

PARSHAS VAYIGASH #429

## לחיות את הפרשה LIVING THE PARSHA

אֲנֹכִי אֵרֵד עִמָּךְ מִצְרַיִם וְאֲנֹכִי אֶעֱלֶךָ גַּם עִלָּה (בראשית מו, ד)

"I will go down with you to Mitzrayim, and I will also bring you up" (Bereishis 46:4)

### עמו אנכי בצרה

**יעקב** אבינו חי קמ"ז שנים. מתוך השנים הללו ק'ל עליהם אמר יעקב  
מֵעַט יָרְעִים הָיוּ יָמַי שָׁנָי חַיִּי (בראשית מז, ט).  
אולם י'ז שנה חי במצרים, י'ז גימטריה טובה. ואלו הם השנים שחי  
יעקב אבינו בטובה.

וכל זאת כי שם קיבל הבטחה מהקב"ה אֲנֹכִי אֵרֵד עִמָּךְ מִצְרַיִם  
(בראשית מו, ד), והיינו שבכל המצרים תדיר הקב"ה עמו בכל מצב,  
וכאשר הקב"ה נמצא עם האדם בכל מצב, היינו שרוי בטובה, ואין לך  
טובה גדולה מזו.

**למעשה:** מעת לעת לפרקים לזכור שהשי"ת נמצא עמו עתה,  
ובפרט במצבים קשים ומורכבים עלינו לזכור זאת ביתר שאת  
וביתר עוז, ולחוש שזו הטובה האמיתית.

### "I am with him in distress"

**Yaakov** lived 147 years. From those years, Yaakov said about 130 of them, "The days of the years of my life have been few and miserable" (Bereishis 47:9). However, for seventeen years he lived in *Mitzrayim*. Seventeen is the *gematria* of טוב, good. These were the years that Yaakov *Avinu* lived with goodness.

**This** was all because he received for there a promise from Hakadosh Baruch Hu "I will go down with you to *Mitzrayim*" (Bereishis 46:4). This means that with every "מצרים", *tzarah*, Hakadosh Baruch Hu is always with him - in every situation. And when Hakadosh Baruch Hu is with a person, in every situation, this is called living with goodness. There is no greater goodness than this.

**In Practice:** From time to time, remind yourself that Hashem is with you, right now! Especially during hard, complex times, remember this even more, and with greater strength. Sense that this is the true good.

[EXPANDED BASED ON EDITORS UNDERSTANDING]

### "I AM WITH HIM IN DISTRESS" (TEHILLIM 91:15)

**Yaakov** lived 147 years, but they weren't easy years. He suffered many *tzaros*. Therefore, regarding the first 130 years of his life, Yaakov told Pharaoh, "The days of the years of my life have been few and miserable" (Bereishis 47:9). But this all changed when he came to *Mitzrayim*. The indication to this is that he lived seventeen years in *Mitzrayim*, and seventeen is *gematria* טוב, good. Finally, Yaakov *Avinu* lived good years.

**What** was different during the final seventeen years, that life became good for Yaakov *Avinu*? It is because before going down to *Mitzrayim*, Hashem told Yaakov, "I will go down with you to *Mitzrayim*..." (Bereishis 46:4). While living in *Mitzrayim*, Yaakov *Avinu* knew that Hashem was with him, and that awareness is the greatest joy. Who wouldn't rejoice being in the presence of the Great King, speaking with Him, serving Him? Furthermore, he knew that everything he goes through is certainly for the best. He is in Hashem's presence, and everything comes from Him.

**The** translation of מצרים is also *tzarah*, troubles. This hints to us that Hakadosh Baruch Hu is with every Yid, and particularly, when he is going through hard times. A person should rejoice with this awareness, because there is no greater goodness than this.

### PRACTICAL APPLICATION

**From** time to time, you should remind yourself that Hashem is with you. Strive to rejoice with this awareness, for it is the greatest joy. Especially during hard times, remind yourself repeatedly that Hashem is with you, and life will always be good for you.