בס"ד

PARSHAS KI SISA

Motiv8 with R' Ori Strum

PARSHAH OVERVIEW

The parshah begins with the prohibition of counting Jews, the donation of half-shekel, the mirrored urn, the oil and incense. Shabbos, the sin of the Golden Calf, the smashing of the Luchos and creation of the second Luchos are discussed as well.

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QUOTABLE QUOTE

If you don't know what you're living for, you haven't yet lived.
Rabbi Noah Weinberg zt"l

PARSHAH STATS

Pesukim - 139
Words - 2,002
Letters - 7,424
Mitzvos - 9

GEMATRIA

The numerical value of חלבנה, which was the bad smelling part of the incense, is 95, which is the same as יפה - beautiful. We all have "bad smelling" midos; but we have to realize that deep down, we are still יפה, holy and beautiful.

THOUGHTS IN CHASSIDUS

The *Meor Einayim*, *Rebbe Menachem Nachum of Chernobyl*, explains that a pleasure that is constant is not called pleasure. That is why Moshe learned the Torah and forgot it, so that way he could experience the great pleasure again and again. Every day is a new day, a new opportunity for pleasure!

DID YOU KNOW

A study done in the '80s found that a single session of dance class gave students a bigger well-being boost compared to a sports class or a regular academic class. Dance made them feel creative, intelligent, healthy, confident and motivated.

QUICK VORT

The *Sefer Emes L'Yakov* points out that Moshe Rabbeinu did not throw down the Luchos until he saw the Jewish people dancing around the Eigel Hazahav.

The mistake of the Jewish people by Purim was not that they partook in the seuda of Achashveirosh, but that they were נהנה - they deeply enjoyed - the seuda of Achashveirosh.

When the Jewish people were dancing around the Eigel, it showed they were happy to serve an idol over Hashem. It was no longer a "last resort" option; it was preferred.

Dancing is the highest form of physical expression (of either tumah or kedusha) because one's entire being is involved. That is why Moshe only smashed the Luchos when he saw them dancing around it.

Let us live life with joy and holy dancing as we get closer to G-d.

Have a holy Shabbos!