



ORAYTA WEEKLY BYTE





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A STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

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In this week's *Parsha*, Hashem tells Moshe to go to Pharaoh and speak on his behalf. He warns Moshe that Pharaoh will refuse his appeals for the release of the Jewish people.

Indeed, not only did Pharaoh refuse Moshe, but the conditions for the nation were worsened. Moshe was upset, angry and bothered by what had happened; in reaction he cried out to Hashem saying, "Why have you done evil to this people and why have you sent me? From the time I came to Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has done evil to this people and you did not rescue your people!" Hashem had warned him that his appeals would be refused, but Moshe had hoped that at least the severity of the enslavement would have been eased. When he realized that not even this was happening, he cried out, "Why have you sent me?"

Hashem responds to Moshe saying, "God spoke to Moshe and said to him, "I am HASHEM. I appeared to Avraham, to Yitzchak and to Yaakov as *Keil Shakkai*"(Shemot 6:2,3). The *Maggid Meisharim* points out the change in attitude in Hashem's response. It starts off with the word "*va'yidaber*" (spoke) which implies a harsh tone, spoken by "*Elokim*" which denotes the attribute of strict justice. It is then followed by the words "*va'yomer*" which portrays soft words, said by "Hashem", which indicates his kindness and mercy. We learn from this that Hashem was not happy by Moshe's criticism, and through *Midas Hadin* (Strict Justice) wanted to punish him for it. But Hashem truly knew that Moshe only said what he said because of his love and concern for the Jewish people, and not out of self-concern. This changed the *Midas Hadin* into *Midas HaRachamim* (Mercy). That is why the text changes from "*Va'Yidaber Elokim*" to "*Va'yomer Hashem*".

Hashem responds to Moshe's cries by saying that He appeared to all the Avot as *Keil Shakkai* to show them how He controls the world. We see that the word *Shakkai* comes from the word "*Die*" (dalid yud), which means enough. Hashem created the world with exactly how much of every little thing that was necessary for it to function properly. When Moshe was bothered by how the severity of the Jewish people's slavery was intensified, Hashem answers him with the word *Shakkai*. Moshe did not realize that the intensification of the

conditions would result in bringing the redemption closer, because it would intensify and speed up the punishment of the Egyptians. It made the Egyptians reach a point where they filled the "measure of sin" that would be necessary to bring Hashem's vengeance.

Many things happen throughout our lives that can make us want to cry out to Hashem in anger just as Moshe did. And we will never truly understand the purpose for it happening. But we should always keep in mind that Hashem is *Keil Shakkai*, and for everything that happens, there is a divine purpose. Knowing this will help us with get through all the tough times in our lives, and will give purpose to everything that happens in the world.