לעילוי נשמת ר' אברהם יוסף שמואל אלטר בן ר' טובי' ז"ל ורעיתו רישא רחל בת ר' אברהם שלמה ע"ה קורץ

**Monsey Edition** 



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# שבת קודש פרשת נח – ד' מרחשון תשפ"ג Shabbos Parshas Noach - October 29, 2022

10:52 – אמן קריאת שמע / מ"א – 9:26 מן קריאת שמע / מ"א – 9:26 מן קריאת שמע / הגר"א – 10:02 סוף זמן תפילה/הגר"א זמו לתפילת מנחה גדולה - 100 שהיעת החמה שבת קודש - 556 ומוצש"ק צאת הכוכבים - 646 וצאה"כ / לרבינו תם - 7.08

הקב״ה. ואף על הברואים הפחותים ביותר. וכר מסופר: בשנת המבול. שהו כל החיות עם נח בתיבה. עבר העכבר בפני זוג החתולים. ושמע העכבר איר שהחתול אומר לבז זוגו: מקובל אצלי מפי אמי שבשרו של זה המין העובר לפנינו הוא טוב ונחמד מאוד למאכל. והבין העכבר שעליו להימלט תיכף ומיד, אך לא היה לו מקום שיד החתול אינה מגעת לשם, ועשה הקב"ה נס, ומצא העכבר חלל בתוך עובי כותל התיבה ופי החלל היה צר. באופן שרק הוא היה יכול להירחק בו. ובכך הצליח להתגונן מהחתול שביקש את נפשו. החתול לא היה יכול להשלים עם העובדא שהצליח העכבר להתחמק מידו. ולשם נקמה הכניס את ידו בתור אותו נקב צר ובצפרניו עשה קרע בשפתי העכבר. והיה העכבר שותת דם. והופיע לפני נח לקבול על החתול שגרם את סבלו. כראות נח את צערו ריחם עליו מאוד. ורצה לאחות את הקראים שבשפתו, אך בהיותו בתיבה לא היו לו האמצעים לכך, והשיא עצה להעכבר שכשילך החתול לישוז יחתור הוא העכבר כמה שערות משערותיו הארוכות של החתול. כדי שישמשו אלו לחוטי תפר. ואכז כז עשה העכבר. וכשהביא את שללו טיפל בו נח במסירות.

בכך גילה נח את רגשותיו לכל בריה וצערו מפני צערם. ומסיים שם המדרש שכתוצאה ממעשים כעין אלו, זכה והעידה עליו התורה שהיה 'איש צדיק'.

וכן שמעתי פעם אימרה המפרשת את מאמרו של רבי עקיבא (ב"ר כד. ז) שאמר על הכתוב (ויקרא יט. יח) 'ואהבת לרער כמור' ש'זה כלל גדול בתורה'. שהכוונה היא: זה', מצוה זו של זואהבת לרער כמור' הינו כלל' לכל מי שהוא גדול בתורה'. כלומר אם תתבונז יתברר לפניר שכל אלו שזכו לתואר 'גדול בתורה'. כולם היו זהיריז וזריזין מאוד במצוה זו של 'ואהבת לרעך כמוך', מצוה זו היתה תמיד נר לרגליהם, תמיד הצטערו עם צרת הזולת. ותמיד היו הוגים במחשבותיהם האיר להטיב עם הזולת. ומצוה זו היא שהכשירה אותם לתורה. ובזכותה התעלו והתדבקו בתורה. וגו"". וביאר רש"י מהו כוונת הקרא שבעוד ז' ימים יתחיל המבול, שז' ימים אלו הם ז' ימי אבל של מתושלח הצדיק, שחס הקב"ה על כבודו ועכב את הפורענות. ויש להקשות. מדוע לא המית הקב"ה את מתושלה ז' ימים קודם שהתחיל המבול כדי שתהא ימי האבלות נגמר קודם הזמן שהקב"ה קבע להתחיל את המבול?

ונראה לומר. שמבואר מזה שלא המית הקב"ה מתושלח עוד ז' ימים קודם שהתחיל המבול. היינו משום שבאותו ז' ימים הקב"ה היה מצפה ומחכה. אפשר בז' ימים האחרונים קודם שזמז שקבע להתחיל המבול. אפשר באותו זמז יחזרו בתשובה, ועדיין לא התייאש הקב"ה מלקבל תשובתם אם יחזרו בתשובה. ואילו יחזרו בתשובה. לא היה שום צורר להביא המבול. וע"כ לא היה שום סיבה שימות מתושלת. שאינו ודאי שיהיה מבול. וע"כ היה צורר לעוד ז' ימים. שרק אחר שכלו כל הק"כ שנים שלא עשו כל הדור תשובה אז היה צורך להמבול.

