





(2022 בְּבְּרוּאָר 26-20) מֵדֶר מוֹעֵד | מֵסֶכֶת חֲגִינֶה י״א־י״ז | שַׁבְּת פְּרְשַׁת וַיִּקְהֵל | י״ט־כ״ה אֲדֶר א׳ תשפ״ב (26-20) Seder Moed | Masechet Chagigah 11-17 | Shabbat Parashat VaYakhel | 19-25 Adar I (Feb. 20-26)

## Daf 11: A PERSON WHO BECAME RITUALLY IMPURE THROUGH CONTACT WITH CREEPING CREATURES

דף י"א: הנטמא משרץ



There are eight sheratzim (creeping creatures) that impart tum'ah (ritual impurity) onto whoever touches them. It is written in Sefer VaYikra (Leviticus 11:31): "Whoever touches them when they are dead will be unclean." Anyone who touches "bahem" (them), sheratzim, will become tameh. From the word "bahem," we learn that only a complete, intact sheretz imparts tum'ah. For instance, if someone says: "I touched a car," we understand that that person touched a completely intact car - and not solely the detached door of a car.

Yet, another verse states that if someone falls [on a portion] "me'hem" (from them, the sheratzim) becomes tameh. From the word "me'hem" we understand that even if someone touches part of a sheretz, they become tameh. For instance, if the tail of a dead sheretz was cut off, whoever touched the tail would become tameh.

At first glance, there seems to be a contradiction between these two verses. In one verse it states that a person only becomes tameh through contact with a full-bodied sheretz, and in the second verse it states that even a portion of a sheretz imparts tum'ah. Regarding this matter, the chachamim said that the intention of the Torah was to teach that part of a sheretz can impart tum'ah if that portion is as large as the smallest full sheretz. The chachamim researched the matter and found that there is a sheretz called "chomet" (sand lizard), which in infancy is the size of a lentil. On this basis, the chachamim ruled: A person who touches a portion of a sheretz the size of a "lentil" becomes tameh.

יַשׁנַם שָׁמוֹנַה שָׁרַצִּים שֶׁהַנּוֹגֵעַ בַּהָם נִטְמֵא. כך כתוב בספר ויקרא: "בַּל הַנּוֹגֵעַ בַּהֶם בִּמתַם יִטְמַא". כַּל מי שׁנּוֹגע "בַּהם" בּשַּׁרצים,נהיה טמא. מן המלה **"בַּהם"** אַנוּ מִבִינִים, כִּי רַק שַׁרֵץ שַׁלֶם מְטַמֵּא. לְמַשַׁל, אָם מִישָׁהוּ אוֹמֶר "נַגַעָתִּי בִּמְכוֹנִית", אַנַחָנוּ מִבִינִים שֶׁהוּא נגע בַּמבוֹנִית שַׁלַמַה, וַלֹּא בַּדֻלַת מִפֹּרַקת שַׁל מבוֹנִית.

מצד שני, בפסוק נוסף אומרת התורה, שמי שיפל על **"מַהָּם"** מַהַשְּׁרַצִּים, נָהָיַה טַמֵא. מִן הַמִּלֵּה **"מַהָּם"** מְבִינִים, כִּי גַם אָם נוֹגָעִים בִּחֵלֵק שֵׁל שֵׁרֵץ בָּבַר נִטְמַאִים, לִמַשַׁל, אָם זַנַב שֵׁל שֵׁרֵץ מֵת נָחְתַּך, מִי שַׁנּוֹגֵעַ בּוֹ נִטְמַא.

> לכאורה יֶשׁ סְתִירַה בַּפְּסוּקִים. שַׁנַּטִמַאִים רַק אַתַד כַּתוּב מַשַּׁרֵץ שַׁלָם, וּבַפַּסוּק הַשָּׁנִי בַּתוּב, שַׁגַּם מֵחֶלֶק שֵׁל שַׁרֵץ נָטַמַאָים. על כך חַבַמִּים: כַּוַנַת הַתּוֹרַה הִיא, שַׁחֶלֶק מִשַּׁרֵץ מִטַמֵּא, אָם

הַחַלַק הַזָּה הוּא בָּגֹדַל שׁל הַשַּׁרַץ הַכִּי ָקָטָן. חָפָּשוֹּ חֲכָמִים וּמָצְאוּ, כִּי יֵשׁ שֵׁרֵץ בִּשֵׁם "חֹמֵט", שַׁכִּשָׁהוּא תָנוֹק הוּא בָּגֹדֶל שָׁל "עַדַשַׁה". מִבָּאן הוֹרוּ חַכָמִים הַלָּכָה: הַנּוֹגֵעַ בְּחֵלֵק שֵׁל שֵׁרֵץ בִּגֹדֵל שֵׁל "עַדַשַה" – נָהְיַה טַמֵּא."

