

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM RABBI YITZI

לרפואה שלימה ליוסף יצחק בן ברכה

PARSHAT CHUKAT-BALAK

Modesty and Fidelity

In this week's Parsha, Balak, we have the famous verse, "*Ma tovu ohalecha Yaakov, mishkenosecha Yisrael*" "How good are your tents Jacob, your dwellings Israel."

The wicked Balaam wanted to curse the Jewish people, but when he saw their modesty and fidelity, he could only bless them. What did he see? He saw their tents set up in a way as to give each one privacy. There was no direct line of sight from one tent to another. He saw that they were organized according to their tribes, which was possible because of marital fidelity.

This is followed by the prophecy of Moshiach's coming.

What lesson can we take from here? How does it connect to Moshiach?

Many are unaware that the laws of modesty apply to both men and women. It covers modesty in speech, dress, action, and thought.

We also have laws of appropriate behavior between men and women.

It is these laws that have been our protection and make us special and holy.

TO BE AN AMBASSADOR OF G-D, ONE MUST BE MODEST, IN THOUGHT, SPEECH, ACTION, AND DRESS.

We find these laws difficult because they go against nature.

It is natural for a man to have inappropriate thoughts. Which can bring to immodest speech and actions.

While men love dress codes and uniforms,

it goes against the grain and is totally unnatural to women. To women, their dress is an expression of how they feel inside. If the dress code is not how they feel, it feels like a lie.

To this, we have a two-step plan. First, we have laws to set boundaries and safeguards. Second, we must work on our inside so it resembles the Jewish spirit.

Don't think that this means that you have to be a prude or that you need to dress in shmattes. Rather, it means to become beautiful and dignified within and allow that to be expressed in thought, speech, action, and dress.

A Jewish man is meant to be a light of decency and a living example to the world around him.

A Jewish woman is meant to be a bas melech, a princess, beautiful and dignified. Her presence affecting her surroundings.

When we act with modesty and fidelity, we are in a position to change the world around us. We become Hashem's ambassadors to make His presence known, accepted, and welcome to all. It is the foundation upon which our Torah and Mitzvahs stand. It protects us from our worst enemies because we are protected when we are Hashem's ambassadors. Finally, it is the basis and starting point of our positive effect on the world that brings Moshiach.

*"Dear Rabbi Yitzi, I read your post about the event of the spies and the lesson that we are greater than angels. It was a very inspiring message, and I'd like to thank you for sharing! It motivates us and makes us believe how important we are!
Thank you very much, greetings from Southern Brazil!"*

- Jônatas T, Brazil

RABBI YITZI WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU! SEND YOUR MESSAGE TO:
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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.



IN HONOR OF THE BAR MITZVAH OF
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MAY HE GROW UP TO BE A CHOSSID,
YIRAS SHOMAYIM AND LAMDEN

· BY YITZY AND YEHUDIS GEISINSKY ·

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