



Rabbi Reisman – Parshas Beshalach 5782

1 - Topic – A Thought Regarding Marah

As we prepare for Shabbos Shira - Parshas Beshalach. The most famous thing that happens in Parshas Beshalach of course is Kriyas Yam Suf and Shiras Hayam but also significant and perhaps second most well-known part of Parshas Beshalach is the fact that Yidden were given Mitzvos at Marah. The first Mitzvos that the Yidden got was at a place called Marah. As it states in 15:25 (וְשָׁם נָסָהוּ) (שָׁם שָׁם לוֹ חֶק וּמִשְׁפָּט, וְשָׁם נָסָהוּ). That was the original giving of Mitzvos. I mentioned in a previous year that we say Asher Kiddishanu B'mitzvosav V'tzivanu the reference is that Kiddishanu B'mitzvosav at Marah HKB"H gave us the first Mitzvos, V'tzivanu and then at Sinai He commanded us Al Netilas Lulav or whatever it might be.

I would like to elaborate a little on the Kiddishanu B'mitzvosav, on the understanding of the significance of the Mitzvos in Marah. What I would like to share with you is from the Hakdama of the Sefer Birchas Mordechai, Inyanim and there in the Hakdama there Rav Baruch Mordechai Ezrachi has a beautiful Bi'ur in this Posuk. The Posuk actually is a very packed Posuk. It would be enough to have a Posuk in the Torah telling us (וְשָׁם שָׁם לוֹ חֶק וּמִשְׁפָּט, וְשָׁם נָסָהוּ). That Klal Yisrael were given Mitzvos for the first time. In the very Posuk we are told (וַיִּזְרַח יְרֹנֵר עֵץ, וַיִּשְׁלַף אֶל-הַמַּיִם,) (וַיִּמְתְּקוּ הַמַּיִם). Klal Yisrael had come to Marah and the water there was bitter and not drinkable and they complained bitterly and HKB"H sent a Yeshua. (וַיִּזְרַח יְרֹנֵר עֵץ). Hashem either showed him or the Ramban says in his second Pshat that He taught him. Kavayochel the Ribbono Shel Olam taught Moshe Rabbeinu this is what you do. You take wood and throw it into the water and the water will become sweet.

What type of wood was this? The Ramban says it was a bitter wood. That was a miracle that something bitter was thrown in and it turned the bitter water into something sweet. The Targum Yonason says that the wood that was thrown in had the Sheim Chakuk Aleha, it had the HKB"H's name on it. So what was it that made it turn was it the bitterness, a miracle that something bitter made it change or was it the Sheim Hashem?

The Posuk says (וַיִּזְרַח יְרֹנֵר עֵץ, וַיִּשְׁלַף אֶל-הַמַּיִם). It was the wood that made the bitter water turn into something sweet. The Birchas Mordechai explains that the Ribbono Shel Olam came to teach Moshe Rabbeinu not a one-time trick so to speak, like the Makkos were a one-time miracle. No, (וַיִּזְרַח יְרֹנֵר). Hashem wanted to teach him to give over and teach Klal Yisrael a Limud. HKB"H is telling Klal Yisrael, in people's lives there are moments of Morirus, there are times that life is challenging. Where there are bitter thoughts or bitter ideas, unhappy moments, disappointments in life, and that is part of life. HKB"H told Moshe Rabbeinu teach Klal Yisrael when you write G-d's name on the bitterness, when you connect the bitterness to a recognition of HKB"H, (וַיִּמְתְּקוּ)

הַמֵּיִם), then things turn sweet. Without a recognition of the Yad Hashem, without a recognition that everything that comes our way is something that is a challenge from HKB”H, without that it is very bitter. When challenging things come our way and we have an understanding that we are here to accomplish, we are here to do, when we connect the Sheim Hashem to something bitter, it turns sweet.

Imagine, Moshe Rabbeinu talking to Klal Yisrael. Here it is shortly after Kriyas Yam Suf and they are complaining bitterly that HKB”H gave us bitter water. Moshe Rabbeinu says to Klal Yisrael did you forget, do you have a short memory, did you forget what has taken place over the last six or seven months? Did you forget that HKB”H split the Yam Suf for you to walk through? Did you forget that HKB”H put clouds of protection so that the arrows of the Mitzrim did not reach you? Did you forget that HKB”H provides, that you have what to eat? What are you thinking, why are you complaining so bitterly? 15:24 (וַיִּלְנוּ הָעָם). Are you forgetting?

You should understand that when something challenging comes your way you look to Shamayim, you look to heaven, you look for guidance, you Daven. (וַיִּזְרְהוּ יְרֵךְ). HKB”H told Moshe Rabbeinu go to Klal Yisrael, (וַיִּזְרְהוּ) and teach them something. Show them that when you have something bitter, you put the Sheim Hashem on it and you throw it into your life and things become sweet. Because if a person Lo Aleinu becomes sick or a person has a financial loss or a person has Tzar Gidol Banim, if these things are just arbitrary things that happen to you, it is very bitter. However, if they are challenges that are put in front of you by the Ribbono Shel Olam to help you be able to make it to where you have to get, that is a different story. Then there is sweetness in the bitterness. Moshe Rabbeinu turned the water sweet.

Says Rav Mizrachi, that he told Klal Yisrael what is sweeter this water or the normal water that you had before you came to Marah? What is sweeter, the everyday water that you drink without much of an appreciation or the water that was bitter through connecting it to HKB”H it became sweet. Remember, in life when the bitter moments come, the fixing of bitter moments brings even a sweeter time to follow. Don’t forget that.

That is the lesson (וַיִּזְרְהוּ יְרֵךְ עֵץ, וַיִּשְׁלַף אֶל-הַמַּיִם, וַיִּמְתְּקוּ הַמַּיִם). Moshe Rabbeinu taught Klal Yisrael, through connecting to the Ribbono Shel Olam all the bitterness in life become sweet. (שָׁם לֹא יָדָעוּ). There he said okay you have responsibilities, I will tell you about Shabbos, I will tell you about Kibbud Av V’aim, I will tell you about Dinai Mamon. This is what makes life sweet.

2 - Topic – Another Thought Regarding Marah

Klal Yisrael got Mitzvos at Marah. The Gemara in Horayos (8b top of Amud) says what was the first Mitzvah that Klal Yisrael got? The Gemara says Avodah Zorah. (אֲנָכִי יְרֵךְ אֶלְרִיד) and (לֹא-יִהְיֶה) (לֹא אֱלֹהִים אֲחֵרִים). The Gemara’s Lashon is that they were given 10 Mitzvos at Marah, the Shiva Mitzvos Bnei Noach plus Dinim, Kibbud Av V’aim and Shabbos. The Gemara asks the first Mitzvos were not at Har Sinai, the first Mitzvos were at Marah.

Freight the Brisker Rav, what the first Mitzvos were at Marah? The first Mitzvos were at Parshas Bo in Mitzrayim when Klal Yisrael were given the Mitzvos that were connected to the Korban

Pesach, the Mitzvah of Kiddush Hachodesh. What does the Gemara mean that the first Mitzvos were in Marah?

Rav Hutner in his Mamarim on Pesach brings the Brisker Rav's Kasha and he answers and it could be that it is the Kavana of the Brisker Rav in his Teretz, that there are Sinai type of Mitzvos and there are other Mitzvos. There are Mitzvos that Klal Yisrael got ahead of time. Then there are Sinai Mitzvos. The first Sinai Mitzvah would seem to be Anochi and Lo Yi'yeh Lecha. The Gemara says no, Marah was a Sinai Mitzvah, because at Sinai HKB"H said Ka'asher Tzivcha, like I commanded you earlier. He referred back to Marah. So that Marah in effect is a Har Sinai Mitzvah. A Har Sinai Mitzvah is a Mitzvah that made Klal Yisrael into an Umah. So when Klal Yisrael got in ahead of time it wasn't sort of a deposit for the future Chiyuvim and Hashem said we will teach you a few at a time. No! HKB"H told Klal Yisrael at Marah these are the Sinai Mitzvos, these are the Mitzvos that make you into Klal Yisrael. In Mitzrayim HKB"H gave the family of the Klal Yisrael Mitzvos. At Har Sinai Hashem gave this new Umah of Klal Yisrael, they became like Geirim at Har Sinai, and became Klal Yisrael. Marah is the beginning of that.

Asher Kidishanu B'mitzvosav, HKB"H gave us Mitzvos and those Mitzvos that HKB"H gave us are Mitzvos that make us part of Klal Yisrael. It is not just (שכפה הקב"ה עליהם את ההר כגיגית) Kafa Aleihem Har K'gigis, it is not only the forced Mitzvos that is incumbent upon you to accept but it is also the Mitzvos that you got at Marah, the lesson that you got at Marah. That is the first step. If you don't like it then Kafa Aleihem Har K'gigis. But do it right. Do it with the understanding of the lesson of Marah.

With these two thoughts I want to wish everybody a meaningful Shabbos Shirah. A Shabbos of song to HKB"H. Song for Kriyas Yam Suf, song for the Man and song for Marah for the first Mitzvos we got that turned us into Klal Yisrael. That made us Klal Yisrael. May we be Zoche to be worthy of (שָׁם שָׁם לוֹ הַקָּדוֹשׁ וְנִשְׁפָּט) and be Mekabeil the Torah and then we will be Ochlei Haman and we will be Rau'i for Kriyas Yam Suf with Yeshuos and Geulos wherever we go. Wishing everybody an absolutely wonderful Shabbos Shira, a meaningful Tu Bishvat to come. A Gut Shabbos to all!

Rabbi Reisman – Parshas Beshalach 5781

1 - Topic – A Machshava on the Parsha from Rav Moshe

As we prepare for Shabbos Parshas Beshalach – Shabbos Shirah and we move from Tu B'shvat looking forward to the Yom Tov of Purim which is only 30 days away. Let me begin with a Machshava and go to a Halacha and leave you with a Kasha. Let us begin with an Inyan of Machshava. At the end of the Parsha Klal Yisrael asks for the Man. The Gemara says in Yoma 75a (bottom line) (בשר ששאלו שלא כהוגן ניתן להם שלא כהוגן) when the Yidden requested the Slav it was an incorrect request, and therefore, it was not given with blessing. (לחם ששאלו כהוגן) the Lechem they asked for properly (ניתן להם כהוגן). The Man was given as a blessing, it was given as the food of Angels, and it was given in a wonderful way. So the Gemara is saying that the request for Man was proper.

In Tehillim 78 from Posuk 22 – 24 it says about the Jews in the Midbar (כִּי לֹא הֶאֱמִינוּ, בְּאֵלֵימ; וְלֹא בִישׁוּעָתוֹ בְּיָשׁוּעָתוֹ). The Jews didn't have the proper faith in G-d and Bitachon in His helping them and then it says because of that (וַיִּצְוּ שְׁחָקִים מִמֶּעַל; וַדְּלִתִּי שָׁמַיִם פֶּתַח) and (וַיִּמְטַר עֲלֵיהֶם מִן הַשָּׁמַיִם, נֶתַן) (לֶמַן). Because of that HKB"Y gave them Man, because Klal Yisrael didn't have Bitachon that is why they got the Man. What is going on? Was it K'hogen or was it not K'hogen?

I will share with you a Machshava that was Margila B'pumai of Rav Moshe printed in the Kol Rom and that is the following. It is printed in the Darash Moshe as well but more B'kitzur. Rav Moshe used to say what was the Ribbono Shel Olam thinking, He didn't give them bread to eat. Of course Klal Yisrael is going to scream for bread. What was HKB"Y's plan Kavayochel?

Zagt Rav Moshe, just like Hashem didn't give Klal Yisrael clothing as they didn't need clothing as is found in Devarim 8:4 (שְׁמַלְתְּךָ לֹא בָלְתָהּ, מִעֲלִיךָ). HKB"Y didn't give them shoes (לֹא בִצָּקָה-) and they didn't need it. The Ribbono Shel Olam would have made Klal Yisrael in the Midbar like Moshe Rabbeinu up in Shamayim. People that didn't need to eat bread at all. If they wanted to eat they could eat and if not they could live without eating. That is what the Ribbono Shel Olam would have done.

However, Klal Yisrael felt hungry, they felt that they need to eat. Feeling hungry very much depends on the mindset of a person. Of course there could be people that are hungry because they didn't eat anything, but as you all know, sometimes we eat and we are still hungry, Klal Yisrael lacked a certain Bitachon in Hashem. To go into the Midbar with a sense of not needing anything. Had they done that, it would have been ideal. L'mayseh they felt hungry and they were a Madreiga lower than they would have been, so they asked for Lechem. It was K'hogen, you can't blame people for asking for Lechem. Nevertheless, Dovid Hamelech tells us in Tehillim 78:22 (כִּי לֹא הֶאֱמִינוּ, בְּאֵלֵימ; וְלֹא בִטְחוּ, בִישׁוּעָתוֹ). Had they had the right attitude they would have relied that if HKB"Y didn't give us Man it will be fine just like if HKB"Y didn't give us clothing and they were fine.

Rav Moshe used to say that it is that way with many of our needs in this world. We ask HKB"Y to give us this, give us that and give us the next thing. Of course we would like for the Ribbono Shel Olam to shower blessings upon us, we are supposed to Daven, however, HKB"Y gives Bracha two ways. Sometimes He gives Bracha because He gives you what you asked for in the physical things that you requested, and sometimes He creates a situation where you don't need it. You just don't need as much. What a blessing if you can be in a situation where you don't need as much.

Rav Pam used to say about Shidduchim that a Shidduch with someone who is willing to support is wonderful but a Shidduch with a woman who needs less, that is even more wonderful, (maybe not so common) but even more wonderful. That is Rav Moshe's message here in this aspect of the Man. That once they were on the Madreiga, they needed it. A higher Madreiga would be not to need it. That is a Machshava on the Parsha.

2 – Topic - A Dvar Halacha on the Parsha

It says in this week's Parsha 13:19 (וַיִּקַּח מֹשֶׁה אֶת-עֲצָמוֹת יוֹסֵף, עִמּוֹ). Moshe Rabbeinu took the bones of Yosef. The question is why is Moshe Rabbeinu taking the bones. Who is Osek in a Levaya even

of an Adam Gadol? The family, his children, his grandchildren, his descendants. There was Sheivet Menashe and Sheivet Ephraim. They should have been the ones who were Patchking with the Atzmos Yosef. Why was Moshe Rabbeinu busy with Atzmos Yosef?

The Gemara says in Sotah 13b (6 lines from the top) (כבודו בגדולים). It wasn't because everyone else was lazy because it was understood (כבודו בגדולים). The Kavod of Yosef was that the Gadol Hador should be Osek in the Atzmos Yosef.

There is a Kler in Poskim (as I will mention in a moment) if it is proper to take a Mitzvah that you are obligated in and be Mechabeid someone else with that Mitzvah. Sometimes a person has an opportunity to do a Mitzvah but there is an Adom Gadol, so he tells the Adom Gadol here you do the Mitzvah.

An Adom Gadol or Rav comes to the Shechita house where they are Shechting chickens and they go to the Adom Gadol and they are Mechbeid him with Kisai Hadam. That is really the Shochet's Mitzvah, but an Adom Gadol comes and you are Mechabeid him with Kisai Hadam. That is a Minhag.

It is interesting that when they Shecht the animals they are not Mechabeid the Adom Gadol with Kisai Hadam only when they Shecht chickens. (You will have to figure out the reason for that). (Ed. Note: See Kli Yakar on Vayikra 17:13 & the Chinuch in Mitzvah 187 who also gives an explanation). L'mayseh, is it the right thing?

There is a Shach in Siman Shin Pei Bais (in Choshen Mishpat and can be found in the Ketzos Hachoshen Siman Aleph on the bottom in the Shulchan Aruch), a famous Shach, and he says it is not right to be Mechabeid other people with your Mitzvah. It is not correct. As a matter of fact he screams about Bris Milah that the father should learn how to do Bris Milah, why are they giving away the Bris to somebody else to do. (לפי שראיתי כמה אנשים מכבדים לאחר למול את בנו). The Shach says I have seen so many people give a Kibud to others to do a Bris Milah. (ולדעתי הם מבטלים מצות). (עשה ומצוה גדולה של מילה ויש לבית דין לבטל הדבר הזה). The idea of giving the Bris Milah away to a Mohel is not proper. You should do it yourself. He doesn't mean that you are Mevatel Mitzvas Milah as you are Mekayeim Mitzvas Milah through a Shaliach. It means that you are not doing it right. You are not Mechabeid the Mitzvah. The Shach says do it yourself and don't give it to others.

The Tevuos Shor (Ed Note: Rabbi Alexander Sender Shor 1655 – 1737 (27 Shevat 5497) born in Lvov) disagrees. He says that Derech Kibud is fine. You can give away your Mitzvah Derech Kibud. V'ha Raya from Atzmos Yosef. By Atzmos Yosef you see they were Mechabeid Moshe Rabbeinu. The Gemara says (כבודו בגדולים). We might sit here and say that everyone was lazy except for Moshe Rabbeinu. The Gemara doesn't say that. The Gemara says (כבודו בגדולים). They gave the Gadol Hador the Kavod of carrying the bones of Yosef towards Eretz Yisrael. Zagt the Tevuos Shor, you see that Derech Kibud is fine. You are taking the Mitzvah and you are being Mechabeid an Adom Gadol to do it. It is not a Zilzul in the Mitzvah if you are doing it Derech Kavod, and therefore, the Tevuos Shor argues with the Shach and he says that what we are doing is right.

In the Binas Adam (Ed. Note: Rabbi Avraham Danzig 1748 – 1820 who learned in Prague for four years under Rabbi Yechezkel Landau (the Noda B'yehuda)), that is the Chochmas Adom in the back in his Arichus in Shar Issur V'heter Siman Zayin, he is not happy with this. Yishtaka Hadavar, he says no you are wrong. Kavod Hameis is different. Burying a Meis the whole thing is an Inyan of Kavod Hameis. So (כבודו בגדולים). But not other Mitzvos. He expresses horror. He says do you think if you have a Lulav and Esrog and no one else has one and you hear that your Rebbi who is a Gadol Hador is in the next town and he doesn't have a Lulav and Esrog, would you think that you would send him your Lulav and Esrog and give away your Mitzvah and have someone else do it? He says G-d forbid. You don't give away Mitzvos. Therefore, the Chochmas Adam says you should not be Mechabeid others with Mitzvos and you should grab Mitzvos. As it says in Mishlei 10:8 (יִקַּח מִצְוֹת) Chacham Leiv Yikach Mitzvos. A wise man takes Mitzvos for himself and doesn't give it away so quickly.

Sometimes you have an opportunity to Daven for the Amud. So it is a Zechus for a Niftar so Aveilim go first. What if there is no Avel? It is only a Zechus for people who are not alive? It is not a Zechus for people who are alive? A Pele! If Davening for the Amud is a Zechus for someone who is threatened with Gehinnom, it is certainly a Zechus for someone in Olam Hazeih. (יִקַּח מִצְוֹת). Don't give it away. Don't be quick to give it away. That is the message. Ai (כבודו בגדולים)? The answer is that a Meis is different. When it comes to being Osek with a Meis it is an Inyan of Kavod, of Kibbud. Kibbudim is different.

This is a Machlokes of what to learn from (ויקח משה את-עצמות יוסף). Is it the idea that it is always good to give Kibbudim to Gedolim like the Tevuos Shor holds or no, Davka by Meisim you should be Mechabeid Meisim.

Somebody once asked Rav Dovid Feinstein why he hadn't said a Hespel at the Levaya of Rav Moshe. He said because a Hespel is for the Kavod of the Meis and I am not a good speaker so that is not Kavod HaMeis. That is Kavod me. Hespelidim is Kavod HaMeis.

3 – Topic – A Kasha on the Parsha.

I don't understand. There is a Peledika Posuk 13:19 (ויקח משה את-עצמות יוסף, עמו). Moshe Rabbeinu took the bones of Yosef with him (כי השבע השביע את-בני ישראל, לאמר) because he had made Klal Yisrael take an oath saying (פקדו ופקדו אלרים אתכם, והעליתם את-עצמותי מזה אתכם). Because you made them swear, to promise and take an oath to take it. I don't understand. That is why Moshe Rabbeinu took the bones of Yosef? He made them swear? I know a lot of parents who told their children where they want to be buried and I never heard that they made them swear. They leave a Tzava'a where they want to be buried and the children go and bury them there. (ויקח משה את-עצמות יוסף, עמו). To me it should have said (ויקח משה את-עצמות יוסף, עמו) because Yosef requested it. Because Yosef made them swear, that is the reason why he did it? A Pele! (כי השבע השביע). There must be a good Teretz. Maybe we will come up with one.

With that I want to wish everybody a Gevaldige Tu Bish'vat whatever remains of it. Tu Bish'vat is Sheloshim Yom Kodem the Chag of Purim. We should Daven that Purim should be able to be an appropriate proper Purim. Why should someone get a vaccine? So that on Purim he could be Mesamaiach the way he should without any fear, without breaking any health rules. You get a

vaccine, you get a second vaccine and you will be all ready to go. I am almost ready for my second vaccine. Me and my wife. IY”H looking forward to a safe Purim B’ezras Hashem. Wishing everyone a wonderful Gevaldige Shabbos. A meaningful Tu Bish’vat, which is looking now towards a Haschala of the spring season with a renewal. The world can use it. The Tefillos should be answered. All the Cholim should be Nisrapei. HKB”H should give a Shemira Mikol Tzar and Tzukah, Mikol Nega Uma’chala here and in Eretz Yisrael. A Gutten Shabbos to one and all!

