



Hakodosh Boruch Hu was saying here: Listen to Me, for no person ever loses out as a result of listening to Me.” However, this is not the case when one listens to other people, as Chazal say: You will find that

אמר הקדוש ברוך "See, I present before you today, a blessing and a curse." It says in Devorim Rabbah 4:5 – "ראה אנכי נותן לפניכם היום ברכה וקללה" 11:26 – שם משמואל

כי אם שמור תשמרון את כל המצוה הזאת – “See, I place before you today a blessing and a curse.” It says before this, “אשר אנכי מצוה אתכם לעשותה, לאהבה את ד' אלקיכם ללכת בכל דרכיו ולבדוקה בו” – “For if you will observe this entire commandment that I command you, to perform it, to love Hashem, your G-d, to walk in all of His ways and to cleave to Him.” When it says that if you will observe “this commandment” – which commandment is it referring to? Rebbe Levi said it referring to the Mitzvah of Krias Shema, reciting Shema. The Rabbonon says that it refers to Shabbos, which is significant to all the Mitzvos of the Torah combined.

That which the Midrash says that Krias Shema is the one special Mitzvah which if one heeds Hakodosh Boruch Hu will protect him from all Mazikin, damagers, as the Gemara in Brochos 5a tells us.

אשר נפשנו חיה עליו. Only because of Torah, and because we are aware of its meaning, we can live. When over Hashem's lamp, the air will glow over you. נשמה בברך...נרך בירך – "נשמה בברך...נרך בירך" – The Torah compares the Torah and the Nefesh of a person to a lamp. Just as a lamp illuminates the air around it, so too the soul illuminates the air around the Guf. The Torah as well illuminates the air around it – as it illuminates the entire world. The Nefesh receives its sustenance, its life source, from Hakodosh Boruch Hu. How does the Nefesh continue to exist? It is through the Torah Hakdosha that Hakodosh Boruch Hu gives it its sustenance. The Torah warns us that we can protect our Nefesh only if we don't forget what we saw and heard at Har Chorev (Har Sinai). The Nefesh has the same Divine origin as the Torah. Thus, it cannot survive without the study of Torah and the performance of its commandments, which infuse it with the Divine spirituality that it needs to exist.

Now we can understand why the Torah says that we should "listen" to the Mitzvos of the Torah. There is a constant battle that everyone is fighting. The Yetzer Hara is constantly trying to get one to veer from the path of Hashem and not perform Mitzvos. The Torah is telling us the secret how we can be Zoche to Brocha, blessing. We must learn the Torah Hakdosha, and thus connect to it. The more we learn the Torah, and seek to connect to the Torah, Hakodosh Boruch Hu will help us that we perform the Mitzvos of the Torah and have true Brocha. May we be Zoche to only have Brocha.