

SICHA POEM

PROJECT LIKKUTEI SICHOS | 5783 - YEAR OF HAKHEL



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Rabbi Meir describes a person who learns for the sake of Torah only,
And doesn't think about what he can gain personally,
He puts in effort and toil in his study,
Like a businessman who thinks about his business constantly.

Rabbi Meir does say,
That many merits will come his way,
Disturbances and obstacles Hashem will take away,
And the world will assist him so that he can focus on his learning all day.

But in the list there are many things that don't fit into the category,
Of helping him study practically.
For example, "He loves Hashem, he loves His created beings,
It keeps him far from sin and he can forgive for insulted feelings.

With humility and fear of Hashem, the Torah garbs him,
People benefit from his counsel and wisdom..."
The explanation for all these things that Rabbi Meir does mention,
Is to answer the question of one who learns for the sake of Torah with no other intention.

Since he is also obligated to perform acts of kindness for another Jew,
And he must work on refining his character too,
If he directs all his time to learning Torah for no ulterior motive indeed,
Then in all other areas of serving Hashem how will he succeed?

Therefore Rabbi Meir chooses the word "merit" carefully,
The list is an addition to the reward for Torah Lishma that one does study,

The reward is a connection to Hashem without a doubt,
While in all other areas of serving Hashem, the list of merits will help him out!

Things that are out of his realm totally,
Like interacting with people socially,
And giving them worldly advice that will make them happy,
He will receive it as a merit automatically!

But things like the ability to forgive, stay away from sin, fear and humility,
He will get a head start and help from above partially,
Although work to internalize it will still be necessary,
It will be much easier to attain so that to study Torah Lishma he will be free!

Rabbi Meir's advice is unique,
For any person that may mistakenly think,
That someone who learns Torah for its own sake doesn't have a clue,
About worldly matters and therefore he can't give advice about what to do.

But since from the strength of Torah his advice does come,
The opposite is true, he has the best advice for everyone,
Since he learns Torah for its own sake he does merit,
That from his counsel and wisdom people will benefit!

This level of occupying oneself with Torah for its own sake constantly,
Is not attainable for everybody,
But at least when Torah learning we begin,
To learn Torah for its own sake should be the intention and foundation!

Because Hashem's Torah is infinite,
So the only way that we can possibly grasp it,
Is by making ourselves into a fitting vessel,
By experiencing and expressing our Bittul.

Just like the Yidden who stood at Har Sinai,
First "we will do, then we will understand" we cry,
Our selfish motives we will put away,
So that we can be prepared to accept the Torah on Shavuos day!
