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לע"נ לאה בילא רבקה בת ר' שמואל אליעזר ע"ה

NOAM HASHABBOS
נועם השבת

A Date with the Creator

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Often when you ask people to describe what Shabbos is, they explain to you that Shabbos Kodesh is a day of resting from all the distractions that take place during the six days of the week. Especially a person that's working, and a person that has a phone, and a person that's busy running errands throughout the week, Shabbos is a day that they feel they have the ability to be able to relax, to be able to have menucha, and to be able to have yishuv hadaas on Shabbos. And that's all true.

But there's another much more important, integral part of Shabbos Kodesh. Shabbos Kodesh is "oisi beini uvein Bnei Yisroel." Shabbos Kodesh is a day of us having the ability to be able to spend time alone with the Ribono Shel Olam. It's, so to speak, a date that we're able to go on with the Ribono Shel Olam. That throughout the six days of the week maybe we don't have the time throughout our days to be able to spend alone with the Ribono Shel Olam in the proper way that we would like to. Shabbos Kodesh gives each and every Yid the ability to be able to enter into the innermost chambers and to spend time alone with the Ribono Shel Olam, with Melech Malchei HaMelachim.

The Gemara tells us that when the Ribono Shel Olam told Moshe Rabbeinu about the gift of Shabbos, the Ribono Shel Olam told him, "Matanah tovah yesh li b'beis genazai"—"I have a precious present which is in the innermost storehouses of my palaces. Leich v'hodi'am"—"Go tell Klal Yisroel about this present." The Ribono Shel Olam doesn't tell Moshe Rabbeinu, "Go give it to Klal Yisroel," but rather, "Leich v'hodi'am"—"Go tell Klal Yisroel about the matanah." And the tzaddikim explain to us that the reason why the Ribono Shel Olam doesn't tell him to give him the present which is in the storehouses is because on Shabbos Kodesh each and every Yid is invited into the beis genazai. Each and every Yid is invited into the innermost chambers of the Ribono Shel Olam to be able to spend time alone with the Ribono Shel Olam.

Shabbos Kodesh is an aspect when we're banim laMakom, banim to the Ribono Shel Olam, where the children of the Ribono Shel Olam get to spend time with the Ribono Shel Olam in an intimate, close way to the Ribono Shel Olam. And that's truly what Shabbos is. We say in the pesukim when we describe what Shabbos is, Shabbos is "oisi beini uvein Bnei Yisroel l'olam, ki sheishes yamim asah Hashem es hashamayim v'es ha'aretz"—l'olam.

For the outside world, it may seem that Shabbos Kodesh is just "ki sheishes yamim asah Hashem es hashamayim v'es ha'aretz uvayom hashevi'i shavas vayinafash"—that Shabbos is there only because the Ribono Shel Olam rested and we too rest. But we understand that Shabbos is "oisi beini uvein Bnei Yisroel." Shabbos is a sign between us and the Ribono Shel Olam, a sign of connection, of yichud between Klal Yisroel and the Ribono Shel Olam. When we truly understand that that's the ultimate purpose of getting rid of the distractions, in order to go ahead and become closer to the Ribono Shel Olam, to reach and achieve true dveikus with the Ribono Shel Olam, then we're able to experience Shabbos the way it's meant to be experienced.

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