Tell a story

Parsha Pinchus by Julie Zhuk on 2023-07-08

Comments

There was a fierce plague that had killed many Jews, this week the parsha speaks of G-d rewarding Pinchas. G-d gives him a reward which was a covenant of peace and appoints him to to be a kohen priest. When the plague is over, G-d G-d tells Moses to count all of the the men who are between the ages of 20 and 60. These are the men who will receive part of the Holy land. The total count of these men are 601,730. G-d tells Mosers the land will be divided between the twelve tribes The tribe of Levi is counted separately, as it will not get part of the Holy Land. The reason for that is it will serve G-d in the Holy Temple. In the Beit Ha Mikdash. The Tribe of Levi was the Levi had twenty-three thousand men.

Five daughters had an important question. They had a father who only had daughters, and he didn't have land. There was a law at the time that the family would not receive any land. They asked Moses to give them their father's portion of the land. G-d told Moses that it would be okay for the daughters to get their father's piece of land. The inheritance of their father could go on to these daughters. Their father's name was Tzelophchad. G-d told Moses to go up to Mount Avraham. From there, he could see the entire Holy Land. Moses did this before he passed away. After this, Moses puts his hand on Joshua bin Nun in front showing the Jewish people. He is showing them that Joshua is going to be the next leader.

This week mentions the Kabbala and the fifty different kinds of "gates of impurity". When the Jews were living in Egypt, they had sunk deep into the 49th gate of impurity. According to the Kabbala, if they had sunk into one more they would not have would have been able to pull themselves out. By all accounts, these Jews were far from being saints. It was because they had fallen so far into these gates of impurity, that G-d had come to their rescue. They were whisked out of Egypt in the middle of the night like a house on fire, if they had stayed any moment longer it would have been a tragic end for them. In the Parsha, the Midrash is explaining that when G-d took the Jews out of Egypt the angels were protesting. The angels were saying, "What makes these Jews look better than their Egyptian lords? They are both idolaters!" The Midrash is asking us why did G-d redeem the Jewish people, why was He our saving Grace?

There are two words: Future Performance, meaning what the Jews would do in the future. He saw how the Jews would march towards Mount Sinai. He saw how they would accept His words of The Torah. He saw how willingly they would take on His words of the Torah for thousands of years and thereafter. Based on this promise and their stellar behavior, the Jews had earned their ticket out of Egypt. We may not think so highly of ourselves, but G-d thinks highly of ourselves. This week's Parsha wants Jews to focus on thinking positively about themselves. G-d has faith in what you will become Moses didn't have enough faith in himself, but G-d kept urging him to keep going, and so he did. G-d does not only love you on how your performance is now, yesterday, or last week. Don't be so hard on yourself. G-d is willing to treat us on how we will be.