Rabbi Reisman - Parshas Beshalach 5780

1 - Topic - Does the Issur of not leaving over Man apply L'doros.

As we prepare for Shabbos Parshas Beshalach. (Ed. Note: The first part of the Shiur was not recorded so I have picked up where the recording starts. Sorry for any inconvenience). So too, we have the Man because L'asid Lavo we are going to eat Man. Question. In Hilchos Man, we have Halachos about the Man like as is found in 16:19 (אֶל-יֹתֵר מִמֶּנּוּ עַד-בֹּקֶר). Is that going to apply L'asid Lavo or not?

There is a Brisker Rav on this week's Parsha. The Brisker Rav says that the Rambam says that the Issur of (אֶל-יֹתֵר מִמֶּנּוּ עַד-בֹּקֶר) doesn't apply L'doros. Freigt the Brisker Rav, of course it doesn't apply L'doros. What is the Shaila as there is no Man L'doros? Enfert the Brisker Rav, it means that even if you will have Man the Issur of (אֶל-יֹתֵר מִמֶּנּוּ עַד-בֹּקֶר) will not apply and the proof is because Klal Yisrael ate the Man until Zayin Adar when Moshe Rabbeinu passed away. From the leftovers of the Man they ate from Zayin Adar until they went into Eretz Yisrael a month and almost a week later. Zagt the Brisker Rav how could they leave over from the Man and eat it so much longer?

Enfert the Brisker Rav, that is what the Rambam means. That it is a Halacha and it is not a Din L'doros. It was only until Moshe Rabbeinu passed away, and L'doros there is no Issur of leaving over Man. Mimeila, L'asid Lavo B'karov B'ya'mainu we are going to have Man, and on that Man there will be no Issur of (אֶל-יֹתֵר מִמֶּנּוּ עַד-בֹּקֶר). Azoi Shteit in the Rambam.

I had a Ha'ara. The day Zayin Adar when Moshe Rabbeinu died, that day until Moshe Rabbeinu died L'chora the Issur was still enforced. (אֶל-יֹתֵר מִמֶּנּוּ עַד-בֹּקֶר). Moshe Rabbeinu died at what time? Well the Gemara says that HKB”H Mema'lei Shenosav Shel Tzadikim Mi'yom L'yom Ul'sha L'sha. It sounds like Moshe Rabbeinu passed away the last hour of the day. So how could Klal Yisrael leave over Man until that time? They had a Havtacha that Moshe Rabbeinu would die and a Nevua L'ra could be Chozeir! I don't know. It sounds like they took their chances and might have left over a small amount of Man and that lasted. I don't know. Lo Basi Ela L'oreir.

2 - Topic - A thought about Refidim.

In Refidim it says Rafu Yedai'hem Milimud Hatorah as is found in the Gemara in Sanhedrin 106a (9 lines from the bottom) or Bechoros 5b (11 lines from the top). (רבי יהושע אומר שריפו עצמן מדברי). (תורה שנאמר לא הפנו אבות אל בנים מרפיון ידים). Their hands were weakened from Learning Torah.

I heard a beautiful explanation of the expression Rafu Yedai'hem, their hands were weakened. Learning Torah is not hands it is the head. What is Rafu Yedai'hem, their hands were weakened from Learning Torah?

I heard a beautiful Bi'ur based on the Netziv. The Netziv says on the Posuk in Mishlei 3:18 (עץ-חיים) (-עץ-חיים) a tree of life to those who are Machzik, those who grab onto it. (ותמכיה מאשר) (מחזיקים בה). It says that Torah is a (עץ-חיים) a tree of life to those who are Machzik, those who grab onto it. (ותמכיה מאשר) the supporters (מאשר) are blessed. Zagt the Netziv, there are two types of supporters of Torah. There are some supporters of Torah who are Tomchim. A Tomech is a supporter, he supports. What is support?

When something is going to fall you have to support it. So Torah may become weakened, a Yeshiva may not make it, so a person is a Tomech Torah. A Tomech Torah means he holds up the Torah that the Torah shouldn't fall. The Torah shouldn't Chas V'shalom be weakened. He is a Tomech Torah. (ותמכיה מאשר). However, there are others who are (מחזיקים בה). They are not saying the Torah may fall so I have to support it. They are saying, I may fall. Let me grab on to the Torah to keep me going to do the things that I have to do. That is something else. That is (מחזיקים בה). They grab on for dear life. So you see, there are two people who support Torah and they are both wonderful. Someone who supports Torah that a Yeshiva shouldn't close and there shouldn't be problems, he is wonderful. (תמכיה) he is a Tomech Torah, (מאשר) very praiseworthy.

But there is a higher level. (עץ-חיים היא, למחזיקים בה). Somebody who grabs on to Torah for dear life, because it is what he needs and without it he won't make it. When he gives money to Torah, he is not giving money to a Mosed, or a Yeshiva because he doesn't want the Yeshiva to fail. He is doing it because he doesn't want to fall.

Why do Rosh Yeshivos go to wealthy men for money? Because they are Tomchei Torah. The wealthy men should come to the Roshei Yeshivos and beg them let me give you money. Let me give you support of Torah. Let me have my Cheilek in Torah. That is the way it really should be.

I remember once that there was a Mesivta Tiferes Yerushalayim dinner in Boro Park, and Rav Pinchas Teitz was the guest speaker and of course Rav Moshe Zichrono Livracha spoke. Rav Teitz spoke and he said to the assembled it is not right. Rav Moshe has to come here? He has to travel from the east side and come here and be here for a dinner to raise money? Rav Moshe should be able to stay home and we should go to him and drop off checks in his home. That is what Rav Teitz said.

Rav Moshe got up to speak and he said I beg to differ with my good friend HaRav Pinchas Teitz. It is a Zechus to go around and raise money for Torah. It is an opportunity. It is wonderful to go around. I remember turning to one of my friends and saying usually a Machlokes between Rav Moshe and Rav Teitz I would say that Rav Moshe must be right. But this time I think that Rav Teitz is right.

You want to give to help Mosdos. Why wait until the Mosdos come to you? Go to them! If a Rosh Yeshiva calls could I come to your house, I need some help with the Yeshiva. Say what, you are going to come to my house? I will go to your house. Tomchei Torah is one thing but (מחזיקים בה), someone who grabs onto it for dear life that is (עץ-חיים היא, למחזיקים בה). It is the source of his

whole life, both Olam Hazeh and Olam Haba. Rafu Yedai'hem Milimud Hatorah. They didn't hold on for dear life to Limud Hatorah. You have to grab onto Torah for dear life as that is the way it should be.

3 - Topic - A thought on Kriyas Yam Suf.

By Kriyas Yam Suf we are told that Ra'a Shifcha Al Hayam (עֲבָדוֹ, וּבְמִשְׁפָּה, בִּירְרָר, וַיִּצְמִיגוּ). Kriyas Yam Suf was an incredible experience as it brought great Emunah to Klal Yisrael. Rav Tzaddok in Tzidkos Hatzaddik (page Chaf Vav, Siman Kuf Nun Daled) in one of his most important thoughts explains what this Emuna was.

Many Meforshim ask that Klal Yisrael believed in Moshe already in Mitzrayim. What is (וַיִּצְמִיגוּ,) (בִּירְרָר, וּבְמִשְׁפָּה, עֲבָדוֹ) that it was special here?

Zagt Rav Tzaddok that (כַּשֵּׁם שֶׁצָרִיךְ אָדָם לְהֵאֱמִין בְּהֵש"י) K'sheim She'tzorich Adam Ha'min Ba'shem Yisbarach. It is true, a person has to believe in G-d, that is the first thing. Just like a person has to believe in G-d, (כִּךְ צָרִיךְ אַחֵר כִּךְ) Kach Tzorich Achar Kach. After he accomplishes that he needs (לְהֵאֱמִין בְּעַצְמוֹ) L'hamin B'atzmo, to believe in himself. What do you mean believe in himself? (ר"ל) (שִׁישׁ לְהֵש"י עֵסֶק עִמּוֹ) Ratza Lomar She'yeish Hashem Yisborach Eisek Imo. He has to believe that G-d has an involvement and an interest with him, with each individual. (וְשִׂינְנוּ פּוֹעֵל בְּטַל...כִּי נִפְשׁוֹ) (מִמְקוֹר הַחַיִּים) Your Neshama is from the Ribbono Shel Olam Kavayochel. You have to believe in G-d and part of believing in G-d is believing in yourself.

What Rav Tzaddok means is this. If a parent goes to a graduation, there may be 30, 60 or 100 graduates. But the parent sees his child. Like there is a spotlight shining on his child. He notices his child. His child is not one of 100. His child is one of one. If a parent has twins, so he shines his eye on each of them as an individual.

By the Ribbono Shel Olam even if there are 100 or even if there are 600,000, (יֵשׁ לְהֵש"י עֵסֶק עִמּוֹ). G-d has an Eisek with each individual. That is the Emunah we need. (כִּךְ צָרִיךְ לְהֵאֱמִין בְּעַצְמוֹ שִׁישׁ) (לְהֵש"י עֵסֶק עִמּוֹ). That G-d has an individual Eisek with him. Says Rav Tzaddok, that happened at Kriyas Yam Suf.

In Kriyas Yam Suf each person saw what Yechezkel saw. Each individual saw a special connection to the Borei Olam. It was more than Mitzrayim. In Mitzrayim they believed in G-d, He helped Klal Yisrael. But the revelation that took place at Yam Suf gave each person a belief that he himself has a Cheilek Mi'yuchad, a special connection to the Borei Olam. A person has to believe in himself. A person who thinks that his Torah or his Mitzvos are one in a million, that there are a million Jews and he is one. No! He has to understand that the Borei Olam is looking at him and what he accomplishes and what he does matters. It matters if you make it to the Mishmar tonight. The Ribbono Shel Olam cares. Ai there are 100 others, it doesn't matter as the Ribbono Shel Olam is looking at you, if you are there. It matters. If a person believes in himself that he matters, then he does, then he truly does.

It is an Avodah. We live in a world of so many different people. Each person is an Olam Malei. Bishvili Nivra Ha'olam. The world was created for you. It is what you do that counts. Gevaldig!

With this I wish one and all an absolutely wonderful Shabbos Kodesh, a connection to the Borei Olam. A Gutten Shabbos to all!

Rabbi Reisman - Parshas Beshalach 5779

1 - Topic - A Kasha that has to do with Astronomy.

As we prepare for Shabbos Shirah, Shabbos Parshas Beshalach and Tu B'shvat which comes out on Monday. We all know that any time Tu B'shvat comes out on Monday or Thursday it has an extra dimension of Simcha for reasons known more to men than women in the observance of Tu B'shvat. Be that as it may, let me share with you a thought or two regarding the upcoming week.

Before I get to the Parsha, I would like to share with you an idea that undoubtedly you will be hearing about that there is a lunar eclipse that is scheduled for around midnight on Sunday night New York time. And in the event of a lunar eclipse as you know the earth comes between the moon and the sun and the shadow of the earth falls on the moon blocking it entirely when it is complete. That is the lunar eclipse which is coming up.

Now, anybody who has said Kiddush Levana should know, that we do Kiddush Levana up to half of the Hebrew month, which is until the moon is complete, and that is until half of the lunar month. On Rosh Chodesh, the moon is between the sun and the earth which is why the part of the moon that is lit up is not facing us and it is facing the sun, and the part of the moon that is facing us is dark. For 15 days the rotation of the moon brings it to a point that it is on the flipside where the earth is between the sun and the moon. That is for half of the Molad.

Kiddush Levana is something we can say for half of the Moled every month. If you look at a calendar, it will say that you can say Kiddush Levana until roughly 10:15 pm on Sunday night. The question is, 10:15 is not the eclipse?

The time of the eclipse and the time of half of the Molad should be the same. You all understand that on Rosh Chodesh the moon is between the sun and the earth. It goes in a full circle around the earth in half of its circle. It should be half of the Hebrew month, and therefore, the time of the eclipse seems to be inaccurate. It seems that either we have the Molad wrong or we have the eclipse wrong. Since we see the eclipse with our own eyes, it must be that we have the Molad wrong. What is going on? The Zmanim do not fit? It is important to know that this is not a new question. This is a Yesod, a basic idea which a person should know about the Levana, about the lunar month.

I recommend that on Shabbos you take out Rambam Hilchos Kiddush Hachodesh, the beginning of Perek Vav. Better yet, Rav Chaim Kanievsky has a Sefer called Shekel Hakodesh. In Shekel Hakodesh he has what is like a Mishna Brura on the Rambam Hilchos Kiddush Hachodesh and there you will see an explanation of the first five Halachos in the Rambam.

The Rambam there makes the point that when the Gemara says that a lunar month is 29 days 12 hours and 44 minutes. Meaning that half of a lunar month is 14 days 18 hours and 22 minutes. That number is the Molad Bainini, it is the average lunar month.

The moon actually goes in an orbit which is elliptical, which means that it is not a perfect circle. It is an ellipse, it varies. Sometimes the moon is closer and sometimes the moon is further to earth. Therefore, Halacha works with the average Molad. The real actual Molad is off by a number of hours and this case the number of hours between the lunar eclipse and the time that we end Kiddush Levana.

Now if you don't know this it would be a good question to ask people. Most people won't know what you are talking about but B'etzem it is a very good question.

Why do we use Molad Bainini? Look in Shekel Hakodesh, Rav Chaim Kanievsky, Perek Vav Halacha Hei. The Chazon Ish in his Kuntros Yud Ches Sha'os, Os Yud Bais discusses this as well. The bottom line is that we use the Molad Bainini, and therefore, the eclipse is not precise together with our Kiyum.

I should mention that this idea is mentioned by the Bais Yosef and the Darkei Moshe in Siman Taf Chav Vav, as far as what to do. It troubles them, that it is ridiculous to people. How are people supposed to understand that the end of Kiddush Levana is at one time and the eclipse is at another time. People will wonder. Whatever the Bais Yosef does to accommodate that, he doesn't change a Prat in Halacha based on that concern, but it is no problem today because today most people have no clue that there is any problem at all.

The Dor got much better in that they don't have a Kasha. But if you want to know, this is an opportunity to know and a little Nekuda, a small point in astronomy. If you have the great Zechus to have a copy of the excellent Artscroll book Pathway of the Prophets, this is discussed on page 281 - 283 and again on page 310 - 311, the ideas that I have mentioned here today. Enjoy!

2 - Topic - A Kasha that has to do with Nach.

Once I am venting about astronomy let me vent about Nach as well. In this week's Parsha Klal Yisrael passes through the Yam Suf. The Baal Haturim on 14:29 (וְהַיָּם לָהֶם חֹמָה, מִיְמִינָם וּמִשְּׂמֹאלָם) he says Choma is spelled without the Vav and means Cheima, anger. He brings what is a Medrash Tehillim Os Chaf Aleph that Pessel Micha passed with Klal Yisrael through the Yam Suf. Pessel Micha is an idol that was worshipped in Eretz Yisrael described in Shoftim Perek 17 and that Pessel, that Avodah Zora was taken out of Eretz Mitzrayim and passed through the Yam Suf.

The Medrash says on the Posuk in Daniel 9:7 (לָךְ אֲדָרִי הַצְּדָקָה). (לָךְ אֲדָרִי הַצְּדָקָה, וְלָנוּ בִּשְׁתַּת הַפְּנִיִּים) the great kindness you did by splitting the Yam Suf. (וְלָנוּ בִּשְׁתַּת הַפְּנִיִּים) and we are embarrassed because of the Pessel Micha that passed through the Yam Suf.

I think that it may even be a well-known Chazal that Pessel Micha passed through the Yam with Klal Yisrael. It is all fine provided that you are ignorant.

If you ever took the time to look in Shoftim 17 you would see that Pessel Micha, the form that constituted the Avoda Zora was actually made there in Shoftim 17, centuries later. There was no idol that passed through the Yam Suf because at that time Pessel Micha was not made. The Posuk describes what was used to be melted down to be made into a Pessel. Therefore, this is an extraordinarily difficult Kasha on the Medrash.

I would like to share with you that the GRA in Aderes Eliyahu on Parshas Ha'azinu 29:17 asks this Kasha. He is going on the Posuk (שָׂרֵשׁ פְּרִיהָ רֵאשׁ--וְלַעֲנָה). The GRA explains that sometimes people do things that create a Shoresh, that create a bad root, a bad seedling. That create a little bit of a problem which later G-d forbid sprouts into a bigger problem. Sort of like a germ. Sometimes one bad germ is enough to make a person sick, not that day but that germ multiplies, it affects the body and then Lo Aleinu it makes a person sick. So that, (שָׂרֵשׁ פְּרִיהָ רֵאשׁ--וְלַעֲנָה) he says is this concept that sometimes there are thoughts, ideas, biases which affect a person in the future and that bias already existed then. Pessel Micha She'avar Hayam. There is something wrong that passed through the Yam that was the seed of the Tzaros that came later.

The GRA brings as an example when Yaakov saw Ephraim, Nistalku Mimenu Shechina. Rashi says because of Yeravam Ben Nevat that would descend from him. Every one of the Shevatim had some descendent that was a Rasha. However, he saw the Shoresh. There was something wrong already and that is what troubled Yaakov.

We know that HKB"H's Middah Tovah is much greater than the Midda of Pur'anios and if a little seed, a thought caused Tzaros so much later, how much more so that a positive seed, something meaningful can bring Beracha so much later. Sometimes a person feels in a situation where he can't help himself. He is in a difficult situation. But his Ritzonos, his desires they count, they mean something. Eventually they will come out.

I once saw in the Netziv where it says from the Gemara in Nazir 23b (16 lines from the bottom), (לעולם יעסוק אדם בתורה ובמצות אפי' שלא לשמן שמתוך שלא לשמן בא לשמן). If you have a Ratzon to do Torah do it even Shelo Lishmah because it will eventually come to Lishmah.

Says the GRA, that it may not even happen in your lifetime, it may happen later. We learn it from Balak who brought Korbanos Shelo Lishmah and it came out from that, Rus was a descendent. (שמתוך שלא לשמן בא לשמן) so much later. You can have a Shoresh that is (פְּרִיהָ רֵאשׁ--וְלַעֲנָה) or you can be a Shoresh L'tov. Therefore, the Ritzonos a person has, the Teshukos that a person has, and the seeds that a person plants are meaningful going into the future.

3 - Topic - Another Kasha.

We have a Minhag brought in the Rama in Siman Reish Mem Bais, to eat Shabbos food Zeicher to the Mon. The Mon is of course in this week's Parsha and as you know was covered on top and on bottom with a layer of Tal, a layer of dew. So the Rama says that we have a Minhag to eat a food that has a layer on the top and bottom which was called Pashtita. We don't eat Pashtita but we do eat Kugel which has a layer on top and a layer on bottom and that is Zeicher L'mon.

The Kasha I would like to ask you is the following. The Mon came down for six days and did not come down on Shabbos. If we are doing something Zeicher L'mon it would seem to make sense to eat Kugel for six days and to stop on Shabbos Zeicher L'mon. Isn't it strange that we Dafka eat Kugel on Shabbos when there was no Mon, Zeicher L'mon? That is Zeicher L'shabbos why is that Zeicher L'mon? Great Kasha!

My time for now is up for this Shiur. I refer you to the Bi'ur Halacha at the end of Siman Reish Mem Bais who actually brings two answers to this question. You wouldn't expect this question in the Bi'ur Halacha would you? With that I wish everybody an absolutely wonderful meaningful Shabbos. A Gutten Shabbos to one and all!

Rabbi Reisman - Parshas Beshalach 5778

1 - Topic - Rav Druk on giving proper honor.

As we prepare for Shabbos Shirah, Shabbos Parshas Beshalach and with that I would like to share with you a couple of thoughts on the Parsha. Rav Druk in his Sefer Darash Mordechai (starts on page 119 for a few pages) makes a very powerful point here in this week's Parsha. He does so without any Lomdus. No Kashas no Teirutzim, just by quoting a few Divrei Chazal one after the other.

The Avos D'rav Nosson Perek 27 Darshuns the Posuk that can be found in Shmuel I 2:30 (כִּי-מִכְבְּדִי אֶת-הַשֵּׁם) Hashem says that those that respect me I will show respect to. Zeh Pharoh Melech Mitzrayim She'nahag Kavod Lifnei Mi She'amar V'haya Ha'olam. He showed respect to HKB"H. Now let's think a minute, when did he show respect to Hashem? Get ready.

Zagt the Avos D'rav Nosson in this week's Parsha when he chased the Yidden who had left Mitzrayim, Pharoh was leading the charge of the army. Which as you know was something that was not normally done by the Goyim. He said why does Pharoh lead the army?

He said, I am going to fight with G-d and therefore, I should show respect and go to the front of the army. Davra Pele! Think about it for a minute. Mamash a Davar Pele. That is the Kavod that he showed Hashem, that he went to do battle with him so he went in the front of the army? Incredible! That is one Chazal.

Another Chazal in the Medrash Tanchuma at the beginning of the Parsha. 13:17 (וַיְהִי, בְּשִׁלַּח פָּרְעֹה) The Medrash Tanchuma says Beshalach is a Lashon of being Melave, of accompanying someone. When someone leaves your house you are supposed to be Melave them, you are supposed to accompany him. The Medrash brings that (וְאֶבְרָהִם--הֵלֵךְ עִמָּם, לְשִׁלְחָם) or (וַיֵּלְכוּ מֵאִתּוֹ) (בְּשִׁלְחָם). Pesukim we had in Perek 18:16 and 26:31 of Beraishis which the Medrash says that Avraham was Melave them and Yitzchok was Melave them.

