



א חסידישע מעשה

לע"נ
הרה"ח הרה"ת ר' שלום דובער
בן הרה"ח הרה"ת ר' חיים משה ע"ה
אלפרוביץ
נלב"ע ד' סיון ה'תשע"ה

ולע"נ
הרה"ח הרה"ת ר' נחמן בן ר' פנחס ע"ה
סודאק
נלב"ע י"ז סיון ה'תשע"ד
תנ"צ'ב'ה'

נדפס ע"י
הרה"ת ר' יוסף יצחק
וזוגתו מרת חנה שרה
ומשפחתם שיחיו
אלפרוביץ

A SOUL'S JOURNEY



Though he was a poor man, this special and devoted Chossid of the Baal Shem Tov would never ask his Rebbe for blessings regarding his physical needs. He felt embarrassed to speak with the holy Baal Shem Tov about such mundane matters. In his *yechidusen* he would stick to speaking only about his spiritual service of Hashem.

His wife on the other hand became extremely upset as time went on and their poverty grew. "We need the Baal Shem Tov's blessing for our basic necessities!" she would cry to him. "I cannot continue like this."

It came to a point that she told him, that if on his next visit to the Baal Shem Tov he would not ask for a blessing to have money in abundance, she would not let him back into the house.

But when the moment arrived he was simply too embarrassed to bring up the topic, and he once again refrained from asking the Baal Shem Tov for a blessing for money.

After hearing what happened, his wife simply threw him out of the house. Broken and helpless he made his way back to the Baal Shem Tov. Surprised at such an early return, the Baal Shem Tov asked him what happened. He cried to the Baal Shem Tov about his poverty. Why

did he deserve such hardships?

"Unfortunately your soul was destined to live a life of poverty," the Baal Shem Tov replied with a sigh. Upon hearing this, the man fainted. When awoken he cried to the Baal Shem Tov, "The simple folk all receive your blessing for riches and abundance, yet I who merited to be your Chossid can only have a *tikkun* if I live a difficult and hard life!"

"Indeed you are a special and devoted Chossid of mine, yet if I were to tell you the bad sins your soul did in its previous *gilgul* you would understand why you need such a harsh *tikkun*," the Baal Shem Tov replied. The Baal Shem Tov directed him to travel to a certain city, and find out about a certain deceased individual from the past, who this Chossid was a *gilgul* of. He would then see the answers to all his questions.

Off went the Chossid to this city and started investigating about this man who had passed years before. He was directed to an elderly man who worked in the *chevra kadisha*. After questioning the man, the man told him, "I do vaguely remember this man, but I was very young when he passed away. My father in-law is still just barely alive and he would remember more about this individual. He is lying next to the oven in my

house. But he can barely speak, since he is almost 120 years old. Good luck!"

The assistants of this extremely old man would not let anyone speak to him as he was on the verge of death. But after telling them that he was sent from the Baal Shem Tov, they let him in to converse with him.

"I do not want to bring that cursed and terrible name through my lips!" was the old man's response. "But since the Baal Shem Tov sent you, I will tell you as follows: Besides breaking every law in the Torah, he also informed on many Jews to the evil government, which led them to their death."

"But why does the Baal Shem Tov care for you to know about this man?" the old man asked the Chossid.

After much pressure, the Chossid revealed that he was in fact this evil man's *gilgul* and was here in this world to repent and cleanse his soul.

With great emotion the old man raised his hands up, and with a smile exclaimed, "How precious are the ways of Hashem in heaven. From such a terrible man can come to be such a special devoted Chossid of the Baal Shem Tov."

And with these special praises, the old man closed his eyes and returned his soul to his Creator.

(Migdal Oz p. 244)