

נועם

ה'

דברי חיזוק והתעוררות

On the שובבים *of* קדושה



פרשת משפטים

שבת שקלים * מברכין אדר



On the topic of:

שבת קודש



י' ל' ע' י' הרב ישראל גאלד
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שבת קודש

together enters the final period of these precious days of *שובבים*. The final *שבת* of *שובבים* is met with a special treat and that is the coming of the *פרשיות* of *ד'*. The four *פרשיות* of *שקלים*, *זכור*, *פרה*, and *קודש*. Hashem with his endless love for us, His *kinderlach*, always provides us with opportunities to come close to Him. As the *קדושה* of *שובבים* leaves, the *קדושה* of *ד'* enters.

Together with ד'

used to say how excited he was for the *ד'* when he can be together with Hashem in a very close way. The *ספרים* tell us that the four *פרשיות* correspond to the four letters of Hashem's Name. Therefore, when a person prepares himself properly to receive the beauty of these special *שבתות* then he achieves tremendous closeness on a higher level than before.

of *שבתים* and the upcoming *שבתות* of the *פרשיות* of *ד'*, let's try together to work on uplifting our whole appreciation for *שבת קודש*.

ישמע חכם ויוסף לקח

Like every topic in *ד'*, there is endless information that can be discussed. Surely in a few short words we won't be able to even scratch the surface of the beauty of *שבת קודש*, but as *שלמה המלך* writes in *משלי*, "ישמע חכם ויוסף לקח", the wise man hears and builds on the information that he receives. Its incumbent upon every single *איד* in his specific life to try and raise his appreciation for the special gift we have called *קודש שבת*.

מתנה טובה

tell us that Hashem told משה רבינו:

"מתנה טובה יש לי בבית גנזי ושבת שמה"

I have a special gift in My secret treasure house and it's called שבת, please go and tell them about it".

When a person gets a gift from someone, depending on the stature and relationship one has with the giver that's how much of an appreciation one will have for the gift. Gifts from one friend to another, from husband to wife, from employer to employee. Each relationship with its uniqueness and flavor

will determine the excitement that one will have when receiving the gift.

and receive something more precious than anything imaginable.

Gift from a King

What happens when a person receives a gift from a king? How much more so will he appreciate this gift? Now there were many kings in history, yet not every king was successful and beloved. If one were to receive a gift from the most beloved and powerful King, wouldn't that warrant excitement?

It goes much further.

The King tells you He wants to give you a gift but not just any gift, "מתנה טובה" a really good gift, even more special!

Even further...

This gift isn't accessible to anyone- it can only be found "בבית גנוז" in My secret treasure house.

How would we react to such an experience?

שבת קודש שמה

This is what we have. This is what every איד experiences every single week. We get lifted up into the secret chambers and treasure houses of the מלך המלכים הקב"ה

זלזול שבת

We can now understand a little bit of the tremendous hurt Hashem can כביכול feel when people don't treat שבת with the respect it deserves. Because if a person understands that the gift we have, comes from a very sacred place, shouldn't we show Hashem our excitement? Shouldn't we make every effort to act the way we are supposed to and try on our level to receive all the potential ברכות of שבת קודש?

source מקור הברכות of all ברכות

The זוהר הקדוש tell us that all the ברכה that will descend on a person throughout the week comes from שבת.

"כל ברכאין דשיתין יומין בימא שביעי תליין"

All the ברכות of the week depends on שבת".

Which means to say in simple words -if we want ברכה in our week, we need to invest in uplifting our שבת. A person who ignores the קדושה of שבת

and expects ברכה during the week can be compared to someone who goes to the store to purchase merchandise and doesn't have any money. The money was given out yesterday and you weren't there to receive it.

Anyone that does have- what seems like- ברכה during the week and yet doesn't keep שבת has to be aware that the "ברכה" is not ברכה- it's coming from the source of טומאה.

Let's try together to deepen. our love for this special day.

תכלית שמים וארץ

We say by the מעריב שמונה מעריב שבת is the whole purpose of the creation- "תכלית מעשה שמים וארץ".

סוף מעשה במחשבה תחילה

There is a fundamental understanding in human actions. And that is the concept of 'סוף מעשה' when you see the end result, you can be assured that 'במחשבה תחילה' this was the original plan all along.

When you see a painter as he begins his masterpiece, you watch as he carefully and meticulously paints, stroke after stroke. You see a brush of blue and a touch of red, a

dab of green with a shade of purple, you stand and wonder what is this going to look like? And then finally, with the final stroke, you see a magnificent product. A breathtaking scenery of wondrous images. We all understand that the end product was in the mind of the painter at the very beginning.

