

### שתי תקופות בימות המשיח (א) WHAT WILL THE ERA OF MOSHIACH BE LIKE (1)

# DVAR MALCHUS

AS ILLUMINATED BY THE REBBE'S TEACHINGS

# DVAR MALCHUS | דבר מלכות סימן ג

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#### Introduction

hen the Baal Shem Tov initiated the chassidic movement, one of the means through which he attracted followers was by performing miracles. Talk of a wonderworker spread throughout the small villages of Eastern Europe and people flocked to him and afterwards to the Rebbeim who followed his path.

This phenomenon did not only characterize the initial stages of the chassidic movement; it carries on to the present day. In every generation, there are Rebbeim who perform miracles stretching – and even transcending – the limits of nature.

When chassidim get together, this is what they often talk about; they tell stories of the miracles their Rebbes performed. In a letter to the Rebbe Rayatz, his father-in-law, the Rebbe explains this tendency:<sup>1</sup>

In the present age, when due to the distress of the times, people's emotional potential has dwindled and they are sunk in material affairs, their entire concern is for material matters – to the extent that refinement and an elevation of the soul are not felt at all. On the surface, this is difficult to correct [only] by intellectual means, for [such means] will not affect a person. They are too lofty and refined to be used as a first step. Miracles and the stories of *tzaddikim* and the wonders they perform, by contrast, generate inspiration within the soul, taking one out of and shaking oneself free of – at least partially – material concerns. This moves even souls which are on a lowly level, or which are found in a low spiritual state.

When we hear stories of a *tzaddik* who can bend and even step above the framework of everyday experience, it is inspiring. Something in our hearts begins to stir. We become attuned to the Divine potential existing within each one of us and within the world at large, and we are able to lift our vision to a horizon that we would not ordinarily perceive.

For this reason, when a chassid sees *Rambam's* description of the Era of *Mashiach*, he is surprised. *Rambam* writes:<sup>2</sup>

One should not entertain the notion that any element of the natural order will be nullified in the Era of *Mashiach*, or that there will be any innovation in the work of creation. Rather, the world will continue according to its pattern.

However, when a chassid thinks about Mashiach, he expects miracles.

Of course, every one of us looks forward to the fulfillment of the promises of peace and blessing that will characterize the Era of *Mashiach*, but in our heart of hearts, what really inspires us is the hope that we will gain greater awareness of G-dliness. Since G-d and our souls

are fundamentally unlimited, not bound by any rules or constraints, we do not expect that – in the era when G-d's world and our souls will reach their consummate fulfillment – our lives will continue in the same natural pattern as they do today.

In the *sichah* that follows, the Rebbe focuses on these issues in his analysis of *Rambam's* words, giving us an understanding of G-d's conception of the Ultimate Redemption, and by doing so, he provides a roadmap to hasten its coming.

## What will the Era of Mashiach Be Like

#### Will the Natural Order Change?

In the concluding chapter of *Hilchos Melachim*, *Rambam*<sup>1</sup> presents the following principles regarding the Era of the Ultimate Redemption:

One should not entertain the notion<sup>2</sup> that any element of the natural order will be nullified in the Era of *Mashiach*, or that there will be any innovation in the work of creation. Rather, the world will continue according to its pattern.<sup>3</sup>

[Although]Yeshayahu<sup>4</sup> states, "A wolf will dwell with a lamb...," these [words] are an allegory and a metaphor. [They mean that] Israel will dwell securely together with the wicked idolaters<sup>5</sup> who are likened to wolves and leopards..., as it is written,<sup>6</sup> "a wolf of the desert robs them...."

[In this era,] all [nations] will return to the true faith and no longer plunder or destroy.... Instead, they will eat that which is permitted,... as it is written,<sup>7</sup>

This *sichah* was delivered as a *siyum* (the conclusion of a Talmudic tractate) of Tractate *Kesubos* and published as a *hadran*, concluding treatise, on *Rambam's Mishneh Torah*.

2. The phrase "entertain the notion" is a translation of the Hebrew idiom, yaaleh al hadaas. See sec. 9 of the hadran on Rambam's Mishneh Torah (5735) printed for 11 Nissan, 5745, which, based on the literal meanings of the words, interprets Rambam's usage of a similar phrase (Hilchos Yesodei HaTorah 1:2) as referring to "lifting one's knowledge to a higher level." 3. Similar wording is found in *Hilchos Teshuvah* 9:2. *Rambam* elaborates concerning this subject in his *Commentary on the Mishnah* (*Sanhedrin*, the introduction to ch. 10).

