



Beddikas Chametz: Practical Avodah in Pnimiyyus

Based on the writings of HaRav Avraham Tzvi Kluger *shlit"a* – ספר בני בכורי ישראל, מאמר ח' –



Bracha of בעור חמץ

- I want to burn all the 'chametz' inside me.
- *Just as I'm eliminating the chametz from my house and domain, so too, Hashem, please eliminate all the chitzonim, the ruach tumah from the world, and the Yetzer Hara inside us.*



Lighting the Candle

- I search for *chametz* in my heart. Challenging task at other times in the year, but at this moment there's a special awakening of strength to find and burn concealed negativity in my heart.
- Zefania 1:12: אֶחָפֵשׂ אֶת־יְרוּשָׁלַם בְּנֵרוֹת – find the *yiras shamayim* (ירושלים) that resides inside me.



Walking from room-to-room

- I attempt to check all the different parts of me, the multiple internal chambers that comprise me.
- Seeing the dust on *seforim*, at first disappoints me – thinking about all that I wasn't *zocheh* to learn – but it should soon turn to positive thoughts; being happy that at least I have the *ratzon* to learn. I become energized to *kovea* new learning *sedarim*.
- As I hold the *Shulchan Aruch*, I request to merit learning it properly in the future and fulfill all its details. I daven that my entire life – my emotions, thoughts and actions – be directed to Hashem.



Searching the Kitchen

- I now focus on looking for **physical** chametz.
- I think about the eating I've done that wasn't *l'sheim shamayim*, that lacked *d'veykus* and *emunah*; the food I ate that wasn't consumed in a way of *kedushas achila*; the "מעדנים/delicacies" that pulled my heart away from its Maker.
- I'm also grateful for the times I ate with *yishuv ha'daas*, making a bracha before and after.
- Strengthen my resolve to improve my *brachos*, to intensify my commitment to *kedushas achila*.



Bedrooms / Children's Rooms

- I recall that a Jewish home is like a mini-Mikdash, and must be treated as such.
- In the children's rooms, I think about the quality of my *chinuch* and upbringing of the children – am I motivated by teaching *kvod shamayim*, or am I only concerned with my own *kavod/nachas*?
- Have I remembered to teach them *ahavas Torah*, *yiras shamayim*, the *simcha* of being a Jew?
- How much *chametz* (i.e., negative influences) have I allowed to enter the hearts of my children?



Continued Turning Inward

- Do I truly believe in the *kedusha* of *Am Yisrael*?
- Do I truly believe Hashem cares deeply about every single Jew?
- Do I view myself as a *merkavah* for the *Shechinah* and a dignified, humble, and exemplary representative of Hashem in this world?
- As I look at every physical item in the house, I think about whether the manner I've used each item has *distanced* me from Hashem, or whether it has *brought me closer* to Him.