וחזינן מזה עד היכן הקב״ה מחכה ומצפה לתשובת רשעים. ואין לומר שהקב״ר אינו רוצה בתשובתר. שהרי אפילו רשעים גמורים כדור המבול שהיו מושחתים ביותר. מ"מ הקב"ה היה מצפה לתשובתם. וכל זה מפורש בדברי המדרש (קהלת רבה פ"ז): "כל זמו שאדם חי הקב"ה מצפה לו לתשובה, מת אבדה תקותו ... ומפני שלשה דברים אמר ר' יאשיה הקב"ה מאריר פנים עם הרשעים בעוה"ז. שמא יעשו תשובה". ע"כ. הרי מפורש ככל הנ"ל.

ונח מצא חן בעיני ה'. אלה תולדת נח נה איש צדיק תמים היה בדורותיו ... (ו-ח.מ) - מיהו צדיק?

לו המהראות אפשר לדורשם סמוכין, ויהיה זה הדרש כ'אסמכתא' על מהlephששנינו במשנה (אבות ב. א): רבי אומר: איזוהי דרר ישרה שיבור לו האדם. כל שהיא תפארת לעושה ותפארת לו מן האדם'. ופירש **הרע"ב** וז"ל: 'שיהא נוח לו, ויהיו נוחין בני אדם ממנו. וזה יהיה, כשילך בכל המדות בדרך האמצעי ולא יטה לאחד משתי קצוות. שאם הוא כילי ביותר, יש תפארת לו, שאוסף ממון הרבה, אבל אין בני אדם מפאריז אותו במדה זו. ואם הוא מפזר יותר מז הראוי. בני אדם המקבלים ממנו מפארים אותו. אבל אינו תפארת לעושיה ואינו נוח לו. שהוא בא לידי עניות בשביל כך. אבל מדת הנדיבות שהיא אמצעית בין הכילות והפיזור, היא תפארת לעושיה, ששומר את ממונו ואינו מפזר יותר מז הראוי. ותפארת לו מז האדם. שבני אדם מפארים אותו שנותו כמו שראוי לו ליתו. וכז הדיז בשאר כל המדות'. ע"כ.

על פי אלו הדברים אפשר לפרש 'זנח' מידת 'נוח' הנקראת בלשוז חז"ל 'תפארת' זוהי מידה ש'מצא חו בעיני ה" ולכך קבע רבינו הקדוש ש'זוהי הדרך הישרה שיבור לו האדם'. ממשיר הכתוב לפרש המיזוג למידת ה'נוח' וה'תפארת' הראויה. ואומר 'אלה תולדות' כלומר. אלו יהיו התוצאות של הדרד הישרה 'נח נח' – שיהיה ב' פעמים 'נוח' וכלשוו הרע"ב שיהא נוח לו, ויהיו נוחיו בני אדם ממנו' וזה ההולך בדרך הממוצעת הוא 'איש צדיק'. כי זוהי דרכו של הצדיק מצד אחד עליו להטיב ולהתחסד עם הבריות, ומאידר עליו להיות זהיר מלהרבות בה באופז שלא תהיה ביכולתו להחזיק מעמד הלאה.

ואכן במדרש רבתי מסופר שזה היה מהותו של נח, נח היה מלא רחמים על ברואיו של

# ליטודים נואת חרב אברחם דנטאל אבשטיון שליט"א, בעב"ס שדה אברחם

עשה לך תבת עצי גפר קנים תעשה את התבה וכפרת אתה מבית ומחוץ בכפר (ו-יד) - לימוד נפלא שהשי"ת מחכה לתשובת הרשעים