#### 4. Yeshayahu 11:6.

One might ask: Why did Rambam raise this question regarding Yeshayahu's prophecy rather than regarding the Torah's promise (Vayikra 26:6), "I will remove hostile beasts from the land"? (See the question raised by Ra'avad in his commentary on Rambam, as cited in sec. 3 below.)

To answer: that verse need **not** be interpreted as **disrupting the natural pattern of the world. It could be interpreted as** *Ramban* did in his  א. פָתַב הָרַמִבַּ״ם בְּפֶּרֶק הַסִיוּם שָׁל הִלְכוֹת מְלָכִים״: אַל יַעֲלֶה<sup>י</sup> עַל
 שָׁל הִלְכוֹת מְלָכִים״: אַל יַעֲלֶה<sup>י</sup> עַל
 הַלָּב שָׁבִימוֹת הַמָּשִׁיחַ יִבְּטַל דְּבָר מִמּנְהָגוֹ שָׁל עוֹלָם, אוֹ יִהְיֶה שָׁם מִמּנְהָגוֹ שָׁל עוֹלָם, אוֹ יִהְיֶה שָׁם חִדּוּשׁ בְּמַעֲשֵׂה בְרַאשִׁית, אָלָא עוֹלָם פְמִנְהָגוֹ נוֹהֵג<sup>י</sup>, וְזֶה שֶׁנֶּאֶמַר בִישַׁעְיָה<sup>ד</sup> וְ</sup>גָר וְאֵב . מָשָׁל וְחִידָה געם רִשְׁנָא עַפוּ״ם״ הַמְשׁוּלִים כִּזְאַב עם רִשְׁגַע עַפוּ״ם״ הַמְשׁוּלִים כִּזְאַב גַרַת הָאֶמֶת' וְלָא יִגְזְלוּוְלֹא יַשְׁחִיתוּ, אָלָא יֹאַכְלוּ דַכַר הַמִתַר . שֶׁנָאֵמַר . שָׁנָאַמַר

commentary on the verse (see also *Rambam's* "Treatise on the Resurrection of the Dead") as meaning, "Hostile beasts will not come into your land because there will be [abundant] prosperity; due to the profusion of goodness, the cities will be full with people, and [as a result,] the beasts will not enter the settled areas." Accordingly, it is not necessary to offer a forced interpretation and say that the verse is merely an analogy. See sec. 3 below.

5. This is a censor's emendation. The original version was either "nations" or "the nations of the world."

6. Yirmeyahu 5:6.

7. Yeshayahu 11:7.

<sup>1.</sup> Mishneh Torah, Hilchos Melachim 12:1.

"The lion shall eat straw...."

Similarly, all other [prophecies] of this type concerning *Mashiach* are analogies. In the Era of the King *Mashiach*, everyone will realize what was implied by these analogies and allusions.

*Rambam* then continues<sup>8</sup> and summarizes: "Our Sages taught,<sup>9</sup> 'There will be no difference between the current age and the Era of *Mashiach* except [our emancipation from] subjugation by the [non-Jewish] kingdoms," as will be explained below, sec. 8.

On the surface, there are several *aggados* which would appear to contradict *Rambam's* principle<sup>10</sup> that the Era of the Redemption will not inaugurate a new and miraculous world order. For example, *Toras Kohanim*<sup>11</sup> teaches, "What is [the Scriptural source that teaches] that *ilanei srak* ['shade trees,' literally, 'barren' trees<sup>12</sup>] will produce [edible] fruit in the Ultimate Future? The Torah teaches,<sup>13</sup> 'The trees of the field will produce their fruit.'"

A similar concept is found at the conclusion of the Talmudic Tractate *Kesubbos*,<sup>14</sup> which states:

Rav Chiya bar Ashi said in the name of Rav, "In the Ultimate Future, all the shade trees in *Eretz Yisrael* will bear fruit, as it is written,<sup>15</sup> "The trees will bear their fruit and the fig trees and the vine will give forth their strength."

