מאת הגאון מו״ר הרב ברוך הירשפתד שליט״א, דעשנים שליט״א, דעשנים שליט״א, דעשנים שליט״א, דעשנים אינטיט דעשנים אינטי

sometimes mean not pouring large amounts of food or liquid down the drain. If there was a backup, it would not make the other sink treif because it is usually not hot anymore and has become inedible from being in the pipes. One should wash off the backup residue with cold water and detergent. Also, if one washes with gloves, he or she should have separate sets of gloves. Regarding dish towels, since they are often used for wiping down counters and handling hot pots, it is advisable to have separate dish towels. It is also advisable to have separate detergent containers. Note: Cold water referred to above and later on as well, includes warm water that is not yad soledes bo - meaning that it is cool enough for one to keep his hand there comfortably for a long period of time.

One Sink. If one is not able to have two sinks, the sink itself should be considered *treif* unless he always washes with cold water and has no other hot water usage, such as pouring hot soup, etc. In regular situations, the sink should be considered treif, necessitating one to keep separate washing basins, or at least separate washing racks, and clean out the sink (with cold water and detergent) at the end of using one type. The Minchas Yitzchok (2) prefers having both, a basin and a rack for each type. Drain Backups, Gloves and Dishtowels. One should try to Regarding the faucet, one should do as mentioned above in the make sure there are no backups between the two sinks, which can first paragraph - by the case of one faucet over two sinks.

Kashrus in the Kitchen (25). Separation of Meat and Dairy. Separating Meat & Dairy. Separate Sinks. The ideal setup for a Jewish home is to have two separate sinks, each with its own faucet, far enough apart that they don't splash into each other during washing. If they cannot be separate, one can ask a handyman to put up a barrier between the sinks, or to have a cover system which enables one to cover one sink while the other is being used. In some places, they have one faucet which is higher than the barrier and can swing over both sinks.

Whenever there is one faucet, one should not hold steaming pots under it. Also, one should not touch the faucet when positioning it with greasy hands from meat or milk, and if it was touched with greasy hands it should be washed off with cold water and detergent. Of course, one must also have separate sponges and steel wool for each type. When one washes *parve* dishes in any of these sinks, he has two possible options: 1) He can wash them holding them in the air with cold water.

2) He can clean out the sink and then wash in the clean sink.

based on a combination of factors, see Pesakim Utshuvos (1). He must have a separate sponge or paper towel for the *parve*.

בין הריחיים – תבלין מדף היומי – מגילה דף כח.

- The *Gemāra* adds that one may not use a Shul as a shortcut [קפנדריא]. The *Gemāra* adds that one may not enter a shul for protection from the rain or sun. The Gemara relates that ביא א ר אדא were talking in learning with ארבא & it started to rain heavily, so they entered a shul & continued their discussion. They explained that since they were talking in learning & needed a clear mind. they couldn't be distracted by the rain, so they went into the shul. Our Gemara asks, what should one do if he needs to call someone out of shul? Since it is assur to enter shul (תפילה ולימוד), how can one call someone out? The Gemara answers, if he knows how to learn. he should learn a bit (before calling him out). If he doesn't know how to learn, he should recite a posuk. If he can't do that, he should just remain in shul a bit, because just being in shul is a mitzvah as it savs. אשרי יושבי ביתד. The וקנא, ב'ו שער הציון makes a distinction between entering a shul for protection from rain & entering just to call out a friend (שלא לדבר מצוה). Although when entering to call out a friend, one may recite a posuk, if one enters for protection from the rain, reciting a posuk or learning, will not make entering permissible. He brings a proof from the above story of the Amoraim. Why did they have to explain themselves? Didn't they continue learning inside? We see that learning, even inside is not a heter.

The באור הלכה says that if one utilizes a shul as a shortcut, if he recites a posuk while inside, it is ok. This is different than entering for protection where he says in שער הציון that a posuk won't help, yet by entering shul as a shortcut, saying a posuk does help. וצ"ב מה החילוק The דא ערוד השולחן paskens that reciting a posuk will help even when entering shul because of rain. The ב"ח ארוד השולחן says that when we say one must at least remain in shul a little because of "אשרי יושבי ביתד". the posuk should not be taken literally & he need not sit, but may stand. ר אלעזר בן שמוע says he attributes his long life to the fact that he never used the ביהמידי as a הפנדריא . The רי אלעזר בן שמוע isn't talking about when it was assur to do, but even if he had a heter. We see from here that being מקפיד on never using shul as a shortcut, is a איסור קפנדריא brings from איסור משה זצ"ל, that the איסור קפנדריא applies even to the עזרת נשים, as well as the shu (1) פסקים ותשובות צה:יז(קסד) (2) מנחת יצחק ב:ק

