

## לחיות את הפרשה LIVING THE PARSHA

וַיִּשְׁם אֶת הַיָּם לְחֶרֶבָה וַיִּבְקְעוּ הַמַּיִם (שמות יד, כא)

"[Hashem] turned the sea to dry land and the water split."

### ללכת מעט מעבר

ים - סוף, ים שנראה שיש לו סוף. אולם כאשר נקרע הים נגלה שהיכן שנראה שיש סוף, גבולות של המים, כאשר מאיר אור עליון יותר נגלה שמה שנראה תחלה שהוא הסוף, אינו הסוף, וניתן ללכת עוד ועוד.

### למעשה

על האדם להרגיל את עצמו שכל דבר שנראה לו שכאן גבול יכולתו, שימשיך ויוסיף עוד מעט. וכך האדם מרגיל את נפשו לקרוע את הסוף המושג לו. אולם נצרך זהירות רבה מאוד, להוסיף רק עוד קצת, מעט, ולא הרבה. כי הוספה מרובה, על דרך כלל תולדתה שבירת הכלים. כלל ברזל הוא: בכל דבר צריך להוסיף עוד קצת. קצת ולא יותר! באופן זה האדם מרחיב את הכלים בהדרגה איטית מאוד, אולם יסודית ונכונה!

### TO GO A LITTLE BEYOND

*Yam Suf* means a *Yam* (sea) that appears to have a *Sof* (an end). When Hashem's divine light shone there, and the sea split, what at first appeared to be the end was not the end, and it was possible to walk on and on.

### IN PRACTICE

Every person should get into the habit that whenever he thinks he reached the end of his ability, he should continue on a drop more. This will train him to split every *Sof* (end), that he knows.

However, a person has to be very cautious that he adds just a drop more – a little, and not too much. This is because adding too much will generally end with *sheviras hakeilim* (the breaking of the vessels).

The ironclad rule is: With every matter, add a drop more, and not more than that. In this manner, the person widens the vessels very gradually, but in a fundamental and correct manner.

[EXPANDED BASED ON EDITORS UNDERSTANDING]

### GO A LITTLE BEYOND

When *Klal Yisrael* stood on the seashore, with the *Yam Suf* in front of them, they thought that it was impossible to walk further. But then Hashem shone His divine light, the sea split, and the nation discovered that they could go further.

*Yam Suf* can be translated as "A sea that has an end." That is what they had thought initially. When Hashem split the sea, they saw there is no end. They could go on further.

People often feel that they have reached the extent of their abilities, and they can't do more. They say, "This is me. This is what I can do. I can't go beyond my limits." But there are times when Hashem shines His divine light on them. During these spiritually high moments, they discover that there are more levels for them to attain, and they are inspired to attain those new levels.

### PRACTICAL APPLICATION

When a person should get into the habit of always going a drop more beyond his standard limits. If he learns for an hour, he can try to learn for an hour and a minute. When he *davens*, he can try to daven a drop better. This applies to *middos*, as well. Always seek a higher and better level.

However, a person must be very cautious to add on a drop more, but not more than that. Emotionally, physically, and spiritually, people aren't able to take on too much at once. Trying to grow too quickly is doomed to failure, and then they will lose also those levels they had before. The holy *sefarim* call this *sheviras hakeilim*, the breaking of the vessels. But they can take one tiny step forward. In this manner, the person widens his "vessels" very gradually, in a fundamental and correct manner.