Good Shabbos Everyone

Pesach II Too

Good Shabbos Everyone. Continued from <u>last week</u>... He sat down and began to discuss the story of Yetzias Mitzrayim - the exodus. Immediately, the people were transported back in time to when the pyramids were being built and Pharaoh ruled. They sat enraptured as he wove together the various midrashim and enchanted them with his stories. An hour passed.

Although he had somehow gotten lost in the storytelling, he was shocked back into reality the moment the shiur ended. He ran out the door as the families waved their hands saying "Good Yom-Tov" with wishes of "Beshaah tovah."

He then ran all the way back to the hospital. Gasping for air, Binyamin bounded up the steps and ran into the labor and delivery unit. He was shocked when the nurse told him, "Mazel tov," figuring that she did not know who he was.

But when he walked into his wife's room, he almost burst into tears. She was holding their newborn son. It had worked! She told him to sit down and recounted the entire story. After he had left, things had turned critical. All of a sudden, an older woman walked into the room and noticed that Miriam was alone and in need of help. Miriam had recognized her as a revered rebbetzin (distinguished wife of a Rav -Rabbi) from the neighborhood. Although Miriam normally would have felt uncomfortable accepting help from a woman of such stature, in her weakened state she had no choice but to accept. The woman had held onto Miriam, reassuring her and calming her. And then, just as soon as she had come, she was gone.

As she was telling over the story, Miriam turned white. She had just remembered who the woman was: a rebbetzin who had passed away years before! Could it be? Had the woman come back from the "other world" to help her in her time of need? Her husband nodded and smiled. He figured she had dreamed the entire episode.

But just to reassure her, he promised he would share the story with Rav Chaim Kanievsky and see what he had to say. The next day he went to Rav Chaim. He told the rav the story and waited to hear his reply. His answer was shocking. He said that the story was indeed true, and added that there was no reason to think that such an incident could not have happened. He explained that when a woman is ready to be demonstrate such self-sacrifice for Torah, then nissim geluyim — open miracles — can happen.

Binyamin's wife could have insisted that he stay with her. But since she demonstrated self-sacrifice for others, to allow her husband to inspire a group of baalei teshuvah with the story of Yetzias Mitzrayim - the exodus, the merit had saved her and her child from a potentially grave situation. (A Touch of Warmth p. 64, Rabbi Yechiel Spiro)

As we reach the conclusion of this Yom Tov, let us celebrate the freedom that we have to observe our Judaism, Pesach is indeed referred to as Zman Cherusainu - the time of our freedom. Let us reach out to those who are spiritually hungry and share with them the bounty that Hashem has blessed us with today. **Good Shabbos Everyone.**