

אֵלֵינוּ לְיִשְׂרָאֵל לְיִשְׂרָאֵל לְיִשְׂרָאֵל

“The most beautiful amongst women.”
(Shir HaShirim 5:9)

Why is Klal Yisroel called, “The most beautiful amongst women?” For she is beautiful in the strengthening of her Torah. When all other nations fall into exile they immediately forget their gods and their religion and their previous good deeds. However, Yisroel, even though they have been exiled they didn't change their good deeds and their Torah, and they didn't forget their G-d. This is the reason Klal Yisroel is called, “The most beautiful amongst women!”

Are we short of reasons why *Klal Yisroel* is more beautiful than the Nations of the World? Is the main reason because they don't forget their G-d in exile? Isn't the very fact that they follow the true G-d a far more elementary reason why they are “the most beautiful” amongst the nations?

In truth, the true measure of man is not revealed when life is treating him well, rather, it is when he is under duress. When we have been stripped of all the comforts of a successful nation, and to the contrary, we are persecuted until the ends of the earth because of our religion, and we still remain loyal to Hashem, that is the greatest proof that we are indeed “the most beautiful” amongst the nations!

Sometimes we don't appreciate our own spiritual state, comparing it to that of our holy ancestors. However, we must keep in mind that the fact that we still cling to Hashem even in our generation, where we don't have a *Beis Hamikdash*, *Tanaim*, *Amoraim*, *Rishonim* or even a *Chofetz Chaim*, is the greatest proof of our truly being “the most beautiful” amongst the nations!