Zagt the Medrash Tanchuma, the mouth of Pharoh that said I won't send the Jews out and now said I will send them out and I will walk them out, there was Schar for it as it says in Devarim 23:8 (לֹא-תִתְעַב מִצְרִי).

One minute. Why was Pharaoh walking the Jewish people out of Mitzrayim? He wanted to make sure that they left and got out. The Mitzrim were chasing Klal Yisrael out after Makkas Bechoros. For that he got Schar? That is a second Medrash Pliya.

Rav Druk brings a third Medrash. 13:17 (וְלֹא-נָחַם אֱלֹהִים דָּרָךְ אֶרֶץ פְּלִשְׁתִּים, כִּי קָרוֹב הוּא). It says at the beginning of the Parsha that Hashem did not take the Jews through the Eretz Pelishtim which is closer to Canaan. Darshuns the Medrash, that Karov, it was close in time to the Chesed that the Canaanim had done with Yaakov Avinu in Beraishis 50:11. What did they do? (וַיֵּרָא יוֹשֵׁב הָאֶרֶץ) (הַכֹּנְעַנִי אֶת-הָאֶבְלָה). When they saw the Aveilos of Yaakov they were Melave Yaakov at his Levaya. A Pele!

Such Schar that the Yidden had to go in a roundabout way in the Midbar because they showed Kavod to Yaakov. The similar thing in all three of these Midrashim is that for showing Kavod they got extraordinary Schar. Even under the most unusual circumstances (כִּי-מִכְבֹּדִי אֶכְבֹּד) someone who shows respect for what is important that is something else you have to understand, that even if a person doesn't live up to all the things that he is supposed to do, but if he shows respect for what is important, he shows that he has the right values, the right sense of where he should be, he may not be there, but you show where you should be. We live in a generation that doesn't show Kavod. We are not Kavod oriented, at least when it comes to giving Kavod, and yet it is an extraordinary thing that HKB"H is Machshiv the Kavod.

Of course Rav Druk brings the Medrash about Nevuchadnetzar in the Gemara Sanhedrin 96a that in the Schar of the 4 Pesios that Nevuchadnetzar walked in the honor of Hashem he was Zoche that he had tremendous Zechusim that allowed him to destroy the Bais Hamikdash.

The Mishnah Brura in Siman 123:2 says the steps that we take after Shemoneh Esrei are to be Mechapeir for the steps that Nevuchadnetzar had taken in honor of Hashem. When we step out of Shemoneh Esrei do we do that like we are showing Kavod to Hashem or do we step out like bang, bang, bang we just got to get out of there quickly. No! Step out of Shemoneh Esrei K'ilui we are stepping out from before HKB"H to show Kavod. Showing Kavod is meaningful. That is thought # 1 for this week's Parsha.

2 - Topic - The meaning of Yedidim, of someone who is really a friend.

By Kriyas Yam Suf we find the expression Yedidim mentioned many times in the Siddur. (יְדִידִים) (וְנִתְּנוּ יְדִידִים זְמִירוֹת שִׁירוֹת וְתִשְׁבְּחוּת). HKB"H your friends you took through the Yam Suf. (הַעֲבַרְתָּ). The Jews who walked through are called Yedidim. In Maseches Sotah 37a (16 lines from the top) it says there a Lashon of Yedid for the Yidden going through the Yam Suf. It says, HKB"H said to Moshe Rabbeinu (יְדִידֵי טוֹבַעִים בַּיָּם וְאַתָּה מֵאֲרִיךְ בַּתְּפִלָּה). My good friends, my beloved are drowning in the Yam and you are Ma'arich B'tefilla? The word Yedid is found here numerous times. Why is the word Yedid used for those who passed through the Yam Suf? It needs an explanation.

The Gemara in Maseches Kesuvos 5a (starting 10 lines from the bottom) says (מִקְדָּשׁ אֲדָרִי כּוֹנֵנוּ) (יְדִיד). The Posuk from this week's Parsha. The Gemara says on that Posuk that (גְּדוּלִים מַעֲשֵׂה צְדִיקִים) (וְיִתֵּר מִמַּעֲשֵׂה שָׁמַיִם וְאֶרֶץ). The Bais Hamikdash made by Tzadikim is greater than creation of

heaven and earth. (דאילו במעשה שמים וארץ כתיב אף ידי יסדה ארץ וימיני טפחה שמים). When it comes to creating heaven and earth it says Lashon Yachid my right hand created. (ואילו במעשה ידיהם של). (צדיקים כתיב מכון לשבתך פעלת ר' מקדש אדרי כוננו ידיך). Lashon Rabbim with Hashem's two hands. The Bais Hamikdash was two hands and Maiseh Beraishis is one hand so we are bigger. What is the significance?

The Maharsha says that Hashem's right hand represents Rachamim. HKB"H's left hand represents Din. Tzadikkim are able to cause HKB"H Kavayochel to use his left hand with his right hand. Normally Rachamim Hashem does so to speak with his right hand but (מקדש אדרי כוננו). Tzadikkim have the ability Zagt the Maharsha to make the left hand go along with the right hand. The hand of Din go along with the right hand.

This idea, this message, is also found in Rashi on the Posuk 15:6 (נאָדָרִי בַכֶּח; יְמִינָה יְרֹר, יְמִינָה יְרֹר) (תַּרְעֵץ אוֹיֵב). It says the word (יְמִינָה) two times. Zagt Rashi (שתי פעמים) it says twice. (כשישראל עושין). (את רצונו של מקום השמאל נעשית ימין). When Klal Yisrael went to the Yam Suf they were Zoche to the left hand of Din was made into a right hand. Rashi in this week's Parsha. So we have (מקדש אדרי) (כוננו ידיך) and (יְמִינָה) to be Merameiz to the double Yad. The two (ימין) of Yeminim Shel Rachamim.

Perhaps this is Mirumaz (I must have seen this somewhere), in the word Yedid. Yedid is when you like someone so much that Yad and Yad, the tendency to be kind and the tendency to discipline they come together. They are both one. Yedid, he is such a good friend that there is no distance. The right and left hand. Normally the right hand draws close and the left hand pushes away. Yemin Mekareiv and Smol is Doche. But a Yedid is someone who is so beloved that you are totally Mekareiv. Beautiful Remez in the word Yedid and its connection to the Yam Suf is quite clear.

The only thing that I am left hanging with and I would like to figure out is that the word Yedid appears in the Chumash once in Parshas Zos Hab'racha and there it is saying as can be found in 33:12 (לְבִנְיָמִן אָמַר--יְדִיד יְרֹר, יִשְׁכֵּן לְקִטָּח עֲלִיו). What is the Yedid that it has to do with Binyamin in the one place that the word Yedid appears?

Rashi says in Parshas Zos Hab'racha that Binyamin is mentioned there because the Bais Hamikdash was located in his Cheilek, at least part of the Bais Hamikdash was in his Cheilek as Rashi brings in Parshas Zos Hab'racha. So (מקדש אדרי כוננו ידיך). The Bais Hamikdash is the place of the Yad and the Yad and maybe that is why Binyamin there is referred to having a level of Yedid. So we have one thought regarding Kavod, giving proper honor. One thought Legabei the meaning of Yedidim of someone who is really a friend.

3 - Topic - How much should we eat each day? Ask the Manufacturer!

I would like to end with a technical question. In this week's Parsha we have the falling of the Man. The Posuk tells us in (וְהָעֶמֶר, עֲשֵׂרִית הָאֵיפָה הוּא). The Omer is a 1/10th of an Eifa. The Gemara in Maseches Eiruvim 83a (bottom of the Amud and turn onto 83b) says that is the Shiur of dough (flour) for Challah, 43 and 1/5th eggs is the (עֲשֵׂרִית הָאֵיפָה). That is how much Man fell for each family. How do we know that it is the Shiur Challah? Because it says in Bamidbar (ראשית) (עריסותיכם). The first of your dough. Therefore, that is 43 and 1/5th Bai'im.

The Gemara says in Maseches Eiruvim (מכאן אמרו). From here we say, (האוכל כמדה זו) someone who eats this amount daily (ה"ז בריא ומבורך) he will be healthy and blessed. (יתר על כן רעבתן) More than this you are not eating properly. You are eating too much. (פחות מכאן מקולקל במעיו). If you eat less you will have a weak stomach. The right Shiur to eat a day is 43 and 1/5th Bai'im.

I want to tell you that when you get an object, a machine, and you want to know what to do to maintain it you go to the manufacturer. Recently Dr. Harvey a good friend of mine pointed out to me that Chazal say that the liver can function and regenerate if there is the size of an olive (Kezayis) remaining. He asked me how did they know this? Did they do autopsy's, did they take living people and cut them up and see how big the liver is and then sew them up and then keep on doing it? How could Chazal have known?

He said, obviously Chazal knew from the manufacturer, HKB"H told them that the liver can function if it has the size of a Kezayis. Similarly, if you want to know what is good for the body go to the manufacturer. How much should you eat a day and how much is too much and how much is too little. We have here B'feirush the Man tells us 43 and 1/5th Bai'im, the volume of 2.5 to 5 pounds of bread or of food, that is the normal volume of food for a person to eat. I think that that is quite generous. The Gemara seems to say that is what is healthy.

I have a Kasha. The Gemara in Maseches Kesuvos 64b (at the Mishnah) says the Shiur Mezonos that a man is obligated to give as his Chiyuv Mezonos to a woman. How much does he have to give? The Gemara says two Kav Chittim L'shavua. A certain measure of wheat per week. A Kav is 24 Bai'im and two Kav is 48 Bai'im. There it says 48 Bai'im for 14 meals for a woman. Tzorech Iyun because we are saying 43 Bai'im is daily and there it says 48 for a week?

Halo Davara Hu! What does the manufacturer say, how much should we be eating? Should we be eating 48 Bai'im, meaning 14 meals a week which would come out to roughly close to 4 Bai'im of bread a day per meal or 43 and a fifth which comes out to 21 or 22 Bai'im per meal. A tremendous difference. Is it a Stira? This needs an explanation.

The Node B'yehuda in Cheilek Kamma in Orach Chaim 37, 38 mentions this but it needs a Teretz because the discrepancy is just too great. 43 1/5th Bai'im of food per day sounds like a lot to me. Maybe Shabbos or when you go to Chassunahs, but the volume of 43 eggs to eat per day, I don't know. Sounds like much. Tzaroch Iyun Gadol. It can't be that in the Midbar they ate more than people normally eat. Maybe for next year we will have a Teretz.

I wish one and all an absolutely wonderful, meaningful Shabbos that is full of Torah and Maisim Tovim. Kol Yuv!

Rabbi Reisman - Parshas Beshalach - Shabbos Shirah - Tu Bish'vat 5777

1 - Topic - Kasha on Klal Yisroel regarding Mitzrim running after them.

We welcome Tu Bish'vat and the spring feeling with a snow storm here in NY. Let me start with a Kasha I had when I was Mavir Sedra. I have been Mavir Sedra this Parsha so many times and I don't know why I did not Chap the following question.

We find that the Mitzrim run after Klal Yisroel and the Mitzrim. What does Klal Yisroel say? As it says in 14:11 (וַיֹּאמְרוּ, אֵל-מֹשֶׁה, הַמְבִלִי אֵין-קָבְרִים בְּמִצְרַיִם, לְקַחְתָּנוּ לְמוֹת בַּמִּדְבָּר). Are there no Kevarim in Mitzrayim that you took us to die in the Midbar? I don't understand. Who is talking about being killed? The Mitzrim said as is found in 14:5 (וַיֹּאמְרוּ מֶה-זֹּאת עָשִׂינוּ, כִּי-שָׁלַחְנוּ אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל מִצְרָאֵל מְעַבְדָּנוּ). What have we done that we have allowed the Jews to stop working for us. They weren't coming after Klal Yisrael to kill Klal Yisroel. They were running after Klal Yisroel in order to bring them back to be Avadim. So why are you complaining to Moshe (לְמוֹת בַּמִּדְבָּר) to die in the Midbar? Who is talking about killing them? What is Pshat? This needs an explanation.

2. Topic - A thought about Zeh Keili V'anveihu - (זֶה קְלִי וְאֲנִי הוּא).

We have in this week's Parsha (Perek Tes Vav) the Shiras Hayam, the Mekor for the Minhag of Hiddur Mitzvah, of being Mehadeir when you are doing a Mitzvah. Zeh Keili V'anveihu - this is my G-d and I will beautify him.

In the Sefer V'harev Na from Rav Zilberstein, who never fails to bring fascinating stories to bring out Halacha, he brings the following Maaseh that he says happened. Someone donated a Sefer Torah to a Shul. However, the Gabbaim saw that the Sefer Torah was not Mehudar, it was not really a Mehudar beautiful Sefer Torah. It was Kosher but not as beautiful as the ones they had. Therefore, the Gabbaim decided that they were not going to use the Sefer Torah and they will use the more Mehudardika Sifrei Torah. Just because someone donates a Sefer Torah doesn't obligate you to use it. The owner of the Sefer Torah was very upset. Here he gave a Sefer Torah and it is not being used. He hit upon a plan. He went into Shul one night, took the Mantel (cover) off of the Mehudar Sefer Torah and took the Mantel off of his Sefer Torah and switched them.

When they did Pesicha that Shabbos, they thought that they were taking out the Mehudar Sefer Torah but underneath the Mantel it was really his Sefer Torah. When they opened the Sefer Torah they realized and the Gabbai was extremely upset. He put the Sefer Torah back and took out the Mehudar Sefer Torah. The question that was asked is was it the right thing to do or not.

In his answer, Rav Zilberstein deals not with the question of whether or not he should put back the Sefer Torah that was taken out which is certainly wrong, but the question of whether it is right to not use a Sefer Torah because it is not Mehudar.

He brings a Teshuva Marsham, Cheilek 6, Teshuva 3 which says a rule that you don't do a Hiddur Mitzvah by being Mevazeh other Mitzvos. Meaning if you have a Sefer Torah in the Aron that is never used, if Halachically it is a Shaila then Takeh you don't use it. But just because it is not so

beautiful, it is wrong. They should use every Sefer Torah at least occasionally. Therefore, they were wrong in their behavior, they were wrong by putting back the Sefer Torah. That is his Psak.

I have a Ha'ora on this. Rav Zilberstein is the son in law of Rav Elyashiv, the Gadol Hador and he quotes him extensively. I have a big Kasha. In Rav Elyashiv's Kovetz Teshuvos he writes the following Chiddush. He was asked is there a Hiddur in Laining from a more beautiful Sefer Torah. Again, both are Kosher L'chal Hashittos. But one is a more beautiful writing, more experienced Sofer, the letters and the lines are neater. Is there an Inyan?

Rav Elyashiv there says a Chiddush. Rav Elyashiv says that Laining is a Mitzvah of Limud Hatorah, of learning. The Sefer Torah is only the Hechsher Mitzvah. The Mitzvah is the learning that comes from the Laining. You have to have a Sefer Torah so you have a Sefer Torah. It is only the Hechsher Mitzvah not the Guf Hamitzvah. Zagt Rav Elyashiv, there is absolutely no difference if it is a more beautiful Ksav or a less beautiful Ksav. The learning is exactly the same.

Ai, you will ask a Kasha. Zeh Keili V'anveihu it says should be a Sefer Torah Na, to have a beautiful Sefer Torah. Zagt Rav Elyashiv, that is for the Mitzvah of Kesivas Sefer Torah. There the Sefer Torah is the Cheftza Shel Mitzvah, the Mitzvah to write a Sefer Torah and Mehudar is better. As far as Kriyas Hatorah is concerned Zagt Rav Elyashiv, they are all the same.

I don't know why Rav Zilberstein doesn't quote his Shver, maybe he had a Kasha on his Shver, maybe he had some other reason, some other Cheshbon. But that is Rav Elyashiv's Teshuva and it is a Mussar that when you listen to Kriyas Hatorah it is Limud Hatorah and you are supposed to be paying attention.

We had a Shaila in Shul. Somebody gave a small Sefer Torah. A beautiful Sefer Torah but a small one. It is very handy for using in a Bais Aveil or when someone has to be on the move. It is a beautiful Ksav but a very small Sefer. Absolutely beautiful Sefer Torah. To put it in the Aron, it wasn't practical to put it in front, so what was done is that in the second row (we have two rows of Sifrei Torah), a little stage was built up and on top of that is the small Sefer Torah. Now, in order to get to the small Sefer Torah if you want to Lain from it, we have to put your hands over the Sefer Torah which is in front of it, in the back there are 3 Sifrei Torah and in front there are 3 Sifrei Torah. The small Sefer Torah is one of those in back. So you have to stick your hand over the regular size Sifrei Torah to reach the small one. The Shaila is, is it Muttar as Ain Mavirin Al Hamitzvos. You are not supposed to pass over a Mitzvah. When you take out the Tallis your Tallis should be first in your bag. You don't pass the Tefillin to take your Tallis as Ain Mavirin Al Hamitzvos. The question is how do we have a right to take out the small Sefer Torah if we have to pass over the big Sefer Torah. On a Shabbos that we are Laining with 2 Sifrei Torah then I understand. You take out one in front and then the one in back. Otherwise, Ain Mavirin Al Hamitzvos.

Based on Rav Elyashiv's Psak I said that it is ok. Ain Mavirin Al Hamitzvos is usually found by a Guf Hamitzvah not by the Hechsher Mitzvah. To pass over a Hechsher Mitzvah to get to another Hechsher Mitzvah, you will not find certainly in Kadmonim, Gemaras or in Rishonim that there is an Issur of Ain Mavirin Al Hamitzvos. If you want to get a hammer to hang up your Mezuzah there is no Issur to pass one hammer to get to a second hammer because a hammer is not the

Cheftza Shel Mitzvah. Mimeila, based on Rav Elyashiv's Psak that the Sefer Torah is only the Hechsher Mitzvah it should be Muttar to pass over one to get to the other. This is a topic of Sifrei Torah that I wanted to share with you today.

3 - Topic - Simcha of Tu Bish'vat

The Simcha of Tu Bish'vat which this year has an extra Simcha because it comes out on Shabbos we don't have to lose a Tachanun to observe Tu Bish'vat. Normally we have to give up saying Tachanun and now we don't because it is Chal on Shabbos. What is the special uniqueness, significance of Tu Bish'vat?

Of course it is that Tu Bish'vat is the Rosh Hashana of the Ilanos and there is a second Chashivos. Tu Bish'vat marks Sheloshim Yom Kodem Hachag, 30 days before Purim and we start thinking about Purim. I would like to share with you a quick Dvar Halacha because I started to study the Megillah and I never before spent time on the Dikduk of the Megillah and I figured let me do it this year.

I know that Dikduk is not your favorite topic, so therefore, I want to mention only the first Posuk. In the first Posuk of the Megillah there are two words which if mispronounced change the meaning of the word. So if you Lain the Megillah or if you listen to the Laining of the Megillah, listen carefully.

The first Posuk talks about (וַיְהִי, בַּיּוֹם אֲחַשְׁוֵירוֹשׁ: הוּא אֲחַשְׁוֵירוֹשׁ, הַמֶּלֶךְ מְהֻדָּה וְעַד-כּוֹשׁ) Achashveirosh Hamoleich Mai'vodu V'ad Kush. Hamoleich means he is a king. The Moleich is an Avoda Zorah. If you say it as an Avoda Zorah then it is an Avoda Zorah and if you say it as a king then it is a king. He rules. Be careful on the Mil'ail and the Mil'ra.

The same thing with (מְהֻדָּה וְעַד-כּוֹשׁ) Mai'vodu V'ad Kush. Hodu Mil'ail with the accent on the Hei and Vav is the name of a place. Hodu with the accent at the end of the word means praise as we say (הוֹדוּ לַר' קְרָאוּ בְשֵׁמוֹ. הוֹדִיעוּ בְעַמִּים עֲלֵילוֹתָיו). You say HOdu or hoDU. Hamoleich and Hodu have to be pronounced correctly and there are many other words like that in the Megillah and we will talk about it a different time. At least in the first Posuk please make sure to get it right and do the Mil'ail and the Mil'ra correctly. And so, as we prepare for Tu Bish'vat and Purim and dig out from the snow I wish everybody a wonderful Shabbos, a Tu Bish'vat of growth and Shabbos Shirah, a time of song to the Ribbono Shel Olam. A Gutten Shabbos to all!

Rabbi Reisman - Parshas Beshalach 5776

As we prepare for Shabbos Parshas Beshalach, Shabbos Shira, a very special Shabbos indeed at least according to the weathermen with this week's forecast. Before I begin, I want to mention that if we are Zoche to have a snowstorm this coming week, it is an opportunity for working people who don't have to go to work because of the snow storm to be in the local Batei Midrashim, to make the most of it. HKB"H makes snowstorms to give people the opportunity to serve him better. Make the most of it.

1. At the end of the Shira we have a Posuk in 15:17 (מקדש, אָרִי כּוֹנְנֵי יָדָיָהּ). We have a reference to (מְכוּן לְשִׁבְתָּהּ פְּעֻלָּתָהּ, יָרוּר). We refer to the Beis Hamikdash that HKB"H Kavayochel prepares with his two hands. Rashi here says something which is in the mysterious language of Drasha. Rashi says the following (חָבִיב בֵּית הַמִּקְדָּשׁ, שֶׁהָעוֹלָם נִבְרָא בְיַד אַחַת) that Hashem created the world with one hand (שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר אִף יְדֵי יִסְדָּה אֶרֶץ וּמִקְדָּשׁ בְּשֵׁנֵי יָדַיִם) and the Beis Hamikdash with two hands as it says (יָדָיָהּ). (מקדש, אָרִי כּוֹנְנֵי יָדָיָהּ). is Lashon Rabbim.

