

ONE POINT

from

לקוטי שיחות חלק יז, שיחה ג לפרשת חוקת

~ In memory of Rebbetzin Chave Hecht ז"ל אלימלך ז"ל ~

Use these words to fill in the blanks:*** clouds * honor * needed * water *****IN THE PARSHA:**

When מרים passed away, the _____ stopped flowing from the rock, and משה רבנו brought it back. It remained with the Jewish people until his passing.

When אהרן passed away, some of the _____ that accompanied the Jewish people departed. Yet, we do not learn in חומש or רש"י that משה brought those clouds back.

QUESTION:

Why did the water return in the זכות of משה, but the ענני הכבוד did not?

ANSWER:

As a faithful shepherd of the Jewish people, משה always made sure to provide them with whatever they **needed**, **when** they needed it. Therefore,

- When מרים passed away, and the Jewish people still needed water, משה made sure they had it.
- When אהרן passed away, the only clouds that departed were **ענני הכבוד**, clouds that brought _____ to the Jewish people. It wasn't something they _____, so משה didn't bring them back. (The clouds that protected them never departed in the first place).
- When משה passed away, the מן stopped coming down from heaven. Since the Jewish people still needed it, their last portion of מן sufficed them until they entered ארץ ישראל, more than a month later (and according to one opinion, they ate of this מן fourteen years after משה's passing)!

In every generation, the נשיא provides whatever the Jewish people need, even after his passing.

Further discussion:

- How is this connected with י"ב-י"ג תמוז which is always celebrated close to פרשת חוקת (See שיחה ג אות ט in the ש"ח)