These statements appear to contradict the principle stated by *Rambam*, for surely the yielding of fruit by a shade tree **represents a change in the natural order**.<sup>16</sup>

9. *Berachos* 34b. Note the sources mentioned there.

10. See *Rambam's* discussion of this matter in his "Treatise on the Resurrection of the Dead," sec. 6, cited in sec. 16 below.

11. *Toras Kohanim* on *Vayikra* 26:4, cited by *Rashi* in his commentary on this verse.

12. Although *ilanei srak* literally means "barren trees," no species of trees is truly barren. All trees bear fruit of some kind so that they reproduce. However, shade trees do not bear edible fruit.

13. Vayikra 26:4.

14. Kesubbos 112b.

16. Note that the distinction between these two types of trees

וְאַרְיֵה' . וְכֵן כָּל כַּיוֹצֵא בְּאַלוּ הַדְּבָרִים בְּעָנְיֵן הַכָּשָׁשִׁיחַ הֵם מְשָׁלִים. וּבִימוֹת הַמֶּלֶדְ הַמָּשָׁיחַ הֵם יִוּדַע לַכּל לְאֵי זֶה דָבָר הָיָה מְשָׁל וּמָה עִנְיָן רָמְזוּ בָּהֶן. וּלְאַחֲרֵי זֶה מַמְשִׁידְּ": אָמְרוּ חֲכָמִים<sup>ט</sup> אֵין בֵּין הָעוֹלָם הַזֶּה לִימוֹת הַמָּשִׁיחַ אָלָא שׁעַבּוּד מַלְכִיוֹת בַּלְבַד. עַד כַּאָן.

וְלִכְאוֹרָה יֵשׁ סְתִירָה לְדַעַת הָרַמְבַּ"ם הַנַּ"לֹ שֶׁבִּימוֹת הַמָּשִׁיחַ לֹא יִבְּטֵל ״דָּכָר מִמִּנְהָגוֹ שָׁל עוֹלָם .. שֶׁלָּא עוֹלָם כְּמִנְהָגוֹ נוֹהֵג״ מִמַּה שָׁאָמְרוּ בְּתוֹרַת כֹּהֲנִים<sup>י</sup> ״וּימַנַּיִן שָׁאָמְרוּ בְּתוֹרַת כֹּהֲנִים<sup>י</sup> ״וּימַנַּיִן שָׁאַמְרוּ בְּתוֹרַת כַּהֲנִים<sup>י</sup> ״וּימַנַּיִן שָׁאַרָּ אילְנֵי סְרַק עַתִידִים לְהָיוֹת הוּא בְּסוֹף מַסֶּכֶת כְּתַבּוֹת: ״אָמַר הוּא בְסוֹף מַסֶּכֶת כְּתַבּוֹת: ״אָמַר בָרַ חִיִיא בַּר אַשִׁי אָמַר רַב עַתִידִין שָּׁיִטְעַנוּ בַּרוֹת, שֶׁנָאֲמַריי כִי עַיְ שָׁיּטְעַנוּ בַּרוֹת, שֶׁנָאֲמַרי כִם עַרָּתָלָ שָׁיָטְעַנוּ בַּרוֹת, שֶׁנָּאֲמַרי כָם עַיִדִין שָׁיָּטִעַנוּ בַּרוֹת, שֶׁנָּאַבַרָי כִי עַיָּ שֶׁיָּהוּ הֲרֵי עִנְיָן שֶׁל בְּטוּל מִנְהָגוֹ שֶׁעָּתוֹםיֹי.

- fruit trees and shade trees - is also *halachically* relevant (see also footnote 59 below): With regard to fruit trees, it is written (*Devarim* 20:19), "Do not destroy its trees." By contrast, with regard to shade trees, that passage continues (*ibid*. 20:20), "Only a tree that you know not to be a fruit tree may you destroy and cut down." See *Bava Kama* 91b; *Rambam, Hilchos Melachim* 6:8-9.\*

\* One should not raise the following question: Based on

<sup>8.</sup> *Hilchos Melachim* 12:2. See also the other sources cited in footnote 3.

<sup>15.</sup> Yoel 2:22.