Rashi adds (וְאִימָתֵי יִבְנֶה בְּשֵׁנֵי יָדַיִם, בְּזִמְנֵי שֶׁהָיָה יִמְלֹךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד, לְעֵתִיד לְבָא). Even though the Posuk says (מקדש, אָרִי כּוֹנְנֵי יָדָיָהּ) I might think that it means the first or second Bais Hamikdash, Rashi says no, the third Beis Hamikdash will be built with Hashem's two hands. Yasherkoach! Olam Hazeh is built with one hand and the third Beis Hamikdash in Yemos Hamoshiach will be built with two hands. We really don't understand the hints, the Remazim, the importance. If it is built well who cares if it is built with one hand or with two hands, L'mai Nafka Mina.

I saw a beautiful Pshat in the Matamei Mordechai who adds a Drush to this Drush and gives this Pshat. One Drush and another Drush to give Pshat, let's see. He says let another Rashi in this Parsha come and explain this Rashi. He is referring to the final Rashi in this week's Parsha. At the end of this week's Parsha we have the Parsha of Amaleik and there the Posuk says in 17:16 (וַיֵּאמֶר, כִּי-יָדָי (עַל-כֵּס־קֹה, מִלְחָמָה לִיהוָה, בְּעֶמְלֵק--מִדֶּר, דֶּר לְכָל דּוֹר). The hand is on G-d's seat, and the battle with Amaleik for all generations. What in the world does that mean the hand?

Rashi says on (כִּי-יָדָי עַל-כֵּס־קֹה) that (יְדוֹ שֶׁל הַקַּב"ה הוֹרְמָה), G-d's hand is raised up (לִישְׁבַע בְּכֶסֶד) to swear by his Kisai Hakavod (לְהִיוֹת לוֹ מִלְחָמָה וְאִיבָה בְּעַמְלֵק עוֹלָמִית). So that, Rashi says that in the language of Drasha of the Posuk, HKB"H has one hand Kavayochel occupied, it is busy with his Milchama (בְּעֶמְלֵק--מִדֶּר, דֶּר).

Now we understand the other Rashi. The other Rashi says that in Olam Hazeh Hashem builds things with one hand and the Mikdash Hashem in Yemos Hamashiach will be built with two hands. We don't understand the significance. The answer is, two hands represent doing something completely. Things are incomplete in this world as long as the power of Amaleik still exists, as long as the evil of Amaleik still exists. As long as that exists, Kavayochel one of Hashem's hands is occupied and busy with ridding the world of Ra. L'asid Lavo, when Amaleik will be destroyed, Kavayochel the Ribbono Shel Olam will do things with two hands. And so, an important Limud, an important idea, an understanding that as long as one is busy fighting Ra, the ability to do Tov is somewhat limited. It is only the Netzachim against the Ra, the ultimate Netzachim is best, which allows the Tov to be done completely. A beautiful insight!

2. For my second offering for this Erev Parshas Beshalach I would like to try something different. I would like to explain something technical rather than a Vertel. What I mean is this. I told my class the other week that the Jews never crossed the Yam Suf into Eretz Yisrael. It is not true. It never happened. Klal Yisrael did not cross the Yam Suf in Mitzrayim into Eretz Yisrael. Even though there are drawings and pictures about it. What do I mean?

The Gemara says in Maseches Eirachin 15 that Klal Yisrael went into the Yam Suf in the form of a semi-circle. They came up on the same banks as they had left. It was further downstream, but they entered the Yam Suf and traveled in a semi-circle. They came up on the same banks of the

Yam Suf from which they had left. If you take any of the Gemaras that there are today, the Artscroll Gemara for example, you see a drawing of a semi-circle. There are actually 12 semi-circles because there were 12 paths. They all end up on the same bank of the river from which the Jewish people left.

The mystery is why would anybody travel the Yam Suf in a semi-circle and come back on the Yam Suf on the same side from which they had left? Halo Davar Pele Hu Zeh! To answer that I would like to explain the journey of Klal Yisrael, where they were in Mitzrayim in Goshen, and what took place.

Those of you who are fortunate enough to attend the Navi Shiur this past Motzoei Shabbos will have seen a map of Mitzrayim. We gave out a compendium of four maps, three of Eretz Yisrael and one of Egypt. We were not talking about Kriyas Yam Suf as we were addressing the southern border of Eretz Yisrael and what is important for today's discussion is the following fact. You have to imagine a map of Egypt below Eretz Yisrael and the Mediterranean Sea is the coast which extends the whole Eretz Yisrael and down to Mitzrayim. Goshen was a port city, a city on the coast of the Mediterranean in northern Egypt.

How do I know this? For one, you can look at Derech Emunah, Rav Chaim Kanievsky's Sefer on Hilchos Terumos in the third volume Perek Aleph and the Shaar Hatzion in Kuf Samech. He makes the point for various reasons that Goshen was a city on the coast of the Mediterranean. There is a Raya to this from the Targum Yonason on Ramseis in 1:11 in Shemos, the Targum says for Ramseis Pulusu. The city of Pelusi is known today and it is there. It is where the Nile hits the Mediterranean and therefore, it is safe to say that Goshen is on the coast of the Mediterranean and I brought last week from one of the Talmidai HaGra who drew a map along those lines. So given, Goshen is on the Mediterranean coast.

To travel from Egypt to Israel today you have to cross water but that is only because the Suez Canal was dug. For the rest of the history of the world including the time that Klal Yisrael left Mitzrayim, it was an over land trip. You are not going to cross any body of water. If you were in Goshen you just traveled along the Mediterranean coast and came to Eretz Yisrael without crossing any water.

13:17 (ולא-נָהַם אֱלֹרִים דְּרָדָה אֶרֶץ פְּלִשְׁתִּים, פִּי קְרוֹב הוּא). Klal Yisrael traveled from Goshen into the Sinai desert without crossing any water. The simplest way to get to Eretz Yisrael was to travel along the Mediterranean coast all the way up to Eretz Yisrael. The Posuk says (ולא-נָהַם אֱלֹרִים דְּרָדָה אֶרֶץ פְּלִשְׁתִּים). The Pelishtim are the cities of Ashkelon, Gass and Azza. These are cities on the Mediterranean coast. So the Ribboono Shel Olam said no, you are not traveling along the Mediterranean. You will cross the Sinai, go to Har Sinai and from there to Eiver Hayardein. The trip is across the Sinai desert.

Klal Yisrael is already on the other side of Yam Suf, they are already in the Sinai desert and they are traveling across the desert on your map from left to right which is west to east. The Mitzrim chased them and cornered them against the Yam Suf. They are on the Eretz Yisrael side of the Yam Suf. When Mitzrayim chased them they had already traveled to a place where south of them was the Yam Suf. The Mitzrim went on the same path and cornered Klal Yisrael against the Yam

Suf. Therefore, when Klal Yisrael entered the Yam Suf they weren't interested in going back to the Egyptian side of the Yam Suf. They entered the Yam Suf and traveled the way HKB"H split the Yam Suf, in a semi-circle and came out on the other side of this semi-circle road which was on the same bank of the Yam Suf which they had entered. This is what the Gemara means there in Maseches Eiruchin 15a.

I have seen a map depicting this in The Living Torah in Rabbi Aryeh Kaplan's translation of the Chumash and there he has a map which shows exactly what I have explained to you today and to anyone who learns the Gemara and thinks of it this is the Pshat in the Gemara. And so, I hate to bust the bubble of many elementary school teachers, but those who claim that Klal Yisrael crossed the Yam Suf into Eretz Yisrael are sorely mistaken. They did not. And so, this is the way Klal Yisrael went into the Yam Suf and came back on the same side.

Let me add to this piece of information a beautiful thought. When you draw a semi-circle and you draw another one in it and a third one in that and a fourth and a fifth and a sixth, you end up with 12 semi-circles and you understand that the inner one is a smaller trip than the outer one. This is because any circle drawn within another circle looks smaller than the outer one. So 12 in a row, the innermost one is the smallest.

I saw a Vertel on (וקשין לזווגן כקריעת ים סוף). Zevugim is hard as Kriyas Yam Suf is hard. When a person starts to date and to be busy with Zivugim he doesn't know if it is going to be a long trip or if it will be a short trip. There are some circles that are short, some circles that are long. A person who starts the dating career doesn't know how long his trip will be, is sort of entering a tunnel you were never in before. You don't know where it ends. It is very much like a tunnel. The idea is to come out in a state that is at least as good as you went in. To be able to come out singing Shira to Hashem whether you are in a long tunnel or a short tunnel. It is a big Nisayon. Those who have to travel the long way find it difficult, it is frustrating, but it is all the trip of Kriyas Yam Suf. It's all HKB"H's trip, he lets some in one semi-circle and some in another. Kach Hi Darko Shel Olam. Each person has his test. The idea is to see yourself as traveling in HKB"H's road.

A semi-circle? I would think that the Mashul of dating should be something which is like climbing a mountain or going straight forward. It is a semi-circle, it is a challenge. A challenge to come back to where you were further upstream with the enthusiasm, with the energy with which a person began.

And so, today I have tried to portray for you verbally what I can't do visually. But if you get a hold of a map, find someone who was there on Motzoei Shabbos and get a hold of a map, it will help you understand the traveling of Klal Yisrael in the Midbar, the fact that the Jews did not build the pyramids which are far away from Goshen and the idea that Rav Chaim Kanievsky is trying to explain, how Eretz Yisrael along the Mediterranean can extend as far as Goshen. Could it be? It sounds absurd! And yet that is what Rav Chaim is talking about.

And so with these two Divrei Torah I wish everybody a wonderful Shabbos and I hope you will join in our Tefillos for our Rosh Yeshiva Rav Belsky, Rav Chaim Yisrael Ben Chana Tzirel. He should have a Refuah Sh'leima. He is going through a very difficult time now. A difficult and dangerous period. Tefillos are needed. We Daven to the Ribbono Shel Olam, please HKB"H bring

back our Rabbi our Rosh Yeshiva with a Refuah Sh'leimah B'karov. A Gutten Shabbos to one and all!

Rabbi Reisman - Parshas Beshalach 5775

1. I would like to share with you a number of thoughts regarding this week's Parsha all of them related to Az Yashir (to the Shirah). Let me begin with Az Yashir. Rav Gedalya Shorr in the Ohr Gedalyahu has a Yesod which I may have mentioned in previous years, regarding Az Yashir being Lashon Asidus. He makes the comment that the letter Yud with which Yashir begins is a Siman of future. Yud symbolizes the future. For example, if you have a word in Lashon Kodesh like Asa he did, or Amar he said that is past tense. If you put a Yud at the beginning of the word it becomes Ya'ase or Yomar. It switches from past tense to future tense based on the Yud. Az Yashir Moshe is the idea and lesson from that Os of the Yud that it is added to show future tense. That itself seems to be a basic idea in Dikduk rather than a Mussar Vort. I would like to try to drive home the idea and the importance of the Yud and for that I would like to share with you what appears at first glance a Vertel, a cute Vort and we will see that it is actually an important Yesod.

This Vertel comes from the Sefer Megale Amukos on Parshas Toldos on the Posuk that is found in 25:26 (וַאֲחֵרֵי-כֵן יָצָא אֶחָיו). There it says (וַיִּקְרָא שְׁמוֹ, יַעֲקֹב). After Yaakov was born his name was Yaakov. Rashi says who called him Yaakov? HKB"H. Hashem gave him the name Yaakov. Why Yaakov? The Posuk says because (וַיִּדּוֹ אֶחָזֶז בְּעֵקֶב עֵשָׂו). His hand was holding the heel of Eisav so he was called Yaakov. You will notice that there is an extra Yud. Eikev is the heel so his name should have been Eikev. Yaakov means that there is an extra Yud in Yaakov. Where did that Yud come from?

Says the Megale Amukos, Eisav was called Eisav. Why? Rashi says (לפי שהיה נעשה ונגמר בשעריו כבן (שנים הרבה)). He was born complete. He had hair like someone much older. One minute. If he is called Eisav because he was already formed then his name should have been spelled Ayin, Sin, Vav, Yud (עשוי). So just like Yaakov gained a Yud Eisav lost a Yud. (וַיִּדּוֹ אֶחָזֶז בְּעֵקֶב עֵשָׂו). Says the Megale Amukos, Yaakov held on to the heel of Eisav. The heel is the end, as in Ikvisa D'mishicha. Yaakov grabbed on to the end of Eisav's name and took the Yud to himself. Therefore, says the Megale Amukos, Eisav lost a Yud, Yaakov got the extra Yud. Why? (וַיִּדּוֹ אֶחָזֶז בְּעֵקֶב עֵשָׂו). He swiped the Yud from him. As I say, it sounds like a Vertel that has to do with letters.

We understand though that there is something much more deep to that. The Yud symbolizes future. A fundamental difference between someone who believes in Hashem, who believes in an Olam Habo, who believes that the things he does matters, is that he thinks about the future when he does things not just for the present. The Eisav is the one who does things for now, to gratify himself, to satisfy himself. He may even have a noble reason, but it is a now reason. Somebody who is brighter, somebody who is more serious about life, somebody who is a Chacham. What are we told about a Chacham? As can be found in Pirkei Avos (אֵיזְהוּ חָכֵם הַרוֹאֶה אֶת הַגּוֹלָד). A Chacham is someone who sees the future. Klal Yisrael (the Jewish people) took from the nations of the world the Yud. The Yud is this ability to do things based on the future. How future? Ideally we do things based on Olam Habo the ultimate future. But in general in life the wisdom of the Jewish people is this wisdom, to be able to do things with a plan, to be able to sacrifice now for a benefit later. That is the Yesod of Yahadus, the Yesod of being a Yid. The Yud, the future, that is Yaakov.

I saw a nice Remez to this because we have it in Parshas Beshalach, we have it in Parshas Toldos, and actually in Parshas Beraishis as well. HKB"H says to the Nachash Hakadmoni (the original snake) as is found in 3:15 (הוא יִשׁוּפֶדּוּ רֹאשׁוֹ, וְאַתָּה תִּשׁוּפָנוּ עֵקֶב). That man will overpower the Yeitzer Hora with Rosh, with the beginning of his name, (יֵעֻלֵּב) the letter Yud. (וְאַתָּה תִּשׁוּפָנוּ עֵקֶב) And you the Yeitzer Hora, you will be more powerful when Yaakov is not thinking about the Yud when his name is Eikev and he is not looking into the Os Yud. There is a Remez (lesson) here. The lesson is that really all that a person does, all the choices that a person makes, are better, are meaningful, spiritual, if a person does it based on a calculation of the future. If you are looking to the future then you will make good decisions. If you are looking for instant gratification, if you are looking for instant satisfaction, if you are not worried about the future, then you will sit at the computer press buttons, look at the news from ten different angles, and perhaps hear what silly people are posting online because they have nothing better to do. Silly people, people like you. That is not looking at the future. The whole idea of playing with these type of things is "now I am not planning for the future, I am fooling around." No! We are Yaakov, we are better. (אֲזוּ יִשִׁיר מִשָּׁה). Moshe taught them that Yetzias Mitzrayim is not the end it is the beginning, it is the start, it is Yashir (something that points to the future). What a beautiful Yesod.

2. Let us move on to a second thought. As you know, every day in Shacharis we have Pesukai D'zimra where we say six chapters from Tehillim. B'shrei Dovid Avdecha. After all, Tehillim is all about the songs of Dovid Hamelech. We have a custom that is not mentioned in the Gemara to my knowledge, which is to afterwards say Az Yashir. The Aruch Hashulchan at the beginning of Siman Nun Beis asks we shouldn't be saying things in this order. First Tehillim which is Kesuvim and then Az Yashir which is Torah. The Gemara in Maseches Rosh Hashono says that when you have Pesukim of Torah and Pesukim of Kesuvim that Torah is the one that should take precedence. Why is it that we say Tehillim first and then Az Yashir?

What is even more confusing is if you look into the Rambam in Hilchos Tefilla 7:13 he brings a custom to say Pisukai D'zimra, Yishtabach, and then Az Yashir after Yishtabach. Isn't that strange? Why add Az Yashir after we say Pisukai D'zimra? The answer lies in a Yesod which if I understand correctly is in the Pachad Yitzchok in Maamarei Pesach and he says it in a wider discussion of Az Yashir, the following Yesod.

There are two steps in our Davening. The first step is Pesukai D'zimra. Pesukai D'zimra is recognizing HKB"H in nature. If you think about the Perakim of the Hallelukahs, basically they recognize HKB"H in different aspects of our lives, in different aspects of nature, even the weather is mentioned (even Sheleg) is mentioned. That is Pesukai D'zimra. Davening is a ladder. We go from Pesukai D'zimra where we recognize HKB"H in nature to Shema Yisrael, to be Mamlich Hashem, to seeing that nature is nothing more than a veil. A veil that hides HKB"H's presence. So we go from recognizing that nature is run by Hashem to Malchus Shamayim (יוֹצֵר אוֹר וּבּוֹרֵא הַשָּׁמַיִם). (עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם וּבּוֹרֵא אֶת הַכֹּל). That is the Seder of the Davening.

So the first part we say (הִי הָעוֹלָמִים) Hashem we recognize as the one who controls all the worlds. Then in Kriyas Shema we say (ד' אֶחָד) There is no duality there is one. (אֲזוּ יִשִׁיר מִשָּׁה) is a point where Klal Yisrael saw Malchus Hashem. Ra'a Shifcha Al Hayam, everyone at the Yam saw Malchus Hashem. As a matter of fact if you think about it all references of Az Yashir have

Malchus. (על שפת הים. יחד בלם הודו והמליכו ואמר) (מלכותך ראו בניך), or (ד' ימלך לעלם ופד). Az Yashir is Malchus Hashem. The Shira is the bridge between Pesukai D'zimra, Birchas Kriyas Shema, and Kriyas Shema. It is the bridge between seeing a world of nature where Hashem is hidden, to try and recognize HKB"H and seeing him (ד' ימלך לעלם ופד) Malchus Hashem. Therefore, the order, whether you do it like the Rambam where Az Yashir is added after Yishtabach or do it as we do which is say it before Yishtabach. There is a Seder to your Davening.

When you Daven you say Baruch She'amar, Mizmor L'soda (that is in lieu of the Korban Todah thanking Hashem for helping you in the different challenges of this world). Then you talk about the Hallelukahs, talk about (פוחם את נדך. ומשביע) Hashem helping us within the struggles we have in this world. Az Yashir is a preparation, you say (ברכו את ד' המברך), you say let's bless Hashem in a new way. Let's move up, let's say Shema recognize that Hashem Echad and then we can stand in Shemoneh Esrei standing in front of the Melech Malchei Hamilachim. Try to Daven that way. Try to see it as a ladder, a progression. We come into Shul all distracted. Pisukai D'zimra, Shma, it is all to arrive at a Shemoneh Esrei and recognizing the Ribbono Shel Olam. And so, we have one thought regarding Yashir and one thought regarding Az Yashir in general.

3. I would like to end with a bit of a tale. A story that it says in the Sefer Chut Hameshulish. The Chut Hameshulish is an extraordinary Sefer that tells the biography of Rabbi Akiva Eiger, the Chasam Sofer, and the Ksav Sofer. For some reason it is not a Sefer that is well known. There, in the biography of the Chasam Sofer it is brought, that the Chasam Sofer had a custom of having Talmidim coming to his home on Thursday nights and he would learn Chumash with Ramban. The Ramban as is well known to those who learned about the Chasam Sofer was especially close to the Chasam Sofer's heart. It seems he felt that his Gilgul Haneshama was somehow attached to the Ramban. He would learn Chumash with Ramban every Thursday night. At this stage, he had a young son Shimon who was then a little boy. He would be known later on as the Sheivet Sofer the Rav of Krakow and the little boy would sit on his father's lap as his father learned Chumash with Ramban in his house with Talmidim.

The Chasam Sofer was talking and he said how can a Shifcha at the Yam Suf see more than what Yechezkel Ben Buzi saw, it is just mind boggling that an ordinary person could see at the time of Yam Suf so much. He expressed amazement. At that point, the little Shimon Sofer spoke up and said Tatty let me say a Teretz. He said the following. If you want to send a letter to someone and you take the maid in our house who is illiterate and you send the letter with her you don't have to seal the envelope. You just give it her to deliver, she will not read it because she is unable to read it. On the other hand, if you take one of your Talmidim and you send the letter with him and you want to be sure that it stays confidential you would seal the envelope. So the same thing happened at the Yam. HKB"H revealed himself to Klal Yisrael. The maid was there and she saw it too but she didn't know what she was seeing, she didn't know what to do with it because she was illiterate.

In the Chut Hameshulish it says that when Shimon Sofer said this his father dismissed it and made a joke. He took off a Rabbinic Yarmulke, turned it inside out, and put it playfully on the child's head. When I read this in the Chut Hameshulish it was incredible to me. What is wrong with such a brilliant answer?

I saw recently in a Sefer put out on Sefer Shemos that someone asked the Mattesdorfeh Rav Alav Hasholam, Rav Shmuel Ehrenfeld this question about what is going on? Rav Shimon Sofer gave such a nice Pshat? He said it is a beautiful Pshat, however, his father was afraid for Ayin Hora and that is the reason that he playfully dismissed it. Interesting! That means that the Pshat is worthy of repeating. Although I don't know how old this young boy was. From the story it seems that he couldn't be much older than 6, 7, or 8 years old. So here we have a Dvar Torah on the Parsha from a little boy. How beautiful!

