

Powerlessness and the Golden Calf

Posted by KiviYVY - 17 Feb 2011 04:06

I saw the following Ki Sisa thought in Nesivos Shalom:

How could Klal Yisroel after all the Nissim of Yetzias Mitzraim and the revelation at Har Sinai take such a fall as to worship an Eigel HaZahav? With all the justifications given by the Mefarshim it's clear that it was still a seriously grave Aveirah.

If G-d would not help us defeat the YH we would never be able to do so on our own (Sukkah 52b). Only with H's Shemira, His loving protection, can we even have a chance against the YH. What is this Shemira? Every day a Bas Kol goes out from Har Sinai that says "Shuvu Banim" - come back to your Father (Chagiga 15a). That Bas Kol can be heard in our subconscious - the thoughts to return to Hashem, to do Teshuva, are that daily gift, they're the Shemira He gives us.

H' does not always provide that Shemira. He will lift His Shemira in 2 instances: 1) if we're on a high level, able to defeat the YH with the help of H's Shemira, He will remove that Shemira to create a real challenge for us. Kol HaGadol Mechaveiro Yitzro Gadul Haimenu (Sukkah 52a) - the greater level of spirituality you're on, the stronger the urge to go off course - because you've lost His Shemira (My understanding of this is that the Shemira is lifted in degrees - the greater you are the more Shemira is lifted). 2) If we transgressed Aveiros that are so insignificant that we have no drive to do Teshuva H' will lift His Shemira so we will transgress a greater Aveirah that would bother us enough to want to do Teshuva, to return to H'. H' wants a relationship with us and He'll let us fall in order to get our attention. (Wow!)

So when I conquer my YH, it's only because H's Shemira helped me. When I fall, it's because H's Shemira was lifted and I was toast. Do I really think I'm in control? Did we think we were in control at Har Sinai, that we had the YH licked? H' is hugging me tight with His Shemira. He'll only let go if I'm not paying attention to Him. I just need to keep looking up to see Who's hugging me.

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Re: Powerlessness and the Golden Calf

Posted by KiviYVY - 17 Feb 2011 14:29

I forgot to mention this is from the Nesivos Shalom on this week's Parsha, Ki Sisa. I've corrected the post.

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Re: Powerlessness and the Golden Calf
Posted by Me3 - 17 Feb 2011 16:11

Sometimes I think the Nesivas Shalom wrote his sefer just for us GYE'rs.

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Re: Powerlessness and the Golden Calf
Posted by KiviYVY - 17 Feb 2011 16:20

Me2, Me3!

The truth is the NS was writing for his Chasidim which gives you a clear picture of the world around us. We have these struggles, but the NS writes that this is relevant to all his Chasidim. If it's relevant to every Slonimer Chossid, of every shape and color, then you can bet it's relevant to every Yid, of every shape and color.and I think I'm alone in this?

YVY

[Woohoo! I've reached 100 posts and I'm no longer a Junior member!]

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Re: Powerlessness and the Golden Calf
Posted by Yosef Hatzadik - 17 Feb 2011 19:00

[Yashuv-VYashuv wrote on 17 Feb 2011 04:06:](#)

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Dov used this idea in explaining the possuk *Tov veyashar Hashem al kein yoreh chata'im baderech*. Hashem make a person have a great fall, hit rock bottom, if that is the way to get him to do teshuva!

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Re: Powerlessness and the Golden Calf
Posted by Rising Up - 17 Feb 2011 19:06

Thats a pretty powerful idea

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