

RABBIGIDEON Machon Puah for Fertility and Gynecology in Accordance with Halacha

WEITZMAN

Finding the Hidden **Treasure**

n this week's parsha the Torah promises us then when we get to the Land of Israel we will experience contamination of our houses. The cohen will come and declare the house impure, which will eventually lead to removing the affected stones from the home.

Rashi asks why does the Torah promise that this will happen rather than warning us against such an eventuality? He answers that the Canaanites hid their treasure behind stones in their houses, hoping no one would ever discover it. Only as a result of removing the impure stones did the Iews find this hidden loot and were able to benefit from it.

Even though we may suffer from illness

and strife we must believe that God has a plan for us and it is for our own benefit. We are not always fortunate enough to be able to see this, but believe that it is always the case.

Yochanan and Reut had been married for a decade and had one daughter. After she was born Reut did not become pregnant again, and the couple started to get worried. They had great faith and continued to try naturally, but every month became a struggle. Their prayers and hopes of achieving a pregnancy were dashed time and time again.

Reut was becoming desperate and could not understand why this was happening to them. They were religious; Yochanan spent all of his spare time learning Torah, they both volunteered at a local soup kitchen and were wonderful parents to their daughter. Why was God punishing them in this way?

Eventually they went to a doctor and he started running a whole battery of tests.

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The couple felt that this was unnecessary; they had one child, were young and healthy, they did not want to undergo more and more tests and were uncomfortable with the excessive medical interventions.

After examining Yochanan, the doctor called them immediately with a serious concern that something was wrong. He had discovered a growth in one of the testicles that needed attention. Testing revealed that it was testicular cancer and Yochanan underwent emergency surgery.

After a long convalescence and treatment Yochanan and Reut has two more children. Today Yochanan is healthy and the couple look back and realize that were it not for their period of infertility they may never had discovered the cancer, with potentially fatal results. In their case it was clear why they needed to undergo fertility testing; it was to save Yochanan's life.

We cannot always see why, but we believe that all that happens to us comes from God and is for our benefit.

The Puah Institute is based in Jerusalem and helps couples from all over the world who are experiencing fertility problems. Offices in Jerusalem, New York, Los Angeles & Paris. Contact (Isr) 02-651-5050 (US) 718-336-0603 <u>www.puahonline.org</u>

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