



AFTER SCHOOL BEIS

THE AFTER SCHOOL BEIS

PARSHA SHEET

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WILL THE תורה HELP YOU GROW? - האזינו

RABBI AVRUMI LICHTIG, *Director, After School Beis*

"יַעֲרֹף כְּמָטָר לִקְחִי" – "May My teaching fall like rain." (דברים ל"ב:ב')

Why does the תורה compare itself to rain?

The גר"א explains that rain does not decide what it is going to grow. If there are flowers in the ground, the rain helps the flowers grow. But if there are weeds there, the exact same rain helps the weeds grow too.

The גר"א says תורה can sometimes work in the same way.

If a person has good מידות inside him such as kindness, humility, patience and a desire to do what is right, then תורה can make those qualities even stronger. However, if someone has jealousy, arrogance or a big ego, תורה can sometimes strengthen those things as well.

That sounds strange. We normally think that learning תורה automatically makes someone into a better person. In fact, חז"ל tell us that תורה is the antidote to the יצר הרע. So how could learning תורה ever make bad qualities stronger?

הרב צבי קושלבסקי שליט"א explains that תורה has two different effects.

On the one hand, תורה is incredibly powerful.

Like rain, it causes whatever is already inside us to grow.

But תורה also has the power to change us completely. חז"ל say:

"תורה מגדלת ומרוממתו על כל המעשים"

תורה can lift a person up and turn him into someone greater than he was before.

So what makes the difference?

It depends on what we want from our learning. Imagine two boys sitting in the same שיעור. One wants to understand the גמרא because he wants to grow, get closer to הקב"ה and become a better person. The other mainly wants to know more so that he can show everyone how clever he is, win arguments or get attention.

They might be learning the exact same תורה, but it may affect them very differently.

The פסוק brings a מנהג to say the ספר מעבר יבוק before learning each day.

Perhaps the message is simple:

Before you open the גמרא, ask yourself why you are learning.

The goal is not only to know more תורה. The goal is to let the תורה change who you are.

HA'AZINU



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YEAR 11 WITH RABBI CONNICK



YEAR 8 WITH RABBI BUCKMAN



YEAR 8 WITH RABBI DUNNER

שאלת שלום

לזכר ולעילוי נשמת הלל שלום שכנא ע"ה בן
יבדלח"ט הרב חיים גאלדקין שליט"א

- 1.a. How many תעניות are there throughout the year?
- b. List the תעניות.
2. How many times did the כהן גדול immerse himself in מקוה?
3. How many times did the כהן גדול do קידוש ידים ורגליים?
4. How much of his hand did a כהן need to do קידוש ידים ורגליים on?
- 5.a. When was the כהן גדול not allowed to sleep?
- b. If the כהן גדול started dozing off how would they wake him?



When we search for the good in others, even when it is difficult to see, 'n will measure us in the same way and look for the good within us as well.

- 1.a. 6.

Perhaps that is enough for us to think about this **יום כיפור**.