הוא

R' Avraham Shmuel Binvamin Sofer zt"7 (Ksav Sofer) would sav:

"When the people complained that they had no water in Marah, Hashem showed Moshe Rabbeinu a tree and Moshe threw the tree into the water. Even though the tree's bark was very bitter, the water became sweetened. The Medrash explains that Hashem uses bitter to sweeten bitter. The wood of the tree that sweetened the water was also bitter, but the end result was sweet and drinkable water. So it is with human nature. When a person in a depressed and bitter mood sees someone even worse off than him, he realizes that his life is really not as bad as he thought!"

A Wise Man would say: "Remember to always have patience with all things, But, first of all with yourself."

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שבת קודש פרשת בשלח – שבת שירה – י״ג שבט תשפ״ב Parshas Beshalach - January 15, 2022

הדלקת נרות שבת – 4:33 | זמן קריאת שמע / מ״א – 9:07 | זמן קריאת שמע / הגר״א – 9:43 | סוף זמן תפילה / הגר״א – 10:30 זמו לתפילת מנחה גדולה – 12:36 | שקיעת החמה שבת קודש – 15:34 | מוצש״ק צאת הכוכבים – 5:43 | צאה״כ/ לרבינו תם – 6:05

> כואת הגה"צ רבי גמליאל הכהן רבינוביץ **J**ID שליט"א, ר"י שער השמים ירושלים עיה"ק

להחביא את עצמה בתור סלעים עמוקים. ולראבונה מצאה שם נחש נושר. שכל מה שרק תרצה לעשות תהיה ברשות מבקשי רעתה, וכך ישראל היו נתונים בין מצרים לגבולי הים. ולולא יד ההשגחה לא ראו פתח לישוצתם. וכשזכו בה הכירו כי הכל בידי שמים ואיז בשום כח לעשות דבר מבלעדו.

ועל פי האמור נבין כוונת הקב״ה באמרו למשה, ״מה תצעק אלי דבר אל בני ישראל ויסעו" (יד. טו) ופרש"י: למדנו שהיה משה צומד ומתפלל, א"ל הקב"ה לא עת עתה להאריך בתפילה שישראל נתונין בצרה. ולכאורה מה היה לו למשה לעשות בשעה כזאת. אם לא לזעוק על ישועת ישראל? וכז יל״ע מה שהקרים משה ואמר לישראל. (יד. יד) ה' ילחם לכם ואתם תחרישוז. והרי הקב"ה מתאוה תמיד

שישראל יתפללו אליו. ומה נשתנה כאן שמשה מנע אותם מלהתחנן על נפשם? אכז יש לומר. כי מאחר ורצה הקב״ה להשריש האמונה בלב ישראל ע״י מעשה זה. לא רצה אפ׳ שיתפללו לפניו. כי אילו היו מתפללים לפניו. היו יכולים לטעות שנעשית מצד מה מכח עצמם. ועדייז יש בהם כוח מה שדרכה זוכים הם להצלחה במצשיהם. ורצה הקב״ה להראותם כי אוי שהתפילה מוצלת בכל צת. צם כל זאת היא בגדר כוח סגולי. אך עיקר הכל תלוי ברצונו יתברך, ועל כן מנעם מתפילה, כדי שיראו כי איז כוח אחר מבלעדו. ועל ידי זה יבינו כי גם שאר הצלחותיהם הוא בסיעתא דשמיא. ומבלעדי רצוז השם וסיועו איז בכוח שאר הסיבות להטיב עימהם. ואיז בכוונתינו לומר על דור המדבר שהיו דור דיעה שלקויים היו באמונתם. ונמשכו אחר חזיונות חיצוניים הס ושלום. אלא כידוע הוא שהתורה היא נצחית. וליכא מידי דלא רמיזא באורייתא, ושייך לומר שענין זה נרמז באלו המקראות לצורר הדורות הבאים. יעזור השי"ת שנוכל להחדיר בלבינו האמונה החזקה. שאיז שום דבר תלוי בכוח אנושי. והכל תלוי בידי שמים.

