

# SICHA STORY

PROJECT LIKKUTEI SICHOS | 5783 - YEAR OF HAKHEL



*Likkutei Sichos, Volume 20*

## Vayechi, Sicha 1 (Second Sicha of the week)

- Rabbi Yossi Nemes, Metairie, Louisiana

*The Sicha explains the idea that Yaakov wished to reveal the ketz, the end of times, but the Shechinah departed from him. At the end of the Sicha the Rebbe mentions that Gedolei Yisroel did reveal Kitzim. Here is some basic info about two of the well-known years of Ketz, shared by the Chabad Rabbeim and a story with my chaver Meir Shloma Junik.*

### The year 5608 (1847-1848):

The Alter Rebbe in a mamor shared this Ketz. It is mentioned many times by the Rabbeim.

*Likkutei Sichos, Vol. XIV, p. 429:* The Tzemach Tzedek was asked by his son, the future Rebbe Maharash, why Mashiach had not appeared in the year 5608, which had been predicted as a keitz, a time particularly propitious for Moshaiach's coming.

The Tzemach Tzedek replied: "But this year we merited the publication of Likkutei Torah!"

The Rebbe Maharash objected: "But we need Mashiach down here in our world, 'lower than ten tefachim!'

On this exchange the Rebbe commented: "It is certain that the Tzemach Tzedek likewise knew that Mashiach is needed plainly and tangibly -- but he wanted to hear this articulated, as a demand, from someone who was not then at the level of a nasi but who spoke as a mekabel.

### The year 5666 (1905-1906):

*The Rebbe in Reshimas Hayoman, page 331:* Elul 5665, the Frierdiker Rebbe was with the Rebbe Rashab in Dache. "One day I noticed my father crying profusely, though my father did not like a state of Mara Shechora (melancholy). I tried to cheer my father but could not."

My father told me then: Our upcoming year, 5666, has a Ketz associated with it and we are also finishing a leap year [both things that caused the Rebbe Rashab to worry]. He later added – If I could only have a Minyan fast this Rosh Hashana Moshiach is Among us!

The Rebbe in the Sicha of Achron Shel Pesach, 5730: As it is known, Rabbi Shalom DovBer associated his discourses of this year (5666—1905-6) with the predictions of the ketz found in several works in reference to that year (and also with the fact that at that time there were pogroms in Russia, and that it was the year after a leap year).

Footnote 39 of the above Sicha: It can be said that this was the reason he instituted the drinking of the Four Cups on the last day of Passover in that year (Hayom Yom, p. 47)—because the last day of Passover, and its central meaning, is associated with the future Redemption, as indicated in the content of the Haftarah.

One can suggest a special association to wine, because wine stands for “revelation of the concealed.” At first, the liquid was concealed within the grapes, and afterward it comes out. Hence, it affects the revelation of the hidden, as it is written (Judges 9:13), “It gladdens G d and men,” since it reveals the concealed states of G d and men (Likkutei Torah, Drushim L’sukkot 79d)

### Moshiach is Among us!

Mrs. Fruma Junik shared: During the Seforim trial my son Meir Shloma told the Rebbetzin, “Halevai Moshiach should already come and relieve us of all the Tzros.” The Rebbetzin responded, “Moshiach is among us, he just has to be recognized!”. MSJ: “Moshiach is in your house tell him to reveal himself!” Rebbetzin: You should share it directly; it might be more effective!”.

During Hakafos Meir Shloma approached the Rebbe and said I have a story about Moshiach and the Rebbetzin, the Rebbe leaned over to listen to what I had to say but suddenly I blanked and could not speak. The Rebbe noticed this and said, “It is better you should say L’chaim and sing a Frelicher Niggun!”

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