



Still Time Left

... וַיִּצְמִינוּ בְּדִי וּבְמִשָּׁה עֲבָדוֹ. אֵזוּ לְשִׁיר מִשָּׁה... (שְׁמוֹת יֵד : לֵא, טו : א).
... they had faith in 'd and מִשָּׁה, His servant. Then מִשָּׁה [and the Children of Israel] sang...

רש"י points out that the word לְשִׁיר is in the future tense [will sing]. This futuristic wording is an allusion in the תּוֹרָה for תְּחִיַּת הַמֵּתִים, the revival of the dead, when we will sing once again.

The first Modzitzer Rebbe, ר' קִזְמִיר of Kuzmir, explains that at the time of קְרִיעַת יַם סוּף there was such clarity that כָּלֵל יִשְׂרָאֵל had faith. The fact that ד' — there was no need for אֱמוּנָה, faith. The תּוֹרָה mentions that כָּלֵל יִשְׂרָאֵל had אֱמוּנָה in ד' and in מִשָּׁה must be a reference to another time of redemption requiring אֱמוּנָה. That is the time of the final גְּאוּלָּה, with מְשִׁיחַ and תְּחִיַּת הַמֵּתִים.

Looking over the אֶתְרוֹג one more time, Meir decided that it looked good, but he still wanted to take it to be checked by his רַבִּי, the well-known Rav Zalman Baharan in מֵאָה שְׁעָרִים. Rav Zalman had helped to establish מֵאָה שְׁעָרִים and was a renowned expert on אֶתְרוֹגִים.

It was the day after יוֹם כַּפּוּר and there was a lot of work to be done for the upcoming יוֹם טוֹב. Rav Zalman was a busy man, so Meir had to stop by several times before he found him at home. Finally, he took out his אֶתְרוֹג and showed it to Rav Zalman, waiting in eager anticipation for the final word on his purchase. Meir thought that Rav Zalman would probably find it perfectly acceptable since the אֶתְרוֹג was almost entirely clean of any dots, black or otherwise, with beautiful, almost symmetric furrows that ran up the entire אֶתְרוֹג. It seemed perfect.

Upon close inspection, however, Rav Zalman found that something was wrong. One of the tiny scratches on the אֶתְרוֹג ran deeper than just a natural crevice. Looking a bit more closely, he concluded that the אֶתְרוֹג's scratches were a problem. Finally he told Meir that the אֶתְרוֹג would be valid מְדַרְבָּנָן, but מְדַאֲרֵיחָא, one would not be able to fulfill his obligation with it.

That year, the first day of סוּכּוֹת came out on שַׁבָּת;

therefore, everyone was exempt from using the אֶרְבַּע מִיָּנִים on the first day of יוֹם טוֹב. The תּוֹרָה's requirement regarding the use of the אֶרְבַּע מִיָּנִים applies only to the first day; after that, the obligation is only מְדַרְבָּנָן. Meir was satisfied that although his אֶתְרוֹג was valid only מְדַרְבָּנָן, it would suffice in a year such as this one.

Meir was relieved; he felt it unnecessary to aspire to the higher level of requirement determined by the תּוֹרָה. Upon seeing and hearing Meir's reaction, Rav Zalman burst into tears. Meir immediately realized that Rav Zalman was clearly disappointed in the lack of importance Meir had placed on the מְצוּחָה and the fact that he was "fine" with using an אֶתְרוֹג that was permissible מְדַרְבָּנָן. Not wanting to disappoint his רַבִּי, he apologized for his reaction and tried to explain that this was a difficult year to find exceptionally beautiful kosher אֶתְרוֹגִים.

But Meir had read Rav Zalman completely wrong. In fact, when he heard what was bothering Rav Zalman, he realized not only what an exalted level Rav Zalman was on, but also how much he, Meir, had to grow in his עֲבוּדַת ד'.

"Do you realize that there are three days left until סוּכּוֹת? This means that since you are happy with an אֶתְרוֹג that is only kosher מְדַרְבָּנָן you are not truly awaiting the coming of מְשִׁיחַ and the עֲבוּדָה in the בֵּית הַמִּקְדָּשׁ happening within the next three days! The רַמְבַּ"ם writes that one must be שְׂבִיבָא יוֹם שְׂבִיבָא, one needs to wait for מְשִׁיחַ — he can arrive at any moment!

