

# **The Daily Portion** **- Sivan Rahav Meir**

## **Being Number 1** **means fulfilling the** **mission meant for you**

Translation by Yehoshua Siskin

Korach, whose story is read in this week's Torah portion in Israel, has become synonymous with conflict and division. He was jealous of the positions held by Moshe and Aharon and wanted to take their place and lead the people himself. What happened to him? And what sometimes happens to us as well?

Rabbi Elimelech Biderman explains that Korach's mistake is a common one that persists until today. Korach already held an honorable position. He was one of those responsible for carrying and caring for the most sacred objects of the Mishkan, including the Ark of the Covenant and the Golden Menorah. But instead of focusing on this important role, he envied others and wanted to take their place. As Rabbi Biderman writes:

If Korach had known that an ordinary person who fulfills his mission in this world is as important before the Creator as Aharon the Kohen Gadol when he stands in the Holy of Holies, he would never have begun this

dispute.

Korach thought that striving upward meant replacing the person at the top. But this Torah portion teaches us that being Number 1 means excelling where you belong, in the role that is right for you. You are important precisely when you are fulfilling your unique divine mission and purpose in life.

That is what matters most in the eyes of the Creator and it is what should matter to us as well. There is no reason to be jealous or to try to be someone else.

Just be the very best version of yourself.

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