

BITACHON WEEKLY

BY: RABBI YEHUDAH MANDEL SHLITA

פרשת עקב תשפ"ה

Even A Rasha Who Has Bitachon in Hashem Will Be Surrounded by Chesed

The *Passuk* says: You shall realize that it is not a reward for your *Tzidkus* (virtue) that is Hashem giving you this good land, because indeed you are a stiff-necked people; i.e., even though you don't really deserve *Eretz Yisroel* since you are so stubborn, yet I'm going to give it to you anyway. How do you feel every time you read this *Passuk*? Probably not so good. But I feel great! I feel that this is a support to *Chazal* who say: אֲפִילוֹ רָשָׁע הַבּוֹטָח even a *Rasha* who has *Bitachon* in Hashem will be surrounded by *Chesed*! Even though a person can be totally rotten, he can still have the utmost *Bitachon*, and be surrounded by *Chasadim* (goodness)! And now the *Passuk* is saying that this is what living in *Eretz Yisroel* symbolizes, i.e.: יְסוּבְּכֶם being surrounded by unconditional goodness.

The Power of *Bitachon* Breaks All Rules

How important is *Bitachon*! It is a guarantee for all kinds of goodness in your life, even if you are the worst bum! Of course, I advise you to do *Teshuva*! But getting all those unending gold mines are yours for the taking despite the worst *Aveiros*, since the power of *Bitachon* supersedes and breaks all rules!

Like the *Leshem* says: אֵין דָּבָר עוֹמֵד לְפָנֵי הַבְּטָחוֹן NOTHING can get in the way of *Bitachon*! R' Chatzkel Levenstein *Zatzal* used to quote the *Rambam* who says that he would rather teach *Emuna* more than any other topic, and R' Chatzkel was a major *Baal Mussar* who specialized in *Emuna*. Everybody knows that the Mirrer Yeshiva was saved from WWII with the *Zechus* of R' Chatzkel.

Giving Extra Time to Learn *Inyanei Emuna* Pays Off

R' Chatzkel gave extra time to learn *Inyanei Emuna*, and look how it paid off. Despite the *Gadlus B'torah* of so many giants in *Torah*, nobody could accomplish like R' Chatzkel. He was always busy with **Hashem Himself**, and he was fearless throughout the war. (R' Elchonon Hertzman *Zatzal*).

R' Chatzkel kept repeating the *Rambam* because he felt that we can all grow in *Emuna* if we spend more time learning this subject. In *Novardok* they were unusually involved in *Mussar*, especially

There Is Nothing Weird and Strange and Impossible and Remote That Hashem Can't Do

The *Mon* is lasting evidence that the normal: לֹא עַל הַלֶּחֶם לא על הלחם bread of *Tevah* (i.e., bread that grows naturally) is not necessarily what we are stuck with. The *Mon* was an unbelievable: אֲשֶׁר לֹא יָדַעְתָּ וְלֹא יָדְעוּ אֲבוֹתֶיךָ novelty, the most-strange form of sustenance. Imagine! Something totally unknown on this planet can end up being our diet! The *Alter of Novardok* says in *Madregas HaAdam*: שְׂאִין שׁוֹם דָּבָר מוֹזָר וְרָחוֹק וְנִמְנָע מִמֶּנּוּ there is nothing weird and strange and impossible and remote that you can't experience, since: הַלֵּל יָכוֹל Hashem can do anything! When you work on *Bitachon*, remember the *Mon*. It's a sample of the most unheard-of *Yeshua*, and **so can you** experience *Nisei Nissim*.

Always Think Big - Anything Is Possible with Hashem

Like R' Yisroel Salanter *Zatzal* says: Where the *Sechel* ends, *Bitachon* begins. Remember, again and again: **anything is possible** with Hashem! Never feel confined to a difficult situation. Always think big. There are never-ending stories about people having incredible *Yeshuos*! Don't crowd your mind with the *Tzim'tzum* (restrictions) of normal *Tevah* (nature), and you may have new and exciting experiences. Don't lock yourself into the limitations of your parent's/ or friend's/ or neighbor's situations. And just because nothing outstanding has happened to you (yet), it doesn't mean that you can't have a sudden spectacular *Yeshua*.

Bitachon, and I was personally *Zoche* with Hashem's help to witness major: מופתים wonders, since I spend extra time with *Shaar HaBitachon* and writing *Hashgacha Pratis* stories.

Many, many people who are always learning *Inyanei Bitachon* become calmer and happier, and they have loads of *Yeshuos*! I had an interesting *Hashgacha Pratis*! The day I decided to write these words, I had a visitor from *Bnei Brak*. He is a very *Chashuva* Ponivezer *Talmid*, who was very close to R' Shach *Zatzal*. He told me that R' Shach was constantly quoting that very *Rambam*!

R' Chatzkel was a *Baal Mussar*, whom I consider my *Rebbe* in certain ways. but R' Shach was a *Rosh Yeshiva*, and a *Manhig HaDor Mamash*. It wasn't his job to push *Shaar HaBitachon*, like R' Chatzkel the *Baal Mussar* and *Mashgiach*. His constantly quoting that *Rambam* is a clear message for everyone!

Novordak

I was once on the telephone with a 75-year-old *Novardok* woman whom I had known for years. She had always been an unusually active person, and now she suddenly found herself with a medical issue that broke her. There was something wrong with the nerves of her entire body (caused by some type of bacteria) and she simply couldn't move. Her whole body virtually shut down, and she was confined to bed 24/7, *Rachmana Litzlan*. Any movement would cause severe pain. Among other things, she couldn't swallow!

She had gone to several doctors for different areas of her body, including a heart specialist. And she had been in bed for several months, with no *Yeshua*. She was crying to me on the telephone. Her husband had his own issues. An 80-year-old man, he had lost control of his balance, and he couldn't walk in the street without a cane. Otherwise, he could suddenly fall hard, and he had no control. When I spoke to him on the telephone, he was laughing as usual.

This person's *Madrega* of constantly being in a happy frame of mind was so powerful, that he simply (almost) can't stop laughing at all times. Every time I talk with him, his humor is non-stop. He is not a: קל ("cool") at all; he is extremely serious. He is loaded with *Hasmadas HaTorah* and *Shas* and *Shulchan Aruch*, but plenty of *Mussar*. Real *Novardok Mussar*. *Bitachon*, *Bitachon*, *Bitachon*. Hours and hours of *Mussar B'hispa'alus* are in his system. When I discussed his and his wife's situation, he was very concerned, but his laughter nevertheless continued.

He had been through many, many *Nisyonos* throughout his life, and as usual, nothing scared him. Knowing him, his *Bitachon* about his wife wasn't an "accepting *Yissurim*" *Bitachon* (which I'm sure he has plenty of). It was pure *Bitachon*, that Hashem would surely send *Yeshuos*. A month later, I'm on the phone again... and things have improved. Two months later, his wife is a totally different person; up and about, traveling all over like a young person.

And his own issue also disappeared, with *Si'ata Dishmaya*. People who saw this woman were amazed how she is suddenly back full force with the vitality of a young person. The minds of these people are loaded with: חסד One who has *Bitachon* in Hashem, will be surrounded with *Chesed*, and: חסד One who has *Bitachon* in Hashem, will be surrounded with *Chesed*. The whole idea of their *Shita* is to be real; they call this "having *איכות*" (substance), not: מלומדים אֲנָשִׁים lip service. Not to be a parrot who follows the crowd. Or someone who speaks frum, but has no *Shaychus* to "living" what he speaks. To become like this requires hard work, and a person has to really care about living a true life to become a *Novardoker* (or similar *Shitos*).