With that I wish everyone a wonderful Shabbos, a meaningful Shabbos, an appreciation of the wonders of Kriyas Yam Suf, and the biggest appreciation of Parshas Beshalach is that Klal Yisrael is at Kriyas Yam Suf and three Pesukim later they are complaining about water, complaining about food. You can go from the heights and fall terribly if you are not careful. Stay high! A Gut Shabbos to one and all!

Rabbi Reisman - Parshas Beshalach 5774

1. I would like to discuss first the Parsha of Marah. As you know, between Kriyas Yam Saf and Mattan Torah, Klal Yisrael experienced what appears to be a very unfortunate episode as it says in 15:22 (וַיֵּלְכוּ שְׁלֹשֶׁת-יָמִים בַּמִּדְבָּר, וְלֹא-מָצְאוּ מַיִם) they traveled in the Midbar for three days and found no water. (וַיֵּלְנוּ הָעָם עַל-מִשְׁהָה) and the people came with complaints to Moshe Rabbeinu. As you know, Moshe Rabbeinu took a piece of wood threw it into the bitter waters and caused the water to turn sweet. This is the episode which takes place in this week's Parsha.

We are told in 15:25 (שָׁם שָׁם לֹא הָיָה וּמִשְׁפָּט) that there in Marah Klal Yisrael were given for the first time as a certain Meforesh says ten Mitzvos. That Klal Yisrael were given ten Mitzvos, the Sheva Mitzvos Bnei Noach + Kibbud Av V'a'im, Shabbos, and Dinin which is ten altogether. The Medrash adds Parah Adumah. Be that as it may, this is known as the beginning of Mitzvos to Klal Yisrael. Asher Kidishanu B'mitzvosav V'tzivanu we say by every Mitzvah. We say Asher Kidishanu B'mitzvosav that Hashem sanctified Klal Yisrael with his Mitzvos at Marah, V'tzivanu and then Hashem commanded us for example Lishmoa Kol Shofar to hear the sound of the Shofar which was at Sinai. So we divide it into two Asher Kidishanu B'mitzvosav which is Marah and V'tzivanu which is Sinai. This is why on Shabbos when we make Kiddush we say Asher Kidishanu B'mitzvosav V'ratza Banu and we don't say V'tzivanu by Kiddush. This is because Asher Kidishanu B'mitzvosav refers to Marah. Shabbos began at Marah.

Last week at the Shabbos table in our home the following difficulty came up. We always talk about Marah as the beginning of Mitzvos for Klal Yisrael, however, last week we read Parshas Bo and we counted ten Mitzvos in Parshas Bo, so actually the Mitzvos Hatorah began not at Marah but began in Mitzrayim. It is a bit strange that we always look at Marah as the original place where Mitzvos began. As a matter of fact the Gemara in Maseches Horayos 8b (3 lines from the top) says so clearly that Techilas Mitzvos was at Marah (וְהָאֵם מֵרַעַשׁ מִצְוֹת נִצְטוּ יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּמַרְהָ). It would seem that in Mitzrayim itself there were many Mitzvos and these Mitzvos were for generations.

To answer this question we will read the Parsha. It says (וַיֵּלְכוּ שְׁלֹשֶׁת-יָמִים בַּמִּדְבָּר, וְלֹא-מָצְאוּ מַיִם). Pshat is that Klal Yisrael traveled three days and found no water and they complained. That is true Al Pi Pshat. Al Pi Drush the Derasha is that Klal Yisrael went three days without Torah as they were

busy traveling and (וַיִּלְנוּ) they complained to Moshe Rabbeinu that we are so busy traveling that we don't have time to learn. It was there that Moshe Rabbeinu instituted the practice which we have to this day of reading from a Sefer Torah within three days. In other words, never letting three days pass without Laining from the Sefer Torah. So we Lain Shabbos, Monday, and Thursday, never letting three days pass without reading from the Torah. 15:25 (וַיִּזְרְקוּ יְרֵךְ עֵץ) according to the Drush (וַיִּזְרְקוּ יְרֵךְ), HKB"H gave him Hora'a, gave him Torah. That is when the Mitzvos of Marah were given. So the episode here has one meaning Al Pi Pshat, that people cried for water and one meaning Al Pi Drush, Ein Mayim Ela Torah. The people complained that they didn't have adequate time to learn. Undoubtedly there were some Jews who did the Pshat, who complained for water and there were other Jews who complained and said how could it be that we are between Kriyas Yam Suf and Matan Torah and we are not learning. It comes out that there is a major difference between the Mitzvos of Marah and the Mitzvos of Mitzrayim. The Mitzvos of Mitzrayim were told because it was time to tell Klal Yisrael what to do. The Mitzvos of Chodesh Nissan were told. In Marah though, it was something entirely different. It was a thirst for Torah learning not so much for the practice of the Mitzvos. Of course, one who learns about Mitzvos has to practice the Mitzvos but the thirst was for Limud Hatorah, for Torah study. According to the Pshat that they learned Parah Aduma they certainly didn't practice Parah Aduma yet but they were given the Mitzvos to learn. Marah was the thirst for Limud Hatorah, learning Torah.

According to this we understand that the Chashivus, the significance of Klal Yisrael's first Mitzvos, they were in Marah. Because it was in Marah that Klal Yisrael truly thirsted for Mitzvos and they received them not only as Mitzvos but as a Cheilek of Limud Hatorah. Asher Kidishanu B'mitzvosav that is where the true Kedusha lies. And so we have an insight into this Parsha in the Torah.

I should add that the Maharal in Parshas Shelach explains that the Mitzvos that were given in Marah were not complete. In other words, Klal Yisroel were told some Dinim of those Mitzvos and not Kol Dikdukeha, not all of the Halachos of Shabbos. That came later at Har Sinai. Again, one would wonder why? Why command Shabbos incompletely? The answer is that here it was for the Limud of the Mitzvos and someone who learns them not for Al Menas La'asos better not learn. Learning has to be with the intention of keeping the things you learn. Nevertheless the Chashivus of what took place here was Limud Hatorah. And so, we have a new appreciation of the episode of Marah.

2. Let me move on to a second topic. We are reading in Sefer Shemos (the first half of Sefer Shemos) about Yetzias Mitzrayim. Many Mitzvos are Zeicher Yetzias Mitzrayim. It is hard to remember that we left Mitzrayim.

I would like to talk about the concept, the idea of Zeicher Yetzias Mitzrayim. We understand that Yetzias Mitzrayim is a tremendous Chizuk in our faith, it is a Yesod that we all understand. My question is let's say you have a person who is 100% a Maimin, a Baal Bitachon, he is on a high Madreiga he doesn't need to know about Yetzias Mitzrayim to get him any stronger faith in Emunah. Now of course he still has to keep the Mitzvos that are Zeicher Yetzias Mitzrayim. Nevertheless, the Toeles, the purpose, the desire that HKB"H has that a person remembers Yetzias Mitzrayim for a purpose of moving forward that would seem to be wasted on such a person. If a person is a Baal Emunah and a Baal Bitachon completely he doesn't need the Chizuk of Zeicher

Yetzias Mitzrayim. It is only the rest of us who need that Chizuk in our faith that are constantly enjoined to remember Yetzias Mitzrayim, right? Wrong! The Hagadda says (וְאֶפְיָלוּ בְּלִבּוֹ חֻכְמִים, כְּלָנוּ) (נְבוּנִים, כְּלָנוּ זְקֵנִים, כְּלָנוּ יוֹדְעִים אֶת הַתּוֹרָה), we always have this Mitzvah even if it is without the Toeles.

Therefore, I would like to share with you an insight into Zeicher Yetzias Mitzrayim which applies to you even if you don't need it for your faith, for knowledge of how Klal Yisrael was born. This is based on the Malbim. The Malbim has a Sefer Hacarmel a Sefer on words of the Torah. Under the title Mitzrayim the Malbim says a Chiddush. Yerushalayim is a city. A man who comes from Yerushalayim is called a Yerushalmi. Mitzrayim is a country. A person who comes from Mitzrayim is not called a Mitzraimi even though we would think that is what he should be called. He is called a Mitzri. The Torah itself in Parshas Ki Seitzei 23:8 (לֹא-תִתְעַב מִצְרִי), (Ed. Note: or Shemos 2:11 (וַיֵּרָא אִישׁ מִצְרִי)), or Beraishis 39:1 (אִישׁ מִצְרִי), or Vayikra 24:10 (בֶּן-אִישׁ מִצְרִי)). Why isn't the (מ) part of the proper noun in which case it would be Mitzraimi? Says the Malbim, the name Mitzrayim has a meaning. A Maitzar is a narrow place. Klal Yisrael in Mitzrayim was narrow in the sense that they were pressed from all directions. They lived a life of stress a life of pressure for a period and Yetzias Mitzrayim is an ability to exit, to leave from that type of an experience. We learn from Yetzias Mitzrayim that when Klal Yisrael finds itself either as a group or as individuals in Klal Yisrael find themselves in a period of tremendous pressure from all directions they have to turn to HKB"H as the one who is the Motzi Mimitzrayim. Klal Yisrael left Mitzrayim and came to the Yam and they were again pressed from both sides, the sea on one end, the army attacking them on the other end, they were again in a Maitzar (in a narrow place). Really human beings also find themselves in periods of pressure sometimes greater and sometimes not as great but we always find ourselves pressured from many directions and very often we feel so pressed that we don't even know where to turn, and we don't know where to run. The answer is that (חִיב אָדָם לְרִאוֹת אֶת עֲצָמוֹ כְּאִלוֹ הוּא יֵצֵא מִמִּצְרָיִם). Of course one part of Yetzias Mitzrayim is the fact about something that took place in the past. (חִיב אָדָם לְרִאוֹת אֶת עֲצָמוֹ) even someone born in the 20th or 21st century has to see himself as going out of Mitzrayim. Has to see himself as B'yad Hashem, HKB"H guiding him and taking him out of his periods of difficulty. If so, Yetzias Mitzrayim besides its Pshat has a deeper meaning a meaning that comes not from a Drush Sefer but from the Malbim which is a Pshat Sefer. The idea that leaving Mitzrayim is a lifelong experience. That HKB"H helps us as it says in Yeshaya 27:13 (וְהִנְדָּחִים בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם). When Moshiach comes those that are dispersed (בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם) will leave. There are very few Jews in Mitzrayim if there are any today but we all find ourselves in periods of (נְדָחִים בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם), in periods of difficulty. That is this idea, the deeper idea of Yetzias Mitzrayim.

3. Let me end with a Dvar Halacha. In the Sefer V'harev Na, Rav Zilberstein has one of his patented Shailos which fits beautifully into the Parsha. Maiseh Shehaya. A Shul needed a Sefer Torah and they went over to a wealthy man and the wealthy man said you know what, I am willing to give half the cost of the Sefer if you find someone to give the other half. Ok. The people in the Shul went around and they looked to find the other half. They came to a rich man and they said look we have mister A who is willing to give half the cost of a Sefer Torah how about you giving to the Sefer Torah as well. He said you know what, I am willing to give the second half of the money needed to purchase the Sefer Torah but only on one condition. That condition is that the Sefer Torah will be given totally in my name, it will be donated by Mr. B and not Mr. A. The people went back to Mr. A and asked him if it is ok. Mr. A said that is what I want I don't want my name on the Sefer Torah I don't want people to know that I am donating and put it on the name of Mr.

B. Good! The Shayla is if that is Genaivas Daas. You are fooling people. People think that Mr. B gave the complete cost of the Sefer Torah. It will say on it Sefer Torah donated by Mr. B. It will say on the Sefer Torah Nidvas so and so. Is that Muttar, is that Genaivas Daas? That is the Shayla that was posed. What does that have to do with our Parsha?

There is a Gemara in Maseches Sotah 13b (top of Amud) that asks a contradiction, a Stirah between a Posuk in this week's Parsha and a Posuk in Yehoshua. In this week's Parsha 13:19 it says (ניקה) (מִשֵּׁה אֶת-עֲצָמוֹת יוֹסֵף) that Moshe took the bones of Yosef out of Eretz Mitzrayim. Yet in the end of Sefer Yehoshua in 24:32 we find (וְאֶת-עֲצָמוֹת יוֹסֵף אֲשֶׁר-הָעֵלּוּ בְּנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמִּצְרַיִם) that the Bnei Yisroel took out the bones of Yosef. The Gemara asks this as a contradiction, did Moshe take it or did Klal Yisrael? The Gemara answers (א"ר חמא בר' חנינא כל העושה דבר ולא גמרו ובא אחר וגמרו מעלה עליו הכתוב) (על שגמרו כאילו עשאו). That if one person starts something and doesn't finish it and someone else completes it, it is attributed to the person who completed it. Amazing! So we have here really B'feirush that if one person starts something and someone else allows it to be completed, calling it on the name of the second person is appropriate. The Torah does that. That is the Raya of Rav Zilberstein, a beautiful Tzushtel.

PS I have a bit of a Ho'ara. In Yehoshua it says (וְאֶת-עֲצָמוֹת יוֹסֵף אֲשֶׁר-הָעֵלּוּ בְּנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמִּצְרַיִם). It says that the bones were taken out by the Jewish people. Moshe Rabbeinu was a member of the Jewish people. It is not a Stira. The

Gemara writes that it says that Moshe took it out alone and then it attributes it to everybody so the Gemara says we attribute it to everybody. But we are not excluding Moshe Rabbeinu's name. Tzorech Iyun Ketzas.

Wishing everyone an absolutely wonderful Shabbos Parshas Beshalach.

Rabbi Reisman - Parshas Beshalach 5773 (Tu Bish'vat)

(Ed. Note - the first Dvar Torah today was said over for Pesach of 5772 and I have pasted it here).

In the **Rabbi Yosei Haglili** section of Maggid we find the most neglected piece of the Hagaddah. If you take any Hagaddah there are many different Divrei Torah on Ha Lachma Anya, Mah Nishtana, Avadim Avinu, The Gedolim sitting in Bnei Brak, the Arba'a Banim and then Boruch Hashem there is a place in middle after the Makkos where it goes quickly or else we wouldn't make it before Chatzos. We have the 3 Braisos (רבי יוסי הגלילי אומר: מנין אתה אומר שילקו המצרים במצרים עשר - 3 Braisos) מפות ועל היים לקו חמשים מפות? במצרים מה הוא אומר? נירא ישראל את ה' הגדלה אשר עשה ר' במצרים, נייראו העם את ר', וינאמינו ב' ר' ובמשה עבדו. כמה לקו באצבע? עשר מפות. אמור מעתה: במצרים לקו עשר מפות ועל היים לקו חמשים מפות), (רבי אליעזר אומר: מנין שכל מכה ומכה שהביא הקדוש ברוך הוא על המצרים במצרים היתה של ארבע מפות? שנאמר: ישלח בם חרון אפו, עברה ונעם וצרה, משלחת מלאכי רעים. עברה - אחת, נועם - שנים, וצרה - שלש, משלחת מלאכי רעים - ארבע. אמור מעתה: רבי עקיבא אומר: מנין שכל מכה ומכה שהביא הקדוש ברוך הוא על המצרים במצרים היתה של חמש מפות? שנאמר: ישלח בם חרון אפו, עברה ונעם וצרה, משלחת מלאכי רעים. חרון אפו - אחת, עברה - שנים, נועם - שלש, וצרה - ארבע, משלחת מלאכי רעים - חמש. אמור מעתה: במצרים לקו חמשים מפות ועל היים לקו חמשים מפות ועל היים לקו חמשים מפות ועל היים לקו חמשים מפות). They tell us the following. These Braisos tell us that the Makkos that the Mitzrim were afflicted with in Mitzrayim were Nimshal to an Eitzba and Al

Hayam is Nimshal to a Yad. So since a Yad is 5 times an Eitzba so therefore if in Mitzrayim there were 10 Makkos then on the Yam there were 50 Makkos. If in Mitzrayim there were 40 Makkos then on the Yam there were 200 Makkos. If in Mitzrayim there were 50 Makkos then on the Yam there were 250 Makkos. This is what we say in the Haggadah (as is quoted above). Then we go onto Dayeinu.

So I would like to speak up for this piece in the Haggadah and I would like to mention to you a couple of difficulties that have to do with these 3 Braissos. The first problem is what is it doing here in the Haggadah? Leil Pesach we are Misapeir Yetzias Mitzrayim the things that took place on the 15th day of Nissan. Kriyas Yam Suf happened a week later, it is not inherently a part of Leil Yetzias Mitzrayim. A lot of things happened. There was Man, there was the B'air, the Ananei Hakavod, which are things that are not mentioned on the night of Pesach. For some reason we go and talk about Kriyas Yam Suf. That Kasha may not bother you as after all it was part of Yetzias Mitzrayim but it begs an explanation of what it is doing here.

More importantly, there is a second problem. That is that it doesn't seem proper that on the night of Sippur Yetzias Mitzrayim we should talk about the fact that Sippur Yetzias Mitzrayim is nothing compared to Kriyas Yam Suf. Tonight we are trying to build up what took place on the 15th day of Nissan. Then we come and say the 15th day of Nissan that was 10 Makkos but later much more happened. It doesn't seem to be in the proper Hanhaggah.

Imagine you go to the Vort and you get up to speak about the Chosson and he says the Chosson is wonderful he is a 10, but you should see his Chavrusa he is a 50! If the Chosson is a 40 then his Chavrusa is a 200! Nobody would get up at a Vort and talk about a Chosson that way and praise somebody else who is 5 times as great. Here we are on Leil Yetzias Mitzrayim and we are talking about the fact that you think Yetzias Mitzrayim was something, Kriyas Yam Suf was 5 times as great. We then go on to explain it in such detail (עֲבָרָה, נֹעַם, וְצָרָה, מִשְׁלַחַת מִלְאֲכֵי רָעִים) of how much more Kriyas Yam Suf was then the 10 Makkos by Mitzrayim. It does not seem to be K'fi the Hanhaga of the evening to talk about Yetzias Mitzrayim in such a way.

A third problem is why Takka was it that way. Why was it that by Yetzias Mitzrayim which after all was what was promised to Avraham Avinu in Beraishis 15:14 (וְאַחֲרֵי-כֵן יֵצְאוּ, בְּרִכְשׁ גָּדוֹל). Yetzias Mitzrayim was wonderful and that what happened afterwards Takka why was it that way. Why was it that Kriyas Yam Suf was so much more?

Chazal Darshun that Torai Zav was the Bizai of the Yam Suf and Nikudas Hakesef is the Biza of Mitzrayim. That the Bizas Hayam, the wealth they took after Kriyas Yam Suf was so much more than the Biza they took out of Mitzrayim. So the miracles were more by Kriyas Yam Suf, the loot that they took was more by Kriyas Yam Suf. So it begs explanation, why should it be (וְאַחֲרֵי-כֵן) (יֵצְאוּ, בְּרִכְשׁ גָּדוֹל) was Yetzias Mitzrayim. The promise to Avraham Avinu was Mikuyam then so that Avraham Avinu should not be able to say that regarding (וְעֵבְדוּם, וְעַנּוּ אֹתָם) was Mikuyam and (וְאַחֲרֵי-) (כֵן יֵצְאוּ, בְּרִכְשׁ גָּדוֹל) was not Mikuyam. So they borrowed so to speak and they went out with money. Yet we say that Kriyas Yam Suf was so much more. This needs explanation. For all these reasons, first of all 1) why are we talking about it this night Bichlal, it is not a Mayseh that took place on the 15th day of Nissan, 2) it seems inappropriate to belittle Yetzias Mitzrayim by comparing it to

something greater, and 3) the question of Ain Hachi Nami why is it so that Hashem did so much more by Kriyas Yam Suf than by Yetzias Mitzrayim.

To answer this I would like to share with you a Yesod in Hanhagas Ha'odom in general and in Hakadosh Baruch Hu's Hanhaga. There is a Yesod that if a person wants to show Ahavah to someone else, he wants to show a Kesher, a Chibah, if you want to show that you care about someone you have to do something extra, something more than what you are obligated to do. It is a very basic idea. If you borrow money from someone and it comes the time to pay so you pay him back it doesn't show that you love him, it doesn't show it at all. It shows that you do what you are obligated to do. If you promise something to someone and it comes the time to pay or to deliver on your promise and you do it, it doesn't show that you care for the person. Once you made the promise you have to do it, you are obligated to do it. If a person wants to show Ahavah and a person wants to show Chibah, a person has to do something extra, something that he is not otherwise obligated to do. Because when you do something that you are obligated to do it doesn't show any Ahavah or Chibah.

There is a nice little story that illustrates this very well. There was a young man in the Yeshiva who got married and one morning over breakfast they got into their first disagreement. She said something and he said you are wrong and she said how could you say I am wrong I can prove it with this and that. He said this is not a proof and that is not a proof. They had some disagreement. They finish breakfast and it was time for him to go to Yeshiva so he came to Yeshiva and he was sitting and learning and he was very distracted. (The first argument you get distracted, after that you get accustomed to it). He was very distracted and it bothered him so he excused himself to his Chavrusa and went into the Mashgiach and tells the Mashgiach my wife and I had our first real argument today she said such and such and I said it is not true and she proved it with this and that and I said that this is not a proof and that is not a proof. Who is right? So the Mashgiach smiled at him and said over such a silly thing you have an argument? I want you to go home lunch time, buy your wife some flowers and make up with her. He is a good boy and did as he was told and at lunch time he heads home stops in at the florist and picks up some flowers comes home to his wife and presents the flowers with here, the Mashgiach said I have to give these to you. So everyone understands that once the husband said the words the Mashgiach says I have to give this to you it is meaningless.

