

## **Parshas Yisro**

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**(Chazal is on Parshas Beshalach)**

The *Pasuk* (17,5) discusses the staff that *Moshe* used to hit the rock and says it was the same stick that hit the river (to split the sea) and that it should be that staff that *Moshe* should use to draw water for *Klal Yisrael* to drink.

The *Seforno* explains why we mentioned the résumé of the staff - that it had been used to strike the river, and explains that with this they will recognize that there's no inherent nature in the staff, because generally things in this world have one nature and the people thought the staff is designated for punishment only, but now they see that the staff is able to do opposite things as long as it's the will of *Hashem*.

It seems that *Klal Yisrael* saw the miracles that were done until now with the staff, and saw that the staff of *Moshe* was only used for punishment. They therefore may have concluded that the miracles must have needed to be done this way, and they therefore could have had a lower level appreciation for the miracles of *Hashem*. To dispel this notion, *Hashem* had to do a miracle with the staff that wasn't a punishment, to fully bring out the recognition of *Hashem's* infinite power and full control.

While this can only be said on the smallest of levels, the fact that this small thought was in the heads of some of the greatest people of all time is astounding!. Furthermore, this whole idea that the staff of *Moshe* has a nature is ridiculous! It was an inanimate object that they knew had no power and certainly couldn't have brought the makos and split the sea without being an open miracle of *Hashem's* doing! So why did this thought even register to the *Dor Deah* that *Hashem* had to do an extra miracle with the staff to dispel this mistake?!

We see from here the extent that we try to limit and qualify what we see. If the greatest of people, who had the greatest appreciation for *Hashem's* involvement in their lives, could get so caught up in externals to even slightly diminish open miracles by saying "This is the staff's nature", how much more so do we have to stay focused to see *Hashem* in our daily lives. We must be so careful to look with our eyes open for *Hashem*, so that we don't pass up inspiration and recognition of *Hashem's* complete dominion and control over every element of this world.