



PARASHAT BEREISHIT

ראשית כל צריך לדעת שיש בורא יוצר ומנהיג לעולם

בתחילת התורה כתובה "בראשית ברא אלקים את השמים ואת הארץ". יש לפרש את הפסוק, שראשית כל צריך לדעת כי "ברא אלקים את השמים ואת הארץ" – שיש בורא, יוצר ומנהיג לעולם.

Never Give Up

The Medrash in this week's Parashah tells us that before the creation of this world, Hashem created other worlds and destroyed them. When He created this world He said "This [world] brings me pleasure, the others did not bring me pleasure [that is why He destroyed them]." This is difficult to understand. We know that by Hashem the concept of knowing something later that he didn't know before doesn't exist. Therefore when he created those other worlds, he knew beforehand that He would not like them, so why did He create them in the first place? Perhaps Hashem acted out the "motions" of creating, apparently regretting, destroying, and creating again many times until He finally succeeded, in order to teach us a fundamental lesson. No matter how many times we fall, we must try again and again until we finally succeed. Hashem is telling us, Look at me, even I "failed" many times until I succeeded.

The Importance of Prayer

The Pasuk in this week's Parashah states (2:4): "These are the products of the heavens and the earth, when they were created on the day of G-d's making of earth and heavens." This summary of creation is followed by the following Pasuk: "Now any tree of the field was not yet on the earth and any herb of the field had not yet sprouted, for Hashem had not sent rain upon the earth and there was no man to work the soil." Rashi explains that there was no one who could recognize the goodness of rains. When Adam was created and he understood that the world had a need for rain, he prayed that rain should fall. In answer to man's prayer, rain fell and the grass, trees, and all the vegetation of the earth then began to grow. This Rashi is teaching us a very basic lesson regarding man's existence in the world. Blessings may be waiting right around the corner, waiting to come to us, but they won't come until we pray for them and thereby acknowledge that these blessings come from Hashem.