

Zmanim

קבלת שבת  
London 4:12מוצאי שבת  
London 5:19 (5:40 ר"ת)

# חזון בני

פ' לך לך י"א חשון תשפ"ג



## CHIZUK IN THE PARSHA



לך לך מארצך וממולדתך ומבית אביך אל הארץ אשר אראך (בראשית יב:א)

The **יצר הרע** makes it very easy for a boy to look around and think he is not "cut out" for learning or for reaching **מדרגות**. He sees one friend who comes from a **choshuve** family, another who was born with **golden מדות** and others who may have had similar "privileged" backgrounds. He, on the other hand, feels his upbringing was inferior and deprived of such advantages. He may also think that he has done things and gone places which undermine his **רוחניות** to the point that he'll never amount to anything.

Along comes **אברהם אבינו** who had the worst possible start in life. His own father, with the help of the wicked **נמרוד**, tried to kill him, leaving him languishing in a pit for years! He happened to have also been thrown into a fire - not exactly a privileged childhood! His entire environment was saturated with **עבודה זרה**, and as the **רמב"ם** writes, **אברהם** himself was caught up in it! If anyone ever had an excuse to say "I don't stand a chance of becoming a **צדיק**" it was **אברהם**.

**האדמו"ר ר' נפתלי מרופשיץ זע"א** explains this was exactly **ה'**'s first message to **אברהם**, and thereby really to all of us: **לך לך**, leave it all behind. Forget about your **ארצך** - your "earthiness" and materialistic beginnings and anything you might have been up to in the past, forget about your family, your environment and your difficult beginnings, and turn towards your glorious future that is waiting for you.

In fact, one can become even greater precisely **because** of their past difficulties - **מארצך** can be understood to mean "from" - i.e. as a result of - your previous difficulties. By pushing against that tough background, one can propel themselves further towards **אשר אראך**.



## CHIZUK IN THE SIDDIR

(Part 8) יהי כבוד

ה' הפיר עצת גויים הניא מחשבות עמים

*Hashem annuls the counsel of nations, He turns down the designs of peoples.*

One of the greatest, if not the greatest **נס** that we can see today, is the remarkable story of the endurance of **עם ישראל** despite all the trials and challenges of **גלות**. This is so incredible that **ר' יעקב עמדין זצ"ל** referred to it as being greater than **יציאת מצרים**!

There is no question about it, that according to the laws of nature, history, and even geography, a small persecuted, scattered nation stands no chance of survival. The only way that we could have survived is with **הקב"ה**'s protective Hand looking after us, saving us from from all those who have sought to harm us throughout the generations.

In fact, the **שליה הקדוש** says on the above **פסוק** that even if all the nations of the world would join together as one to destroy us, nonetheless **הקב"ה** would still save us from their hands.

The amazing thing about this, is that we have literally no idea how many times each and every day **הקב"ה** foils our enemies' plans. Therefore, when we say this **פסוק**, we should do so with an even greater feeling of appreciation!

Q. AFTER DOING AN **עבירה**, I SOMETIMES THINK THAT **ה'** DOESN'T WANT TO HEAR FROM ME. HOW CAN I DAVEN AFTER HAVING FALLEN?

A. ISRAEL **אנ"פ**, **חז"ל** SAY, **ישראל** IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW THAT NO MATTER HOW LOW A YIED FALLS, HE IS STILL **ה'** BELOVED, PRECIOUS CHILD AND STILL HAS THE **צלם** WITHIN HIM. ON THE CONTRARY, THE MORE

HEARTBROKEN A PERSON IS, AND THE MORE HE DOESN'T FEEL GOOD ABOUT HIMSELF, THE MORE **ה'** WANTS HIM TO CALL OUT TO HIM AND TO DO **שבע** **יפול** SAY **חז"ל**. **תשובה** **ספרים** **וקם** SAY THAT IT ISN'T DESPITE THE THAT A PERSON IS A **עבירות** **צדיק**, BUT BECAUSE OF THE **עבירות** AND THE ADVERSITY ONE HAS TO OVERCOME, THAT EVENTUALLY **CORNER** HELPS HIM BECOME **צדיק** A **צדיק**.

\*DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS AND ARE LOOKING FOR ANSWERS?  
TEXT US AT 07878158547 BEGINNING WITH THE WORD 'CHAZUBONAI'.