It was a very nice thing when they started this Minhag of giving a gift in the Yichud room, giving pearls or a necklace, it was a very nice thing. For the first person who did it it meant a lot because the person decided to do this on his own. Nowadays, once it is expected it doesn't mean all that much. If it is not good enough it is a problem.

When I got married it wasn't the Minhag to give anything in the Yichud room, although my wife claims otherwise. If someone does it it is meaningful. But if you have to do it, it just shows that you are a straight person, it doesn't show Ahavah or Chibah. It doesn't show a Kesher at all.

So Klal Yisrael went out of Mitzrayim. Klal Yisrael for whatever it means was in the 49th Shaar Hatumah, does that show an Ahavah and a Chibah from the Ribbono Shel Olam? No. It may well be that HKB"H just had to keep his word. He told Avraham Avinu that they are going to out of Mitzrayim as it says in Shemos 2:24 (וַיִּשְׁמַע אֱלֹהִים, אֶת-נַאֲקָתָם; וַיִּזְכֹּר אֱלֹהִים אֶת-בְּרִיתוֹ, אֶת-אֲבְרָהָם אֶת-יִצְחָק)

(וַיֵּצֵא, אֱלֹדִים) the Ribbono Shel Olam said they have to go out as it says in the next Posuk (וַיֵּצֵא-יֵצֵא). That if they would stay they would never get out. So from Yetzias Mitzrayim itself there was no way to know if this comes from Ahavas Hashem Osanu, does it come from a Keshet with us or it is a Kiyum of the promise. The Ribbono Shel Olam promised and He keeps his word. So he took Klal Yisrael out of Mitzrayim.

So they came to the Yam Suf. The Yam Suf it appears that Klal Yisrael was afraid. Why are they afraid. The Ribbono Shel Olam did all these miracles why are they afraid? They had this Safeik, the Ribbono Shel Olam did all these things to take them out of Mitzrayim but M'haichi Taisi, the Ribbono Shel Olam promised Avraham that he would take them out so now he took Klal Yisrael out so now they are out. So now what? We know later in the Midbar the Ribbono Shel Olam threatens to destroy Klal Yisrael and start again. So at Kriyas Yam Suf there was this Safeik. At Kriyas Yam Suf the Ribbono Shel Olam was Migalei his Ahavah to Klal Yisrael, he was Migale that everything that happened was with an Ayin Tov, happened with an Ahavas Hashem Osanu. It happened because Hashem wants a Keshet with Klal Yisrael. How did he show it? By Kriyas Yam Suf there was no promise that there would be a Biza, there was no promise that there would be miracles, it wasn't said to Avraham Avinu, there is no Remez to Kriyas Yam Suf. Imagine, it is a Kasha itself. The Ribbono Shel Olam did so many more miracles by Kriyas Yam Suf why didn't he promise Avraham, Yitzchok, and Yaakov all these Nissim? It was B'dafkah. These Nissim of Kriyas Yam Suf are Migale on Yetzias Mitzrayim the tremendous Ahavah that Yetzias Mitzrayim had. Because from Yetzias Mitzrayim itself you wouldn't know, it wouldn't be clear. Kriyas Yam Suf is the Migale on the rest of the Haggadah. It is Migale that Yetzias Mitzrayim was done with a Chibah, and an Ahavah and Farkert the fact that it was more that shows the Ayin Tov of the Ribbono Shel Olam.

When we mention Yetzias Mitzraim by Shacharis and Arvis we are Mikayeim that which is written in Bamidbar 15:41 (אֲנִי יְרוּר אֱלֹדִים, אֲשֶׁר הוֹצֵאתִי אֶתְכֶם מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם, לְהִיּוֹת לְכֶם, לְאֵלִים: אֲנִי, יְרוּר אֱלֹדִים) We mention Yetzias Mitzrayim and we are Mikayeim the Mitzva D'oraissa of Zechiras Yetzias Mitzrayim and both by Shacharis and Arvis we follow by mentioning Kriyas Yam Suf. We say (כֹּל בְּכוֹרֵיהֶם הָרְגַתָּ. וּבְכוֹרֵךָ גָּאֵלְתָּ. וַיִּם סוּף בְּקַעֲתָ. וַיִּזְדִּים טְבַעֲתָ. וַיִּדְיִדִים הָעֵבֶרְתָּ. וַיִּכְסּוּ מִיִּם צָרִיְהֶם. אֲחֵד מִהֶם לֹא נוֹתַר) We say more words in (עֲזַרְתָּ אֲבוֹתֵינוּ) talking about Kriyas Yam Suf than about Yetzias Mitzrayim. There is no Mitzvah of Zeicher Kriyas Yam Suf! It is Farkert. Kriyas Yam Suf is the Migale of the Ahavah that the Ribbono Shel Olam showed Klal Yisrael, it is Migale on the whole thing that it was done with a tremendous Ahavah. We Takeh end with (מִי כְמִכָּה בְּאֵלִים ר) that comes from the Shirah at the Yam Suf and (ר' יְמִלְךָ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד) which is again from the Shiras Yam Suf. That is the Shirah that came then. By Yetzias Mitzrayim there was no Shirah yet because there was no Gilui of Ahavas Hashem. After Kriyas Yam Suf the Shirah was real because at that time there was a Gilui of K'vod Shamayaim.

This is a Yesod for this piece of the Haggadah. This Yesod is an important Yesod for Ahavas Adom L'chaveiro, Ahavas Ish L'ishto, and in everything. The things you need to do, that you must do because you promised those things don't show Ahavah. If you want to tip a counselor because you are especially thankful to him if you give the recommended tip it doesn't show anything. If you add a small amount to it, it shows that you appreciate. If you give what you feel you have to give, that is something that you have to give and it doesn't show anything. When you give something more that is Migale.

When a Chosson gives his Kallah an engagement ring it is very nice but it doesn't show anything more than the fact that he wants to marry her, it shows something. But very often a small trinket or something inexpensive that is given that doesn't have to be given, that shows the Ahavah more. That is this idea, this Yesod in Avodas Hashem.

The Shulchan Aruch has a list of things you have to do. It has a list of things that you are not allowed to do. In Shulchan Aruch there is a gigantic list of things that you don't have to do but Hamachmir Tovei Alav Beracha, or Yirei Shamayim Yachmir Al Atzmo, or Hiddur Mitzvah. There is no law book in the world that has such a thing. You have the NYC traffic laws, there are things that you get a ticket for and things that you don't get a ticket for. There is nothing in between that Hamachmir Tovei Alav Beracha. If the law is you must be 4 feet away from a fire hydrant there is no Hamachmir Tovei Alav Beracha if you go 6 feet away. There is no such thing. No law book in the world has three sets of rules, the rules for Muttar, Assur, and Tov L'hachmir. But in Avodas Hashem the Tov L'hachmir, the Hiddur Mitzvah the Yirai Shamayaim Yachmir Al Atzmo that is the method by which a person shows Ahavas Hatorah. In Shulchan Aruch there are things that a person could show an Ahavas Hashem that show a dedication. That is a Yesod Hachayim. Klal Yisrael responded to Kriyas Yam Suf with (זֶה קְלִי וְאֶנְהוּ) with the idea of Hiddur Mitzvah. This is one Yesod which comes from the middle of the Haggadah.

I would like to move on to a Rashi in the first Posuk of the Shira in 15:1 (סוס וְרִכְבוֹ רָמָה בָּיָם). HKB"H threw horse and rider into the sea. So Rashi tells us that a miracle occurred. (סוס ורכבו: שניהם קשורים). (זה בזה והמים מעלין אותם לרום ומורידין אותם לעומק ואינן נפרדין). The horse and the rider were tied together. Imagine the miracle. Normally you would imagine a horse and the rider thrown into the sea and the rider would fall off the horse. Here, the horse and rider stayed rider on top of horse sinking into the sea, being lifted up by the waves. It all happened with them attached one to the other. What an amazing miracle. What is the purpose of this miracle? Why does it matter? What is the message? Who cares if the horse and the rider were still attached to each other or not?

The answer is in a Rashi in Beraishis by the episode of Yosef being enticed by the wife of Potiphar. There in 39:10 the Posuk tells us (וְלֹא-שָׁמַע אֵלֶיהָ לְשֹׁכֵב אִצְלָהּ, לְהִיּוֹת עִמָּה). Yosef did not listen to her to sin, to lie with her and to be with her. Rashi says (להיות עמה: לעולם). There is an idea that when a person does an Aveira in this world and is not Zoche to do Teshuva for it, he is stuck with that Aveira for eternity. It means to say that had Yosef sinned with Eishes Potiphar he would be stuck with her forever, he would be with her until Olam Habo.

The Medrash says (להיות עמה: לעולם הבא) she would be tied to him like one who walks a dog. Meaning to say that if a person is attached to Aveiros and he comes to Olam Habo, wherever he goes he walks with the Aveira. In Olam Hazeh, in this world a person might do an Aveira B'tzin'a (privately), when he comes to the Olam Ha'emes L'osid Lavo it will be known because he will walk everywhere with this Aveira. (סוס וְרִכְבוֹ רָמָה בָּיָם). There is a message. A person who does such an awful Risha. An Egyptian who follows Pharaoh to chase Klal Yisrael after all that happened and he has the nerve, the gall, to still have the Chutzpah to ride into the Yam Suf, that existence of one who has great audacity, tremendous Chutzpah is violating the will of Hashem, is a stand which remains for eternity. He is stuck with the horse.

That is a Mussar for the Yeitzer Hora's that we have. If you want to be able to shed the Yeitzer Hora, you want to be able to let go of it, we have to picture what it means. In private a person may click on the internet and see things and do things that he would be ashamed of if people would see, but remember Kishura Lo K'kelev. L'osid Lavo in the Mesivta D'rakia in Olam Habo he is going to have to walk around with the internet clicking on these things so that everybody can see. That Mussar, that idea is powerful. Hopefully, it is a powerful thought a thought of (סוס וְרָקְבוּ רָמָה בַּיָּם) things stuck together forever which is something that should be able to help us to battle the Yeitzer Hora.

The first question of the week is: it is well known that Moshe Rabbeinu was commended for taking the bones of Yosef out of Mitzrayim as it says in 13:19 (וַיִּקַּח מֹשֶׁה אֶת-עַצְמוֹת יוֹסֵף, עִמּוֹ). A Jew had to do it, however, the Posuk says in Mishlei 10:8. Moshe Rabbeinu did it. Why Moshe? because he was wise enough. It is disturbing because if we look at the Gemara in Maseches Sotah 13a (21 lines from the bottom) which tells us about Moshe Rabbeinu taking the bones of Yosef out of Mitzrayim. The Gemara asks (ת"ר בא וראה כמה חביבות מצות על משה רבינו שכל ישראל כולן נתעסקו) בבזיה והוא נתעסק במצות שנאמר חכם לב יקח מצות וגו' ומנין היה יודע משה רבינו היכן יוסף קבור אמרו סרה בת אשר נשתיירה מאותו הדור הלך משה אצלה אמר לה כלום את יודעת היכן יוסף קבור אמרה לו ארון של מתכת עשו לו מצרים וקבעוהו בנילוס הנהר כדי שיתברכו מימיו הלך משה ועמד על שפת נילוס אמר לו יוסף יוסף הגיע העת שנשבע הקב"ה שאני גואל אתכם והגיעה השבועה שהשבעת את ישראל אם אתה מראה עצמך מוטב אם לאו הרי אנו מנוקין משבועתך מיד צף ארונו של יוסף ואל תתמה היאך ברזל צף שהרי כתיב ויהי האחד מפיל הקורה ואת הברזל נפל אל המים וגו' אהה אדוני והוא שאול ויאמר איש האלקים אנה נפל ויראהו את המקום ויקצב עץ וישלך שמה ויצף הברזל והלא דברים ק"ו ומה אלישע תלמידו של אליהו ואלהו תלמידו של משה צף ברזל (מפניו מפני משה רבינו על אחת כמה וכמה) how did Moshe Rabbeinu know where Yosef's bones were? The Gemara says that he went to Serach Bas Asher who remembered that the metal coffin of Yosef had been thrown into the Nilus. He had burial at sea. Moshe Rabbeinu went there and by miracle threw in wood which sunk and the metal coffin came up and he took the bones of Yosef out of Mitzrayim. I don't understand. How can you complain that anybody else should have done it, no one else could have performed such a miracle of throwing the wood in and bringing the metal coffin up. Such a Neis only Moshe Rabbeinu could have performed. That needs an explanation as to why we look at Moshe Rabbeinu as being a (חכם-לב) for choosing to do it when really almost no one else could have done it.

A second thing which disturbed me about the Gemara is the fact that the Gemara asks how did Moshe Rabbeinu know where Yosef's bones were? Serach Bas Asher was still alive. Today, we go to Kivrei Tzaddikim all the time. The Kever of a Tzaddik is a place to Daven. No one would ask how do you know where the Meoras Hamachpeila is or how do you where Kever Rachel is. Jews remember forever where it is. We constantly are visiting. Doesn't it seem strange? The Gemara says (ומנין היה יודע משה רבינו היכן יוסף קבור) Moshe Rabbeinu how did he know? That is certainly a Tzorech Iyun.

With that I wish you all a wonderful Shabbos. I wish our trees a happy Rosh Hashana and hope that HKB"H will perform a miracle again and the trees will bloom and blossom and give forth their fruit to humanity something that we say of course it is going to happen as it happens every year. The miracle of Tu Bish'vat is a miracle and from these dead trees will come out fruit, will come forth leaves and give beautiful shade that we remember every year on Tu Bish'vat. A Gutten Shabbos to one and all!

Rabbi Reisman - Parshas Beshalach 5772

I would like to speak about each of the 3 main seminal events of the Parsha, 1) the splitting of the Yam Suf, 2) the Man, and 3) Milchemes Amaleik. Let me begin regarding Kriyas Yam Suf. There is a Kasha that always disturbed me. We make a big fuss over Kriyas Yam Suf, an extraordinary miracle, yet we find in the first Perek of the Chullin 7a (18 lines from the bottom) (מאי בהמתן של צדיקים דרבי פנחס בן יאיר הוה קאזיל לפדיון שבויין פגע ביה בגינאי נהרא אמר ליה גינאי חלוק לי מימך ואעבור כך אמר ליה אתה הולך לעשות רצון קונך ואני הולך לעשות רצון קוני אתה ספק עושה ספק אי אתה עושה אני ודאי עושה אמר ליה אם אי אתה חולק גוזרני עליך שלא יעברו בך מים לעולם חלק ליה הוה ההוא גברא דהוה דארי חיטי לפיסחא אמר ליה חלוק ליה נמי להאי דבמצוה עסיק חלק ליה הוה ההוא טייעא דלווה בהדיהו אמר ליה חלוק ליה נמי להאי דלא לימא כך עושים לבני לוייה חלק ליה אמר רב יוסף כמה נפיש גברא ממשה ושתין רבוון דאילו התם חד זימנא והכא תלתא זימנין ודלמא הכא נמי חדא זימנא אלא כמשה ושתין רבוון) that a Tanna was able to split the waters in order to cross. Pinchas Ben Yair was Chileik Nahar Gina'i. When he had to cross a river he caused it to split so that he would cross. Of course Pinchas Ben Yair was a great person one of the greatest Tannaim. Still the majesty of the event of splitting the Yam Suf is presented here in the Torah and is part of our Davening. It is a major event in the history of Klal Yisrael as something that is so extraordinary. Yet we find that a Tanna someone many generations later was able to do the same miracle. This is something that needs some sort of explanation.

When the Navi Shiur began many years ago, one of the first events that we learned about at the beginning of Shmuel Aleph was the taking of the Aron by the Pelishtim in battle. The Pelishtim captured the Aron Hashem which had been taken into battle by Klal Yisrael. That Aron was later returned because of different tragedies that befell the Pelishtim in every place that the Aron was kept.

The Aron was returned by being put on a wagon and cows were attached to the wagon and left to walk wherever they desired. They went straight back to Beis Shemesh to a city of Klal Yisrael. Chazal teach us in Shmuel Aleph Perek 6:12 (על-דרך בית שמש, במקלה אחת הלכו) (וישנה הפרות בדרך, ואל-סרו ימין ושמאל; וסרני פלשתים הלכים אחריהם, עד-גבול בית שמש) (הלך ונגעו, ולא-סרו ימין ושמאל) and Rashi brings that the animals miraculously sang Hallel as they came back to Beis Shemesh. The question we asked then was a very similar question to the one that I am asking here today. The Torah makes such a big deal about the speaking of Bilam's donkey. Ad K'dei Kach, it is considered such an extraordinary miracle that the Mishnah in Maseches Avos says in the 5th Perek (פי עשרה דברים נבראו בין השמשות--פי) הארץ, פי הבאר, פי האתון, והקשת, והמן, והמטה, והשמיר, והכתב, והמכתב, והלווחות. ויש אומרין אף המזיקין, וקבורתו של משה, ואילו של אברהם. ויש אומרין אף צבת בצבת עשויה (פי האתון) Bain Hashmashos and one of them is the Pi Ha'ason. The idea that an animal can speak is considered to be so extraordinary and it is presented that way regarding Bilam, yet here we find that cows miraculously sang Shirah.

At that time we found in one of the Rishonim (I think it was the Chiddushei HaRaivad on Maseches Makkos) who said that the Ikkur of a miracle is the first time something happens. That such a thing can happen in the world. The fact that it repeats is not as miraculous because all of nature is a miracle that repeats itself. So every time it rains, water coming down from heaven is a miracle. But nature is a miracle that repeats itself. So although an animal speaking will forever be considered a miracle, still the first time it happens it has a special level of miracle.

Now I have found that this Yesod is brought by Rav Shimon Sofer who printed the original printing of the Chasam Sofer's Toras Moshe (Divrei Torah on the Chumash) and anywhere in the Toras Moshe that you have a paragraph with an asterisk at the beginning of the paragraph that asterisk denotes that the paragraph is a Chiddush of Rav Shimon Sofer.

Rav Shimon Sofer on the Posuk of V'shilachti Es Yadi discusses this Yesod on his own. He says anything that already had been before, that is the source of miracles that repeated themselves. Then it is not as extraordinary when it repeats itself. With that he explains here by Kriyas Yam Suf. The fact that Kriyas Yam Suf is such an extraordinary miracle and yet we find that the miracle repeats itself by Pinchas Ben Yair. So this is the Yesod that he said.

I would add that based on this we can understand that the first time that the Man fell it was an extraordinary miracle and not so when it repeated itself and became nature to the people who grew up in the Midbar. That would explain why the first Man was put away (was hidden) L'doros. This is because the first Man was with an extraordinary miraculous power and therefore, that was hidden.

If you look at the Chasam Sofer he explains with this a Dvar Torah regarding Purim as well, however, Purim is still far away so we will leave it with this a beautiful and basic Yesod.

Let us move now to the Man. The word Man, the name of the Man is a strange name. As it says in the Posuk 16:15 (מִן הוּא--כִּי לֹא יָדָעוּ, מֵה־הוּא) The Rashbam explains (של מה ולפי שהוא לשון מצרי ובאותו) (לשון היו רגילין שהוא כמו מה) that Man in the language of the Egyptians is the same as the word Mah in Hebrew. Mah as in what is this? The Torah gave the word Man because the Jews called it Man. That is strange. Why refer to the Man with the name that has no intrinsic meaning, no meaning on its own. Man what is this? So you give it the name Man.

To answer let me share with you an idea that is found in the Sichos Mussar from 5733 the 6th Sichah. There is a Posuk in Yechezkel 46:9 which teaches us that in the Beis Hamikdash there was a rule. The rule was (הִבָּא דְרֵד־שַׁעַר... שַׁעַר נִגְבּ, וְהִבָּא דְרֵד־שַׁעַר נִגְבּ יֵצֵא דְרֵד־שַׁעַר צְפוֹנָה: לֹא יָשׁוּב, דְרֵד) (הַשַּׁעַר אֲשֶׁר-בָּא בוֹ--כִּי נִכְחוּ, יֵצֵאוּ (יֵצֵא)). If someone entered the Beis Hamikdash with one gate of the many gates he would have to go out with a different gate. This is found in the Haftorah of Parshas Hachodesh.

Rav Chaim Shmuelevitz explained that when one entered the Beis Hamikdash he would feel the awe of the place. It would be a tremendous feeling that overcame him, a sense of holiness and majesty of the place that he entered. It is important that that initial sense not go away and disappear. Although a human being is a human being and gets used to anything. Even if someone is in an awesome situation and setting, eventually if he is there long enough it loses that very special sense. The symbolism of not going out through the gate which you entered in the Beis Hamikdash was symbolic of the fact that it should not undue that which happened when we entered. We entered the Beis Hamikdash and the individual who entered felt overcome by awe. Don't walk out that entrance.

In the words of Rav Chaim Shmuelewitz (translated into English). A person has to work on maintaining his first Hisorerus his first inspiration, a feeling that a person has. If at the Siyum Hashas a person is moved to learn Shas he has to keep that original inspiration and he will be able to keep it going. Many many people lose it, but keeping that inspiration is a very important step in Avodas Hashem.

We can take that idea that Rav Chaim Shmuelewitz says and explain with that the naming of the Man with the word Man. When the Man fell people were amazed. Man Hu, what is this, food coming down from heaven? Food that has this unbelievable property of being able to have any taste that a person desires. It is incredible. Of course, with time, one gets used to anything. To the Dor Hamidbar the Man falling every single day was the same thing as water which falls from heaven in the form of rain, which is something we see as ordinary and not miraculous. In order to get that Hisorerus they named it Man. To remind themselves of the original amazement, the awe, the fact that it was such an incredible miracle. To keep that Hisorerus the name Man remained.