Hashem created a World

"מה רבו מעשיך ה'" - the wonders of אבינו שבשמים is absolutely breathtaking. The sights we see and the things we don't know exist. The solar system and all the galaxies. On the ground and below the sea, fascinating beauties that are way beyond the scope of human comprehension. We sit back and wonder: *What is Hashem creating here? What is the end result?*

"ויכולו השמים והארץ וכל צבאם"

Everything is complete, all is done and now
שבת קודש

What is שבת?

I was once having a discussion with a friend of mine. We were wondering together: What exactly is

נועם ה'

בס"ד

we know is the ראש השנה? שבת
יום הדין

is the day of סליחה
שמיחה? סוכות

זמן חירותינו is פסח

We received the תורה
הקדושה? שבועות

What happens on שבת?

We decided to ask a תלמיד חכם
and the answer was clear and
precise.

שבת היום לה'.

is a day when the Glory
of Hashem is revealed.

How does this manifest itself
בדרך העבודה?

נתאווה הקב"ה לעשות

דירה בתחתונים

*Hashem Desires to
Dwell amongst Us*

created the world for a
purpose- the purpose is to
have a place where כביכול
Hashem can rest His שכינה.
Hashem doesn't rest His שכינה
in a random manner, but
rather, Hashem has a specific
destination.

"ועשו לי מקדש ושכנתי בתוכם"

The חיד"א explains that it
doesn't say in the פסוק that

Hashem wants to rest בתוכה in
it, rather it says בתוכם in
them. Hashem wants to rest in
the hearts of His kinderlach
כלל ישראל. That's the purpose
of creation.

We find in many places in חז"ל
that says the purpose of
creation is to be מטיב- to give
for כלל ישראל. How do these
two concepts come together?

The ultimate הטבה and giving
that Hashem can Give to us is
by allowing us to cling to
Him.

אדם לא נברא אלא להתענג אל ה'
A person was created to enjoy
and bask in the closeness of
this relationship.

The entire בריאה of 6 days was
Hashem setting up the stage
for this purpose. The ultimate
goal and vision of the creation
of the world which is שבת
שבת. קודש. שבת is a day when the
entire creation as a whole is
able to cling and connect to
Hashem on the highest and
purest level.

שבת היום לה'!

**"כנסת ישראל יהיה בן
זוגך"**

The מדרש tell us something
very interesting. שבת came to
Hashem with a complaint.

Hashem, every day has a זוג a partner except for me! Sunday has Monday Tuesday has Wednesday Thursday has Friday who is my זוג?

The answer was clear...

"כנסת ישראל יהיה בן זוגך"

"My precious kinderlach will be your partner."

Our ability to taste the sweetness of our relationship with Hashem is through our relationship with שבת.

That's our עבודה on שבת. To understand what the day stands for and represents, to reach higher levels of אהבת ה'.

אהבת ה' Like the דרכי נעם writes..

"השבת הוא יום התעוררות אש
אהבת ה' בלב יהודי להתענג על ה'
והיא המקור והיסוד הימנו שואב
יהודי את ההשתוקקות של נפשי
חמדה בצל ירך"

*"שבת is the day when we
arouse the fire of love we
have for Hashem in our
hearts, to taste the sweetness
of Hashem. And שבת is the
foundation through which a
person draws all abilities to
taste this closeness"*

Let us try together to discuss a few practical suggestions to work on together and try to raise our appreciation for שבת קודש.

מי שטרח בערב שבת

We all know the simple reality that if we don't prepare for something, we won't be able to have it. מי שטרח בערב שבת - the one who works and prepares on שבת, only he will be able to have what to eat on שבת.

The צדיקים tell us that this is not just the case from a physical standpoint, but from a רוחניות point as well.

This is really a very big יסוד in עבודת ה'.

The only way we can achieve any levels of closeness to Hashem is through putting in work. A person who sits back and relaxes and expects to taste the sweetness of שבת is badly mistaken. Only the איד whom Hashem sees is trying, will receive the gift of tasting שבת. Like the באר מים חיים says:

"גודל קדושת השבת אף שגדלה
מעלתה וכל מ"מ צריך הכנה והזמנה
שיהא בו מקום ראוי לחול עליו
קדושת השבת"

The Kedusha of Shabbos even though so great still requires our work to become proper vessels to receive all the brachos"

Let's discuss two עבודות of preparation for שבת.

herself will open up to the individual.

אכסוף נועם שבת

I Yearn for Shabbos

Many צדיקים tell us that the main עבודה of ערב שבת is yearning for שבת. To prepare yourself physically so that you can be in a spiritual mindset. To be able to sit with מנוחה and yearn. To be משתוקק for the קדושה that's coming into our lives. The אור פסוק explains the החיים הקדוש "ושמרו בני ישראל". The word "ושמרו" can also be interpreted as anticipating- like we find in the פסוק: "ואביו שמר את הדבר". So when the Torah says to the אידן "- it's telling us that we have to yearn for שבת.

