

The Miracle Of Chanukah – From The Chashmonaim Until The Tmimim

Based on the Dvar Malchus of Shabbos Parshas Mikeitz, 5752

Chanukah – The Yom Tov of Toras Hachasidus

The Rebbe Melech Hamoshiach Shlita teaches us about the importance of every *yom tov*. What then is the directive for now while we do our special job? The directive is to greet *Moshiach Tzidkeinu*.

Pharaoh wanted to destroy the Jewish body; so did Haman. Therefore, we thank Hashem for saving us in both instances with happiness and a festive meal, things that have to do with the physical body. In contrast, Antiochus in the story of Chanukah fought against the Jewish soul and wanted the Jews to forget about the Torah. We celebrate the miracle of being saved by lighting the Chanukah lights, because "...*Ner mitzvah vitorah* or...". This *posuk* tells us about the connection between lights of Chanukah and the spiritual light of the Torah.

It's interesting that the *yom tov* festive meals with bread, meat, and wine hint to the *nigla* part of Torah, such as the *Mishnah* and the *Gemarah* as well as the *nistar* part of the Torah, such as the *zohar* and *kabalah*. The oil from the Chanukah lights hint to Toras

Hachasidus, the highest part of the Torah – *pinimiyus hatorah*.

What's the connection between Chanukah and oil to *Toras Hachasidus*?

Learn Torah with the holiness of the Torah

While giving over a *sicha*, the Rebbe Melech Hamoshiach Shlita recounts a story from the *Gemarah* when about a hundred years before Antiochus's decree, Talmai the Greek king commanded the *chachamim* to translate the Torah into Greek.

The Greeks were intellectual people who understood that the Torah's wisdom is special, unlike other types of wisdom. Nonetheless, they didn't think that the Torah was completely from Hashem. They thought that people also had a part in its writing, it wasn't given on *Har Sinai*, it wasn't holy, and its contents were arguable. It's no wonder then for them to say that Torah and mitzvos that aren't understood by the human mind shouldn't be done. Later on Antiochus the evil one didn't allow us to fulfill any mitzvos.

The Chashmonaim didn't give in, and they fought against them and their



decrees, thereby freeing the *Beis Hamikdash*. The focal point of the victory was when they found the flask of oil with the *Cohen Gadol's* seal. The seal was proof that the Greeks didn't touch the oil and it remained pure.

Oil hints to, as we already learned, *pinimiyus hatorah*, something that the Greeks were unable to make impure.

When we learn Torah, *Chumash* or *Gemarah*, such as about when an ox gores a cow, the "little Greek" can suddenly appear in our thoughts and heart and try to make us forget that this is the Torah that Hashem gave us. *Toras Hachasidus* comes along and teaches us about Hashem's greatness and about the bitul we should have for Him. Chassidus teaches us that the Torah is Hashem's wisdom and is holy.

History continues on

The story started but still didn't finish. Jewish history continues until this day. The miracle of Chanukah was a victory for *pinimiyus hatorah*. Years later *pinimiyus hatorah* was still relatively hidden; only the most special people learned it.

What's really amazing is that in recent generations, especially from the time of the first *Yud Tes Kislev*, the dissemination of the wellsprings of *Chassidus* went into full swing and many people started learning it in an open manner.

The reason for this is because in later generations the spiritual darkness became stronger. Science and secular

knowledge began to develop, which caused to a certain degree doubts in some Jewish circles regarding the holiness of the Torah. As a result, Hashem brought things about that the *raboseinu nisieinu* would reveal and disseminate *Chassidus*. We therefore have the ability and strength to remember Hashem and His *mitzvos*, even those which are not understood.

Good ending: the establishment of Tomchei Tmimim

Generations passed and a certain group of Jews arose in Russia who like their Greek predecessors wanted to teach the Jews different kinds of secular knowledge. They called themselves "*Chevras Mifitzei Haskalah*" or just plain "*maskilim*". The Rebbe Harashab stood up and created new momentum in learning *Chassidus* by establishing *Yeshivas Tomchei Tmimim*.

Tomchei Tmimim isn't a regular yeshiva. It is special compared to other yeshivos because the *bachurim* learned Chassidus every day just like they learned *Gemarah* and *Halachah*.

The Rebbe Harayatz and the Rebbe Melech Hamoshiach Shlita followed and continued to open up more such yeshivas around the world that disseminated the wellsprings of *Chassidus* in an amazing manner everywhere and in every language.

Now, *mamash* with the end of the *galus*, we are approaching the conclusion of the miracle of Chanukah. *Tomchei Tmimim* and Jews are learning

Chassidus everywhere. Today's *tmimim* are continuing the victory of the *Chashmonaim*. Chabad *yeshivos* are celebrating the miracle of the flask of oil by learning *Chassidus*.

Last stop – Moshiach

Let's put the *galus* on the side for a moment. The most important thing right now is that *Moshiach Tzidkeinu* becomes revealed in the world. His name is "Moshiach" (anointed one) because we will anoint him with oil. He will reveal *pinimiyus hatorah* to the fullest extent possible, something that the whole world will know, even the non-Jews.

The real reason why *Chassidus* is continuously being revealed is because in our times (when we are so close to the revelation of *Moshiach*), it's fitting and appropriate for us to "taste" from his teachings. Everything is in the merit of *Moshiach*.

The Rebbe Melech Hamoshiach Shlita concludes:

"...From the revelation of *Chassidus Chabad* by the Alter Rebbe, the momentum is continuing via the seven generations of *Nisiei Chabad*, including and especially via the establishment of *Yeshivas Tomchei Tmimim, Chayolei Beis Dovid*, who

fight *milchomas beis dovid* and win over those who "...Scorn the heals of your *Moshiach*..." and bring about the revelation of *Dovid Malka Mashicha* in actuality, especially in this generation, when everything has been completed. We just have to "open up our eyes" and see that *Moshiach* has already come..."

Tachlis

The "tachlis" is "...To add in our learning and disseminating of *pinimiyus hatorah*, the oil of the Torah, in a way "...That illuminates the entrance of his house to the outside...""Your wellsprings should be disseminated to the outside..."

Let's tell our friends all about what we're learning together, *Chassidus*, even if they're not learning it in their schools, thereby we will bring about the revelation of the Rebbe Shlita Melech Hamoshiach right now *mamash!*

לזכות

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