

SICHA POEM

PROJECT LIKKUTEI SICHOS | 5783 - YEAR OF HAKHEL



Likkutei Sichos, Vol. 19

Chof Av

— By Mrs. Chanie Gourarie, Chabad Toms River

After 70 years of Galus to the Beis Hamikdash the Yidden did return,
To bring Korbanos again, the Yidden did yearn, but there was no firewood to burn,
There were 9 families who saw that the need was great,
So on 9 different dates, the wood they did donate.

As a reward for their donation,
The Chachomim set aside those 9 days for them to have a celebration,
On the dates that they had brought the wood then,
Every year they had the privilege of bringing wood again.

To show their gratitude they also brought a Korban of thanksgiving with love,
Two of the families brought their wood on the 15th and 20th of Av,
It was just 5 days apart,
So the first family celebrated until the next family's date did start.

In the Mishna there is a discussion about what should be done,
If one of those dates fell out on Shabbos, when one can't bring a personal Korban,
The Mishna says that the Korban would not be brought early, on Friday,
But rather until after Shabbos, the wood Korban, the family would delay.

This situation is different than the rest,
Because usually we try our best,
To do a Mitzvah at the first opportunity,
Since Tzedaka can't be given on Shabbos, we give it a day early.

Delaying the wood offering is unique, it's true,
 Because it isn't right to take away a celebration from another Jew,
 If the wood offering would be brought early,
 It would take away a few hours of the celebration of the previous family.

The feelings of others, the families understood,
 And therefore from the beginning, they had in mind, that for the Korban of wood,
 A new family's turn wouldn't begin on their date if on Shabbos it fell out,
 They would wait until after Shabbos, without a doubt!

The lesson is clear,
 About another's feelings we must care,
 We can't just think about getting a Mitzvah done,
 We must be sensitive to everyone.

There is a story about the Shabbos of Rabbi Lau's Bar Mitzvah,
 The Shul was packed, because everyone wanted to hear him read the Torah,
 They wanted to show their love and care because he was a Holocaust survivor,
 His entire family was killed besides for one brother.

The problem was that the regular Ba'al Korah wasn't aware,
 That the Kriah, the Bar Mitzvah boy did prepare,
 The usual Ba'al Korah prepared the Kriah too, and wanted a little fame,
 He didn't want to give up reading the Torah, on a week that everyone came.

On Rabbi Lau's Bar Mitzvah day, the first Mitzvah that he did,
 Was not to step on another's toes and to care about the feelings of another Yid,
 "Please allow the regular Ba'al Koreh to read," he told the Gabbai,
 He had many other opportunities to be heard because he was Israel's chief Rabbi!
