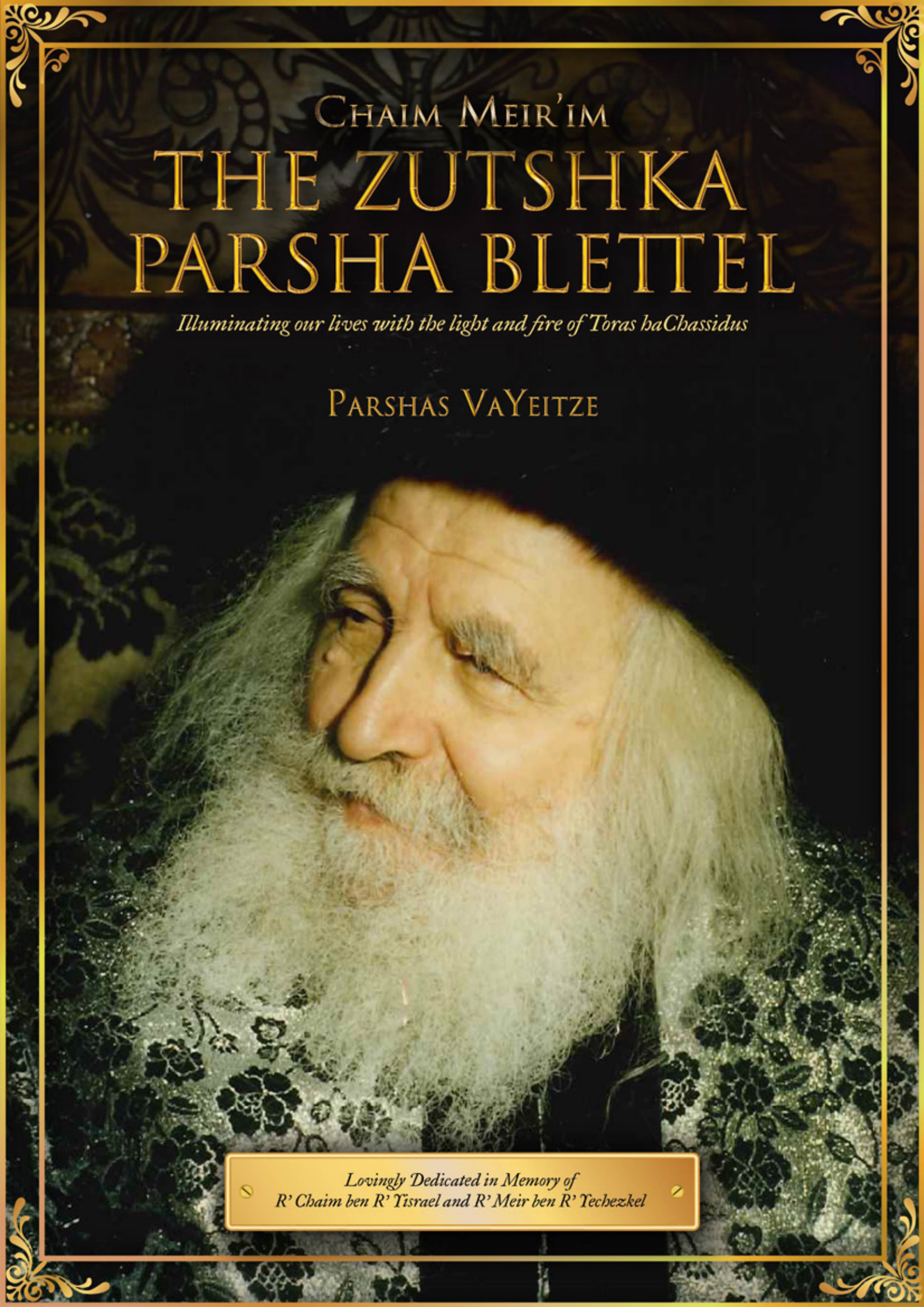
Chaim Meir'im

THE ZUTSHKA PARSHA BLETTEL

Illuminating our lives with the light and fire of Toras haChassidus

Parshas VaYeitze



Lovingly Dedicated in Memory of
R' Chaim ben R' Yisrael and R' Meir ben R' Yechezkel

בס"ד

PARSHAS VAYEITZE

Dedicated in Loving Memory
LeIllui Nishmas Blima Zelman A"H
Bas Reb Meshulem Zisha
She passed away on 11 Kislev תשס"ו
Dedicated by our dear friend R' Meshulem Zisha Zelman

Parnasah Sustenance and Livelihood From an Unlikely Source

And Lavan said to him, "If only I have now found favor in your eyes. . . Hashem has blessed me for your sake." (Bereishis 30:27)

The Zutshka Rebbe explains that Lavan was speaking prophetically without realizing what he had predicted, this is because the fact that Lavan's flocks miraculously increased exponentially was testified to by the pasuk "Hashem separated your father's livestock and gave it to me." (31:9) "And he heard the words of Lavan's sons, saying, "Yaakov has taken all that belonged to our father, and from what belonged to our father, he has amassed this entire fortune." (31:1) Hashem orchestrated events so that Lavan's flocks would multiply and increase in a supernatural manner all in order to give them over to Yaakov for his own personal benefit.

