

פרשת ויצא

ותען רחל ולאה וגו' העוד לנו חלק ונחלה בבית אבינו וגו' ועתה כל אשר אמר ה' עשה [לא, יד]

The תורה relates that when ה' told יעקב to leave the house of לבן, he shares with רחל and לאה his desire to leave. They replied that they are areeable because they don't have any connection with their father anyway, so יעקב should follow ה' s directive. Their response needs explanation. Why didn't they simply say that whatever ה' says we shall do. Were they planning on listening to ה' only because they had nothing to lose?

Rav Elya Lopian זצ"ל explains that the proper way to do ה' עבודת is ***NOT*** to feel as though it's difficult but I'll do it anyway. One should feel that there is no sacrifice or loss whatsoever but rather one is gaining immensely. Indeed, nothing compares to a life of תורה ומצוות. רחל and לאה were responding like this as well. They were conveying to יעקב that there wasn't any sacrifice involved for them to follow the command of ה'.

Rav Moshe Feinstein זצ"ל adds, that this is an important message in regard to חינוך. The message that we want to impart to our children is that a lifestyle of תורה and yiddishkeit is one that is rewarding and not difficult and full of sacrifice. Through this, they will develop a true love for תורה and מצוות.

Have a good Shabbos.

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