

לזכות הורינו
הרה"ת ר' יוסף יצחק
וזוגתו מרת הדסה רייכל שיחיו
ניו

שלוחי כ"ק אדמו"ר זי"ע
למדינת ג'ורג'יה

נדפס ע"י בניהם שיחיו



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MODEH ANI: THE ESSENCE

Shabbos Parshas Vayakhel 5752

The first thing every Yid does upon awakening is reciting “*Modeh Ani*,” thanking Hashem for returning one’s *neshama*.

But how can *Modeh Ani* be said immediately upon awakening? Seemingly one should first spend some time contemplating the greatness of Hashem to whom he is about to give thanks! It’s obvious that you cannot give thanks before understanding who it is that you are thanking!

The answer is that when a Yid awakens, he’s already cognizant of Hashem’s greatness, and so he doesn’t even have to think about it before thanking Hashem. The Yid is aware of Hashem’s greatness even when he’s asleep, and in fact, he is aware of it in an even deeper sense than when he is awake. When a person is awake, he

is often controlled by his base, animalistic instincts. When he sleeps, however, those instincts sleep as well, and the person’s essence can shine forth. And at the essence, every Yid wants only to serve Hashem. Clearly, therefore, when a Yid wakes up, he is immediately able to thank Hashem!

What’s *actually* surprising—and this is what we’re acknowledging in *Modeh Ani*—is that even in the presence of Hashem, a Yid’s existence is of the utmost importance. The Yid is so important that Hashem brought him into existence once more that very morning!

Armed with the knowledge of how important we are to Hashem, we begin our day.

(*Sichos Kodesh vol. 2, p. 798*)