

ROSH HASHANAH

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE

A message of yesh me'ayin, yeshuah, and the power of Rosh Hashanah

By Rabbi Yehuda Zev Klein

“Hayom haras olam” — today is the birthday of the world.

THE BIRTHDAY OF THE WORLD

On Rosh Hashanah, we say:

But we know that the world was actually created on the 25th of Elul. So what does it mean when we say that Rosh Hashanah is the birthday of the world?

It's because Adam HaRishon, the purpose of creation, was created on Rosh Hashanah, the first day of Tishrei. Therefore, Rosh Hashanah is considered the birthday of the world.

But there was something else just as significant that happened on Rosh Hashanah.

The Torah tells us:

וְה' פָּקַד אֶת שָׂרָה

“And Hashem remembered Sarah.”

HaKadosh Baruch Hu remembered Sarah Imeinu and she became pregnant with Yitzchak.

The Torah tells us that Sarah “ain lo vlad.” she did not have a uterus. Chazal say that, naturally, it was impossible for Sarah Imeinu to have a child. But when She was 90 years old, on Rosh Hashanah, she conceived.

And on Rosh Hashanah, we also read about Chana. Chana was barren for 19 years, and The Gemara in Maseches Rosh Hashanah that Chana was remembered on Rosh Hashanah, and she conceived Shmuel HaNavi.

Rav Shimshon Pinkus says something incredible.

YESH ME'AYIN

Hashem created the world through yesh me'ayin—something from nothing, ex nihilo.

And this teaches us that every year, on Rosh Hashanah, that same koach of yesh me'ayin reappears.

Even when it appears that something is ayin—that there is nothing, that there is no possibility, that it is impossible for our yeshuah to come—we are reminded that Hashem can create something from nothing.

Just like Sarah imanu and Chana, when it appeared that their hopes for a child were over, on Rosh Hashanah they received their yeshuah.

On Rosh Hashanah, nothing is impossible.

If we daven and ask Hashem for a yeshuah, the impossible becomes possible.

And I'd like to point out another yeshuah that happened on Rosh Hashanah.

YOSEF'S RELEASE

The Gemara tells us that Yosef HaTzaddik was released from prison on Rosh Hashanah.

Yosef had been imprisoned for 12 years in a horrible dugoen. Al pi derech hateva, it appeared that he would never get out. Yet Hashem worked behind the scenes, orchestrating events and bringing about the dreams that ultimately led to Yosef's release.

And on Rosh Hashanah, Yosef's entire life changed.

He went from being a prisoner to becoming the second-in-command of the most powerful country in the world.

On Rosh Hashanah, we too can be released from our personal prisons.

OUR IMPOSSIBLES

We all have our “impossibles.”

We all have things in our lives, situations that seem impossible to change, impossible to get out of. We feel completely stuck.

Maybe it has been going on year after year after year, to the point where we've given up.

We say:

“It's impossible. This is my reality. Nothing is ever going to change.”

It could be financial challenges. It could be health challenges. It could be shalom bayis issues. It could be challenges with our children or any other situation that seems impossible to resolve.

What we have to realize is that Rosh Hashanah is also a day when the impossible can become possible.

Sometimes we daven, and our tefillos don't seem to get answered. Why?

Chazal tell us there are mekatregim—heavenly prosecutors who can challenge a person's tefillos. They say, “Why should this person's tefillah be accepted? Why should he receive this yeshuah?” they don't deserve it.

But Rosh Hashanah is different.

There is a powerful idea from the Belzer Rebbe, zt”l,

We say in the tefillos of Rosh Hashanah:

וכל מאמינים שהוא עונה לחש

“And all believe that He answers even whispered prayers.”

What does that mean?

The Belzer Rebbe explains:

THE BELZER REBBE EXPLAINS

When all our mekatregim are trying to slander us, when all the prosecutors in Shamayim are attempting to cast aspersions on our good deeds and overturn our favorable verdict, they say:

“Why are You giving the Yidden special treatment? Why should they be written into the Sefer HaChaim? What makes them better than anyone else?”

And Hashem silences them.

וכל מאמינים	<i>We believe.</i>
שהוא עונה	<i>That Hashem answers.</i>
לחש	<i>“Be quiet.”</i>

Hashem tells them:

“These are My children.”

Every day, they do things for Me that are beyond what they are capable of doing.

They go to a shiur in the middle of the winter when there are two feet of snow on the ground and there's no parking.

They wake up early to say Selichos.

They expend a tremendous amount of energy cleaning their homes for Pesach.

They spend enormous amounts of money to make Yom Tov.

They spend \$500 on an esrog, \$70 for a pound of matzah, they learn Chofetz Chaim, Zera Shimshon, they say Shiras Chana etc.

They constantly go the extra mile for me.

Which other nation does that?

And therefore, Hashem says:

“I will also go above and beyond for My children and grant them a favorable judgment.”

A BLESSING FOR THE NEW YEAR

May Hashem grant us all a Kesivah V'Chasimah Tovah, and may we all merit to see the yeshuos we are davening for.