

Likkutei Sichos 17, Sicha Shabbas Hagadol

Sicha Summary

By Yossi Deitsch and Nosson Gourarie

Shabbos Hagadol

This week is Shabbos Hagadol. We call it Shabbos Hagadol because there was a “Nes Gadol” (great miracle) that is connected to this Shabbos.

The Nes was that the Yidden took a sheep that they would use for the Korban Pesach. When the Mitzriyim asked, “What are you doing with the sheep?” The Yidden answered, “We are going to slaughter them as a Korban To Hashem, then all the firstborns are going to die.” When the Mitzriyim first-borns heard this, a great war broke out between them and the leaders of Mitzraim..

The Questions

The Rebbe brings two questions:

- 1: What is this “Nes Gadol”? What is so Great about this Nes
- 2: How is this “Nes Gadol” connected to Shabbos?

What is Shabbos?

So first we need to understand the deeper layer of what Shabbos is all about.

There are 2 ways to get rid of something bad. One is called **Iskafya** - to break the bad, or to destroy it. The other is called **Is'hapcha** - when you change and transform the bad and make it into something good.

For example, we know that When Mashiach comes, a lot of things will be different. There is a Machlokes in Gemara about one of the changes that will happen in the times of Mashiach. R' Yehuda says there won't be any more bad and dangerous animals. R'

Shimon says the bad animals will change their nature and become good. This is an example of what we are saying. R' Yehuda is talking about Iskafya, and R' Shimon is talking about Is'hapcha.

Shabbos represents "**Is'hapcha**", uplifting and transforming Kelipa and the evil of the world.

Normally our first reaction to kelipa and evil is "Iskafia", to destroy it. But shabbos is different, we have the power to elevate and transform the bad.

The Answers

Now we can understand the answers to our questions.

1: The Nes Gadol. The firstborns of Mitzraim represent the worst of the Kelipa, and the fact that they were transformed to fight for the Yidden - **Is'hapcha** - is a great Nes.

2: The connection to Shabbos. As we explained, Shabbos is the idea of Is'hapcha - and this is what powered the Nes of the war.