Bitachon Weekly

—— By Rabbi Yehudah Mandel שליט"א ——

פרשת ויצא תשפ"ז

Try to Work on Sameach B'chelko and Being Above "Getting What You Want"

Yaakov Avinu is in a terrible predicament. He is going from the frying pan into the fire (from Eisav to Lavan) and is surrounded by extremely dangerous people, dangerous in both Ruchaniyus and in Gashmiyus. And he is embarking on his life's mission; i.e., building Klal Yisroel. Yet, what is his gut reaction to the dream that he had, with Malachim all over the place, and Hashem reassuring him: וּשְׁמַרְתִּיךָ בְּכֹל אֲשֶׁר תֵּלֵךְ כח טו that things will be okay? "How terrifying is this place! It is the Bais Hamikdash and the gate to Shamayim!" He is above "getting what you want", albeit in Ruchaniyus. He is overwhelmed with the Romemus of the: בְּרִיאָה creation, being in the Makom Hamikdash and Har HaMoria where the Akeida took place.

We can suggest that he was extreme in his Romemus, since he was a twin to Eisav who was a: וַיִּבֶז עֵשָׂו אֶת הַבְּכֹרָה כה לד person who ridiculed the Bechora. Eisav makes fun, and is M'zalzel in all the greatness of a human's life.

And Yaakov is so extreme in his war against Eisav, that he takes a "stone" which is the lowest creation (it is Muktza on Shabbos since it has no importance), and he pours oil on top of it. Oil symbolizes Malchus and Romemus.

And this is what our Dor has to work on overtime, especially to respect a human being and being alive and being a Tzelem Elokim; when the Goyim around us live a cheap life, without marriage and/or having children. Instead, they consider it respectable if your "family" consists of a dog and a cat and a racoon and a cute bird, Rachmana Litzlan! It's a Rachmanus how people can fall in having any value for anything important.

Now you can lie and steal and even kill yourself, since nothing is important! A Hefker life. "I'm a Democrat who is liberal" and "understanding" for people to follow their silly whims. Nothing counts except my Ta'avos and my immediate fake fun". The Ohr HaChaim says a very similar Vort on Avraham Avinu. When Hashem gave him good news, he was more impressed with the Zechus of being involved with so much Kedusha. →

The One Who Struggles Can Be by Far Greater Than Most People

A Yungerman noticed how Klal Yisroel has unusual Bnei Torah, Roshei Yeshivos, people who do Zikkui HaRabbim, Chashuva Baalei Battim, and all kinds of Tzaddikim. Some of the descendants of our Gedolim and Tzaddikim are the most beautiful humans, with Gevaldige, refined, pure Middos, and fantastic Kochos in learning Torah. Their sweetness and beauty is unreal. However, they fail to realize that the "nobody" who struggles and fails all the time, can be by far greater!

It is Daas Baalei Battim, the influence of the gentile nations, and Redifas HaKavod that makes us admire only success and finished products. These people simply don't use their Sechel. The Toras Avraham says that in Slabodka, the Hakdama of R' Nissim Gaon to Shas was very important. R' Nissim Gaon keeps saying how the Sechel should govern

Your lack of respect for your struggles and disappointments, and lack of belief in Retzonos Tovos, and לְפוּם צַעֲרָא אַגְרָא אבות ה כב is sheer stupidity. The lust for Kavod, a Chashuva Ma'amad, a job, and Shtele' and big accomplishments dominates you, and makes a person a downright: נָעַר fool. And there's lots of pain in a life without Sechel, i.e., someone who doesn't respect his mere efforts in Avodas Hashem, in Parnasa, and in trying to improve or learn more, etc. Those who put simple Sechel in charge are always happy. They aren't like an: permanent slave who is constantly worrying about: מַה יֹּאמְרוּ הַבְּרִיּוֹת How does it look?

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This is extremely important to all of us. I am always speaking to wonderful Bnei Torah and big Y'rei Shamayim who suffer terribly from their issues. I can tell them 100 times that their issues are a Matana Min HaShamayim to get them to grow in Bitachon and in Tikkun HaMiddos. But despite all my super logical D'rashos that make sense 1000%, **at the end, all I hear is "So when will I get my shidduch, Parnasa, house, Refua Shleima, nachas, Shalom Bayis, Zera Shel Kayama, success in Torah, higher Madregos in Ruchaniyus, friends, relationships, or wanting to be more appreciated or recognized or respected by others, etc.?? Just give me what I want so desperately, and don't bother me with Shviras HaMiddos!" This is why there is so much depression going on these days.**

This is the cardinal error of all mankind (including Tzadikim). You didn't come here to get what you want. Chazal say: אֵין אָדָם מֵת וַחֲצִי תַּאֲוָתוֹ בְּיָדוֹ קהלת רבה א לב, ג יג a person does not fulfil even half of his desires in his lifetime, and if things aren't working out, you're not a failure. You're a failure if you aren't at least working on Sameach B'chelko (including your Chelek in Ruchaniyus). And that's why there is so much pain in this world, with all these unrealistic expectations.

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Novardok

The wife of a big Tzadik had trouble with her teeth, and was told by the dentist that she might lose all her teeth although she was only 40 years old. She was very broken by the sad news, but her husband didn't Chap the problem. He said: "My dear wife, don't you realize that we aren't in this world forever?" There's no such thing as "permanent" teeth! And no permanent hands and feet and stomach and heart, and every part of your body is a temporary abode for your permanent Neshama.

Now you breathe easier. All your problems are smaller. A famous Novardok Yesod: if you want to truly enjoy this world, make sure your focus is on the next world. This world is a sad place for people who think they are here forever. Your Kavod especially will be a tease throughout your life, since everyone gets loads of unwanted Bizyonos.

R' Ahron Leib Steinman Zatzal was Maspid R' Yaakov Galinsky Zatzal. He said that R' Yaakov had lots of Bizyonos in his life. Imagine how a Yid should look at what everyone is so worried about (their Kavod and Bizayon). This was the Hesped. The Ma'ala of a great person: He had Bizyonos.

I once approached a super Talmid Chochom and: עָמֵל בַּתּוֹרָה one who toils in Torah from a big Yeshiva in Eretz Yisroel, and I told him that I enjoy watching the way he learns. He is the: אַרְיֵי שַׁבַּחֲבוּרָה lion of the group, and the envy of all his friends…

But when I told him about what a beautiful Kiddush Hashem he is, he Mamash didn't know what I was talking about. In a world where people focus overtime on "negatives" and talk a lot about "issues", they won't notice such a positive attribute. The Yetzer Hara is always on your case "proving" how you are zero, by constantly reminding you of your lack of ability, your Aveiros, and your failures. He is a great professional liar!

The only ones who notice such a successful person are others, so that the Yetzer Hara can promote their constant envy-problem. But the person himself can fail to enjoy and appreciate the gift and Zechus that Hashem has given him. The Yetzer Hara doesn't want a person to have Simcha Shel Mitzva, since it gives him 1,000 times more Schar. When people are constantly focusing on the truths of their lives, a new world can open up for them. You need lots of Mussar, thanking again and again for what you **do** have, and to ignore what you **don't** have.

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