



The Weekly Parsha Shiur of Maran, Rosh HaYeshiva, the righteous Kabbalist,

Our Rabbi Benayahu Yissachar Shmueli, Shlit"a

An excerpt for Breishit 5787 (2026)

When Did Moshe Our Teacher Rise for Resurrection?

Now we have read "V'Zot HaBerachah," and it is written that on the day Moshe our teacher passed away, he wrote 13 Torah scrolls—a book for each tribe, because the tribe of Yoseph was divided into two, and therefore 13. And all our Rabbis ask: Who wrote the last eight verses? "So Moshe the servant of Hashem died there": Did Moshe write while he was still alive, "So Moshe died"? He would not write a lie! So who wrote them? And furthermore, it is difficult: Did not Moshe our teacher pass away on Shabbat? Let us say that Moshe our teacher could write in one day 13 Torah scrolls, but how did he write them on Shabbat?

There are many answers to this, and the most beautiful answer that I saw is in the holy Zohar of Rashbi: Indeed, Moshe our teacher passed away on Shabbat. But on Sunday, the next day, at midnight, the Holy One, Blessed be He, came to Moshe our teacher: "Moishe, get up! Get up back, I need you." Moshe arose and received resurrection. "And he was king in Yeshurun" – "Put on your royal crown, and now you will complete the Torah. You will write the last verses, you will write 'So Moshe the servant of Hashem died there'." Thus says Rashbi, wonder of wonders!

And Rashbi says that regarding this it was said: "The Torah of Hashem is perfect, restoring the soul". "Perfect" means complete – how is "The Torah of Hashem is perfect"? Moshe wrote all of it complete and entire. "Restoring the soul": that the Holy One, Blessed be He, restored the soul to Moshe, and said

to him: "Arise, Moishe'le, write the entire Torah". And afterwards he passed away again.

And on that Sunday when he passed away for the second time on that same day, he wrote all 13 Torah scrolls and gave a scroll to each and every tribe. He passed the torch to each tribe, and said to him: "Teach your children every week the parshah, every letter in the Torah, so that it will be engraved in their hearts". How wonderful! He who received the Torah on Mount Sinai, how could he not go and teach his children what is written in the Torah? How is it possible?!

Dance with the Chumash Bereshit

You know, the Book of Genesis is called "Sefer HaYashar" (the Book of the Upright). Why? Because it is the book of the patriarchs of the world, how they lived their lives according to uprightness and the truth of our holy Torah. They paved the way for us on how to cleave to the Torah. As our Rabbis say: "The actions of the fathers are a sign for the children," and a person must always say: "When will my deeds reach the deeds of my forefathers?" And our Rabbis further said that the Book of Genesis is a book of "Derech Eretz" (proper conduct/decency), and behold "Derech Eretz preceded the Torah". And therefore it is the first book among the five books of the Torah.

And the greatest education is the personal example of the father: how he behaves, so they will behave after him. **Rabbi Shach**, of blessed memory, used to say that the Chaim Chafetz, every morning, would start the day by reciting the verses from "In the beginning the L-rd created" until "And the heavens were finished," the entire order of creation, and they would hear him marveling: "The entire order of creation, is there such a thing in the world?" **Every day he was amazed anew by creation.**

Rabbi Zicherman, who delivers a lesson at the Western Wall, brings that Rabbi Shach used to say: "**If you do not have a Torah scroll, take with you the Book of Genesis and dance with it**". And every day he would murmur "In the beginning the L-rd created the heavens and the earth".

Where Was the Hidden Light Stored Away?

When the Holy One, Blessed be He, created the world, He created a special light. It is written in Midrash Bereshit Rabbah (Parshah 12): Rabbi Yehuda son of Rabbi Simon said, that The primordial illumination, the special light in which the world was created, Adam the First [man] would gaze through it from end of the world to its end. What is the meaning of "gaze"? He would contemplate all secrets of the creation, knowing and understanding all the secrets and the lights and the Partzufim (mystical faces) concealed within it, in the upper [realms] and in the lower [realms].

