

פרשת נצבים. We're now in the קדושה, surrounded by opportunity, and surrounded by מצות. The pasuk tells us (29:9) אַתֶּם נִצְבִּים הַיּוֹם בְּלִפְנֵי ה' אֱלֹהֵיכֶם. Rashi points out that this parsha was written immediately after the terrifying תוכחה in תבוא. And he asks why is it here? Because כלל ישראל came to משה after they heard all of these terrible things and said, "How can we bear to stand? We're won't be able to survive." So משה רבינו answered them, אַתֶּם נִצְבִּים הַיּוֹם בְּלִפְנֵי ה'. Number one, yes, you're still standing. But number two, why is it that we're still standing? Because it's בְּלִפְנֵי ה'. The merit of the ציבור is what was able to cause each and every individual to survive. We all know that. We all say בתוך שאר כלל ישראל.

Everything that we daven, we daven for the זכות of the ציבור, we daven for them, and we daven because of them. All of the ציבור is the merit that gives כלל ישראל the opportunity and the געלעגנהייט and the reality of our existence. Anytime a person gets into trouble on an individual basis, he should call upon his זכות as part of the ציבור.

We do the exact same thing on יום כיפור. The entire world, we say, is being judged. So if we are being judged as individuals, we've got no chance. But if we're part of a ציבור, and the ציבור is going to bring us up and give us the opportunity to get a good judgment, that is our ticket to success. It seems simple. We just have to keep on thinking of it. And אם ירצה השם, we'll all have געבענטשט געזונט יאר.