#### **Figurative Speech or Actual Reality**

2. On the surface, it is possible to explain<sup>17</sup> that *Rambam* understood our Sages as speaking in allegory in the above instances as well. For example, based on our Sages' comments in a different source,<sup>18</sup> the term "fruit trees" in the above statement could be interpreted as a reference to Torah scholars and "shade trees" to the unlearned.<sup>19</sup> In the Ultimate Future, even shade trees, the unlearned, will bring forth fruit, i.e., they will become scholars,<sup>20</sup> or other positive interpretations could be offered for that analogy.<sup>21</sup>

ב. לְכָאוֹרָה אֶפְשָׁר הָיָה לוֹמַר<sup>ייד</sup> שֶׁלְדַעַת הָרַמְבַּ״ם, אַף מַאֲמָרֵי חַזַ״ל הַנַּ״ל הַם ״מָשָׁל וְחִידָה״, וּלְדָגְמָא<sup>ט</sup>י עַץ מַאֲכָל מוֹרָה (כְּמַאֲמַר חַזַ״לט) עַל תַּלְמִידֵי חֻכָּמִים, וְאִילְנֵי סְרַק אַלוּ עַמֵּי הָאָרֶץ, וְלֶעָתִיד לְבֹא יוֹצִיאוּ גַם אִילְנֵי סְרַק - עַמֵּי הָאָרֶץ, פֵּרוֹת, כְּלוֹמַר שֶׁיְהִיוּ לְתַלְמִידֵי חֲכָמִים" (אוֹ פַּרוּשׁ אַחָר כַּיוֹצֵא בַזָה״).

the statements in the main text that ultimately shade trees will also produce fruit, what is the difference between shade trees and fruit trees? It is forbidden to cut down fruit trees in the winter – although they do not produce fruit at that time – because they do produce fruit in the summer. Following that logic, one might ask: Since shade trees will produce fruit in the Ultimate Future, why is it permitted to cut them down in the present time when they do not produce fruit?

There are no grounds for such a question because the Torah itself made a distinction between these two types of trees, saying: "Only a tree that you know not to be a fruit tree may you destroy." The prohibition involves cutting down a tree that is now categorized as a fruit tree. Such a tree is forbidden to be cut down even in the winter when it is not producing fruit. However, a tree that is not categorized as such, but rather is a shade tree, is not included in the prohibition even though ultimately it will bear fruit. (In particular, this distinction between fruit trees and shade trees is viable according to the explanation in sec. 6 that the fact that such trees will bear fruit in the Ultimate Future will represent an innovation in their fundamental nature.

17. It would be an extremely forced

explanation to say that, according to *Rambam*, the teachings in *Toras Kohanim* and at the conclusion of the Tractate *Kesubos* do not follow the opinion of Shmuel who maintains that "there is no difference between the present era and the Era of *Mashiach* except for [the Jews'] subjugation by the non-Jewish nations." *Rambam* follows this approach; see sec. 8, below.\*

The difficulty in offering such an explanation is reflected also in the fact that in his Commentary on the Mishnah, Sanhedrin, introduction to chapter 10, Rambam explains the opinion of the Sage who maintains that Eretz Yisrael will produce pastries straight from the ground without saying that it does not follow Shmuel's opinion but that of the Sages mentioned in Shabbos 63a. Rambam could have stated that all the teachings in Sanhedrin, loc. cit., do not follow Shmuel's view. The fact that, instead of doing so, he explains those teachings differently implies that he maintains that they are not in contradiction with his approach.

\* In particular, this is true since the author of the quote in *Kesubos* is Rav. A possible interpretation of this marginal note is that it is supporting the approach mentioned at the beginning of the footnote – that these teachings do not follow Shmuel's understanding. The Talmud very frequently cites differences of opinion between Rav and Shmuel. Since the teachings in *Sanhedrin* were offered by Rav, there are grounds to say that they differ with the approach followed by Shmuel. Other explanations are also possible.

**18.** See *Taanis* **7a**, which refers to Torah scholars and the unlearned with a similar analogy.

19. See a similar interpretation offered by *Anaf Yosef* of the citation of this passage in *Ein Yaakov*. Note also *Iyun Yaakov* on this passage.

