



Today's Daf In Review is being sent l'zecher nishmas Habachur Yechezkel Shraga A"H ben R' Avrohom Yehuda

Sotah Daf Yud Gimmel

YOSEF ZACHA...

- **Q:** Why is it that when they went up to bury Yaakov the Torah mentions Yosef, then his servants, and then the other brothers, but when it discusses their return, the Torah mentions Yosef, then the other brothers, and then the servants? **A: R' Yochanan** said, initially the Mitzriyim did not respect the brothers. However, when they saw the honor that was given to Yaakov at his funeral, they began to respect them and allowed them to go first.
 - The honor given was that all the nations saw that Yosef's crown was placed on Yaakov's coffin. Although the other nations initially came to wage war, when they saw the crown there, they removed their crowns and placed it there as well, for a total of 36 crowns on the coffin.
 - The pasuk says that there was a "mispeid gadol v'kaveid me'od". A Braisa says, even the horses and donkeys were in mourning. Esav came and tried to prevent Yaakov from being buried in the me'aras hamachpeila. He said there are only to be a total of 8 people buried there, and since Yaakov already buried Leah there, the one remaining space belongs to me! They said to Esav, you sold that right when you sold your rights to the bechora! He replied, I gave up the rights of a bechor, but I am still a son, and therefore have a right to one of the spaces! They said to him, Yaakov bought this right off you as well in a separate transaction. Esav said, if that is true, show me the document of sale! They said the document is back in Mitzrayim. They decided to send Naftali (since he was the quickest) to go back and get the document. As this was going on, Chushim the son of Dan, who was hard of hearing, asked what the delay was. When he heard that they needed to wait for Naftali to return, he said "My grandfather will lay here in disgrace until Naftali is able to return!?" He took a stick and hit Esav on the head, killing him. This was the fulfillment of Rivka's nevuah when she hinted that her two sons would die on the same day. Although they didn't die on the same day, they were buried on the same day.
 - **Q:** Why did only Yosef busy himself with the burial if the other brothers were there as well? **A:** Yosef told them it is a greater respect for Yaakov to have his burial done by a king.

MI LANU GADOL MIYOSEF...

- A Braisa says, look how beloved mitzvos were to Moshe. When all of Klal Yisrael were busying themselves with getting the assets of the Mitzrim, Moshe busied himself with finding Yosef's remains. How did he know where they were? He went and asked Serach bas Asher (who was still living at the time). She told him that the Mitzrim had put Yosef's remains in a heavy metal box and sent it to the bottom of the Nile River so that it should be blessed and plentiful. Moshe went to the Nile and said "Yosef, Yosef, the time has arrived for Hashem to redeem us, and the time has therefore arrived for us to keep to the oath of taking your remains with us when we leave. If you show yourself now, good. If not, we are hereby released from the oath." Immediately the coffin with Yosef floated to the surface. Don't wonder how it is possible for metal to float in the water, because we find that Elisha made a miracle where metal floated to the surface of the water, so for sure it could do so for Moshe.
R' Nosson said that Yosef was buried in a tomb for kings where there were many coffins. Moshe went there and did not know which one was Yosef. He therefore said "Yosef, Yosef, the time has arrived for Hashem to redeem us, and the time has therefore arrived for us to keep to the oath of taking your remains with us when we leave. If you show yourself now, good. If not, we are

hereby released from the oath.” At that moment the coffin of Yosef began to shake, showing which was he. Moshe took it and kept it with him. All the years in the Midbar there were 2 “aronos” – the Aron Hakodesh and the Aron of Yosef. When people would ask why they were together they would be told it is because Yosef fulfilled everything that is written in the Torah.