"When the בֵּית הַמִּקְדָּשׁ is rebuilt, then the מְצוּחָה of אֶרְבַּע מִיָּנִים will apply all seven days of סוּכּוֹת and will no longer be מְדַרְבָּנָן."

Finally Rav Zalman burst into tears again. "Oy ... מִשֵּׁן קִינֵד! How can you think that מְשִׁיחַ is not coming before יוֹם טוֹב?"

Meir took his אֶתְרוֹג back from Rav Zalman and watched as his רַבִּי wept. There was no question that his רַבִּי longed for מְשִׁיחַ's coming every day and wanted everyone to feel the same.

Perhaps if we did, then it would happen!

Adapted from: Touched by a Story 4 (with kind permission from ArtScroll)

Focus on Middos

Dear תְּלָמִיד,

When it came to money matters, R' Beinish Finkel זצ"ל was renowned for his integrity and honesty. His home was rich in קְדוּשָׁה and spiritual 'luxuries,' but contained only chairs, beds, a table, a bookshelf and basic kitchen appliances. His daughters' weddings were the same. One wedding was held on עֶרֶב שַׁבָּת, and the סְעוּדָה was held on Friday night, primarily for family members. The other guests were served cake and soda.

Although he was responsible for the millions of dollars that streamed into the יִשְׁבִּיעָה, he was extremely careful to make sure that none of the money was tainted by any אִסוּר. He even refused to conduct any financial

arrangement that involved הִתֵּר עֲסָקָה (a valid business partnership that circumvents the אִסוּר רְבִית, interest).

Once, the יִשְׁבִּיעָה was offered a huge grant from a special fund so that it would be able to build a new wing. R' Beinish, however, feared that the transfer of the funds involved a הִתֵּר עֲסָקָה and was wary of accepting the grant.

For many weeks, the יִשְׁבִּיעָה's administration worked on a plan that would circumvent the need for a הִתֵּר עֲסָקָה. When the grant money finally arrived, R' Beinish went to the bank and, along with its director, examined the issue from every possible angle. After he was certain that it did not involve a הִתֵּר עֲסָקָה, he agreed to accept the grant. However, as he

stood on line in the bank waiting to receive the money, he was suddenly overcome by tremendous fear.

"ניין!" he determined then and there. "I won't accept it. I am afraid of violating a תּוֹרָה prohibition." He never accepted the grant.

My תְּלָמִיד, R' Beinish understood Who is the One Who gives sustenance and planted the seeds of purity that made his יִשְׁבִּיעָה's תּוֹרָה eternal. Today, 1000s of יוֹנְגֵּלְיִט travel in chartered buses to attend the יִשְׁבִּיעָה, which is now the largest כּוֹלֵל in the world.

זֶה יִזְכְּרוּ בְּרוּךְ!

בְּיָדֶיךָ,

Your רַבִּי

Story heard directly from: ר' יַאֲקוֹב שְׁלִיט"א

- There is a prevalent מְנַהֵג to place food out for the birds on שַׁבָּת שִׁירָה. The עֲרוּדָה הַשְּׁלָחֵן defends this מְנַהֵג, arguing that since his sole intent is to be מְכִיר טוֹב to the birds for their service, his exertion is for his own sake (not the birds') which is permitted; however, מְשַׁנָּה בְּרוּרָה isn't satisfied. Therefore, it is best to place any food out before שַׁבָּת.

Reviewed by R' Gedalyahu Eckstein

Since we only discuss 1-3 הלכות, it is important to consider these הלכות in the context of the bigger picture. Use them as a starting point for further in-depth study.

The 10th International Pirchei שמו"ת Contest

This week 14 of our 10th Annual Pirchei Newsletter International פירכיים contest.

