



Check Your Mezuzos

As told by:
Rabbi Motti Drizin

By: Rabbi Mottel Slonim

My wife and I got married in the winter of 5751, and my wife soon became pregnant. In the eighth month of pregnancy, my wife went to the doctor for a checkup. After an examination, the doctor told my wife that there was no heart-beat heard from the infant.

The doctor said to come back one week later to check the baby again. Upon hearing this update, we wrote a letter to the Rebbe, asking for a *bracha* for our baby. The Rebbe answered that we should check the Tefillin and Mezuzos. I immediately sent my Tefillin and the Mezuzos of our house to the Sofer to be checked, waiting to hear back from him. Some time later, the Tefillin and Mezuzos were returned, and the Sofer said they were kosher.

The next week, we went back to the doctor and received devastating news: My wife had miscarried.

Not long after, my wife became pregnant again. Immediately we wrote a letter to the Rebbe, asking for a *bracha* that she give birth to a healthy child. Once again, the Rebbe answered that we should check the Tefillin and Mezuzos; yet again! We had them checked again, this time by a different Sofer. Soon after, the Sofer returned the Tefillin and Mezuzos, saying that they were all kosher. Unfortunately, one week later, my wife had another miscarriage, *rachmana litzlan*. At this point, we were confused and devastated.

At this time I was studying at the Kollel of the Rebbe's Mazkirus, so I sought the advice of the Rosh Kollel, Rabbi Yosef Heller. I explained the whole situation to him, including

the fact that we received an answer from the Rebbe about Tefillin and Mezuzos, but they all seemed kosher. Rabbi Heller asked me to bring a Mezuzah from the house for him to have a look at and I brought him the Mezuzah from my bedroom.

Rabbi Heller checked the Mezuzah, and said to me, "I can see that you paid a lot of money for these Mezuzos, however, whoever wrote these Mezuzos apparently doesn't know the difference between the Arizal's Ksav and the Alter Rebbe's. The Ksav of the Mezuzah is a mixture of both..." He also found that the two letters of "ב" in the word "לבבך" were connected. This seemed very strange, as we had already sent this Mezuzah to two Sofrim, yet he still found a mistake.

But we knew that if the Rebbe answered us two times to check the Mezuzos, there must have been something wrong. Rabbi Heller advised that we get new Mezuzos for the whole house, and that he check them afterward.

A while passed, and my wife had not yet gotten pregnant. About a year later, around Lag B'Omer 5753, a friend of mine advised me to write a letter to the Rebbe to ask for a *bracha* for children, as Lag B'Omer is an especially auspicious time for this request.

Indeed, I wrote a letter to the Rebbe. As this was already after the Rebbe had a stroke, the Rebbe would not give written or oral answers, so the Rebbe nodded with his holy head to the contents of my letter. During that exact month, my wife became pregnant with our first healthy child. **1**