



Carrying over the Mesorah to the Next Generation

ניסן תשע"ז



The passuk in Yeshayahu says פתחו שערים ויבא גוי צדיק שמר - אמונים - open gates and enter righteous nation who has steadfastly awaited the realizations of their faith, Rashi learns שמר אמונים to mean waiting for something to happen, we are waiting for our geulah to happen. The Navi is saying that the gates will open because we are a nation who waits the realization of our faiths .

Every year at the end of the Pesach Seder we say לשנה הבאה בירושלים which means next year we will be in ירושלים. Our fathers said it and our grandfathers said it and our great grandfathers said it. Yet despite the thousands of years that have passed without (cont'd on back)



There is a treasure that belongs to each member of Klal Yisrael and that is the minhagim and mesorah of our fathers. Let us read a fascinating story about one of Klal Yisrael's biggest giants and a minhag of this Gadol's youth.

One evening as the Chasam Sofer slept, he had a dream of five Torah scrolls wrapped in black covers. "Why are you in black?" the Chasam Sofer asked.

"Don't you know the custom of the city of your birth, Frankfurt Am Mainz?" the scrolls replied. "Don't you recall that on a public fast day the Torah scrolls are wrapped in black?"

Rabbi Sofer awoke, and he had the darkest (cont'd on back)



forebodings about what his dream had come to tell him. Soon a letter arrived in Mattersdorf bearing the tragic news: at the age of 85 his Rebbi Reb Nossen Adler had passed away. "Now I understand the meaning of the dream," Rabbi Sofer wrote. "The Torah mourns over the death of the Tzaddik." "The Chasam Sofer" written by Yaacov Dovid Shulman copied with kind permission of CIS publishers.

The חובות הלבבות writes that something we think is trivial is really considered very important in shamayim. We see from this story in a small way the chashivus of a minhag that when Hashem wanted to tell the Chasam Sofer his rebbi was nifter it was done through the precious minhagim of the Chasam Sofer's youth. Let us all appreciate the minhagim and mesorah of our ancestors until we can proudly display it to משיח צדקינו במהרה בימינו אמן .

the geulah happening yet and despite all the suffering we have gone through we still hold on and believe there will be a final geulah. We never give up our emunah no matter how long it takes for it to be fulfilled. This is an enormous feat of faith and the Navi says that for this emunah alone we are worthy of being rewarded when משיח comes. The gates of Yerushalayim will open and admit this honorable nation who kept its faith throughout the long galus despite thousands of years of disappointments ויבא גוי צדיק שמר אמונים.

Based on this Passuk our Chachamim say כל העונה אמן בכל כוחו פותחין לו שערי גן עדן whoever says Amen with all his strength of concentration, the gates of Gan Eden will be opened for him as it says פתחו שערים ויבא גוי צדיק שמר אמונים אל תקרי שמר אמונים אלא אמן don't read it שמר אמונים but those who say "אמן." When we are saying אמן aside for saying קל מלך נאמן we are saying what we just said, that despite any disappointments we express our firm belief that Hakadosh Baruch Hu is a נאמן the epitome of reliability and all promises made by him directly and all through his Neviem will eventually be realized. Concentrating on both meanings when saying Amen is the fulfillment of saying it בכל כוחו which will help one to enter Gan Eden. "Rav Schwab on Yeshayahu " adapted by his son Rav Moshe Schwab with kind permission of ArtScroll .