



Sparks of Light



From the shiurim of Hagaon hatxadik harav Eliyzer Berland shelita

A Shiur given after Musaf the second day of Rosh Chodesh Tamuz

~ Not entirely edited ~

It says, "וַיִּקְהָלוּ עַל מֹשֶׁה", "And they gathered against מֹשֶׁה". We need to know, that the same thing that happened 3,330 years ago - because, in the year תמ"ח, 2448 they went out of מצרים, and now it is תשע"ח, 5778, then it was in the 2000 and now it is in the 5000, which comes out 3000, then it was 400 and now it is 700, so this is another 300, and then it was 48 and now it is 78, so this is 30, - so whatever occurred 3,330 years ago, this is being repeated now in exactly the same way. Right now, the צדיק is receiving the לוחות, he's preparing the לוחות, and he makes צרופים (refinements and purifications), and everyone needs to be בַּמַּתָּח (anxious) to receive the לוחות.

We shouldn't be talking, or wandering around, we shouldn't be moving our faces away from looking at the צדיק. It says, "עֵינֶיךָ לִנְכַח יְבִיטוּ וְעַפְעָפִיךָ יִישְׂרוּ נִגְדֶּךָ" "That your eyes look ahead and your eyelids

will direct your path²." The eyebrows - the eyes should always be towards the צדיק, to the direction of the צדיק, it is forbidden to move away, this is הֶלְכָה, this is a מְצוֹת עֲשֵׂה, like it says, "עֵינֶיךָ לִנְכַח יְבִיטוּ וְעַפְעָפִיךָ יִישְׂרוּ נִגְדֶּךָ".

We need to be studying ten פְּרָקִים (chapters) of משלי every day. Now it is 9:30am, until 8:30pm it is eleven hours, - it is possible within these hours to finish the whole משלי, the whole איוב. All what we are talking about the לַוְיָתָן, the סוּד of the לַוְיָתָן - בַּת לַוְיָ - the daughter of לַוְיָ, it says, "וַיֵּלֶךְ אִישׁ מִבֵּית לַוְיָ וַיִּקַּח אֶת בַּת לַוְיָ בֶּן יַעֲקֹב", "And a man went from the family of לַוְיָ, and he married the בַּת לַוְיָ". - What?! Is it forbidden to say his name?! Why doesn't it say "וַיֵּלֶךְ עֲמֶרָם וַיִּקַּח אֶת יוֹכָבֵד", "And עֲמֶרָם went, and he married יוֹכָבֵד"? What's written here instead? "וַיֵּלֶךְ אִישׁ מִבֵּית לַוְיָ וַיִּקַּח אֶת בַּת לַוְיָ", He found a woman, and then⁴, "וַתֵּהָרֵם הָאִשָּׁה וַתֵּלֶד בֵּן וַתִּרְאֶה אֹתוֹ כִּי

¹ במדבר טז, ג

² משלי ד, כה

³ שמות ב, א

⁴ "וַתֵּהָרֵם הָאִשָּׁה וַתֵּלֶד בֵּן וַתִּרְאֶה אֹתוֹ כִּי טוֹב הוּא וַתִּצְפְּנֵהוּ שְׁלֹשָׁה יָרְחִים, וְלֹא יָכְלָה עוֹד הַצְּפִינָה וַתִּקַּח לוֹ תֵבַת גָּמָא וַתַּחְמֶרְהָ בַּחֲמֶר וּבְזָפֶת וַתִּשֶׂם בָּהּ אֶת הַיֶּלֶד וַתִּסּוֹף עַל שְׂפַת הַיָּאָר וַתִּרְדַּבּ בַּת פְּרָעָה לְרַחֵץ עַל הַיָּאָר וּנְעֻרְתֶּיהָ הִלְכָת עַל יַד הַיָּאָר וַתִּרְאֶה אֶת הַתֵּבָה בַּתוֹךְ הַסּוּף וַתִּשְׁלַח אֶת אֶמְתָּהּ וַתִּקְחֶהּ, וַיִּגְדַּל

הַיֶּלֶד וַתִּבְאֵהוּ לְבַת פְּרָעָה וַיְהִי לָהּ לְבֵן וַתִּקְרָא שְׁמוֹ מֹשֶׁה וַתֹּאמֶר כִּי מִן הַמַּיִם מְשִׁיתֵהוּ". שְׁמוֹת ב, א-י.

"The woman conceived and gave birth to a son. She saw that he was good and she hid him for three months. She could not hide him any longer, so she took a wicker basket for him and smeared it with clay and pitch. She placed the child into it and placed it among the reeds at the bank of the River. His sister stationed herself at a distance to know what would be done with him. פְּרָעָה's daughter went down

טוב הוא ותצפנהו שלשה ירחים, ... ותקרא שמו
 "משה ותאמר כי מן המים משיתהו"
 The woman conceived and gave birth to a son.
 She saw that he was good and she hid him
 for three months. She called his name משה,
 as she said: 'I drew him from the water.' "
 משה had 10 names. 10! It's written in ויקרא
 'רבה פרק א' that he had 10 names - Yekutiel,
 Avi, Zanoach, Avigdor. Avigdor from the
 word geder, (to enclose, fence in) that he
 fenced in the boundaries of עם ישראל.
 Zanoach because he zanach, abandoned,
 all the עבודה זרה. Because he came to the
 house of יתרו, and there they worshipped
 all the different forms of עבודה זרה (idols),
 but he didn't become confused by this.

