





# **DVAR TORAH**

## Tzav - Don't be a bystander

It takes great courage to question Hashem's fairness. The Midrash in this week's Parsha relates how Moshe noticed something utterly strange and disturbing to him. Nowhere in the description of priestly functions, which we began reading last week, is his brother Aharon referred to directly. Repeatedly the instructions refer to "Bnei Aharon" (the sons or descendants of Aharon).

According to the Midrash, Moshe pleads to Hashem on behalf of his brother, " is it possible that you hate the well but love the water that flows from it?" Meaning: "How can You hate Aharon by refusing to refer to him directly, but still love his sons?" And Hashem, according to the Midrash, responds: "Very well, because of your plea, I shall relent." And in the next Possuk, it says: "Hashem spoke to Moshe, saying: Command Aharon and his sons."

Moshe did not and could not stand by when he perceived his brother being singled out. He acted and stepped forward to challenge Hashem Himself, and indeed, successfully argued his point.

This is a trait that we see repeated time and again in the actions of Moshe. When he beheld an Egyptian striking a Jew, he successfully came to his rescue.

This biblical episode was not recorded to impress upon us the physical prowess of Moshe, but to indicate his concern with justice and the plight of his people.

Moshe teaches us that as Yidden and particularly as Chassidim we should not stand by quietly when injustice is being perpetrated.

We Jews have suffered too much at the hands of immoral nations bent on our destruction. We cannot afford to be insensitive to the plight and suffering of those around us.

This lesson is vitally important as we watch in disbelief the mass-destruction in Ukraine - nearly 300,000 Jews living there have either been forced to flee or lost almost everything.

Embedded in my memory are the videos of the Moshe of our generation – The Rebbe, Nesi Doreinu, who showed such great concern for the plight of the Jews of the former Soviet Union. At times the Rebbe would cry and was visibly in tremendous pain as he spoke about the hardships inflicted upon our brethren.

Likewise, Moshe Rabbeinu in our Parsha, reminds us that despite our busy lives, our responsibility as 'Rachmonim Bnei Rachmonim' is to be sensitive to people's hardships. Here too, the current circumstances beckon us to open our hearts and support our fellow Yidden however we can.

As Elie Weisel brilliantly put it: "What hurts the victim most is not the cruelty of the oppressor but the silence of the bystander."

### WRITTEN BY RABBI MENACHEM SABBACH

RABBI OF NORTH EASTERN JEWISH CENTRE DAYAN OF THE MELBOURNE BETH DIN RABBINIC COORDINATOR AT KOSHER AUSTRALIA AND A PROUD FATHER OF ELI (L) AND SHNEY (R)







## What I Learned From Reb Arel

Reb Arel would often say to someone who seemed tentative about taking on a commitment - the appetite comes with the eating. Now, the animal soul pursues pleasure with relentless energy. It's totally absorbed in self-indulgence; whereas religious life demands a curtailing of physical pleasures. But, under the influence of the Nefesh Elokis, the animal soul is capable of redirecting its drive for sensual pleasure, towards intellectual and ultimately spiritual pursuits. As Dovid HaMelech declares in Kapital Lamed Daled: Taamu U'Re-oo Ki Tov Havayah (taste and see that G-D is good). Just one small taste of GDIy pleasure - like doing kindness for someone less fortunate - can stimulate the appetite for a truly meaningful life of Torah and mitzvos. The appetite comes with the eating.

Prep have been very busy preparing for Purim with many crafts including a puppet theatre and megillo case. They have also been reinforcing their knowledge of the first few 'writing' letters

#### Rabbi Heidingsfield





**Grade 1** boys are so proud of the megillos we made in class. Mrs Goldberg





Grade 1 spent the week revising what we have learnt so far. In English, we focused on different spelling words and sounds, being able to identify nouns and proper nouns, and working on our comprehension skills. In math, we revised the days of the week, months of the year, 2D shapes, and practised simple addition and subtraction. It was so rewarding for the boys to see how much they have learnt in these first few weeks of the year. Well done Grade 1, keep up the good work!







Grade 2 had an awesome revision week in literacy and numeracy. The boys worked in groups and trialled different spelling stations using the sounds we have learnt so far. We also revised our verbs, finalised our posters and started to plan an information report. In Numeracy, the boys began the week with a 'crack the code' game show, we reviewed our money unit with our supermarket game. We ended off our numeracy revision with a shape activity.

Morah Mesouda











**Grade 4** has been learning the story of the Megillah in Integrated Studies. **Rabbi Rosenfeld** 









**Grade 5** is enjoying their Moshiach Shiur.

Once again we had full attendance. As the Rebbe often says: "There's no doubt that Moshiach has inched closer as a result".

#### Rabbi Kirschenbaum





**Year 8** boys were treated to an overnight trip to Emerald as a reward for coming on time to Chassidus.

#### Rabbi Hendel Serebryanski





## THE REBBE ON CHINUCH

#### **Children and Gebrachts**

Being extremely cautious to stay away from Matzah Shruya (Gebrachts: matzah that has become wet) is also applicable to children, since for purposes of Chinuch they too need to take care to stay away from Gebrachts. The Tikkun [for deficiencies in one's Avodah] and Shlaimus in this matter applies to them as well. (Hisvaaduyos 5748, vol. 3, p. 111, footnote 258.)

#### Each child should have their own Haggadah

It is worthwhile for each person, and especially children, to have their own Siddur, Chumash, and Tzedakah Pushka, as well as other Sefarim, and - what is relevant to our time now - a Pesach Haggadah... This will add to the child's enthusiasm and motivate the child to use them. (Hisvaaduyos 5748, vol. 2, p.480.)

Each child should have their own... Pesach Haggadah (with pictures). (Likkutei Sichos, vol. 32, p. 26.)



