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Rabbi Aharon Farhi

Parashat **Naso** 14<sup>th</sup> Sivan 5780

Maqam Raast Issue #893 Mr. Eliyahu Levy, *President*Haftarat **Vayhi Eish**June 6<sup>th</sup> 2020

Candle Lighting 8:05pm \* Shekiah 8:23pm \* Shir Hashirim 7:30pm followed by Minha Friday Night Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am \* Minha Shabbat 7:50pm \* Shabbat Ends 9:06pm & Rabbenu Tam 9:36pm Time for Talit 3:59am \* Seasonal Hour 87:00 \* Alot Hashahar 3:42am \* Netz Hachama 5:26am Weekday Minha 7:30pm \* Earliest Time for Arbit 7:12pm \* Tzet Hacochavim 9:01pm \* Chatzot 12:52 Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:01am \* Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:27am

\_Please do not read this bulletin during Tefillah or Keriat Hatorah\_\_

Every morning, no matter if it's a weekday, Shabbat, or holiday, the Cohanim stand in the front of the Shul, face the congregation, and bless them. Everyone hears the blessing they recite before blessing the people. They are commanded to bless the people with love. We all know the source for their obligation to bless the people, as we see in this week's Parasha, but where do we learn that they must bless the people with love? Where did Hashem command them to do so? Our Sages teach us in Masechet Sotah, explained in the commentary of the Maharsha there: the one who recites the blessing on the cup of wine must be one who is generous. Why? Because the blessing's effects follow the one who is reciting the blessing, according to his thoughts and intentions. The Cohanim are therefore instructed to bless with love, so that their intentions and thoughts are positive and will have a great and productive effect on the people. From here we learn: In order for the blessings of the Cohanim to be effective, so that the end of the blessing is activated, in which Hashem says, "And I will then bless them", the Cohanim must open their hearts and guide the heavenly influences to shower upon the people. To do this properly, Cohanim must always practice love and acceptance, so that their blessings will be potent and powerful. If one is generous, caring, and giving, he will have a much easier task of blessing others. If one is stingy, selfish, and lacking in concern for others, blessing others will be a real challenge. Who loses the most when lacking empathy for others? The person himself, even more than others! One must train himself in advance in order to reach the level of blessing others. If one can learn to be genuinely happy for others, and always wish only the best upon others, completely ridding jealousy, hatred, and negativity from his heart, then he will not only be a source of blessings to others, but his own life will be blessed as well. Who loses most from hatred and jealousy? The one whose heart is filled with it! The blessing of the Cohanim recited for the nation is very sacred, and can only be fulfilled through the selected few of our nation. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

## Insights on the Parasha

1 – Every Tribal Leader offered: *I – One silver* bowl weighing 130 Shekels, corresponding to Yocheved, Moshe's mother, who lived to the age of 130. 2 – One silver basin of 70 Shekels, corresponding to Moshe who was equivalent to seventy elders, the Sanhedrin.  $3 - Both \ of \ them$ *filled*, corresponding to Moshe and Aharon. 4 – One gold ladle of 10 Shekels, corresponding to the 10 Commandments. 5 – One young bull, corresponding to Avraham who ran to get the cow for a Mitzvah of serving guests. 6 - Oneram, corresponding to Akedat Yitzchak. 7 – One sheep, corresponding to Yaakov, when he separated the sheep righteously. 8 - One hegoat, corresponding to Esav, as the he-goat carries all of the sins for Bnei Yisrael. Every detail of their offerings was significant and important.

### Insights on Pirkei Avot

1 – When there is nobody else, strive to take action. Rav Chaim Volozhin explains: be one who overpowers his evil inclination, even when others are not around to see and you are secluded

in secrecy, for Hashem is always watching throughout all corners of the world.

### History in Brief

20 years after the Temple's destruction, in the year 88AD. One Roman philosopher asked Rabi Eliezer, "Your prophet writes: They will build and I will destroy. See here now, our buildings in Rome are still standing while your sanctuary building has been destroyed! Perhaps the prophecy refers to you." Rabi Eliezer explained, "It is not referring to physical structures, but rather to plans and schemes. While you still concoct and devise strategies and campaigns to destroy the Jews, Hashem destroys your ideas and nothing comes to fruition." The Roman philosopher had no choice but to agree with this, for every time they would advise the Caesar to plot an annihilation of the Jews, to kill them and take their money, there was always one old man, an advisor closest and most convincing to the Caesar, who finds a way to foil their plot! Sanaklito was a heaven fearing Roman gentile. One time, a terrible decree was passed against the Jews to come in effect after thirty days. Sanaklito assured Rabban Gamliel and the other Jewish sages at the time that they should not worry, for there is plenty of time for Hashem to repeal the evil decree. After 25 days, his wife asked him if he still believed that salvation would come for the Jews. His wife was even more righteous than he was, and something needed to be done within the next five days to bypass the decree from taking effect. She advised him to poison himself, as the law was that if any of the advisors involved in passing a decree were to die, then the decree would immediately be annulled. He understood that this was the only way to save the Jewish people. He drank the poison and the decree was no more. The holy sages went to console the wife, who told them that before her husband sacrificed himself for them, he first circumcised himself, in order to gain entry into Olam Haba. She showed them the Milah, and the bloody bandages. A heavenly voice rang out and declared that Sanaklito and his wife have both earned a portion in Olam Haba.

