

1 Our daf began with the words of ר' חמא ברבי חנינא - that there are three psukim which give us so to speak "a leg to stand on" at the Yom Hadin. The fact that Hashem created the Yetzer Harah, mitigates, to a degree, our responsibility for our aveiros.



Then R' Elazar continues his teaching that in addition to Chanah and Eliyahu Hanavi, Moshe Rabbeinu also spoke strongly to Hashem in defense of Klal Yisroel after the Cheit Ha'egel. Moshe argued ודי והי הוב The abundance of gold and silver that You Hashem bestowed upon them at Yetzias Mitzraim and Krias Yam Suf, caused them to make the Eigel. The Gemora then supports this argument with several psukim in the Torah which indicate, that the Nisayon of much good is a very difficult one, and many times leads to forgetting Hashem and sinning. Ultimately, Hashem conceded and said in a posuk in Hoshea. וכסף הרביתי לה וחבב ועשו לבעל I gave them much gold and silver, from which they made the Eigel.



The Gemorah next explains several psukim related to the Maiseh Ha'egel.
Omar R' Elazar - when Hashem said to Moshe לך רד מגדולתך which here means רד מגדולתך, Moshe felt he had no koach to intercede on behalf of Klal Yisroel. However, when Hashem then said ארף מימנו - let go of me, he understood that it is up to him to intervene, and it is in his ability to achieve forgiveness for them.





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- The Gemora next interprets the word ויחל משה several ways.
 - 1. He convinced Hashem
 - 2. He annulled His vow. As it says לא יחל דברו.
 - 3. He was willing to give his life for them, as he said ואם אין מחני נא מספרך.
 - 4. He caused the Midas Ha'rachamim to rest upon them.
 - 5. He said to Hashem חולין הוא לך. It would be improper for You to annihilate them.
 - 6. He davened until he got a fever.

The gemorah next interprets several psukim in the T'filos of Moshe after the Chait Ha'Mraglim, the sin of the spies.

Moshe argued that the nations of the world will say: מבלת:

'- Hashem is unable to bring the Jews into Eretz

Yisroel. Hashem said; Have they not seen all the miracles I performed for the Jews? To which Moshe answered.

However, they will say; He can stand up to only one king but not to 31 kings. R' Yochnon says, Hashem agreed with him.

As it says; יכדברין - I have forgiven them because of your argument.





Another interpretation of כדבריך, עתידים אומות העולם לומר כן תנא דבי רבי ישמעאל, כדבריך, עתידים אומות העולם לומר כן Indeed, that's what they would have said. אשרי תלמיד שרבו מודה לו Fortunate is the student whose master agrees with him. And Hashem concluded ואולם חי אני- משה החייתני בדבריך. Indeed, you, Moshe have kept my reputation alive among the nations of the world.





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The Gemora moves on to another one of Moshe's Tfilos - האתחנן אל י from which we learn
לעולם יסדר אדם שבחו של הקב"ה ואחר כך יתפלל - One should always first recite the praises of Hashem, and then pray for his needs. As Moshe did, he first said אתה החלות להראות את and then he said עבדך אתר הארץ and then he said עבדר את הארץ.



The Gemora next relates seven teachings regarding Tfillah, since the first one is also derived from parshas Vo'eschanan, and most of them were taught by R' Elazar.

מחלה ממעשים טובים - Tfilah is more effective in having your requests granted, than good deeds.

א דולה תענית יותר מן הצדקה - Fasting is greater than Tzedakah.

דולה תענית יותר מן הצדקה 'For fasting is giving of yourself, and in Tzedakah you are merely giving your money.

דולה תפלה יותר מן הקרבנות - Tfillah can accomplish even more than Korbonos

את כפיו - A Kohein who killed a person - even accidentally - should not lift his hands for Birchas Kohanim.

מיום שחרב בית המקדש נגעלו שערי תפלה - Since the destruction of the Bais Hamikdash the gates of Tfilah have been locked, which means, that our Tfilos are not as readily accepted.
אונה העניתא ביומא דעיבא - Rava would not declare a fast day on a cloudy day, because the clouds symbolize that our Tfilos will not be able to pass through.

מיום שחרב בית המקדש נפסקה חומת ברזל בין ישראל לאביהם שבשמים - Since the day of the Churban Bais Hamikdash an iron wall separates us from Hashem in Heaven.









The Gemora continues with additional teachings regarding Tfillah.

The Gemora had an apparent contradiction whether מאריך - - prolonged prayer is beneficial or not desirable. The Gemora answers, that it depends.

בה ימעיין בה - when combined with the assumption and expectation that it will be granted it is not desirable. - Prolonged Tfilah in and of itself is

בה מעיין בה - Prolonged Tfilah in and of itself is beneficial and conducive to having your prayers answered.

The Gemora then returns to the words of the Mishnah:
חסידים הראשונים היו שוהין שעה אחת - The early Chasidim would spend an hour in contemplation to prepare for davening.
The source for this practice is the posuk;
אשרי יושבי ביתיך עוד יהללוך סלה Praiseworthy are those who first sit in your house for a while, and THEN praise you

Hashem.
They would also spend an hour after davening.
This is derived from the following posuk:
אר צדיקים יודו לשמר ישרו ישרו ישרים אם פויר.
The Tzadikim. after

אך צדיקים יודו לשמך ישבו ישרים את פניך - The Tzadikim, after praising and thanking Hashem, they continue to sit before Him.

Therefore, says the Braisah; they would spend an hour before davening - another hour during davening - and a third hour after davening.





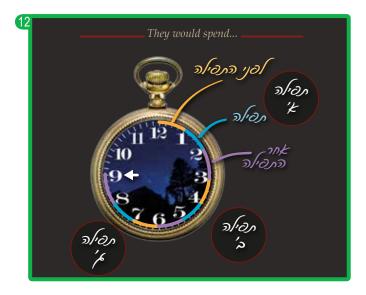




Review



Therefore, says the Braisah; they would spend an hour before davening - another hour during davening - and a third hour after davening.



The Braisah asks, since we daven three times a day, that means they spent a total on 9 hours for Tfilah. If so, how did they have time to review their learning, and time for their work.

The Braisah answers, אלא מתוך שחסידים הם תורתם משתמרת אלא מתוך שחסידים הומלאכתן מתברכת מתברכת.

Because they were Chasidim, their Torah was preserved and their work was blessed. In other words, the little time they had, was sufficient for them to learn and earn a living. How did they have time to LEARN & WORK?

אלא מתוך שחסידים הם

תורתם משתמרת

ומלאכתן מתברכת

Their Torah was preserved

and

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The Gemora continues with another Halocho from the Mishnah at the beginning of the Perek; אפילו המלך שואל בשלומו לא ישיבנו - Even if the king inquires about his welfare, he shouldn't answer.

The Gemora explains, this Halocho only applies to Jewish kings. However, he may interrupt for non-jewish kings, because they might kill him for being disrespectful.









The Gemora relates a story to this effect. דמעשה בחסיד אחר הואס בחסיד There was a Chosid who was greeted by a general while he was davening, and he didn't answer him. After waiting for him to finish davening, the general said to him, I could have killed you. The Chosid answered him, if a friend of yours greeted you while you were standing before a mortal king would you have answered him? No, he replied. If you did answer, what would happen to you? He said: My head would be chopped off with a sword. Said the Chosid. How much more so, when one is standing before the eternal King of kings, of course he must not answer. The general was satisfied with this explanation and let him go.





