

Battling the Mosquito

Posted by Pintele Yid - 03 Aug 2009 08:03

On Tisha Ba'av night, I woke up at 3:00 a.m. (Gulping down cups of water before the fast can
In the bathroom, I noticed a mosquito zipping past my eyes. Although many people would just go back to sleep and hope that the mosquito doesn't bite, in my house it is quite different, since my wife and some of my kids are very sensitive to bites. The bites blow up and they hurt very much.

Even though it was 3:00 in the morning and I didn't want to "wake myself up", I knew that the right thing to do was hunt down the mosquito, so he doesn't bite anyone else. In order for me to track him better, I immediately put on all the lights in the bathroom. I also immediately Davened to Hashem for Hatzlacha for a quick kill, since I really didn't want to spend the wee hours of the ~~have a down side~~ morning in my 8x6 bathroom.

I started looking for him and within a minute I saw him flying around. I then lost him as he flew by one of the 2 wooden doors in the bathroom. I spotted him again when he landed on one of the tiles. I then moved in for the kill but to my disappointment I missed. I noticed that this mosquito was smaller and faster than most of the ones I have encountered. I then lost him but after a **long** 3 minutes I found him again. I had been looking on the walls and on the ceiling but I happened to notice him as he was landing on my one of my pajama covered legs. Luckily, he landed on the crease of the cloth which wasn't next to my skin and he didn't bite me.

I then realized that the lines between the "hunter and the "hunted" were blurred. Who was hunting who?

When I bent down to kill him, he took off and I lost him again. After a half a minute, I found him on the light fixture which doubles as a heater. There was no way that I could kill him there, so I turned on the heater and he flew off. I then lost him again and found him 2 minutes later in the air within the reach of my hands and with the help of Hashem, I ended the hunt by smashing him between my palms.

After a big sigh of relief and a thank you to Hashem, I realized that I wasn't tired, so going back to bed was a waste of time. My first thought was to learn, but I then realized that it was Tisha Ba'av so I couldn't learn. So I decided that I would go on the GYE site and post what I had read from Rav Shalom Arush on Hischadshus.

As I was writing, I started thinking that this entire episode is a reflection of the battle we have
The Mosquito is the perfect
Moshol for the Y"H since he wants to take from us our blood, which symbolizes the soul, as it
says "Ki Hadam Hu Hanefesh".

Waking up at 3:00 a.m., when nobody is around but you and your computer, can be dangerous.
:(It is especially dangerous when you are not clear and in a "half asleep" state. Something like
with our Y"H. (Maybe I was spending too much time on this site)
"Mochin D'katnus". It is a perfect time for the mosquito to get some of your blood since many
times you don't have the strength to fight.

The Y"H (mosquito) chose his battleground very well - of course the Bathroom - the Mokom
Hatumah. The battlefield is almost always the same, a small confined space where nobody else
is. It might be in a lonely room or it might be in a public venue within the confines of your mind.

But if you are awake enough, you:

1. Realize that you are in for a "battle"
2. Try to bring in as much light as possible by remembering all that you have learned, think about the consequences of winning or losing the battle, and remember all the defenses that you use against the Y"H when he starts to attack.
3. Most importantly, you Daven to Hashem for success in the battle

You realize that if you want to win the battle, it will be important to keep track of the Mosquito or he will certainly bite you :(

You think that this will be an easy battle but it seems that as you get on, the mosquito is much better adept at avoiding being killed than you ever imagined. Instead of killing him, you end up pounding the wall. :-\

The biggest problem is that a good part of the time he fits in with your surroundings, and before you know it, he has already landed on you! But many times you have the chance to rid him before he bites ;D

He then becomes so strong that you feel that you can't reach him. The only solution is to turn up the heat by davening to Hashem for his help. Only then is he within reach and with Hashem's help, you can smash him - at least for now. Instead of going to your computer for something that you shouldn't be doing, you decide to post on the GYE site.

I personally was very attracted to the GYE site on Erev Tisha Ba'av. I was thinking that maybe it was because on Tisha Ba'av, Hakodosh Baruch Hu was separated from the Shechina. If we put "all we got" into Kedushas Haguf and Yichud shel Mitzvah, and we Chas V'sholom don't give our Shefa to the El Acher, then our actions will I"Y"H B'korov bring back the Yichud Kudsha Borich Hu and Shechintai and we will see with our holy eyes of fire, the Bais Hamikdash Shel Aish. B"BA

Pintele Yid

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Re: Battling the Mosquito
Posted by Pintele Yid - 21 Aug 2009 18:18

A quick update.

It is now 2:15 Erev Shabbos and I ventured into the room for the first time in almost 24 hours. No mosquito flying around. ;D

E.L- We can tantz together!

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