



# Sparks of light



*From the shiurim of Hagaon hatradik harav Eliezer Berland shelita*

## A Shiur given Sunday night Lech Lecha in Ashdod

And Hashem said to Avraham Avinu: "You should know with certainty, that your children will be strangers in a land not their own, and they will serve them and they will oppress them for 400 years" (Lech Lecha, 15:13).

It's written that the ministering angel of Ishmael prosecuted for 400 years. Ishmael's ministering angel was a big believer in 'equal rights'. He said: "Ishmael is Avraham's son; not only is he Avraham's son, he is Avraham's first-born – by rights, he should get a double

inheritance! So, why it Yitzchak getting Eretz Yisrael?"

Ishmael's ministering angel came and prostrated himself in front of the kisey hakavod (the throne of glory), and cried like a baby. The angel's name is Rahav, and he said: "What protektzia (special influence) do the Jews have?! Why are you giving special treatment to the Jews? Why are you giving them Eretz Yisrael? How do they deserve it? You gave them Ashdod, you gave them Ashkelon – these are all Arab towns! What's going on, here?! The Jews are taking everything! All that's left is Gaza, with two million Arabs squeezed in there like

sardines. I'm not going to back down any more, where is the justice here?! Where is the straight-dealing? A person is meant to fight for justice, and for fairness!" Rahav, Ishmael's ministering angel, came and asked God, "What's going on here?"

The Jews were given Eretz Yisrael. Hashem promised Eretz Yisrael to them. "I have given this land to your offspring." (Parshat Lech Lecha). [Rahav said], "and us poor, unfortunate Arabs, we don't have even a part of Eretz Yisrael. We're also circumcised! We also do brit milah!" Hashem said to this angel of Ishmael, "At what age do you perform Brit Milah? Thirteen? Ok, so you'll get 1300 years."

The Arabs ruled here for 1300 years, from 700 CE to 2000 CE. In the year 2000, the millennium – this was the Jewish year 5760 – the rule of

the Arabs ended. They were ruling here. Ishmael is the Turks, and they received 400 years, 400 'pure' years, where there was no other government. Between 1517 and 1917, only the Arabs were ruling here. There was no other nation, and no other language was honored here.

In 1917, the English came, but they delivered the governance [of Israel] over to the Arabs. They gave them the guns, they gave them the tanks, they gave them the armored personnel carriers. Now, it's 90 years since the Hebron pogrom, when 67 Jews were murdered. They tore them limb from limb, they cut off their legs, and they went with their axes from house to house. All this was done with the help of the English.

The daughter of Rabbi Yehezkel Sarna, who was the Rosh Yeshiva of Hebron, was saved by missing the bus. The

bus for Hevron only left at 12pm. There used to be a bus every two hours. Rav Yehezkel Sarna said if you miss that bus, don't travel to Hevron. It's forbidden to travel after chatzot (halachic noon). I won't travel under any circumstances!

And then, the pogrom happened, and the daughter of Rav Yehezkel Sarna survived [because she didn't travel to Hevron that day], and she raised the orphans.

This was the Arabs, for you. And the English gave them the 'green light'. They told them, the more Jews you destroy, the more we are going to help you. And all this was happening after the Balfour Declaration. — It's written that the Balfour Declaration was a 'sign' of the geula (redemption), because it caused the pogrom.

The Ruzhiner Rebbe wrote in Shvi shel Pesach: "In another,

70 years a big ruler will arise in the world, and will focus on founding a home, for the nation of Israel."

And so it happened. But the English immediately regretted what they'd done [in the Balfour Declaration]. They told [the Jews] "Take Uganda! Take Denmark! Why does it dafka have to be Eretz Yisrael?" The chilonim (secular Jews) agreed to go and live in Uganda. If we'd been in Uganda, they would have thrown us into Lake Victoria. All the natives would have come, and thrown us into the lake, like they've done to each other. For a thousand years, they've had a million corpses a year [in the lake]. It's forbidden to eat the Nile Perch, whoever eats Nile Perch will get poisoned, because everything is corpses, there.

Now, when the English saw that they'd lost Eretz Yisrael, because the crowning

achievement is Eretz Yisrael... Every nation wants to conquer Eretz Yisrael. There is a tradition among the nations that whoever conquers Eretz Yisrael, and whoever conquers Jerusalem, they will rule the whole world.

Napoleon wanted to conquer Eretz Yisrael, and to conquer Jerusalem, and if he'd managed to do it, then no trace of the world would have remained.

All of this is written in the parsha: "You should know with certainty, that your children will be strangers in a land not their own, and they will serve

them and they will oppress them for 400 years."

We timed them. The Arabs ruled here, with complete sovereignty, for 400 years. The Kotel was uncovered by the Emperor Suleiman. Once, there was no Kotel, the whole area was covered over with refuse. When the Rambam came to Jerusalem, he prayed by the Shaarei HaRachamim (the Gate of Mercy). Every time you come to Jerusalem, you need to pray by the Shaarei HaRachamim, where Moshiach is going to enter from. There is a tradition that Mashiach is going to come from the Sha'arei Rachamim<sup>1</sup>.

To send a request for a *beracha* or to ask a question from Rabbi Berland Shelita in English.  
Israel: 972583316334 USA: 19172849657  
UK: 442382280223  
Email: pidyonravberland@gmail.com

**For comments and to receive this pamphlet to your mail:** SparksofLight318@gmail.com  
**For donations please phone:**  
(972) 5832 89318

<sup>1</sup> מסעות ר' פתחיה מרנשבורג  
ובירושלים: יש שער וקורין לו שערי רחמים.  
ואתו השער ממלא אבנים וסיד ואין שום יהודי  
רשאי לבא שמה וכל שכן גוי. ופעם אחת רצו  
הגוים להסיר ולפתוח השער ונתרעה ארץ

ישראל והיתה מהומה בעיר עד שחדלו. ויש  
מסרת ביד היהודים שדרך אותה שער גלתה  
השכינה ובו עתיד לשוב. והוא מכן כנגד הר  
הזיתים והר הזיתים נמוך ממנו והעומד בהר  
הזיתים רואהו.