

# BITACHON LESSON FROM THE PARSHA

## פרשת צו תשפ"ו – The Miracle of Shiduchim

אָם עַל תּוֹדָה יִקְרִיבֶנּוּ - *If he is bringing the Korban in order to give thanks* (Vayikra 7:12)

The Gemara (Brachos 54b) teaches:

אָמַר רַב יְהוּדָה אָמַר רַב אֲרַבְעָה צְרִיכִין לַהֲדוּת יוֹרְדֵי הַיָּם הַלְכְּנִי מִדְּבָרוֹת וּמִי שֶׁהָיָה חוֹלָה וְנִתְרַפָּא וּמִי שֶׁהָיָה חֲבוּשׁ בְּבֵית הָאֲסוּרִים וְיָצָא

Four people are required to bring a Korban Todah and/or recite Birkas Hagomel to thank Hashem for delivering them from danger; sea travelers, those who traveled through the desert, one who was ill and recovered and one who was in prison and was released.

Rabbeinu Bechaye, earlier in our Parsha (Vayikra 6:2) writes something much unexpected:

קִרְבַּן תּוֹדָה בֹּא עַל הַנֶּסֶךְ, וְהוּא לְשׁוֹן הוֹדָאָה אִם הָיָה חוֹלָה וְנִתְרַפָּא מִבֵּיא קִרְבַּן תּוֹדָה...אוֹ שֶׁאֵר שִׁמְחוֹת כְּגוֹן שִׁמְחַת חֲתָן וְכֹלָה

*Korban Todah is brought for miracles, as it means Thanks, such as one who was ill and recovered, or other delights such as the joy of a Chosson and a Kallah.*

While the joy of a wedding is tremendous, why does Rabbeinu Bechaye deem this a miracle worthy of a Korban Todah?

The lesson here is quite profound and significant. Hashem created a system called "nature" whereby He hides His constant running of the world. Whenever Hashem allows us to get a glimpse of His Hand via something that to our human eyes seems *למעלה מן הטבע*, beyond nature, we deem that a miracle.

One of the areas where miracles are plainly evident is the realm of Shiduchim. Even though people exert a lot of effort, toil, stress and Hishtadlus to find shiduchim for themselves, their children, and for others, in reality it is no less miraculous than being saved from dangerous seas, deserts, illness and incarceration.

Just open your eyes and look at the development of any shidduch and you will see the Hand of Hashem in every detail. The things that "happen" to fall into place, the idea that "popped" into someone's mind, the "coincidence" of him being in a certain place at the perfect time.

We live in a world of *הסתר פנים* where it's often hard to see the Hand of Hashem in everything that transpires, yet when it comes to Shiduchim it's all but impossible to not see *מַה' יָצָא הַדָּבָר*.

Consider the fact that many "top boys and girls" find themselves waiting year after year for their Zivug, while many "mediocre boys and girls" find their Zivugim in no time at all. Many boys and girls who are deemed "Good catches" end up "settling" for someone they perceive as less than they deserved, while many marry someone deemed "above their

level". (Of course, these labels are all silly, inaccurate and arrogant; we are just mimicking some of the chatter that's often heard in the realm of Shiduchim to make our point). It is plain to see, when it comes to Shiduchim it's not logical, it's divinely orchestrated. Some shiduchim develop between neighbors, while others are only found halfway around the globe. It is plain to see; when it comes to Shiduchim it's not logical, it's divinely orchestrated by Hashem to bring His plan - crafted 40 days before the conception of each child - to fruition! When Hashem is ready, it will happen – regardless of any human effort, or lack thereof.

Although in most areas of our life we are mandated to do Hishtadlus, by Shiduchim our requirement to do Hishtadlus is hardly necessary, if at all.

The Vilna Gaon (in Yahel Ohr ,Parshas Pikudei) writes:

אִם ה' לֹא יִבְנֶה בַּיִת שׁוֹא עִמְלוֹ בּוֹנֵיו בּוֹ שֶׁהוּא הַזְיוּג שֶׁנִּקְרָא בְּנִין בֵּית כִּידוּעַ שׁוֹא הוּא עֵסֶק בְּנֵי אָדָם בְּעֵינֵי הַזְיוּג שֶׁהִכֵּל הוּא מֵאֵת ה'

*The Posuk (Tehillim 127) states "If Hashem does not build the house, the laborers toil in vain"; this is referring to Shiduchim.*

*Human toil in the realm of Shiduchim is in vain, as it is totally from Hashem. Every Shiduch is built by Hashem Himself without anyone's help.*



Should we do some Hishtadlus for Shiduchim? Sure - mainly via Tefilah, as per the Gemara (Brachos 8a):

עַל זֹאת יִתְפַּלֵּל כָּל חֹסֵיד אֱלֹהִים לְעֵת מִצָּא אָמַר רַבִּי הֲנִינָא "לְעֵת מִצָּא" - זוֹ אִשָּׁה שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר מִצָּא אִשָּׁה מִצָּא טוֹב

overdoing our Hishtadlus, thinking we are actually doing something, or putting our trust in *Shadchanim*, or becoming anxious or stressed due to the Yetzer Hara's narrative of us being in a "Shiduch Crisis" is not the proper approach. (See Ba'al Haturim Bereishis 24:63).

It is important to remember, that as we daven for Shiduchim, those Tefilos must be a balance between petitioning Hashem for a Mazel Tov in the near future, and also thanking Hashem in advance for the Mazel Tov he will soon be sending. That is one of the keys of Bitachon; not just to hope for the best, but also to believe with such firm belief that Hashem will send the salvation that you already thank Him now for the *Yeshua* that is on the way! As the more we thank Hashem, the more He will give us to thank Him for!

Let's reframe our perspective, and when we think of Shiduchim, instead of becoming stressed, thank Hashem for being blessed - even before the blessing arrives!

This will totally transform every situation from nervousness to thankfulness, and from despair to dancing, B'Ezras Hashem.

**Good Shabbos!**