



פרשת כי תשא-פרה

כ"ב אדר תשפ"א VOL. 1 / ISSUE 76

Holy Jews, it seems, have attached a special קדושה to this week's Parshah and Haftorah. May it be His Will, that we, too can experience and sense at least a little of what they felt and lived through. Interestingly, that the משנה ברורה (685:11) points out that before Laining the Haftorah, one should be להתפלל להרהר במהרה . לפניו יתברך שגם עלינו יזרוק מים טהורים במהרה (Yechezkial 36:25), the Pasuk states: ורקתי עליכם מים - and I will sprinkle pure waters of the red cow upon you, and you will be cleansed of all your contaminations etc. Urges the Chofetz Chaim, DAVEN BEFORE hearing this Pasuk and ask for the speedy fulfillment of that prophecy. This directive is highly unusual. It seems to be based on Rashi in Megillah (29A) who quotes a Yerushalmi that asks: Really, Parshas Hachodesh should precede Parshas Parah, except that Parah is

"טהרתן של ישראל", indicating that the reading itself is the טהרתן של ישראל (See Ohr Gedalyahu Moadim p.114).

The classic Sefer of Yesod V`Shoresh Ha`avodah (Rav Alexander Ziskind from Horodna - end of Shaar 12 Perek 7) writes about the "Kavanos" one should have during the Haftorah: To give great thanks to our Creator for the promise of exhilarating and comforting נחמות that we yearn for. Specifically, I will give you a לב רוח חדשה and חדש I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a לב ,בשר לב , and I will put my spirit within you (36:26). Certainly, man's eager thirst for this rehabilitated heart can bring him to tears. How powerful and insightful are these penetrating words of Yechezkial - a stone heart. The Gemara Sukkah (52B) teaches that the Yetzer Harah has been given seven

names by various figures from Tanach. Yechezkial called it אבן/rock, as Mefarshim explain, it remains unfeeling, unresponsive, paralyzed with lethargy. We see, sadly, how that אבן effects so many of our young people who, slump around with that hollow look in their eyes, uninterested in anything. We see people of all ages, of all kinds, who life has already kicked them in the teeth at least once; whose vacant faces indicate that their minds and hearts have also evacuated. So what a ברכה, what a נחמה it will be when Hashem gives us and the world, this spiritual heart transplant, and everyone will have a feeling, compassionate heart, a לב בשר.

There is a quote from Harav Simcha Wasserman, the son of Rav Elchonon הי"ד , whose suffering and last words before the Nazis murdered him are well known. Rav Simcha said that during the Churban Europe, Hashem put into us a לב אבן so that we could survive all of our צרות. Without a stone heart, we would have gone out of our minds, and never could have mustered the strength to rebuild. We have had to have it so many times in our Galus, to survive, to make it through to see the morning again, but it is not what man really should have. Therefore, when the final Geulah comes, Hashem will replace it with a true, responsive לב בשר. It is reported that when Rav Simcha would get called up to read this Haftorah, he would cry by those Pesukim (See footnote 20) הוא שיהיה, פרה

Rav Gedaliah Shor (Ohr Gedaliah Moadim דף נח) writes that during the reading of Parshas Parah, a רוח טהרה descends, just as it did when they actually performed the actions on the red cow. And just as





the Gemara in Chulin (89A) says, because Avraham belittled himself and said *אנכי עפר ואפר*, we were זוכה to the מצוה of *פרה אדומה*, indicating that the mitzvah is based on *הכנעה*, subjugation and total obedience to the רצון ה'. This is the only way to accept and attain the רוח that Hashem imparts from above. It may be since doing the ultimate חק, without being able to understand it, means that we surrender even our intellect to the Ribono Shel Olam. We acknowledge that there is a level of comprehension that is just above us, and we respect it with admiration.

Now we are ready to try and understand, maybe just a little, the idea, the theory about *טומאה* as explained by the Ohr Gedalyahu (Moadim pg 104). The *אבי אבות* of *טומאה* is a corpse. The reason that a corpse exists is because of the cardinal sin of *אדם הראשון*, as the Pesukim tell us. We know that man is a compound creature, a hybrid of "Guf" and "Neshama," and for as long as the Neshama is intact and powers the body, there can be *טומאה*. What the sin of *אדם* did was to ultimately cause a "power outage", because a body that is not completely powered by the Neshama can create *טומאה*. The Gemara in Yuma (39A) says that *עבירה מטממת לכו*, which Rashi there (and other places) translates as *אוטמת*, blockage. An Aveirah creates a spiritual blockage of the arteries, disabling the power of the Neshama to infiltrate the Guf completely. Therefore, a body, a corpse totally devoid of any Neshama is the worst of all contaminations. Chazal teach us that every Aveirah creates a mini-death by removing some "life" from the Guf. His words are: *כי הטומאה באה מהעדר חיות*. וחיות גורמת להסתלקות הטומאה. This is the reason Rav Shor brings the Chazal that at the time we received the Torah, all those that were sick, were disabled, *נתרפאו כל*

המומין were healed, because we returned to the level of Adam Harishon BEFORE the חטא, the time when the Neshama powered the entire Guf, so even the physical aspects of the Guf were perfect. So he reasons that all "Tumahs" are based on that חטא, so *טומאת מת* teaches, nudges the עץ הדעת and all the resultant "Tumahs" follow that theory, as taught by the *חידושי הר"ם*.

It would therefore make sense, as many Mefarshim explain, that Adam had a *חשבון*, a calculation to eat from the עץ הדעת. Doing so would create a stronger נסין, a greater test in serving Hashem with our own home grown יצר הרע INSIDE of us rather than as an outside influence. We all have suffered from that malady at one time or another- I think I have a better idea, even better than the Halacha, even better than Hashem. Our History has proven that we all have a problem with obedience-"Nebach." *Tumas Meis* is a result of that dilemma. So, Hashem gave us the antidote-PARAH ADUMA- the ultimate חק, where man must do things that have no explanation, no rhyme nor reason in order to remove his own calculations from the picture. This procedure, in which even the most intelligent of man (they are the worst at this), must surrender to a higher intellect- JUST DO IT ALREADY! This is in fact the חוקת התורה of all the Mitzvas. May we all be Zocheh to do רצון just BECAUSE IT IS HIS רצון ה'.

Among those that are *לישועה*.

*אמני דאנפיה
חיים טובים עויתן*

