

English

בסייעתא דשמיא

# Zera Shimshon

Profound Divrei Torah culled from the writings of the  
Gaon and Mekubal Rav Shimshon Chaim ben Rav Nachman Michael Nachmeni zy"l,  
author of Sefer Zera Shimshon on Chumash and Toldos Shimshon on Pirkei Avos,  
who promised that all who study his words will be blessed with an abundance of good, wealth  
and honor, and will merit to see children and grandchildren thriving around their table.



Succos חג סוכות תשפ"ד • Zera Shimshon - the Limud that brings Yeshuos • גליין 258

## אמדות שמשון

### The Lessons learned from the Daled Minim

וְלָקַחְתֶּם לָכֶם בַּיּוֹם הָרִאשׁוֹן, פְּרֵי עֵץ הָדָר, כַּפֹּת תְּמָרִים, וְעֵנָף עֵץ עֲבוֹת,  
וְעֵרְבֵי נָחַל, וּשְׂמַחְתֶּם לִפְנֵי ה' אֱלֹהֵיכֶם שִׁבְעַת יָמִים: (ויקרא כ"ג מ')

*You shall take for yourselves on the first day, the fruit of the  
citron tree, the branches of date palms, twigs of plaited tree, and  
brook willows; and you shall rejoice before Hashem, your God,  
for a seven day period.*

We can explain that these four species that we have a  
Mitzvah to take on Succos, all come to signify that now  
after Yom Kippur, when all our sins were forgiven, we  
have an opportunity to start anew, and to utilize the  
upcoming year, towards perfecting ourselves and  
our deeds in our Avodas Hashem.

**פרי עץ הדר** - The Esrog, which represents the  
Heart, reminds us to strengthen our relationship and  
love to Hashem. Additionally, just as an Esrog  
remains growing on the tree throughout the entire  
year without being effected by any weather or  
condition, and remains complete and wholesome  
throughout all the seasons, so too we should strive to  
remain steadfast in our commitment to Hashem  
throughout every situation and to utilize our every moment  
to perfect ourselves.

**כפות תמרים** - The Lulav reminds us to do Teshuva. As the  
Lulav has a good taste but no smell at all, it reminds us what  
the Gemara in Eruvin (כ"א ע"ב) says regarding one who doesn't sin;  
What - מאי דכתיב הדודאים נתנו ריח, אלו בחורי ישראל שלא טעמו טעם חטא  
What is the meaning of that which is written "The violets emit a  
fragrance"? This refers to the young men of Israel who have not  
tasted the flavor of sin. The missing fragrance of the Lulav will  
remind us to do Teshuva so that we can acquire within ourselves  
the good scent that the Gemara is referring to. Furthermore, we



know that the Lulav represents the Spine, which symbolizes the  
strength of the person, which comes to remind us to do Teshuvah  
while we still have the strength to do so.

**וענף עץ עבות** - The Hadasim, which needs its leaves to cover the  
entire twig in order to be suitable for the Mitzvah, comes to remind  
us of the Mishnah in Avos (פ"ג מ"ט) who teaches us as follows; רבי  
חנינא בן דוסא אומר וכו', הוא חי' אומר, כל שמעשיו מרובים מחכמתו מתקיימת,  
Rabbi Chanina ben Dosa says... He used to say "Anyone whose deeds exceed his  
wisdom, his wisdom will endure, but anyone whose wisdom  
exceeds his deeds, his wisdom will not endure". The leaves  
represent the good deeds of a person and the wooden  
trunk and twigs represent his wisdom. Just as the leaves  
of the Hadas need to overshadow the twig, so too our  
good deeds need to exceed our wisdom.

**וערבי נחל** - The Arava symbolizes the Lips. Just as a dried  
willow branch is unacceptable for the Mitzvah, so too  
one must make sure to constantly wet his lips by  
speaking out loud the words of the Torah. This is  
demonstrated in the following incident that the  
Gemara records in Eruvin להוואי אשכחתי להוואי  
(נ"ע ע"ב) ברורי' אשכחתי להוואי אשכחתי להוואי אשכחתי להוואי  
תלמידא דהוה קא גריס בלחשיה, בטשה ב'י, אמרה ל' לא כך  
כתוב, ערוכה בכל ושמורה, אם ערוכה ברמ"ח אברים שלך  
Beruriah once encountered a certain student who was reviewing his  
studies quietly. She kicked him and said to him "Is the  
following not written - Arranged in all and secure; If  
your learning is arranged in all your two hundred  
and forty eight limbs, then it is secure and will not  
be forgotten, but if not, it is not secure and will be  
forgotten?"

When we hold these Four Species every day of Succos, it's a  
time for retrospection, to see if our ways coincide with the lessons  
that these species teach us, and if not there is no time better than  
now to change our ways. This will definitely be a merit for us to  
be blessed with a year of Life and Prosperity.

(ד"ר שמשון פ' אמור אות')

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