

נכתב לעילוי נשמת אבי מורי ר' מנחם
מענדל בן ר' מאיר גראססבערגער ז"ל
נלב"ע י"ט אדר תשפ"ו ואמי מורתי
מרת מרים בת ר' גדלי' ע"ה נלב"ע
כ"ג תשרי שמחת תורה תשפ"ב

שמחינו בישועתך

אל התורה

"A Moment's Delay!"

When the Meraglim returned from Eretz Canaan, they told over their experiences and cast a very negative view of the land and of Klal Yisroel's ability to conquer it. Kolev then got up, he quieted Klal Yisroel and reassured them that they would indeed be able to conquer it. Unfortunately, Klal Yisroel didn't pay any attention to the words of Kolev. They spent the night crying that it was a land which was impossible to conquer, resulting in their generation remaining in the Midbor for the next forty years and dying there. Later, in (ד"ד, כ"ד) we find that Kolev was personally rewarded by Hashem – he was given Chevron as an inheritance and lived to enter the land. The question is, if Klal Yisroel didn't pay any attention to the words of Kolev and they had no effect, why was he rewarded?

The (תמ"ב) answers that it's true that Kolev's words made no impression on Klal Yisroel. However, it gave them precious minutes of reflection - to pause and be Misbonen in their actions. If not for those precious moments, who knows how much worse Klal Yisroel's reaction against Moshe would have been. As a result, Kolev was rewarded by Hashem for giving Klal Yisroel his opportunity to pause and reflect.

We can suggest another Pshat based on the following story. A certain Rov came to the Chofetz Chaim zt"l complaining bitterly that he was extremely frustrated because although every Shabbos he implored his Kehilla to strengthen themselves in Torah and Mitzvos, his words seem to have had no effect and he didn't seem to be having any impact on his Kehilla. The Chofetz Chaim consoled him and said, "Even if your words aren't having any impact, however, during that time that you speak, you have prevented your entire Kehilla from speaking Loshon Hora, which is an incredible zechus for you."

In fact, in (כלל א'ז'), the Chofetz Chaim brings a מאמר חז"ל from the Medrash which makes this point regarding forbidden speech: For every moment that a person holds himself back from saying something that is forbidden, he is zoche to a hidden light - an אור גנוז in the next world which no Maloch or creature can even begin to comprehend! Why? Because such is the reward given for those that push off doing an Aveira!

When Kolev stood up and succeeded in quietening Klal Yisroel, although his words had no impact in the long term, for those precious moments he had done something phenomenal. He had delayed Klal Yisroel's fall into the sin of the Meraglim. Even if a person eventually succumbs to the Yetzer Hora and sins, Kolev's reward and the story of the Chofetz Chaim teach us something incredible – that for every moment that a person manages to delay himself or others from doing an Aveira, it makes a tremendous impression in Heaven, gives Hashem a great Nachas Ruach and indeed brings upon a person great reward!

פרשת שלח לך תשפ"ו

ההדפס
גול לית

- 1) Why did the Meraglim visit the south of Eretz Canaan first?
- 2) Who travelled to Chevron?
- 3) Where did the giants come from?
- 4) How many kings resided in Eretz Canaan?
- 5) How many times did Klal Yisroel test Hashem in the Midbor?
- 6) What is the Gematria of Tzitzis?

- 1) The south was of lower quality compared to the north - like merchants who first show their lower quality to buyers, then the superior quality is shown. (רש"י י"ג, י"ז).
- 2) Only Kolev. (רש"י י"ג, כ"ב).
- 3) They came from heaven in the generation of Enosh. (רש"י י"ג, ל"ג).
- 4) 31. (רש"י י"ד, ט"ז).
- 5) Ten times. (רש"י י"ג, כ"ב).
- 6) 600, plus 8 strings and five knots - equals 613. (רש"י ט"ו, ל"ט).