

SICHA POEM

PROJECT LIKKUTEI SICHOS | 5783 - YEAR OF HAKHEL



Likkutei Sichos, Vol. 24

Nitzavim

— By Rabbi Mottel Friedman, Coral Springs, FL

“You are all standing this day before your Hashem...
That you may enter the covenant of Hashem...
Which Hashem is making with you this day in admiration...
In order to establish you this day as His nation...”

Right before his passing, Moshe gathered the Jewish men
To initiate a new covenant between them and Hashem
The Rebbe shows the deep meaning of Rashi’s explanation
As to why this Bris will "establish you this day as His nation”

We already made a covenant to be Hashem’s at Har Sinai long ago
What does this new covenant do and what does it show?
Rashi tells us that it’s not “establishing” a bond but rather “keeping” Bnei Yisroel
Confirming that the Bris made back then would remain and not fail

But why would this covenant be stronger than the one before?
Rashi says Hashem expended extra effort the bris to ensure
At a proper covenant there’s a special area where the parties “pass through”
Which signifies commitment and this the Yidden and Hashem did do

Hashem did something additional to strengthen the bris
He attached His curses to it, adding to its seriousness
How is the result of this intensified covenant seen?
What does its added seriousness mean?

The pasuk says Hashem did this “to keep you as His nation”
But Rashi adds “before Him” which has added implication:
We can be Hashem’s people yet be distant just the same
The new covenant means we’re present, in Hashem’s domain
