

UNEDITED INTERNET VERSION
v1

PREPARING FOR PURIM

Adapted from the hebrew shiurim of Purim
by the author of Bilvavi Mishkan Evneh

<http://www.bilvavi.net/sugya/purim.droshos>

בלבבי חלק ה. עמ' שלז

Preparing For Purim

All of the *Yomim Tovim* (Jewish holidays) are within our realm of human comprehension (*yeda*). However, Purim is not within our comprehension; it is above our regular knowledge, and it is called “*lo yeda*”.¹ Therefore, the way we prepare for Purim is not in the same way that we prepare for other *Yomim Tovim*.

When it comes to the *Yomim Tovim*, we can prepare ourselves for *Yom Tov* by learning about the concept of each *Yom Tov*; we can attempt to understand the meaning of each *Yom Tov*, on an intellectual level, and then we are able to gain from the *Yom Tov*.

But Purim doesn't work like that. It is not something we can really “know” about intellectually. It is about *lo yeda* – it involves “no *daas*”, because we cannot understand Purim if we try to use our *daas* (human comprehension or understanding). The way to prepare for Purim is not through our *daas*, but through accessing our higher power, *lo yeda*. In other words, we can't learn about Purim on an intellectual level and try to understand what it is about. The way we prepare for Purim *is by simply being prepared to accept whatever it has to offer!*²

There is a deep point contained here. When we prepare ourselves to accept something, although we are enabling ourselves to receive, we are also limiting ourselves in the process, because when we prepare for what we will receive, we are setting the limit to how much we will gain. Therefore, preparing for *Yom Tov*, while commendable, has a drawback to it, because since we need to prepare for the spiritual gains we will receive from *Yom Tov*, we will be limited in how much we receive.

Purim, though, enables us to receive from it in unlimited way, due to the fact that we don't intellectually prepare ourselves for it.

When it comes to the concept of time, there are times of *yeda/daas/comprehension*, and there are times of *lo yeda/no daas/above comprehension*. *Yom Tov* is an example of *yeda*, while Purim is an example of *lo yeda*. But it is not only time in which we find *yeda* and *lo yeda*. Our soul as well can access *lo yeda*, and therefore, it's possible to live with a Purim-like attitude the whole year round. When we access our power of *lo yeda* throughout the year, we will be able to receive an unlimited amount of understanding, and nothing will be holding us back.

¹ In order to understand this section, refer to Chapter Fourteen of this book, “Ad D'Lo Yoda – Going Above Your Daas.”

² Editor's Note: It appears that the author is referring to using our “*temimus*” – to believe earnestly in Hashem and to carry out His mitzvos without asking any questions. The author often explains that “*lo yeda*”, our power of higher knowledge that is above the regular comprehension, can be accessed when we use our *temimus*; our ability to walk “simply” with Hashem and never question His ways. This theme runs commonly throughout sefer Bilvavi Mishkan Evneh, Part IX, which is an entire sefer devoted to the topic of *lo yeda/temimus*.

Therefore, practically speaking, *don't prepare for Purim thinking about what you want to take out of it*. Instead, act with *temimus* (simplicity): trust in Hashem that He can give you anything He wishes to give you.

This is a point that should become a basic fundamental to live by: always do everything with *temimus* (earnest simplicity). Don't ever expect to feel spiritual elation; don't expect to acquire major spiritual attainments. Instead, just be simple – place your trust and hope in Hashem, that He will send You whatever He will send you...