- **Q:** If Moshe wouldn't have busied himself with Yosef's remains, would the rest of the Yidden not have done so? In fact the pasuk even attributes the carrying up of Yosef's remains to Klal Yisrael!? Furthermore, why wouldn't Yosef's own descendants busy themselves with his burial?
A: His descendants preferred that all of Klal Yisrael busy themselves with the burial, because that showed more honor than if they were to do it alone. As long as Moshe was alive they all let Moshe be busy with the remains, because that was the greatest honor for Yosef.
 - **Q:** Why was Yosef buried in Shechem? **A: R' Chama the son of R' Chanina** said, he was stolen from there, so it was fitting for him to be returned there.
 - **Q:** One pasuk says that Moshe took the remains of Yosef with him from Mitzrayim. Another pasuk says that it was Bnei Yisrael who did so!? **A: R' Chama the son of R' Chanina** said, if someone does a good thing but doesn't complete it and another person completes the act, it is the one who completed the act that gets credit for having done the entire act.
 - **R' Elazar** says, the person who didn't complete the act is also demoted from his greatness, as we see that Yehuda was demoted after starting to save Yosef (by convincing the brothers not to kill him) but not completing it. **R' Shmuel bar Nachmeini** says, such a person will ultimately bury his wife and children, as we see was the case for Yehuda.
 - **R' Yehuda in the name of Rav** said, that Yosef referred to his remains as “bones” even while he was alive as a kaparah for when he allowed his father to be referred to as his servant.
 - **R' Yehuda in the name of Rav** said, the reason Yosef died first from the brothers is because he had the position of authority.
 - “V'Yosef hurad Mitzrayma” – **R' Elazar** said, this teaches that Yosef brought down Mitzrayim, in the sense that he brought down their astrologers by being able to interpret the dreams that they didn't know how to interpret.
 - “Vayikneihu Potifar sris Pharaoh” – **Rav** said that Potifar purchased Yosef with the intent to be mezeah with him, but the Malach Gavriel came and emasculated him.

MI LANU GADOL M'MOSHE...

- When Moshe continued to daven to Hashem to allow him into Eretz Yisrael, Hashem finally said “rav lach” (it is much for you, do not continue to daven about this). **R' Levi** said, Moshe used the word “rav” when he admonished Korach (“rav lachem”), which is why he himself was admonished with this word as well (“rav lach”). Another explanation of “rav lach” is that Hashem told Moshe there is another rav – Yehoshua – who is ready to take over, and his time has been reached, and can't be further delayed. Another explanation is that Hashem told Moshe to stop davening, because the gezeirah would not be changed, and it would seem improper to continue to daven for something that Hashem was not going to change.
 - **Q:** Why was Hashem so strict with Moshe? **A: R' Yishmael's** Yeshiva taught a Braisa that the stronger camel gets a heavier burden – meaning that a greater tzaddik is dealt with more strictly.
 - Moshe said “I am 120 years old *today*”. This teaches that he died on his birthday, and teaches that Hashem does this to complete the years of great tzaddikim.
 - Moshe said “lo uchal ohd latzeis v'lavoh”. That can't mean that he was physically weak, because we learn from the pesukim that he was physically strong until his death. **R' Shmuel bar Nachmeini in the name of R' Yonason** said, it means that he could no longer give over Torah the way he used to.
 - The pasuk says “Moshe and Yehoshua went and stood in the Ohel Moed”. A Braisa says, on that Shabbos (of the death of Moshe) there were two leaders – the day began under the rule of Moshe and ended under the rule of Yehoshua.

- **R' Yehuda** said that Moshe died on Har Nevo in the land of Reuven, and we learn from a pasuk that he was buried in the land of Gad, which was 4 mil away. He was carried there by the Shechina, and had the Malachim eulogize him as he went.
- Some say that Moshe did not die, and they learn this from a gezeira shava on the word "sham" of the pasuk "vayamas sham".
- The pasuk says that Moshe was buried in a low place in the land of Moav opposite Beis Pe'or. **R' Brechya** said, although all these descriptions of the place are given, to this day no one knows where Moshe is buried. There was a time when the Romans sent people to look for the grave and it always appeared to be somewhere else, depending on where they were standing, and they could not find it. **R' Chama in the name of R' Chanina** said, based on a pasuk, even Moshe himself does not know where the gravesite is.
 - **R' Chama in the name of R' Chanina** said, the reason Moshe was buried near the Beis Pe'or is so that he can bring a kaparah for the aveirah where the Yidden followed the Pe'or.
 - **R' Chama in the name of R' Chanina** asked, the pasuk says that we are to follow in the way of Hashem, but that is impossible! This means we should try and follow in Hashem's characteristics. Just as He clothed the naked (Adam and Chava) so should we. Just as He visited the sick (Avraham Avinu) so should we. Just as he went console aveilem (Yitzchak) so should we. Just as he buried the dead (Moshe) so should we.