

# Parsha Knowledge

פרשת ויצא

ט' כסלו תשפ"ג

Volume 2 Issue 7

**Parsha Sponsor: The Hurwitz Family in honor of their daughter Rivkah Leiba**

וַיִּפְגַּע בַּמָּקוֹם...

*"He encountered the place and spent the night there ..."* (28:11)

In this week's Parsha, we are told that our patriarch Yaakov was traveling. He laid down to go to sleep and he had a dream. When Yaakov awoke from his dream he was immediately spurred to action. He recognized the holiness of the place and the importance of the moment. He was startled, astonished, shaken, and changed. He exclaims and exults with great fervor and excitement, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than Hashem's house and the gate of Shamayim (heaven)."

Later on, in Bereishis (41:4), the Torah records that Pharaoh, the King of Egypt, also awoke from a dream. What was his reaction to his sobering and intriguing dream? He went right back to sleep. What can we learn from this contrast?

Rav Aharon of Karlin zt"l observes the difference in conduct between our ancestor Yaakov and Pharaoh. When Pharaoh dreamt, he wasn't affected. He wasn't moved. He wasn't inspired. He fell back into a stupor. When Yaakov dreamed, he became alive. He became motivated. He became ignited. He was ready to serve.

Rav Yitzchok Fingerer shlit"l explains an incredible lesson that can be learnt from here: A Jew doesn't just dream. A Jew doesn't fall back asleep. A Jew accomplishes. A Jew acts. The reason why Yaakov's legacy and destiny was imparted in dream form was to teach us the importance of being a dreamer. To have aspirations for greatness and to think big.

Perhaps that is why the Hebrew word for dream is *Chalom* (חלם), which has the same exact letters as *Lochem* (לחם) which means to fight. In order to achieve success, one must dream and fight for one's dreams. (Continued on page 2)

Let's dream of unity amongst Jews. Let's dream of a time in which we stop categorizing and labeling people based on background and culture and instead think about commonality and joint mission.

Let's dream of Moshiach. Let's not only dream of Moshiach. Let's bring Moshiach! Let's not just dream of a world in which every Jew is sacred. Let's make sure every Jew is treated as sacred and introduced to our holy heritage with compassion and love!

# *Have a great Shabbos!*

## *By Aryeh F.*

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### **PARSHAS VAYEITZAI TRIVIA QUESTION**

**“HOW OLD WAS YAAKOV WHEN HE GOT MARRIED?”**

*Please send an email with your answer to [parshaknowledge@gmail.com](mailto:parshaknowledge@gmail.com) by next week, to win a prize! Be sure to include your full name, city, and contact info, the name of the winner will Beezras Hashem appear in a future edition.*

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***The Winner of the Parshas Toldos question is: DANIEL FIALKOFF, BALTIMORE, MD***

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***The question was: Why didn't Hashem want Yitzchok Avinu to leave Eretz Yisroel?***

***Answer: Because at the Akeidah, Yitzchok became holy, like a sacrifice. Someone so holy was not allowed to leave Eretz Yisroel.***

Parsha Knowledge - Aryeh F.

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