

SICHA POEM

PROJECT LIKKUTEI SICHOS | 5783 - YEAR OF HAKHEL



Likkutei Sichos, Vol. 20

Vayetze, Sicha 1

— By Mrs. Chanie Gourarie, Chabad Toms River

In Parshas Vayeitzei it says "Yaakov lay down to sleep in that place,"
But in Lavan's house, where the challenge of Galus he did face,
To survive his plight, Yaakov did not lie down to sleep at night,
Instead, the 15 Shir HaMaalos or the entire Tehillim he did recite.

The 15 Shir HaMaalos relate,
To our 3 Avos so great,
Who lived on this earth for 15 years together,
Because their lives overlapped with each other.

Avraham was 100 when he gave birth to Yitzchak miraculously.
When Eisav and Yaakov were born, Avraham was 160,
Avraham lived to be 175,
For 15 years they were all alive.

Yaakov kept reciting the 15 Shir HaMaalos because he knew,
That the only way he could survive in Lavan's house as a Jew,
Is if in addition to his own strengths and merits he also drew,
Upon the strengths and merits of Avraham and Yitzchak Avinu.

The reason that this was necessary,
We can understand by considering the strategy,
That was used in the days of the Alter Rebbe to win a 7 year war,
And we can learn from it for how to win our Yetzer Horas for sure!

The way that wars were fought way back in history,
 Was that each army was divided into camps three,
 Center, right and left were the positions taken,
 The opposing side did the same and then the battle would begin.

Frederick the Great did something new,
 To trick the enemy he placed some soldiers in their view,
 The enemy lined up in a straight row to fight back,
 But against one camp at a time, Frederick the Great, sent his entire army to attack.

Since the enemy's army stretched for miles and there was no communication,
 It wasn't possible for the huge army to suddenly change direction,
 Although soldiers they had so many,
 They were confused and lost terribly.

When our Yetzer Hora we need to fight,
 The 3 holy emotions that represent our Avos, unite,
 Love, fear and compassion, we use all the powers of Kedusha,
 To win over one part at a time of the Kelipa.

Instead of fighting against evil according to the Mussar way,
 And becoming experts in figuring out what caused us to stray,
 We use the Chassidus approach to make the entire person as strong as can be,
 We think about the greatness of Hashem, and the evil falls away automatically.

The 15 Shir HaMaalos, Yaakov did sing,
 Although he was in exile, a place of pain and suffering,
 Because the reason for the descent of the Neshama into exile he did see,
 The goal is to reach an ascent that is as high as could be.
