

# BITACHON WEEKLY

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## The True Oved Hashem Is a Happy and Content Person Who Is Missing Nothing

Upon his first entry into the *Kodesh HaKodoshim* on *Yom Kippur*, the *Cohen Gadol* would scoop a **full** shovel of burning coals from the top of the *Mizbeach*. He would also take: **ומלא** **הפניו קטרת** his hands **full** of *Ketores*. We can suggest that a "full" handful symbolizes a person who is **full**, like *Yaakov Avinu* who said: **יש לי כל וישלח לג יא** I have EVERYTHING (my hands are **full**, and I'm a happy and content person); not like *Eisav* who said: **יש לי רב** I have plenty (i.e., "I have a lot, but not enough").

### Difficulties Are Opportunities for Growth, And Opportunities for Growth Are the Real "Having"

*Dovid HaMelech* said: **לא אֶחָסֵר תְּהִלִּים כִּי א** Hashem is my Shepard (so) I will never be lacking. The true *Oved Hashem* is missing **nothing** (despite all *Dovid's* horrific *Nisyonos*). *Yaakov* also had unusual *Nisyonos*, yet he said: **יש לי כל וישלח לג יא** I have EVERYTHING. *RSRH Zatzal* says that this is because by *Yaakov*, "having" means the opportunity to grow, and therefore he even welcomed his difficulties, since they are all opportunities of growth.

### To Rejoice with Another Person's Success, You Must Feel Fulfilled and Happy with Yourself

The: **מִחְתָּה** shovel was also full (of burning coals), and *Chazal* say that the *Kodesh HaKodoshim* became "full" with smoke (of the *Ketores*). And *Ketores* is: **מַעֲשֶׂרֶת** a major *Segula* to become rich! *Ketores* symbolizes having everything, and: **אִיזְהוּ עֲשִׂיר הַשָּׂמַח בְּחִלְקוֹ** Who is truly "rich"? One who is *Sameach B'chelko*, i.e., content with what he has. Who is the only person who may

enter the *Kodesh HaKodoshim* on *Yom Kippur*? Only the *Cohen Gadol* (*Ahron*). How did *Ahron* become *Cohen Gadol*? **לִבְ שָׂמַח בְּגְדוּלַת אָחִיו** Because his "heart" rejoiced with his brother's greatness, so he received the *Choshen* on his "heart", which had 12 **אֲבֵי מְלוֹאִים** *Avnei Milu'im* (stones that **filled** their boxes).

Each *Shevet* **filled** his golden box with his unique precious stone; so too should every person **feel fulfilled with his unique Avodas Hashem without having any Kin'ah of others**. How does a person become happy (*Ahron*) when his younger brother (*Moshe*) gets a higher position than himself? When he is himself a **fulfilled** happy person!

*Chazal* say that *Ketores* also symbolizes *Simcha* and *Bitachon*. The *Gr"a* explains that when the *Gemara* says that the *Churban Bais Hamikdash* happened because of *Sin'as Chinam*, the *Gemara* really means that they did not have

### Learning Bitachon Saves a Family

A *Yungerman* who is a major *Masmid*, *Talmid Chochom*, and *Rosh Chabura* would come home full of stress, since he had a difficult childhood. He now learns *Shaar HaBitachon* and other *Inyanei Bitachon* for over an hour daily. **As he learns Mussar, he gets happier and happier, and his wife and children are overjoyed.** I was asked: **תּוֹרָה מֵה תִּהְיֶה עֲלֶיהָ** "But what will be with all the learning he is losing out? He is wasting so much precious time by working on *Simcha* and learning *Inyanei Bitachon*! Do you know how much *Torah* he could have learned instead?? Such a major *Ben Torah* should lose so much *Torah* on a regular basis??

Do I need to decide such a *Shayla*? Take your pick: Do you want to be a bigger *Talmid Chochom* and keep hurting your wife and kids (and yourself) and quite possibly end up in the hospital, with physical or mental issues, and be *Nichshal* in either *Kin'ah*, *Ta'ava*, *Kavod*, *Ga'ava*, **שְׁפִלוּת הַבְּהִמִי** lowliness like a loser, and all kinds of unhealthy complexes and depressions (or all of the above, *Rachmana Litzlan*) ... or not?!