This, says the Zutshka rebbe, should teach us an amazing lesson in emunah - faith and trust in Hashem. We see from this story of the biblical narrative how Hashem prepares our parnasa - our sustenance and livelihood is prepared by Hashem all in advance for us, even from the most unlikely sources and unexpected places. Even from our greatest enemies and opponents Hashem can draw our parnasa to us! This is just as our forefather Yaakov Avinu declared saying "If Hashem will be with me, and He will guard me on this way, upon which I am going, and He will give me bread to eat and a garment to wear," (28:20) meaning on this way which Yaakov is going towards Lavan HaArami, there in that place specifically, Hashem is preparing his parnasa in a miraculous and supernatural way!

When a person ponders this he should automatically realize that his primary objective is Torah study and avodas Hashem, while his business nd earning a living need to be secondary. If he truly knows that Hashem prepares the sustenance of all of His creatures in advance, and he recognizes that parnasa is actually a spiritual bounty from Heaven, his hishtadlus and physical effort should be sanctified to transform even that into ruchniyus. Once he does so, he does not separate or cut off the shefa from its source. This is what Yaakov meant when he said "and He will give me bread to eat and a garment to wear . . . and the Lord will be my G-d" (28:20-21). He meant that then even his worldly physical act of eating would be transformed into a spiritual avodah.

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A Tzadik Lives by Faith & Emunah

More often than not the inspirational divrei Torah at the Alter Zutshka Rebbe, the Nachal Yitzchok's tisch consisted of messages to strengthen emunah and bolster our faith and resolve in the face of life's many challenges. He himself was girded with strong emunah and bitachon and this faith and trust in Hashem poured out like a wellspring whenever he sought to encourage and uplift his followers and hasidim, as well as all those came to share and bask in his shining countenance and drink thirstily from his fount of wisdom and words of inspiration.

The rebbe even enacted a custom that before washing mayim achronim preceding the bentshing of Birkas haMazon that they would sing together the words of the Rambam's cardinal article of faith using a beautiful melody attributed to the tzadik, the Kalover Rebbe zatzal - "Ani Maamin BeEmunah Sheleima SheHaBoreh Yisborach Shemo Bore Umanhig leKol HaBeruim – VeHu Lavado Asa VeOseh VeYaaseh LeKol HaMa'asim." ("I believe with full faith that the blessed Creator is the sole Creator of all creatures and creations, Who guides them and rules them, and He alone did, does and will do – all acts and things that are done.")

And so it was when the manager of the Rebbe's Shone Halachos program needed to pay those who had been tested and passed, he entered the tzadik's inner sanctum and the rebbe reached his hand into his pocket and handed him a sum asking "Is this amount enough to cover what you need?" "Unfortunately not," he responded to the rebbe. The rebbe checked his pockets again, found some more money and asked if the amount the manager received was now sufficient? "I am sorry but no we do not yet have enough money here to cover the expenses of the program." The rebbe didn't blink, his faith and trust were so strong that again, for the third time, he reached into his pockets and searched and found some more money, "is it enough now?" he asked. "Yes now we have exactly enough to pay all the yungeleit who were tested," the manager was amazed.

On one occasion, it was the yahrzeit of the Rebbe's mother Rebitzen Malka, who was laid to rest in Tiveria, and the Zutshka Rebbe prepared to journey there to visit and daven by her kever. When the minibus that was take them all arrived the current Zutshka Rebbe Shlita asked his grandfather, the Rebbe zatzal "Zeidi where is the money to pay the driver of the minibus?"

"Don't worry," replied the tzadik, who had not a penny in his pocket at the time, "Hashem will send us the money to pay him in full." As they began to drive off, R' Yitzchok Mordechai Moshkowitz began to chase them down. He was holding an envelope that our dear friend R' Zisha Zelman had sent to the Rebbe. The Rebbe instructed the driver to stop, thanked R' Moshkowitz and place the unopened envelope in his pocket.

They continued on their way, arrived, davened at the tzion and headed back. When they arrived back in Bnei Brak the driver requested his payment. At this point the rebbe took out the envelope from R' Zisha Zelman, opened it to see what it contained and found no more and no less than the exact amount to pay the driver, down to the last cent.







Mazal Tov to the Zutshka and Nadvorna Yerushalayim Rebbes on the bris of their grandson, shown here are the Rebbes reciting Shema at the Vachtnacht

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