

# אושר החיים

לע"נ ר' חיים יוסף ליב בן ר' שאול יצחק ז"ל

## “He is Your Praise”

When *Hashem* made His Presence known upon *Har Sinai*, 22,000 chariots of *Malachim* came down with banners, to surround His throne of Glory. When *Klal Yisrael* saw this, they expressed a great desire to be divided with *degalim*, in the same way as these *Malachei Hashareis*. *Hashem*, saw their sincere longing, and granted their wish. Immediately, *Hashem* displayed His great love for *Klal Yisroel*, and told *Moshe* to divide them into groups together with their respective *degalim* (*Midrash Tanchumah, Parshas Bamidbar, 14; see Ba'al Haturim Bamidbar 2:2*).<sup>1</sup>

We may ask, what was it precisely, that *Klal Yisroel* desired so much, in that which they saw from the *Malachim* who surrounded *Hashem* with banners?

When *Klal Yisroel* accepted the *Torah*, they realized how they were now considered the ambassadors of *Hashem*. They also were aware, that their role as the *Am segula*, is to bring the Honor of *Hashem's* great Name out into the world. However, after seeing the *degalim* of the *malachim*, they gained an additional insight into how they were meant to serve *Hashem*.

When they first saw the *malachim* come down, surrounding the *Kisei haKovod* while displaying their banners, the *yidden* were no doubt taken aback. They knew, that the banners represented the uniqueness of each of the legions of *malachim*. How could the *malachim* do this? Wouldn't this be tantamount to rebellion? Imagine the chief officers of a country, coming before their king of flesh and blood, while holding up banners that displayed their personal strengths. Surely, the king would become enraged at their audacity! Shouldn't they sooner raise banners showing acclaim to the king? If so, how could these *malachim* surround the *Kisei HaKavod* while fully displaying their own outstanding identities?!

Rather, the answer is obvious. *Hashem* is so exalted above everything else, that when the *malachim* surrounded His Throne of Honor with their *degalim*, those that observed this, would certainly see how *everything* – including their strengths – truly belonged to *Hashem* alone. Thus, not only did raising these banners not take anything away, but only added to the Glory of *Hashem*.

Therefore, *Klal Yisroel* saw in the *degalim*, a tremendous opportunity to add to their role of honoring *Hashem*, through complete *hisbatlus* to Him. By holding the *degalim*, while surrounding the camp of the *Shechina*, they would be dedicating every strength of theirs to *Hashem*. Thus, it would be a sign of complete nullification to *Hashem*. This was to

במדבר  
תשפ"ה

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them, an even greater form of serving Him than what they previously understood. As the *Mesillas Yesharim* writes (Chapter 17), one should bring himself to a level of purifying his thoughts as he serves *Hashem*. This means, to allow all our thoughts to be fixed upon the Oneness of *Hashem*, while thinking that He alone is our praise. Moreover, all our strengths and talents truly belong to Him, as the *posuk* explicitly states (*Devarim* 10), "הוא תהלתך והוא אלקיך" – He is your praise and He is your G-d". This was what *Klal Yisroel* saw, that made them desire the *degalim* so much.

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The author's *sefer*, "Passion for Perfection", includes topics such as: recognizing one's ability for spiritual greatness, the greatness of *Klal Yisroel*, *bitachon*, *tefillah*, *teshuvah*, as well as many more subjects. The *sefer* can be purchased at select *seforim* stores, from the distributor - Zundel Berman, or directly from the author at 732-673-1089 or email [OsherHachaim@gmail.com](mailto:OsherHachaim@gmail.com).



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