



Parshas Bamidbar

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29 Iyar 5781
May 11th 2021

This week's Parsha talks about the arrangement of the Shevatim in the desert. **It was based on the arrangement of Yaakov's sons around his coffin when they carried it after his death.** Yehuda, Yissachar, and Zevulun were on the east, Reuvein, Shimon and Gad were on the south, Efraim, Menashe, and Binyomin were on the south and Dan, Asher and Naftali were on the North.

Our Chazal explain that Yosef didn't carry it because he was a king, and Levi didn't carry it because it's not right for the one who carries the Aron Kodesh of the living G-d to carry the casket of a corpse.

We had many questions on why Levi couldn't carry the casket.

1. It wasn't Levi himself who would carry the Aron Kodesh - it was his descendants!
2. It would only be for a few of the Levites carrying the Aron Kodesh so why should that impact the whole tribe?
3. There's no problem for a regular Levi to become impure!
4. Even if you can't become impure, for your father you could become impure!
5. This was Yaakov who was being carried, who is the holy and pure that he "never died"!
6. They didn't even really carry the Aron Kodesh, the Aron carried them!

And yet, despite all these reasons we'd think that it shouldn't be a problem for Levi, Yaakov thought it would be a problem, and Levi had to listen to him. Even though Levi probably really wanted the huge merit of helping in his father's funeral, and he probably thought of all these reasons why he should be able to, he still accepted his fathers command!

We see from here that we are not as smart as we think we are! There are intricacies and depth of the things that we would never think are really issues and they are! **We have to carefully examine the introspect and go over with a fine tooth comb every big decision we make in life because life is very complicated and there are often so many factors we haven't thought of at all or that we don't think are that important! Life is complicated!**