

BITACHON WEEKLY

BY: RABBI YEHUDAH MANDEL SHLITA

פרשת נצבים-וילך תשפ"ד

All The Gates of Unbelievable Goodness Are Open to A *Baal Teshuva*

The *Passuk* says: "You'll **outdo** your fathers, and He will give you **greater** *Brachos* and *Hatzlachos* than your forefathers" (*Seforno*). Why should we do better than them? We can suggest the reason is simply because the *Passuk* is discussing when we will do *Teshuva*, and all the gates of unbelievable goodness are open to a *Baal Teshuva*. And *Chazal* say: במקום שבעלי תשובה עומדים אין צדיקים גמורים יכולין לעמוד ברכות לד ב: *Baalei Teshuva* are even **GREATER** than pure *Tzaddikim*!

This is the most underestimated *Chazal*, and it is so hard to believe. How can a *Baal Teshuva* be better than a *Tzaddik Gamur*? RSRH explains the first three *Kapit'lach* (chapters) of *Tehilim*. In the first, *Dovid* mentions how

lucky a person is if he doesn't go: בעצת רשעים in the ways of the wicked, etc. and instead he should just learn *Torah* and he'll be happy. In the second *Kapit'el* (chapter), למה רגשו גוים, he speaks about going to war against the *Goyishe Derech* of running after lusts etc.

The Gemara says, that these first two *Kapit'lach* (chapters) are really one, and they tell you to keep away from *Ta'avos*. And in *Kapit'el* (chapter) #3, *Dovid* speaks about the *Tzaros* he had from his rebellious son *Avshalom*, which happened to him because **he was *Nichshal* in his own lusts** when he destroyed the life of one of his own subjects, *Uriyah HaChiti*, by being *Nichshal* with his wife, *Bas-Sheva*!!

אני שכבתי ואישנה הקיצוני כי ה' יסמכני תהלים ג: The very fact that he woke up in the morning tells him that Hashem still loves him, and that he will return to his former *Madrega* of *Kedusha* and *Tahara*. It is unbelievable how *Dovid* is the big *Baal Mussar*, with two phenomenal *Mussar Shmuessin* against foolish *Ta'avos*, and his next *Shmuess* is about his own: מְכַשּׁוֹל stumbling with those same foolish *Ta'avos* (and in the worst way!)

Dovid* Is Our Amazing Inspiration for *Teshuva

One of the famous *Gedolei HaPoskim* of Lakewood once spoke to a person who had done the most unspeakable *Chet*. When the person said that he had *Cha'rata*, the *Rav* told him: "It's over, totally!" In *Novardok* I saw a similar *M'halech*, where overnight a person is

Be *Dan* Yourself *L'kaf Zechus*, And Don't Blame Yourself for Things Beyond Your Control

On the *Passuk* לה' אלוקינו הנסרות, The *Ramban* says that there are sins that people are not aware of, and although they are *Nichshal* a lot, nevertheless the sins belong to Hashem (in a sense) that He doesn't hold it against the sinner. I know two cases of *Yungerleit* who became addicted to doing what is a serious *Aveira*, while they were young and unaware of this.

Both their *Mashgichim* told them that at this point they are: אינו אונס רחמנא פטריה ב"ק כח ב: innocent and cannot be blamed for something beyond their control. (However, if you have *Bitachon*, then it's a different picture.... and I know people who overcame the most "impossible" addictions). **Unfortunately, people don't really have *Emuna* in *Chazal* who say: אינו אונס רחמנא פטריה ב"ק כח ב: you cannot be blamed for something beyond your control, and they live with depressive guilt for sins that they are not responsible for.**

R' Shlomo Wolbe *Zatzal* and the *Breslover Chasidim* say that a person should be *Dan* himself *L'kaf Zechus*. R' Yosef Leib Bloch *Zatzal* says in the name of the *Chasidim* that a **person should write himself in the: ספר החיים book of life. It would be well worth devoting time before *Rosh Hashanah* for writing down all your tremendous *Zechusim*, and thanking Hashem for them. That should make you be *Zoche b'Din*.**

Be *Dan* yourself *L'kaf Zechus* even to the extreme. This will help you be *Zoche b'Din*, when you show Hashem how thankful you are for making you such a wonderful person, instead of being an ingrate who's always kvetching about all his mistakes and *Aveiros* (which is a *Yetzer Hara*; unless it has a *Tachlis*).

totally 100% kosher, since he simply and quickly did *Teshuva*.

