

“THE KORBAN THAT ELEVATES US”

The Korban Olah which our parasha introduces is very special in many ways. This offering may be brought by someone who has intentionally committed a sin for which the Torah does not prescribe a punishment. It may also be brought by someone who failed to perform a Mitzvat Aseh [positive commandment], or, by someone who had sinful thoughts that have not been carried out in deed. It is likewise brought by everyone who went up to Yerushalayim during the Shalosh Regalim [Three Pilgrimage Festivals-Pesach, Shavu'ot and Sukkot]. Finally, it may be

Bought by anyone who wishes to elevate his spiritual level and express his devotion and closeness to HaShem. This korban is Completely burned and its flames rise up to HaShem.

Today, since we are lacking the possibility of bringing us closer to HaShem through a korban, how fortunate we are to have the Mitzvah vehicles that grants us the ability to foster our closeness to HaKadosh Baruch-Hu. Some people erroneously consider the Mitzvot as a burden, while in fact they are a precious opportunity for us.

It is said that when the Vilna Gaon [1720-1770] lay dying, he held on to his Tzitzit and began to weep. His students, standing around, were astonished. “Surely after living such a pious life and contributing so much to Torah learning you cannot be afraid of what awaits you in the next world, Rabbi!” they said. “Why are you crying?” He looked up and answered, “Because here on this earth, while alive, with just a little string I can fulfill one of GD’s Mitzot, Tzitzit. No matter how fabulous the next world is, I will not be able to do that there”.

We can never overlook the small opportunities that are available to us. Here, on this earth, with the right attitude, everything is possible. We can even observe HaShem’s commandments with just a little string. Sometimes, just a few coins can suffice to fulfill the Mitzvah of Tzedakah. A simple smile can fulfill the Mitzvah of chesed. We are in a world of boundless opportunities, and each Mitzvah brings us closer to our Creator.

Shabbat Shalom from Yerushalayim

Rabbi Aharon Ziegler

DEDICATION: There is still time to dedicate a page in my new book, *“Halkhic Positions of Rav Soloveitchik, -volume 8”*

For information send mail to -aharonlibby@aol.com

QUESTIONS ON PARASHAT TZAV:

1-What is the significance of the Torah teaching that “In the same place where you shecht [slaughter] the korban Chatat so too in that place shall you shecht the korban Olah. [6:18]?”

2-For what type of sin must a Korban Olah be brought?

3-Which korban had chametz within it.?

4a-What is the 3 letter Hebrew root of the Hebrew word “korban”?

b-What is the translation of this root word?

c- What is the connection between the root word and Korban-offering?

5-Every korban had a time-frame for being eaten. What is the status of the meat left over its given time frame ?

And what is the Onesh [punishment] for one who eats of this meat?

****SPECIAL SHIUR-IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE BEIT HA KNESSET HA NASI OF YERUSHALAYIM I PLAN TO GIVE A SHIUR ON “THE 10 PIECESOF CHAMETZ”. TO LISTEN TO THIS SHIUR ON CONFERENCE CALL = DIAL 712 770 5505. THEN FOR ACCESS NUMBER, DIAL 636741# .. IT WILL BEGIN THIS THURSDAY, APRIL 2 AT 3PM ISRAEL TIME, WHICH IS 8AM USA TIME****

