

בעזתי

An excerpt from



Based on the teachings of
The Lubavitcher Rebbe

By Rabbi Yekusiel Goldstein

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No Free Ride

After Sara *Imeinu* passed away, Avraham came to the family of *Cheis* saying, “I want to bury Sara in your land. If you’re willing to sell me the land – I will pay for it. If you do not want to sell it, then I can rightfully claim the land from you. The land is a part of *Eretz Yisroel* which belongs to me as a gift from Hashem.”



In the end, Avraham paid the full, unreasonably high price for the *kever*, even though Efron was willing to give it to him for free.

Question - If Avraham was able to receive the *kever* for free, why did he insist on paying for it?

Answer - *Chassidus* explains that with *kedusha* and *avodas Hashem*, nothing is “free.” In order to properly accomplish a *mitzva* we need to put in effort. When we put in effort, there are two benefits:

- 1) We value our accomplishments more;
- 2) We reach a higher level of *kedusha*, and bring down a greater light from Hashem.

Buying Sara's *kever* was something *heilik* and for *kedusha*. Avraham therefore put in the additional effort and paid for it.

Lesson – There are times when learning *Torah* and doing *mitzvos* are easy for us and don't require any effort. We learn from Avraham that in order to do a *mitzva* and learn *Torah* properly, we must put in effort so that we bring down a higher level of *kedusha* into this world. This is what



we say in the 12 *pesukim* “וַיִּגְעֵתִי וּמְצָאתִי תְאֻמִּין” – When we put in effort, we are truly successful!

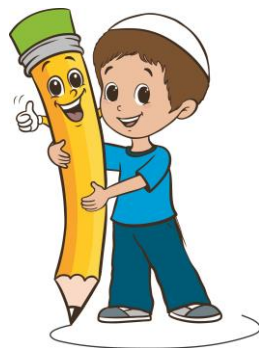
(Based on Likutei Sichos vol. 10 p. 64)

שבת ויום טוב
דבר תורה

Let's Review...

Question #1 – What did Avraham Avinu do before accepting Sara Imeinu's kever?

Question #2 – What are one of the benefits we get for extra effort in doing a *mitzva*?



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Gut Shabbos!