

For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish; ויאמר המלך אחשׁוורוש ויאמר לאסתר המלכה מי הוא זה ואי זה הוא ויאמר אכשׁוורוש לאסתר-מלכה לבו לעשות כן: (ז ד - ה) And King Achashveirosh said, and he said to Queen Esther, "Who is this and where is he, who dared to do this?" (7:4-5) The obvious difficulty is: Did Achashveirosh really forget that he decreed this to Haman, that he asks Esther: Who dared to do this? However, since Esther

never revealed her nationality to Achashveirosh, he still never suspected though her being a Jew. Now the decree was only on the Jews, and since Esther was definitely not a Jew, therefore her people who were decreed upon to be slain, did not come from the king, therefore he asked "Who is this and where is he, who dared to do this." הר"ר משה באכנער ז"ל, קראקא (תרפ"ה)

STORY OF THE WEEK (By Yehuda Z. Klitnick)

***** **Rav Elimelech from Lizensk sends the Lelover to heal the Rav of Pinsk** *****

The Rebbe Reb Elimelech from Lizensk זצוק"ל had a Talmid the Lelover Rebbe, Reb Dovid זצוק"ל. One day, Reb Elimelech called in Reb Dovid and asked him to travel to Pinsk and gave him the address of Yekil the baker and asked him to tell Yekil to open a Shtiebel for Chassidim. Pinsk was a city that many were opposed to the Chassidim; Yekil agreed and hired 10 poor people to come Daven with him that Shabbos. This act caused an uproar in the city. This would not be allowed! A Minyan which Davened Nusach Sefard and the spreading of Chassidus in this city won't happen. Word spread to the Rav of Pinsk who summoned Yekil to come to him. When the Rav ordered Yekil to cancel the Minyan, Yekil simply asked "is there anything wrong in Davening with 10 poor plain people, many people have Minyanim of their own and the Rav doesn't say anything!" The Rav was adamant and said "I insist that you cancel the Minyan as it will cause chaos in the city." Yekil didn't answer the Rav and that Shabbos again he gathered the 10 poor people and had a Minyan. Again the Rav summoned Yekil, and the same scenario happened and Yekil left. The third Shabbos Yekil did the same as before and again the Rav summoned Yekil but instead of talking, the Rav got angry and started slapping Yekil without control. Yekil didn't answer, he was in great pain and his face was swollen and he left.

That day the only daughter of the Rav passed away and the Rav fell into a deep depression and forgot his learning. The biggest doctors were summoned but no one was able to take the Rav out of his depression. Of course Yekil didn't tell anyone what the Rav did to him, and the whole story stayed a mystery as why the daughter of the Rav passed away and why the sudden punishment to the Rav. Meanwhile now that the Rav wasn't well, Yekil expanded the Minyan and Yekil the baker was the leader of the Shul

Reb Elimelech saw all this happen thru his Ruach Hakodesh and wanted to help the Rav have a Refuah Sheleima. He told Reb Dovid to dress up as a Rebbe and visit Pinsk. Reb Dovid who was very humble, had little desire to do such a thing. However when his Rebbe told him that by him doing this, The city of Pinsk will expand it's Shul from the

Chassidim, Reb dovid agreed to go. Reb Dovid made the long trip and came to the home of Yekil and told Yekil what his rebbe insisted he do and Yekil immediately hung out posters that a Wonder Tzaddik who makes miracles has come to town. People upon seeing the posters, started flocking to the home of Yekil and the they all found the warmth of Reb Dovid soothing and his advice and blessings worked wonders. Word spread to the home of the Rav that a Wonder Rabbiner is in town. A fiery debate went on in the home of the Rav. Pro and con arguments were heating up. At the end of the debate, the pro arguments won. It was agreed upon that the Rav should go to the Wonder Rabbi only at a private location and that the Rebbe should give a special audience for the Rav.

However, when the delegation came to Reb Dovid with their proposal, Reb Dovid exclaimed: Chas-Veshalom, I will not accept that the Rav of Pinsk should come to me. On the contrary, I insist that I go myself to visit him! Reb Dovid didn't wait for an answer. He put on his coat and went straight to the home of the Rav.

When Reb Dovid entered the room and saw the Rav, Reb Dovid came up with a very warm smile, that the Rav started feeling comfortable, and he asked Reb Dovid to sit down. They spoke very friendly and when the Rav was very comfortable, he asked Reb Dovid why he had received such a harsh punishment? Reb Dovid answered, in reality I would not be allowed to tell you this, but my Rebbe Reb Elimelech from Lizensk gave me permission to tell it to you, for your sake. You should know that Yekil the baker is one of the 36 hidden Tzadikim, and when he bakes his bread in Pinsk, the Rebbe Reb Elimelech smells that time the smell of the Lechem Haponim. His Kavonos are so great then. In heaven they were very angry that you hit Yekil with such anger. The only remedy for you is to undertake to help Yekil strengthen the Minyan, and help him build a Shul for the Chassidim and you will be as well. The Rebbe promised he will do everything he can. The Rav of course begged forgiveness from Yekil who forgave the Rav. The Rav had a Refuah Sheleima and his life went back to normal.

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