

Good Shabbos Everyone. Hashem commands us this week saying "Make for Me a sanctuary and I will dwell among them." (Shemos 25:8) The commentator Ohr HaChayim points out that the verse states "Make for Me a sanctuary and I will dwell among them" It would seem to make more sense if the Torah had said "Make for Me a sanctuary and I will dwell in it" Explains the Ohr HaChayim, when the verse says "them" it is referring to the Bnai Yisroel. Hashem feels at home where there is holiness.

The Medrash says the following about the verse "...I will dwell among them" "If they (the Jewish People) will do My will, my Shechina - holy presence will never leave them." (Tanchuma parshas Bechukosai 3)

Klal Yisroel (the Jewish People) was shaken by the tragic murders several months ago in Mumbai, India. Among the innocent victims of the Muslim terrorists were our Jewish brothers and sisters Gavriel and Rivky Holtzberg, directors of Chabad-Lubavitch of Mumbai, Rabbis Bentzion Chroman and Leibish Teitelbaum, Norma Schwartzblatt-Rabinowitz, and Yocheved Orpaz, all of whom were targeted for being Jewish.

Sometime during the shiva for Rivky Holtzberg, may Hashem avenge her blood, a young Israeli woman came into her parent's the Rosenberg's home in Eretz Yisroel. She told Mrs. Rosenberg that she had something for her, and handed her a small package. Curious, Mrs. Rosenberg opened it and gasped.

Inside was Rivky's diamond ring and one of her nicer Shabbos dresses. "How did you get these?" The young woman gently told Rivky's mother, "Let me tell you my story:

I had been traveling in India. Somehow I ran into trouble with the law and ended up in an Indian jail. You cannot begin to imagine what an awful, horrible, primitive place it was, especially for a woman. The only luck I had was that that the jails there are quite disorganized, and those who are in charge are corrupt. Somehow I managed to escape.

"The first place I ran to was, of course, the Chabad House. Everyone knew that that's where you went when you needed help. Rivky welcomed me (a total stranger) fed me, and told me that it was vital that I get out of the country. I knew that - but I was very afraid. What if they would check me, check my passport? Then Rivky gave me one of her Shabbos dresses and her diamond ring. Mrs. Rosenberg opened it and gasped.

"If you look very dignified, a well-dressed married woman with a ring on her finger, they won't look too closely at you. They will leave you alone. A woman with a diamond ring is in a different class. She's a respectable woman. She's not a criminal, not some who has escaped from jail. They won't bother you."

"I took the dress and the ring and as you can see, I got out safely. And now I have come to give you Rivky's dress and her ring that she lent to me." Rivky's mother took the possessions of her beloved martyred daughter. Then she told the young woman, "Some time before her death, I saw Rivky and noticed that she wasn't wearing her wedding ring. When I asked her about it, she told me 'zeh b'shlichus.' It's on a mitzvah mission." May the memories of Reb Gavriel and Rivka Holtzberg and all the other innocent Korbanos live forever and be a blessing for us all. **Good Shabbos Everyone.**