



“Clean Your Bags”

Greetings and blessing!

I was very pleased to receive your regards through Rabbi Simpson. He also informed me about the Farbrengen that you held together in a warm Chassidisher environment. As my father-in-law, the Rebbe, said regarding a Chassidisher Farbrengen; it warms the mind, the heart, [one's entire body] down to the very heels. And when one returns home from such a Farbrengen, he brings light and warmth with him, making his home brighter and warmer than it was beforehand.

You certainly know what the [Friediker] Rebbe repeated over many times in the name of the Baal Shem Tov, that everything that a Yid hears or sees can be used to learn a practical lesson in his personal Avodas Hashem. [This idea can be applied] specifically from something that is one's source of livelihood, which one is involved in for a long period of time, full days of the year and many hours of the day.

The business that you are about to enter

into, may it be at a prestigious hour and filled with success, which has been recently patented, involves taking used bags that are full of bacteria and are unusable, and in fact can harm the objects one attempts to put inside. Research is being done to find a way to get rid of the bacteria [thereby allowing the bag to be used]. One of the ideas that have come up is to place the bags in an enclosed environment, and to then raise the temperature above usual, [raising the temperature to such an extent] in which the bacteria's cannot survive. [When done] the bags are subsequently cleared of all bacteria and are now able to be used again.

The same applies to our lives. When the Yetzer Tov comes to a person when he turns thirteen, the person has already been 'used' by the Yetzer Horah who precedes [the Yetzer Tov] by thirteen years [entering the person at birth]. [This being the case] the Yetzer Horah argues that he has a Chazokah over the person and his thought, speech, and action. He also claims that he is the Bechor.

There is a solution to prevent Machshivos Zaros from easily affecting one's thought speech, and action, and the bad intentions of the Yetzer Horah. This is done through occasionally staying away from the outside hostile environment and secluding oneself in a Shul, Yeshiva or a Beis Midrash. [In this positive environment] he should properly warm himself up with the love of Hashem, the love of the Torah, and the love for Yidden, and then, one's 'bag' becomes clean from the bacteria of the Yetzer Horah, and ready for use.

An incomplete disinfectant is not good enough to clean these bags; rather it needs to be done perfectly. The same applies to a person's 'bags'; when one wakes up he needs to infuse himself with a Yiddisher and Chassidisher warmth, and then he can be assured that he will be an Oived Hashem, one who learns Torah and fulfills the Mitzvos...

(אג"ק ח' ד ע' שב-שג)

In the month of Iyar, 5718, Reb Tzvi Hersh (“Hirshke”) Gansberg, along with a group of friends, were selected to go on a brief shlichus to New Haven, Connecticut, where they were to spur and encourage the chabad institutions, and spread chassidus in the various shuls of the city.

The following is an excerpt from his diary, penned during his years in 770, and describes a beautiful encounter he experienced during this trip.

Reb Dovid Deitsch, son of the elder Chossid Reb Mendel Deitsch, moved to New Haven (seemingly in accordance with the Rebbe's instruction), and opened an enterprise manufacturing plastic. *Boruch Hashem*, his business today is quite successful. He is also a loyal Chossid, devoted heart and soul to the Rebbe, and his influence is apparent throughout the city. He is a wholehearted and sincere, yet simple individual. He also educates his

family well, and I believe that the Rebbe is very happy with him.

When Chaim Seribransky and I went to his house on *Motzoei Shabbos* before the *Melave Malka*, we spoke with him for a while and he opened up to us, speaking with genuine *Chassidische* warmth.

He then shared the following story:

Approximately a year and a half ago he was in *Yechidus* with the Rebbe. He would not disclose what exactly the Rebbe spoke with him about, only that the Rebbe requested of him to do something, and asked, “איר וועט פאלגן?” (“Will you obey?”). Reb Dovid answered instantly, “וואס הייסט פאלגן? מ'איז דאך א סאלדאט! ווי דער רבי וועט זאגן, “וועט מען טאן!!!” (“What is the question? We are soldiers! Whatever the Rebbe says we will do!”).

It seems that these words were said with true sincerity and the Rebbe was very touched by them, to the point where he began to cry. And Reb Dovid cried with him.