20. See *Rambam*, *Hilchos Melachim* 12:5, which mentions that then all Jews will reach heights of knowledge.

21. For example, the analogy of fruit trees can be interpreted as in Sotah 46a, "What is meant by 'fruit'... mitzvos." (See also Bereishis Rabbah 30:6, et al., which also employs a similar analogy and see Likkutei Sichos, Vol. 4, p. 1114ff., where this concept is explained.) In that context, the statement of our Sages cited in the main text could be interpreted to mean that even those who in the present age are in the category of those "filled with mitzvos as a pomegranate is filled with seeds"\* (Berachos 57a, see the sources mentioned there) will perform an abundance of mitzvos and good deeds in the Ultimate Future.

\* The quotation cited in footnote refers to the "sinners of Israel." Rather than use a pejorative term, in his characteristic manner, the Rebbe refers to them as above. On closer analysis of these passages, however, such an interpretation is untenable. Firstly, in general, it is difficult to accept the thesis<sup>22</sup> that our Sages' statements were intended to be understood only as allegories. In contrast to the Prophets, who frequently spoke in allegories, our Sages generally spoke directly. Thus, unless there is a clear indication to the contrary, their words should be understood according to their simple meaning.

Furthermore, such an interpretation is particularly difficult to accept in the present instance. The above-mentioned passage in Toras Kohanim follows the interpretation of several verses which speak of an abundance of material blessings in a very literal sense. For example, commenting on another phrase in the same verse quoted above<sup>13</sup> – "The earth will give forth its produce and the trees of the field will produce their fruit" - Toras Kohanim states, "[The earth will not give forth produce] as it does now, but rather as it did in the time of Adam, the first man.... On the very day he sowed, crops were produced.... On the very day, [a tree] was planted, it would produce fruit.... The tree itself could be eaten." Toras Kohanim is obviously speaking about blessings that should be understood according to their simple meaning, i.e., that they would be manifest in an actual physical sense.<sup>23</sup>

Similarly, the passage in the Talmud's Tractate *Kesubos* follows<sup>24</sup> several teachings<sup>25</sup> that must be interpreted according to their simple meaning, for example,<sup>26</sup> "Rabbi Chanina would fix any stumbling blocks [in the land].... [In the era before *Mashiach's* 

23. By contrast, our Sages' statement (*Shabbos* 30b), "In the future, the trees will produce fruit every day" – without emphasizing that they will follow the pattern set in the time of Adam, the first man – need not be interpreted according to its simple meaning.

24. See *Tosafos, Kesubos* 112b, s.v. *asidin*, which explains that the tractate concludes in this manner "because it desires to conclude with a positive statement." However, as is well known, even when our Sages cite a teaching in order to conclude

אבל אי אפשר לומר כּן, כי נוסף לכך שבכלל קשה לומריש על דברי תנאים ואמוראים (מה שאין כן דברי הנביאים) שאינם אַלַא משל, הרי בנדון דידן קשה ביותר, כי] מאמר הנ״ל בתורת כהַנִים בַּא בְהֵמִשֵׁך לְכַמֵה בְרַכוֹת שתכנם דַוְקָא בָרַכוֹת גַשׁמִיוֹת, כּוֹלֵל גַם הַבְּרַכָה שֶׁבַפָּסוּק<sup>יט\*</sup> יונתנה הארץ יבולה ועץ השדה יתן פּרִיוֹ״ - ״לא כְדֶרֶךְ שֶׁהָיָה עושה עַכִשָּׁו אֶלָא כִדֶרֶך שָׁעוֹשָׂה בִּימֵי אַדַם הַרָאשוֹן . נְזָרַעַת וְעוֹשֵׁה פֵּרוֹת בֵּן יוֹמַה . . נַטוּעַ וְעוֹשֶׂה פֵּרוֹת כֵּן יוֹמָה . . הָעֵץ נֶאֶכָל״, וְהַיִנוּ שֶׁהַבְּרָכָה הִיא כִּפְשׁוּטָה בְּגַשְׁמִיוּת מַמֵּשׁ׳.