לרש"ר: הרבה ריוח והצלה לפניו, ולמה הטריחו בבנין זה, כדי שיראוהו אנשי דור מבול עוסק בה מאה ועשרים שנה ושואליז אותו מה זאת לר. והוא אומר להם עתיד קב"ה להביא מבול לעולם. אולי ישובו". עכ"ל. הרי הטעם שהקב"ה הטריח נח בבניו התיבה בזמן גדול כזה, לק"כ שנה, משום שהקב"ה רוצה בתשובת הרשעים שבאותו הדור. כשראו כל העולם שנח היה בונה התיבה לזמן גדול כזה. אתו וישאל אותו ע"ז. והשיב להם. שהקב"ה מביא מבול אם לא יחזרו בתשובה. חזינז מזה יסוד גדול ונורא. שהגם שכל י עבירות חמורות. והיו מושחתים כל כר. שגם ג' טפחים של האדמה זיה צריך להיות נמחק ע"י המבול (עי' רש"י פסוק יג). ואעפ"כ, הקב"ה רצה שיחזרו מצפה ומחכה ק"כ שנה. שמא יחזרו בתשובה. הרי חזינו מזה גודל רחמים של הקב"ה. שאע"פ שמו הדיו ראוי לכליה מחמת החטאים. מ"מ השי"ת יש לו זרת הרחמים אחר שחטא ואינו מעניש מיד. ומ"מ הקב"ה מחכה לתשובת הרשעים. אפילו רשעים כדור המבול, אם יחזרו בתשובה, הקב"ה לא היה מביא המבול. ויש להתעורר עוד לזה דכת' (פסוק ד): "כי לימים עוד שבעה אנכי ממטיר על הארא

A SERIES IN HALACHA LIVING A "TORAH" DAY

Before the *Yamim Tovim*, we had been in the middle of a series

explaining the rules of *Issur V'heter* in the kitchen. Among the

topics we discussed were Nat bar Nat - a secondary taste, Aino

**ben vomo** - a taste that's been in a vessel for more than 24 hours.

**Davar charif** - sharp items. **Yad soledes bo** - a heat that causes

one to pull his hands away, etc. We will now continue this series

by mentioning mistakes and mix-ups in the kitchen, how to

proceed after a mishap occurs, and how to ask a shailah. Let us

When Does an Item Need Kashering? If, on Friday afternoon.

chicken soup is on the stove, and the lady or her well-meaning

child took a *milchig* spoon to mix it or to taste a bit of soup, there

are three relevant questions to be asked. Is the soup permitted, or

not? Does the spoon need kashering? Does the pot need

kashering? The first thing to determine is whether the milchig

spoon had a hot, *milchig* contact in usage or washing, during the

last 24 hours. If not, the soup and pot are not affected. However,

the spoon will still need *kashering* if the soup in the pot was *yad* 

soledes bo. The reason why the soup and pot are permitted is

begin by taking a classic kitchen mix-up as an example.

מאת הגאון מו"ר חרב ברוך הירשפלד שליט"א, האש כולל עטרת חיים ברוך, קליבלנד הייטס ראש כולל עטרת היים ברוך, קליבלנד הייטס Kashrus in the Kitchen (51), Separation of Meat and Dairy.

because only a *taam*, a taste that has been sitting in the spoon for 24 hours, gives a detrimental taste into the soup (nosain taam lifgam) but in this case, it does not affect the soup or pot. The spoon, on the other hand, does need to be kashered because the soup taste that went into it is fresh. Since it entered into the spoon fresh, it does not help to just leave it for 24 hours and kashering still has to be done

to remove the meat taste from the spoon. How to Kasher the Spoon. The spoon should be taken to a nonfood sink (i.e. a bathroom or utility room sink, or a bathtub) and washed well with cold water and dish soap. Then, he should wait at least 24 hours before taking a *milchig* pot, filling it with water and heating it to a boil on the fire. When it starts to bubble, he drops the spoon into the pot. If the bubbling settles due to the entry of the cold spoon, he should wait until it begins to bubble again. Once the spoon has settled in for a few seconds, it is considered kashered. Afterwards, he removes the spoon and brings it again to a non-food sink and washes it around and around with cold water.

This is all by an *Aino ben yomo* spoon. If the spoon was used (or possibly used) within the past 24 hours for hot *milchigs*, it gets more complicated and we will explain it next week Iv"h.

בלן הרלחילם - תבללן מדף הלומי - נדרים ג:

ילא איפטר מן העולם עד שאהא גזיר דמההיא שעתא הוה ליה גזיר" - Our *Gemara* says it is possible to be *oiver* כל תארחר will not leave this world without first being a nazir". Since we are חרשש למיתה, he must accept nezirus on himself immediately. If he does not he is oiver בל תאחר. The Gemara compares this to a case where a Kohain gives his wife a גע savs it should be בל תאחר. Since we are הושש למיתה she may never eat Terumah, as this might be the hour before he dies. The הושש למיתה points out that these 2 cases are not exactly similar. Because if the אשת כהן does eat Terumah & her husband doesn't die in the next hour, she was not oiver anything. In our case the י"ר explains, when someone makes such a statement of *nezirus*, it's as if he is accepting on himself to be מכובל נזירות instantly (because of the concern he might die any time), therefore, if he doesn't accept nezirus immediately he is oiver בל תאחר.

