



## PARASHAT KI TAVO

ברוך אתה בעיר

כתוב בפסוק (כח:ג) "ברוך אתה בעיר". יש מפרשים שמסבירים את הפסוק בדרך דרש. יש בני אדם שבביתם פנימה מקיימים תורה ומצוות. אבל בבואם בין הבריאות מתביישים הם ביהדותם. לכן אמר הפסוק "ברוך אתה בעיר" – רק אם לא תבוש ותקיים את המצוות גם בעיר לעיני כל הבריאות, אז תהיה ברוך.

### How Can We Possibly Express Our Thanks To Hashem

Parashat Ki Tavo begins with the Mitzvah of Hava'at Bikkurim [bringing the first fruits to the Beit HaMikdash] and Mikrah Bikkurim [reciting the Biblical passage associated with that ritual]. The farmer brings his first fruits to the Bait HaMikdash, hands them over to the Kohen, and recites a passage telling the story of all the kindnesses that Hashem has performed. Regarding this process the Pasuk states (26:3): "You shall come to whoever will be the Kohen in those days, and you shall say to him etc...." Rashi quotes a Sifrei on the words "And you shall say to him": She'aincha kafui tova – to show that you are not ungrateful." The question is obvious, why doesn't the Sifrei use a positive expression "to show I am grateful" rather than the negative expression "to show I am not ungrateful"? Perhaps we could suggest the following answer. As much as we thank Hashem it is never enough. How can we possibly thank Hashem for all that he has done for us? The only thing we could possibly do is to show Hashem that we are not ungrateful.

### Don't Worry

In this week's Parashah the Pasuk states (28:66): "Your life will hang in the balance, and you will be frightened night and day, and you will have no assurance of your life." The Talmud (Menachot 103b) explains the Pasuk as referring to the pain and suffering of constantly worrying about the future. Rav Chaim Shmuelevitz zt"l points out that a person creates his own mental torture through his own worrying thoughts. If he keeps worrying about the future, he will never have peace of mind. Rather a person should put his trust in Hashem and not worry at all.