שהשי״ת יהיה עמנו גם כשנוהג בדרכי הטבע. והגם שאיז כל הניסים גוליים נעשים לעינינו. ובשביל חסרו אמונה זה. שהיתה הסיבה שעמלק בא עליהם במלחמה. שידוע כל השורש הטומאה של עמלק היינו שהם מכחישים שורש האמונה ואומרים שכל העולם נוהג רק "במקרה" - ואינו העולם נוהג לגמרי בהשגחת השי״ת. ומי שמאמיז בכפירה זה. זהו סיבה שיבאו עליו צרות. שכל הפורש האמונה שלימה בהשי״ת. השי״ת נהוג עמו במדה כנגד מדה. וזהו סיבה שיבאו עליו צרות. וצל דרך זה ביאור הרמב"ם (מורה נבוכים ח"ג פרק ל"ו) כוונת הקרא (ויקרא כו. כא): ״ואם תלכו עמי קרי וגו״. וז״ל, ״ר״ל שאני כשאביא לכם אלו הצרות לענוש אתכם אם תחשבו בהם שהם מקרה, אוסיף לכם מן המקרה ההוא כפי מחשבתכם יותר חזק ויותר קשה, והוא ענין אמרו והלכתם עמי בקרי והלכתי אף אני עמכם בחמת קרי. כי האמינם שהוא במקרה ממה שמחייב התמדתם על דעותם הרעות ועל מעשה העול ולא ישובו מהם וכו״, עכ״ל. כלומר. כשצרות באים על האדם. אם יאמר שהם רק "במקרה" זהו סיבה שהשי"ת יביא עליו עוד צרות יותר קשה.

וזהו שורש של העמלק. שרוצים להכחיש האמונה בהשי״ת. ותולה כל מה שנעשה בעולם בהנהגת הטבע. הוא כולו ״מקרה״ ואינו הנהגת השי״ת. והעבודה מוטלת עלינו להתחזק באמונה שלימה בהשי״ת. ולהאמיז שהוא ית׳ מנהיג כל הבריאה. ואינו ״מקרה״ חלילה.

ויהי בשלח פרעה את העם ... (יג-יז) - הכל בידי שמים נה מדרך העולם כשהאדם זוכה לסייעתא דשמיא, ומצליח במעשי ידיו, אז תולה $\overline{\Pi}$ הצלחותיו בסיבות שונות התלויים בו. וחושב שהוא זה שהשכיל לעשות פעולה זו וזו. הוא זה שהמליץ לגמור העסק המניב פירות. הכל תולה בעצמו. ואף שמאמיז שהקב״ה הוא שנתן בו החכמה והיכולת לעשות חיל בעסקיו, מכל מקום מייחס את ההצלחה לעצמו. אר כשחס ושלום נמצא במצוקה, אז נזכר כי הכל הוא מז השמים. ואז מכיר שאיז הישועה תלוי בעצמו, ומתפלל אל בוראו מעומק הלב.

וזה העניז נרמז בפרשתז. דהנה מיד אחר יציאת מצרים כתיב ויהי בשלח 'פרעה' את העם. והלוא פלא הדבר. שהרי הדברים מפורשים בתורה. שפרעה הכביד את לבו. ואף שהפליא בו השי״ת את מכותיו. עם כל זה לא נכנע עד אחר מכת בכורות. ואז מפני שחשש לגורל חייו. הוכרח להוציאם שלא מרצונו. וראו במוחש כי איז זה מצד פרעה. כי אם יד השי״ת. ואם כל זאת אחר יציאת מצרים מייחסים היציאה לפרעה. אר הו מדרכי בני אדם. כשנוחלים הצלחה אינם מתבוננים ביד ההשגחה שהנחה אותו לזה הצלחה, אלא בהשקפה חיצונית תולה הרברים בסיבות חיצוניים הנראים לעיו.

ולזה הוצרכו בני ישראל לעבור את הקושי של קריעת ים סוף ששוב יראו שלא זיתה היציאה תלויה ברצונו של פרעה. ויכירו כי רק מאת ה' היתה זאת .וכמו זשידד עתה מערכות הטבע, כך פעל כל הפלאות במצרים. והיו ישראל באותה שעה במצוקה גדולה. ולא היה להם שום פתח להימלט ולהינצל ולקוות כי אם לישועת ה'. כדאיתא במדרש על הכתוב (שיר השירים ב. יד) יונתי בחגוי הסלע. שישראל היו דומים באותה שעה ליונה שהבחינה בבעל חי החפיצה לטורפה. ורצתה