The Holy One, Blessed be He, saw that the actions of the generation of Enosh, the generation of the Flood, and the generation of the Division were destined to be corrupt, He stood and hid away this light, as it is written:

"And he prevented from the wicked their light." Where did He conceal it? For the righteous in the future to come, as it is said: "Say to the righteous, that he has done good." He concealed it in the holy Torah, in the holy Zohar. And since the light saw that it was hidden for the righteous, it said: **"The light of the righteous will rejoice" – our Rabbis said** that the hidden light itself was happy, and said: I want to be for the righteous.

The Midrash says: Rabbi Levi said in the name of Rabbi Nezirah: 36 hours that illumination served Adam the First in the Garden of Eden. 12 hours of the eve of Shabbat, 12 hours of the night of Shabbat, and 12 hours of the day of Shabbat, together 36. Since Adam the First sinned, the Holy One, Blessed be He, sought to conceal the light, **but paid honor to Shabbat** and said: On Shabbat we will leave it.

And our Rabbis say, that at the giving of the Torah this light was revealed again, that same light through which Adam the First was gazing from end of the world to its end. And also when we went out of Egypt, **our Rabbis say in Bereshit Rabbah**, that we walked to the hidden light, and thus Moshe our teacher led us. How was the light shining? Through Moshe. As it is written about Moshe: **"And she saw him that he was good": the Zohar says** that "good" is this hidden light that was with Moshe, and through him it shone.

Now we do not have this light, but where is it? **"Light" (אור) in Gematria (207) is "secret" (סוד)**, it shares the same Gematria, it is concealed in the secrets of the Torah. And our Rabbis say that there are in Shas 36 tractates, corresponding to the 36 hours during which the hidden light ruled. Every tractate shines corresponding to one hour, first hour, second hour, according to its hidden light.

The Rabbi Said About Him "May Hashem Have Mercy"

And there are righteous ones who had this hidden light, and they would gaze through it from end of the world to its end. **When we were young**, when **Rabbi Sharabi** was here, there was nothing that he did not know: he was expert in the entire Torah, the whole Rambam by heart. But he also knew where you were yesterday, where you went, what the human being did. Everything he knew.

I remember that during the Yom Kippur War, women were coming here crying, because their husbands and children did not return. They were "missing". There was a long line, entering for a moment to Rabbi Sharabi, and he says to a woman: "He will come on Wednesday". She does not believe [it], goes outside and cries. They would say to her: "Why are you crying, ma'am? Know, what the Rabbi said, so it will be. [He] said that the son will come? So it will be, do not worry." The second [woman] enters: "[He] will come in another month." **And the one about whom the Rabbi said "May Hashem have mercy", this was a sign that the person was lost.** I saw this with my own eyes!

Rabbi Meir Took a Blank Piece of Paper and Began to Draw

At that time we would also go to Rabbi Meir Abuhatzeira. [My father, who used to pray with Rabbi Sharabi, said to me: "You have Rabbi Sharabi, why do you need to go all the way to Ashdod?" I said to him: "Dad, it is something extraordinary, true, there is Rabbi Sharabi, but it interests me to see him."] **Rabbi Yosef Waltoch** took me to see Rabbi Meir.

I will tell you just one thing, maybe you already know the story. **In London there was a family of true servants of Hashem, and a young man from the family disappeared from home.** The family spent money, searched for him in the whole world and did not find him. They said: let us go to the Land of Israel. They knew **Rabbi Shabtai Yudelevitz**, and he said to them: "I have one address to send you to: Rabbi Meir Abuhatzeira, go to him, and he will tell you where the son is".

The father came and told Rabbi Meir what happened. Rabbi Meir saw that he was truly a G-d fearing and righteous person, thought for a few minutes, and said to him: "Come, sit beside me". **He took a blank piece of paper and began to draw.** The father did not understand what he was drawing. "Look, do you see? This is London. Here is your house, this is your neighborhood." "Correct." "Do you see? Behind your house there is a street, and at the end of the street there is a monastery. Do you see it?" "Yes." "On the third floor of the monastery, there they are holding your son, and he is bound. Travel there, take the police with you, pay money, they will go up to the third floor and bring him out".

