

# KOLLEL AGUDATH ACHIM

Rosh Kollel

Rabbi Aharon Ziegler

1430 E. 7th Street

Brooklyn, NY 11230 ירושלים, ישראל

917-538-3834

רחוב דסקין 5

050-2925389

**My father in law is currently recuperating at home. Please daven for Aharon ben Yita to have a complete recovery..**

**Moshe Teller**

**PARSHAT -EMOR 2023**

**פרשת אמר 5783**

Parshat Emor is known as the parsha of Moadim (holidays). Actually, the Moadim appear three times in the Torah; here in Emor, in Pinchas and in Re'ei. In Pinchas the focus is on the Korbanot of Mussafim, in Re'ei it's on the specific Mitzvot related to each Yom Tov, and in our parsha the emphasis is on Kedushat HaYom and Issur Melacha for those days.

Since the nearest Yom Tov that we are approaching is Shavuot I will discuss one interesting aspect of its observance according to the Torah during days of Beit HaMikdash.

On the fiftieth day following the first day of Pesach we are told to bring a Mincha Chadasha (23:16) to HaShem. The meal offering of Shavuot is called "new" (Chadasha) because it was the first offering from the new wheat crop. (The Omer offering of Pesach was of barley). Then we are told (23:17) "From your dwelling places you are to bring bread that is waved, two loaves of it... And they must be baked leavened, (Chametz)". This is the Mitzvah of Shetei-HaLechem, the two loaves for Shavuot. Whereas the Omer, or meal offering of Pesach was made from barley and no Chametz allowed, the meal offering of Shavuot was made from wheat and MUST be made Chametz. Why the difference?

Rav Soloveitchik suggested that a Korban in general must NOT contain Chametz. For Chametz suggests Midat HaDin, the strict attribute of judgment by HaShem. The term Chametz is used in connection with things that have soured and gone bad. For example, wine that has soured is referred to as Chametz Yayin. Midat HaDin would require immediate retribution for the sour deed done by the individual. The fact that HaShem accepts our Korbanot and grants us forgiveness is evidence of the Midat HaChesed of HaShem. For if HaShem had related to us under strict Midat HaDin, the person would have to offer himself as the very sacrifice to atone for his sin. It is only through the Chesed of HaShem that we can bring Korbanot in lieu of our personal shortcomings.

The Shetei-HaLechem of Shavuot on the other hand is first and foremost a Korban Todah, an offer of thanksgiving to HaShem for the harvest that was just completed. Every Korban Todah MUST contain Chametz. The Rav explained this through the following analogy. We recite the Birkat HaGomel when HaShem saves us from misfortune, thanking Him for granting favor to those who are guilty, "HaGomel Lachayavim Tovot", for He has granted me all favors "Sheh'gemalani Kol Tov". Why do we add the statement that He has granted favors to the guilty? Why not simply thank Him for granting me a favor? Because if HaShem had operated only through strict enforcement of Midat HaDin, the guilty would not be spared. It is only because of the kindness of HaShem that He blends Midat HaDin with Midat HaChesed that we are saved. The Chametz in the Korban Todah and in the Shetei HaLechem teaches us that we should not erroneously believe that we live in a world of complete Din, and we were saved because we were judged to be deserving based on our own merits. Rather, it is only through the Chesed of HaShem that our sour ways have been overlooked. We show that Din and Rachamim have been intertwined. That is the message of Shetei-HaLechem and Shavuot.

Shabbat Shalom from Yerushalayim  
Rabbi Aharon and Libby Ziegler

לבנת הספיר

THE

Great News!

Rabbi Ziegler is publishing a new sefer entitled

**"The Sapphire Bricks of Torah - Gems from the Weekly Parasha."**

A collection of all his Divrei Torah on all the Parashiot from 2014 to the present

We are now accepting dedications to be included in this fabulous sefer

FULL-PAGE: \$1,000.

HALF-PAGE: \$500

QUARTER PAGE: \$250

SMALLER: ANY DONATION ACCEPTED

Checks payable to: **KOLLEL AGUDATH ACHIM**

**1430 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street Brooklyn, NY 11230**

For further information please call 917-538-3834

or email at [mteller123@aol.com](mailto:mteller123@aol.com)

**RABBI AHARON ZIEGLER**