Of course the message is important for us. To try to keep the feeling of a Hisorerus that we get sometimes when something happens in our lives or sometimes when we are inspired by another individual. To try to keep it, to watch it. To have some sort of a reminder whether in a name or in an object to remind us of our original Hisorerus.

Rav Chaim Shmulewitz says as well that Palti Ben Laiyish used this tool. Chazal tell us that after Michal was married to Dovid, Shaul declared the marriage invalid and gave her instead to Palti Ben Laiyish. Naturally, Palti knew that she was an Aishes Ish and that he was not permitted to touch her. Shaul the king insisted that they were married, so Palti couldn't show publicly that they were not married. So they lived in the same home and they had a bedroom, but the Gemara says in Maseches Sanhedrin 19b (6 lines from the bottom) says (כתיב פלטי וכתיב פלטיאל אמר ר' יוחנן פלטי) שמו ולמה נקרא שמו פלטיאל שפלטו אל מן העבירה מה עשה נעץ חרב בינו לבניה אמר כל העוסק בדבר זה ידקר (בחרב זה) that he stuck a sword between the 2 beds and said if I touch her I deserve to be destroyed by the sword. Rav Chaim Shmulewitz asks what is the purpose of the sword, the day he pulled out the sword it meant something, however, he left it there between the two beds for a number of years. What does that do?

The answer is the same idea. He had a Hisorerus and he wanted to concretize it on something, so he put in a sword in between the two beds and the sword was a reminder of the original Hisoreus. If you have a Hisorerus for something, do it and make it happen. So that is our Vort on the Man.

Finally a thought regarding Milchemes Amalek. As the Posuk says in 17:11 (וְהָיָה, כְּאֲשֶׁר יָרִים מִזְּשָׁה) (דו--וגבר ישראל; וכאשר יניח ידו, וגבר עמלק והיה כאשר ירים משה ידו וגבר ישראל וגו') וכי ידיו של משה עושות מלחמה או שוברות 'מתני') מלחמה אלא לומר לך כל זמן שהיו ישראל מסתכלין כלפי מעלה ומשעבדין את לבם לאביהם שבשמים היו (מתגברים ואם לאו היו נופלים) that that was related to Klal Yisrael looking heavenwards. What is the Remez of the stretching out of these hands by Gedolei Yisrael who Daven that way? They Daven as Shlomo Hamelech did by stretching out their arms to heaven. Here by Amaleik it is especially important. Because Rashi says that Amaleik came because Sherafu Yidaihem Min Hatorah. Rashi uses the same idea of the symbolism of hands. Rafu Yidaihem Min Hatorah, their hands were

weakened in their torah study or Torah observance and therefore, Amaleik came. What is the symbol of this Remez of Yadaim?

I had once seen and I don't remember the name of the Sefer someone who quoted in the name of the Chiddushai Harim in Parshas Re'ey not in regard to Amaleik but in regard to Bikkurim. Bikkurim is the gift brought to the Bais Hamikdash, one's first fruits. The Posuk in Parshas Re'ey in 12:17 refers to it as (אלו הבכורים: ותרומת ידך) the gift of your hands. There too the question is why mention the hands? The Posuk in Devarim 26:4 says (וּלְקַח הַכֹּהֵן הַטָּנֵא, מִיָּדְךָ). When the Bikkurim are brought to the Bais Hamikdash the language is the Kohen takes the basket from your hand. Why mention the hand? Anything brought to the Bais Hamikdash is given with the hand.

The Chidushei Harim says the mention of the hand is to show that a person has to understand that whatever he does with his hands comes from Hashem and not from him. The opposite of the sense of Kochi V'otzem Yadi. The sense that a person's own ability is what causes success. On the contrary, it comes from Hashem. The first fruits of a farmers work is brought to the Beis Hamikdash as Terumas Yedchem. As an expression of the fact that the fruit comes from the Ribbono Shel Olam. Once he stretches out his hands towards heaven in Davening he is saying symbolically that my hands, the work of my hands all comes from the Ribbono Shel Olam. My prayer is that my hands should be successful. In Tehillim we find in 134:2 (שְׂאוּ-יְדֵיכֶם קִדְשׁ; וּבְרַחוּ,) S'u Yidaichem Kodesh Uvarchu Es Hashem. Dovid Hamelech says stretch your hands out in holiness when you bless Hashem. Show that your hands, whatever they do comes from the Ribbono Shel Olam.

We find that Rebbi (the Tanna) before his death stuck out his fingers towards heaven. That idea that the hand represents that, is an idea of stretching out your hands towards heaven and saying that the Koach of my hand comes from Hakadosh Baruch Hu.

Sheivet Levi had no portion in Eretz Yisrael. They understood that everything they received came from Hashem. When the Kohen accepts the basket from the Yisrael Rashi says that the basket of the Bikkurim is brought to the Beis Hamikdash (ולקח הכהן הטנא מידך): והניף אותו. כהן מניח ידו תחת יד: (הבעלים ומניף). The Yisrael (the farmer) would be holding his hands under the basket. The Kohen would put his hands under the hands of the Yisrael and lift it heavenward. What a beautiful expression, showing the Kohen's hands which are hands that understand that there is no Kochi V'otzem Yadi that it all comes from Hashem. He lifts up the Yisrael's hands with his towards heaven. That is the expression of lifting ones hands heavenward. (והיה כאשר ירים משה ידו וגבר) (ישראל). When Jews understand that everything depends on the blessing of heaven then (וגבר) (ישראל), Klal Yisrael has strength and Klal Yisrael is successful.

The question of the week is: before Sheini we read two Pesukim and putting them together there seems to be something of a problem. First we are told that when Klal Yisrael traveled they followed the Anan the heavenly cloud that led them in the Midbar. As a matter of fact the Posuk says that those clouds never disappeared and they were always there. This is brought in 13:22 (לא-יָמִישׁ עֲמוּד) It always led Klal Yisrael wherever they went. (הָעֶנָן, יוֹמָם, וְעַמּוּד הָאֵשׁ, לַיְלָה--לִפְנֵי הָעָם). The Posuk in 14:2 says (וְיָשְׁבוּ וַיַּחֲנוּ לִפְנֵי פִי הַחִירָת, בֵּין מִגְדַּל וּבֵין הַיָּם: לִפְנֵי בַעַל צִפּוֹן, נִקְחוּ תַחֲנוּנוֹ עַל-הַיָּם). Hashem gives Moshe directions to tell Klal Yisrael to travel to this place and that place and then

go there and there to rest. Why give directions? What is the reason? They were following the Anan! Ribbono Shel Olam, just let the Anan go and don't give me directions.

Imagine that you are a passenger in the back of a car and the driver is driving and he starts giving you directions as to where you are going. He is driving, why is he giving you directions? It makes no sense. Why is the Ribbono Shel Olam giving directions. The Anan is driving. Tzorech Iyun!

Rabbi Reisman - Parshas Beshalach 5771

Rebbi this week received a Seifer on Seifer Shemos from Rav Druk on page # 142. Rav Druk was someone whose Sholosh Seudos Shiurim Rebbi attended for the last dozen years or so when he was in Eretz Yisrael. Rav Druk was a tremendous Pikai'ach in understanding people and tying it to the Parsha. So Rebbi started the Shiur with a couple of Vertlach from Rav Druk on this week's Parsha.

15:22 (וַיִּסַּע מֹשֶׁה אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל מִיַּם-סוּף, וַיֵּצְאוּ אֶל-מִדְבַּר-שׁוּר; וַיֵּלְכוּ שְׁלֹשֶׁת-יָמִים בַּמִּדְבָּר, וְלֹא-מָצְאוּ מַיִם) The Shira ends right before this Posuk. There was (אָז יָשִׁיר) and (וַתִּקַּח מְרִיָּם) then a (ס). Then we have this Posuk. The Posuk mentions that they left Yam Suf and travelled and that 3 days later they didn't have water. The connection between leaving the Yam Suf and the fact that they didn't find water is what we are going to try to explain. Rashi says (וַיִּסַּע מֹשֶׁה: וַיִּסַּע מֹשֶׁה) הסייען בעל כרחם שעטרו מצרים סוסייהם: ויסע משה) בתכשיטי זהב וכסף ואבנים טובות, והיו ישראל מוצאין אותם בים, וגדולה היתה ביזת הים מביזת מצרים, שנאמר (שיר) (השירים א יא) תורי זהב נעשה לך עם נקודות הכסף, לפיכך הוצרך להסייען בעל כרחם Moshe Rabbeinu forced Klal Yisrael to leave Yam Suf against their will. The Biza of the yam Suf included gold, silver and valuable stones and the Yidden were loading up with the Bizas Hayam and Moshe had to pull them to leave.

Rav Druk mentioned a Maiseh that happened with his grandfather. He prints the name of a wealthy man who lived in Yerushalayim and Rav Druk's Zaide had gone to visit him. He came into a fancy elaborate house. There were servants walking to and fro. When he came into him there was a beautiful fancy table set up with the breakfast meal which was about to take place. However, when the wealthy man came in and sat down to eat, he ate half of a bread and he stopped. It seems that he had a certain illness that did not allow him to eat and he couldn't properly enjoy his meals.

Later, when Rav Druk's Zaide left, he passed by a person who was a water carrier which was a very menial job and this man was eating a sandwich with some vegetables and he was enjoying it. He learned from that that wealth is not everything. There are times that people have wealth and they can't enjoy it either for emotional or physical reasons. Money is not everything. This is something that Rav Druk's Zaide passed down to his Eineklich.

Rav Druk said now I understand the connection here in the Posuk. (וַיִּסַּע מֹשֶׁה אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל מִיַּם-סוּף) The Yidden had just left Mitzrayim after the Heilige night of Korban Pesach & Bris Milah, and Klal Yisrael was suddenly intoxicated by all the gold, silver, and valuable stones. Moshe Rabbeinu couldn't pull them away and it was very difficult to get them to leave. (וַיִּסַּע מֹשֶׁה אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל מִיַּם-סוּף), suddenly they were very wealthy men each and every one of them. The Ribbono Shel Olam showed them. (וַיֵּלְכוּ שְׁלֹשֶׁת-יָמִים בַּמִּדְבָּר, וְלֹא-), now you have everything,

מִצָּאוּ מֵיָם) suddenly they had nothing. With all their gold and silver they didn't have water. You can't drink the money. It showed Klal Yisrael that wealth doesn't solve all problems.

As it says in the Sefer, All he is missing in life is a better income and wealth. If he has wealth everything else will be fine. It is not that way. Human beings are challenged in that sometimes when someone has money the Ribbono Shel Olam has to remind him that the money is not everything. This is a beautiful insight into this Posuk.

Agav, I would like to mention that I had mentioned a number of weeks ago that in Dikduk there is something called Binyan Kaveid (we had this in Parshas Noach when Noach sent out the Yonah from the Taiva - (וַיִּשְׁלַח)). When you have a verb and there is a Dageish in the middle letter of the word, that Dageish indicates a change in meaning. (וַיִּסַּע מִשָּׁה אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל) This word (וַיִּסַּע) means that Moshe forced them to leave. There is a Dageish in the Samach which is Binyan Kaveid. When we had the word (שִׁלַּח) it meant to send away without expecting the person to come back.

16:20 (וְלֹא-שָׁמְעוּ אֶל-מֹשֶׁה, וַיֹּתְרוּ אֲנָשִׁים מִמֶּנּוּ עַד-בֹּקֶר, וַיִּרְם תּוֹלְעִים, וַיִּבְאֵשׁ; וַיִּקְצֹף עֲלֵהֶם, מֹשֶׁה) When the Man came and Moshe Rabbeinu said don't leave over any Man until the next day which Dasan and Aviram did. So the Man became wormy and spoiled. Moshe was angry with them. When the Torah says (וַיִּקְצֹף) there was something significant for Moshe Rabbeinu to be angry about not just that they didn't listen to him. Here it would seem that for Klal Yisrael this was a good event that took place. Here Klal Yisrael saw that if they don't listen to Moshe and they leave over Man until the next day that it turns wormy and spoiled. Isn't that wonderful? Why did Moshe Rabbeinu become angry over it?

Rav Druk in his Sefer Darash Mordechai on page # 145 brings an insight based from a Meshech Chochmo which is on page # 126. Why was it so that they only had one days worth of food each time the Man fell and of course it was two days worth of food on Friday or Erev Yom Tov? The reason was to make Klal Yisrael Maminim in that since they don't know where their food would come from the next day they would rely on the Borei Olam for their sustenance.

What got Moshe Rabbeinu upset? Until this incident Klal Yisrael collected Man and every night they were obligated to finish it because they couldn't leave over any until the next day (אִישׁ, אֶל-) They had to finish all of the Man. They had a Yei'tzer Hora of where will they get food from the next day. This was a tremendous Nisayon for them and they passed the Nisayon. Klal Yisrael didn't leave anything over and Moshe Rabbeinu said eat it today and have faith.

Dasan and Aviram come and leave over until the next day and it becomes spoiled. Moshe Rabbeinu realized that now Klal Yisrael will not have a Nisayon. Every night they will of course finish the Man as anything left over will anyway become spoiled and wormy by the next morning. Suddenly their Kiyum of this Mitzvah of finishing the Man each night will not be Lishma. It will not be because they have Bitachon or faith, it is going to be because there is no sense of them leaving it over. That is why Moshe got upset. Dasan and Aviram cheated Klal Yisrael out of a tremendous Maaseh that was a Zechus in the Middas Habitachon of Klal Yisrael.

15:26 (Ed. Note - This Dvar Torah was also said in Parshas Eikev 5771) (כָּל-הַמַּחֲלָה אֲשֶׁר-שָׁמַתִּי) (בְּמִצְרַיִם, לֹא-אֲשִׁים עֲלֵיךְ, כִּי אֲנִי יְרֹד, רַפְּאֵךְ) This is a promise to Klal Yisrael that they will be well taken

care of by the Borei Olam. Many Meforshim ask that it says at the beginning of the Posuk (כל- קל) (המחלה אשר-שמתי במצרים, לא-אשים עליך) that the diseases that Mitzrayim had will not befall Klal Yisrael (כי אני ירור, רפאך) because I am Hashem who heals you. First of all, why do you need to be healed if you don't have any (מחלה) in the first place? Secondly, what is the (כי) because I am Hashem who heals you that is the reason that there is no (מחלה)? The Posuk doesn't seem to make sense.

Rav Druk (in his Sefer Darash Mordechai in the Shemos volume on page # 144) K'darko prefaces his Teretz by talking about an incident. Rav Shlomo Zalman Auerbach was in the Hospital and he expressed himself to the doctor in Hebrew using the word Yissurim for the pain he was feeling. The doctor asked him what are Yissurim as it is not a modern Hebrew word. So he answered him that K'aivim, I have pain. Afterwards, Rav Shlomo Zalman thought about it. Why is it that in Rabbinic Hebrew, Klal Yisrael gave a name Yissurim to pain?

When a Yid has pain he tells himself Devarim 8:5 (כי, כאשר ייסר איש את-בנו, ירור אלריך, מיסרך) Ki Kasher Y'yaaser Ish Es B'noi Hashem Elokecha Miyas'reka. That when Hakadosh Baruch Hu causes a person to have pain it is for a purposeful reason just like when sometimes a person has to punish his child so he realizes that it is for a purpose. That is why the name Yissurim is given by Yidden to some sort of a Tzar.

Rav Druk says, (כל-המחלה אשר-שמתי במצרים, לא-אשים עליך) Mitzrayim got punished for the sake of punishment. That Hakadosh Baruch Hu says he will not give Klal Yisrael. Ai we see that Klal Yisrael does suffer from illnesses, Tzar, and discomfort? (כי אני ירור, רפאך) Hakadosh Baruch Hu says that when I the Ribbono Shel Olam give you some sort of disease some sort of a Patch, it is not L'sheim Patch, It is not just a punishment. When the Ribbono Shel Olam gives it then that is something that is being done for a Refuah, to help heal something. So the (כי) fits well. (כל-המחלה) when I Hakadosh Baruch Hu cause a difficulty to you it is (רפאך) as a Refuah. 3 beautiful Verlach from Rav Druk on the Parsha.

17:14 (I have copied this Dvar Torah from when Rebbi discussed it Purim time) (ויאמר ירור אל-) The Satmar Rebbe writes in the Divrei Yoel in the name of his Grandfather, that we know all of Tanach was given to Moshe Rabbeinu at Har Sinai. That being the case, it would include all 24 books of Tanach that were given at Har Sinai. Naturally, Moshe couldn't publicize what was written in those books as it had not taken place yet. When we find in the Posuk (ויאמר ירור אל-משה, כתב זאת זכרון בספר, ושים, בְּאָזְנֵי יְהוֹשֻׁעַ: כִּי-מַחֲזֵה אֲמַתָּה אֶת-זֶכֶר עֲמַלְק, מִתַּחַת הַשָּׁמַיִם) (בְּאָזְנֵי יְהוֹשֻׁעַ: כִּי-מַחֲזֵה אֲמַתָּה אֶת-זֶכֶר עֲמַלְק, מִתַּחַת הַשָּׁמַיִם) Sim B'oznai Yehoshua, meaning put in Yehoshua's ears, the Satmar Rebbe Teitches this to mean that in every generation the Gadol Hador knew the story that was unfolding. He had already read the book of Nach and knew what was going to happen and nevertheless kept it a secret that was passed from one Gadol Hador to the next.

He writes that Mordechai knew the story of Purim as it unfolded, and says it is a B'feirush in a Posuk. It says in the Megillah 4:1א ; וּמַרְדֵּכַי, יָדַע אֶת-כָּל-אֲשֶׁר נַעֲשָׂה, וַיִּקְרַע מְרַדְּכַי אֶת-בְּגָדָיו, וַיִּלְבַּשׁ שָׂק וַאֲפֹר; So it says that Mordechai knew everything that was taking place. However, it used what was taking place between Haman and Achashveiroish to effect a Teshuva movement by Klal Yisrael.

The Vort itself is a big Chiddush for an Acharoin to say, however, the Mussar from it is extraordinary. Imagine that you are an actor in a play, and you have the script so you know everything that is going to happen. Part of the play is that someone dies and they cry over his death and someone has difficulties like poverty or illness. As all good plays you know that it has a happy ending. When you are acting out the part of sadness, you are not upset or depressed. You are only worried about performing your part properly.

So what the Satmar Rebbe is basically saying is, the mask of Oilam Hazei is such that our challenge is just to perform our parts properly, however, the sadness that comes with difficulties is somewhat mitigated if one looks at themselves with *ידע את-כל-אשר נעשה*, and the person knows what should take place.

13:17 The question of the week is: (*כי קרוב*) *וְלֹא-נָחַם אֱלֹהִים דְּרָדָה אֶרֶץ פְּלִשְׁתִּים*, *כִּי קָרוֹב הָיָה, בְּשַׁלַּח פָּרְעֹה אֶת-הָעָם, וְלֹא-נָחַם אֱלֹהִים דְּרָדָה אֶרֶץ פְּלִשְׁתִּים, כִּי אָמַר אֱלֹהִים, פֶּן-יִנָּחַם הָעָם בְּרֹאֲתָם מִלַּחְמָה--וַיָּשׁוּבוּ מִצְרַיִם* (הוא: *כִּי אָמַר אֱלֹהִים, פֶּן-יִנָּחַם הָעָם בְּרֹאֲתָם מִלַּחְמָה--וַיָּשׁוּבוּ מִצְרַיִם*) Why didn't Hashem lead Klal Yisrael straight along the coast and then directly to Eretz Yisrael because maybe they will see battles and they weren't ready for that. This seems to be an incorrect reason.

Moshe Rabbeinu was already told at the S'neh that Klal Yisrael would get the Torah at Har Sinai. He was told B'feirush that the Torah would be given B'hahor Hazei at this place. So Moshe Rabbeinu was told that the Torah would be given there. Klal Yisrael had to go B'midbar Sinai to Har Sinai to receive the Torah. Certainly they weren't going to conquer Eretz Yisrael and then get the Torah. Therefore, it seems to be a difficulty (*וְלֹא-נָחַם אֱלֹהִים דְּרָדָה אֶרֶץ פְּלִשְׁתִּים*) why? (*כִּי קָרוֹב הָיָה*)! Even without that reason they had to receive the Torah at Har Sinai? This seems to be a Shtarka Kasha.

Rabbi Reisman - Parshas Beshalach 5770

15:18- 15:19 *כִּי בָא סוּס פָּרְעֹה בְּרִכְבוֹ וּבִפְרָשָׁיו, בַּיּוֹם, וַיִּשָּׁב יְרוּר עֲלֵהֶם אֶת-מֵי הַיָּם יָט. יְרוּר יִמְלֹךְ, לְעֹלָם וָעֶד יִי 15:19* *וּבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל הִלְכוּ בַּיַּבְשָׁה, בְּתוֹךְ הַיָּם* If you look in the Siddur you will see that after Hashem Yimloch L'Oilam Va'ed, you will see that *Ki Va Sus* is in parenthesis. Why is this so? The Mishnah B'rura in Siman 51 says that there is actually a Machlokes Arizal and Gra as to whether one should say it. The Ari'zal says to say it and the Gra says not to say it. The Mashmaois of the Mishna B'rura is to say it like the Ari'zal holds, because the Gra is brought only parenthetically. Typically the Mishna B'rura would hold like the Gra if there is a Machloikes with the Ari'zal.

