'yes,' or he could decline, but whether our friend gets the job or not through influential pressure is not what is most important at the end of the day. What is important is this: can he perform well once the strings are pulled and the influence brokered to get him the position that is also being sought by many other qualified candidates?

Unfortunately, in today's society, the prevailing attitude is, "It's not what you know, it's who you know."

Ultimately though, regardless of "connections," the person who gets the position will have to perform. Therefore, we should work on writing our own resumes rather than counting on the recommendations of influential friends. Your career in learning, working or professional life starts as a blank page. What you learn and do to become better in your chosen field is what will count in the end.

The next time you are tempted to pull a few strings to beat the competition and secure that great prize - stop. Be certain that your resume matches the required qualifications. Be sure that if you do win the "race," that you will be able to perform satisfactorily. It might take a few precious minutes to size up your resume against the exaggerated recommendations of helpful, influential friends - but it will insure longevity and success should you be the one chosen for the job.

A HOLY FOOL

A beggar went to Shmelke's door and asked him for old or worn out items, anything that he no longer needed which the beggar may be able to use or sell.

"Just a moment," said Shmelke. He searched his house and offered the beggar an old ring.

Later that day when Shmelke's wife found out about the give-away, she was appalled. "What did you do Shmelke? Don't you know there's a real diamond on that ring?"

"I did not know," replied Shmelke. "It's too late now. I already gave it away."

Upset, his wife said, "Hurry then, maybe you can run after the beggar and find him."

Shmelke ran through the streets searching everywhere until he saw the beggar standing on a corner trying to sell the ring to people who were passing by.

"STOP!" yelled Shmelke. "Thank goodness I found you. That ring I gave you has a real diamond on it that is worth a lot of money."

Shmelke proceeded to pat the beggar on the back and then he said, "Be sure you get a fair price when you sell it."

There are times we have precious possessions in our midst that we do not realize their value. Once it is made known to us however, it would be foolish to relinquish a valued treasure. Let us learn to hold on to what we possess and to appreciate that it was placed in the palm of OUR hands.



RIDDLE

Different lights do make me strange
Thus into different sizes I will change.

WHAT AM I?
(Answer on Page 5)



INTERESTING TORAH FACTS

QUESTION: Why do we refer to Moshe Rabeinu in that word order? Instead of saying Rabeinu Moshe, we say, Moshe Rabeinu. Why?

In the sefer, *Otzar Dinim U'minhagim* it explains that we say and write Moshe Rabeinu rather than Rabeinu Moshe in order to differentiate the Moshe who was the father of all prophets from all other Torah leaders who may be called Moshe; such as the Rambam who we call Rabeinu Moshe ben Maimon (a"h).

In *Sefer Ha'todaah* it states that it is customary to write Moshe Rabeinu in its entirety, including the "yud," because when written in its entirety, it has the numerical value of 613. Moshe Rabeinu transmitted the Torah to us and the 613 mitzvot in it.

In sefer *Shem Ha'gedolim* the Chida (a"h) states that he found a hand written sefer that states that there were no Tanaim or Amoraim that were named Moshe. This is very surprising. The Chida states that this is why we say about the Rambam, "Mi Moshe [Moshe Rabeinu] ad Moshe [Rambam] lo kam ke'Moshe."

The Chida writes elsewhere that when the Rambam finished writing his sefer, Moshe Rabeinu appeared to him.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

Ben Azai said: "Run to perform even a minor mitzvah and flee from sin; for one mitzvah leads to another mitzvah and one sin leads to another sin. The result of a mitzvah is another mitzvah and the consequence of a sin is another sin."

(Pirkei Avot 4:2)

A CUTE STORY

Joe Smith started the day early having set his alarm clock (MADE IN JAPAN) for 6 a.m. While his coffee pot (MADE IN CHINA) was perking, he shaved with his electric razor (MADE IN HONG KONG). He put on a shirt (MADE IN SRI LANKA), pants (MADE IN SINGAPORE) and shoes (MADE IN KOREA).

After cooking breakfast in his electric skillet (MADE IN INDIA), he sat down with his calculator (MADE IN MEXICO) to see how much he could spend today. After setting his watch (MADE IN TAIWAN), he got in his car (MADE IN GERMANY) and continued his search for a good paying AMERICAN JOB.

At the end of yet another discouraging day, Joe decided to relax. He put on his sandals (MADE IN BRAZIL) poured himself a glass of wine (MADE IN FRANCE) and turned on his computer (MADE IN INDONESIA), and then wondered why he can't find a good paying job in.....AMERICA.

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ANSWER TO RIDDLE

Pupil Of An Eye

QUOTES

** "The cruelest lies are often told in silence." **

** "When sisters stand shoulder to shoulder, who stands a chance against them?" **

**ATTENTION LADIES**

Call us to host a learning group in your community.
(347) 430-5700

Rabanit K. Sarah Cohen will be speaking
 on the following dates:

Date: Aug 09, 2017

Time: 8:15pm

Place: 902 Ocean Pkwy #6D - Bklyn, NY

Date: Aug 23, 2017

Time: 8:15pm

Place: 902 Ocean Pkwy #6D - Bklyn, NY

Date: August 26, 2017 - Shabat

Time: 5:00pm

Place: 1364 E7th - Bklyn, NY

Date: August 27

Time: 7:45pm

Place: 420 Booth Ave.
 Englewood NJ 07631

Date: Sep 06, 2017

Time: 8:15pm

Place: 902 Ocean Pkwy #6D - Bklyn, NY

Date: Sep 12, 2017

Time: 8:15pm

Place: To Be Announced

**SPECIAL ELUL GATHERING
 IN HONOR OF ROSH HA'SHANAH**

Date: Sep 27, 2017

Time: 8:15pm

Place: 902 Ocean Pkwy #6D - Bklyn, NY

ANNOUNCEMENT

Audio-visual shiurim of

Rabanit

Kíneret Sarah Cohen

Are Now Available For Viewing At

www.torahanytime.com

Instructions: Register for free and click on the "Ladies" tab at the top of the Home Page. Scroll down and look for Rabanit K. Sarah Cohen. Underneath the image for the Rabanit, click on the "**follow**" tab if you want to be notified via email or text about a shiur that has become available for viewing.

Shiur To Post Tuesday, Aug 8

Midot

The Gates Of Jealousy & Anger

Log on and enjoy the live lectures and be inspired.



Newsletter Dedication

Sara Bat Mimon Ha'Kohen (A"H)

Ohel Sara is named after this tzadikah (my grandmother). May the inspiration that women draw from this weekly newsletter benefit her neshamah in Gan Eden and may we all be redeemed as a result.



Ohel Sara wishes all it's readers a Shabbat Shalom u'Mevorach!



Candlelighting Time

7:41PM
NY TIME



You can now make a donation
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