### **▶** Daf 12: THE ACT OF CREATION AND THE DESIGN OF THE DIVINE CHARIOT

In the second perek (chapter) of Masechet Chagigah. we learn about "Ma'aseh Breisheet" (work of creation) and about "Ma'aseh Merkavah" (episode of the Divine Chariot).

"Ma'aseh Breisheet" deals with the creation of the world, celestial beings, and astrological constellations formed during the six days of creation.

"Ma'aseh Merkavah," found in the beginning of the Book of Ezekiel, deals with profound and sublime topics and includes hidden secrets.



דף י"ב: "מעשה בו

בּפַרֵק שַׁנִי שַׁל מַסֶּכַת חַגִּיגַה לוֹמדים על **"מעשׂה בראשׁית"** וְעַל "מַעֲשֵה מֵרְכַּבָה".

"מַעֲשֵהׁ בָרֵאשִׁית" עוֹסק — הַכּוֹכָבִים הַעוֹלַם, בָּבָרִיאַת וָהַמַּזָלוֹת שַׁנִּבְרָאוּ בִּשַׁשֵׁת יִמֵי בָרֶאשִׁית.

<u>"מַצַשַה מַרְכָּבָה" – הַם דְּבַרִים</u> עַמִקִים וִנִשְׂגַבִים שַׁיֵשׁ בַּהֶם סוֹדוֹת נְסְתָּרִים, וְהֵם כִּתוּבִים בִּתִחַלַת ַסַפֵּר יִחֲזָקֵאל.

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blessed).

# **Daf 13: THE SPECIAL ANGEL IN THE SKY**

There is a special angel in Heaven whose responsibility it is to accept the praises which Am Yisrael bestows upon God during prayer. Examples of this glorification are "Amen, Y'hei Shmei rabbah mevorach" (Amen, May His great Name be blessed) recited during the "kaddish," and "Barukh HaShem HaMevorach I'olam va'ed (Blessed is God, Who is blessed for all eternity), the congregational response to the Chazzan's

The chachamim ascribed such importance to the recitation of "Amen, Y'hei Shmei rabbah mevorach" that they stated whoever recites that phrase wholeheartedly, with undivided kavanah (devoted intention), merits having all the negative edicts decreed against them torn up and nullified.

recitation of "Barchu et HaShem HaMevorach" (Bless God, Who is

The meaning of the prayer "Amen, Y'hei Shmei rabbah mevorach I'olam u'l'olmei olmaya," is "Amen" to the Chazzan's declaration that God's name will be glorified and sanctified. After that affirmation, we add "Y'hei Shmei rabbah mevorach," meaning God's great name will be eternally blessed.

# דף י"ג: המלאך המיחד שבשמים 🔷



יָשׁ בַּשַּׁמַיִם מַלָּאַרְ מִיָחַד שַׁתַּפַקִידוֹ לִקָבֵּל אָת הַשָּׁבַחִים שַׁעַם יִשְׂרָאֵל מִשַׁבְּחִים אֶת הַקָּבָּ"ה בְּעֵת הַתִּפְלַה. הַשְּׁבָחִים הַלַּלוּ הֶם, לָמַשַׁל, "**אַמֵּן, יָהֵא שָׁמֵיהּ רַבַּא מִבַרַךּ"** שָׁאוֹמְרִים בַּ"קַדִּישׁ", וִ"**בָּרוּךְ ה' הַמִּבֹרָךְ לְעוֹלָם וַעֵּד**" שַׁעוֹנִים כִּשֶׁהַחַזָּן אוֹמֵר **״בַּרְכוּ אֵת ה׳ הַמִּבֹרַך**״.

