

# BITACHON WEEKLY

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## The “Nobody” Can Be Ahead of Everyone, If His Heart Is More Pure

The *Pesukim* tells how the *Yidden* enthusiastically brought their donations for the *Mishkan*, and: וַיָּבֹאוּ הָאֲנָשִׁים עִלְּהֵם הַנָּשִׁים “the men came along with the women”. Some say this means that the men were superior, since they did *Teshuva* on *Chat HaEigel*, and: בְּרִכּוֹת לַדָּבָר בְּרִכּוֹת לַדָּבָר *Baalei Teshuva* are even GREATER than pure *Tzaddikim!* (*Keren L'Dovid*). Others say that indeed, the ladies were ahead of the men. (*Ramban, Rabeinu B'chayei*). Also, the word: וְהָנִשִּׁים “*Nesi'im*” is spelled without a *Yud*, since the *Nesi'im* came last, and didn't hurry to bring for the *Mishkan*. (*Rashi*). *Ohr HaChaim* points out how it keeps saying: נָדִיב לֵב לֵה כֵּן “a generous heart”, and not how much gold, or silver was brought.

Look how Hashem treasures our *Retzonos!* Look how the *Tafel* (secondary, i.e., a woman) becomes an *Ikar*. And how the greatest *Nesi'im* (leaders) remain behind the nobodies! A clear message: Hashem רְחֵמָה לֵבָא בְּעֵי Hashem wants our intentions. The “nobody” who wasn't the great *Lamdan*, or *Oved*, can be ahead of everyone. Similarly in last weeks parsha, in which the entire *Klal Yisroel* is commanded to give a *Machatzis HaShekel*, and: הָעֶשֶׂיר everyone must give the same amount, regardless if rich or poor. And the: *Mon* was always an: *Omer*, whether you gathered more or less.

Hashem loves everybody, and the *Mishkan* was created by all kinds without making some superior to others. (*Rashi*). Every tiger has his own stripes! Surely a human is unique, and he should be respected without end! It is your job to constantly *Chazzer* (review) your own *Maalos*, to appreciate your uniqueness more and more.

### Your Good Intentions Are Real and Alive

The *Passuk* says, כָּל אִישׁ וְאִשָּׁה אֲשֶׁר נָדַב לִבָּם אֲתֵם - הִבִּיאוּ, *The Shach al HaTorah* asks, בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל נָדְבָה לָהֶם לֵה כֵּן since the *Torah* previously said that the *Yidden* already brought everything, so what was left to be brought, that would be referred to in this *Passuk*? He answers that there were many *Yidden* (men and women), who wished that they could bring the entire *Mishkan* all by themselves, but were unable to. Hashem is: בּוֹחֵן לְבוֹת judges a person according to what is in his heart, and considers it as if they brought. Here we have an open

*Passuk* in the *Torah* that says that something happened, even though it seems as if it didn't really happen. We see the power of all our good *Retzonos*, e.g., to improve ourselves, to *Shteig*, to stop sinning, etc. They aren't just whims; they are so real as if they actually happened, and the holy *Torah* has a special *Passuk* about this happening! **So respect your good intentions! They are real and alive; not just: כְּאִילוּ עָשָׂו “as if” he carried them out, but: עָשָׂו מִמֶּשׁ he “actually” carried them out!**

The generous of heart shall bring it. The *Rambam* says that your heart and: מִחֻשְׁבָּה thought alone can obligate you to bring a *Korban*, once you have decided to do so in your heart. Again, we see the power

### פרשת פרה

#### The Worst Person Can Turn into The Best, If He Has with *Bitachon* in Hashem

The *Parah* “*Aduma*” must be **completely** red. Redness symbolizes sin. **Complete** redness means **total** sin; pure evil! And it must be a cow that had never carried a yoke. One of the worst ways to describe a *Rasha* is: בְּלִיעֵל meaning: בְּלִי person without the yoke of *Shamayim*. A red cow without a yoke, *Davka* the worst of the worst becomes the purifying agent to purify the worst *Tum'ah*??