The מנחת חינוך brings the **מב"ם** brings the **מב"ם** says if one says "הריני נזיר יום אחד לפני מיתתי". since we are חייש למיתה he must be a nazir forever, as this day might be the day before he dies. The n''n explains that even though he is technically accepting only a 1 day nezirus on himself, & סתם מירות is 30 days, the **Rambam** holds that this means if there are 30 days for the *nezirus* to last, then it lasts for 30 days But if there aren't 30 days available, then it won't last 30 days but the nezirus it is still הא"ע brings this case but changes the statement from 1 day before I die, to הריני נזיר שלושים יום קודם מיתתי". Why does the רא"ש change the case from 1 day before I die like the Rambam says, to 30 days before I die? Explains the מ"ח, the מ"ה is arguing on the הסרד of the Rambam & he holds that there must be 30 days available for the איירות to be איי גרי"ז על הרמב"ם. not, therefore accepting nezirus the day before he dies. is not איין גרי"ז על הרמב"ם. חל for a different approach

There are different שיטר שיטר למיתה הו that come up throughout the entire ש"ס. Later in our mesechta, we will learn that the שיטר hat come up throughout the entire שיטר. that we use different words [ילה' קרבן" when making a מדר. For example, one should not say "לה' קרבן" because we are concerned that after he says the word 'הרבו" before he has a chance to say "הרבו" he might die & as a result. he will be לה' before he has a chance to say this is a אבן מועט, since there is an easy solution, we are אבר לה". Therefore, to avoid this issue totally, one must say it in this order – יקרבו לה" הוא הנה אומר

R' Yosef Chaim Sonnenfeld zt"l would say:

יואמרו איש אל רעהו הבה נלבנה לבנים ונשרפה לשרפה"' - Why it is that when the world makes more and more scientific discoveries, it begins to believe in the Almighty less and less? Before any construction project, people first develop building plans for a structure and later create or purchase materials needed for it. With the *Dor Haflaga*, when the people came to the idea of building a tower, they sought to use rocks. Since they did not have proper stones to build in that area, they had to solve their lack with the invention of bricks. When they figured out how they could build by making bricks, they decided that they were just as creative as *Hashem* – and decided that they didn't need Him in their lives. Science is exactly the same!'

A Wise Man would say: "Remember, if roses were not special, weeds would not envy them."

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ויבאו אל נח אל התבה שנים שנים מכל הבשר אשר בו רוח חיים ... (ז-מו)

The **Ramban** writes that Noach had to go out and collect pairs of the kosher animals since these animals were destined to be offered as korbanos (sacrifices) and Hashem did not decree that they should come to Noach of their own accord. Living creatures are created with an instinct for self-preservation. This is an element of Yashrus, fairness, with which Hashem created the world; i.e., it is only fair that every creature have the instinct to preserve its own life. However, the instinct for self-preservation could not drive the kosher animals to the Ark, since going there meant that some of them would eventually die on the altar. It is true, observes **R' Simcha Zissel Broide** zt"l (Rosh Yeshivah of Chevron) that these animals would preserve their lives for a full year by being in the Ark rather than outside in the flood waters. Nevertheless, it would not have been *yashar* for *Hashem* to implant in these animals an urge to go to their own deaths.

One of the darkest times in Jewish history was the era of Shabsai Tzvi, ym"s, a false messiah who succeeded in deluding thousands of Jews into believing that he was the long-awaited redeemer. Born in Turkey, he taught radical new notions based on the Kabbalah and ultimately converted to Islam, dashing the hopes of the masses, who had trustingly placed their hopes in him. Unfortunately, even after he died, his legacy lived on and a man by the name of Yaakov Frank led the movement. At its peak he had about fifty thousand followers, of which more than half eventually converted to a different religion. Because Shabsai Tzvi had been proven to be a fraud years previously, the leading *Rabbanim* in Poland and the surrounding countries were quick to harass and excommunicate Frank and his teachings.

Eventually, Frank informed Mikołaj Dembowski, the Catholic Bishop of Kamieniec Podolski, in Poland, that his group had rejected the Talmud and would only recognize the sacred book of Kabbalah, the **Zohar**, which makes no contradictory statements to the Christian doctrine of the Trinity. The bishop took Frank and his followers under his protection and in 1757 arranged a religious dispute between them and the *Rabbanim* of the traditionalist community.

