Torah portion: Emor, 7th of Iyar 5763 (05/09/03)

The Rebbe King Moshiach shlita

The Day of Rest

This week's Torah portion, Emor, speaks about the Divinely-ordained weekly cycle, the fundamental clock by which Jewish life is lived and celebrated.

"Six days may work be done, and the seventh day is the Sabbath of rest."

Yet this reference to the observance of Shabbat contains an even deeper significance.

Our Sages explain that just as the six workdays of the week serve as preparation for the seventh day of rest, so, too, do the six thousand years of the world's existence since creation serve as preparation for the Messianic Era, a period of time that will commence before the seventh millennium.

(The final Redemption can come at any time; six thousand years is the maximum foretold by the Torah.)

For almost six thousand years (5763, to be exact), the world has been involved in an ongoing process of preparation, getting ready for the culmination of the Divine plan.

Over the course of thousands of years, the learning of Torah and the observance of mitzvot have purified and refined the world into a state of being capable of absorbing the great revelation of G-dliness that will occur with the final Redemption.

This pinnacle of human existence, the purpose for which the world was created, has been termed by our Sages "the day which will be all Sabbath and rest for life everlasting."

The biblical term, "Shabbat Shabbaton" (a Sabbath of rest), a repetition of the same root word, alludes to the two levels of sanctity that

exist on Shabbat.

"Shabbat" refers to the actual cessation of labor; "Shabbaton" implies the extra dimension of holiness felt on that day, the inner quietude and sense of rest that reign independent of our actions.

"A day of rest and holiness You have given to Your people," we pray in the Sabbath serv-

As the verse implies, our enjoyment and appreciation of Shabbat are dependent upon the energy we expend and the sincerity of our efforts during the six days of the week that precede it.

This added measure of holiness on Shabbat is attained in the merit of our labors and the good deeds we accomplish during this time.

This principle holds true on the larger scale as well.

We find ourselves now in the very last seconds of the exile, just moments before the ultimate "Sabbath of rest" is about to begin.

For indeed, the six thousand years of service prior to Moshiach's arrival have not only prepared the world for the first phase of the Messianic Era - when the age-old battle against evil will finally be won - but have readied the world for the extra dimension of holiness that will reign during the Days of Moshiach, when evil will be totally subjugated to good and the "spirit of uncleanliness" will have entirely disappeared from the face of the earth.

("Living with Moshiach" Adapted fron the Rebbe's works)

Chassidic T hought for the Day

Chassidim asked the Alter Rebbe:

"Which is the superior service, love of G-d or love of a fellow Jew?"

He replied: "Both love of G-d and love of a fellow Jew are equally engraved in all levels and aspects of every Jew's soul.

The scripture is explicit: `I have loved you, says the L-rd.' It follows that love of a fellow Jew is superior for you love whom your beloved loves."

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Long Live Our Master Teacher and Rebbe King Moshiach Forever and Ever!



Moshiach and Science

The Chosid Who Inspired Moshiach & Science Research Part 2

by Rabbi Shimon Silman, Director of the Rabbi Yisroel Aryeh Leib Research Institute on Moshiach and the Sciences, Professor of Mathematics, Touro College.



We continue the biography of Rabbi Yisroel Aryeh Leib Schneerson. Last week we discussed his early youth in his parents home in Yekatrinislav. We now discuss his teenage years in the home of the Previous Lubavitcher Rebbe.

In the summer of 5684(1924) Rabbi Yisroel Arveh Leib arrived in Petersburg where he was a member of the household of the Previous Rebbe who cherished him and showed him special attention. The Rebbe, Melech HaMoshiach and Rabbi Yisroel Aryeh Leib were both present at the far-

brengen (chassidic gathering) of 19 Kislev, 5687 (1926). The Previous Rebbe said to them, "It's too bad that my father [the Rashab, who was Rebbe before him] didn't see you."

Once Rabbi Yisroel Aryeh Leib approached the Previous Rebbe with a question on a matter of Chassidus. The Rebbe said he couldn't explain this matter to him. Rabbi Yisroel Aryeh Leib was heartbroken and cried all night. The next day he came to the Rebbe for an entirely different reason and was surprised to hear the Rebbe explain to him the matter which he had asked the night before. Afterwards the Rebbe explained that since Rabbi Yisroel Aryeh Leib had been heartbroken, he was a kli – a proper receptacle – for what the Rebbe had to tell him.

Rabbi Yisroel Aryeh Leib was also very popular among the Chassidim who would approach him with difficult questions in Nigleh and Chasssidus and

engage in lively discussions. At this time he began studying mathematics in the academics in Petersburg where he organized a branch of Tiferes Bachurim which held daily Torah classes for the Jewish youth and strengthened their observance of mitzvos. His main occupation, however, was the study of Torah which he continued to do with great diligence. He would spend long hours in the Previous Rebbe's library delving into the depths of

the seforim (sacred books) at hand. One night he was seen in the library leaning on a shtender, holding a cigarette and lost in deep thought. When the Chassidim came back the next morning they found him standing in exactly the same position that he was in when they left the night before still holding the cigarette and still lost in thought.