People view *Teshuva* as a “bear” (R’ Nosson Wachtfogel *Zatzal* warns about this) and this is a major barrier blocking a person’s *Shteiging*. His *Yetzer Hara* loves to constantly remind him of his bitter past, and all his *Maalos* are quickly forgotten or almost non-existent in his mind, since they all “go over his head”.

For good reason we say: אורי ה' לְדוֹד in *Y'mei Elul*, since *Dovid* is our amazing inspiration for *Teshuva*. Look how he says: י אֲסִפְנִי תְהִלִּים כִּי: that even his parents, who are the main support of every human, forsook him. He’s got everything going wrong in his life, being an *Admoni* like *Eisav HaRasha*, and of *Mo’avi* blood, with an unending list of powerful enemies (who held him to be a *Rasha!*) throughout his turbulent life!

Dovid is so perfect for everyone. And in our own lives, we need to **respect** our own pecklach and issues, our weaknesses and our stormy past, just like our *Melech*, *Dovid* is the most **respected** type of human (like the *Halacha* states: הַמְּוֹרֵד בְּמַלְכוּת חַיִּב מֵיָתֵד one who rebels against the king is immediately sentenced to death).

Look how Hashem wants so much to be *M’chazek* us, by giving us a *Dovid* for a *Melech*; now every schnook and every bum and every nebach feels comfortable and has hope!

Royalty Means Moving on Despite Your Mistakes in Life

And *Davka* a person with such an embarrassing history is our **king**?! A *Yid* has to learn to **respect** his pitfalls and mistakes, his failures and disadvantages; only these can make him truly great, when he isn’t *Nis’pael* from them, and he moves on like *Dovid HaMelech*, who doesn’t get fazed by his outrageous sins!

This is exactly the *Gadlus HaAdam*. *Adam* means “*Adama*” earth, the lowest form of the: הָאָרֶץ world, yet, the *Adam* is the: הַקָּרֶן הַבְּרִיאָה “crown of the world” i.e., the glory, the beauty, and the greatness of all of Hashem’s wonderful world! So no more looking down at our “outrageous” mistakes in life. Moving on despite them will give us true royalty!

Novardok

The Amazing Power of Bitachon

I was told a story about my mentor, Rabbi Weiss of *Novardok*, who had been collecting in the USA for his *Yeshiva*. When he returned to Europe, he was accused of evading the draft. He was to go on trial, and was heading for serious trouble (jail sentence, etc.). He came to his *Rebbi* all concerned. His *Rebbi* was an unusual *Baal Bitachon*, and dynamically told him the famous *Passuk*: עַד אֵנָה יִנְאָצְנִי הָעָם הַזֶּה וְעַד אֵנָה לֹא יִאֲמִינוּ בִּי בְּכֹל After all Hashem has done for you, how dare you be afraid?! He told me that he put “blinders on his eyes”, and he became a real *Tamim* who is sure that Hashem will save him (he learns lots of *Mussar* on *Bitachon*). Sure enough, at the trial **the prosecutor decided to become his defense lawyer**, and he was found not guilty!

Hashem Desperately Wants to Make Us All Happy

Hashem is happy to no end when He sees *Klal Yisroel* doing the right thing. As it says לְשׁוֹשׁ עֲלֶיךָ לְטוֹב לְךָ לְטוֹב. This is His whole desire in making this beautiful world, to give *Simcha* to His creations, as it says: עוֹלָם הֶסֵד the world was created for *Chesed*. It is extremely important to realize this. It skyrockets your *Bitachon* level, and your general positive-thinking and thankfulness. You realize that Hashem desperately wants you to have more thankfulness and much more *Bitachon*, so He can give you loads of *Schar*.

Your whole world looks different, when you realize how Hashem wants so, so much, just to make us all happy. And this is everything, and it is the #1 *Yesod* of the entire world, like the *Mesilas Yesharim* says: שְׂהָאָדָם לֹא נִבְרָא אֶלָּא לְהֵתְעַנֵּג Man was created ONLY to have pleasure! Those who copy Hashem and are happy with other people’s successes, are the luckiest people in the world.

Somebody told me that I’m a liberal. I told him: “Do you know how hard it is to be such a liberal?” **My Rabbeim taught me that when you build yourself up, you are breaking your *Middos*; and you get loads of *Schar*.**