ליסודים סטינת הרב אברהם דניאל לטודים כאית חרב אברחם דניאל אבעסיין שליטיא, בעמיס שווז אברחם יהרא שם המהום מסה ומריבה על ריב בני ישראל ועל נסתם את ה' לאמר היש ה' בקרבנו אם אין (יז-ז) - בענין שורש הרע של עמלק לרש״י: ״סמר פרשה זו למקרא זה, לומר תמיד אני ביניכם ומזומן לכל צרכיכם, ואתם אומרים היש ה' בקרבנו אם איז. חייכם שהכלב בא ונושר אתכם ואתם צועקים אלי ותדעוז היכז אני. משל לאדם שהרכיב בנו על כתפו ויצא לדרר. היה אותו הבז ואה חפץ ואומר, אבא טול חפץ זה ותן לי, והוא נותן לו, וכן שניה וכן שלישית. פגעו באדם א׳, אמר לו אותו הבן ראית את אבא. אמר לו אביו אינך יודע היכן אני, השליכו מעליו ובא הכלב ונשכו". עכ"ל. והק' **הנצי"ב (העמק דבר)** שהלא פלא הוא. איר יסתפק כלל ישראל אם השי״ת בקרבם. הלא הם ראו בעיניהם ניסים גלויים עמוד האש וענז. קריעת ים סוף. כל העשר מכות וכו', א״כ היתכן שיסתפק כלל ישראל אם יש השי״ת בקרבם? ועוד הלא התורה הקרושה כבר מעידה שכלל ישראל האמינו בה' דכתיב יאמינו בה' ובמשה עבדו". א"כ מדוע כאז כלל ישראל שואלים היש ה' בקרבינו?

וביאר הנצי"ב, שאה"נ כלל ישראל ראו שהשי"ת היה בקרבם עד עכשיו, אבל כלל שראל היה מסופק אם השי״ת יהיה עמם רק כשמשה רבינו היה חי וקים עמם. אבל אח"כ כשמשה עדיין אינו חי וקיים עמם, האם השי"ת יהיה עמם. ואנו מחוייבים להאמין

מעשה אבות סימן

יה"ר שבכח סגולת אכילת הפירות ... אשר המה תלוים בם להשפיע עליהן שפע רצון ברכה ונדבה וכו' (תפלת ספר פרי עין הדר לאומרה כמ'ז כשכט) A fascinating story about how one can become enriched from following the *minhag* to eat fruit on *Tu B'Shvat*, was told by an Israeli Jew after a trip he took to France. The man would often fly on business to various cities, and on one occasion, he found himself in Paris in mid-February. He went to *daven* in a nearby synagogue and it was there that he learned that that very day was Tu B'Shvat. He had a flight back to Israel to catch later in the day, so he quickly hurried out to the local fruit market and purchased some fruit to take along on his flight. The fruit seller was a religious Jew and when he noticed the man picking up some of the most exotic and expensive items, he felt compelled to ask. "Tell me, sir, why are you buying so much fruit and such an exotic selection, just to take back to Israel? Aren't there many exotic fruits in the Holy Land?"

The man replied, "Why, today is *Tu B'Shvat* and this is a custom that my family adheres to year after year."

The owner of the fruit market smiled and said, "That is a fine custom, indeed. My family follows it as well. Allow me to tell you a story that took place many years ago with my own ancestor." He brought the man into a back room and rummaged around until he found a certain gadget which he held up in his hand. "Do you see this? This fruit press is how my grandfather became rich!" The traveling Jew knew that a great story was forthcoming and so he waited with anticipation.

"Many years ago, my grandfather was once traveling on business much like you, and he found himself in Moscow on the day of Tu B'Shvat. He, too, wished to buy some fruit for the holiday so he went out and found a local fruit seller. In Moscow, it was guite cold and most of the fruit hadn't even ripened vet but this did not deter my grandfather and he bought a sizable amount of fruit. The merchant was surprised that someone would spend so much money on unripened fruit and couldn't help but inquire about it. My grandfather told him almost the exact words that you just told me. But that merchant wasn't Jewish and could not understand how a person can spend his money on an old custom that had no bearing on his life - especially since the fruit he was buying was barely edible! The Russian merchant picked up a tool - it was this fruit presser to be exact and showed it to my grandfather. 'Do you want to know what I do with my money?' he asked, and lowered his voice surreptitiously. In the next motion, he began to unscrew the bottom of the handle and pulled off the adjoining piece. Then, he poured a handful of gold coins into his hand. 'I hide all my money in this machine. It contains my life savings. But I know it's safe here and it won't be wasted on silly things - or unripened fruit!"

