



MAOR DAVID BOCA RATON CAMPUS

Rabbi Yosef Korkos

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

SHABBAT PIKUDEI/SHABBAT SHEKALIM/SHABBAT MEVARKHIM 5774/FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 1, 2014

EMUNAT CHACHAMIM

Gleanings from Parshat Shekalim and Megillat Eshther

This week we take out two Sifrei Torah: from one we read Parshat Pikudei and from the other we read the first few Pisukim from Ki Tisa about the Mechatzit HaShekel. The order to collect money from Am Yisrael is a strange order to for Hashem to give Moshe right as He is giving the orders for building the Mishkan.

We see that Hashem tells Moshe not to count Am Yisrael but to take half a Shekel from each person and to count all the Shekalim. If Moshe were to count the people directly, Hashem said it would result in disaster.

HaKadosh Barukh Hu considers this money to be Kesef HaKippurim, money for the Kippurim. We see in Parshat Ki Tisa, Vayakhel, and Pikudei that when Moshe fulfilled the many orders of Hashem the Torah says, "Ka'asher Tziva Hashem et Moshe" that Moshe fulfilled the order exactly like Hashem told him to do.

It's already obvious that Moshe fulfilled the order of HaKadosh Barukh Hu, so why does the Torah say again that he fulfilled it? As we learned from the Ohr HaChayim in last week's newsletter, there are many things in the Torah that are revealed to us but there are many underlying and hidden secrets. Any mitzvah that exists has hidden meaning behind it that is crucial for us to succeed in our mission on earth. Many times, we don't understand why we are doing certain Mitzvot and following Halakhot in a certain way, but we do it any way. For example, when you put on Tefillin, we don't know why it has to be put on in a certain order, wrapped in certain way, made from cow hide, etc. It must be that there is meaning behind it that is hidden from us that we can't understand.

We see in Masekhet Megillah, it says that the Pasuk "Ish Yehudi" (Esther 2:1) relates Mordechai to the tribe of Benyamin and Yehuda. It wasn't clear if Mordechai was from the tribe of Benyamin and Yehuda. And the tribe of Benyamin would fight with the tribe of Yehuda as each would take the credit of Mordechai for themselves. The Gemara also says that in Shamayim, Knesset Yisrael would blame both Benyamin and Yehuda for Mordechai.

SHABBAT TIMES FOR BOCA RATON

Candle Lighting: 6:03PM

Shabbat starts: 6:21PM

Dinner: 7:45PM

Shachrit: 9AM

Z'man Shema: 9:38AM

Hatzot: 12:32PM

Lunch: 12:15PM

Mincha: After Lunch

Various Shiurim with

Dessert: Following Mincha

(Parsha, Zohar, Yalkut

Yosef, and more)

Kids Tehillim: 5:00PM

Seudah Shlishit: 6:00PM

Shkiya: 6:22PM

Motzei Shabbat: 6:57PM

Rabbeinu Tam: 7:34PM

Arvit/Havdala: 7PM

Parshat Pikudei:

Shemot 38:21-40:38

Maftir Shekalim:

Shemot 30:11-15

Haftarah:

Melakhim II 11:17-

12:17, Shmuel I 20:18,

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Benyamin claimed Shaul HaMelekh, the first king of Israel, who was an ancestor of Mordechai. They blamed Benyamin for Mordechai because Shaul failed to kill Agag the king of Amalek, and from Agag came Haman. And they blamed Yehuda because King David didn't kill Shimi ben Gera, even though Shimi deserved death for publically embarrassing the king. From Shimi ben Gera, came Mordechai HaYehudi.

The amount of time between David HaMelekh and Achashverosh is about 500 years. David HaMelekh was the head of the Sages of Israel in his time and he could see 500 years into the future. Therefore, he refrained from killing Shimi ben Gera in order to do something to benefit all of Am Yisrael. And Mordechai told Esther that her mission in coming down to this world was to go before King Achashverosh.

Now, if we put ourselves in the position of David and Mordechai, we will never understand how their behavior if we do not have Emunat Chachamim (faith in our Sages). We can learn this Emunat Chachamim from the Pasuk we mentioned above "Ka'asher Tziva Hashem et Moshe," that Moshe followed the opinion of HaKadosh Barukh Hu. This was not just in Moshe's time. As David HaMelekh said, "A thousand years on earth is like a single day to Hashem." What Moshe did was follow Hashem's commandments and understood the hidden meaning and how they would affect the future. And if we follow the will of our Sages and listen to our Poskim and Chachamim, we will be following the ways of Hashem both revealed and hidden.

Now as we said above, in the second Sefer Torah we read Parshat Shekalim. We learn in Masekhet Megillah that Haman HaRasha offered Achashverosh 10,000 talents of silver to destroy Am Yisrael. Hashem foresaw that Haman would do this and thus told Moshe to take Mechatzit HaShekel from the members of Am Yisrael. The Sages tell us that all of the donations for the Mechatzit HaShekel added up to be exactly the amount of money Haman HaRasha promised Achashverosh to kill the Jewish People. The Jewish People therefore redeemed themselves, without even knowing it, when they gave their Mckhatzit HaShekel at the time of Mishkan. Just another example of the power and foresight of Hashem and another reason to have Emunat Chachamim.

Halakhot of the Week (Halakhot of Purim)

It is best to give Matanot L'evyonim immediately following Kriat HaMegillah so that the recipients can go purchase food for their Purim Seudot. Our Sages deduced from the phrase "Matanot L'evyonim" that gifts must be given to at least two poor people, one gift to each person. It is better to spend more money on Matanot L'evyonim than Mishloach Manot as it is a bigger mitzvah to make the misfortunate happy.

NEWS

- Mazal Tov to Rabbi Korkos!! The Matzah oven was just approved by the ORB!!
- Chodesh Tov!! Gam Mishenikhnas Adar Marbin B'Simcha!!
- We will be having Shachrit for Purim at 8AM on Sunday March 16. Please come as we will be reading the Megillah. Following Shachrit we will have refreshments and a Siyum Masechet for Masechet Megillah.
- Mazal tov to Matan and his fiancée!! They just moved into the neighborhood. Welcome, Chevrei!!