The Ramban in our Parsha says B'feirush, that the Posuk *Ki Va Sus* is not part of the Shira. As a matter of fact, the Rabbeinu Bachye says the Shira has 18 P'sukim. If you look in the Parsha **15:1** is *Az Yashir* and **15:18** is Hashem Yimloch. Posuk **19** is *Ki Va Sus*. So it seems that the Ramban and Rabbeinu Bachye hold like the Gra that *Ki Va Sus* is not part of the Shira.

So we need a Hesber as to why we go like the Minhag of the Ari'zal as opposed to these Rishoinim and the Gra.

Rebbi suggested that if you look at our Sifrei Torah that are written Al Pi Mesoira, the Posuk *Ki Va Sus* is written with the same type of writing as the rest of the Shira. The Mesorah that we have

is based on the Mesorah of Teverya which is the Mesorah of writing a Sefer Torah for all Klal Yisrael. That Mesorah is the reason for our Psak to say Ki Va Sus.

14:28 וַיָּשָׁבוּ הַמַּיִם, וַיִּכְסּוּ אֶת-הַרְרֹבַע וְאֶת-הַפְּרָשִׁים, לְכֹל הַיַּל פְּרָעָה, הַבָּאִים אֲחֲרֵיהֶם בַּיָּם: לֹא-נִשְׁאַר בָּהֶם, עַד- **14:28** Rashi explains that Paroh was the one who remained alive in order to say over the story of Galus Mitzrayim and Kriyas Yam Suf. In the Siddur we seem to contradict this in Ezras Avoiseinu where we say Echad Mai'hem Loi Noisar meaning that no one remained alive. Actually this comes not only from the Siddur but also from **Tehillim 106:11** וַיִּכְסּוּ-מַיִם צְרִייהֶם; אֶחָד מֵהֶם, לֹא נִוְתָר

The Malbim and Netziv say there is a fundamental difference between Nishar and Noisar. Nishar means that something is left over B'kavana (deliberately). Noisar means that something is left over incidentally. Mimeila it is good. In the Posuk **14:28** that is quoted above, Paroh was leftover deliberately to tell over the story of Galus Mitzrayim and Kriyas Yam Suf. However, in Tehillim we are saying a Shvach of Hakadoish Baruch Hu. Ususally in a battle at least one of the enemy gets away and escapes, however, here Loi Noisar no one escaped incidentally.

This concept of the difference between Nishar and Noisar will answer many different Kashas. In last week's Parsha, **12:10** וְלֹא-תִוְתִירוּ מִמֶּנּוּ, עַד-בִּקְרַר וְהִנָּתַר מִמֶּנּוּ עַד-בִּקְרַר, בְּאֵשׁ תִּשְׂרְפוּ **12:10** it says don't leave over any of the Korban Pesach. That is called Noisar. In **12:34** וַיִּשָּׂא הָעָם אֶת-בְּצֻקוֹ, טָרֶם יִחַמְזוּ; מִשְׁאַרְתָּם צָרַרְתָּ **12:34** it says Mish'a'roisam which means the leftover dough. The Nafka Mina is Kidvareinu, the Matza was leftover deliberately to take out dough to eat when they left Mitzrayim while the Loi Sasiru is left over incidentally.

Another example is in Parshas Noach **7:23** וַיִּמַּח אֶת-כָּל-הַיְקוּם אֲשֶׁר עַל-פְּנֵי הָאֲדָמָה, מֵאָדָם עַד-בְּהֵמָה עַד-רֶמֶשׂ **7:23** The Ribboinoi Shel Oilam left over Noach deliberately. In Parshas Vayishlach we have in **32:25** וַיִּוְתַר יַעֲקֹב, לְבִדּוֹ; וַיֵּאבֶק אִישׁ עִמּוֹ, עַד עֲלוֹת **32:25** that Yaakov remained incidentally. There wasn't a plan. He just went to get the Pachim K'tanim.

In Parshas Bo we have in **10:5** וְכִסְפָּה אֶת-עֵינַי הָאֲרָזִים, וְלֹא יוּכַל לִרְאוֹת אֶת-הָאֲרָזִים; וְאָכַל אֶת-יִתְרַת הַפְּלִטָּה, הַנִּשְׁאַרְתָּ **10:5** that whatever was leftover deliberately from the Barad will be eaten by the Arbe.

In Nach this is something to take notice of as it is just beautiful. Those of you who learned Melachim and Divrei Hayamim know that very often the Posuk says, that we will not tell you the rest of the story of this king, because the Posuk only brings statements of things that we will learn from. So constantly the Posuk says V'yeser Divrei Melech so and so Haloi K'suvim B'divrei Hayamim. This appears 43 times between Divrei Hayamim and Melachim. There is one place that Yeser is not used for a king and Shar is used and that is by Shlomo Hamelech. The reason is because Koiheles, Shir Hashirim, Mishlei were leftover for the Chashivus and placed somewhere else. The other kings, only other incidental information was leftover somewhere else so it was Yeser.

After the Holocaust those who survived took on the name Shearis Hapleita. They saw themselves as people who were leftover with a plan. There was a purpose that the Ribboinoi Shel Oilam left

them over for. Many Jews saw themselves as Noissar, that after the Holocaust Yiddishkeit was finished. The Shearis are the ones that took it upon themselves to rebuild.

A Pshat in the Parshas Haman: The Rama at the end of Siman 242 which is at the beginning of Hilchos Shabbos writes, there is a Minhag to eat a type of food that has a layer on top and on bottom to have a reminder of the Man which had a layer on the top and on the bottom of Tal. This is where the Minhag of eating Potato Kugel comes from. Potato Kugel has a layer on top and on bottom. This is a Zeicher to the Man. The one day of the week that Man did not fall on is Shabbos. Shouldn't the Minhag of eating Kugel be the other 6 days and not on Shabbos? The Biyur Halacha actually brings this Kasha from Kadmo'inim in Siman 242.

Toisafos answers that it is a Zecher that Man did not fall on Shabbos. The Toras Chaim offers another answer that we don't have a Zecher to the Man of the past in the Midbar we are doing it as a reminder of the Man we will eat in the times of Mashiach when we will be Zoiche to a number of foods that are mentioned. K'negged the Livyasoin we eat fish on Shabbos. K'negged Shor Habor we eat meat on Shabbos. K'negged the Yayin from the Sheishes Y'mei B'reishis we drink Yayin on Shabbos. K'negged the Man that we will eat when Mashiach comes, we eat Pashida (something that has a layer on top and on bottom like Potato Kugel.)

There is actually a Nafka Mina between the 2. The Man fell 6 days a week. So the Friday night Seuda is a time that we had Man already in the normal way from Friday morning. So it is only a Chiddush on Shabbos day that no Man fell. According to the first Teretz that we said that we eat Kugel L'zeicher that Man did not fall, we should actually eat the Kugel Dafka by day and not Leil Shabbos. According to the second reason that Shabbos is a Mei'ein Yoim She'kuloi Shabbos which starts Friday night, you can eat Kugel on Friday night as well. Yisrael Kedoishim eat Kugel Friday night and Shabbos day. This would be a Nafka Mina between the 2 reasons brought here.

16:3 וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֱלֹהִים בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, מִי-יִתֵּן מִיָּתְנוּ בְּיַד-יְרֹנָה בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם, בְּשִׁבְתֵּנוּ עַל-סִיר הַבָּשָׂר, בְּאֹכְלֵנוּ לֶחֶם לְשִׁבְעָה: כִּי- **16:3** When Klal Yisrael started receiving the Man they had really requested Lechem and Basar. The Gemara says in Maseches Yoma that Klal Yisrael had animals which they had taken out of Mitzrayim so they were asking Sheloi K'hoigen, however, Lechem they really didn't have so they were asking K'hoigen. So the Man was received without any measurement of punishment. Since the measurement of Man that fell was only an Aisiris Ha'eifa which is not a whole lot of food, what did the animals eat in the Midbar as we already mentioned last week, everyone had at least 90 Chamoirim full of the booty of Mitzrayim? Animals don't eat meat and Klal Yisrael had no way of growing bread.

Rabbi Reisman - Parshas Beshalach 5769

Rebbi started the Shiur with 3 questions. The first one is, it says in 13:18 (וַתִּמְשִׁים עָלוּ בְנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל,) Chamushim Olu, that the Bnei Yisrael came up armed when they left Mitzrayim as Rashi says (אִין חֲמוּשִׁים אֵלֶּא מְזוּיִינִים: וְחֲמוּשִׁים). If they took arms, they obviously planned on using it. So why didn't they use it when Mitzrayim was Rodfim Acharayhem as it says in 14:8 (וַיִּרְדְּפוּ, אַחֲרָיו) (בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל), and they were all in a panic?

The second question is, we learn this week about the Man. Since there was a double portion on Friday for Shabbos, we have Lechem Mishneh as a Zeicher on Shabbos. If a Yom Tov in the Midbar fell out on a Friday, then there was 3 portions of Man on Thursday as Tosafos in Maseches Beitzah on 2b says (פרש"י וע"כ בא לאשמועינן דאפילו הכנה בידי שמים (ב) ביצה אסורה) והיה ביום הששי וגו'. דאי משום הכנה בידי אדם כלומר שיאפו ויבשלו מבעוד יום הא בהדיא כתיב את אשר תאפו אפו אלא הזמנה בפה קאמר ואין י"ט מכין לשבת כו' ואין שבת מכין לי"ט מכ"ש דכיון דאין י"ט מכין לשבת כ"ש דאין שבת מכין לי"ט והקשה רש"י אם כן ביצה שנולדה באחד בשבת או לאחר י"ט תתסר מכ"ש דשבת וי"ט לא מכינין אהדדי כ"ש דלא מכינין אחול ותירץ דלגבי סעודת חול לא צריך הכנה דאין סעודת חול חשובה אך תימה הואיל והכנה דאורייתא היאך אופין ומבשלין מי"ט לשבת וכ"ת ע"י ערובי תבשילין וכי אתי תקנתא דרבנן וליעקר הכנה דאורייתא ונראה ליישב דרבה גופיה אזיל לטעמיה דאית ליה הואיל ואי מקלעי אורחין חזי ליה השתא נמי חזי ליה ואפילו לדין ניחא דכל דבר אפוי ומבושל לא שייך ביה הכנה שאינו מחוסר רק תקון בעלמא דמעיקרא הוה חזי ליה רק גבי ביצה שהוא דבר חדש שלא היתה בעולם ולא היתה ראויה כלל מעיקרא (ולאפות ולבשל תקוני מלתא בעלמא) תימה דכאן משמע שהמן לא היה יורד בי"ט כדפי' רש"י הששי הראוי להכנה וזהו בחול והאמר ויברך ויקדש ברכו במן וקדשו במן שבשבת לא היה יורד מן אבל בי"ט היה יורד וי"ל דמדרשים חלוקין כדאיתא במדרש (מכילתא פ' בשלח) שבת לא יהיה (שמות טז) לרבות יום הכפורים לא יהיה בו לרבות י"ט שלא היה יורד בהן מן ועי"ל דאפי' היה יורד בי"ט מ"מ בי"ט שחל להיות בע"ש לא היה יורד מדכתיב קרא בו ביום (הששי ולא כתיב ששי משמע הששי המיוחד שהוא ראוי להכנה ולא בששי שהוא יו"ט). Why don't we have a zecher to this as well, when a Yom Tov falls out on a Friday and take 3 Chalakim of Lechem? An answer was not offered, however, we are pointed to the Meshech Chochmoh who deals with this.

The third question is, we know that Moshe Rabbeinu took Atzmois Yoisef Imoi as it says in 13:19 (ויקח מִשֶׁה אֶת-עֲצֻמוֹת יוֹסֵף, עִמּוֹ) and Rashi points this out (והעליתם את עצמתי מזה אתכם) (למדנו שאף עצמות כל השבטים העלו עמהם, שנאמר אתכם לרבות יום הכפורים לא יהיה בו לרבות י"ט שלא היה יורד בהן מן ועי"ל דאפי' היה יורד בי"ט מ"מ בי"ט שחל להיות בע"ש לא היה יורד מדכתיב קרא בו ביום (הששי ולא כתיב ששי משמע הששי המיוחד שהוא ראוי להכנה ולא בששי שהוא יו"ט). Why don't we have a zecher to this as well, when a Yom Tov falls out on a Friday and take 3 Chalakim of Lechem? An answer was not offered, however, we are pointed to the Meshech Chochmoh who deals with this.

Rabbi Yeshoshua Leib Diskin asked this question. He answers that Moshe was afraid that Menashe and Ephraim would fight over who should take it, so he took it. Maybe we can say, the other Atzomois were buried, so it wasn't hard from them to take it, however, Yoisef's Atzomois that was in the Nilus was a big thing. That is why it says that Moshe was Oisek with Yoisef's Atzomois and Klal Yisrael was Oisek with Bizas Mitzrayim. Maybe this is what is so special about it, however, it doesn't fit so well with what is the Gadlus of Moshe Rabbeinu if every other Sheivet also took Atzamos.

The Meshech Chochmoh on this week's Parsha comes to answer the question of why the Yam Suf didn't want to split because Halalu Oivdei AVOIDAH ZARAH V'Halalu Oivdei AVODAH ZARAH, however, the other Nisim for example the Makkoh of Tzefardaiya did happen in Mitzrayim without any glitches. Why wasn't there the same Tayna of Halalu Oivdei AVOIDAH ZARAH V'Halalu Oivdei AVODAH ZARAH?

The Meshech Chochmoh klers, which Aveirah is a more Chomordik Aveirah, an Aveirah Maisi like Chillul Shabbos or AVOIDAH ZORAH, or an Aveirah that is a Kilkul Hamiddos like Sinah, Chemdah, Loshon Horah, Machloikes (which are faults in the Midda of a person)?

We seem to find a contradiction in Chazal. On the one hand, Yehoraig V'al Ya'avoir is only on 3 Aveirois Maisiyois. It seems Maisiyois Aveirois are worse than Aveirois that are Kilkul Hammidois. On the other hand, we see repeatedly that when Aveirois that are Kilkul Hamiddos

like Gaivoh are discussed, Hashem says Ani V'hu Einon Yechoilin Ladur B'oilom Echad. So the language is much harsher for an Aveira that is Kilkul Hamiddos than it is for an Aveirah that is done with a Maiseh.

The Meshech Chochmoh's Yesoid is that there is a difference between a Din Hatzibbur and a Din Hayachid. Every Yachid has his battle with certain Middos. Some people have a problem with Atzlus and some don't. Mitzvois Maisiyois are much more Chomer for an individual because you have to draw the line by certain Aveirois. Like for example Chillul Shabbos is K'neged Kol Hatoirah Kuloi. For a Yochid being Oiver an Aveira Maisiyois is worse than being Oiver an Aveira that is Kilkul Hamiddos. However, for a Tzibbur that is being Oiver an Aveira that is Kilkul Hamiddos is much worse, for example a whole city that are Ba'al Lashon Hora or Ba'al Machloikes. So when you look at a Tzibbur, Kilkul Hamiddos is far worse.

We find that the 2 main Aveirois in the Midbar, were the Eigel and the Meraglim. The Eigel was an Aveira Maisi and the Meraglim was Kilkul Hamiddois. As a result of the Eigel, they were still able to go to Eretz Yisrael. After the Meraglim, they were not able to go to Eretz Yisrael. The reason is because the Aveira was worse because of the Kilkul Hamiddois. The same thing is found regarding the Batei Mikdashois that were Choriv. The Bayis Rishon was Chareiv because of the big 3 Aveirois. That Galus was for only 70 years. Bayis Sheini which was destroyed because of Sinas Chinum which is far worse, has not been rebuilt yet. We find that even when Yidden do Aveirois, Hashem is Shoicen Imi, however regarding Lashon Hora or Machloikes, Hashem will not stay with us.

In Mitzrayim, we find that Klal Yisrael was Oihavim Zeh Es Zeh. Chazal praise the Yidden in Mitzrayim. There was no Kilkul Hamiddos in Mitzrayim. So there was no Halalu Oivdei AVOIDAH Zarah V'Halalu Oivdei Avodah Zarah because the same way Kilkul Hamiddos is terrible for a Tzibbur, so to when there are Middos Toivois it is a saving grace for the Tzibbur. When they got to the Yam, they began to argue with some saying we should go back to Mitzrayim. Once they became embroiled in Machloikes the protection left them and the Taynois of Halalu Oivdei AVOIDAH Zarah V'Halalu Oivdei Avodah Zarah came back as well.

This might be the reason it is special to perform a Mitzvah or learn a Masechtah that is often time not done or learned. On a Yochid it doesn't matter much, however, for a Tzibbur not to for example have a Chevrah Kaddisha or a Bikkur Choilim it is a problem.

The Ohr Somaiach in the beginning of Hilchos Talmud Torah asks why is there no individual Mitzvois for every Middah Toivah. Why isn't there a Lav for getting angry or jealousy. For an individual you can't be Toivea for Middos, because some people are easy to anger and some are harder to anger. Some people find it hard to get up in the morning and for others that is not their Yeitzer Hora. So it is not Shava L'chol Nefesh. Mitzvois Maiseyois are Shava L'chol Nefesh. So when you attach yourself to a community, the Kilkul of the community of the Tzibbur that is in a Machloikes should not be underestimated.

The following Yesod is something Rav Pam used to say over in his Schmuzzin. Chazal say the Man was able to be Mevarer a Mitziyos. Let's say there was a child and it was a Sofeik if it was a seven month child from the second husband or a nine month child from the first husband, or an

Eved Canani, where there was a dispute between 2 families as to who owned him. What would happen is, in the morning the Man would fall, and in whichever person's Rishus the extra portion of Man would fall for the child or the Eved, that would be Mevarer the S'feika of whose child it was or who's Eved it was. The Kasha is, Torah Lav Bashomayim Hu so how can it be that the Man was Mevarer a Halachah?

There is a Gemara in Maseches Yoma 75a (in the 9th wide line) (והמן) כזרע גד לבן (וטעמו) אמר ר') אסי עגול כגיידא ולבן כמרגלית (תניא נמי הכי) גד שדומה לזרע פשתן בגבעולין אחרים אומרים גד שדומה להגדה שמושכת לבו של אדם כמים תניא אידך גד שמגיד להם לישראל אי בן תשעה לראשון ואי בן שבעה לאחרון לבן שמלבין עונותיהן של ישראל תניא ר' יוסי אומר כשם שהנביא היה מגיד להם לישראל מה שבחורין ומה שבסדקין כך המן מגיד להם לישראל מה שבחורין ומה שבסדקין כיצד שנים שבאו לפני משה לדין זה אומר עבדי גנבת וזה אומר אתה מכרתו לי אמר להם משה לבוקר משפט למחר אם נמצא עומרו בבית רבו ראשון בידוע שזה גנבו אם נמצא עומרו בבית רבו שני בידוע שזה מכרו לו וכן איש ואשה שבאו לפני משה לדין זה אומר היא סרחה עלי והיא אומרת הוא סרח עלי אמר להם משה לבקר משפט למחר אם נמצא עומרה בבית בעלה בידוע שהיא סרחה עליה (עליו נמצא עומרה בבית אביה בידוע שהוא סרחה עליה), that says that the Man was Mevarer these S'feikos. The Tosafos Yoim Kippurim (a sefer on Yoma) asks this Kasha.

He answers what appears to be a Doichek Teretz, that the P'sak Din came from Moishe's Bais Din. If people would have Taynois, Moishe would show them the Man as a Raya to his P'sak. The Maratz Chiyois has a more Yesoidoisdika Teretz. Rav Elchonon in the second Cheileik of the Koivetz Shiurim says this Teretz as well. Rav Pam would also say it over in the name of the Chidah. Toirah Lav Bashomayim Hi means Shamayim can't be Mevarer a Halachah, a Din can't be Mevarer Bashomayim. However, a Shaila in a physical fact (a Mitziyois) of course Shamayim can be Mevarer that, and therefore, the Man can be Mevarer it because it was a Shaila in fact (whose child or Eved is it).

The Ponovitche Rav in Sefer Moshchas Shemen, Cheilek Bais says, the Gemara many times says Teiku, which Pashut P'shat means let it stand. The Toisafos Yom Tov brings that Teiku means Tishbi Yetareitz Kushyois V'abayois. Meaning Eliyahu Hanavi will Pasken the Halacha. The Gemara says in Eilu Mitziyois, and also in the first Perek by Manah Shlishi that Yhei Munach Ad Sheyavaoi Eliyahu. Why is it that in one place we say Teiku and in the other place we say Ad Sheyavoi Eliyahu? Why do we change it? Why do we call him Tishbi there and Eliyahu here?

The answer is based on the Chasam Soifer in Cheilek Vav Siman Tzadik Ches. The Chasam Soifer says, is Eliyahu Hanavi who never died Michuyav in Mitzvois? The Gemara says that when he comes to tell us that Moshiach is coming, he will not come on Shabbos because he can't travel, meaning he is Michuyav in Techumin. The Chasam Soifer asks, what happens when there are 2 Brisim on Shabbos, how does he travel then?

The Chasam Soifer answers, when Eliyahu comes down as a Guf, he is Michuyav in Mitzvois. By a Bris, Eliyahu comes down as a Malach, and therefore, is not Michuyav in Mitzvois. If so, then when Eliyahu comes to Pasken Halachos, if he comes in a Guf he can Pasken Halachos, however, if he comes as a Malach then Toirah Lav Bashomayim Hu and he wouldn't be able to Pasken Halachois.

When Eliyahu comes to be Mevarer a Mitziyois, Eliyahu will just say who dropped it. So then we say, Ad Sheyavoi Eliyahu. Even a Malach could be Mevarer. However, to be Mevarer a Halacha as is implied by the word Tishbi meaning that he lives in the town of Tishbi, he must come in a Guf to Pasken a Halacha.