



MAOR DAVID BOCA RATON CAMPUS

Rabbi Yosef Korkos

In memory of Maran HaGaon HaRav Ovadia Yosef, ztz"l

SHABBAT KEDOSHIM/SHABBAT MEVARCHIM 5774/ APRIL 25-26, 2014

MITZVAH GEDOLA L'HIYOT B'SIMCHA TAMID

Gleanings from Or HaChayim, Rabbenu Bachaye, & Rebbe Nachman

The Ohr HaChayim quotes the second pasuk of this week's Parsha which says, "Speak to the assembly of the Children of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for holy am I, Hashem, your G-d." But the Ohr HaChayim asks how is possible for all of Am Yisrael to become holy, from the lowest level all the way up to the Kohen Gadol? How can they all be equal? Now, the Sages say that the majority of the foundation of the Torah comes in this Parsha. When Hashem gave the Asarah Dibrot to Am Yisrael in Parshat Yitro, it uses the phrasing Daber v'Amarta; this week's Parsha uses the same: Daber el kol eidat Bnei Yisrael V'Amarta etc. This Pasuk comes and makes a mitzvah Asei (a positive commandment) for Arayot (forbidden relations). Last week's Parsha ended with instructions on kosher relationships. This Pasuk tells us that there is a mitzvah to refrain from forbidden relationships.

The Ohr HaChayim also brings the Gemara, which says in Kiddushin 39b, if a human being is sitting down and didn't do any violation of the prohibited relationships, he will be rewarded as if he were actively performing a mitzvah. That's why the Pasuk says for Am Yisrael to be holy. Every person who fulfills the mitzvah of refraining from forbidden relations is considered holy. The Talmud Yerushalmi in Yevamot asks why does the Pasuk mention all of the assembly of Bnei Yisrael? It answers that it doesn't matter what level of spirituality you are, you can be considered holy by refraining from prohibited relationships. And it only mentions Bnei Yisrael because only Am Yisrael can reach this level. The rest of the world is barred from attaining this level of holiness.

Then the Pasuk says, "You shall be holy, because holy am I, Hashem, your G-d." Why do we need to be holy? Because Hashem is holy. Why does Hashem need to say He is holy? Should it not suffice to say, "Because I am Hashem, and I said so?" If Hashem were not holy, Chas v'Chalila, would we not have to be holy? The Chachamim say that if we make ourselves holy, Hashem considers it as if we made Him holy!! This is the meaning of the condition of "Ki Kadosh/because I'm holy." These are the benefits we are giving Hashem. And if we make ourselves unholy, Hashem will consider it like we did the same to Him, Chas v'Chalili.

SHABBAT TIMES FOR BOCA RATON

Candle Lighting: 7:31PM

Shabbat starts: 7:49PM

Dinner: 9:15PM

Shachrit: 9AM

Z'man Shema: 10:02AM

Hatzot: 1:18PM

Lunch: 12:30PM

Earliest Mincha: 1:51PM

Kids Tehillim: 6:00PM

Seudah Shlishit: 7:30PM

Shkiya: 7:49PM

Motzei Shabbat: 8:26PM

Rabbeinu Tam: 9:02PM

Arvit/Havdala: 8:15PM

Parshat Kedoshim:

Vayikra 19:1 – 20:27

Haftarah:

Yekhezkel 20:2 – 20

Rabbeinu Bachaye brings a Pasuk from Mishle (13:19): Desire realized is sweet to the soul; to turn away from evil is abhorrent to the stupid. Shlomo HaMelekh was warning us with this Pasuk that a human being should not go after his desire and should defeat them and remove them from himself. Anyone who defeats his bad desires and removes them from his heart and mind elevates himself to the level of an angel. And those that go after their desires and seek to involve himself in unkosher relationships lowers himself to the level of the animals. That's why those people with wisdom and study knowledge should remove from himself the side of the bad. As we learn in Bereshit (8:21), the imagery of the heart of man is evil from his youth. The one who breaks his evil inclination is no longer considered bad. The ability to control and defeat one's inclinations mark the difference between those who accept and those who reject wisdom.

When Rebbe Nachman, A"H, said, "Mitzvah Gedola L'Hiyot Besimcha Tamid," this is the first step to achieve what we are learning here. The most important thing is controlling the mind and our thoughts. We should not go after the bad sides of our mind, which is part of our physical nature. And Shlomo HaMelekh taught us someone who sins in his mind is considered as if he sinned in action. And he said in (Mishle 15:13): A joyful heart makes a cheerful face; a sad heart makes a despondent mood. The heart is made joyful by mitzvot and made sad by sin. The heart is the root of the body; when the it is healthy and full of good nutrition it will grow off branches. When someone does a mitzvah with happiness, it's like nourishment for the heart and will cause the body to be happy as well.

This is main mitzvah we have to keep. From here, we trust and believe in Hashem. Hashem asks of us a small step; he will help us reach the ultimate level of Kedusha. Being happy is the first step and Hashem will lead us from there to control our mouths not to speak Lashon Hara, which is the source of the snake. From there, we will learn to control our eating, which if not controlled can lead us in a very bad direction; this is also the way of the snake. And the final level is to control our body so that we will not go off the way of the Torah and only do what is allowed. And so we must be happy; not just smiling, but happiness from the heart that allows the body and soul to thrive. Rak Smachot L'Kulam.

Halakhot of the Week

The only time of the year Maran HaRav Ovadia, ztvl, says to say "L'Shem Yichud" is for Sefirat HaOmer. When saying the L'Shem Yichud, he also rules that it's best to refrain from saying any Pisukim from the Torah concerning Sefirat HaOmer. This is especially so on the last night, where saying these Pisukim will count as that individual's counting of the Omer before he has a chance to recite the bracha.

NEWS

- Yom Huledet Sameach to Karin, Matan's fiancé. We wish you health, happiness, mazal tov. Mazal tov to both Matan and Korin on their Chanukat HaBayit.
- Thank you to everyone who supported us for Pesach and for the Mimouna. If anyone wants to sponsor any of the Shabbat meals or Melava Malka, it would be much appreciated and is a big mitzvah to participate.
- We are also looking for anyone who can assist us with buying the house next door to expand our shul and the amenities and services it provides. Please contact Rabbi Korkos if you or someone you know can help us.
- Tzeitchem L'Shalom to our beloved Chayal: Shlomo. He is leaving us to go back to Eretz Yisrael to serve and protect our homeland. May our prayers and love for him protect him, his unit, and all Chayale Yisrael.