> חַבָּמִים הָחִשִּׁיבוּ כָּל כַּךְ אֵת אֲמִירַת **״אָמֵן יִהֶא שִׁמֵיהּ רַבָּה״,** עַד שֵׁהֶם אַמְרוּ, כִּי מִי שֵׁאוֹמֵר זֹאת בְּכַוַנַה גִמוּרָה, מִכָּל הַלֶּב, זוֹכֶה שֶׁכַּל הַגְּזֵרוֹת הָרָעוֹת שֶׁנִּגְזְרוּ עָלָיו -ַקַרְעוּ וִיִתְבַּשְׁלוּ.

פירוש התפילה "אַמַן, יָהָא שָׁמִיה רַבַּה מִבַרַךְ לִעַלַם וּלְעַלְמֵי עַלְמַיַא" הוא כך- "אָמֶן" - עַל מַה שַׁהַחַזַּן

אַמַר, שֵׁיַתְגַּדֵּל וַיִתְקָדֵשׁ שָׁמוֹ שֵׁל הַקַבַּ"ה. וַאַחַר בַּךְ אַנוּ מוֹסִיפִים, "יָהָא שָׁמֵיהּ רַבַּה..." – יָהְיֵה שָׁמוֹ הַגַּדוֹל שֵׁל הַקב"ה מִבֹרָךְ לִעוֹלֵם וּלְעוֹלְמֵי עוֹלַמִים.

### Daf 14: SIX HUNDERED ORDERS OF MISHNAH

What in essence is "Mishnah"? "Mishnah" comes from the word "shoneh." meaning repeat. Since the acceptance of the Torah, halachot and dinim in the Torah she'be'al peh (oral law) were learned and continued to be taught from generation to generation. The Talmud teaches that the Torah she'be'al peh handed down to Moshe Rabbeinu consisted of 600 orders of Mishnah (and some say 700). In those numerous mishnayot, Torah verses and their interpretations were taught, along with the halachot that were deduced from those interpretations.

In the days of Hillel, the Elder, who lived approximately 100 years before the destruction of the Second Beit HaMikdash, the chachamim organized the halachot into six orders of Mishnah. This classification included only the halachot and not the Torah verses from which those halachot were deduced. They did this so that Torah would not be forgotten from Israel. During that time, the mishnayot had not yet been written down. Later, Rabbi Yehudah HaNasi gathered all the sages of Israel and, working together, they edited the mishnayot into one unified version that everyone would learn. Rabbi Yehudah HaNasi also divided the mishnayot into masechtot (tractates) and individual mishnayot.

# דף י"ד: שש מאות סדרי משנה



מה היא בעצם "מִשְׁנַה" ? - "מִשְׁנַה" - מִלְּשׁוֹן שׁוֹנַה, חוזר. מאז קבלת התורה היו לומדים את ההלכות וָהַדִּינִים שַׁבַּתּוֹרָה שַׁבְּעֵל פֵּה וּמַלַמִּדִים אוֹתַם מִדּוֹר לְדוֹר. הַתלמוד מלמדנו שֶׁהַתּוֹרֵה שֶׁבִּעֵל פֵּה שֶׁנְּמַסְרֵה למשה רבּנוּ כּללה ששׁ מאוֹת סדרי משׁנה (וישׁ אוֹמרים שָׁבַע מָאוֹת). בַּמִּשְׁנֵיוֹת הַלֵּל הֵיוּ לוֹמִדִים אֶת הַפַּסוּקִים עם הַדְּרָשׁוֹת שֶׁלָּהֶם וִעִם הַהַּלָבוֹת שֵׁלּוֹמְדִים מְן הַדְּרָשׁוֹת.

