



A Partnership in Creation

By Rav Pinches Friedman shlita (Shiur E15)

What is our mission on שבת קודש?

The אריז"ל and the ווין

We have been discussing the insight of the אור אורי who teaches us that Shabbos gives the world its ability to carry on for another week. The letter ו holds many secrets when we try to understand the central role of Shabbos in renewing the Creation. The mystical insights of the אריז"ל can help unlock the secret.

The אריז"ל wrote well-known פירוטים in Aramaic for each of the three meals of שבת קודש which begin with the words אַתְּקִינּוּ סְעוּדָתָא דְמַהֲיָמְנוּתָא. In the פיוט for Friday night, which begins with אָזְמַר בְּשִׁבְחֵינִי (built on the acrostic of his name, אַנִּי יִצְחָק לֹרִיא בֶן שְׁלֹמֹה) we find the expression (in the stanza beginning with the letter ש) בְּוִיִן תִּתְקַטֵּר – literally: be connected/united in the letters Vav. Clearly, as with every other line of the פיוט, there is a mystical meaning behind the phrase. The great Rebbe, R' Dovid Biderman, known as R' Dovid'l Lelover זצוק"ל explained the mystery.

R' Dovid Lelover pointed out that the letter ו can be spelled out in three possible ways. It can be written as ו"ו, ו"י, or ו"ו. With that word of background, he pointed to the זוהר הק' where we find that there are three interconnected and inseparable 'levels,' קוב"ה, תורה וישראל.

The ו"ו equals 13 which is the same as אה"ד, referring to קוב"ה, who is the אחד יחיד ומיוחד;

The ו"י equals 22 which are the 22 letters of the תורה הק' with which the א"ב is written; and

The ו"ו equals 12, the שבטי י-ה, a reference to כלל ישראל.

*Three dots
remain the same
no matter how
you turn them.*

Why a ו and why only on שבת קודש?

We could suggest that only on שבת קודש do we renew the next six days of Creation. The ו is a reminder of our mission on שבת ק'. We are meant to strengthen the foundations of קוב"ה, תורה, וישראל on Shabbos.

We Daven, and leave עוה"ז behind, thus strengthening our connection to קוב"ה. Similarly, when we sing זמירות, שירות ותשבחות we are affirming our delight in our relationship with קוב"ה.

Our learning on שבת ק' is not to 'get it done' or 'finish' but is designed to strengthen our connection to the תורה הק'. (We have previously discussed the teaching of the טור who relates that the Torah was concerned with her fate once the People enter ארץ ישראל and will have to work for their daily bread unlike their total immersion in Torah in the desert. HKBH assured her that He would free them from all מלאכה on שבת קודש so that they can devote themselves to לימוד התורה.)



KI HEIM CHAYEINU

כי הם חיינו



Discover the Joy
of Shabbos

And we are meant to take time to intensify our love-connection with כלל ישראל. We make a special point to avoid any trace of animosity or לשון הרע ח"ו as we immerse ourselves and connect with the third ה, the כלל ישראל.

Those are the tools that we use to renew Creation for another six days on שבת קודש.

The holy קָנָל

R' Dovid Lelover is quoted in the משמואל as providing a novel twist to the promise that if we accept the Torah we will be the עם סגולה, as the פסוק tells us (שמות יט:ה) וְהָיִיתֶם לִי סִגְלָה מִכָּל הָעַמִּים (שמות יט:ה). The word סגולה, describing כלל ישראל as the special treasure of הקב"ה, alludes to the vowel קָנָל – three dots which remain the same no matter how you turn them. R' Dovid said that, after accepting the תורה הק' a Jew stays a part of כלל ישראל no matter where he turns or finds himself.

Takeaway: I will try to focus on the three pillars that Shabbos stands on.

Perhaps the three dots also correspond to the three foundations that we have discussed. If we connect to the three foundations of קוב"ה, תורה, and סגל, then we are the true סגל, no matter where you are, the foundations go with you.

The three פסוקים of ויכלו

It is surely no coincidence that the three פסוקים that comprise the declaration that הקב"ה created the world and completed it with שבת ק' each begin with a ה (ויברך). Observance of the Shabbos is the fuel that allows the following six days of Creation to exist.

If we renew Creation for six days on Shabbos, we will be fitting recipients for the ויברך – the special blessings that come with שבת קודש.