The Anti-Talmudists presented their prevaricated ideas, which began the intense dispute. The bishop sided in favor of the Frankists, as was expected, and ordered the burning of all copies of the Talmud in Poland. Ten thousand volumes were destroyed, which was a tremendous loss for Jewish scholarship and the limited libraries of that era.

Two years later the Frankists accused the traditional Jewish community of a blood libel and again subjected the Rabbanim to a religious dispute, grander and more impressive than the previous one. One of the rabbis chosen to debate was **R' Yitzchok Schorr** zt"l, one of the great Jewish leaders of the time and a Rebbe of the **Baal Shem Toy** zt"l.

As the debate got underway, R' Schorr turned to Yaakov Frank with obvious disdain and disgust and asked him how he can so brazenly reject all the laws of the *Torah*, when he knew he was wrong. Frank in return explained that all the laws of the Torah were only relevant until the era of the messiah and since Shabsai Tzvi was the messiah and he had already arrived, the Torah has now changed! "Prove it," R' Schorr challenged him. "You cannot make such a statement without proof."

"Ok," Frank replied. "We will ask your parents! They are in the world of only truth, let them tell this to you."

Yaakov Frank, a master of mysticism and sorcery, muttered a few words and incantations and suddenly, R' Schorr's parents appeared! Frank asked for confirmation of his proclamation and amazingly, they confirmed it!

Taken aback, R' Schorr turned to Frank and said, "If the *Torah* has indeed changed than there is no prohibition for a child to hit his parents. Correct?" Yaakov Frank warily nodded his head in confirmation. R' Schorr than proceeded to hit his "parents" with a stick until they fell to the ground. However, the moment they hit the ground, their appearance changed and they were not human anymore but rather two dead dogs that Frank had magically altered to appear as humans!

Forced to concede that the Frankist movement was nothing more than a fraud, the bishop punished Frank and his followers! He then ordered them to shave half their beards so people can distance themselves from their wicked influence.

## בי מי נח זאת לי אשר נשבעתי מעבר בא A penetrating analysis of the weekly אבר האבין בא בארון מעבר מעבר מי נה עוד על הארץ ... (ישע׳ נר-ט) אברים בארץ אברים בארץ ווא מער׳ נר-ט) אברים בארץ אברים בארץ אברים בארץ ווא מער׳ נר-ט

circumstances would be. Interestingly, Chazal say that neither Noach nor his children, slept for the twelve months prior to the flood since they were constantly busy, day and night, tending to the constant and varied needs of the animals. But if this was a "family project" why does the *Navi* refer to the *mabul* as only "the waters of Noach?" Why are his children not mentioned at all?

R' Chaim Ephraim Zaitchik zt''l explains that although Noach's family did indeed help him care for the animals, they did so only out of respect for their father. At the outset, their belief system and actions were not too different from

Yeshaya HaNavi reminds us of Hashem's promise to never the rest of the world, however, due to the respect they held for again bring such a flood upon the earth no matter what the their father and his beliefs, they labored day and night alongside him. It is a testament to their esteem for their father that they acted this way. But although they were saved from the flood waters for their good deeds, *Hashem* did not credit them fully since they did not believe in the *mabul* fully.

> This idea brings out another point and underscores the concept brought by *Chazal* of "מתוך שלא לשמה בא לשמה" - "a deed not done for its own sake will ultimately lead to it being done for its own sake." For even though they didn't fully believe in the destruction of the *mabul* right from the outset. since Noach's children ultimately did what *Hashem* asked them to do, they were indeed saved from the flood.

וישאר אך נח ואשר אתו בתבה ... (ז-כג)

CONCEPTS IN AVODAS HALEV FROM THE FAMILY OF R' CHAIM YOSEF KOFMAN ZI"L

Chazal denote that the word "ach" is an expression of miyut - of exclusion. Rashi cites a few pshatim to explain how this works. In the last one, he cites the famous *Chazal* that the lion attacked Noach inside the *teivah* because he was late one day in bringing its food. This begs an explanation. Noach was literally moser nefesh tending to the task of feeding an entire zoo of animals, day and night, 24/7. Does one act of tardiness deserve such severe repercussions?