בָּי**ָמִיו שֵׁל הַתַּנָּא הַלֵּל הַזָּקַן**, שֵׁחַי בִּמֵאָה שָׁנִים לְפְנֵי חָרְבַּן בֵּית הַמִּקְדַּשׁ הַשָּׁנִי, כְדֵי שֵׁלֹּא תִשְׁתַּכַּח הַתּוֹרָה מִישְׂרַאֵל, חַבַמִּים סִדְּרוּ אֵת הַהַלַבוֹת **בִּשִּׁשַּׁה סִדְרִי** מִשְׁנָה. רַק הַלָּבוֹת, בִּלִי הַפְּסוּקִים וְהַדְּרַשׁוֹת שֵׁמֵהֶן דוֹרשִׁים אֶת הַהַלַכוֹת. בְּתִקוּפַה זוֹ עֲדַיוַ לֹא כַתבוּ אֶת הַמִּשְׁנָיוֹת. לְאַחַר מִבֵּן **רַבִּי יְהוּדָה הַנָּשִׂיא** אָסַף אֶת כָּל חַבְמֵי יִשְרֵאֵל, וּבְּעֲבוֹדָה משותפת נֵעֵרכוּ הַמִּשְׁנֵיוֹת בְּנָסָּח אֶחָד שֶׁבָּלָּם יִלְמְדוּ בּוֹ. **רַבִּי יִהוּדַה הַנַּשִּׂיא** גַם חֶלֶק אוֹתַן לִמַּסֶּבְתּוֹת, לִפְרַקִים וּלְמִשְׁנֵיוֹת.





# Daf 15: WHY DID RABBI YEHUDAH HANASI CRY?

Elisha ben Abuyah was an exceptional Torah scholar. However, after some time he became evil and committed aveirot (transgressions). The Talmud relates a remarkable incident involving Elisha ben Abuyah.

Rabbi Yehudah HaNasi, editor of the Mishnah, was phenomenally wealthy and was accustomed to distributing a significant amount of tzedakah to the needy. Once, a needy woman approached him and asked for financial assistance. Rabbi Yehudah HaNasi asked the woman: "Who are you?" She replied: "I am the daughter of Elisha ben Abuyah." The woman feared Rabbi Yehudah HaNasi would not give her tzedakah because she was the daughter of Elisha the wicked. So, she added this plea: "Please, remember the Torah he [my father] learned, and not the evil deeds he perpetrated later on."

Fire immediately rained down from Heaven and grazed the edge of the bench on which Rabbi Yehudah HaNasi sat, as an indication of the tremendous significance the Torah learned by Elisha ben Abuvah. Rabbi Yehudah HaNasi cried and said: "If the Heavens ascribe such enormous importance even to the Torah learning of a person who became evil, that demonstrates the great significance ascribed to the Torah learning of every single Jew."

# ?איש מיו: מדוע בכה רבי יהודה הנשיא

אַלִישַע בַּן אַבוּיַה הַיָּה תַלְמִיד חַכַם גַּדוֹל, אַךְ כַּעֲבֹר זָמַן מַה הוּא נָהְיַה רַשַּׁע וְעַבַּר עַבֵּרוֹת. הַתלמוד מספר מַעַשֵּה מִפְּלַא עַל אֱלִישַׁע בֵּן אֲבוּיַה.

**רַבִּי יָהוּדַה הַנַּשִּיא** עוֹרֶךְ הַמִּשְׁנַה, הַיֵּה עַשִּׁיר מִפְּלֵג וְנַהַג לְחַלֶּק צְדַקָה רַבַּה לַעֻנְיִים.פַּעַם אַחַת בַּאַה לְפַנַיו אִשַּׁה עַנְיַה

> וּבָקשַׁה צְדַקַה. שַׁאַל אותה: מִי אַתַּ?". עַנְתַה: "אֲנִי" בָּתּוֹ שֵׁל אֱלִישַׁע בֵּן אֲבוּיַה". הַבַּת פַּחַדָה שַׁרַבִּי לֹא יָתַּן לַהּ צִדָקָה, כִּי הִיא בִּתּוֹ שֵׁל אֵלִישַׁע הַרַשַּע, אַז הִיא הוֹסִיפַה וָאַמִרַה: "בַּבַקשַׁה, זְכַר-נַא אֶת הַתּוֹרַה שָׁהוּא למד ולא את המעשים ָהָרַעִים שֵׁעַשָּה אַחַר כַּךְ״.

