

SICHA POEM

PROJECT LIKKUTEI SICHOS | 5783 - YEAR OF HAKHEL



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Lag B'omer

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Lag Baomer is a special day,
Because Rabbi Akiva's students stopped passing away.
Rabbi Simon Bar Yochai was one of students five,
Who remained alive.

Another reason for celebrating,
Is because Lag Baomer is the day of the Rashbi's passing.
How can we celebrate two opposite things at the same time?
What is life for a Tzaddik we must first define.

A life worth living,
Is a life of doing Mitzvos and Torah learning,
So when a Tzaddik passes away he completes his mission,
In an open away his Avodah shines because of its perfection.

The Rashbi's mission,
Was the opposite of Rabbi Akiva's 24,000 Talmidim.
It was the Rashbi's Avodah that stopped the students from dying,
Therefore for his passing Lag Baomer is the day that is most fitting.

"Love your fellow as yourself," is the teaching of Rabbi Akiva,
But each of his students had a particular way of understanding the Torah.
They tried to influence their friends to serve Hashem in their way,
But when it didn't work, they didn't treat one another respectfully, our Sages say.

In their Avodah why were the students fixed so firmly,
 Why did they reject the possibility,
 That another approach might be proper?
 This was rooted in Rabbi Akiva's character.

Rabbi Akiva told his students that for his entire life he waited for the opportunity,
 To give up his life with Mesiras Nefesh, in actuality.
 Mesiras Nefesh permeates a person's entire being,
 It doesn't leave room for any other Avodah or feeling.

Although the Avodah of Mesiras Nefesh is so great,
 It only brings a person to a "ratzo"/desire state.
 They wanted to leave the world and reach higher,
 But to bring holiness down here is what Hashem does desire.

Their souls did depart,
 Because each student couldn't respect another with all his heart.
 Only the five students that did remain, upheld Torah,
 They understood that "shuv"/return, is the Avodah.

These five disciples had Mesiras Nefesh too,
 But their Mesiras Nefesh was perfect because they knew,
 That when Rabbi Akiva desired to cleave to Hashem he went in, in a peaceful manner,
 With the intention of returning to this world with more fuel and vitality at a later hour.

The students of Rabbi Akiva,
 Passed away specifically during Sefira,
 Which is mainly in Iyar which represents Gevurah,
 Because elevating from below to above was their Avodah.

Since Lag Baomer falls out on the 18th of Iyar it is clear,
 That Lag Baomer comes to bring energy and cheer,
 So that not only can we rise up and get an elevation,
 But this physical world we can enliven.

We see this Avodah in the Rashbi's life openly,
 For 13 years he hid in a cave and was only able to serve Hashem spiritually,
 But when he left the cave, any place stricken by Rabbi Elazar he did heal,
 The greatest secrets of Torah in this world he did reveal.
