

# The Power of Purim

The Mitzvah of giving Tzedakah is to give to someone who is worthy of receiving charity, yet on Purim we find that "whoever asks will receive." Not only is this in regard to money, for on Purim our prayers carry this same strength - and we are answered without being checked who is asking. Of course, throughout the year, whenever we beseech Hashem, He always listens to us and helps us in our times of need, yet not every prayer makes it - depending on its quality, and the quality of the one who is offering it. But on Purim, all one must do is ask, and you will be answered! Everyone included.

Though many people may know about this special importance and power of prayer on Purim, few take it to heart. For that reason, we would like to raise this topic. For everyone has their troubles, trials and tribulations - which are specifically sent to us by Hashem - to awaken our awareness of His everpresence in our daily lives, and that this realization should bring us to ask from Him all that we need. Especially on such a day, when one can accomplish so much, we should strengthen ourselves, and do something about it! We have seen some people who have taken it to heart, and made the small effort not to waste this day, and their Tefillos were answered shortly thereafter.

It is well known from the Shemoneh Esrei and other parts of our daily prayer, that we include a variety of requests in our prayers, but in a time of need, a specific, concentrated prayer is more readily answered. (Shukchan Orach, Orach Chaim 576) Here in Lakewood, quite a number of people, determined to seize this opportunity, make sure to rise early and pray properly. It's just a totally different Purim. Try it, and through this, may all our Tefillos be answered.



Rabbi Naftali, the "S'michas Chacholim", once received on Purim a message from his governor, asking him to pray for him concerning an important matter on hand. Rabbi Naftali conducted the Purim meal with special ~~emphasis~~ emphasis on Purim, and his Tefilla was answered in the governor's favor. The astounded governor confronted him with gratitude and confusion, asking him to explain his actions. The Tzaddik explained: "We are commanded on Purim to be as happy as we can. If we fulfill G-d's will, then He will fulfill ours."

(Divrei Shmuel)

## On Purim....

...Hashem decrees to fill the needs of each and every member of the Jewish nation for their good.

(Imrei Noam)

...One who earnestly seeks success from Hashem in Torah and Avodah is most definitely answered by Him...for Purim is an opportune time to acquire from Him Torah and Avodah.

(Maibush L'Shabbos V'Yom Tov)

...Even a request for something that is not such a necessity is given to those who ask!

(Mogrei Tzedek)

...Hashem shows tremendous Mercy... even for someone on the lower end, can scale very high - as high as the great Tzaddikim - without any obstructions. Tefillos can also go all the way... without careful examination on who's sending them...

(Nidvas Pi)

...We see from the Medrash that Hashem showers us with good, and nothing is considered extraneous.

(Sod Yesholim)

...All Tefillos and requests - communal and private - come before Hashem, and they are fulfilled... Even someone sunk in wrong thoughts can also repent.

(Peleh Yoatz)

...This Mitzvah (of giving indiscriminately) is scrupulously kept by Hashem, and he dispenses Tzedaka to anyone that asks, and for whatever they ask for.

(Pi Tzaddik)

...Comparable to Rosh Hashanah, all our prayers are accepted, for Purim is "Prime Time"!

(Sifsei Tzaddik)

...Reb Mordechai of Lechovitch announced one Purim: "Today, every outstretched hand is filled. Whoever wants something, ask now!"

Handwritten note: Hashem is doing for you. Pray for purpose. Thank Him. (Tomas Ains)

...We read in the Megillah: "These days are remembered and done." "Remembered" by Hashem, so that all our requests are "Done".

(Toras Emes)

...(Ibid) These are special days, for as soon as something good is "Remembered" for Klal Yisroel, it is no sooner than "Done".

(Toras Chaim)

The Chidushei Harim once related that a certain sinner was on the way with a large sum of money to be used for bad purposes. Suddenly, he heard the cries of a family imprisoned by their landlord for not paying their rent and taxes. Inquiring how much was needed, the man took the money set aside for evil, and used it to free this jailed family. The heavens were in an uproar over this great deed, and it was decided that whatever this man would ask for, would be fulfilled. Yet, such a powerful tool could bring things before their time - such as Resurrection of the Dead, so it was decreed that he should remain a constant drunkard.

The Baal Shem Tov once needed such a prayer in a time of great need, and sent a few Disciples to try to get this man to pray. Only after much effort, did they finally succeed. He prayed, and was soon answered. The Chidushei Harim concluded "So too on Purim, every Jew has such a power, and yet, because one may ask incorrectly, we are commanded to drink.

(Sifsei Tzaddik)

...Hashem sends us each year the same help as he sent by the miracle of Purim. Whatever Tefillos are sent up to Hashem by Klal Yisroel are accepted.

(Divrei Yechezkel)

...Rabbi Yosef David (son of Rabbi Hershel of Anik) spent one Purim by the Apter Rav. He requested, "Rebbe, help me today to achieve full Teshuva!" The Apter Rav nodded his head in consent.

(Ayala Shkicha)

...Someone in need should take time on Taanis Esther to say Chapter 22 in Tehillim, which is related to Esther and Purim. Afterwards, he should beseech Hashem and remind Him of the merits of Mordechai and Esther and his Tefillos will surely be accepted in Heaven.

(Kav Hapashah)

...The Baal Shem Tov taught that on Purim one should rise early to daven and ask Hashem for everything that he needs. Not only for himself, but for others as well, for Purim is a time of acceptance just like Yom Kippur.

(Segulas Yisroel)

...In Tekunei Zohar we find that Mordechai and Esther succeeded in removing all obstacles on Purim, just like on Yom Kippur...there is no Yetzer Horah or misfortunes on Purim.

(Moor V'shemesh)

...We find that Haman was more powerful than Achashverosh and even told the king what to do. In this light, since Haman's possessions were given over to Esther, so was his power. This strength comes back, year after year, and every Jew has the power to tell Hashem to destroy the Haman in each of us. But just like Haman's great desire and urge, so too must our prayers be with all our hearts. Then we will surely be answered as our Sages tell us, that on Purim everyone can find their help.

(Shem M'Shmuel)

Reb Meir of Teplitz attracted a sizable crowd for the yearly Purim meal beginning from early afternoon on. One year a certain villager entered and sat down morosely in the corner. He was quickly approached by Reb Meir who inquired about his state, to which the villager dejectedly responded, about his unwanted daughters and his poverty that prevented their marriage. Reb Meir reprimanded him and told him that the Rebbe says that in such times we must cry to Hashem "Help me from my troubles!" And with that Reb Meir swung the man into a dance, and as they went 'round, Reb Meir would call out "What do we do in bad times?", and the villager would respond, "Hashem help me from my troubles!" On and on they went, the villager calling out louder and louder, and reaching deeper and deeper into his heart amidst laughter and tears, until his throat ran dry. After Purim, one of the people returning from Reb Meir stopped off by this villager's house and was very impressed by the villagers daughter, who he thought would be good for his son. Both returned to Reb Meir, who gave his heartfelt blessing on the match... From this we can see the greatness of Purim, especially through its prayers and tears of joy!

(M'kor Hasimcha)

Handwritten note: Hashem. It all starts up for you. And then...