



MAOR DAVID BOCA RATON CAMPUS

Rabbi Yosef Korkos

In memory of Maran HaGaon HaRav Ovadia Yosef, ztz"l

SHABBAT SHEMOT 5774/DECEMBER 20-21, 2013

HALAKHAH: THE SOURCE OF EMUNA AND REDEMPTION

Gleanings from the Zohar, Ohr HaChayim, and more

The opening Pasuk of the Parsha states “V’ayleh shemot B’nei Yisrael haba’im Mitzrayma et Yaakov ish u’veito ba’u.” It tells us that these are the names of B’nei Yisrael that went to Egypt with Yaakov. But why does the Torah tell us this? At the very end of last week’s Parsha we were told the names of everyone that went with Yaakov into Egypt. And why does the Pasuk say, “ish u’veito ba’u/each man and his household came?” The Zohar HaKadosh tells us that the “ish” in the Pasuk is Hashem and “u’veito” refers to the Hosts of Heaven. This means that the Shekhina and all the Malakhim came with Yaakov and B’nei Yisrael into exile in Egypt.

The Ohr HaChayim HaKadosh says that the suffering of Am Yisrael in exile in Bavel was very tough. They were used to such a good life in Eretz Yisrael that when Nevukhadnetzar destroyed Yerushalayim and exiled Am Yisrael, they thought HaKadosh Baruch Hu forgot and abandoned them. They assumed they would no longer connect with Hashem and would never return to Eretz Yisrael.

Hashem sent Yekhezkel (Ezekiel) HaNavi into exile with Am Yisrael. He had a vision of the Heavenly Chariot (the Merkavah) and from his vision we get the pasuk “Kadosh, Kadosh, Kadosh” which is the most important part of the Amida. It also shows that while Malakhim say three words before saying the Name of Hashem (Kadosh, Kadosh, Kadosh, Hashem Tzevakot), Am Yisrael only has to say two (Shema Yisrael Hashem). This vision was sent amidst all the suffering, torture, and heartache of the exile in Bavel. It showed Am Yisrael that Hashem still loved them deeply and was with them in even their most trying times.

Nevukhadnetzar knew that he was on a mission from Hashem. He was sent to punish Am Yisrael for the sins they had committed which warranted the loss of the Beit HaMikdash. But Nevukhadnetzar went further than that. He sought to destroy Shevet Yehudah, the tribe of Judah, and with it the possibility of Mashiach. The Gemara in Megillah tells us that Achashverosh

SHABBAT TIMES FOR BOCA RATON

Candle Lighting: 5:14PM

Shkiya/Shabbat: 5:32PM

Dinner: 7PM

Shachrit: 9AM

Z'man Shema: 9:41AM

Hatzot: 12:18PM

Lunch: 12:15PM

Mincha: After Lunch

Various Shiurim with

Dessert: Following Mincha

(Parsha, Zohar, Yalkut

Yosef, and more)

Kids Tehillim: 4:45PM

Seudah Shlishit: 5:20PM

Shkiya: 5:33PM

Motzei Shabbat: 6:11PM

Rabbeinu Tam: 6:46PM

Arvit/Havdala: 6:30PM

Parshat Shemot:

Shemot 1:1-6:1

Haftarah:

Yirmiyahu 1:1-2:3

(the brother of Nevukhadnetzar) had the same idea in his mind to eliminate Shevet Yehudah. Pharaoh also had the same thing in his mind. He enforced a law to throw all the male babies into the river. Not just Jewish babies, but every baby. Pharaoh's magicians foresaw that the redeemer would be coming soon but didn't know from where in Egypt he would come. So Pharaoh decided that to spare himself and his kingdom and destroy the redeemer of Am Yisrael, he would have every male baby in Egypt killed.

The redeemer was Moshe Rabbeinu. But Moshe was from Shevet Levi!! Mashaich must come from Shevet Yehudah!! The Zohar teaches us that Mashiach will have in him the soul of Moshe Rabbeinu. Throughout history many have tried to destroy the possibility of Mashiach. Pharaoh tried to prevent Mashiach from being born, Shaul Hamelekh tried many times to kill David. Many others throughout the centuries have tried to cut short the line of David HaMelekh, right up until today where the world is trying to politically, diplomatically, militarily destroy Am Yisrael and Medinat Yisrael and prevent Mashiach.

But there were three things that Am Yisrael kept that prevented HaKadosh Baruch Hu from destroying Am Yisrael and allowed for the eventual redemption. The first was that they kept the Halakhot of Niddah because there is no stronger impurity than not observing the laws of Niddah. The Sages say it affects all those around you and affects the child that comes from it as well. The second was that the men only married Jewish women and there was no intermarriage. There is nothing in the world that makes Hashem angrier and more jealous than intermarriage. Bilam was unable to curse Am Yisrael, but when he told Balak and his subjects to send their women to mix with Am Yisrael, a disastrous plague broke out in the camp and many people from B'nei Yisrael lost their lives. The third and final thing was that every woman kept her baby and never had an abortion. If they had not done this, the Shekhina would have fled from the world because She would not have been able to endure the suffering. But keeping these three Halakhot was enough to protect Am Yisrael and bring the eventual Geulah and Litziyat Mitzrayim.

The lesson to take from this Parsha is to know that HaKadosh Baruch Hu is always with us. No matter what kind of suffering and hardship we endure, Hashem is watching over us and is beside us encouraging us to keep fighting and moving forward. Like our ancestors in Egypt who never gave up faith in Hashem or hope for Geulah, we should not give up either. In our time, as we eagerly await Mashiach, we must learn Halakhot of Yerushalayim (Ki Mitziyon Tetzei Torah) and make sure we do and act as Hashem wants so we see Mashiach Tzidkeinu Bimheira Biyameinu.

Halakhot of the Week (from the Yalkut Yosef)

Ezra HaSofer forbade anyone from doing laundry on Friday in order to have Friday free to prepare for Shabbat. He instead ruled that laundry should be done Thursday. This was done because it used to take a long time to hand-wash laundry for the entire house. Nowadays, since we have automatic washers, we permit laundry to be done on Friday, but it is still best to get laundry done before Friday if possible.

NEWS

- Mazal tov to Sarah Davidov upon her graduation from FAU.
- Mazal tov to David and Malka Davidov for renting a home in our growing community.
- Mazal tov to Netzakh Yehudah for winning the IDF Chief of Staff Award for Best Unit.

