

וְיָנִי לְיָדָי וְיָדָי לְיָנִי

As shown in the parable last week, *Shir Hashirim* describes to us how, even when we have become so distanced from Hashem that it seems we aren't willing to even open up the door to see him for a moment, when we see Hashem's hand, the eternal and infinite love for Him buried deep within the heart of even the most distanced Jew is awakened, whereupon we run after Him. As the *pesukim* say:

I—Klal Yisroel—sleep, but my heart is awake. Hark! My beloved—Hashem— is knocking: Open for me, my sister, my beloved, my dove, my perfect one, for my head is full of dew—A term referring to a man who comes at night, knocking on the door of his beloved. He says, ‘Because of love for you, I have come at night at the time of dew or rain— my locks with the drops of the night. Klal Yisroel responds: I have taken off my tunic; how can I put it on? I have bathed my feet; how can I soil them? This is the language of an adulterous wife, who does not wish to open the door for her husband. My beloved stretched forth his hand from the hole—which is beside the door, and I saw his hand, and the stirring of my insides turned within me to return to his love and to open for him. I arose to open for my beloved— wholeheartedly and with a desiring soul—and my hands dripped with myrrh—as one who adorns herself to endear herself to her husband with a pleasant scent. I opened for my beloved, but my beloved had hidden and was gone; my soul went out when he spoke; I sought him... (Shir HaShirim 5:2-6 with Rashi)

However, what is even more astounding, is Rashi's interpretation that the, “Hand Klal Yisroel sees through the hole,” that changes her attitude, in fact refers to *Klal Yisroel* getting hit from Hashem as he says: ***My beloved stretched forth his hand from the hole— and demonstrated His vengeance in the days of Ahaz, and He brought upon him the army of the king of Aram (II Chron. 28: 5f): ‘And they smote him and captured from him a great captivity... And Pekah the son of Remaliah slew in Yehuda one hundred and twenty thousand in one day.***

If you're wondering how this can be, see our parable from last week! Deep down the love for Hashem is always burning in the depths of the heart of even the most distanced Jew, even one who's convinced that he hates Hashem, *chas v'shalom!* All he needs is to see the revelation of Hashem's hand in his life—even if revealed in the form of a punishment—and his true love can be aroused again spurring him on to run after Him! As the *Pasuk* in *Tehillim* states: ***Hashem is my shepherd I shall not want...Your rod and your staff, they will comfort me!***

Why? Because You're there! And once You—Almighty G-d, who loves me like an only child and created and sustained the entire Universe all these years with the intent that I may merit the greatest pleasures and happiness forever (see *Sanhedrin* 46a and *Mesillas Yescharim* chap. 1) are there, can I have a care?!