#### Health and Recovery

Our vision consists of central vision and peripheral vision. A person whose vision is healthy can see what is being done around him, without having to turn his head left or right. Glaucoma is a sickness that damages the peripheral vision. As peripheral vision becomes impaired, as it weakens and begins to narrow, the process of decline is slow and hardly noticeable until it is too late. The person begins to slowly lose some degrees to the right or left around him as he begins to lose sight in his eyes. He feels no pain, notices no differences, as the doctors call this sickness: the silent thief. Suddenly the person slowly loses his eyesight, as the pressure of the fluid inside the eye slowly acts on the fibers of the nerves and damages them. As the pressure continues, more nerve fibers are damaged and optic cells are destroyed. What is destroyed cannot be repaired. So, to be cautious, anyone whose parents, siblings, grandparents, or uncles, have suffered from Glaucoma, should check the pressure inside their own eyes every year starting from the age of twenty-five years. He should check his optic nerve, his field of vision, and the overall health of his vision every year. For those that Glaucoma is not hereditary and have no problem with their vision, nevertheless, it is mandatory to see an ophthalmologist starting from the age of 40, and then every 3-4 years afterwards. Then, starting at the age of fifty, every year one should be checked out by the doctor to test his intraocular pressure.

# Rishon LeSion: *R' Moshe Meyuhas 1730-1806*

After his father-in-law R' Yom Tov Algazi passed away, Rabbi Moshe agreed to stand and serve as Rishon LeSion. At this time, Napoleon Bonaparte set out to capture Egypt and Israel from the control of the Turks. He appealed to the Jewish residents of Israel and promised that if they would help him overthrow the Turks, in return they would be given power and authority in the area. The offer boiled the blood of the non-Jews, who claimed, "The Jews are accepting the request for help and rebelling!" they exclaimed

furiously, not hearing whether the Jews had even agreed to Napoleon's proposal, or not. Then they immediately imposed a heavy tax on them, as they were still under their control. Rav Moshe Meyuhas had a custom, every Friday night, after Chatzot midnight, he would walk to the Western Wall, the holy Kotel, and with tears streaming down his cheeks he would recite the entire Tehillim, stay there until morning, and beseech Hashem's consolation. After Shaharit he would then return home. During the times of Napoleon, the situation was hard for the Jews. Rav Moshe would lengthen his prayers by the Kotel. Suddenly, a strange vision appeared before his eyes. He saw letters, five letters, all five were the letter Alef, one after the other. He tried to blink them away, but they wouldn't disappear.

#### Mussar: Life

Do you wish to live in peace and tranquility? Here's advice: do not become accustomed to the enjoyments of this world. If Hashem has blessed you with wealth and prosperity, do not spoil yourself and accustom your family to require higher standards of living, with the muchdesired enjoyments of this world. We do not know what tomorrow will bring. If one becomes accustomed to higher standards, he will require it. A child will feel a great need to satiate this requirement even in his older ages. If the child is raised in such a fashion but cannot fulfill these higher standards later in life, he may be led to theft. He will live in pain if he cannot continue living the way he has become accustomed to when he was growing up. One must be happy and satisfied with what he has and needs, and should teach himself control and discipline, for then he will be praised in this world and in the next. One should despise the enjoyments that this world tries to force a person to chase after, for pleasures are only momentary, while the destruction caused can be catastrophic. Desire the true life! Chase after the life of Torah, Mitzvot, and good deeds. Serve your Creator and present a wonderful fragrance before Him through your deeds. Don't waste your precious life with foolish silliness while chasing after your desires. Perform the will of Hashem with all your power and ability. Do not cease from learning His laws and commandments, and structure your day to include an established, scheduled, and uncompromising time for Torah study. One who follows this advice will merit a truly wealthy life of health, happiness, and longevity, Amen.