## CHIZUK FROM OUR CHACHOMIM



This Wednesday, טו חשון, marks the *Yohrzeit* of Rav Avrohom Yeshayohu Karelitz זצ"ל, universally known as the **חזון איש**.

Young Avrohom Yeshayohu was born in 1878 in the town of Kosava, Belarus to Rav Shmaryahu Yosef and Rebbetzen Resha Leah. His father was the רב of the town and Avrohom Yeshayohu's primary רבי. Despite not finding it easy to learn as a young boy, he nevertheless learned with tremendous התמדה in the hope that he would eventually feel the sweetness of תורה. At his בר ברכה he was מקבל upon himself to use all his strength only for תורה. Aside from a very short stint learning in Brisk and a for a limited time in Rav Chaim Ozer Grodzensky's קיבוץ in Vilna, Rav Avraham Yeshayohu never learned in a formal ישיבה and would most of the time learn by himself, for hours on end.

At the age of 27 he became engaged to Basha Bay from Kvidan, Lithuania. After the engagement, his family discovered that the כלה's father couldn't keep the promised financial commitments and wanted to break off the שידוך. The חזון איש however refused, stating that he wouldn't embarrass a בן ישראל. They married soon after. Whilst in Kvidan he learned with the רב, Rav Moshe Rosen זצ"ל and in 1910 the first volume of his magnum opus, the חזון איש, was published anonymously. During the Great War the family fled to Stolvtzi where despite being generally opposed to accepting a רבנות anywhere, the חזון איש agreed to serve as the temporary unofficial רב. A great plague broke out and the חברה קדישא refused to bury the dead for fear of contagion. The חזון איש himself started burying the bodies until the חברה קדישא agreed to return.

After years in Minsk and Vilna where he spent his entire day learning with superhuman התמדה and published more of his ספרים, the חזון איש decided to emigrate to ארץ ישראל. Hundreds of Yidden including the גדול הדור Rav Chaim Ozer Grodzensky זצ"ל and the מרחשת accompanied him to the train station. He settled in בני ברק which was then an empty, desolate village. He set up a כולל there and due to his influence, it became a city of thousands of בני תורה. He became renowned as the גדול הדור and battled for *Yiddishkeit* on many issues, including opposing the draft law, fighting for authentic *Yiddische* education and working tirelessly so that the farmers would keep שמיטה. He was נפטר in 1953.

יהי זכרו ברוך



STARTING THIS WEEK!  
SPACES FELLING UP!

## חזון איש סדר וחתונה מאפה

FOR YEAR 8 BOYS

Learning the תפילין סוגיות including live workshops

12-week programme starting פרשת לך לך  
מלווה מלכה מלכה

Email [rabbiblau@chazon.org.uk](mailto:rabbiblau@chazon.org.uk) to apply

Exciting outing at the end of the programme for boys who attend at least 10 weeks

In בית המדרש קהל חסידים from 9-10pm

BOOKING ESSENTIAL- Application deadline: 10th November



## CHIZUK IN OUR LIVES

The Hebrew Institute for the Deaf in Brooklyn is the only Jewish school of its kind in the USA. It was founded by Rabbi Moshe Epstein who opened the school after two of his own sons were sadly born without the gift of hearing. When queried how he had the courage to build the school after the adversity of having two hearing-impaired sons he said, 'Let me tell you a story...

'When I was a young boy, I was in a Soviet labour camp with my רבי from חדר. The first שבת approached and we were commanded to work or face being shot. I asked my רבי what we should do. He responded, 'Make believe that you are working but do as little as possible'.

'As we were labouring on Friday night, my רבי starting singing לכה דודי and I sang along with him. The next day my רבי *leined* the זמירות from memory and I *leined* along with him. We sang זמירות together. It has now been 50 years since my days in the labour camps and I have spent many שבתות in freedom and comfort, but I have never experienced a שבת like that שבת I spent in the labour camp. It was real and I felt שבת on a very deep level. That taught me that no matter what experiences we have and how bad the situation may seem, there is something beautiful and holy that we can build from the pain and adversity.

'And so, when ה' challenged me with this particular נסיון, I decided that I would try and create something beautiful from the experience.'