When a person does *Teshuva*, his *Aveiros* become *Mitzvos*. We can suggest that the *Mitzva* of *Parah Aduma* teaches us how good Hashem is to us; and how the worst person can turn into the best, if he has with *Bitachon* in Hashem.

Berel and Chaya G. were having terrible problems with *Shalom Bayis* and stress and *Parnasa*, etc. When they were told to make jokes out of all their problems instead of kvetching, they started having miraculous *Yeshuos!*

of good thoughts. Without any spoken word whatsoever, you can be *Chayav* to bring a *Korban*, by just deciding in your heart to bring one. How important is positive thinking, like *Bitachon* and being *Dan L'kaf Zechus*. They are *Mamash* like live *Malachim*, and bring only good to the world! **Many times, I have seen people and situations improve when I appreciated my positive thoughts.**

A friend of mine heard about the greatness of the holy day of *Purim*, when you can accomplish miracles with *Tefila*. (I personally had a major miracle after one *Purim*). So his wife got to “work”, and davened all *Purim*... without any success. She wasn't *Mya'esh* and kept it up for 10 years, and suddenly she had *Gevaldige Yeshuos and Nisei Nissim!*

## Novardok

This Friday (29 Adar) is the *Yahrzeit* of R' Gershon Liebman *Zatzal*. R' Gershon's level of *Bitachon* in the war was beyond comprehension. He spoke publicly about not being afraid of Nazis, and while they were searching for people “house to house”, and terrorizing everyone by blowing up buildings and other forms of horror, he himself was found learning in an empty *Bais Medrash*. R' Yitzchok G. *Shlita* asked him about his reckless *Hanhaga*: What about *Pikuach Nefesh*? He said that indeed he does (minimum) *Hishtadlus*; when the Nazis pass by his *Bais Medrash*, he gets up from his *Sefer* and stands behind the door.

He once announced that he would not eat the food of the Nazis since it was *Treife*. People thought he was crazy, since he would starve to death. Hashem helped him, and a Jewish girl who worked in the kitchen (to cook the Nazis' meals) found out about R' Gershon, and she prepared salads for him... which he shared with others

Once, as he and another group of *Yidden* were being led out to the field to dig ditches, the Nazi in charge who was following them suddenly called out: Hey you! Come here, I have something for you! R' Gershon turned around, expecting a bullet, or a vicious Nazi dog to attack him. Surprisingly, the Nazi produced an apple, took a bite, and threw the rest to R' Gershon. He shared this apple with his friends for many days.

It was like a treasure to them to eat a tiny drop of a real apple! R' Gershon would always give away his food to others. These half-starved *Yidden* would stand on line to receive R' Gershon's portion of bread which he did not eat.

At one point, R' Gershon announced that he wasn't going to work for these German *Reshaim*. He only works for Hashem. A wicked Kapo found out about this statement, and threatened to tell the Germans. This was horrific news for R' Gershon, since everyone knew how cruel these beasts could be for the tiniest infraction; how would they react to such chutzpa of defying them??!! Don't ask what R' Gershon would be in for, *Chas V'shalom!*

An eye witness saw how this Kapo went to the German commander to give a report about R' Gershon. As usual, Hashem saves His loved ones. As soon as the Kapo opened his mouth to talk, the German had a whim, and decided to shoot a bullet into his mouth! *Midda K'neged Midda!* Since he wanted to kill with his mouth, he himself was killed via that same evil mouth.

The stories about R' Gershon during the war go on and on. His *Madrega* of *Bitachon* is totally beyond us. We see the *Koach* of *Novardok*, and what years of *Mussar* can do to a person. We see how much Hashem loves us, especially when we have *Bitachon* in the face of impossible odds that Hashem can do the greatest *Nissim*. I can't vouch for every story, but these are the stories circulating about him.

One thing I *am* sure about, is what I heard from an eye witness, and from R' Gershon himself, that R' Gershon was constantly challenging the zis and defying “the system”. He was constantly *B'simcha*, never worried or depressed. And he was always learning *Mussar*, despite his dreadful situation.