I once heard the following *pshat*. This lion wasn't just an ordinary lion. He was the last of two lions left alive on earth. Each species was on the verge of becoming extinct. When you deal with an endangered species it requires an even greater sense of dedication and urgency. Thus, seemingly on Noach's level, there was a drop more zealousness that could have been utilized.

Thinking back to the generation of the she'aris haplaita, this idea comes alive. The Yidden who were saved from the inferno of the Holocaust lived with this sense of mission. They were the last Jewish survivors and Klal Yisroel was on the brink of extinction, chas v'shalom. They had such a passion to build and rebuild the world that once was. And with much siyata d'shmaya and assistance from Above, they were successful.

This *machshava* can pertain to us as well. We live in an unsurpassed generation where we have so much good. The sheer number of *Bnei Torah* are astronomical. Yet, we sometimes struggle with the question of, "Do I really make a difference, I'm just a drop in the bucket." If everyone says or feels that way, we will remain stagnant. We all must live, at least a little bit, with the mentality that I'm the last of my kind and I can and will be"H make a difference. If we live with this ideal, our entire avodas Hashem will become electrified and be felt by our children, inspiring and elevating the next dor, kein yehi ratzon!

### משל למה הדבר דומה

קץ כל בשר בא לפני כי מלאה הארץ חמם מפניהם ... (ו-יג) משל: There was once a wealthy businessman who ran into financial trouble. He asked a few friends to lend him some money but he just couldn't get back on his feet. One deadline after another passed and he was only able to pay back a partial amount of what he owed.

After a while, his friends decided they waited long enough. After discussing their options, it was decided that the time had come to take action. One fine morning the unfortunate businessman gets a knock on the door to find his "friends" standing there. "We want our money back," they said sternly.

"Please," he begged with tears in his eyes. "I have a profitable business venture taking place this week. Next week, I promise to pay you back everything I owe."

until the following week. But that was as far as they'd go.

All except for one person. This hothead decided that he was owed \$100 and he wasn't going to put up with it anymore. He burst into the house and grabbed a crystal vase worth about \$100. Naturally, this caused a commotion and eventually, one by one, they all stormed the house. One took the couch, the other the dining room set, the beds and pretty much everything else! At the end of the day, this poor fellow was left bemoaning his fate in his barren bedroom.

נמשל: The Chofetz Chaim zt"l used to liken this story to the people who lived during the times of the *mabul*. They did all sorts of terrible and immoral acts but were ultimately condemned because of pan - theft. The reason is because every action creates an angel. When enough bad angels are created, they "storm" and attack the person. Theft, however, goes even further and creates brazen hotheads. These angels Not wanting to destroy their friend, they agreed to wait have no patience to wait for the reckoning so they attack the person right away, leading to his ultimate downfall.

### ויהי הגשם על הארץ ארבעים יום וארבעים לילה ... (ז-יב)

### EDITORIAL AND INSIGHTS ON MIDDOS TOVOS FROM

When we think of Noach, we immediately focus on the *Mabul*, the heavy rains that brought a surge of raging waters with such destructive power that they literally destroyed the entire world. A tornado, hurricane and tsunami put together, do not come close to the terror and havoc that resulted from the "מנינח" - the "Water of Noach."

The rain cycle is quite miraculous, designed by the Creator of the World in His infinite wisdom to sustain the world. The oceans of the world hold 97% of the world's water. Two percent is frozen in the polar ice caps. The constant recycling of the remaining one percent provides us with all the water we use! It is amazing that all the water in the entire world's atmosphere only equals about 10 days of normal rainfall! If water was something that is used up like gas or oil - we would run out of water very quickly. But because water gets re-used over and over, we do not have this problem.

Water is an incredible liquid. It is a combination of two atoms of hydrogen and one atom of oxygen. Each of these two gases alone cannot feed us, yet when they combine together they form the wonder-liquid from which we live. Would this not be so, the water vapor in the air would never condense and form clouds! Snow wouldn't fall in the winter, and if it snowed, it would never melt. Although the oceans are full of salty, undrinkable water, it vaporizes into the atmosphere and becomes a blessing for us. It has no color and no smell. It is pure! We cook with it, bathe in it, it regulates our body temperature, moves out our wastes, lubricates our joints, helps to digest our food - and don't forget swimming!

A rainy day is often called, "nasty weather"; a "rotten summer" means it rained a lot; "the weather was just awful" implies that we do not like to be inconvenienced and thus spurn this most wonderful blessing. Let's appreciate the magnificent gift of rain from our Beloved Father and, even if it is inconvenient and even if you get wet, please don't ever call rain nasty again!