



Student Dvar Torah- Parashat Ki Tavo
By Michael Oved - Grade 8

In this week's Parashah the Torah states (Deuteronomy 26:9): "And he brought us to this place, and he gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey". Rashi explains that "this place" refers to the Beit Hamikdash. Based on this, a question arises. Since we entered Eretz Yisroel before we built the Beit Hamikdash, shouldn't "a land flowing with milk and honey" be written before "this place"? Rabbi Naftoli Tzvi Berlin explained that the Beit Hamikdash is the spiritual aspect, and Eretz Yisroel being a place flowing with milk and honey is the physical aspect. When we express gratitude toward Hashem, we thank him for our spiritual benefits before we thank him for the physical ones. We learn from this an important lesson that we too must be grateful for spiritual benefits before material ones.