

Ki Tisa: Moshe Rabbeinu's Prayer for the Mishkan

- Nisson Shulman.

Moshe's prayer when Mishkan was set up, "umaase yadeinu konenehu". The nature of this prayer. Whatever we expect won't happen by itself. Hashem wants "maase yadeinu", He provides the "konenehu". Deeds plus faith. If only "Viyehi noam Hashem..." then "maase yadeinu konenehu".

Ki Tisa: Moshe Rabbeinu's Prayer for the Mishkan

1. Moshe's prayer when Mishkan was set up: Viyehi noam Hashem E-heinu aleinu umaase yadeinu koneneihu. What is the nature of this prayer?
2. We have a tendency to expect:
 - a. We expect children to stay with our faith, be strong enough to face the future, make good shiduchim, etc., but this won't happen by itself; it will be only by means of maase yadeinu;
 - b. Tragedy of Israel's reliance on foreign powers was manifest many times in recent history. It is a lesson of maase yadeinu.
 - c. Social problems in Israel, security problems, terrorism, problems of economy there, all require maase yadeinu.
3. But maase yadenu is only a partial answer. At most, it is half the answer.
4. We know Hashem ignores us if we make demands upon him as if we deserve an answer. Gimel mazkirin dino shel adam. If we think we are deserving of Hashem's gifts, the book of judgment opens and accuses us.
5. But Hashem's bracha does descend upon us if we join maase yadeinu to our tefilot. Deeds together with faith!
6. The Midrash claims that the Mishkan rose and was erect by itself. The pasuk says Moshe Rabenu did it, but one man's efforts would have been futile. The Midrash means that no-one could do it by themselves, not even the entire people together. But one man, Moshe, attempting the impossible, yet with Hashem's help can make it happen. If only Viyei noam Hashem ...then maase yadeinu konenehu.
7. Facts and statistics may not lie, may impede and obstruct, but the combination of our effort and Hashem's beracha will overcome all impediments.

(Submitted by Nisson Shulman)