The father kissed the Rabbi's hands, and ran back to London. **Listen, my gentlemen!** It was exactly as I am telling you: **they found the child there, alive, bound.** The police took him and brought him to his parents, and this child is alive to this day. Is this not a wonder? How does the Rabbi see? **This is the hidden light, that he gazes through it from one end of the world to its end.** Wonder of wonders!

15 Minutes with the President of the US

Now is the time to start the entire Torah with the light: "In the beginning the L-rd created the heavens and the earth." What a privilege we have, to have the Torah of Hashem, a Torah of truth, an eternal Torah! Now we need to start it, to understand it, to study it and to labor over it. It is not enough for a person to say: "I studied the Torah portion with Rashi." Take a test on Rashi every week! Today we took a test on the Daily Page (Daf Yomi), every week on what is being studied. I used to give a test on Rashi and on the Ben Ish Chai every week, also for myself, because I am also tested. Otherwise how would I know?! So now we will take with us all the light of the Teshuvah (repentance) for the entire year, and thus we will engage in Torah.

I want to tell you: In the United States there was a large organization of charity and good deeds, which organized a Chinese auction to raise donations. A Chinese auction is a huge sale where each person buys a ticket, participates in a raffle, and wins a toy or something else, and the organizers give the gifts. The organizers approached the President of the United States, who was Bill Clinton then, and said to him: "We know that your time is busy, but if you donate 15 minutes to us, we will be able to collect millions of dollars."

The President said: "Tell me, how will 15 minutes of mine bring you millions of dollars?" They said to him: "One of the tickets will win a 15-minute meeting alone with the President Bill Clinton, and you will host him." 15 minutes with the president! I thought, they will do 15 minutes with Chacham Ovadia, with Rabbi Shach... **In short, the president agreed.**

The raffle was held, and who won the ticket? A yeshiva student who sits and learns Torah, and the yeshiva student says "Master of the Universe, what will I do? A meeting with President Bill Clinton, what do I have to do with this? What will I talk about with him, what will I say to him?" He consulted and did homework. You know, a yeshiva student who learns Torah, his intellect is something else. Other people would bring the president a cake, an American bagel, all kinds of nonsense and vanities. But he researched.

The Yeshiva Student Moved the President

He had a friend, an old Jewish man, who said to him: "I will give you advice. I was a friend of Bill Clinton, we were together in the army. There was a military song that used to move him very much, he would shed tears over it. But after 30, 40 years he surely has already forgotten it. I suggest to you: take this song, bring a few artists who are number 1, who know how to sing it very well, and he will be very moved. This is the present you should bring him." The yeshiva student said: "I bought it [accepted the advice]."

The yeshiva student approached the heads of the organization in Lakewood and said: "I want to make an artistic creation. Bring me the greatest violinists in the United States." They brought him 3 musicians, and they rehearsed the song. **When Bill Clinton opened the door,** the yeshiva student entered with the musicians and said to him: "This is the present that I am bringing you." The musicians played the song, **and the President began to shed tears,** disbelieving. This lasted 10 minutes.

Afterwards everyone went out, and the yeshiva student remained alone with him. The President said to him: "Know this, you moved me. You did a wonderful job. All the guests from around the world, this one brings me a waffle, this one brings me something tasty, and it's all nonsense, you moved me with this song, you did work, you know." **He took out paper and said to him: "I am giving you my personal phone number,** no one receives it, even heads of governments do not receive [it]. I am giving it only to unique individuals in the world [maybe Shamir of Israel...]. You will take it, and we can speak whenever you want." This is a story that happened!

Now, these things must accompany us now: **We had a meeting with the Holy One, Blessed be He**: Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, these days, Simchat Torah. And what does the Holy One, Blessed be He, request? **"To Learn Torah**. You say to the Holy One, Blessed be He: I take upon myself an hour of Torah study, I take upon myself to be serious. What do you want to bring to the Holy One, Blessed be He, apples? Pomegranates? Honey of Rosh Hashanah? **Take a serious resolution upon yourself, by this you honor Him**. Now, for the whole winter, let [a person] take upon himself to study Rashi, let him take upon himself Zohar, something that is felt Above and shakes all the worlds. Rashbi, Zohar every week, now is the time!