" ותמיד יהיה ממתין ומצפה מתי יבא"

"We should always be waiting with tremendous excitement- When is Shabbos coming?"

When שבת sees our efforts and yearning to taste the beauty of שבת- then we will be זוכה. If on a consistent basis we make a sincere effort to taste the sweetness of שבת קודש, then

תלמיד a מנוחה וקדושה of Volozhiner ר' חיים writes,

" לא בקל זוכה אדם לנשמה יתירה כי בלא יגיעה גדולה אי אפשר לנקוב את מחיצות הברזל וכשיתחזק כמה שבועות רצופות בראות שבת מלכתא תשוקתו אליה ואהבתה בלבו תאיר פניה אליו לשכון באהליו"

"It's not easy to taste the נשמה יתירה. Without hard work we can't break down the iron curtain- but after a few consistent weeks when the Shabbos queen sees our yearning for her and our love for her in our hearts, she will shine herself on us and dwell with us"

How is this done practically?

תפילות ותחנונים

Only with heartfelt תפילות. A person sits down on ערב שבת and תהילים opens up a קודש and begs to Hashem..... Hashem, I "צמאה לך נפשי!" want to come close to You!

"נכספה וגם כלתה נפשי בחצרות ה'!" Hashem, I yearn very strongly to enter Your courtyard"

He sings the famous Niggun Hashem -"י-ה אכסוף נועם שבת" I'm yearning for the

Shabbos! I yearn to taste the sweetness of Shabbos!"

All of these תפילות add up, such a person will certainly start to taste שבת.

עבודה למעשה

Getting Ready Early

If a person wants to be ready mentally, he has to be ready physically. The way a person can sit on שבת and try to daven is, of course, only if he's ready.

Not everyone has the same schedule on Friday. There those who work later hours and they don't necessarily have the leisure to prepare the way they would like. Then there those who have more of a relaxed schedule. ובלבד שיכון as long as our heart is in the right place. As much as a person can- to try and arrange himself accordingly in a way that can allow him at least the potential to be early.

נעם אלימלך

שבת in the home of the Rebba R' Meilich was complete serenity. By חצות, all preparations were done. Household members would

ask for forgiveness and bestow heartfelt ברכות from one to another. The Rebba with the light of the שכינה awaited the arrival of the שבת מלכתא.

If a person does have the opportunity to be ready early- אשרי חלקו!

Imagine the מנוחה one can feel if he would be ready a few hours before Shabbos. He can sit with his תורה הקדושה and just prepare himself for the מנוחה שלימה שאתה רוצה בה!

Most of us don't have that זכות, but we have to do what we can. An hour, a half an hour, something. Just be ready early. Sit in your seat and anxiously await the coming of Shabbos. כחתן לקראת כלה. Like a חתן anxiously waits to greet his כלה.

הדלקת נירות

The time when שבת comes into the home is a very special time. The Shabbos Queen enters and it's important to make this moment as serene as possible. The symbol of שבת entering our homes is through the lighting of the נירות שבת. The flame of those candles represents our fiery passion for the purity of שבת קודש. When we light those

candles, we, in essence, are igniting the hearts of those in our lives to want and long for the sweetness of שבת.

Like ר' צבי מאיר שליט"א writes:

"זהו הפנימיות של נירות שב"ק
שיש לאדם הכח להלהיב את ביתו
ואת כל סביביו שיהיה המצב של
השבת באופן געלה עד מאוד שכולם
יראו בצמאון והשתוקקות לשבת
קודש"

*"This is the depth of the
Shabbos candles- to teach us
that a person has the ability
to ignite his family and that
everyone should be in an
elevated state that everyone
should thirst more and more
for Shabbos"*

Preparing the נירות

It's the job of the husband to prepare the נירות שבת and the job of the אשת חיל to light up the home with שבת קדושת שבת. The couple should do this sacred task with tremendous שמחה בית like the כהן in the מקדש preparing and lighting the מנורה.

הרגיל בנר הויין בנים תלמידי חכמים

tell us that one who is careful with this special עבודה will merit children who are תלמידי חכמים. When the father

prepares the lecht and the mother lights the lecht- this should be their mindset. They should have heartfelt תפילות שבת קודש of זכות that in the שבת- they should merit to see wonderful children who
"מאירים את העולם
בתורה ובמעשים טובים"

*Light up the world with their
עבודה!*

When the children see the warmth that the parents invest in this מצוה, this will certainly spill over to the children.

תפילות

The Shabbosdikas תפילות should be on a whole different dimension then during the week. Throughout the week we are busy. We don't necessarily have the mental capabilities to really focus on the words that we are saying. But that changes on שבת.

