

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM RABBI YITZI

לרפואה שלימה ליוסף יצחק בן ברכה

PARSHAT BEHAR

Jewish Beauty

* *Baruch Hashem, I am here to see my daughter Fruma get engaged and to a wonderful bochur from a wonderful family.*

Mazal Tov to the Karpes and the Glicks, and to the Hurwitzes and Berkowitzes, Baruch Hashem, this is a match made in heaven. And now, if there was someone in Lubavitch that you weren't related to yet, you can be certain, that you are now.

You are getting engaged in the week of Behar-Bechukosai.

You may ask, what does Behar-Bechukosai have to do with shidduchim?

OUR INNER ESSENCE GIVES VALUE TO OUR EXTERNAL APPEARANCE, MAKING IT BEAUTIFUL AND CHARMING.

boys, "Bochur, lift up your eyes and see, what will you choose for yourself? Don't look at beauty- look at family. Charm is false, and beauty is futile. A woman who is G-d-fearing is to be praised."

The Rebbe asks, "Was it possible that every maiden in Yerushalayim came from a good family, that she would be able to say, look at my family?"

The question becomes stronger, when you see what the Talmud says next. It brings a beraisa that details what exactly the young ladies said. The pretty ones said, "Look at beauty." The ones with yichus (good lineage) said, "Look at family." The homely ones said, "Take your pick for the sake of heaven."

The beraisa seems to be contradicting the Mishnah. The Mishnah seems to put everyone in one boat, "look at family," but the beraisa says that they said details. Also, it seems very vain and shallow of the pretty ones to say, "Look at beauty." Is that a Jewish value? And how does it fit with the wholesome message of the Mishnah, that "Charm is false and beauty is futile?"

There are two approaches when it comes to viewing the qualities of a person. You can take a general view of a person, or you can look at the details.

In the general view, you see a Jewish girl, a daughter of our matriarchs, Sarah, Rivka, Rachel, and Leah, who inherited their beautiful qualities. Even though they might be hidden at the moment, you know that they are there and that eventually they will surely surface. The Mishnah is talking about this general view. That is why it says, "Lift up your eyes and see," because he is taking a general view. And when it says, "Charm is false, and beauty is futile," it is referring to shallow beauty and shallow Charm.

The beraisa is talking about a detailed view after he already has seen the general view.



The girls of Yerushalayim are talking about meaningful Jewish virtues. Why is she beautiful? Because she took the beautiful inheritance that she got from Sarah, Rivka, Rachel, and Leah and made them her own. Therefore, she is truly beautiful on the inside, and when you are beautiful on the inside, it comes out on the outside. And that is Jewish beauty worth mentioning. That is not false and not futile.

In other words, if you accept the gifts that are your inheritance and make them your own, then the details have value. Real beauty and real family in the light of Torah, in the light of Yiddishkeit, and Chassidus. However, if you only have the details without making the inheritance your own, it is empty beauty; false, and futile.

This brings us to Behar-Bechukosai. Behar is a mountain, tall, strong, and beautiful; it is the details. Bechukosai is our essence, our inheritance, the Torah. If you make the Bechukosai, the Torah your own, then the Behar, the details are of value. But if you only have the Behar, the details, it is a pretty rock with no Yiddishe taam and no Jewish value.

We are blessed to have Fruma and Levi, who have it all. They know where they come from, the Karpes, the Glucks, the Hurwitzes, and the Berkowitzes, who have amazing virtues; they are honest, kind, giving, talented, strong, learned, smart and chassidish, to name a few. And you both are internalizing them. It is wonderful to see such an amazing couple coming together, just keep it up. Make Hashem proud and the Rebbe proud, and you will certainly make us and all klal Yisrael proud.

And to my Fruma, you come from a long line of great, smart, kind, and strong women who made a difference. I see that in you. Take a lesson from your mother and from Levi's mother, who are both truly beautiful because they internalized it. And since they are beautiful on the inside, they are beautiful on the outside as well.

You have it in you to be like them and even better.

Mazal Tov! Mazal Tov!

* Written in 2018 in honor of the engagement of Rabbi Yitzi's daughter, Fruma, to Levi Karp. The Dvar Torah is in regular font, and the personal message to the new couple is in italics.

"Dear Torah From My Eyes,

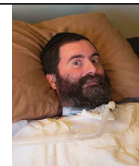
Many years ago I listened to Rabbi Yitzi's song and really connected with it. So I did some research and found out more about Rabbi Yitzi. Till some years ago I was used to receive by mail his Parashot comments. Then it disappeared.

Recently, I was passing in my life a critical period by health perspective. And I felt the need to read Rabbi Yitzi's wisdom again. Thank G-d, I was cleared and not diagnosed with anything. Thank you so much for giving me inspiration during these times!"

- Roberto B, Italy

RABBI YITZI WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU! SEND YOUR MESSAGE TO:
(937) 770-4802 | TORAHFROMMYEYES@GMAIL.COM

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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