



PIRCHEI Weekly

Agudas Yisroel of America

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כרשה: נח הפטרה: רני עקרה לא ילדה... (ישעיהו נדא-נהה)

מברכים בה"ב משיב הרוח ומוריד הגשם ברכי נפשי (שבת מנחה)

דף יומי: נדרים ד'

Torah Thoughts



... כי אתך ראיתי צדיק לפני בדור הזה (בראשית ז: א).
 ... for it is you that I have seen to be righteous before Me in this generation."

What is the significance of the phrase צדיק לפני, righteous before Me? Is there anything in this world that is not before Me? The word לפני appears to be redundant.

The דור יקר explains that although the people of the דור המבול, the generation of the Flood, would incessantly rob each other, they always made sure that it was less than the minimum amount for which a legal suit can be brought by their victim. Thus, if they were ever taken to court, they were able to walk out of the earthly court of law innocent and feeling self-righteous. However, by ה'’s Heavenly standards, they were considered guilty for intentionally taking even the most minuscule item that did not belong to them. In their friends’ eyes, they may have been considered fine people, but in the eyes of ה' the people of the דור המבול were evil. נח was different from the rest of his generation; he was extremely careful never to take anything that did not belong to him. נח’s righteousness was praiseworthy even before Me.

In a similar vein, R' Eliezer Menachem Mann Shach זצ"ל explains a passage in the משנה (בבא מציעא מ"ד): If the buyer already paid the money for his merchandise but he has not yet taken possession of it, the seller may, by the exact letter of the law, still change his mind and cancel the sale. Nevertheless, רמב"ם deplore such

business practice and add the words, "The One who punished the דור המבול, generation of the Flood, and the דור הפלגה, generation of the Tower of Babel, will also punish those who do not keep their word in business!"

What is the connection between a seller who goes back on his word and the דור המבול and the דור הפלגה?

The people of the דור המבול and דור הפלגה were punished because ה' understood what was really in their hearts. The דור המבול used the law to their advantage and were careful to stay within the letter of the law. They took only small amounts and would have been found innocent by the courts. Technically, they were not liable for what they had done. But ה' knew what was in their evil hearts, and He punished them accordingly. The דור הפלגה were also punished because ה' saw what they really intended to do with their big tower.

A business transaction is usually considered completed in the mind of the buyer when the seller takes the money from him. A seller that goes back on his word after receiving his payment has a buyer returning to the market place trusting that the trade was complete. True, his actions are legally valid, but רמב"ם teach us the consideration required since a transaction involves two people. Similar to the דור המבול, the seller is taking advantage of a legal technicality if he backs out but is hurting someone else.

Adapted from Tallei Oros (with kind permission from Feldheim)

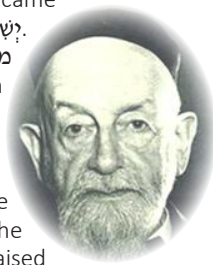


Yahrtzeits of our Gedolim

ח' מרחשון
5631 – 5726
1870 – 1965
 R' Yaakov Rosenheim זצ"ל, was born in Frankfurt, Germany, to R' Eliyahu and Charna, who were גבאי צדקה to Baron William Rothchild. In his youth, he studied under R' Hirsch. In 1900, he was elected to the Frankfurt Council. He became editor of *Der Israelite* in 1905. In 1909, together with R' Yitzchok Isaac Halevi, he created the historic meeting of גדולי ישראל in Homburg. He organized the כנסת גדולה in Vienna in 1912 and later in 1929, where he was given a title, מורניו. He presided over World Agudah for more than 50 years. His respect for the גדולי ישראל and his שמירת המצוות helped him unite the many diverse leaders. In 1935, he fled to the UK and later moved to the US. He emigrated to ארץ ישראל in 1950.

Gedolim Glimpses

Before WWII, the רב of Ponevezh, זצ"ל, came to Frankfurt to collect funds for the ישיבה. His first stop was a visit to מורניו Rosenheim זצ"ל. After asking how much was required to maintain the ישיבה for a year, מורניו Rosenheim asked the ראש ישיבה to return in two days time. When he returned, מורניו Rosenheim gave the amount needed for the year. He explained to the רב that he raised the money because he felt it was not fitting for a ראש ישיבה to be involved in fundraising!



