אני לדודי ודודי לי

All who thirst, go to water…

(Yeshayah 55:1; *Haftorah* of this week)

Where else would I think they should go?!

Rashi explains that "water" refers to Torah. We see this in the next *pesukim* immediately following as well: *Why should you weigh out money without bread and your toil without satiety? Hearken to Me and eat what is good, and your soul shall delight in fatness. Incline your ear and come to Me, hearken and your soul shall live…* (Ibid. 2,3)

However, this is still perplexing, surely all who thirst for Torah should come to Torah? Additionally, why is the *pasuk* teaching us with the added word: ***All*** (who thirst…)?

Perhaps a look at *Shir HaShirim* can explain our *pasuk*.

Rashi, at the beginning of *Shir HaShirim*, explains why we as Jews have such trouble finding true satisfaction in all of the pleasures and indulgences of the material world. Whether it's more money, exotic foods, indulgence of drinks etc., we never feel satisfied, always craving more. He explains that the subconcious memory of the Divine Revelation at Mt. Sinai, 3329 years ago, which was a personal expression of the Creator's love for us, left such an indelible impression of self-worth and fulfillment, that nothing we experience can compare with it. We measure all present pleasures against that subconcious memory, therefore they fail to truly satisfy us. Rashi goes on to say that only when we connect to G-d himself through the study of His Torah, do we begin to access and relive that original intimate experience. This is the only pleasure that can truly satisfy us and fulfill our desire for pleasure. We crave spirituality more than anything else and therefore, we must experience it in our lives to find true happiness.

Perhaps "All who thirst" in our opening passuk doesn't only refer to those who thirst for Torah, for it is obvious that they should drink the "water" of Torah. Rather, the pasuk means "*All who thirst* – for all pleasures – *go to water* – Torah." For as a Jew who as a Jew that is the only think that will satisfy you!

Incline your ear and come to Me, hearken and your soul shall live…!

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