

# Kinder Torah

## Parashas Tetzaveh

### Gather Together

**"T**here is one nation scattered and dispersed among the nations . . . their laws are different, and they do not observe the King's laws" (Esther 3:8). This was Haman's accusation against the Jewish people. The simple explanation of these words is a claim against the loyalty of the Jewish people. They keep themselves as a nation apart from the other nations, by not observing the King's laws. Instead, they observe their own laws. Additionally, they are spread out, thereby influencing many others, and making themselves difficult to conquer.

**T**he Meam Loez offers a deeper explanation of this verse. The word *mifurad* (dispersed) refers to their relationship with each other. Their hearts are divided, and they have no unity among themselves. There is hatred between them. We know that this is the biggest accusation against the Jewish people. This *sinas chinam* (hatred for no good reason) is the reason that the second Beis HaMikdash was destroyed, and has not yet been rebuilt to this very day. This is the reason for the threat of destruction by Haman and Achashverous.

**"G**o and gather all of the Jews who are found in Shushan" (Esther 4:16). The Meam Loez explains that this will save the Jewish people. Haman accused them of not being unified. Gather together, appease one another, and love each other. Show that you are unified by listening to the words of Mordechai, the *Godol HaDor* (premier Rabbi of the generation).

#### Kinderlach . . .

*This is a lesson that we have learned many times. Sinas Chinam is one of the worst traits of the Jewish people. Purim is a time when we overcame this problem. The mitzvos of the day are all designed to bring love and unity among Jews. Mish-loach manos (sending gifts of food), and matonos lo'evyonim (giving gifts to poor people) will bring us closer to the ones we give to. Mishte vi'simcha (eating, drinking, and being happy together) brings hearts close together. Kinderlach let us make this Purim like the one in Shushan, a time of great unity and salvation for the Jewish people.*

### What's Wrong With It?

**"A**re you going?"

"I'm not sure. Are you going?"

"I'm not sure either. It is not an easy question to answer. On the one hand, the idea is revolting. What self respecting Jew

would go to a *mishte* (drinking feast) made by King Achashverous the *rasha* (evil one)? He already made a *mishte* for 180 days. He showed off by displaying the treasures of his kingdom. Nebuchadnezzar had conquered 1080 nations and plundered their treasuries. King Achashverous found those treasuries and took them for himself. He brought out six treasuries each day for the 180 days of the *mishte*."

**"W**hat a *baal gayva* (haughty person)!"

"He is much worse than that. He donned the holy garments of the Kohen Godol and displayed himself in them. He opened six treasuries full of the *kelim* (vessels) of the Beis HaMikdash and flaunted them also."

"What a *Chilul Hashem* (Desecration of the Divine Name)! You are right! Why would anyone want to go?"

"True. However, he apparently is being



very nice to the Jews here in Shushan. He is making a special *mishte* for us for seven days. All of the food and drink will be 100% glatt kosher. He is making the *mishte* in the courtyard of the garden of his own Royal Palace."

"We are invited to the Royal Palace?"

"Yes. He is sparing no expense or luxury in the decorations. He is providing for us the same type of beds of silver and gold that his royal ministers recline upon. Beautiful curtains made of luxurious fabrics will be draped upon tall posts. Wool, silk, silver, marble, precious gems, only the best of the best. The branches of the trees in his royal garden will be tied together like a bridal canopy."

**"I**t sounds like he is really making an effort to honor us and treat us well."

"I agree. The King will be serving the best wines. You can drink as much as you want."

"That is a very convincing gesture. I really do not know what to do. Perhaps I will go just to look at all of the splendor. Af-

ter all, it is a once-in-a-lifetime experience."

"I know what I am going to do. This is a decision that affects all of Klal Yisrael. We must turn to the *Godol HaDor* (Torah leader of our generation) for guidance."

*And so, the two men sought out Mordechai, the Godol HaDor.*

**"M**y fellow Jews! Do not go to the *mishte* of the wicked king, Achashverous. The mastermind behind this event is none other than Haman, the evil one. His goal is to destroy every one of us. He knows that The Almighty detests immorality. Therefore, he advised Achashverous to make a feast, get everyone drunk, and cause us to sin. The Satan will then be able to prosecute us before Hashem. Do not go! The results will be disastrous!"

*Unfortunately, the Jewish citizens of Shushan did not all heed their leader's warning. The Gedolim fled. However those who remained - 18,500 strong - went to the mishte. They sinned, and Mordechai's prediction was fulfilled.*

#### Kinderlach . . .

*Our Gedolim have great vision. They see things that are hidden to our eyes. How? They have "Daas Torah," which illuminates the picture. There are many things which appear harmless, or even good to us. The Gedolim see a different side, a facet that is invisible to us. "What is wrong with this little gadget? It seems harmless. In fact, it can be helpful." Listen to the opinion of our Gedolim on the matter. "That music sounds great! Everyone is listening to it!" Not everyone. Listen to the opinion of Daas Torah on that tune. "Did you see the newest fashion clothes? They are stunning!" Jewish clothing is to honor the wearer and The Creator. It is not supposed to "stun" everyone who looks at it. Daas Torah will tell you what the real fashion is. Kinderlach, listen to our Gedolim. They will only direct you in the right direction. With their guidance, we will avoid Hashem's anger, and merit His blessings.*

#### Parasha Questions:

- What was the punishment for a Kohen who entered the Kodess lacking one of the garments? (Rashi 28:34)
- When did Aharon burn the ketores? (30:7)
- Which korbonos were brought during the first seven days of the mizbeach? (30:36-41)
- Where would the Shechina dwell? (29:46)

**Kinder Torah** © Copyright 2006 ❖ All rights reserved to the author Simcha Groffman ❖ P.O.B. 5338, Jlm, 91052, Israel ❖ Tel: (02) 585-2216

Kinder Torah is distributed each week in Ashkelon, Bat Yam, Bayit Vegan, Beit Shemesh, Beit Yisrael, Beitar, Bnei Brak, Boston, Cleveland, Detroit, Efrat, Eilat, Ezras Torah, Gateshead, Geula, Givat Shaul, Givat Ze'ev, Gonen, Gush Shimonim, Haifa, Har Nof, Ilford, Istanbul, Izmir, Johannesburg, Kfar HaRif, Kiryat Sefer, Kosel Maaravi, Los Angeles, Maale Adumim, Maale Amos, Maalot Dafna, Machane Yehuda, Manchester, Mittersdorf, Mattisyahu, Modiin, Neve Yaakov, North Miami Beach, Peduel, Philadelphia, Psagot, Ramot, Rechovot, Rommema, San Simone, Sanhedria HaMurchevet, Telz Stone, Toronto, Unsdorf, Yishuv Eli, Zichron Yaakov and other cities. Subscribe for yourself or sponsor your shul. Just 120¢ per year. All contributions are deductible from Maaser Kesafim. #389#