ָמִיָד יָרְדָה אֵשׁ וְלְחֲכָה (נָגִעָה) בִּקְצֵה הַסַּפְסַל שֵׁרַבִּי יַשַּׁב עַלַיו, ָּבִדִי לַרְמֹז לוֹ עֲד בַּמָּה חֲשׁוּבַה הַתּוֹרֵה שַׁלַמַד אֵלִישַׁע בַּן אֲבוּיַה. בַּכַה רָבִּי יָהוּדָה הַנַּשִּיא וְאַמַר: אָם בַּשַּׁמַיִם כֹּה מַחִשִּׁיבִים לְמוּד תּוֹרָה שֵׁל אֲדָם שֵׁאַחַר כַּךְּ נָהְיַה רַשַּׁע, עַל אַחַת כַּמַה ּוְכַמַּה שֵׁחָשׁוּב לְמוּד הַתּוֹרָה שֵׁל כל יהודי ויִהוּדִי



### Daf 16: THE NASI AND THE HEAD OF THE COURT

The Torah she'be'al peh (oral law) was handed down to Moshe Rabbeinu at Sinai, together with the Torah she'b'chtav (written law). Each generation learned the halachot transmitted to Moshe on Sinai and passed them down from generation to generation. To the extent that machlokot (disputes) arose in the beit hamidrash (house of learning), they would turn to the beit din (court) to resolve the matter under contention. In the event the chachamim of the beit din did not know how to resolve a machloket, they would turn to the Sandhedrin (high court). On this daf, we learn that there was a dispute between the Nasi and of the Sanhedrin and the Av Beit Din (deputy Nasi, presiding judge) and that over the course of 300 years every Nasi of the Sanhedrin disagreed with the position of the Av Beit Din regarding this same halacha.

Who was chosen to be the Nasi and who was chosen as Av Beit Din? In Hilchot Sanhedrin, Rambam points out that the two most exceptional talmidei chachamim among the members of the Sanhedrin were appointed to serve as "Nasi" and "Av Beit Din." The "Av Beit Din" was the deputy of the Nasi.

# דף ט"ז: נשיא הסנהדרין ואב בית הדין

הַתּוֹרָה שַׁבַּעַל פָּה נִמְסְרָה לְמֹשֶׁה רַבְּנוּ בַּסִינַי יַחַד עם הַתּוֹרַה שַׁבְּכָתַב. כַּל הַדּוֹרוֹת לַמִדוּ אֶת הַהַלַכוֹת שַׁנְמִסְרוּ לְמֹשֵׁה בְּסִינֵי וְהֶעֵבִירוּ אוֹתַן מִדּוֹר לִדוֹר. במידה והַיוּ מַחַלקוֹת בְּבֵית הַמִּדְרָשׁ, פַּנוּ אֵל בֵּית הַדִּין שֶׁהָיָה מַכְרִיעַ בַּמַחַלֹקֶת, וְאָם חַכְמֵי בֵית הַדִּין לֹא יָדְעוּ לְהַכְּרִיעַ, הָיוּ פּוֹנִים אֱל הַסַּנְהֵדְרִין . בְּדַף זֶה לוֹמִדִים, שַׁפַּעַם אַחַת הָתְגַּלְעַה מַחֲלֹקֵת בֵּין נִשִּיא הַסַּנְהֶדְרִין לאַב בֵּית הַדִּין, וּבְמֵשֶׁךְ שָׁלשׁ מֵאוֹת שַׁנַה, כַּל מִי שָׁהַיַה נְשִׂיא

ַסַנְהֵדְרִין חָלַק בַּהַלָּכָה זוֹ עִם אַב בֵּית הַדִּין.

מיהו נשיא ומיהו אב בית דין? הַרַמבַּ"ם בהלכות סַנהדרין מַסְבַּיר, כִּי אָת שָׁנֵי תַלְמִידֵי הַחַכַמִים הַגַּדוֹלִים בִּיוֹתֵר מַחַבַרי הַסַּנָהֶדְרִין הַיוּ מִמַנִּים לִ**"נַשִּיא"** וּלִ"**אַב בֵּית דִּין"**. אַב בֵּית הַדִּין הַיַה סָגַנוֹ שֵׁל נָשִׂיא בֵית הַדִּין.









### ■ Daf 17: DAYS AND WEEKS IN THE COUNTING OF THE OMER

# דף י"ו: ימים ושבועות בספירת העמר



While counting the Omer, we take account of both days and weeks. For example, we affirm: "One and twenty days, which constitute three weeks in the counting of the Omer." Abaye inquired - From what source do the chachamim learn that this is the way to fulfill the mitzvah of Sefirat HaOmer? He answered the question using an interpretation of Torah verses. In the Torah, there are two places in which the mitzvah of Sefirat Omer appears.