The Parisian fruit seller gazed at the fruit press in his hand fondly and continued to relate his story. "My grandfather always remembered that merchant and the lesson he learned on that day. A Jew uses his money for *mitzvos* - but what does an old Muscovite use his money for? I will tell you." He smiled again as he recalled his grandfather.

"A number of years went by and my grandfather was in Moscow again on business, at the same time of year. He decided to go back to the same shop and buy some more fruit. But this time, as he approached, he saw a crowd of people hanging around and a buzz of activity. He asked someone what was happening and was told that the old Russian merchant had passed on and his two sons were in the process of liquidating the shop. Now is the time for bargains, he was told. So my grandfather pushed to the front where he saw two younger men selling everything in their father's store. 'I am looking for a small fruit press.' he asked the younger men. 'Do you perhaps have one that I can buy?' 'A fruit press?' The son looked around and saw an old rusty press on the table. 'Here, do you want this? It's old and worthless and I have no use for it. Take it for free!' My grandfather smiled inwardly and happily accepted the press. When he got back to his lodgings, he opened it up and found more than just a handful of gold coins! He found a veritable treasure! He took it home and became a very wealthy man."

Pointing to the ancient fruit press, the Parisian market owner concluded, "It has been an accepted custom in our family to indulge in exotic fruit on Tu B'Shvat, for it was this very minhag that made our family rich in the first place!" (TT Moadim Ketanim)

ותשר דבורה וברק בן אבינעם ביום ההוא לאמר ... (שופטים ה-א)

Devorah, and her husband *Barak ben Avinoam*, sang a "Shirah." a song of praise to Hashem celebrating the stunning victory of *Bnei Yisroel* over the powerful Canaanite General, Sisra. This song of praise was similar in scope to the song of praise *Klal Yisroel* sang to *Hashem* at the Yam Suf upon their miraculous salvation from Egypt.

They were both songs; however, by the *Shiras Hayam*, the Torah employs the words את השירה "אז ישיר משה ובני ישראל את הזאת לה", whereas by Devorah's song, the Name of Hashem is missing. What is the difference between the two songs?

R' Meir Simcha of Dvinsk zt"l (Meshech Chochma) explains that singing praise to *Hashem* is no simple matter

תורת הצבי על The *Haftorah* this week details how the great prophetess, and must be done properly. One needs to clear his mind and devote his attention to appropriately sing *Hashem's* praises. After Krias Yam Suf, when the Jewish Nation enjoyed a tremendous salvation from Hashem, they were able to fully focus upon the good that Hashem did for them and praise Him. However, in the aftermath of the battle against Sisra. Barak chose to berate those who did not join *Bnei Yisroel*. He "spoiled the moment" by lashing out in anger, saying, "curse vou bitterly, because you came not to the aid of Hashem. While his point was clear and his intent was admirable, the profound ability to stay focused is not a gift, but a necessity. Because his focus was directed elsewhere, Hashem did not wish to "attach" his name to the battle, and subsequent victory

ויאמר משה אל יהושע בחר לנו אנשים וצא הלחם בעמלק מחר ... (יז-מ)

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FAMILY OF R' CHAIM YOSEF KOFMAN ZT"L I once saw a beautiful *pshat* in the name of one of the previous Gerrer Rebbes *zt*", who said the following: Amalek uses the dubious and devious tactical ability to "cool" a person down. A person may be experiencing a spiritual inspiration; suddenly, along comes Amalek, the Satan, and convinces him to wait until tomorrow. Thus, says the Torah, "אא הלחם בעמלק מחר" - wage war against Amalek's "machar"; his insidious plot to have you delay. Let that inspiration propel you higher right NOW!

Maybe we can add a different approach. In his new *sefer*, **R' Yaakov Bender** *shlit'a* quotes **R' Yitzchok Hutner** *zt''*, that Amalek fights "מדר דר", in other words, Amalek seeks to sever the continuity of Klal Yisroel, to break the mesorah from the older generations to the newer generations. The posuk clearly indicates this motive of Amalek - "זיינב בך כל הנחשלים אחריך" the weak ones. Amalek targets his attacks wisely, not on the strong committed students, but rather preving on the weaker ones I heard from a *Rebbi* of mine, **R' Mordechai Affen** *shlit'a* that the word "עסעול" can also mean a wave (ב"מנט:). The essence of a wave is that is has no self-worth, in and of itself. It is mercilessly pushed to and fro by the prevailing currents, rarely making it to shore. It just "goes with the flow." That type of person is the perfect target for Amalek, A.K.A., the yetzer hara.

