WORDS OF WISDOM FROM

לרפואה שלימה ליוסף יצחק בן ברכה

PARSHAS HAAZINU

Listen and You Will Hear

In this week's parsha, Haazinu, there is so much depth, so much meaning. Everyone should learn it and find personal meaning. You will find that it talks to you.

There is one verse, that I keep going back to and is for me a source of strength and meaning.

The Jewish people, suffering by the hands of their enemies. All their efforts of putting faith in others turns out to be false hope. Hashem says "See now, that it is I, I, and there is no deity on par with Me, I kill and I bring to life, I strike and I heal, and no one can deliver from My hand."

What about this verse, gives me strength and meaning?

When I was diagnosed with ALS, there were two possible roads to travel. I could have been prey to a "why me?" attitude, fallen into depression and be miserable. Instead, knowing that this is from Hashem, it made me think "if

G-D HAS PLACED YOU IN THIS SITUATION. THERE IS **PURPOSE IN** THE STRUGGLE. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Hashem put me in this predicament, must be a good reason. How could I serve His purpose from my situation? What can be done from my position now, that could not be accomplished, when I was well?"

True, I can't do many of the things I once

could, but with what I do have, I have found

a way to make a difference. The things I love to do most, to teach and lift others up, I'm still doing. The method changed, before I would speak, now I write (I never dreamed I would become a writer). It seems that because of my predicament, the words are more effective.

The problem with "why me?" is that your focus is on "me," the ultimate false deity. To this Hashem says "See it is I" who put you here, Hashem tailor made your scenario. Therefore, find your mission and strengths specifically from your situation. You don't have to be challenged with suffering, to learn this lesson, you need only be alive, because "I kill and I bring to life," it is Hashem that chooses for you to be alive, recognizing this, is the beginning of meaning in your life. However, if you are suffering, know that "I strike and I heal." Again, this is from Hashem, there is purpose in your struggle, that can only be realized through your struggle. Find a way to turn your pain into positive, your struggle into strength.

With all that said, we've struggled and suffered enough, it is time for Moshiach to come.

Despite facing one of life's most difficult challenges, Rabbi Yitzi Hurwitz continues to spread joy and faith to thousands around the globe. Diagnosed in 2012 with ALS, Rabbi Yitzi is now 95% paralyzed and no longer able to speak or breath on his own. Thanks to the miracle of technology, Rabbi Yitzi continues to spread his wisdom through his eyes, focusing on each and every letter of these Torah articles. Rabbi Yitzi, his wife Dina and their seven children are the Rebbe's Shluchim to Temecula California



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