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**Parsha Ki Tavo**  
**by Julie Zhuk on 2024-09-21**

This week's Parsha is about appreciating what we have. Back in the biblical days, the farmers would bring their first fruits to the Kohen in Jerusalem. It was done elaborately to it was to express gratitude of thanks to G-d for the produce. This mitzva was called bikkurim and meant appreciation. There is a story of two girls whose fathers wanted to find husbands for them. One girl was good and kind-hearted, but she was also not attractive. The other girl was beautiful but made comments to others that were awful. The women were getting older and it was hard to find them matches. The father was in luck, he ran into a matchmaker.

The matchmaker found husbands for the girls. There were to be two husbands, one was blind and one was deaf. It was the perfect match according to this matchmaker. The father decided to go for it. The blind man would marry the not-so-attractive daughter and the deaf man would marry the beautiful girl who made awful comments. The deaf man would never hear her commentary. The matchmaker thought highly of themselves, saying that it was a marriage made in heaven.

The couples did get married, everything seemed to go smoothly for some time. Soon enough, trouble begins and their marriage is not going well anymore. A famous doctor comes to town promising the people to cure any illnesses anyone had. These two men, the husbands who were blind and deaf they heard that someone could help them hear and see and wanted that! They went through with the operations. That was when their marriage started going down the hill.

The husband who married his ugly wife wanted to cry when he saw what she really looked like. The commentary that the wife made to the man who was once deaf, now that he could hear it truly did bother him. She may have been beyond beautiful, but it did no justice for the comments she made. After the doctor had done his work and given both men a chance to see and hear, they were not happy. They refused to pay the doctor.

This issue went before a court case. A doctor got involved demanding that the two husbands pay this doctor for the services he provided for them. He was the reason they could now see and hear after all.

Regardless of whether they were happy with their wives or not. There was also a Rabbi who was involved in this court case. The Rabbi listened to the husbands and what they had to say. The Rabbi heard everything the doctor out as well, and turned to him saying that he did a “disservice for the husbands because they were clearly dissatisfied with his work.”

The Rabbi went on to say that the only right thing to do is to go back and perform on these men and undo what the doctor did. This way they won't be able to see or hear anymore. It will be as if the doctor had not done anything to start with. The husbands changed their minds instantly saying “Oh no we don't want to be blind and deaf again!” This proved to the Rabbi that the husbands were actually happy with the doctor's procedure of making them able to see and hear. The Rabbi said in front of the doctor, “I order you to pay this doctor for his excellent services.”

We learn that this was a very wise ruling from the doctor. The most important part of this Parsha to walk away with is to be thankful to G-d for all of His blessings. The name of the Parsha Ki Tavo means when you will come. In this week's Parsha, the first fruits of the land were brought to the Kohen in the Holy Temple. It was brought in a basket. The first fruits text became the basis of part of the Passover Haggadah. In this Parsha, Israel is described as a land of milk and honey.

This week's Parsha commands for the altar to be erected on Mountain Ebal. Many sins were enumerated by the tribe of Levites the number was 12. There were curses in this week's Parsha. They were the skies above you will be like copper and the earth below you will be like iron. Some tribes inherited the land of Sihon and Og, they were Rueben, Gad, and half of Manasseh. There was a miracle that happened with the clothing of the Jewish people in the desert. Their garments and shoes didn't fray. Rashi once told us Jewish people that it was important for the Torah to be written very clearly, he meant that it should be translated into 70 languages.