
Bitachon Weekly

----- שליט"א Rabbi Yehudah Mandel -----

פרשת כי תבא תשפ"ו

Hashem Likes It When People Are Happy

The Passuk says **תַּחַת אֲשֶׁר לֹא עֲבַדְתָּ אֶת ה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּשִׂמְחָה** כח מז. A Yid should make a career throughout his life to weed out all negative thoughts, and to promote as many positive and happy thoughts. Hoda'ah and Bitachon are forms of thoughts that give you Simcha. Rabeinu B'chaye says that there are two parts to a Mitzva. Besides the actual Mitzva, having Simcha over the Mitzva is a Mitzva in itself. And since the Torah says: **תַּחַת אֲשֶׁר לֹא עֲבַדְתָּ אֶת ה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּשִׂמְחָה** תבא כח מז we are punished for not serving Hashem with Simcha, it appears that not having Simcha over a Mitzva especially deserves an Onesh (punishment) even more than not having done the Mitzva itself.

From here we see the importance of working on Simcha in order to avoid a strict and difficult Din on Rosh Hashanah. How important it is to cheer up in order to avoid punishments! It would be worth plenty of time and effort to sit back during Elul and “kvell” and bask in the glory and Simcha of all you have already done.

Dovid would sing half a night and the other half he would sing in appreciation for the Torah that he just learned. No wonder Dovid is so special. **דָּוִד מֶלֶךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל חַי וְקַיִם** He lives forever, and will be Moshiach, B'mheira B'yameinu, Amen. New recipe for escaping punishments: Be B'simcha. It might be a mistake for some people to have a tense Elul by increasing their Torah and Avoda with many Blatt (pages of Gemara) and lots of Tzedaka, but with a seriousness that could be lacking Simcha.

Do you want to be Zoche on Rosh Hashanah and have a good year? Maybe do less Torah and Chesed, and spend time being happy over your Avodas Hashem! The Gemara says that Dovid didn't get that many punishments as Shaul despite doing more Aveiros. The Gevuras Ari says it's because of his colossal Ma'asim Tovim which were mainly lots of: **שִׁיר וְשִׁבְחָה** song and praise to Hashem. Extreme thankfulness is a master Segula to be Zoche B'din and all kinds of successes and Yeshuos in life. ➡

Keep Talking Big and Watch How with Time You Actually Become Great

Someone who is a nobody yet he is a bigshot is called a: **גָּאָה** arrogant pauper; Chazal consider such a person to be disgusting. However, if you are a true Oved Hashem, and we know that you work on yourself: **בְּשִׁנֵּי יִצְרִיךְ** using both your Yetzer HaTov and Yetzer Hara, you can use your Yetzer Hara to become a first class obnoxious: **גָּאָה** arrogant pauper, to make believe you're a big knock (in Torah or Middos or Yiras Shamayim or talent, etc.) and before long, you'll be: **רָאוּי** ready for bigger levels.

Don't be afraid! Keep talking big and making believe you're Mr. Tzadik Yesod Olam, Mr. Lamdan Atzum, Mr. Adam Gadol, etc., and watch how with time you actually become great. Don't worry about chutzpa! Do you know, that the Mashgiach of Bais Medrash Gavoha, R' Nosson Wachtfogel Zatzal told me to have more chutzpa! Like it says: **לֹא הַבִּישָׁן** a shameful person cannot really learn. Without this, I would have gotten nowhere, Chas V'shalom.

And do it with a **Shtoltz!** Don't be a softy Anava P'sula'nik (!) who sounds like an Ois'ge'arbata Baal Mussar, but is really an insecure piece-of-butter who never worked on his Middos with the proper Hadracha.



R' Yosef Zalman Bloch Shlita in Iggeres HaBitachon says that Dovid had less Onesh (punishment) because of Middas HaBitachon which he had the most of. Perhaps there is a major proof to this since: אפילו רשע הבוטח בה' חסד Even a Rasha who has Bitachon in Hashem will be surrounded with Chesed. So we see that a Baal Bitachon is helped despite his sins (hopefully he'll do Teshuva) and perhaps: תחת אשר לא עבדת את ה' אלקיך not serving Hashem with Simcha can mean Bitachon which brings Simcha (and is Simcha Mamash). R' Dovid Shustal Shlita said in a Shmuess that: בקרב עלי מרעים means sins and: מקטרגים accusing angels, and Bitachon means that you have Bitachon despite your sins (of course there is a Makom for Teshuva). So spend your Elul and Rosh Hashanah dreaming happy Bitachon thoughts about a wonderful year. (These dreams save you from Onesh (punishment), and B'ezras Hashem they'll come true also, with Siyata Dishmaya!)

You Don't Need Any Cheshbonos How to Have a Yeshua

I once discovered that I had a very difficult class, and this can give a Rebbe a miserable year, Rachmana Litzlan. I dreaded walking into class the next day. So I spent a long time learning Mussar B'hispa'alus on Bitachon, and this calmed me down and I laughed. R' Yisroel Salanter Zatzal says that where the Sechel stops, Bitachon begins. So you don't need any Cheshbonos how to have a Yeshua. Sure enough, the next day was surprisingly Gevaldig, and Hashem gave me new Chinuch ideas that I never dreamed of before



Novardok

The Alter was positive to the extreme. I met a person who knew him, and said that he was "Simcha plus". He once said that a person can be smart and make an Ezer (supporter) from a K'negdo (adversary), i.e. when things go wrong, he can Davka come out ahead. There is a famous story when the Alter was alone in the forest in his Bais HaBedidus at night, and his candle burned out.

He walked outside with Bitachon, and a man came from nowhere and gave him a new candle. He kept the candle for many years as a Zecher L'ness, until one day his house burned down and the candle was gone. He said: "Aderaba, this is a proof that we don't need proofs to be M'chazek our Bitachon". I heard a story about R' Shalom Schwadron Zatzal who was speaking in public and he said something controversial. The first two rows of people walked out in middle of his Drasha. Instead of getting embarrassed, R' Shalom said: "Those people who are standing in the back, now you can come up; you have seating room" R' Avigdor Miller Zatzal was once speaking, and he said something controversial. A man in the back started shouting, and the people wanted to get rid of him, since he was causing embarrassment to R' Miller.

R' Miller Zatzal stopped them and he said: "Let him stay and scream. It brings in more crowds when they see a tumult". A positive thinker has an unending mission to see good in all circumstances, and in Novardok they said that when you do this, you are getting a double Mitzva. Seeing good and saying Gam Zu L'tovah is a Mitzva of Bitachon, and also, since you're going against your nature of being negative, therefore you are also doing the greatest Mitzva of Shviras HaMiddos.

This is one reason why learning so much Mussar is so important. You need to constantly encourage yourself with the **proper** Mussar Seforim and Ma'amarei Chazal that inspire you to think positively despite being in a negative world. This is why in Elul the Novardokers had a half day Taanis Dibbur, and in general they watched their eyes and ears and mouths during Elul so the Mussar could enter your pure Neshama without so many distractions. Learning Gemara non-stop was extremely important during Elul, since תלמוד תורה כנגד כלם learning Torah is greater than all the other Mitzvos put together, and you need as many Zechusim as you can get.



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