Even by מלך רחבעם, it's written about him
 in דברי הימים ב' that he didn't worship any
 עבודה זרה, and that everyone abandoned
 their Mercedes Benz [i.e. their materialism]. I
 remember that he abandoned his
 Mercedes, and how much he cried over
 that, and his wife screamed at him: 'You
 are not going to ירושלים'.

So then suddenly, ירבעם made the golden
 calves, because half of the עם ישראל were
 going to ירושלים, and they were leaving
 their property and their penthouses
 behind, and also their villas - they
 abandoned everything, - the main thing
 not worship עבודה זרה. But despite all this,
 after three years [these people] also

to bathe by the river and her maidens walked along the
 river. She saw the basket among the reeds and she sent her
 maidservant and she took it. She opened it and saw him, the
 child, and behold!...She called his name משה, as she said:
 'I drew him from the water.'

⁵ King חזקיהו's son, מנשה was a terrible idol worshipper, who
 killed millions of his fellow Jews and defiled the whole of
 the בית המקדש and the country with his idols, before
 he made teshuva in his later years. He appeared in a dream
 to Rav Ashi many generations after his death, and
 explained to him that had Rav Ashi also been alive at that
 time, he would have run to worship עבודה זרה.

started to worship עבודה זרה, and became
 trapped in the snare. There was such a big
 lust [to worship idols]. We don't have the
 first idea about it.

The King מנשה⁵ told Rav Ashi⁶: "You would
 have been the first one to run after them!"
 Rav Ashi [had told his students] that
 tomorrow, we'll speak of our 'friend' מנשה.
⁷"What?! I'm your friend?! What, I am your
 teacher?!" So Rav Ashi asked מנשה, "Why
 did you engage in עבודה זרה?" And he
 replied [to Rav Ashi] that, "If you had been
 there, you would have been the first one to
 run after it." For 900 years, people were
 playing [their music] for עבודה זרה, day and
 night they were singing to their עבודה זרה.
 They had no idea that Hashem existed in
 the world, they didn't know that there was
 Hashem.

And this is what איוב had to rectify. A
 person doesn't know what he's coming
 down here to rectify. איוב came to be ממתקן
 (spiritually rectify) all the melodies of the עבודה זרה
 that Yuval used to play. Yuval was 'The
 father of all the harps and flutes.' חנה came
 to rectify all of עברות רחב. Over the course
 of 6,000 years, a person can rectify all the
 עברות in the whole world. There is no עברות
 that he didn't commit, so they give him a
 chance to stand up in a נסיון (to become his
 יצר הרע), to sing a song, to sing Hallel, to sing
 'אהבת עולם תביא להם'. If he doesn't sing

⁶ בי רב אשי אוקי אשלשה מלכים אמר למחר נפתח בחדרין
 אתא מנשה איתחזי ליה בחלמיה אמר חברך וחבירי דאבנד
 קרית לן מהיכא בעית למישרא המוציא אמר ליה לא ידענא
 אמר ליה מהיכא דבעית למישרא המוציא לא גמירת וחברך
 קרית לן אמר ליה אגמריה לי ולמחר דרישנא ליה משמך
 בפרקא אמר ליה מהיכא דקרים בישולא אמר ליה מאחר
 דחכימתו כולי האי מאי טעמא קא פלחיתו לעבודת כוכבים
 אמר ליה אי הוה הוה הוה נקיטנא בשפולי גלימא ורהטת
 אבתראי

⁷ Rav Ashi was speaking in a mildly derogatory way about
 מנשה, because he was known as an awful idol worshipper.

'אֶהְבֶּת עוֹלָם תְּבִיא לָהֶם', then [his life] isn't worth anything. He'll go to pubs, and he'll go and take drugs. A person thinks, it's enough already, I'm going to start taking drugs.

It says in the Sefer אֶהָב יִשְׂרָאֵל, that after קִבְּלַת הַתּוֹרָה, suddenly they didn't have any תְּאֵאוֹת, they went crazy, and they didn't have any taste in their learning, they didn't have any תְּאֵאוֹת, - he could jump from the roof. So suddenly they don't have any תְּאֵאוֹת for anything, so why are they living? - They don't have any taste in the גְּמָרָא, in the קִצּוֹת הַחֲשָׁן, a person has to learn קִצּוֹת הַחֲשָׁן, to finish קִצּוֹת הַחֲשָׁן, - if not then he'll take drugs, he's looking for חֵייוֹת, so he take drugs - 'this is חֵייוֹת'.

