



The Joy of Torah - For Life

Parshas Beshalach

Shmuz by Rabbi Chaim Juni

Written over by Moshe Reuvein Sussman

3 Shvat 5782

January 11th 2022

The Pasuk (15,22) in this week's Parsha for 3 days and they didn't find water. The Gemara makes the connection between water and Torah and Klal Yisrael was deprived of Torah for 3 days so the Neveim among them instituted that 3 days shouldn't pass without Klal Yisrael leaning from the Torah.

The Da'as Zekeinim says that the reason they rebelled and complained against Hashem was in fact because of the lack of Torah! The Meharsha further explains that for whatever reason there was bitul Torah and that caused Torah to become bitter to them! So Hashem added this branch of sweet wood which made Torah sweet for them again. Leaving Torah causes Torah to become bitter! And the opposite is also true that if someone latches onto Torah, that itself causes it to become sweeter and sweeter! This is obviously difficult to understand. These are the same people who had just gone through a year of makos and open miracles including Krias Yam Suf and recognized Hashem on the highest of levels! They were following Hashem completely in their hearts and minds, But because they hadn't learnt for 3 days it became bitter for them to learn Torah! Nobody even saw this coming, including Moshe and the Neveim they had with them.

What we see from here is that there is something intangible and incredibly powerful about Torah that it is reliant on consistently. No matter how holy or spiritual someone is, if they don't keep up the learning it will become more difficult to learn and even bitter! **But of course the flip side is also true that the more and more Torah one learns the sweeter it gets. We must always remember that no matter how busy we are with important matters, and even on vacation, it is incumbent on us to make time for learning so it stays sweet in our hearts!**