During the years that the Rebbe Melech HaMoshiach and his wife, the Rebbitzen Chaya Mushka were in Berlin, Rabbi Yisroel Aryeh Leib was there also. It is assumed that it was at this time that he wrote his most

famous paper in mathematics, "The Location of Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors of Complex Matrices," a topic which has applications to Quantum Mechanics. (Later in this series we will discuss this paper and the story of its publication.). Later he moved to Israel where he got married. The wedding brought joy not only to those present, but also to his parents, Rabbi Levi Yitzchok and Rebbitzen Chana thousands of miles away in the remote Russian city of Chi'lli where Rabbi Levi Yitzchok had been exiled by the Russian government. As Rebbitzen Chana recalls in her memoirs: "One day the Ray [Rabbi Levi Yitzchok] went to the post office and I stayed home to do the housework and prepare lunch (which had to be prepared yesh me'ayin – from nothing!). The Rav came home, his face beaming with joy and he said, 'We have a Mazel Toy!' He showed me a letter which had just arrived...informing us of news...from Israel - that our son Leibel had gotten married. This good news was a double simcha (joy) - it was the first

report we had received telling us that he was alive and it was the happy news of the wedding. It was a ray of light which penetrated the darkness of our exile and a sign of encouragement and hope for the future."



The Previous Lubavitcher Rebbe

[To be continued. Visit us at www.RYAL.org]

SPARKS OF REDEMPTION

Shabbat Candle Lighting Time: 7th of Iyar 5763 (05/09/03) Candle Shabbos lighting ends 7:40 8:47 NY Metro Area Los Ang. 7:24 8:27 7:37 8:39 Montreal 7:52 8:54 Toronto 9:12 8:09 London 8:21 9:40

When one says, "We hope for Your salvation," he should bear in mind that he will be asked after his demise, "Did you await salvation?" Therefore, he should intend to be among those who hope for redemption.

However, even though the vast majority of our prayers revolve around expecting redemption, one cannot reply affirmatively when asked, "Did you await salvation?" just because he recited these prayers. Rather, one must expect redemption hopefully and wholeheartedly.

The Prophecy of King Moshiach

ISRAELI-ARAB TERROR

Based on discourses of the Lubavitcher Rebbe shlita, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson
Every word is pertinent today!

A little item was publicized a while ago in the media. While terror is being eradicated in Iraq, in our backyard they are setting up new terror cells. Not in Yesha, but within

the Green Line. Israeli Arabs have transformed themselves into live bombs and are helping murder Jews. Yet they tell us that concessions will help us towards the solution. It's hard to believe.

The news item said, that the government

allowed the details to be revealed about two Arabs with Israeli identification cards who were arrested by the police as suspects involved in the murders in Haifa in which 17 people were killed and dozens others wounded. One of the suspects is 35 and the other is 16. A police representa-

tive said that the two were arrested the day after the attack for possibly being involved in it. Many other suspects were arrested, some of them Arabs from Yehuda/Shomron. These are Arabs who come from Yehuda/Shomron but who carry Israeli ID.

The waiting period is the scariest time of all. We in Eretz Yisroel are in a waiting period, waiting until the war is over. On the one hand, everything seems serene and we seem to prefer to push off the problems that will crop up later. On the other hand, plans are being hatched and political maneuverings are taking place behind the scenes.

As the war in Iraq continues, there's someone who waits to cash the check with the Israeli leaders. Just at this difficult time there's someone

who enables the government to continue the dangerous process called the Road Map and the big lie in the figure of Abu Mazen, with whom we'll supposedly strike a peace agreement.

We don't believe all those false portrayals; Abu Mazen is no different than Arafat. Our problem is not with Arafat and not with Achmed Yassin. To us it makes no difference whether the leadership is given to local (who are authentic) leaders or to leaders imported from Tunis or Iran.

> Our problem is if, G-d forbid, leadership is given to goyim, thus endangering our lives! The Rebbe often screams about why Israel relies on the U.S. regarding agreements. The Rebbe explained that when the U.S. should have done the simple act of bombing train tracks during

World War II in order to stop the Germans from transporting Jews to their deaths, the U.S. didn't do it. The Rebbe concludes from this that when it comes to security you cannot rely on America's promises. This is the reason why in everything regarding security, we must do only as halacha dictates.

That's the conclusion we ought to derive from this war, too: you gotta do what you gotta do. The U.S. Congress overwhelmingly approved the initial expenditure of 80 billion dollars for the war in Iraq and other anti-terrorism measures in order to get rid of Evil. Not only does Israel not invest money, it gives money to our enemies when it knows that the money is used to kill us!

