

SICHA POEM

PROJECT LIKKUTEI SICHOS | 5783 - YEAR OF HAKHEL



Likkutei Sichos, Vol. 19

Reeh, Sicha 4

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When all the Yidden were living in Eretz Yisrael,
And were able to keep the Mitzvah of Shemita and Yovel,
A Jew who stole and to pay back didn't have the ability,
Was sold by the Beis Din to be a slave temporarily.

In the year of Shemita or Yovel they were set free,
But they didn't leave with their hands empty,
Because in Parshas Reah we learn in the Torah,
About the Mitzvah of Hanaka.

Hanaka means that before the slave does depart,
The employer should give him gifts out of the kindness of his heart,
The gifts are not connected to the money that the employer paid the Beis Din,
They are bonus gifts for the employer to show the slave his appreciation.

Although today there is no more slavery,
The lesson is clear for you and me,
After paying workers that we hire to get jobs done,
We should give them additional gifts to say thanks a ton!

The Rebbe's father says that a slave and his master do compare,
To a teacher and student so dear,
From the Mitzvah of Hanaka,
We learn how a teacher should teach Torah.

The teacher shouldn't be satisfied with giving,
An education that is outstanding,
But rather bonus gifts the teacher should be showering,
To lift the students to the teacher's level of understanding.

The same thing applies in every situation,
When we meet a fellow Jew with very little Jewish education,
We can't just teach them what they don't know,
But our aim should be to elevate them to our own level so that they can truly grow!

When we act in this way we will merit the coming of Moshiach speedily,
When from Galus we will all be set free,
Not only will Hashem give us what we deserve for all of our Avodah,
But He will show His appreciation by giving us tons of bonus gifts as our Hanaka!
