

Longing For Redemption

Feeling unworthy is a common hinderance to davening, and trusting in Hashem. It is therefore important that we deepen our recognition of Hashem's kindness so that we may place our trust in Him. However, even after recognizing His kindness, we may still find that our davening to be saved from suffering, to be an extremely difficult task. We may ask, why would Hashem save us, if our suffering is for the good? This issue is addressed by the Seforno in this week's Parsha.

The Seforno comments on the famous words, (פרק יב, מב), "Hashem was waiting to take them out, however the Jewish People were not yet ready or worthy of being redeemed, until that night. He was waiting for this night, because He desires to do kindness. Just like He waited to redeem them all the days they were in Egypt, so too He waits for the ultimate redemption in the future. As it says (Yeshaya 30:18), 'Hashem waits to be able to be gracious to them.'"

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This Seforno provides us with a powerful insight into Hashem's Middah of kindness. Hashem's kindness in regards to our suffering, does not merely mean that our suffering is for the good. It means that Hashem is anxiously awaiting the moment we will be worthy, so that He will be able to remove our suffering. As the Seforno comments, He was waiting every moment for 210 years to pass, to be able to redeem the Jewish people from suffering. The extent of this Middah of kindness is further astonishing, when contemplating the fact that the Jewish people had fallen to the 49th level of impurity. In addition, the angels

were perplexed as to why Hashem was saving the Jews, as there was idol worship among them. Yet, even though they had sunk so far, Hashem's desire to do kindness did not waiver and retained its original strength.

If one looks at the end of the Seforno it seems that this idea extends even further. The Seforno quotes the Pasuk in Yeshaya that says, "Hashem waits to be able to be gracious to them." The language the Pasuk uses is לחונכם, which means, to be able to give them a free gift. It seems that Hashem has such a desire to do kindness, that in the future He won't be able wait until the Jewish People are worthy, but even before that, as soon as they reach the level of deserving a free gift, He will redeem them.

We can use the above insight to help us enhance our davening and trust in Hashem. By focusing on Hashem's longing to ease our suffering, we will be able to rely on Him, and be confident that He will save us. Furthermore, this perspective can help us maintain a close relationship with Hashem, although we may be suffering. By realizing that Hashem can't wait to remove our suffering, it will help us to not feel abandoned while going through tough times.

BASED ON THE WEEKLY SHMUSS GIVEN BY HARAV SHAYA COHEN, ROSH HAYESHIVA ZICHRON ARYEH

לעילוי נשמת גיטל בת הרב אליעזר מנוח
לעילוי נשמת הרב יוסף חיים בן מאיר
לרפואה שלמה רפאל חיים דוב בן ריסא שושנה