Let's not go to sleep during this waiting period.

A CALL TO ACTION

The Rebbe's slogan is: "The main thing is the deed." Hence, we present suggestions from the Rebbe's talks of what we can do to complete the Rebbe's work of bringing the Redemption.

Eat matza on the 14th of Iyar

It is customary to eat matza on "Pesach Sheini" (the second Passover) which corresponds to May 14 this year (1995).

This commemorates the "second chance" given to those who were unable to bring the Passover sacrifice on the 14th of Nisan – Passover.

A 'Vort' for the Week

These are the feasts of G-d. the holy convocations, which you shall proclaim in their seasons (Lev. 23:2)

In the days of the Holy Temple, the calendar was fixed and the determination of when the festivals would fall was done by the Sanhedrin, according to the testimony of witnesses who said they had seen the new moon. Even if after the fact, it was discovered that a mistake had been made, the court's decision was final and the holiday celebrated according to their calculations. G-d gave man the absolute power to determine when a festival fell and to imbue the day with holiness.

Pask moshiach

The Lubavitcher Rebbe, King Moshiach, continues to lead us and guide us as before. We can still receive advice and blessings from him in miraculous ways, one of which is through the Igros Kodesh.

For more information contact your local Chabad Rabbi or visit www.igrot.com



Long Live Our Master Teacher and Rebbe King Moshiach Forever and Ever!

onders of the Rebbe shlita

TO SAVE A CHILD

This story began on Wednesday the 28th of Tishrei (two years ago). Yosef Cohen, a Lubavitcher from Lud who wanted to rent an apartment, met with a man by the name of Chaim Chassid, who had an apartment available.

During the meeting, Yosef's daughter played with the little three-year old daughter of the Chassid family. She even let her take a lick of her lollipop. The little Chassid girl, however, wasn't satisfied with just a lick, she sucked the candy right off the stick and it got stuck in her throat.

The girl began to writhe and choke. The adults tried to remove

the candy to no avail. An ambulance brought her swiftly to the hospital. She had stopped breathing and was in critical condition.

In the emergency room, the doctors tried to resuscitate her but were unsuccessful. Yosef describes those moments:

"When it first happened I was stunned. I felt terribly guilty. Then I decided to throw myself into rescuing the girl at all costs.

"I went along to the hospital and tried to calm the parents by saying the girl would certainly be all right. But from time to time I went outside and cried out, 'Rebbe, you must help the girl live!' Then I would go back to the parents. I don't know how I had the strength, but I stayed up all night and throughout the next day."

During the night the doctors decided to operate in order to remove the candy. But the X-rays taken before the operation showed that the candy was gone. There was some improvement, but she was still in critical condition.

By Thursday night Yosef was completely wiped out, but he remembered that there was a farbrengen in 770 in Kfar Chabad every Thursday night. He figured that "a farbrengen can accomplish what Malach Michoel cannot accomplish," and he went to the farbrengen. He told the others what had happened and about the girl's condition, which had been described as 'clinical death.'

Those who heard were shaken up by the story. Rabbi Yitzchok Marla of Ramla wrote a request to the Rebbe, in the name of all the people at the farbrengen, that the child be saved. Then he put on his gartel, stood near the Rebbe's room [the layout of 770 in Kfar Chabad is identical to 770 Eastern Parkway] and cried out the request.

They put the request into Volume Nine of the *Igros Kodesh*, which reads, "...who awaits good news" and speaks about an increase in Torah and mitzvos, especially Shabbos.

On Friday morning there were some encouraging signs. The

girl opened an eye, but a short time later, she returned to her previous state. Yosef saw this as a sign that last night's request had been received and that a miracle would certainly happen. He also relayed this to the child's parents.

Yosef went back to his home in Lud for Shabbos after two days of not eating. But he couldn't eat or sleep there either, so he walked back to the hospital in the middle of the night. When he met the parents in the morning he heard good news: "Boruch Hashem, the child is showing signs of life."

The astounded doctors could not explain what was happening. An amazing recovery took place, and by the end of Shabbos she was no longer in danger. Two days later, she was released from the hospital in perfect health.

On Thursday, the 7th of Cheshvan, the Chassid family made a *seudas hoda'a* (thanksgiving festival) in 770 of Kfar Chabad. The father of the girl got up and said that he wanted to thank Hashem for saving their daughter and that he and his wife had resolved to strengthen their fulfillment of Torah and mitzvos. "As a sign of our thanks to the Rebbe let us declare what I learned by heart lately: "Yechi Adoneinu Moreinu V'Rabeinu Melech HaMoshiach L'Olam Va'ed! (Long Live the Rebbe, King Moshiach Forever and ever!)"



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