בא שבת בא מנוחה

On Shabbos we have מנוחה, we can really enjoy the words that we say. The extra parts of davening that we add, culminating with the crown of נשמת כל חי in שבת. During נשמת ארז"ל, the tells us that we receive a part of our נשמה. During נשמת, we join the entire creation and sing to Hashem. We come to a deep

level of appreciation for all that Hashem does for us and we express it in such beautiful words. Every איד should make a strong push in how he says נשמת to try and connect more and deeper to these words.

שבת יעשה כולו תורה

Another aspect of our עבודה that takes on a whole new dimension is the עבודה of תורה הקדושה. The תורה we learn on שבת has a special sweetness.

חתם סופר

The חתם סופר was by the מנהג to review all he learnt that week after the סעודה of ליל שבת.

Each person has to learn what he enjoys and connects to. Keep in mind the potential greatness in תורה that we can receive when we invest in our שבת on לימוד התורה.

שבת פארטאגס

Shabbos before Davening

The תורה was given to כלל ישראל on שבת. More specifically in the morning. Every שבת that קדושה replays itself and creates a זמן of tremendous דשמיא in our lives. This זמן is called שבת

Shabbos in the morning. The צדיקים tell us that the שבת פארטאגס of קדושה is from a different world.

from Karlin said that the שבת פארטאגס of תורה has the taste of גן עדן העליון.

The גוי said that if a איש would taste the sweet taste of learning Shabbos in the morning, he would certainly convert!

R' Eliyahu Dessler said that in Kelm he used to learn with his father for nine hours before שחרית!

If we would know the potential we have in this זמן, בתי מדרשים would be full.....but they're not.

The opportunity is there- it's available for all to take! Let's chap arain this tremendous זמן and be זוכה to all the ברכות.

רעוא דרעוין

שלש שבת is the climax of סעודות. This is called in the "רעוא דרעוין" ספרים הקדושים - רצינות רצון. What does this mean on a practical level?

Every איד in his life has challenges. Life is about recognizing the challenges and fighting for what we know is right. Sometimes we

win and sometimes we lose. Depending on the strength of our will, depending on our deep inner רצון to overcome the challenge and cling to Hashem, that will determine the outcome. How do we feed those רצונות? How can we strengthen our willpower to overcome and how can we intensify our desire for closeness to Hashem and empower ourselves with the tools to fight and win?
רעוא דרעוין

The source from where all of our desires come from, the fountain from which we quench our thirst for closeness comes from this special time. דרעוין...רצון it creates רעוא from which all רצונות follow and get nourished.

A sits during סעודות and closes his eyes and sings, ידיד נפש אב הרחמן, My Dear Father, please I beg of You! Draw me close to You! -משוך עבדיך אל רצוניך יערב לו ידידותיך Your closeness is sweeter than honey! -נפשי חולת אהבתיך I'm sick for your closeness and the remedy is not medicine or any other procedure- it's only one thing....בהראות לה נעם זיוך- If You reveal Your sweetness to me! We cry and beg Hashem חוסה נא על בן אהוביך Please

Tatte! Have mercy on Your Kinderlech.....

Shine Your light on this dark world.... And finally ונשמחה בך -נגילה We'll be together again in happiness and joy- כימי עולם - Like we once had. We miss those days when we sat together at the table of אבינו and we yearn once again for it.

In Conclusion

Let us together to try and raise the bar of our appreciation for each aspect and every עבודה of שבת קודש. She comes into our home each week and we have to make her feel more and more welcome. The more we work to appreciate, the more we will be זוכה to connect to the שבת קודש of מקור הברכות and then we will certainly be זוכה to see the שבת!

קשה עלי פרידתכם

*We say Goodbye
to שובבים*

As we stand by the gates of שובבים and watch as the doors begin to close, we have mixed feelings. We feel the sweetness of our accomplishments and we have to be proud of that. At

the same time, we are sad to say goodbye to these special days.

קשה עלי פרידתכם - it's hard for us to say goodbye. We know we did try, and we also know that perhaps we could've tried a bit harder. We thank Hashem for what we did, and wish we could have done more. Hashem knows better than us what we wanted to accomplish and Hashem finishes the rest. He sees our good רצונות and treasures that for all of eternity. He looks down at His precious kinderlach in תשפ"ג, sees the challenges that we have and can't stop shepping from us.

מלאכים Look 'חזו בני חביבי' Look at my kinderlach, trying to do what they can to come close to Me! The מלאכים watch in awe and agree.....

מי כעמד ישראל

There's no one like the אידן!!

In the tremendous זכות of our efforts, may we be זוכה to taste the ה'- the sweetness of נועם ה' - and be מקבל פני משיח צדקינו במהרה בימינו אמן!

משנכנס אדר

מרבים

בשמחה!!

*in 2 weeks we
will try to discuss
together the ענינים of
the פורים יום טוב.*