The first source, Vayikra (23:15-16) states: "And you will count for yourselves, from the day morrow on which you bring the omer (sheaf of elevation) offering - the day after the Sabbath - you will count off seven weeks; they must be complete: ... you shall count until the day after the seventh week - [namely] the 50 days; then you shall bring an offering of new grain to God." From Vayikra, we learn the obligation to count the days [of the Omer]. In contrast, Sefer Devarim (16:9) says: "You shall count off seven weeks; start to count the seven weeks when the sickle is first put to the standing grain." From this verse, we learn the mitzvah of counting weeks.

What is the meaning of the words: "Today, is such and such [days and weeks] ... of the Omer?" Every year, on the second day of the Pesach holiday, the Omer Offering was sacrificed. Likewise, Sefirat HaOmer (counting of the Omer) starts from the second day of Pesach, and therefore. we say: "Today is day one of the Omer" — i.e., day one from the sacrifice of the Omer Offering. [Then], day two, day three, and so on.

בַּסְפִירַת הַעֹמֵר אַנוּ סוֹפַרִים גַם אַת הַיַמִים וְגַם אַת הַשַּׁבוּעוֹת. לְמַשַׁל: "הַיּוֹם אֶחַד וְעֵשְרִים יוֹם שֵׁהֶם שָׁלשַׁה שַׁבוּעוֹת לַעמֵר". שאל אַבּיֵי- מֵהֵיכַן יַדְעוּ חַכַּמִים <u>שַּבַּךְ יֵשׁ לִקָיֵם אָת מִצוַת סְפִירַת הַעֹמֵר? וְעַנַה עַל כַּךְ-</u> מִדְּרַשַׁה מִפְּסוּקֵי הַתּוֹרַה.

בַּתּוֹרַה יֵשׁ שָׁנֵי מִקּוֹמוֹת בַּהֶם כַּתוּב עַל מִצְוַת סְפִירַת הַעֹמֵר. בָּאַחַד בַּתוּב "וּסְפַרְתֵּם לָבֶם מִמְחַרָת הַשָּבַּת





**מַה פֵּרוּשׁ הַמִּלִּים "הַיּוֹם כַּךְ וְכַךְ... לַעמֵר" ?** בְּכַל שַׁנַה, בַּיּוֹם הַשַּׁנִי שֵׁל חַג הַפַּסֶח הָקָרִיבוּ אָת קַרבַּן הַעמֵר. אֶת ספירת העמר מתחילים מן היּוֹם השׁני שׁל פּסח ולכן אוֹמָרִים, "הַיּוֹם יוֹם אֶחַד לַעֹמֵר" - יוֹם אֶחַד מֶהַקְרַבַּת קָרְבַּן הַעֹמֵר. יוֹם שֵׁנִי. יוֹם שִׁלְישִׁי. וְכַךְ הַלְאָה.

### D'VAR TORAH: PARASHAT VAYAKHEL

All the work of constructing the Mishkan (tabernacle) and its utensils was done by "anshei lev" (people of heart): "And every wise-hearted woman spun with her hands" (Shemot 35:25); "Every generous-hearted person will bring it" (Shemot 35:5); "And every wise-hearted person among you shall come and make everything" (Shemot 35:10). Construction is seemingly a wholly physical act. So, what is the need for inner qualities of the "heart?" Throughout the Temple era, the prophets reiterated that the Beit HaMikdash is not merely a material structure, made solely of external actions. God did not seek the array of sacrifices. Rather, God wants B'nei Yisrael to awaken their hearts to Him in repentance and love while offering those sacrifices. Therefore, likewise, with the building of the Mishkan, the people who showed up and labored were only those who, beyond being artisans and masters of their craft, also had their hearts invested in the project. This was important to teach us that the Beit HaMikdash is the heart of the Jewish people, and it seeks the heart of each Jew.

