



The Greater Washington Community Kollel

SHABBOS DELIGHTS

TORAH MINUTE

IN MEMORY OF RABBI KALMAN WINTER ZT" L

Presented by Rabbi Menachem Winter, Rosh Kollel
From our archives

Moshe continues to exhort the people to keep the *mitzvos* and avoid the temptations that would surround them in their new home. This would bring them blessing and protect them in the Land. Among Moshe's pleas, he tells the nation that G-d "does not show favor, nor does He accept bribes." It is difficult to understand the necessity for stating something so obvious. How could someone possibly think that he could bribe G-d?

Possibly, Moshe is addressing the following attitude. One might think that, because he is punctilious in the observance of the commandments between man and G-d, he is absolved from concerning himself with the welfare of his friends and neighbors. After all, he is constantly engaged in Divine service, fulfilling the *mitzvos* with the utmost care and devotion.

Conversely, another, who is engaged in great acts of kindness, or undertaking communal responsibilities, might think that he is pardoned from the *mitzvos* between man and G-d. He is caring for G-d's very children - certainly it is of little concern if he cuts some corners in the observance of Shabbos or Kashrus.

To this the Torah says that G-d does not accept "bribes." The *mitzvos* are not a list of do's and don'ts to be bartered and traded. Rather, G-d, in His infinite wisdom, gave us the *mitzvos*, each one of which is necessary and imperative for our fulfillment - both individually and collectively. Only when we fully embrace the Torah do we merit to truly be G-d's "children."

Wishing you a Good Shabbos!

SPONSOR

To sponsor an issue of Shabbos Delights, please contact info@gwckollel.org

TABLE TALK

Point to Ponder

"Go up and take possession of the land that I gave you." (9, 23)

Why did Moshe wish to enter Eretz Yisroel? Did he wish to eat its fruit or benefit from its physical bounty? No. He wished to fulfill the many mitzvos that one can only fulfill in Eretz Yisroel. (Sotah 14a)

The Rambam and Ramban (Sefer Hamitzvos, in Additions to Positive Mitzvos 4) argue whether there is a separate mitzvah to live in Eretz Yisroel, or if it is part of the mitzvah of performing the mitzvos that can only be performed in Eretz Yisroel.

According to the Ramban, who is of the opinion that there is a separate mitzvah to live in Eretz Yisroel, why wasn't it listed as the reason why Moshe wanted to enter Eretz Yisroel?

Parsha Riddle

One should place all ten fingers on the Challah when making the bracha. (Orach Chaim 167) The placing of the ten fingers corresponds to what?

Please see next week's issue for the answer.

Last week's riddle:

What is the Torah hinting to with the word Va'eschanan?

Answer: The Gematria of "Va'eschanan" is 515. Moshe prayed 515 prayers to Hashem to be permitted to enter Eretz Yisrael.

HATORAH V'HAMITZVAH

HALACHA INSIGHTS FROM THE PARSHA

Parashas Eikev (11:20) contains (one instance of) the commandment of mezuzah: "And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and upon your gates." In last year's column, we discussed the questions of whether mezuzos provide protection and whether it is legitimate to deploy them intending that they do so; here we discuss the legitimacy of deploying mezuzos for the sake of protection in contexts where the mitzvah is not even being fulfilled.

R. Yom-Tov Lipmann Heller (interpreting a mishnah) suggests that in mishnaic times, people would carry mezuzos with them, thinking that this was a mitzvah and that it would provide protection. (Tosafos Yom Tov to Keilim 17:16) R. David Corinaldi, however, retorts that "if there were such people, they were fools." (Chidushei Anshei Sheim ibid.)

R. Avraham David Wahrman discusses "one who has a mezuzah in a room that is exempt, merely for the purpose of protection," and seems to implicitly accept the legitimacy of such a practice. (Daas Kedoshim Mezuzah 291:2)

R. Chaim Chizkiyahu Medini cites an opinion that despite the fact that the halachah does not strictly require a tenant to affix mezuzos to his rental property until thirty days have elapsed, he should not delay doing so, in order to obtain their protection immediately. R. Medini himself challenges this and argues that although mezuzos do provide protection, it is improper to deploy them for that reason. (Sdei Chemed vol. 4 p. 242)

R. Moshe Feinstein inclines to allow the wearing of a mezuzah on one's neck for the purpose of protection. (Shut. Igros Moshe YD 2:141) He develops his position in a letter to R. Shalom Yechezkel Shraga Rubin Halberstam, who apparently forbade the practice, as does R. Eliyahu Bakshi-Doron, who considers it a disgrace to the mitzvah. (Shut. Binyan Av 1:44:3)

R. Yitzhak Yosef allows the wearing of a mezuzah for protection, but requires that when used in a vehicle, it should be firmly attached, rather than hung. (Yalkut Yosef) When worn on one's person, however, he seems to allow hanging it from the neck. R. Moshe also allows wearing it hung from the neck (but likely agrees that hanging it from a vehicle is improper).

PRESENTED BY
RABBI YITZHAK GROSSMAN, ROSH CHABURAH

KIDS KORNER

Who Am I?

#1 WHO AM I?

1. I am first for brachos.
2. I have seven.
3. I contain liquids.
4. I am grainy.

#2 WHO AM I?

1. I am for full.
2. Eat for me.
3. Don't sit on me.
4. I am for after.

Last Week's Answers

#1 Shema (I am for the morning, I am on your eyes, I bear testimony, I was said by Yaakov and to Yaakov.)

#2 Mezuzah (I am what I am on, I am for the gate, I am for the door, I am slanted for many.)

The raffle has been postponed until after the shuls are reopened. We are still accepting entries to the raffle.

All children 13 and under who answer a "Who Am I?" correctly will be entered into a raffle to **WIN a Claw Machine Arcade Game**



Visit gwckollel.org to submit your answers.

Answer as many as you can. Each correct answer will entitle you to another raffle ticket and increase your chances of winning!

KOLLEL BULLETIN BOARD

All regular G'WCK classes are now on break for the summer and will resume in Elul - exact date to be announced.