

PARSHA WITH

Rabbi Shmuel Brazil



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תשפ"ה RAV BRAZIL PARSHAS KI SAVOH

THE ARAMI AND HIS ROLE IN GALUS

In the gratitude declaration of the owner of the *Bikkurim*, he says ארמי אבד אבי which is elaborated upon in the Haggadah as part of the *siman Maggid*. Many *meforshim* learn that the ארמי title is referring to Lavan who attempted to murder אבי whom is referring to *Yaakov Avinu*. ארמי spell the letters of רמאי fraud and swindler who lives a life of *sheker* like Lavan. However the term אבד is in the present tense and not in the past? We can say that according to the *sefarim*, Lavan came back as a *gigul* of Billam. In other words the term אבד symbolizes all of our enemies in every generation who play the genocidal role of Lavan and Bilaam who are out to annihilate *Am Yisrael*.

אלא שבכל דור ודור עומדים עלינו לבלותינו. In fact the Four *Galuyos* are alluded to and included in the word ארמי which is the *gematriah* of עה"כ בבל מדי יון אדום.

On the *passuk* Shir Hashirim 8, 7 האהבה לא יוכלו לכבות את האהבה the many waters cannot extinguish the love *Am Yisrael* has for Hashem and Torah. The Megaleh Amukos writes that the Four Exiles are hinted in the words מים רבים. the word רבים is the acronym of בבל יון מדי אדום. Even if *Am Yisrael* are exiled into foreign countries they nevertheless do not surrender or even compromise their faith, love, fear of Hashem and observance of the Torah. This is hinted in the words ארמי אבד אבי. The word אבי can also be interpreted to mean "my will and ratzon" (Shmos 10,27). The waters of the Four Nations cannot destroy my desire and conviction to preserve and fulfill Hashem's Mitzvos.

With this understanding the Shem Mishmuel (Lech Lecha תרע"ח) explains the *passuk*

מקולות מים רבים אדירים משברי ים אדיר במרום ה'.

More than the powerful many strong sounds of the breaker waves that crash against the shore, Hashem is the most Powerful. He explains that the every *Galus* culture sends out its "noise" of communication and messages, whether by satellite, phone, movies, commercials, apps, billboards, advertisements, news, magazines, books, marches, demonstrations, riots etc in order to shape and distort one's ideas, beliefs, morals, definitions, lifestyles, addictions, cultural propaganda, brainwashing etc. It is no less than a miracle that members of the Jewish Nation, shun and deflect all this away from themselves and refuse any interest in these toxins and pollution that hijack any remaining G-dliness from mankind.

All the "Aramees" have "armies" to enforce their decadence upon civilization. They are compared to water מים רבים which Rav Chaim Vital explains symbolizes lust licentiousness and promiscuity. We live in the same generation of the "Flood" where moral boundaries were removed and uprooted, and total devastation of the earth followed. Just ponder upon this thought that there were more than 4,800 flood disasters recorded worldwide between 1990 and 2023, Hashem is displaying His deep dismay over world wide lifestyles and how they distant themselves from G-d consciousness. It might seem that the thunderous world chatter is getting louder every day and even becoming deafening. Slogans like born to shop, just do it, Betcha can't eat just one, no rules just right, continuously have made self discipline and self control prehistoric and outdated words.

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Know your enemy. The word **ארמי** is the acronym

מקולות מים רבים אדירים משברי ים

Yes they are making a lot of noise but so do empty cans.

אבי - they are working hard 24/7 to remove the holy **ratzon** and spirit from *Am Yisrael* that yearns to come closer to Hashem. However, the army of Hashem proclaims **אבי** which is the acronym **אדיר במרום יהו'** there is no other existence that is more omnipotent and powerful than Hashem.

On Rosh Hashana we blow shofar and accept Hashem's *Malchus* upon ourselves. Yet Rosh Hashana is the first of the *Aseres Yemai Teshuvah* and we don't confess and make any mention of *aveiros* as we do on Yom Kippur. We suggest that the **שברים**, the broken sound of the Shofar, share the same letters of **משברי ים** the thunderous sounds of the breaking waves on the shore. There is also a side of *kedusha* to those breakers. The *passuk* (Mishlei 29) says **בשוא גליו אתה תשבחם** when the waves tower as they come to the shore, they push and roar with all their strength even though they realize that they are about to die and get soaked up into the sand. This represents the sinner who does *teshuvah* right before he dies as long as he is sincere and truly passionate to return to Hashem. It is never too late. To this concept of *teshuvah*, the *passuk* of **שפכי כמים לבך נכח פני ה'** is referring to. Pour out your heart like water before Hashem even if it is a few moments before you leave this world. The three consecutive **שברים** sounds of the shofar symbolize the **משברי ים** as they hit the shore one wave after another. It is therefore that the shofar blowing arouses one to do *teshuva* now. By doing *teshuvah* **שפכי כמים לבך** and by feeling broken during the shofar blowing, you are declaring that Hashem is **אבי** my father in heaven whom I solely desire, I am **אחד** one and bonded with Him, the same gematria. So now the *passuk* reads **מקולות מים רבים אדירים משברי ים** it is **from** one's utterances of *teshuva* **שפכי כמים לבך** that are sincere and humbling broken like waves tell Hashem that we are ready to die for Him which creates **אדיר במרום ה'** that Hashem is recognized throughout the universe as the most powerful being.

Rav Brazil,

Gut Shabbos