Moshe Rabbeinu, the pre-eminent Rebbi of Klal Yisroel, foresaw this attack and declared "צא הלחם בעמלק". Fight ferociously! Protect our youth - our machar - our future! As parents and mechanchim, we cannot stand by and let the weaker ones fall to the wayside! Schools are not and cannot be geared exclusively to the top-tier students. Every child in yeshivah must receive recognition and a healthy dose of TLC as needed. As parents, too, we must appreciate each child and tell him there's so much more to you than just your grades! If we strengthen the weaker ones, we will help ensure our continuity and be zoche be"H to Hashem's kisei (throne) becoming whole with the permanent eradication of our lethal arch-enemy, Amalek. בב"א.

משל למה הדבר דומה ... כל המחלה אשר שמתי במצרים לא אשים עליך כי אני ה' רפאך A Jerusalem woman, the wife of a well-known Talmid Chacham, contracted a devastating disease twenty years ago which attacked her body, leading to many of her bodily systems shutting down. She had been laying in a coma-like state ever since and no medical treatment had been effective.

In the midst of the current pandemic, the woman lying in the hospital bed, who was of course a high-risk patient, somehow contracted Covid-19. Her vitals took a turn for the worse and her situation became dire. When she soon needed to be ventilated, her doctors and even some family members lost all hope that she would survive this ordeal.

But then something shocking occurred. The woman's body somehow successfully fought off the coronavirus. regained consciousness, was weaned from the ventilator and

succeeded in rising from her bed for the first time in 20 years! She had a complete recovery, not only from the coronavirus but also from the disease that had plagued her for 20 years. The stunned doctors ordered a battery of tests which revealed that the coronavirus had taken control of her bodily systems and had "eaten" her previous virus and destroyed it.

The doctors were stunned at the turn of the events and a great *Kiddush Hashem* came from it. The family members felt it was a *mitzvah* to publicize this miraculous story and it was published in a number of Israeli newspapers.

the story may have stunned people but a true G-dfearing נמשל individual recognizes that "אני ה' רפאד" means that Hashem is the One true doctor, who controls the sickness as well as the cure. Nothing is too hard or too impossible when it comes to the workings of the Almighty. This should give each person great *chizuk*, knowing that he is in the hands of *Hashem*.

ויושע ה' ביום ההוא את ישראל מיד מצרים EDITORIAL AND INSIGHTS ON MIDDOS TOVOS FROM וירא ישראל את מצרים מת על שפת הים ... (יד-ל) Imagine the scene. The Jewish people have finally left Egypt amidst wondrous miracles. The ten plagues brought Pharaoh and the *Mitzrivim* to their knees. They actually begged the Jews to go. And then, after 210 years of slave labor, *Hashem* se them free. But suddenly, they arrive at the raging Yam Suf. They cannot proceed. They see the entire Egyptian army behind them. There are animals on both sides waiting to pounce, and above them, they see the angel of Esav looking to destroy them They were completely trapped. Imagine the sheer terror of knowing that there is no way out. They felt doomed

This somehow feels familiar. Look at the world we live in today. Our governments have turned into kindergartens. People are losing their businesses. Millions are sick with all kinds of viruses and flus. Airports are opening and closing and people do not know whom they can trust. The level of morality is low, anti-Semitism is high. We feel like our enemies are coming up behind us, we are surrounded by all kinds of animals dressed up as humans, and the only alternative is to jump into the ocean!

Yes, the world we live in is a scary place but don't we realize that *Hashem* is setting us up! These are not just random occurrences to make us anxious and walk around talking about how this world is such a crazy place. There is a Supervisor in this world who knows exactly what He is doing. He has it all under control. He is setting the stage for us, His beloved people to cry out to Him and say, "We have no one else to turn to but You, Our Father in Heaven!" If this is what happened at the Yam Suf, then this is Hashem talking to us today. This applies to us now as much as it did 3334 years ago when Hashem split the sea for Am Yisroel. We, too, are in a desperate situation and there's nothing we can do. We must know that all we need to do is cry out to Hashem. Pour out our hearts to Him. Tell Him we trust Him; we need Him; we are completely lost without Him.

And tell Him that you believe that He can do anything. Chazal tell us that it was in the merit of the great Jewish women who believed in *Hashem*, that the geulah in Mitzravim took place. May we all be zoche to be the same way in these difficult times.