

SICHA POEM

PROJECT LIKKUTEI SICHOS | 5783 - YEAR OF HAKHEL



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Shoftim, Sicha 1

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In Parshas Shoftim we read in the Torah,
About the special Mitzvah,
Of appointing a Jewish king,
When in Eretz Yisrael the Yidden were all living.

But when the Yidden did ask,
Shmuel Hanavi to do the task,
Of appointing a king for them,
Shmuel Hanavi was upset and so was Hashem.

Why was Shmuel Hanavi and Hashem upset we need to understand,
Since appointing a king was Hashem's command,
And if asking for a king was the wrong thing,
Then why did Hashem tell Shmuel Hanavi to appoint a king?

There are two reasons that a king is necessary,
Firstly, to make sure that the people behave properly,
Their fear and awe of the king's power,
Makes them follow law and order.

But when the people, on their own, have self control,
The king has a higher role,
A greater connection to Hashem, he helps the Yidden gain,
One that on their own they could never attain.

The Yidden asked for a king so that they could be,
 Like all the other nations that they did see,
 They needed a king for order and law,
 Because on their own they didn't have enough fear and awe.

To make their request, the Yidden couldn't wait,
 Until they would leave their low state,
 So although Hashem expected them to act better than the rest,
 He immediately granted their request.

Hashem did desire,
 That the Yidden should request a king for a reason higher,
 But he gave them a king at that time,
 So that with the king's help, higher they could eventually climb.

We don't have Jewish kings anymore, it's true,
 But there is a lesson for me and you,
 We can't rely on ourselves to make big or small decisions that are right,
 We need to make for ourselves a Rav, to guide us through this dark Galus night.

Even if we haven't reached a level that is higher,
 We must find a Mashpia to instill in our lives, law and order,
 When we listen to the guidance of a Mashpia we will merit speedily,
 The coming of Moshiach, our teacher and king, he will surely be!
