

פסח

ברוך המקום ברוך הוא ברוך שנתן תורה לעמו ישראל ברוך הוא. The Vilna Gaon explains that ברוך המקום is referring to בריאת העולם. ברוך שנתן תורה is referring to מתן תורה. We thank ה' for these two moments that are central in the world of a Jew. He further explains that ברוך הוא is referring to the מחשבת ה', the concept before ה' actually implemented them. We certainly can understand why we should thank for בריאת העולם and מתן תורה, however, why thank ה' for His מחשבה once we have thanked ה' for His מעשה?

Rav Shlomo Brevda שליט"א explains that one of the central themes of the סדר is הכרת הטוב. The גמ' פסחים קטז,א brings down that ר' נחמן asked his servant, if a master frees his servant and gives him gold and silver, how should the servant respond? The servant replied that he must give much thanks and praise to him. ר' נחמן then told him that you have just exempted yourself from saying מה נשתנה. We see from here that the תכלית of סיפור יציאת מצרים is to be מכיר טוב. On this night we look to be מכיר טוב to the highest degree. This is why we thank ה' for even the מחשבות, the concepts. Someone who has truly internalized the מדה of הכרת הטוב will look for every situation to thank ה'.

We learn from here the חשיבות of the מדה of הכרת הטוב. The תורה devotes an entire night dedicated to acquiring this מדה. Once we have internalized it, and recognize אשרינו מה טוב חלקינו, it will elevate our עבודת ה' of the whole year to new heights.

Have a good Yomtov.

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