

6

{והנה ה'}

Vehinei
Hashem



וְהִנֵּה ה' נֹצֵב עָלָיו וּמִלֵּא
כָּל הָאָרֶץ כְּבוֹדוֹ וּמִבֵּית
עָלָיו וּבֹחֵן כָּלִיּוֹת וְלֵב,
אִם עֹבְדוֹ כְּרָאוּי

Hashem stands over him,
and the whole earth is full of
His glory, and He searches
his mind and heart, if he is
serving Him as is fitting.

(TANYA, CHAPTER 41)

We might sometimes feel like we are not so important. There are so many other people, so many other things happening, will our *mitzvah* or *aveira* really matter?

The Torah tells us that even though Hashem is everywhere, and even though Hashem is taking care of everything, Hashem cares about each and every one of us. Hashem looks specifically at each of us, to see what we are doing and to make sure we are acting the way we should.

Hashem is Watching!

A *bochur* once had his turn to go into *Yechidus* with the Rebbe. Usually, *Chassidim* would write down their questions, and the Rebbe would answer them during the *Yechidus*.

When this *bochur* was preparing what to write, he thought of a certain problem he was having in *Avodas Hashem*. He was uncomfortable writing it, and wasn't sure what he should do. Finally, he decided that if he would remember during the *Yechidus*, he would ask the Rebbe. He knew that during a *Yechidus*, *Chassidim* would often forget everything else! If he remembered anyway, that would be a sign that he should ask.

When the *bochur* came into *Yechidus*, the Rebbe quickly read through what he wrote, and answered his questions. The *bochur* realized that the *Yechidus* was almost over, and remembered the problem he was having. Like he had decided, he asked the Rebbe what to do.

The Rebbe answered that he should learn the beginning of *Perek Mem-Alef* of *Tanya Baal Peh*, until after the section of *Vehinei*.

Then the Rebbe raised his voice and said:

“And when the *Yetzer Hara* will come to you, you should remind yourself.”

The Rebbe said the words slowly and clearly and in a loud voice: “That ***Vehinei Hashem Nitzav Alav, U’mlo Chol Ha’aretz Kevodo! Umabit Alav Uvochein Klayos Valeiv, Im Ovdo Kara’ui!*** And when you remind yourself of this, the Yetzer Hara will RUN AWAY from you!”

As we will learn, these words mean that Hashem is watching us the whole time to see if we will act the way we should! Like we see in this story, these words are very powerful! Thinking about what they mean can help us have hatzlacha in our fight against the Yetzer Hara.

As heard from Rabbi Yekusiel Farkash, audio shiur #6 of Seder Yomo Shel Yehudi, approximately 6 minutes in

Looking at Us

The sixth *posuk* of the *Yud-Beis Pesukim* starts with the words “*Vehinei Hashem.*” This *posuk* comes from the *Tanya*, in *Perek Mem-Alef*. The Alter Rebbe uses these words to strengthen our *Yiras Shomayim*, by remembering that Hashem is always watching us to see if we will behave in the right way!

Vehinei Hashem Nitzav Alav — Hashem is standing right next to us!

U’melo Chol Ha’aretz Kevodo — And even though Hashem’s glory fills the world,

U’mabit Alav — Hashem is looking specifically at US!

Uvochein Klayos Valeiv — Hashem checks to see what we are thinking and feeling

Im Ovdo Kara’ui — To see if we are serving Hashem the way we should.

When we think about this, we will be careful to always do what Hashem wants!

All for You

Some people think that taking a few minutes before *davening* to think about how great Hashem is, and how small we are next to Him, is a very special bonus *avodah* we can do.

But that's not true! It IS a special *avodah*, but it isn't a bonus — we need to! It is a *halacha* in *Shulchan Aruch* that before we *daven*, we need to think about these things. It's PART of *davening*!

Here's why: The *chachomim* tell us that during *Shmoneh Esrei*, we need to stand "like a servant before his master." The only way a person can feel like a servant is by thinking about Hashem and realizing that He is our Master, and we are only servants! Our whole life is to serve Hashem by doing the jobs (the *mitzvos*) He asked us to do.

The Alter Rebbe tells us an easy way to do this (in *Likutei Amarim*, *perek Mem-Alef*): Think about all of the great things in the world Hashem made — hurricanes, thunder, huge waterfalls, tall mountains, oceans and everything inside... and about the amazing *ruchnius* Hashem made: *Tzadikim*, the secrets of Torah, *Gan Eden*...

Now think about how ALL of that was made so that YOU could do your job! Hashem is looking at YOU and wants you to do your best to do it!

This is the message of the *posuk Vehinei* of the *Yud-Beis Pesukim*.

(Of course this is true all the time, not just during *davening*! But especially when we *daven*, we need to make sure to think about it, because *davening* is the start of our day.)

Based on a sicha of Lamed Tishrei, 5742

So Important

How can we win over our *Yetzer Hara*? What if the *Yetzer Hara* doesn't want us to do what we are supposed to? Are there any tricks to help us win?

If we know the sixth *posuk* of the Twelve *Pesukim* by heart (*Vehinei*), we have a good chance!

Even though Hashem made the *malochim* and so many great *Ruchnius* "worlds" and such a beautiful *Gashmius* world that we live in, and runs them all in a way of *Hashgacha Protis*, taking care of each detail, still Hashem puts all of that aside and thinks about each one and wants to see that we are acting like we should.

When we think about this *posuk*, any time our *Yetzer Hara* might come up with a trick to get us in trouble, we will remember that what we decide to do is so important to Hashem. That way we will for sure win!

There was a Chossid of the Alter Rebbe, R' Mottel, whose gaavah made him a Chossid.

Even though gaavah is not a good midah, he was able to use it for kedusha!

R' Mottel had a Yetzer Hara, which would sometimes give him ideas of what to do. It would say, "Mottel! Do an aveira!"

R' Mottel would respond with pride and shock. "ME?! I am a chossid of the Alter Rebbe, a gvir and a lamdan! You want ME to do an aveira?!?"

When we think about the fact that Hashem puts everything aside to see what we are going to do, and that the whole world depends on how we behave, we will have the pride to answer our own *Yetzer Haras* too: "ME?!? Hashem HIMSELF is watching me, and the WHOLE WORLD depends on what I choose! You want ME to do an *aveira*?!"

See also sicha of Simchas Beis Hashoeiva 5715