

Hayom Yom: 1 Cheshvan, the 2nd day of Rosh Chodesh

בְּמִנְחָה - וְכֵן בְּשָׁנֵי וּבְחֻמֵּי דְשָׁבוּעַ הַבָּא עָלֵינוּ לְטוֹבָה - קוֹרִין לְיִשְׂרָאֵל מִפְּסוּק וַיֵּרָא ה' אֶל אַבְרָם גו'.

1 [In the Torah Reading] at the Afternoon Service, and likewise [at the Morning Service] on Monday and Thursday of the following week, the third aliyah² begins with the verse,³ “And G-d appeared to Avram.”⁴

כְּבוֹד קְדוּשַׁת אֲמוֹ"ר אָמַר לְאַחַד עַל יְחִידוֹת: מֵאִז שְׁאֵמַר הַקַּב"ה לְאַבְרָהָם אָבִינוּ עָלֵינוּ הַשְּׁלוֹם, לָךְ לָךְ מֵאַרְצְךָ גו' וְכִתִּיב וַיֵּסַע אַבְרָם הַלֹּךְ וְנִסּוּעַ הַנְּגִבָה, הוֹתַחֵל סוּד הַבְּרוּרִים. וְעַל פִּי גִזִּירַת הַהַשְׁגָּחָה הָעֲלִיּוֹנָה הָאָדָם הוֹלֵךְ לְמִסְעָיו בְּמָקוֹם אֲשֶׁר הַנְּצוּצוֹת הַצְּרִיכִים לְהִתְבָּרַר עַל יְדוּ מַחֲכִים לְגֵאוּלְתָם. הַצְּדִיקִים שֶׁהֵם בְּעַלֵי רְאִיָּה רוֹאִים הֵם בְּאִיזָה מְקוֹם הַבְּרוּרִים שֶׁלָּהֶם מַחֲכִים לָהֶם וְהוֹלְכִים שָׁמָּה בְּעֶצְמָם, וְעַמָּא דְבַר, הִנֵּה עֹלֵת כָּל הָעֲלוֹת וְסִבַּת כָּל הַסִּבּוֹת מְסַבֵּב כִּמָּה עֲלוֹת וְסִבּוֹת שֶׁיָּבוֹאוּ לְמָקוֹם הַהוּא אֲשֶׁר שֵׁם הוֹטְלָה עֲלֵיהֶם הָעֲבוּדָה בְּעֲבוּדַת הַבְּרוּרִים.

My revered father, [the Rebbe Rashab,] once told a chassid at yechidus: “From the time the Holy One, blessed be He, told Avraham, ‘Go forth from your land,’⁵ and thereafter ‘Avram journeyed on, continuing to travel southward,’⁶ the mystical mission of beirurim began. [This term signifies the task of sifting materiality, and elevating the Divine sparks that are embedded within all permissible entities and activities, by using them with spiritual purpose.]

“Propelled by the decree of Sublime Providence, a person travels to the place where the sparks that are destined to be elevated by him await their redemption.

“Tzaddikim, being gifted with vision, can perceive where ‘their’ sparks await them, and proceed there of their own accord. For common people, by contrast, the Cause of all causes and the Prime Mover sets in motion a train of events and circumstances that will bring an individual to the particular place where he is duty-bound to fulfill his specific tasks of sifting materiality and elevating its sparks.”⁷
