



THE SHORT VORT ON THE TABLE

Parshat Reeh Rabbi Nuriel Klinger

Parshat Reeh introduces us to the mitzvah of Shechita, ritual slaughter. The pasuk says: “When you slaughter any of your cattle or sheep that Hashem has given you, do it as I have commanded you” (Devarim 12:21). The words “ka’asher tziviticha – as I have commanded you” seem to imply that the Torah had already given detailed instructions on how to perform Shechita. Yet, if we search earlier in the Torah, we find no such details written anywhere.

Chazal explain that this is a reference to the Torah She’ba’al Peh – the Oral Torah. Hashem gave Moshe all the details of Shechita at Har Sinai, but they were transmitted orally and not written in the text. Rav Moshe Feinstein zt”l asks: Why is Shechita the place where the Torah chooses to highlight this point explicitly? After all, almost all mitzvot are clarified and guided by the Oral Law. So why Shechita? Rav Moshe explains that Hashem chose Shechita specifically because it relates to eating – something that occupies our thoughts every single day. We eat breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks in between. Beyond that, we think about shopping, cooking, preparing, and serving food. Food is a constant in our lives. By placing the reminder of Torah She’ba’al Peh in the context of eating, the Torah teaches us a profound lesson: every moment of daily life is infused with Torah. Even in the most mundane acts – like planning meals or preparing food – we are reminded that our lives are guided not only by the Written Torah but also by the Oral Torah. This is a powerful message. Even when we may not be learning Torah texts at that moment, our lives are still deeply connected to Torah. Every time we sit down to eat, every time we make a bracha, every time we follow Halacha where ever we are, we are living a Torah-guided life.

So, as we go about our busy days, balancing work, family, and responsibilities, we should remember: we are constantly living a Torah life. Yes, we should always strive to learn more, but even outside the Beit Midrash, Torah surrounds us. That awareness should fill us with pride and with chizuk.

**SHORT & SWEET IDEAS
IN THE PARSHA W/
Rabbi Jonathan Morgenstern
& Rabbi Nuriel Klinger**

