

SICHA POEM

PROJECT LIKKUTEI SICHOS | 5783 - YEAR OF HAKHEL



Likkutei Sichos, Vol. 16

Vaera, Sicha 5

— By Mrs. Chanie Gourarie, Chabad Toms River

There is a debate between Rabbi Eliezer and Rabbi Akiva,
About how many plagues were included in each Maka.
Rabbi Eliezer holds that each plague included four,
While Rabbi Akiva holds that each plague included five for sure.

The debate does relate,
To how far the impurity of Mitzrayim did penetrate,
Rabbi Eliezer says that the evil penetrated into the elements four,
While Rabbi Akiva holds that the evil also penetrated into every object's core.

Every object has a unique form it is true,
But beneath the surface there are four elements that are hidden from view,
They are fire, wind, earth and water,
Their essence is a fifth level that is even deeper.

The goal of the plagues was to break the evil completely,
And every year on Pesach, from the Torah, it is mandatory
To stay away from Chametz totally,
Because it represents the Egyptian impurity.

We are forbidden to eat it, when on the surface it looks great,
We are forbidden to derive benefit from it, even in a raw state,
We are forbidden to own it or have it in our possession,
Because to the core is the reach of the Chametz infection.

The debate between Rabbi Eliezer and Rabbi Akiva,
 Go hand in hand with another debate between Chachomim and Rabbi Yehuda,
 In regards to what should be done,
 If Chametz is found once Pesach has begun.

With Rabbi Eliezer the Chachomim agree,
 Since they hold that evil penetrates as deep as the elements only,
 To destroy Chametz on Pesach totally isn't necessary,
 It's enough to crumble it up and throw it to the wind or into the sea.

On the other hand, with Rabbi Akiva, Rabbi Yehuda does agree,
 Since they hold that the evil penetrates to the core of every entity,
 Chametz found on Pesach must be destroyed through burning,
 We must completely destroy its very essence and being.

This applies to you and me,
 Because we all must leave out personal Egypts daily.
 Mitzrayim comes from the word Maytzar which means a limitation or boundary,
 From which we must set ourselves free.

Every Jew who is alive,
 Has 10 powers which are divided into categories of four or five.
 Within each category we can display,
 Going out of our boundaries and limitations every day.

Our first mission,
 Is to go out of our limitations in thought, speech and action.
 Our second goal is to go beyond the limitations of our emotions,
 And not be affected by other people's reactions.

The third level that we find,
 Is to go beyond the limitations of what makes sense to the mind.
 We go beyond the fourth boundary,
 When to have Mesiras Nefesh we are ready!

The fifth boundary to break through,
 Touches the core of every Jew,
 It is when we realize that it's not about me,
 We let go of our ego and identity.

Rabbi Eiezer who came from Tzadikim,
Felt that the core of Yidden is always in a state of perfection,
While Rabbi Akiva who came from Geirim,
Felt that even at our core we need rectification.

The lesson for you and me is that we can't relax or sleep,
Just like our IDF soldiers are fighting Hamas in underground tunnels so deep,
We must break all of our boundaries and fight our personal evil to our core,
Until the coming of Moshiach when there won't be evil anymore.