We'll make this journey through Syria, we already made peace with Asahd, - we said that we are against 'the annihilation', because Putin built 54 bunkers in order to annihilate Israel and Trump made a contract with him that he isn't against this, Putin collected all the money for him in order that he should be selected, so he told him "I am not Obama, I'll let you do whatever you want." So he managed to build within one year 24 bunkers with missiles - everything in the direction of Israel. One day, Bibi - I don't know exactly what, he was a bit עֲצֻבָנִי (stressed) one morning, and he bombed the cores, all that which the Russians built. After that he travelled to Russia, Putin came to him and hugged and kissed him, he told him, "Don't worry." - If he would have been שׁוֹבֵי בָּנִים then nothing would have been left of them.

So now we'll go back to what we were speaking about, that now we are holding 3,330 years from מִתַּן תּוֹרָה, because now we are receiving the לִוְחוֹת, just we need to feel this. It says that the Jewish Nation waited

40 days, - now we are going to prepare the לִוְחוֹת, the רַבֵּיהּ, says that תַּמּוּז is the רֵאשִׁי תְּבוֹת of "זְכֹרוּ תּוֹרַת מֹשֶׁה", - this is the biggest חֲדוּשׁ, people don't at all know what they are reading, a person doesn't know that the month of Tamuz is the greatest month of all the months. Now we are receiving the לִוְחוֹת, and everyone according to the preparations that he made will receive the לִוְחוֹת - someone who doesn't prepare himself - someone who doesn't care about the לִוְחוֹת, even though it is לִוְחוֹת of stone, but it was made out of sapphire.

She said to קָרַח, "Why do you listen to him?" The whole בְּלֵאֲגַן was made by the wife of קָרַח, before a person gets married he needs to know that this could be like the wife of קָרַח, - קָרַח מֹשֶׁה made his brother the כֹּהֵן גָּדוֹל, his cousins - the sons became כְּהֻנִּים, how many sons did קָרַח have? How many sons? חֲבֵרוֹן יִצְהָר, עֲמָרָם - it seems like he was in חֲבֵרוֹן so they called him חֲבֵרוֹן, and עֲזִיָּאל, so they took the last son and made him into the נָשִׂיא.

Because now is the month of תַּמּוּז - the greatest month of all the months, now all the מוֹחֵיץ are being opened, - a person and start to understand a bit. Tomorrow we'll finish the davening at 8:00 - the Rav usually finishes the Tefilah at 8:30, - what does a person do until 6:30 in the morning? He smokes. Traveling after the Rav, there are a million stories, - the moment that you say to the policeman that you are Shuvu Banim then he tells you

"Carry on, travel", even in Johannesburg, in Amsterdam, they those that were stopped by the police on the road said that "We are Shuvu Banim, we are the Chasidim of Harav Berland", "Ah, of Rav Berland, carry on," that's how it was also in Amsterdam, two words and

finished, "I am with Rabbi Berland", "Go, Carry on".

That's also how it was when we were in Leningrad, we all went with Pe'ot, Mordechai Anshin, we travelled to Russia and Cherson, this was another story, we arrived in Cherson and they sent them, this was in the month of Av, and after that they came for Rosh Hashana, and they said, "Again with those same passports?! You had time to change them!"

So basically, someone who goes with the צדיק sees such miracles, such wonders and ישועות (salvations).

אדם לא יודע מה הוא קורא בכלל, הוא קורא איש מבית לוי - למה איש? למה לא כתוב עמרם? אומר הזוהר שזה היה בלי שום תאנה, זה היה היא והקדוש ברוך הוא, זה היה עם המלאך גבריאל, בת לוי זה הלוייתן, היא הייתה הלוייתן.

If a person brings a child with תאנה, then the child will cut off his פאות - he won't be able to learn and to daven. A person needs to know - that a child who came down with תאנה will not be able to daven, he won't be able to learn, and he'll have billions of מטכים ('curtains' that hides a Jew from seeing Hashem).

Now is the moment that all the curtains go down, today is the Yartzeit of Yosef - Yosef

Hatzadik. Reb Nosson says that Korach changed all the צרופים, קרח said that he doesn't see anything good in משה, everything is only according to 'protetzi'a', - he took אליצפן בן עוזיאל who was the last cousin, he put אהרן his brother, he put his cousins, - everything was only פרוטקציות, מראה. "He says that if there is a מראה of צרעה in the wall as small as a גריס - the size of a coin of ten shekel, then you have to break the whole house, - a person gets up in the morning and he sees a 'leak from his neighbor', he sees that it's a bit damp, and he sees that it is a bit ירקרק (green), then they give him one, two, three weeks, and if three weeks pass and it hasn't yet disappeared, then he has to dismantle the whole house, and then he'll find treasures and millions and billions.

The קושיות (questions) on the צדיק are without end - are millions, trillions. So, because he overturned all the צרופים, then also the ground overturned, because, now it is standing - if you open your mouth then the ground will also open its mouth, מדה כנגד מדה. So therefore we'll shout now seven times, "תעיתי פשה אבד", "תעיתי פשה אבד", etc.

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