

It was Parshas Vayishlach and the Ponivhzer Rov ZY"A was in Brooklyn, NY for Shabbos. He was given the Aliya of Maftir, which at that Shul it was the Minhog for the Oleh to Lein (read) out loud. When the Rov reached the portion of "Shuvoh Yisroel" which is also Leined in that Haftorah, tears streamed down his eyes. So, if this was his feelings on Parshas Vayishlach, surely on Shabbos Shuvoh we must repent even more so and strive to return to Hashem, His Torah and Mitzvos. The Sefas Emes ZY"A dwells on the point of "Shabbos Shuvoh". Why is the day of Shabbos pointed out specifically more than any of the other ten days of Aseres Yimei Teshuvoh? To this he explains that Shabbos helps one to do Teshuvoh. Therefore, one must strengthen in the Shmiras Shabbos - observance of Shabbos, as this is the first Shabbos of the year. Just as on Rosh Hashonoh we do symbols to start the year off on a positive note, so too we shall strengthen ourselves on this first Shabbos to its complete observance, as so all of the Shabbosim of the year will shine in their full strength.

יְשַׁמְחוּ בְּמַלְכוּתְךָ שׁוֹמְרֵי שַׁבָּת וְקוֹרְאֵי עֲנָג. עִם מְקַדְּשֵׁי שַׁבִּיעֵי. כֻּלָּם יִשְׁבְּעוּ וְיִתְעַנְּגוּ מְטוֹבָךְ. וּבְשַׁבִּיעֵי רְצִיתָ בּוֹ וְקִדְּשָׁתוֹ חֲמִידַת יָמִים אוֹתוֹ קָרָאתָ. זְכֹר לְמַעֲשֵׂה בְּרֵאשִׁית:

Rav Avrohom Elimelech of Karlin ZY"A HY"D expounded on this in three sections. We shall rejoice in Hashem's Kingdom on Shabbos, those who observe it and feast in it. More so those who sanctify it. Nevertheless, all shall be satisfied and have pleasure in it. But all are satisfied and grateful to observe Shabbos. He who observes Shabbos, Shabbos protects him. This is not an insurance; it is an equity.

וילך משה. The Even Ezra expounds, Moshe Rabbeinu went to each and every Shevet (tribe) to tell them that he is departing. They should not be afraid. He strengthened their hearts to the words of his successor Yehoshua (Joshua). When Reb Yisroel Salanter ZY"A, was about to be Nifter (pass away) it is said he was in the company of his Gabbai. He explained to his gabbai that a dead person (R"L) is not a scary thing and he should not fear. From this story we see how Great Tzadikim, even in their most elevated moments, would consider the needs and emotions of their followers and all of Klall Yisroel.

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