Zmanimקבלת שבת
קבלת שבח 7:13
Manchester 7:24
מוצאי שבת
London 8:18 (8:40 ר"ת)
Manchester 8:27 (8:50 ר"ת)

פ' כי תצא י"ד אלול תשפ"ב





כי תצא למלחמה על אויביך... (דברים כא:י)

It's Elul. And it's easy to feel despondent: can we really change? But this week's פרשה offers hope.

The פסוק eolins: "When you go out to war against your enemy..." Rashi famously comments: לא דברה לא דברה, which some מפרשים extend to the whole פרשה: it is referring throughout, to the battle against the יצר הרע. Therefore, if understood properly, this פרשה contains within it strategies for battling the ultimate enemy, every individual's personal יצר.

The מחשבת נחום זיע"א sees one such strategy in the very opening words: When you go out to battle. Surely it could have just said כי תלחם, when you battle. Why is it necessary to talk of "going out", words that even provide the very name of the opening?

He answers with a vital message: when it comes to the יצר הרע you need to make the first move. You need to get up and go out to hunt it down before it finds you. The גמרא tells us that the יצר הרע is very cunning and always thinks up new strategies to defeat you. If you allow it to get to you first, you'll find it very difficult to succeed. But if you "go out", armed and ready, you'll catch it napping.

Even still, you need tremendous סייעתא דשמיא, as the מרא גמרא teaches that were it not for Hashem's help, it would be impossible to overcome the יצר. Therefore the פסוק continues and says "ונתנו", Hashem will deliver him into your hands. But clearly, you can only be זוכה to such help if you are prepared to "go out" to battle.

This lesson comes to us in the month of Elul with its obvious message: start early and you'll have all the סייעתא דשמיא you need...



CHIZUK IN THE SIDDUR

לדוד ה' אורי

Most people have the מנהג of saying לדוד ה' אורי וישעי until ראש חודש אלול. This is based on a אורי בראש השנה וישעי ביום that says אורי בראש השנה וישעי ביום as well as a reference to סוכות with the words of כי יצפנני בסכה.

Rather than being a mere hint, this מדרש gets to the heart of what השנה and יום כפור are all about.

ואש השנה is a day of piercing clarity, a day where the light of אמונה shines so brightly as we focus all of our attention on being ממליך הקב"ה and crowning Him as King over ourselves and the whole world. On ראש השנה use this clarity to establish our priorities and understand what is really important and ask הקב"ה to give us a life where we can live for those values of תורה on a daily basis.

Once our אמונה is clear, we can use that awareness to look at ourselves and our actions and see if they really measure up to that which is true and important. When we look at ourselves honestly, we see that we all have shortcomings. This is why 'ה is our 'salvation' on יום כיפור. Like a merciful father, He waits for us to come home to Him and then saves us by forgiving us when we do תשובה.

Q. I FEEL INCREDIBLY ANXIOUS DURING THE AS IT ALL SEEMS SO SCARY AND OVERWHELMING. HOW CAN I USE THESE DAYS TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY?

A. NITY CAN INDEED SEEM
LIKE A HUGE BURDEN, WITH
THE I'M' TUST AROUND
THE CORNER. HOWEVER,
RATHER THAN JUST FEELING
FEARFUL AND OVERWHELMED,
THE PROMINENT FEELING
DURING THESE DAYS SHOULD
BE ONE OF OPPORTUNITY.

IN IS INCREDIBLY CLOSE
DURING THIS MONTH AND ONE
SHOULD USE THE TIME TO
BUILD A CONCRETE
RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM, AND
DAVEN FOR ONE'S NEEDS.
INDEED THE NOVI SAYS, 'IUTI
INDEED THE OF YEAR
THAT GIVES US THE
OPPORTUNITY TO
STRENGTHEN OUR
CONNECTION TO ITIE



חזובני







Next Friday, אלול' כ', marks the 53rd Yohrzeit of the Ponevezher Rov, **Harav Yosef Shlomo Kahaneman** זצ"ל.

Yosef Shlomo was born in 1886 to Reb Yehuda Leib and Ita Leah Kahaneman. He grew up in the small town of Kuhl in Lithuania, where a third of the 500 inhabitants were *Yidden*. At the age of 14 he went to learn in Telz where he became one of the pioneers who embraced the learning of חום in the ישיבו. He also spent a year in Novardok where he served as the temporary בולר השולחן after the passing of the ערוך השולחן and then left to Radin, where he learned in the לולף חום and Rav Naftoli Trop

In 1911 he married Faige Rubin, the daughter of the \Box of Vidzh and he was appointed as \Box there later that same year. In 1919 after Rav Itzele Rabinovich \Box was \Box he became the \Box of Ponevezh, one of the biggest \Box centres in Lithuania. Whilst there, he was also elected a member to the Lithuanian parliament.

In 1940, whilst on a visit to ארץ ישראל, he learned that the Russian army had occupied Lithuania, so he decided to stay where he was. 4 years later, he built the famous Ponevezh Yeshiva, one of the most prestigious ישיבות in the world with thousands of בחורים. He also built orphanages and personally raised money and cared for hundreds of orphans.

After the war, Rav Kahaneman travelled around Europe looking for Jewish children that were being raised in Christian orphanages to save them and to bring them to ארץ ישראל. Upon walking into one of the orphanages he asked the Christian nun to please allow him to rescue the Jewish children. She refused, saying, 'None of your kind are here.' Rav Kahaneman walked in and cried out, "שמע ישראל ה' אלוקינו ה" Suddenly many of the children started screaming, 'Tatte! Mamme!', remembering how their own parents had put them to bed each night with those timeless words. In this way, he succeeded in saving many Yiddishe children.

יהי זכרו ברוך

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Yankel was a poor Yid living in ירושלים who made a living by going around to קברים and refilling the oil by the קברים. When his eldest daughter was engaged to be married to a fine האבור, he didn't know where he would begin to cover the wedding expenses. He borrowed \$22,000 to cover the Π costs. The night before the wedding, a thief broke into their apartment, ransacked the place, found the money underneath some floorboards and stole the whole lot.

The next morning Yankel came down the stairs and saw the ransacked apartment. He ran to the hiding place where he had stored the money and realized that it was all gone. He looked at his wife and merely said, 'DULA'. Yankel went to daven and proceeded straight to the wedding hall where he showed the hall owner the police report. The owner told him, 'I will only charge you 10% of the original costs and you can pay me over time.' The caterer told him, 'the food is on me, you can pay whenever you get the chance.' He proceeded to speak to the photographer and the band and they each told him the same thing. Yankel was amazed at the chessed of his fellow Yidden despite the fact he still had some hefty bills to pay.

As they were in the car park waiting to leave to the *chasuna* hall, Yankel's six-year-old daughter came running out of the building, and didn't see a truck heading straight for her. She flew into the air, landed with a thud on the concrete and... simply picked herself up, dusted herself off and joined her family, without so much as a scratch. Yankel closed his eyes, and screamed, '*Tatte*, thank you for taking the money!'