

Parshat Bechukotai

Lag BaOmer

Esther Wein

19 May 2022

18 Iyar 5782

Dedications:

- **Jordana Goodman l'iluy nishmat her father Eliahu ben Arie Leib**
- **Refuah shelaima to Chaya bat Rivka**

Esther has announced that she is taking a sabbatical next year. We will be sending out an archived parsha shiur every week and we will be continuing out Chochma v'Chesed tzedaka fund.

Please contact me at taniahammer@gmail.com if you would like to contribute.

Lag Baomer is the festival of the Rich

1. The Source for Lag BaOmer Celebrations

Chatam Sofer(Responsa Yoreh Deah 233)

15th of Nissan- Yetziat Mitzrayim

15th of Iyar- supplies depleted

3 days without food

18th Iyar-Manna began to descend

2. Omer and manna- 3 things to know

a) Vayikra Rabba 28:3

אמר רבי ברכיה, אמר הקדוש ברוך הוא למשה לה אמר להם לישראל כשהייתי נותן לכם את המן הייתי נותן עמר לכל אחד ואחד מכם, הדא הוא דכתיב (שמות טז, טז): **עמר לגלגלת, ועכשיו שאתם נותנים לי את העמר אין לי אלא עמר אחד מכלכם, ולא עוד אלא שאינו של חטים אלא של שעורים, לפיכך משה מזהיר את ישראל ואומר להם: והבאתם את עמר.**

Manna was an omer per person

b) Shemot 16:4

וַיֹּאמֶר ה' אֶל-מֹשֶׁה הִנְנִי מְמַטֵּיר לָכֶם לֶחֶם מִן-הַשָּׁמַיִם וַיֵּצֵא הָעָם וַיִּקְטֹּטוּ דְבַר-יְוָם בְּיוֹמוֹ לִמְעַן אֲנִסְבֶנּוּ הַיֵּלֶךְ בְּתוֹרַתִי אִם-לֹא:

said to Moses, "I will rain down bread for you from the sky, and the people shall go out and gather each day that day's portion—that I may thus test them, to see whether they will follow My instructions or not

Manna was "bread from Heaven

c) Manna ends with the first Karban Ha Omer Yehoshua 5: 11-12

וַיֹּאכְלוּ מֵעֵבֹר הָאָרֶץ מִמַּחֲרַת הַפֶּסַח מִצֹּת וְקִלְיֵי בַעֲצִים הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה:

On the day after the passover offering, on that very day, they ate of the produce of the country, unleavened bread and parched grain.

וַיִּשְׁבֹּת הַמָּן מִמַּחֲרַת בְּאֹכְלֵם מֵעֵבֹר הָאָרֶץ וְלֹא-הָיָה עוֹד לִבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל מִן וַיֹּאכְלוּ מִתְּבוּאֹת אֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן בַּשָּׁנָה }הַקִּיָּא:

On that same day,^dLit. "on the day after." when they ate of the produce of the land, the manna ceased. The Israelites got no more manna; that year they ate of the yield of the land of Canaan.

The omer offering gave permission to eat from the harvest

3. Omer per person

מִכָּאֵן אָמְרוּ: הָאוֹכֵל כַּמֶּדֶה זוּ — הָרִי זֶה בְּרִיא וּמְבוֹרָה. יִתֵּר עַל כֵּן — רַעֲבֵתָן. פְּחוֹת מִכָּאֵן — מְקוּלְקֵל בְּמַעֲיוֹ.

From here the Sages also said: One who eats roughly this amount each day, is healthy, as he is able to eat a proper meal; and he is also blessed, as he is not a glutton who requires more. One who eats more than this is a glutton, while one who eats less than this has damaged bowels and must see to his health.

4. Bread "from heaven" or bread of Angels

a) Yoma 75b

תָּנוּ רַבָּנָן: "לֶחֶם אַבְיָרִים אֲכֹל אִישׁ", לֶחֶם שְׂמֵלָאֲכִי הַשָּׁרֵת אוֹכְלִין אוֹתוֹ, דְּבַרֵּי רַבִּי עֲקִיבָא. וְכִשְׁנֹאֲמְרוּ דְּבַרִּים לְפָנֵי רַבִּי יִשְׁמַעֵאל, אָמַר לָהֶם: צְאוּ וְאָמְרוּ לוֹ לְעֲקִיבָא: עֲקִיבָא טְעִיתָ! וְכִי מִלְּאֲכִי הַשָּׁרֵת אוֹכְלִין לֶחֶם? וְהֲלֹא

קָבַר נֶאֱמַר: "לֶחֶם לֹא אֶכְלֵתִי וַיָּמִים לֹא שָׁתִיתִי!" אֲלָא, מָה אֲנִי מְקַיֵּים "אֲבִירִים" — לֶחֶם שֶׁנִּבְלַע בְּמֵאֲתָיִם וְאַרְבָּעִים וּשְׁמוֹנֶה אֲבִירִים.

The Sages taught: The Torah states: "And He caused manna to rain upon them for food, and He gave them of the grain of heaven. Man did eat the bread of the mighty [*abirim*]" (Psalms 78:24–25). "**Bread of the mighty**" is **bread that the ministering angels eat**; this is the statement of Rabbi Akiva. When these words were said before Rabbi Yishmael, he said to them to go and tell Akiva: Akiva you have erred. Do the ministering angels eat bread? It is already stated about Moses, when he ascended on high: "Bread I did not eat and water I did not drink" (Deuteronomy 9:9). If even a man who ascends on high does not need to eat, certainly the ministering angels do not need to eat. Rather, how do I establish the meaning of the word *abirim*? It can be explained as bread that was absorbed into all 248 limbs [*eivarim*], so that there was no waste.

b) What is an Angel

Chagiga 14a

דָּאָמַר רַבִּי שְׁמוּאֵל בֶּר נַחֲמָנִי אָמַר רַבִּי יוֹנָתָן כָּל דִּיבּוּר וְדִיבּוּר שִׁיּוּצָא מִפִּי הַקְּדוּשׁ בְּרוּךְ הוּא נִבְרָא מִמֶּנּוּ מִלֶּאךָ אֶחָד שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר בְּדָבָר ה' שְׁמַיִם נַעֲשׂוּ וּבְרוּחַ פִּיו כָּל צְבָאִם

5. Why people can be greater than angels

6. The difference between Manna and "real" food- between angels and people

Associating our eating/ absorbing Hashem's Ratzon comes with packaging that we use and then dismiss so that we only absorb the nutrients.

Ex. materiality is the envelope- not the ends itself

OMer is the concept of sufficiency -

Sufficiency= having our true needs met which makes us feel RICH

False needs get in the way of our " Superangel work"

6. Lag B'Omer - Kavod

a) Omer = Yakar

Esther 8:16-

לְיְהוּדִים הָיְתָה אֹרֶחַ וְשִׂמְחָה וְשִׂשׂוֹן וְיָקָר:

The Jews enjoyed light and gladness, happiness and honor.

Kavod and Yakar

Lack of kavod for the other comes from feeling insufficient
Personal sense of “chisaron” dissatisfaction, being disadvantaged precludes
our carving out that stream for the flow of greater Ohr, and our energies are
wanted on competing for more of what we feel we are missing

Remembering the manna- what our built in needs are, because fulfilling
those needs makes us feel rich

Manufactured needs, which are cultivated by the seeing the packaging as the
goal created an Ayin Ra on others

Who is Rich- Somechah BChelko