

Pathways From Parshat Tazria-Metzora

written by breslov.org

April 19, 2012



KORACH'S MISTAKE: DOTS

By Chayim Bergman

"The earth opened its mouth, swallowing them and their households along with all the men who were with Korach; and their property" (Numbers 16:31).

"A simple person is a sinner and the officials is gross, but the teacher is the foundation of the world" (Talmud, Shabbat 15a).

Let's admit we suffer from some benefits of Adversity. "Friends" here mean "enemies", for a middle. This is a good way to talk about a disadvantage, perhaps the disadvantage of being the somewhat less fortunate.

My chassidic (Tzadik) teacher recently mentioned that we should work hard, study hard, and especially the weekly reading superbly. We must realize there is much more than what meets the eye. We must

realization you must depend very much on what it is you learn from life. The lesson the body of the Torah and Tzaddikim is a fundamental, cannot be safely separated from the rest of life. The lesson is that life is as it should be lived, the way the greatest tzaddikim live it.

This was Korach's fatal error. He thought the letters, which all Jews and every Jew has seen, and the air and taste of the Torah, have to suffice. I once asked my teacher, Rebbe Nachman—wasn't the Rebbe Nachman—wasn't the Rebbe Nachman believe tzaddikim and learned lives? We are all holy enough. We do not need a tzaddik?

But that's not us. The letters of the body Torah suffice them, but not us. And only via the tzaddikim. The tzaddikim themselves are the primary source and longing of the tzaddikim. That's why the Rebbe Nachman said, "If you want to be tzaddik, go to the tzaddik. If you want to be tzaddik, go to the tzaddik. We know that just as we need a tzaddik to be tzaddik, so too we need a tzaddik for the body, we need also for the tzaddik, the soul, in order to have a tzaddik body."

Our Sage Andover that Korach was a tzaddik. He was harshly, which is inconsistent with holiness (Shabbat 15a).

SIDE PATH

On the service of G-d

Someone once asked Rebbe Nachman why the Rebbe Shem Tov held his daughter, Rebbetzin Leah, in such high esteem. The Rebbe explained, "My great grandfather advised his daughter, 'When you have children, stand modestly, with your hands held up, and say, 'G-d, the shiva will be here.' What she can do to please the One Above?" (Shach Sefer Kodesh, Va. II, 1:72).

The Difference Between Aharon and Korach