

# the Momentous Gathering

and its  
message today,

Insights into the  
mitzvah of Hakhel  
and its relevance today,  
collected from the Rebbe's  
sichos and letters

מקץ שבע שנים במעד שנת השמיטה  
בְּחַג הַסִּפּוּת; בְּבֹא כָל יִשְׂרָאֵל...  
הַקְהֵל אֶת הָעָם  
הָאֲנָשִׁים וְהַנְּשִׂים  
וְהַטָּרְף

וְגֵרָה אֲשֶׁר בְּשַׁעֲרֵיךָ לְמַעַן יִשְׁמְעוּ  
וְלַמַּעַן יִלְמְדוּ וְיִרְאוּ אֶת ה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ  
וְשָׁמְרוּ לַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת כָּל דְּבָרֵי הַתּוֹרָה הַזֹּאת  
(וי"ד לא, י"ב).

## HAKHEL INSIGHT

### CONTINUING MOSHE'S TASK

Moshe learns of the momentous task he is to do. "Come now and I will send you to Pharaoh, so that you may bring forth my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt," Hashem relates to him. Moshe must gather them all and bring about their redemption.

A spark of Moshe exists within us all and we too must assemble the people we know to inspire the fear of Hashem within them. We are confident that this assembly will lead straight to the next one, the coming of Moshiach, when—as the Novi says—"you shall be gathered one by one, O children of Israel." May he come speedily in our day.

*(Eve of Simchas Torah 5748. Hisvaaduyos 5748 vol 1. p. 303.)*



## A TIMELY CONNECTION

### TISHA BE'AV

The startling correlation between the destruction of both *Batei Mikdash* is well known. The Gemara<sup>1</sup> tells us that both happened on Motzei Shabbos, both transpired on the Ninth of Av, and both were destroyed during *Motzei Shvi'is*, the year after *Shemitta*.

The Gemara's use of the term "*Motzei Shvi'is*" is not a mere coincidence. Disregarding the laws of *Shemitta* was one of the causes of the great catastrophe—as the *posuk* warns in the *tochacha*<sup>2</sup>—and this is what the Gemara alludes to when using the term "*Motzei Shvi'is*." This term is uncommon today because we have chosen to specifically refer to this year as "*Hakhel*" in all conversations. Standing on *geulah's* doorstep, the name promoting unity is used to symbolize the end of *sinas chinam*, which was another cause of the *churban*.

(*Shabbos Va'eschanan 5741. Sichos Kodesh 5741 vol. 4. p. 397.*)

1. Erchin 11b
2. Bechukosai 26:34



## WHAT CAN I DO?

### SAY A KAPITEL TEHILLIM

Don't make calculations about the measure of success in *Hakhel*, whether it will affect many people or just a few. It would be a good idea, though, to say a *kapitel* Tehillim for its success. It is known that Dovid Hamelech accomplished wondrous miracles through saying Tehillim.

(*Hoshana Rabba 5748. Hisvaaduyos 5748 vol. 1. p. 294.*)