# ּבַר תּוֹרָה: פָּרָשָׁת וַיַּקהֵל

בָּל הָעִסּוּק בִּמְלֵאכֶת בִּנִיַת הַמִּשִׂבָּן וְכֵלַיוּ, נַעֲשָׂה עַל יִדֵי "אַנְשֵי לֵב": "וְכַל אָשַה **חַכְמַת לֵב** בְּיַדֵיהַ טַווּ", "כּל ַנְ**דִיב לָב** הַבִּיאוּ", "וְכַל **חַכַם לָב** בַּכֶם יַבוֹאוּ וִיַעשוּ". לָבָאוֹרַה, הַבְּנָיַה הִיא מַעֲשֵׂה פִיזִי- וּמַה הַהָּקשֵׂר וְהַצֹּרֵךְ שֵׁל תִבוּנוֹת פִנִימִיוֹת, שֵל הַ"לָב"? לְאֹרֵךְ כַּל שנות קיומם של בַּתֵי הַמִּקְדֵּשׁ, חַזְרוּ הַנְּבִיאִים וְהִדְגִּישׁוּ שַהַמִקדַשׁ אֵינֵנוּ מִבְנֵה גָשִׁמֵי שֵל פָעַלּוֹת חִיצוֹנִיּוֹת בָּלְבַד. הקב"ה לֹא מְחַפֵּשׂ אֶת הַעוֹלוֹת וְהַזְּבַחִים כִּי אָם אָת לָבַּם שֵל בָּנֵי יִשְרָאֵל הַמְתְעוֹרֵר אֶלַיו בְּתְשוּבַה וְאַהֲבָה תּוֹךְ כָּדֵי הַבָּאַת הַקָּרְבָּנוֹת. לָכֵן גַּם בִּבְנִיָתוֹ שֵׂל הַמְשִׂכַן הָגִּיעוּ וְטַרְחוּ רַק אוֹתַם אַנַשִּים שֵׂאַמְנַם הַיוּ אָמָנִים מִמְחִים בִּמְלָאַכְתָם, אַך גַּם לְבָּם הָיָה שָם תּוֹך בָּדִי הַבְּנִיָּה. לְלַמְדֵנוּ שֶהַמְקְדָּשׁ הוּא לֵב לְבּוֹ שֵׁל הָעָם היהודי והוא מחפש את לבו של כל יהודי ויהודי.

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# CHAIM WEIZMANN, 1st PRESIDENT OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

The first President of Israel, Professor Chaim Weizmann, a scientist and statesman, was among the leaders who were instrumental in establishing the State of Israel.

> Weizmann combined science and deep involvement in Zionist activities throughout

his life. As a leader of the World Zionist Movement for many years, he was highly influential in formulating Zionist strategy. He succeeded in broadening support for the Zionist movement.

Chaim Weizmann was born in 1874 in Motol (near Pinsk) Russia. Weizmann attended a traditional Jewish Cheder until the age of 11, at which time he entered a public high school in Pinsk. After graduating high school, he studied chemistry at the Polytechnic Institutes of Darmstadt and Berlin and at the University of Freiburg, where he received his doctorate in 1899.



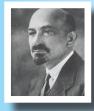


During World War I, Weizmann played a crucial role in Zionist politics, deciding that the future of the Zionist movement lay solely with Great Britain, whom he was sure would be victorious in the war.

Thanks to his position as director of the Admiralties Munitions Lab, Weizmann's contacts were varied and numerous. One of the key people Weizmann encountered was Sir Mark Sykes, Assistant Secretary of the War Cabinet. As a result, Weizmann became the negotiator for the Balfour Declaration, in which Great Britain pledged itself to create a Jewish homeland in Palestine.



Weizmann was elected President of the World Zionist Organization (W.Z.O.) in 1920, holding that position until 1931, and then again from 1935 to 1946. On May 17, 1948, Weizmann was elected the first President of the State of Israel; his inauguration took place on February 16, 1949. The position of President was largely ceremonial.



At an early age, Weizmann became involved in the activities of "Chovevei Tzion." He was chosen as a delegate to the First Zionist Congress in 1897 but could not attend due to a lack of funds. He did, however, attend the Second Congress.

There, he met Theodore Herzl and immediately joined those actively opposed to Herzl's "Uganda Plan." Weizmann, and others, felt that a Jewish State could not be established through any



shortcuts or deals with foreign monarchies but rather through a long process of settling the land while working on the global stage of public opinion.

He believed it was essential for the Jewish State to become a leader in science. In 1949, the public research university in Rehovot, Israel, which had been known as the Daniel Sieff Research Institute of Science since its founding in 1934, was renamed in honor of President Chaim Weizmann.

The Weizmann Institute is a premier research center offering masters and doctoral degrees. Currently, some 2,500 students study at Weizmann. The school's main areas of specialty are mathematics, computer science, physics, chemistry, biochemistry, and biology.

