

Parshas Beshalach

Shabbos Shira

This week's parsha is the journey of the Jews out of Egypt until they reach the Sea of Reeds, where it split for them and pummeled the ensuing Egyptian army.

If Hashem had any words of encouragement for us now, they could be read in this week's parsha. Hashem tells us to plow forward, notwithstanding a sea in our way. Hashem says we will be saved from our adversaries.

This week's Tanya the Alter Rebbe tells us to remember that Hashem created the world, and His power is that, unlike a human, where there is a creation, and that creation becomes separate from the creator, Hashem is still a part of His creations. He is in it and with it, and it is our Avoda as Jews to be in touch with that. Therefore, since the beginning of creation, Hashem, while He seems distant, is still very much part of His creations. Therefore, the story of the Jews crossing the Yam Suf and Hashem telling us to plow forward is the same message that applies to us because it is from the same creator.

How do we do this? By learning the Torah and not being influenced by the physical world around us. Even after redemption, when the Jews were being pursued, they complained about the thought of death, and they would have ideally chosen life in Egypt then death in the desert. This means that as bad as it was in Egypt, there was a life to be lived there. It took faith to plow forward, which ultimately,

the Jews did. But this means that we must plow forward in our lives even if we are comfortable in Golus.

It is with great hope that in the war in Israel, we are able to see the light at the end of the tunnel because we are very much alive in Golus but must plow ahead into the figurative Yam Suf, and we will arrive on the other side with Mashaich.

Good Shabbos.