It is obvious that Hashem wants this *Yungerman* to take care of: **שְׁבִירַת הַמְדוּת** *Shviras HaMiddos*. And if a person does *Ratzon Hashem*, there is no doubt that he will come out ahead, even in his learning

*Bitachon*, which is the root cause of *Sin'as Chinam!* And *Bitachon* means being a *Sameach B'chelko*. The *Kiyum* (support) of the *Bais Hamikdash* is having an *Ahron* type of *Cohen Gadol*, whom everyone should emulate. The first *Avoda* of *Kodesh HaKodoshim* on *Yom Kippur* is **filling** the *Kodesh HaKodoshim* with *Ketores*.

### **Sameach B'chelko Comes BEFORE Any Other Area in Avodas Hashem**

You don't start any *Avodas Kapara* (i.e., the blood of the *Korban*) until you first take care of *Ketores*. So many people suffer throughout their lives despite their greatness in *Torah* and *Chesed*. And like *Chazal* say that during *Bayis Sheini* they were *Osek* in *Torah* and *Chesed*, and despite this there was a *Churban* because of *Sin'as Chinam* and lack of *Sameach B'chelko (Bitachon)*, so we understand how **the finest *Bnei Torah* and *Y'rei Shamayim* can suffer physically and mentally, and their lives can be ruined since they never had time for working on the #1 issue; i.e., *Bitachon!***

טו לא עֲלִיךָ הַמְלָאכָה לְגַמְרָא אַמְתָּ בַּטּוּ You are not responsible to get it all done! Who is truly rich? One who is content with what he has. Before the *Cohen Gadol* starts shechting an ox and a goat, etc. he takes care of *Ketores*: הַמַּעֲשֶׂה which makes him (truly) rich; i.e., **first comes the *Sameach B'chelko* issue!** If *Gedolei Yisroel* like the *Shomer Emunim* and *Chofetz Chaim* believed that's it's *K'dai* to lose lots of *Torah* and *Avoda* to cheer and be *M'chazek a Yid*, וְחַזְקוּ וְקַל וְחַזְקוּ, נֶאֱמַר וְנֶאֱמַר surely you are obligated to be *M'chazek* yourself! And you come first! If you don't address this part of your life, by learning *Shaar HaBitachon* more seriously, or other *Eitzos* for *Menuchas HaNefesh* and *Simcha* and *Bitachon*, by at least **trying** to work on it, then all kinds of *Ruchaniyus* and/or *Gashmiyus* issues are up and coming, *Chas V'shalom*.

## Novardok

A friend of mine who knew R' Chaim Halpern *Zatzal* helped him raise money for *Novardok* in the USA. He told R' Chaim that he was a *Baal Teshuva*. R' Chaim told him not to look at himself as a *Baal Teshuva*; instead, he should see himself as a *Ben Torah*, who happens to be a *Baal Teshuva*, but mainly he identifies himself as a *Ben Torah*. *Novardok* was quite sensitive to a person's dignity, despite all their *Pratim*.

In fact, R' Wainkrantz *Zatzal* once told someone to take a job in a place that they will respect him, and not a place where he'd be looked down upon. He was always building people up, including his *Talmidim*, and the staff in his *Yeshiva*.

He told me that the build-up you get can make the difference between success and failure. R' Chaim was also very street-wise, and he knew the mentality of different kinds of people very well. This can have a lot to do with the *Vaadim* in *Novardok*, where people opened up, and the *Vaad* members could become like professional psychologists.

R' Chaim gave several speeches when he was collecting, and his main theme was always how lucky we are to be from the holy Jewish nation. He was super warm & humble, despite his strong personality, and people loved him. He took a strong interest in people, and remembered their pecklach even after a long time. He really cared.

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The *Alter* of *Novardok Zatzal* was once alone in an empty room with his daughter, with no food, no heat, no light, etc. The *Alter* told her that the whole world and all the money in the world isn't as good as this empty room. It is known that *Novardokers* could light up with true *Simcha* after hearing the most tragic and depressive news. This takes years of *Shaar HaBitachon*.

R' Gershon *Zatzal* was in the USA even when he was a: זקן elderly person who couldn't walk. He brought along his *Gabba'im* to collect for his *Yeshiva* in France. He was lying on the couch of the: הַבַּיִת host, when a man gave a check to his *Gabba'im*. R' Gershon did a *Prat*, and he yelled out: "How much was the check?" This is an example of how *Novardokers* cured their fears of people. Of course, you need a *Rebbe* to guide you for "*Pratim*"; i.e., which ones are for you.