



**RABBI SHALOM**

**ROSNER**

RAV KEHILLA, OHEL EPHRAIM IN NOFEI HASHEMESH  
MAGGID SHIUR, DAF YOMI, OU.ORG  
ROSH BAIS MEDRASH ENGLISH SPEAKING PROGRAM JCT MACHON LEV

# Leaving Mitzrayim Again and Again

Parashat Masei lists the 42 journeys of Bnei Yisrael. At first glance, it seems repetitive: “They traveled... they encamped... they traveled...” Why record every stop?

The Shemen HaTov offers a transformative insight. The journeys were not just physical, but they were also spiritual.

## NOT ONE EXODUS — BUT MANY

The Torah links all the journeys to *Yetziat Mitzrayim*. Why? Because leaving Egypt was not a one-time event. Each journey was another step away from *Mitzrayim*. Not geographically, but spiritually.

“וַיֵּצֵאוּ... וַיֵּצֵאוּ”

## LEAVING AND BECOMING

The Torah repeatedly states both departure and arrival:

- They left somewhere
- They arrived somewhere new

This teaches us that growth is not just about

where one is headed, it is also about one is leaving behind.

## A DYNAMIC LIFE

Life is never static. We are always either moving forward or slipping backward. As we have said on several occasions, life is like going up a downward escalator. If you are not ascending, you are descending. There is no standing still with respect to *ruchniyut* (spirituality). One has to continue to strive and work on themselves to achieve constant growth. Every stage of life is a journey, both moving away from what we were and toward what we can become.

## TO AND FROM

*Yetziat Mitzrayim* did not end at the sea. It continues in every decision we make, with every challenge we face and in each step that we take forward. Each time we grow, we leave behind another layer of limitation. As the word *mitzrayim* has as its root – *meitzar*, which means limitations. Each time we move forward, we break a glass ceiling and come closer to who we were meant to become. ■

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