In חנוכה (חוברת כ"ו תשע"ה: יל) ספר אור השבת, Kanievsky ר' חיים, was questioned regarding a child reviewing only part of a פירשה. For חנוכה, a child must normally fulfill the complete מצוה. Regarding פירכה, שנים מקרא ואחד תרגום, חיים ר' was of the opinion that a child should be trained "לאט לאט" — in stages, similar to our פירכה Contest: 1st and 2nd grade (6+) should complete the פירשה until שני, 3rd grade (8+) until שלישי, 4th grade (9+) until רביעי, 5th grade (10+) until חמישי, 6th grade (11+) until ששי, 7th and 8th grades (12+) complete the entire פירשה.

Is your school or city represented in the Pirchei International פירכה contest? Every week is a new opportunity to enter this raffle! Any week you and your school can join and become part of this amazing קדוש ד' קדוש. You can be part of hundreds of the children who are igniting the world with the זכות of this unique מצוה as an אגודה אחת!

It is not too late to enter the contest. To become a part of this amazing קדוש ד' קדוש, please send a weekly fax to [718 506 9633](tel:7185069633) or email to shnavimmikracontest@gmail.com signed by a parent — include your grade, name, school, city, state, zip, contact and fax #, and which פירשה.

The list of contestants as of press time for first 13 weeks of the contest are:

Grade 1 — Yeshaya Gewirtz; Yeshivas Kochav Yitzchok (TI); Baltimore, MD; Dovid Geisler; Lakewood Cheder School; Chaim Schneider; Yeshiva Ohr Yehuda; Lakewood, NJ; Aryeh Leib haCohen Schwartz; Yeshivas M'kor Boruch; Passaic, NJ; Mordechai Sonenzon; Tiferes Elimelech; Yosef Auerbach, Alexander Brecher, Michael Dovid Dratler, Menashe Freier, Yaakov Friedman, Michael Genuth, Moshe Tzvi Gestetner, Yehuda Goldring, Benny Gross, Simcha Haitanian, Daniel Hild, Eliyahu Himy, Ezra Joudai, Vicky Kalikstein, Eli Kupfer, Akiva Marcus, Yaakov Oberlander, Zev Ralbag, Yisroel Meir Rosenberg, Yitzchok Rosenfeld, Menachem Schachter, Yaakov Yosef Sherr, Ezra Shillian, Yitzchok Sommerstein, Shlomo Sprung, Mordy Tepper, Avi Vogel, Mendy Westreich, Yechiel Weingarten, Eli Wilamowsky; Yeshiva Torah Vodaas; Brooklyn, NY; Eliyahu Margulies; Yeshivas Derech HaTorah; Cleveland, OH.

Grade 2 — David Shimon Ickovitz; Yeshiva Kochav Yitzchok (TI); Boruch Greenfield; Yeshivas Chofetz Chaim (TA); Baltimore, MD; Zev Waldman; Yeshiva Shagas Aryeh; Lakewood, NJ; Avrohom Dov Hirsch; Tiferes Elimelech; Yisroel Willner, Yosef Willner; Yeshiva Karlin Stolins; Chanel Amira, Yoni Brody, Shmuel Cohen, Nachman Ettliger, Meshulem Figdor, Zevi Fingerer, Eli Fried, Yaakov Moshe Gross, Aron Pinchas Julonov, Moshe Katz, Ephraim Meir Kenigsburg, Chaim Moshe Klepfish, Akiva Kuglielsky, Yosef Lederer, Aaron Marcus, Abie Methal, Sruly Miller, Shloimy Moskowitz, Nossi Paneth, Yisroel Perl, Elie Posen, Shlomo Ruzorsky, Binyomin Schwartz, Yaakov Sokel, Daniel Stern, Shloimie Strimber, Meir Wechselbaum, Yechiel Zahler, Eli Zaret; Yeshiva Torah Vodaas; Brooklyn, NY.

