



The Joy of Torah - For Life

## Parshas Ki Savo

Shmuz by Rabbi Yehoshua Fromowitz

Written over by Shmuli Schwartz

16 Elul 5781

August 24th 2021

This week's Parsha discusses the mitzva of bikkurim. The pasuk states that the Kohen should take the basket from the hand of the one who brings the bikkurim and place it in front of the mizbeach of Hashem your G-d. The Kohen then picks it up from the floor and continues with the process. The Seforno is bothered why the Kohen does this silly sounding thing of putting it on the floor and then picking it up. **He explains "להראות ולהודיע" - "to show and to make known" that the bikkurim weren't brought to the Kohen (like Terumah for example), but rather brought to Hashem, and then Hashem gave it to the Kohen as part of the gifts to Kehuna.**

One may wonder, why would a person think it's to the Kohen?! The whole format of the mitzvah is gratitude to Hashem! And the entire speech is centered around gratitude to Hashem. Can a person really make such a mistake?

The words of the Seforno "ולהודיע" or דעת is often used to not just know intellectually but to know emotionally, so here even though every person knows 100% intellectually that it's for Hashem, the visualization of the Kohen putting it by the mizbeach is an emotional charge so that on an emotional level every person will come to really know completely and fully with full emotional clarity that it's for Hashem, by bridging the gap between the heart and the mind.

Another step to ponder is that there is already so much visualization that it's for Hashem without this! There was singing and dancing and public loud statements that was done around this mitzvah which already created a strong emotional experience and visualization of gratitude to Hashem! **But this added visualization apparently makes a meaningful difference to feel it even more on an emotional level.** We see from here that just a little tiny more visualization makes a significant difference to truly feel something completely - so much so that this is a crucial part of this mitzvah!