



## PhiloTorah D'var Torah

### 9AV TAKE-AWAYS

Three Weeks, Nine Days, SHAVU'A SHECHAL BO, Erev Tish'a b'Av, Tish'a b'Av, 10th of Av until CHATZOT - and then it is over. The national mourning for the Churban is over.

But not really.

There are some practices ZEICHER L'CHURBAN - like breaking a glass at a wedding, or seeing an unplastered, unpainted AMA AL AMA opposite someone's door - that are all year round reminders of Churban Beit HaMikdash.

But in addition to that, there should be some significant take-aways from the mournful period leading up to, and including, Tish'a b'Av.

Whereas the mourning for the Churban goes very low key after Tish'a b'Av, the agenda that Tish'a b'Av reminds of, keeps on ticking.

Any generation in whose time the Beit HaMikdash is not rebuilt, it is as if it was destroyed in that generation.

The short of the challenge is - DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!

The long of it is this: Tish'a b'Av became a sad day because of the Sin

of the Spies. Tish'a b'Av continued and intensified as a sad day because of the destruction of the Batei Mikdash.

For each of those calamities, we ask - what went wrong. If we get a clear picture on what went wrong, we can work towards repairing the damage.

G-d promised us that He would take us to the Land He had promised to our forefathers and that He promised us. The spies (10 of the 12) painted a picture of the difficulties - nay, the impossibilities - of our succeeding in going to the Land. They further suggested that life in the Midbar was much the preferred way of life. Some of the people wanted new leaders who would take them back to Egypt.

Okay, we see what went wrong. What can we do about it?

How about making Aliya. How about Helping Olim settle in. How about encouraging family and friends to make Aliya. How about speaking to the schools your children and grandchildren about developing an educational environment that will get the students thinking in the direction of Aliya. How about Bnei Akiva. That's all part of the agenda for repairing Cheit HaMeraglim.

First Beit HaMikdash was destroyed because the people turned away from G-d. That covers a lot of ground. Lets suffice it to say that living a life of

Torah and Mitzvot and Chesed, raising your families to do the same. Get involved in KIRUV R'CHOKIM organizationally or individually. That's the direction to repair the behaviors that caused the Biet HaMikdash to be destroyed.

If the second Beit HaMikdash was destroyed because people - even Talmidei Chachamim lacked respect for each other, then there is your agenda for repair. And if it was SIN'AT CHINAM, then we certainly have our work cut out for us.

But that isn't the only take-away. This one is different - but it is BIG!

Mourning the Churban is not enough. We must develop a yearning for the Third and Eternal Beit HaMikdash. And for the restoration of the Sanhedrin and the Talmudic courts system. And the Laws that go along with that. And to total idea of the Complete Geula.

And not just with lip-service. Not just saying SHEYIBANEH BEIT HAMIKDASH several times a day. But meaning it. L'SHANA HABAA BIRU-SHALAYIM HAB'NUYA. And meaning it. (It is not just a song!)

More agenda: Take a look at what is included in every week-day Amida. GO'ALEINU M'HEIRA (redeem us quickly), T'KA B'SHOFAR GADOL (Blow the great Shofar for our freedom), HASHIVA SHO-F'TEINU...

(Restore the judges...), V'LIRUSHALAYIM IRCHA... (return to your city Jerusalem), ET TZEMACH DAVID... (bring the Mashiach). Then there is for every Amida (Shabbat & Chagim included), R'TZEI, which includes a petition to restore the Beit HaMikdash.

That's our agenda. That's a lot to do. But to quote Rabi Tarfon - You are not called upon to complete the work, yet you are not free to invade it...

Wishing you - no, wishing us - much success in hastening the GEULA.

**PTDT**