Grade 3 — Eli Mark, Elie Sadwin, Ephraim Silver, Zev Weinstok; Yeshivas Kochav Yitzchok (TI); Baltimore, MD; Yehuda Amsel, Yitzi Compton, Yitzchok Deitel, Yisroel Feig, Meir Frank, Yisrael Zalman Frankel, Calev Gestetner, Meir Gluck, Yehuda Horowitz, Meir Karmel, Yehuda Kreitman, Moshe Dov Miller, Yechiel Mueller, Tzvi Rothenberg, Yaakov Dov Schmuckler, Eli Schonbrun, Mordechai Septimus, Yehuda Tress, Shaya Verschleiser; Yeshiva Toras Aron; Lakewood, NJ; Mordechai Shmuel Fisher; Talmud Torah Ohr Moshe; Shmuel Aharonof, Noam Ashur, Dovid Dafner, Ari Danzinger, Avner Davidoff, Dovi Deutsch, Yaakov Menachem Dratler, Yaakov Moshe Elkon, Aryeh Flam, Yehudah Ghoori, Yitzchak Gohari, Noach Goldshteyn, Zaki Goodman, Ari Greenberg, Rephael Himy, Avraham Yitzchak Kupfer, Daniel Lipschutz, Yosef Marcus, Menashe Salb, Kalman Spira, Shmuel Spitz; Yeshiva Torah Vodaas; Brooklyn, NY; Asher Epstein; Fallsburg Cheder; Fallsburg, NY; Avrohom Dovid Solomon; Yeshivas Derech HaTorah; Cleveland, OH.

Grade 4 (UK) — Asher Yochanan Herskine; Keser Torah Boys School; Gateshead, UK.

Grade 4 — Ari Nachman Wheeler; Rambam Day School; Savannah, GA; Yaakov Zev Fogel, Yosef Guttenberg, Akiva Kaplan, Ephraim Krupp, Gavriel Siff, Aryeh Leib Slansky, Akiva Wolfish; Yeshivas Chofetz Chaim (TA); Baltimore, MD; Dovid Waldman; Yeshiva Shagas Aryeh; Lakewood, NJ; Yehuda Bachrach; Yeshivas M'kor Boruch; Passaic, NJ; Shlomie Sonenzon; Tiferes Elimelech; Menachem Blum, Efraim Danzger, Mordechai Egri, Tzvi Goldman, Zalman Goldring, Moshe Gross, Yisroel Dovid Hirsch, Zevi Itzkowitz, Yisroel Shalom Julanov, Yaakov Kastner, Avi Kaufman, Daniel Kelman, Tzvi Kelman, Yerachmiel Landman, Efraim Ledereich, Yehuda Marcus, Shaya Rubinstein, Meir Sokel, Shmuel Sprung, Yehoshua Stern, Abie Sussman, Shmuel Teller, Aryeh Yaiche, Netanel Zwick; Yeshiva Torah Vodaas; Brooklyn, NY; Yaakov Mordechai Fulda, Yisroel Meir Ganz; Siach Yitzchok; Far Rockaway, NY; Nochum Shimon Brown, Elisha Daniel, Simcha Leib Deal, Rephael Flaum, Nossan Tzvi Gewirtz, Mordechai Gold, Yehuda Gross, Elisha Iskovitz, Ahron Katz, Elan Levi, Shimon Orlian, Zev Schonkopf, Tzvi Schulman, Yehuda Shafran, Levi Sherman, Moshe Solomon, Raphie Weiss; Yeshiva Ketana of Long Island; Inwood, NY; Avi Lindenbaum; Politz Yeshiva; Philadelphia, PA.

