3

Echol Bechol Dor Vador



בְּכָל דּוֹר וְדּוֹר חַיִּיב אָדָם לִרְאוֹת אֶת עַצְמוֹ כְּאִילוּ הוּא יִצְא מִמִּצְרִים יִצָא מִמִּצְרִים

In every generation one must look upon himself as if he personally had gone out of Mitzrayim.

(TALMUD, PESACHIM 116B)

The Yidden used to be slaves in Mitzrayim, and suffered terribly.

Then Hashem took them out, and brought them through the *Midbar* to Eretz Yisroel, where they could serve Hashem properly.

We might not have been in Mitzrayim, but Hashem gives us that same *zechus* today, to be free and be able to serve Hashem!

Free to Serve Hashem

The third *posuk* from the Twelve *Pesukim* starts with the word *Bechol*. It is a *Maamar Chazal* that comes from the *Mishna*. Here's what it means:

Bechol Dor Vador — In every generation

Chayav Adam Liros Es Atzmo — A person needs to see himself

K'ilu Hu Yatza Mimitzrayim — As if he went out of Mitzrayim!

Why should we feel like we went out of Mitzrayim ourselves? The *Haggadah* explains why!

It tells us that if Hashem hadn't taken the Yidden out of Mitzrayim so many years ago, we would still be slaves there. So we should feel the same thankfulness for *Yetziyas Mitzrayim* today!

Since we are NOT slaves, and we do NOT have to work for Paraoh, we are free to serve Hashem! When we think about this *posuk*, it should help us feel thankful for the *chesed* Hashem does for us, and help us feel excited to learn Torah and do *mitzvos* with *chayus* and *simcha*!

Nothing to Be Afraid Of

The words of the *posuk Bechol* tell us that we should imagine that we were taken out of *Golus* at the time of *Yetziyas Mitzrayim*.

This *posuk* is especially important for us nowadays!

At the end of the *Golus*, things can feel scary and sad. We don't always understand what is happening.

We might worry, how can *Moshiach* fix all of this? We might be nervous, what will *Geulah* even be like? We might wish we knew, when will *Moshiach* ever come?

When we say the *posuk Bechol Dor Vador*, we see that we have nothing to worry about!

Bechol Dor Vador — In every generation

Chayav Adam Liros Es Atzmo — We need to imagine ourselves

K'ilu Hu Yatza Mimitzrayim — As if we went out of Mitzrayim!

Hashem came down to the Yidden in Mitzrayim, made them not slaves anymore, and got them ready to leave the *Golus*. When we think about that, we will know that Hashem will also do that again!

Hashem will take away the problems of *Golus*, and help us be ready for *Moshiach* to come! What Hashem will do for us will be even GREATER than *Yetziyas Mitzrayim*, taking us out of *Golus* and bringing us to the complete and final *Geulah*!

See Der Rebbe Redt Tzu Kinder vol. 5 p. 273

Answer Our Paraoh

The third *posuk* of the Twelve *Pesukim* is *Bechol Dor Vador*.

In this *posuk*, we say that we need to imagine that we came out of Mitzrayim!

But how can we feel that we came out of Mitzrayim, if we are still in Golus?

The Rebbe tells us that there IS a Mitzrayim that Hashem frees us from every day! It is the *Ruchnius* Mitzrayim inside of us.

We all have a Paraoh, a *Yetzer Hara*, that tries to tell us what to do. Our *Yetzer Hara* tells us to stop doing *mitzvos*, to do things that aren't good for our *neshama*, or that could hurt another person.

But when we remember the words of *Bechol Dor Vador*, we will know what to answer our Paraoh!

Bechol Dor Vador — In every generation, even today

Chayav Adam Liros Es Atzmo — We need to see ourselves

Ke'ilu Yatza MiMitzrayim — Like a person who already left Mitzrayim!

We need to know that we are not slaves in Mitzrayim! Paraoh is not in charge of us!

When our *Yetzer Hara* tells us what to do, we can answer that we are not his slave! We only need to listen to Hashem.

See Der Rebbe Redt Tzu Kinder vol. 5, p. 271

Our Own Mitzrayim

"Bechol Dor Vador Chayav Adam Liros Es Atzmo Ke'ilu Hu Yatza Mimitzrayim." The Mishna tells us that in every generation, we need to think that we are going out of Mitzrayim.

The Alter Rebbe tells us that this doesn't only happen once a year on *Pesach*, but we come out of Mitzrayim every single day!

What is this Mitzrayim?

Our *guf* is our Mitzrayim. Our *neshama* very much wants to be close to Hashem, but the *guf* has other ideas. It wants to eat and drink things, to play and rest and feel good. That is very hard for the *neshama*! It feels like it is trapped in Mitzrayim, with no way to get out.

But when we say Shema, we leave our Mitzrayim!

How does that happen?

When we say *Shema*, we are saying that we are ready to be *mekabel Ol Malchus Shomayim*. We are saying that we realize that nothing is really there except for Hashem! The *neshama* is able to connect to Hashem in a very strong way, as if the *guf* wasn't there!

So saying Shema is like Yetziyas Mitzrayim for the neshama!

That is why, at the end of *Shema*, we speak about *Yetziyas Mitzrayim*. Even though remembering *Yetziyas Mitzrayim* every day is its own *mitzvah*, we do it together with *Shema*, because *Shema* is also a *Yetziyas Mitzrayim*!

See Tanya Perek Mem-Zayin