

Bitachon Weekly

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

פרשת ראה תשפ"ו

Having a Continuously Super Happy Heart Without Hispa'alus of Your Issues

HaRav Shamshon Refoel Hirsh Zatzal on the Passuk **וְהָיִיתָ אֶדְ שִׂמְחָה** points out the importance of Simcha. It has to continue and remain permanent; and even during difficult times, the Simcha remains.

By a Yid, Simcha is not just another Mitzva. It has to be glorified and continued always, and even in the worst times. Notice the Simcha of: **הַבָּאֵת בִּיכּוּרֵיהֶם** those who brought Bikkurim, or Simchas Bais HaSho'eva; look how extreme they were (no sleeping all Yom Tov!)

The Jew needs to have a continuously super happy heart, without Hispa'alus of his issues, which mar his ongoing extreme Simcha.

When You Are Truly Happy, You Give

When a Yid gives others, and especially Ani'yim, he gets carried away. Notice the many double Leshonos (expressions) of giving in our Parsha: **הָעֲנִיךָ תַּעֲנִיךָ** (1) **תָּתֵן תִּתֵּן** (2) **תַּעֲבִיטְךָ** (3) **תָּתֵן תַּתֵּן** (4) **תַּעֲנִיךָ תַּעֲנִיךָ** (1) Give and give and give! Indeed, people who are double happy with what they have, give others double. A friend of mine married the daughter of a wealthy person. People came to him for money during the Chasuna.

He was in a very happy mood, and you should have seen how he kept throwing the money with such enthusiasm and Simcha. When you yourself are truly happy, you give! And you also have Ayin Tova and love everyone, and you forgive all, and you see only good!

Do you realize that before Dovid came along, Shmuel HaNavi was sure that his older brother Eliav was the true Melech.

And Shmuel was a Navi who could see through and through a person. Yet, Hashem said no good! **כִּי מֵאַסְתִּידּוֹ** I have rejected him! Such a Tzadik and Gaon! **מֵאַסְתִּידּוֹ** Rejected! The Meforshim say that later, his bad Midda of Ka'as came out, when he reprimanded Dovid.

We can suggest that B'ikar (mainly) his problem was being a critical person, and he criticized Dovid and was: **חֹשֶׁד** suspicious of him. This is exactly what Dovid HaMelech was most famous for; Ayin Tova, even in his worst enemies.

A Person Who Is Proud of His Holiness Doesn't Sin

The Passuk says not to make on yourself a bald spot or a laceration on your skin, because you are a holy nation to Hashem. Do you know why we don't sin? Because we are proud of ourselves! **לִבּוֹ בְּדַרְכֵי ה'** lifting your heart in order to serve Hashem is all over the Torah. Kosher Ga'ava is #1 in Yiddishkeit. We are greater than all the nations and therefore we don't act like them! Do you know why the Germans had such a power to start two world wars, which caused massive destruction and cruelty?

Because they had healthy "self-esteem", and they believed that their Aryan race was superior to all others. They said: "Deutschland Iber Alles", i.e., the Germans are greater than everyone. And do you know why they picked on the Jews more than any other nation??

Because the Jews are the true superior race, and they are their real competitors! When a Jew doesn't realize that he is superior, then Chas V'shalom he gets Nazis; to take over his job, Rachmana Litzlan. The Jew is getting punished for not holding from himself, and not realizing that learning Torah and doing Mitzvos is the greatest privilege.

For good reason, Novardok, Slabodka, and Chassidim held themselves high. Where does Reform and Haskalah and Zionism come from? When a Yid doesn't realize that he's superior and he's got it all, he starts imitating Goyim.

In the accursed Nazis we see the danger and the sad result of Shiflus and Anava P'sula (misplaced humility). Every Yid has unlimited Kochos which Hashem wants him to use in Avodas Hashem.

How important it is to constantly work on putting yourself on top. (Don't think it's easy!) Instead of hearing "Deutschland Iber Alles", you should preempt and say: "I'M THE BEST!"



Ayin Tova Is Malchus Which Is the Opposite of Being Critical

This is exactly Malchus; Ayin Tova, and exactly the opposite Malchus of is being a critical person. I've seen the worst family relationships which cause untold misery and hatred for one reason; someone is critical! And often he or she doesn't even realize how he or she is hurting family members and makes them feel trapped in a "concentration" camp!

Being critical means being downright cruel, and being self-critical can be just as dangerous and worse, Chas V'shalom. Who wants to live a life of constant harassing by self and/or others saying "You're no good for this reason, or that reason". Do you want to wake up in the morning to all this? Or you'd rather sleep away your life. The more you call your boy "dysfunctional" who never does anything, the more he continues to do that.

I have another sure-way to create an unmotivated child. If he has a sibling who is a bigger Metzuyan and/or more Geshmak or cute, and you keep focusing on the cutie and ignoring the dysfunctional. Often, parents don't chap what they're doing. They should do just the opposite, and constantly give attention and praise and find all kinds of goodness Davka in the child without Chen, etc.



Novardok

The main group of Novardokers were in Siberia for 2-3 years, but 3 more Bachurim were there for another 8 years. Reuven Ostrolanka (Wapner) was one of them. When his children asked him how he was able to live in such a Gehinom, he wondered: Don't you know that I'm a Novardoker? This is although he came to Novardok before his Bar Mitzva, and he was only there for half a year.

The same with R' Pinchos Menachem Malach Zatzal. He came very young, and stayed only a year. But that was enough to turn him into a fire with loads of Mesiras Nefesh for the rest of his life. The Russians wanted Reuven to be a chief Rabbi in a Moscow shul, so he could inform on his brother Jews and get them in trouble. For refusing, he spent 6 months in a 2 x 4 cell! He had no fear, and was full of Bitachon.

This is despite the starvation rations and hard slave labor in freezing Siberia. Hashem sent him a young girl, a Tzadekes, who spent 3-day trips on trains to Siberia, in order to bring food to these 3 Bachurim. She did this frequently. In the end, she told the authorities that she is his wife, and since she is a Russian citizen, he should be able to get out of Siberia, and live in Russia with her.

Later, he told the Russians that he is a Polish citizen, and should be able to leave Russia with his "wife", since she is connected with a Pole. And that's how they got out to the free world. At that point, she asked him if he would actually marry her! I guess that's the least she deserved! They both settled in Boro Park, and she was Moser Nefesh for Novardok all her life.

Sewing the Paroches and tablecloths for Bais Yosef. She was seen shlepping an abandoned coat rack from 13th Ave. to 49th St. Novardok Bais Medrash. Her maiden-name was Freida Altfetra. Those who brand themselves "Novardoker", or a fighting: מִלְחָמָה soldier in the army of Hashem like an armed kosher fish (see above, page 7-8) produce much more. Always insist on calling yourself a fighter in the army of Hashem. The Ponivezer Rov said that Novardokers were the official soldiers of Hashem.

The more you keep Chazzering your proud Shtempel, and keep reminding yourself of the fire and the Ruach and the Mesiras Nefesh that Novardokers do (and that you personally have also done), the more your Shtempel helps you overcome all kinds of weaknesses. Every Yid should give himself the kind of Shtempel that makes him on fire. By some, it might be the memory of your illustrious parents or Rabbeim that keeps you going. (Often, the Yetzer Hara makes you glorify only your sins and mistakes).



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