Grade 5 — Yosef Shalom Stern; Yeshiva Ketana of LA; Los Angeles, CA; Dovid Berman, Ari Gale, Shmuel Yaakov Herzog, Matis Mintz, Yossi Newman, Yisroel Novice, Shua Rubin, Baruch Silver, Meir Yehuda, Tzvi Zakem; Yeshiva Kochav Yitzchok (TI); Avraham Abramson, Sheftel Beren, Aaron Bernstein, Shmuel Blashka, Yisrael Matan Cline, Yaakov Danziger, Aharon Flax, Izzy Greenberg, Avraham Hakakian, Elisha Hirsch, Yaakov Karimov, Abraham Kassir, Hershel Meir Kopel, Yehoshua Lavi, Tuvia Shalom Schwarz, Aryeh Silber, Menachem Sonnenblick, Yaakov Weiss; Yeshivas Chofetz Chaim (TA); Yehuda Frieman, Kalman Hefter, Chaim Katz, Daniel Kraines, Naftali Kraines, Zevi Minkin, Dovid Pianko, Eliyahu Rayman; Yeshivas Toras Simcha; Baltimore, MD; Yehuda Itzkowitz, Sruly Kolodny, Chaim Leibhard, Yisroel Moshe Levinson, Dov Ber (Dovi) Lewin, Shlomo Paneth, Binyamin Leib Rodionov, Gavriel Spitz, Gavriel Worenklein, Mordechai Yifat, Yehuda Yifat; Yeshiva Torah Vodaas; Brooklyn, NY; Dovid Bachrach, Yehuda Lazarowitz; Yeshivas M'kor Boruch; Passaic, NJ; Avraham Abba Freedman, Shmuel Bodner, Yisroel Borenstein, Zelly Elbaum, Chaim Gold, Meir Gruen, Aryeh Zev Hochhauser, Ephraim Jacobovitch, Yosef Shalom Katz, Dovid Kleinbart, Yehuda Aryeh Kleinman, Noach Lerman, Yisroel Margulies, Moshe Yehuda Nisenbaum, Shmuel Posner, Elazar Sheinis; Yeshivas Derech HaTorah; Cleveland, OH; Yitzchok Binder; Yeshiva Yesodei HaTorah; Toronto, ON; Yosef Newman; Politz Yeshiva; Philadelphia, PA.

Grade 6 — Avrohom Yaakov Ickovitz; Yaakov Eliyahu Naiman, Amrom Novice; Yeshiva Kochav Yitzchok (TI); Elazar Meir Dashevsky, Yoel Goldstein, Nachshon Grayman, Menachem Marcus, Akiva Morris, Reuven Newman, Yakov Newmark, Aaron David Richards, Yehuda Rubin, Noach Salzberg, Avi Scherer, Dovi Shulman, Shlomo Steinhardt, Baruch Tessler; Yeshivas Toras Simcha; Baltimore, MD; Zecharia Waldman; Yeshiva Shagas Aryeh; Lakewood, NJ; Meshilem Zev Fisher; Talmud Torah Ohr Moshe; Reuven Ginsberg; The Cheder; Eli Sonenzon; Tiferes Elimelech; Shimmy Lowy; Yeshiva Karlin-Stolins; Shmuel Perlman; Yeshiva Ketana of Bensonhurst; Aryeh Davis, Binyomin Elkon, Sholom Friedman, Moshe Yehoshua Gifter, Dovi Levin, Shimon Yhukanov; Yeshiva Torah Vodaas; Brooklyn, NY; Betzalel Alter, Shaul Geller, Yaakov Kaminsky, Avrohom Lehman, Moshe Miller, Avrohom Boruch Rottenberg, Menachem Spira; Yeshiva Bais Dovid; Monsey, NY; Betzalel Alter, Shaul Geller, Yaakov Kaminsky, Avrohom Lehman, Moshe Miller, Avrohom Boruch Rottenberg, Menachem Spira; Bais Dovid; Spring Valley, NY; Chaim Gold; Hebrew Academy; Cleveland, OH; David Azoulay, Dovid Yitzchok Benmergui, Aharon Pinchos Botnick, Meshulem Yoel Braun, Yechiel Buksbaum, Shimmil Diamant, Yehuda Ehrlichster, Shlomo Enkin, Elazar Gestetner, Aryeh Grossman, Shmaya Grunfeld, Dovid Halperin, Meir Tzvi Handelsman, Shmuel Hirsch, Mordechai Isaacs, Naftali Kestenbaum, Shmuel Kestenbaum, Yona Krongold, Aaron Kuznicki, Yosef Yitzchok Lifshits, Menachem Lipsett, Elazar Malaib, Yosef Shalom Merzel, Shraga Nathan, Shimon Yehuda Ochs, Yaakov Ouzzan, Elazar Pam, Refoel Moshe Paretzky, Eliezer Reiss, Yaakov Nossan Rosen, Yonah Schaumer, Pinny Scheinberg, Eliezer Schloss, Dovid Silberstein, Ephraim Silver, Eliyahu Simon, Yitzi Sobel, Naftuli Weiss, Dovid Yavorsky, Yaakov Yefet; Yeshiva Yesodei HaTorah; Toronto, ON.

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