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לעיון ר' ישראל בן אברהם ז"ל
 לעיון ה' ישעיהו דוב ע"ה בן יבלחטי"א יצחק צבי נ"י

As the handles of the clock turn back, Learning Programs are resuming. To join the Learning Program at a location near you, please contact your local Pirchei Branch Coordinator for time/location in your area or call the National PAI headquarters @ 212 797 9000 ext. 272.

Focus on Middos

Dear תלמיד,

Let me share with you an excerpt of an essay that R' Yaakov Rosenheim זצ"ל's daughter wrote about her illustrious father, the president and the inspirational leader of the World Agudah.

"At one point, early in the Hitler regime, he published an editorial expressing his dissatisfaction with an order to all Jews, as well as all citizens, to fly the German flag in celebration of some Nazi anniversary. This resulted in a peremptory summons on שבת morning to police headquarters — a ¾ of an hour walk.

"I accompanied father on this walk on an icy cold winter שבת. We had spared my mother any knowledge of this, and set out on what may well have been the road to a prison or concentration camp. I will never forget our conversation, warm and yet casual, about my personal problems, school studies as well as the פְּרִשָּׁה of the week. He was calm as always, exuding אָמוּנָה as always.

"As we were about to enter the imposing Police

building, he turned to me: 'Wait for me here. If I have not returned within 30 minutes, you will know where I am. Return home and be of good cheer.' ד' was with us and we returned home after he was issued a 'warning' to 'temper' his editorials."

This short episode about מוֹרִינוּ R' Yaakov Rosenheim's calm manner during such a trying moment of life and death, did not just happen on that day. מוֹרִינוּ's grandson writes that he has in his personal possession his grandfather's יְשָׁרִים. It is marked up with notes in the margins and many quotations from מְאָרְרֵי הַזֵּ"ל and other sources are repeatedly underlined. It is no wonder that the אַמְרֵי אֶמֶת of Ger, told his son-in-law, R' Itche Meir Levin, that as a future leader of יִשְׂרָאֵל, he would have to recognize that holy Yidden exist not only in Poland but also in Frankfurt!

My תלמיד, such a level of control and care requires a lifetime of working on אָמוּנָה and בְּטַחוֹן.

בְּיַד־יְדוּת, Your רַבֵּי

Source adapted: *In Defense of Torah Values* (Feldheim)



Understanding Davening

מְשִׁיב הַרוּחַ וּמוֹרִיד הַגֶּשֶׁם

Who makes the wind blow and makes the rain descend

רַב יוֹסֵף explains (בְּרִכּוֹת לג.) that we mention גְּבוּרוֹת גְּשָׁמִים, the Strength of Rainfall, in the בְּרַכָּה because rainfall can be compared to the revival of the dead. When a seed is placed into the ground, it first disintegrates. When it becomes saturated with rain, it begins to develop and then sprouts forth from the earth. A tree that is capable of producing thousands of tasty, nutritious apples can develop from the decaying seed of a rotten apple. Similarly, when a human body is placed into the ground, it first disintegrates. At תְּחִיית it will come to life again: וּמְצִיחַ הַמֵּתִים, He causes the ultimate salvation, תְּחִיית הַמֵּתִים, to sprout forth from the ground.

The learning never ends ...

As the handles of the clock will be turning back on November 6th, 2022, מוצאי שבת Learning Programs will be starting / resuming on various dates in many locations nationwide and around the world ...

To participate in the exciting שבת אבות ובנים מוצאי שבת Learning Program at a location near you, please contact your local Pirchei Branch Coordinator for the time and location in your area or call the National PAI headquarters @ 212 797 9000 ext. 272.

Sage Sayings

At the 2nd בְּנִסְיָה גְּדוּלָה, R' Meir Shapiro זצ"ל read the surprise proclamation, signed by the תַּפְּצֵי חַיִּים, the Gerrer Rebbe, ר' חַיִּים and others, conferring the title מוֹרִינוּ on R' Rosenheim זצ"ל. R' Rosenheim replied that, since he was from Frankfurt, the title belonged to the רַב of the קהלה, R' Shlomo Breuer. R' Shapiro swiftly responded, "ר' יַעֲקֹב גַּעְהָרְט נִישֵׁט צו פֿראַנקפּוּרט — אַלִּין — עַר גַּעְהָרְט צו דַּער גאַנצע וועלט!" does not belong to Frankfurt alone, He belongs to the entire world!"

