

בס"ד חג הסוכות תשפ"ב
Sukkos 5782 Vol. 12 No. 55

וְחַג הָאֶסִיף תְּקוּפַת הַשָּׁנָה: שְׁמוֹת פָּרָק ל"ד פכ"ב
And the Festival of the Harvest shall be at the changing
of the year (Shemos 34:22)

וְשִׂמְחַת בְּחַגְדָּךְ ... וְהָיִיתָ אֶדְ שְׂמֵחַ: דְּבָרִים פָּרָק ט"ז
פ"ד - ט"ו

You shall rejoice on your festival... ..and you will be
completely joyous (Devorim 16:14-15)

The Beis Aharon says, it comes out from here
how much we must be happy with the Mitzvos of
Sukkos. In these days when we make the Brochah
Asher Kidishonu BiMitzvosov ViTzivonu, we must
be ultimately filled with joy.

A highpoint of the Yom Tov of Sukkos is to thank
and praise Hashem. Not only for the Mitzvos of
the Yom Tov, rather it is a Chag Ho'osif, a
celebration of the gathering, we have gathered
all our harvest from the field, it is Chag Ho'osif.
Not only do we reflect our joy on thanks for our
mundane harvest that we have assessed, but we
also most surely thank Hashem for the Spiritual
harvest, the Ruchniyus that we have attained the
past year.

More so, we must thank Hashem for all the good
He has bestowed on us. Rav Avrohom Elimelech of
Karlina ZY"A HY"D, wrote in a letter, once the Beis
Aharon said the Brochah of Asher Yotzar in a loud
voice in the tune of Hallel. And the Rebbe
exclaimed, "What do you think Kinderlach, every
Heiliger Vort one must say as one says Hallel."

One may ask, there were so many tragedies this
past year, how can I rejoice? For the reckon of it
did you hear that a bunkhouse in the Catskills
went up in flames and the about 60 campers
escaped, some had to jump from bed to bed as
the floor was burning. All made it out safely
totally unhurt. What about this week (8 Tishrei) in
Lakewood NJ a school bus was involved in a multi-
vehicle accident, leaving the front of the bus
hanging up in the air and all 17 students walked
out without a scratch? So, you're wondering why
you didn't hear about it? Good question, one
answer is, it seems that most news outlets favor
to write more about tragedies than the good we
are getting; is there a Bris, Kiddush, Bar Mitzvah,
Vort, Chasunoh, etc. section in the paper you
read, or only for after 120? Secondly, we must be
optimistic and look for all the good things that do
happen to us and all those around us. Remember,
many people were saved miraculously too.

Rav Nosson Wachtfogel ZY"A, would say that he
who is not involved in the news is protected from
the calamities of the news.

To the slight contrary, I heard that Rav Sheah of
Belz ZY"A told his son Rav Aharon of Belz ZY"A
that he should not be totally oblivious of the
ongoings in the world and be able to
communicate with the needs of the laymen.

To sum this up I would like to relate the
following about my Grandfather Rav Yonah
Ganzweig ZY"A. When it once came to his
knowledge that there was a fire and seven
firemen were killed, he truly was saddened,
seven widows, countless orphans, parents etc. To
the contrary when one was Gebentched (blessed)
with a Simcha, a happy occasion, he would be
happy as if it was his own. We must not become
unemotional.

So as we celebrate the Yom Tov of Sukkos with
happiness, we must thank Hashem for all of the
Brochah He has bestowed us and then as the
Tzadikim ZY"A say, the Possuk is telling us if one
will be happy on Sukkos it is Muvtoch (committed)
that he will be happy a whole year!

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Bezras Hashem there will be Gilyonos for the Second Days of Yom Tov
Ah Guttin Kvittel, Yom Tov, and Shabbos Kodesh
Rabbi Naftali H. Ganzweig