



לזכות  
הרה"ת ר' יצחק אהרן וזוגתו מרת חנה ומשפחתם  
שיחיו מאן  
שלוחי כ"ק אדמו"ר במישגן למעלה מיובל שנים  
להצלחה רבה בכל עניניהם  
לאריכות ימים ושנים טובות

נדפס ע"י בנם  
הרה"ת ר' אברהם שמואל וזוגתו מרת ח' צפורה  
ומשפחתם שיחיו  
מאן

# Whose Name?

Reb Zalman Zezmer, the rav of the city Krislaveh, would travel to various villages with the goal of spreading Chassidus. Since he was addressing people that were not fond of Chassidus, he would conduct himself in the style of the *maggidim* of the time, standing and speaking from the shul's *bima* wrapped in a tallis, so he should not be suspected of teaching Chassidus.

One time, Reb Zalman came to the city of Volozhin where the well known *gaon* Reb Chaim of Volozhin lived. He received permission from Reb Chaim to speak on Shabbos afternoon in the town's main shul prior to Mincha.

That week's *parsha* was Vayishlach and he spoke about Yaakov Avinu's service to Hashem. He explained how by using physical objects to serve Hashem, Yaakov Avinu extracted

the holy sparks from within them, *avodas habirurim*, and elevated them to *kedushah*. Quoting the first *possuk* of the *parsha*,<sup>1</sup> "Vayishlach Yaakov *malachim el Esav*," he explained how the word '*malachim*' refers to the sparks of holiness that are within the physical, and Yaakov 'sent' them to 'Esav'—referring to Hashem(!).

Upon hearing Reb Zalman refer to Hashem with the name of Esav, the crowd angrily started hitting him and wouldn't let him leave. They waited until Reb Chaim Volozhiner came and they told him what happened.

Reb Chaim requested to meet with Reb Zalman and asked him, "How do you have the audacity to refer to Hashem with the name Esav, a wicked and evil person!?"

"It is a clear statement of *Chazal*," Reb Zalman responded.

Reb Chaim tried to think what

Reb Zalman could be referring to but soon gave up. "From what I remember, there is no such *maamar Chazal* in the entire Talmud Bavli, Yerushalmi, Midrash, Sifri, Sifra, Mechilta or Zohar!"

"It's a famous *maamar Chazal*," Reb Zalman replied and quoted: "*Kol haTorah shmosav shel Hakadosh Baruch Hu*—the entire Torah is names of Hashem."<sup>2</sup> So you see, even the word 'Esav' written in Torah refers to Hashem."

Impressed, the *gaon* Reb Chaim ordered to have him released and treated well. **1**

(*Halekach V'Halibuv* p. 204)

1. Bereishis 32, 4.

2. See Ramban in his introduction to Torah commentary. Zohar vol. 3, 98b.