Source: *In Defense of Torah Values* (with kind permission from Feldheim)



LEARNING FROM OUR LEADERS

פירכעי אגודת ישראל של אמריקה

IT BEGAN AS A ONE-TIME REQUEST BY CHACHAM SALMON MUTZAFI BEFORE HE VISITED A HOME-BOUND RESPECTED CHACHAM ON FRIDAY NIGHT. BUT IT TURNED INTO A WEEKLY ROUTINE...

RABBOTAI, DOES ANYONE HAVE A REQUEST THAT THEY WANT ME TO BRING TO THE CHACHAM?

KVOD HARAV! YES, PLEASE! I NEED A BRACHAH FOR A SHIDDUCH FOR MAZAL BAT RIVKA.

KVOD HARAV! PLEASE ALSO ASK FOR A REFLAH SHELEIMAH FOR NISSIM BEN GABRIEL.



AT THE CHACHAM'S HOME, TOGETHER WITH A FEW OF HIS MITPALLELIM...

THANK YOU! I MUST REPEAT YOUR BEAUTIFUL DEVAR TORAH AT MY DERASHAH... AS USUAL I AM A SHALIACH MITZVAH FOR THE TZIBBUR TO ASK FOR THE CHACHAM'S BRACHAH.

AH, GOOD! OF COURSE, OF COURSE. PLEASE GIVE ME THE NAMES.



KVOD HARAV!, IF I MAY BE SO BOLD AS TO ASK A QUESTION...? I DON'T UNDERSTAND - WHEN KVODO IS MEVAKER CHOLEH, AT THE SAME TIME HE IS KEEPING HIS FAMILY WAITING!

YOUR QUESTION IS A GOOD ONE. I WILL TELL YOU WHAT I DISCUSSED WITH MY FAMILY...



WHEN THE CHACHAM WAS HEALTHY HE WOULD WALK HOME ON FRIDAY NIGHT ACCOMPANIED BY HIS TALMIDIM AND MEMBERS OF THE BET HAMIDRASH.

...SO THE RAMBAN USES THE MIDRASH TO EXPLAIN "VAYEFATACH" DIFFERENTLY...



HE WOULD SHARE A DEVAR TORAH WITH ONE, GIVE A BLESSING TO THAT ONE, AND GREET THE LITTLE CHILDREN WHO RAN TO KISS HIS HAND.

QUICK, THE CHACHAM IS HERE!



MY FAMILY UNDERSTANDS THAT THE CHACHAM'S LONELINESS IS GREATEST ON FRIDAY NIGHT, SO THAT IS WHEN THE MITZVAH OF BIKUR CHOLIM IS GREATEST TOO!

SHABBAT SHALOM! SHABBAT SHALOM! HOW IS THE CHACHAM FEELING? DID WE GET A BRACHAH TOO?



ר' סלמאן מוצפי זצ"ל WAS BORN IN BAGHDAD, IRAQ, TO אביו מנחם ור' ציון מאיר. AS A YOUTH, HE WAS VERY CLOSE TO THE בית מדרש בית זלקה. BY THE TENDER AGE OF 16, HE HAD ALREADY WORKED THROUGH THE ENTIRE טור. AT THE AGE OF 18, HE WAS CERTIFIED AS A שוחט AND מוהל. HIS TEACHERS INCLUDED ר' יהודה מנשה ישועה פתיניא זצ"ל AND ר' חיים שאול הפהן. IN 1935, ר' סלמאן JOINED פתיניא IN ירושלים. IN 1948, HE MOVED HIS ישיבה FROM רחל TO THE "TEVIE" SHUL ON רחוב רשבי"ם. ר' סלמאן INSISTED THAT HE NOT TO BE REFERRED TO BY ANY TITLE. HE AUTHORED חיים וציון IN COLLABORATION WITH ר' פתיניא. ר' סלמאן WAS IMMERSED HIMSELF IN THE תורה FOR 40 YEARS AND NEVER STOPPED DISCOVERING NEW INSIGHTS IN תורה. ר' סלמאן WAS FLUENT IN ALL FOUR AREAS OF תורה (פרדס) פשוט (SIMPLE MEANING), רמז (ALLUSIONS/HOMILETICS), AND סוד (SECRETS/Kבלה). THROUGHOUT HIS LIFE, ר' סלמאן WAS CAREFUL NOT TO DERIVE BENEFIT FROM ANOTHER JEW IN ANY MANNER. HIS שפתי צדיקים, WAS PUBLISHED POSTHUMOUSLY BY HIS SON.



For any inquiries or comments please feel free to call 347-838-0869 • Illustrated by: Yeshaya Suval

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