



בס"ד

YESHIVA DARCHEI TORAH

ישיבה דרכי תורה

YAAKOV & ILANA MELOHN CAMPUS, IN MEMORY OF REB YOSEF MELOHN, ז"ל

הרב יעקב בנדר  
ראש הישיבה

Mar Cheshvan 5781

To my dear friend and talmid, an exceptional talmid chochom,  
Harav Mordechai Burg, shlita:

I read through some of the chiddushei Torah you sent. Impressive is an understatement. Your insights and clarity of vision, as to what the Torah and Chazal are trying to tell us about each and every event and mitzvah in the Torah, are incredible. The hashkofos that you espouse are truly exceptional and can be of tremendous benefit to both the layman and the talmid chochom.

I am positive that your sefer will find itself in the choshuviste batei midrashim and homes of Gedolei Yisroel. My brocha to you is that you should continue your avodas Hakodesh for many more years to come. May you also continue to write more and more for the benefit of Klal Yisroel.

On a personal level, may you and your Rebbetzin, shetichye, see only nachas from your beautiful family for many happy and healthy years.

Hatzlacha and Bracha,

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Cheshvan 5781

## MICHTAV BRACHA

Rabbi Mordechai Burg, a dedicated and beloved educator, has compiled a book of essays on the Parshat HaShavua. Starting with interesting and incisive textual questions focusing on contradictions, redundancies or the introduction of seemingly superfluous details, Rabbi Burg proceeds to answer those questions not by technical interpretive devices but by introducing and elucidating meaningful yesodos – foundational ideas – in avodas Hashem that are both inspiring and practical. He draws on a wide-range of sources – Chazal, Maharal, Chassidus, Kabbala, and Mussar – and he infuses these sources with his own creative understandings, solidly grounded in the mesorah received from his own teachers. The essays are well-written, cogently organized, and thoroughly-documented. The careful reader will be rewarded not only with a “good vort” but with crucial lessons in how to grow as a Jew, an Eved Hashem, and indeed as a good human being.

Rabbi Burg deserves our gratitude for writing this fine work. May he find much hatzlacha and bracha in his avodas hakodesh – in this sefer and in his other endeavors.

With Admiration and Bracha,  
Yitzchak A. Breitowitz  
Rav, Kehillas Ohr Somayach  
Jerusalem



*From the Desk of*

RABBI AHRON LOPIANSKY

Rosh HaYeshiva

Cheshvan 5781

I have been privileged to read a few of the essays in Rav Mordechai Burg's new *sefer*. While today's generation is an impatient one, and people usually prefer "bite-sized" blurbs, Rav Burg has bucked the trend and written a serious and most edifying *sefer* on Chumash. He takes the *psukim* and *chazal*, has us looking at them carefully, and with a keen eye, noting the unusual features. He then takes pain to develop important and fundamental ideas, with the depth and breadth that is needed. And there are take-away lessons for all of us.

It is a paradigm for what serious *chumash* study ought to look like. It is hoped that the reader will approach it with the thoughtfulness that it deserves, and we will learn to read carefully, and to ponder at length, the fundamental truths taught by the Torah.

With heartfelt blessings for continued *hatzlacha* in *harbatzas hatorah*, both in person, and through *seforim*,

Ahron Shrager Lopiansky

# RAV YEHUDA PARNES

ROSH YESHIVA, BEIS MEDRASH L'TALMUD

## MICHTAV BRACHA

Rav Mordechai Burg has been a *talmid muvhak* of mine for many years. For five years he plumbed the depths of *lomdus* in my *shiur* and subsequently became a close *chavrusa* of mine. His insatiable quest for truth is the driving force behind his phenomenal success in the *chinuch* world and all the myriad of endeavors with which he is involved. His ability to articulate issues and define them has enhanced his unique talent of connecting to people from all walks of life.

In *Nitzotzos*, Rav Mordechai has harnessed his *koach* for analysis of *Torah SheBe'al Peh* and has applied it to *Torah SheBichsav*. He uses *lomdus* to analyze the *pesukim* and develop answers that are both thoughtful and inspiring. Delving into the more mystical aspects of *Yiddishkeit*, an area that I personally never engaged in, Rav Mordechai is able to articulate difficult concepts using well-defined language. In this way, he has taken the tools he developed in my *shiur* and expanded their scope.

It is with a great sense of pride and *nachas* that I am able to see the beautiful fruits of his *hasmada* and determination to produce a very unique *sefer* that will challenge one's approach to *Chumash* and indeed to life itself.

Rav Yehuda Parnes

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RABBI MOSHE WEINBERGER



קהילת אש קודש דוודמיר

הרב משה וויינבערגער  
מרא דאתרא

ח' מרחשון ה'תשס"א

ב"ה

Klal Yisrael is blessed with many gifted teachers who generously share their wisdom with their students. There are, however, precious few who have the unique ability to give life, to actually revive, inspire, and ignite the souls of their talmidim and talmidos. My esteemed friend, Rav Mordechai Burg is such a teacher. Over the years I have met countless young men whose lives were literally transformed by R. Mordechai. He is a devoted and inspiring rebbe whose goal is not to merely inform his students, but to open their eyes and hearts to the inner light of Yiddishkeit.

In "Nitzotzos" – "Sparks," R. Burg has put a selection of his electrifying "shmoozen" into writing, thus making his "torahs" available to a much wider audience. I have no doubt that each reader will quickly become a "talmid" of this exceptional mashpia!

הרב משה וויינבערגער  
מרא דאתרא

ג' כסלו תשפ"א

ד"ר

יין ראיתי וזו ספרו היקר אל יתפזר מיני אילן אפרוח  
במטה קדם בננוצות. ספר מצויין זה הוא למעלה וזכרתי אנוכי בתקופה  
גאליה זו אשר ידענו מנהג גמור, ולדעת קטלג ידועים אנו אנוכי וכלל יד  
למנוח. מן היקף ומעמד מוסר ומעלות גמור.  
(א"ת) קריקט אנוכי למנוח וזכרתי למטה אילן קריקט תמידי  
למנוח, מנהג נאמנה, למטה אילן וכלל.

כ"ר



5 Kislev 5781

ח' כסלו תשפ"א

*I have seen the precious sefer of Rav Mordechai Burg Shlita on the parshios of the Torah. This excellent sefer is of great value, and serves to illuminate the wisdom of the Torah, especially in the confused time period in which we live, in that it demonstrates the refrain of "maseh avos siman lebanim", offers direction and guidance in all of life's matters, and delivers lessons in mussar-all from the parshios of the Torah*

*I am confident that many will gain from its light, and I bless the author shlita to constantly raise and glorify the Torah with happiness, contentment, and nachas.*

הן ראיתי את ספרו היקר של הרה"ג ר' מרדכי ברג שליט"א על פרשיות התורה בשפה האנגלית. ספר מצויין זה יש בו תועלת גדולה, ובפרט לנבוכי התקופה באשר יש בו להאיר את חכמת התורה, ולהראות שמעשה אבות סימן לבנים וכיצד יש ללמוד דרך חיים ותוכחת מוסר מפרשיות התורה.

בטוחני שרבים יאותו לאורו וברכתי למחבר שליט"א שיזכה תמיד להגדיל תורה ולהאדירה בשמחה שלווה ונחת.

ביקר  
אשר וייס