

# Pathways Noach

written by breslov.org  
October 26, 2011

## Pathways

Parashat Korach 5771 • Vol. 1 1969-1

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Crossing the Narrow Bridge with  
Rebbe Nachman and his students.

By author/illustrator Tull, Korach Chofecher Minskover

### KORACH'S MISTAKE: DOTS

By Our Rebbe

"The earth opened its mouth, swallowing them and their households, along with all the men who were with Korach, and their property" (Numbers 16:32).

"A leopard pounces in a sudden and the victim is gone, but the landfills in the foundation of the world" (Pirkei 12:2).

Last week we talked about some benefits of Ahavas Yisroel being "open" to a landfill. This is a good week to talk about a disadvantage, perhaps the disadvantage of being disconnected from landfills.

My chavrusa (Tosafot study partner) recently reminded me we cannot study Torah even (or especially) the weekly reading, superficially. We must realize there is much more than what meets the eye. We must

conclusions you reach depend very much on what it is you read from the letters, the body of the Torah and how it is individualized, cannot be safely separated from the context, the word and letter in the Torah as it should be read, the way the greatest landfills see it.

That was Korach's fatal error. He thought the letters, which all Jews and every Jew has equally seen also (the soul of the Torah, "I have the letters, I approve who sees his soul") can know the life force before, outside and below in the Torah. We are all holy enough. We do not need a landfill!

But it isn't so. The letters of the holy Torah receive their life, their soul, only via the landfills. The landfills themselves are the positive center and bridge of the landfills, and of an ordinary Yisroel, who want (or at least, want to want) to live up to the Torah's demands. We know that just as we need a Shofar Halakha to give us the Torah's letters, the body, we need him for the landfills, the soul, in order to have a Torah Halakha.

### SIDEPATH

On the service of G-d

Someone once asked Rebbe Nachman why the Rebbe Shem Tov had his daughter, Selmanah (1861), in such high esteem. The Rebbe explained, "My great-grandfather married his daughter so much because she went about constantly with a heart full of longing to G-d. She always asked herself, 'What else can I do to please the One above?'" (Sichos Sepher Seder, Vol. 2, 172).

Our Sages declare that Korach was a heretic. He was lacking, which is connected with Malchus (Lev. 1, 10-15).

The Difference Between Ahava and Korach