



RABBI SHALOM

ROSNER

Rav Kehilla, Nofei HaShemesh
Maggid Shiur, Daf Yomi, OU.org
Senior Ra"m, Kerem B'Yavneh

Enhancing Spirituality Without Inflating One's Ego

Within the chapter depicting Akeidas Yitzhak, there is a phrase that is repeated three times. וילכו יחדו – *vayelchu yachdav* (they went together). The first occurrence is in chapter 22 pasuk 6 describing how Avraham acted while preparing to sacrifice his son:

וַיִּקַּח אַבְרָהָם אֶת־עֵצִי הָעֹלָה וַיִּשֶׂם עַל־יִצְחָק בְּנוֹ וַיִּקַּח בְּיָדוֹ אֶת־הָאֵשׁ וְאֶת־הַמַּאֲכָלֶת וַיֵּלְכוּ שְׁנֵיהֶם יַחְדָּו

*And Avraham took the wood for the burnt offering, and he placed [it] upon his son Yitzhak, and he took into his hand the fire and the knife, and **they both went together**.*

Rashi suggests that the purpose of the phrase here is to highlight Avraham's greatness. **And they both went together:** Avraham, who knew that he was going to slaughter his son, was going as willingly and joyfully as Yitzhak, who

was unaware of the matter. Despite the difficulty of having to potentially slaughter one's only child, Avraham accepted the God given decree and acted as willingly as Yitzhak who was likely unaware of what was about to transpire.

The second occurrence of this phrase is in verse 8:

וַיֹּאמֶר אַבְרָהָם אֱלֹקִים יְרָאֵה־לִּי הַשֶּׁה לְעֹלָה בְּנִי וַיֵּלְכוּ שְׁנֵיהֶם יַחְדָּו

*And Avraham said, "God will provide for Himself the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." **And they both went together**.*

Rashi suggests that the purpose of this phrase here is to highlight Yitzhak's greatness. **And they both went together:** Although Yitzhak understood that he was going to be slaughtered, "they both went together," with one accord (lit. with the same heart). Yitzhak did not hesitate. He went forward with the same conviction as his father Avraham to fulfil God's command.

The third occurrence of this phrase is at the end of the parsha in pasuk 19, after

Secluded Vacation
Retreat that sleeps 50

- Large Heated Pool
- Kosher Kitchen
- Sports / Game Room
- Kid Friendly

isravilla.com 058.416.6927



Northern Galilee

Avraham descends from Har Hamoriah upon completing his 10th *nisayon- the Akeida* –

וַיָּשָׁב אַבְרָהָם אֶל-נַעֲרָיו וַיְקַמּוּ וַיֵּלְכוּ יחדוֹ אֶל-בְּאֵר שָׁבַע
וַיָּשָׁב אַבְרָהָם בְּבֵאֵר שָׁבַע

And Avraham returned to his young men, **and they arose and went together** to Be'er Sheva; and Avraham remained in Be'er sheva.

Rashi is silent on this pasuk. After highlighting that the first two uses of this phrase portray the unique characteristics of dedication and devotion of Avraham and Yitzhak to God's command, what is the third use of this phrase meant to teach us?

In *Vakarata L'Shabbos Oneg* (vol 2), Rav Shmuel M'Karov is quoted as stating that the third use of this phrase accentuates Avraham's *midas ha'anava* – his humility! After returning from such a great event, Avraham returned to his servants and went with them- as if they were on the same level.

No matter how significant an event we perform, or impressive achievement, we can't let it get to our head. Whether it is a spiritual accomplishment like – making a siyum, serving as a chazan, giving a public speech or dvar torah, or obtaining material success and riches, we have to remain

humble. Avraham did not just return to his servants- he returned to earth. He returned to his senses and did not exemplify superior sentiments, notwithstanding his engagement with an angel.

When the angel calls out to warn Avraham not to slaughter his son- the angel declares: Avraham: Avraham. There are four individuals who are called by their name twice consecutively. Avraham, Yaakov, Moshe and Shmuel. This is to emphasize that although these individuals experienced an amazing event, they remained the same humble individual as they were prior to such encounter.

May we all be worthy of great achievements and be able to enhance our spiritually without inflating our ego. ■

The ENDURING POWER OF ATTORNEY

The new way to ensure your affairs
are looked after
in the event of your becoming
incapable of doing so yourself

A TALK by
Advocate Shmuel
(Laurence) Becker
Free - On ZOOM



Join me
Tuesday
10th November 2020
11.00 a.m.

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7787164878>
password - 366183



Having a Brit?
KISEI SHEL ELIAHU

Available to borrow
from the OU Israel Center

For details, call
Marion Silman 052-240-7078