

אֲנִי לֹא יָדַעְתִּי וְלֹא יָדַעְתִּי

Turn your eyes away from me for they overwhelmed Me.

(Shir HaShirim 5:6)

The Vilna Gaon explains: “*Klal Yisroel* cries over their suffering and Hashem is full of mercy, however, it is not possible to redeem them before the proper time. Hashem says: Don’t continue to cry out to Me, *for they overwhelmed Me* - for your love comes to Me... and I can’t bear it.”

Perhaps this explains the *pasuk* in this week’s *Haftorah*: *And when you spread out your hands, I will hide My eyes from you, even when you pray at length, I do not hear; your hands are full of blood.*

Why will Hashem hide His face from one who says *Birchas Kohanim* and prays? Why doesn’t Hashem simply not answer those whose hands are full of blood? Why must he hide His eyes and not listen to them?

Perhaps this is for the same reason as the Vilna Gaon explains above: *For your love comes to Me... and I can’t bear it* when He sees us beseeching Him. This explanation describes for us the unbelievable love Hashem has for every Jew. Even one who has done terrible sins, when he lifts his hands in prayer to Hashem, Hashem cannot bear to see and hear his pleas and not answer them, so hides His face from him!

