PTDT

PhiloTorah D'var Torah

Not Yet... Not Yet... Not Yet... NOW!

I'll tell you in advance that I don't have a good explanation for what I'm about to write, but it is a significant observation.

Note: Read "according to some commentaries" before anything I write - so I don't have to write it repeatedly.

Avraham Avinu and Sara Imeinu were married way back before their names were changed. It wasn't until Avraham was 70 years old that G-d told him that he would indeed have descendants. It is as if G-d had said Not yet. From that moment, it took another 16 years before Avraham was a father. But HaShem still said, Not yet. And then, 13 years later, HaShem sent angels to Avraham to tell him that Sara will bear a son from him and that the baby should be called Yitzchak. A year later, Yitzchak was born. And still HaShem said, Not yet.

Then when Yitzchak was 40 years old he married Rivka. It took 20 more years until Yitzchak became a father of twins. He was 60 years old. Why do I state the obvious, that 40+20=60? Because the Torah makes a point of the timeline. Avraham is 160 when he became a grandfather. G-d continues to say, Not yet.

At age 15, Yaakov acquires the B'CHORA from his twin, Eisav. It wasn't until Yaakov and Eisav were 63 years old, that Yaakov received the B'RACHA from Yitzchak that Yitzchak had intended to give to Eisav. And then, shortly thereafter, Yitzchak confirmed the B'RACHA to Yaakov and gave him another B'RACHA - BIRKAT AVRAHAM.

Yitzchak and Rivka send Yaakov to Charan, Rivka's hometown, to find a suitable wife (and to get him out of Eisav's reach). Remember, Yaakov was 63 years old. Meanwhile, Eisav had married at least three times years earlier. But for us - the descendants and heirs of Avraham, Yitzchak, and Yaakov, G-d still said, Not yet.

Yaakov leaves his parents' home on his way to Charan and - according to one tradition, Yaakov spends 14 years - 14 years, at the Yeshiva of Sheim VaEiver, before continuing on to Charan. He meets Rachel and the Not yet is soon to be done.

And then came NOW.

In the span of seven and a half years, Yaakov has four wives, eleven sons, a daughter, and possibly a whole bunch of more daughters, twins to his sons.

Basically, I'm giving you something to ponder and discuss. **PTDT**