#### Story

When the wealthy bakery owner refused to pay up the 1,000 Lirot bet he had lost to the young orphan Jacob, Jacob and his mother went to visit the holy Rav HaGaon Chida. The Rav was a little surprised to find a young eleven-year-old boy knocking on his door asking to bring a wealthy man of the community, and a respectable member of the synagogue, to a Din Torah court proceeding. The Rav listened patiently to every detail of the story from the young orphan. He assured the poor orphan and widow that he would investigate the matter and give them a resolution shortly. If they deserved the money, he guaranteed that the wealthy man would have to pay every penny he owes. The Rav Chida summoned the bakery owner to his home for questioning. The man was afraid and rushed to the Rav's house. Before anyone could say anything, he said first, "It is true that I signed the document, but the young boy did not do as promised! He was in warmed waters, not in naturally cold waters as agreed. His mother had warmed up the nearby water with fire at the banks of the river." The Rav looked at him and stated that they would proceed accordingly with the judgment.

#### Two Halachot: Posek Rav Mordechai Eliyahu

1 – The 13 Midot of Rachamim, which we recite in *Vayaavor*, are expressions of great holiness and should only be recited with a Minyan of ten men. Therefore, if one is praying slower than the Minyan, and they already recite Vayaavor without him, or if one is praying at home without a Minyan, then he should recite Vayaavor with the Taamim as one who reads the Sefer Torah.

2 – When praying in a mourner's Minyan, one recites Yehi Shem. If the mourners are themselves a Minyan, then only they recite Yehi

Shem. If many came to pray with them in their honor, they all recite Yehi Shem. On the seventh day, since the mourning completed in the morning, when praying Minha, Yehi Shem is not recited.

#### Laws:

- 1 One who recites a blessing that is not required has spoken in waste, it is as if he has sworn in vain, and it is forbidden to answer Amen to such a blessing.
- 2 While learning Gemara or Midrash, one can recite Hashem's name in the Pasuk quoted and need not be strict and recite it as Amonay or Elokenu. One who is strict is actually losing out. However, when mentioned in other Sefarim as Hashem, then one should pronounce the name of Hashem only as Amonay or Elokenu
- **3** One who is delivering a Derasha to the public should say Hashem's name when reciting a Pasuk, even if he will not be reciting the complete Pasuk.
- 4 One may recite Hashem's name when teaching a child how to recite blessings, even when not reciting a blessing actually on something specific or even when not praying, and can continue to do so until the child grows accustomed to reciting blessings with Hashem's name properly.

### **Sponsors**

\*\*\* The young man Yaakov Moshe Abadi, his parents, and his siblings. Blessings and success for the entire family, Mazal Tov on his Bar Mitzvah, Mabrouk, Amen. \*\*\* R' Simon Goldstein, his wife Simmy, and their children. Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* Mr. Morris Dweck, his wife Rachel, their parents, and their children. Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* Mrs. Bella Shakalo and her children: Isaac, Garcie, Stella, Violet, and Claudia. Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat Rimon Rachamim Ben Bella a"h, Amen. \*\*\* Mr. Aharon Hasbani, his wife, and their children. Blessings and success for the

entire family, Leilui Nishmat his close friend Yaakov Swed Ben Badia a"h, Amen. \*\*\* Mr. Yosef Saadia, his wife, and their children. Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* Mrs. Frieda Hasbani Rabi and her children. Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father Nissim Sami Hasbani Ben Amilia a"h, Amen. \*\*\* Mr. Abboud Avraham, his wife Sabah, and their children: Naim, Yosef, Moshe, Yonatan. Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their son who passed away at a young age David Ben Sabah a"h, Amen. \*\*\* Mrs. Sely Jajati and her children. Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father Yehuda Leon Ben Jamila a"h, Amen. \*\*\* The Nakab Family. Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father Jamil Ben Aysah a"h, Amen. \*\*\* The Shakalo family. Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother Touni Mazal Bat Rachel a"h, Amen. \*\*\* Mr. Eli Levy, his wife Becky, and their children. Blessings, health, and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* Mr. Farah Hamra, his wife Dina, and their children. Blessings and success for the entire family, their condolences to the families of Mr. Yosef Ishay and his wife Suzette, Mr. Isaac Abed and his wife, and Mr. Charles Hoter Ishay and his children, May Hashem grant them consolation, Leilui Nishmat the righteous woman Rachel Bat Shafikah a"h, Amen.

This week's sponsorship total is \$1000. Weekly cost of production and distribution total is \$1300. Tizku L'Mitzvot, Amen!

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