וְעַל דֶּרֶךְ זָה בְּכְתָבּוֹת בָּא הַמַּאֲמָר בְּהֶמְשֵׁדְ<sup>כא</sup> לְכַמָּה מַאֲמָרים<sup>כנ</sup> שֶׁבְּהֶכְרַחַ מִתְפָּרְשִׁים כִּפְשׁוּטָם, וּלְדְגָמָא<sup>נג</sup>: ״ַרַבִּי חֲנִינָא מִתַקֵן מַתִקַן יה כו׳ קַשָּגוֹרְיֵא

with a positive statement or the like, that teaching shares a thematic connection with those which precede it. Therefore, it is logical to say that all these teachings are similar at least in that they all should be understood according to their simple meaning. See *Kesubos* 111b, which, as *Tosafos*, *loc. cit.*, states, "speaks about such matters." See footnote 27, below.

25. See Kesubos 112a.

26. Ibid. a-b.

<sup>22.</sup> See however, Rambam, Hilchos Teshuvah 8:2 and Ra'avad's objections there, where Rambam interprets our Sages' words as analogies. He offers a similar approach to understanding our Sages' words in his Commentary on the Mishnah, Sanhedrin, introduction to chapter 10, regarding the statement of our Sages that Eretz Yisrael will produce ready-made pastries in the Ultimate Future.

coming,] accusations will be leveled against Torah Sages...." Thus, it is logical to say that this teaching regarding "all shade trees" should also be understood according to its simple meaning.<sup>27</sup>

#### An Objection and a Possible Resolution: The Uniqueness of Eretz Yisrael

3. *Rambam's* statements were not accepted by all authorities. In his gloss on *Hilchos Melachim*,<sup>28</sup> *Raavad* takes issue with *Rambam*, stating, "Behold, the Torah writes,<sup>29</sup> 'And I will remove hostile beasts from the land.'" *Raavad* understands this prophecy not as an allegory, but rather a description of what will actually take place.

In his gloss on the *Mishneh Torah*, *Radbaz* takes note of *Raavad's* statement and comments:

This does not represent a [valid] critique: Just as the other verses are allegories, this is also an allegory....

What one should believe [is the following:] The [prophecies] will be fulfilled in a literal manner in *Eretz Yisrael*. [This is implied by the verse,<sup>30</sup>] "They shall do no evil, nor shall they cause destruction *throughout My holy mountain*, because *the land* – i.e., the renown land – will be filled with knowledge." Similarly, it is written, "I will remove hostile beasts *from the land*."

In other lands, by contrast, "the world will continue according to its pattern." [In these lands,] the prophecies will be fulfilled in an allegorical sense, as it is written,<sup>31</sup> "Nation will not lift up sword against nation, nor shall they learn war anymore." In *Eretz Yisrael*,<sup>32</sup> [however,] the prophecies will be fulfilled in both a literal and an allegorical sense.

*Eretz Yisrael* that does not produce [an amount of food so great that] two donkeys [will be required] to carry it." As a prooftext, the Talmud cites the verse (*Bereishis* 49:11), "He [binds] his young donkey to a vine." The interpretation of the Talmud obviously does not represent the simple meaning of the verse. See the continuation of that Talmudic passage. הַתַּלְמִידֵי חֲכָמִים כו'״, וְאָם
כֵּן מִסְתַּבֵּר שֶׁגַּם מַאֲמֶר זֶה
(עֲתִידִין כָּל אִילָנֵי סְרַק כו') הוּא
כַּפְשׁוּטוֹ<sup>כו</sup>.

ג. וְהְנֵה הָרַאֲבַ״ד שָׁם<sup>כּה</sup> הִשִּׂיג עַל הָרַמְבַּ״ם וְזָה לְשׁוֹנוֹ: וְהַלֹא כָּתוּב בַּתוֹרָה<sup>כו</sup> ״וְהִשְׁבַּתִּי חַיָּה רָעָה מִן הָאָרֶץ״ - שֶׁזָה (אֵינוֹ מָשִׁל וְחִידַה כִּי אָם) עַנְיֵן כָּפְשׁוּטוֹ.

וּבְרַדְבַ״ז עַל אֲתַר כָּתַב: וְאֵין זוֹ הַשָּׁגָה, כִּשֵׁם שָׁשָׁאָר הַכְּתוּבִים מָשָׁל, גַּם זֶה מָשָׁל, (וּמַמְשִׁידָ) אֲבָל מַה שֶׁרָאוּי לְהַאֲמִין בְּזֶה שָׁהַדְּבָרִים הֵם גַּם כִּפְשׁוּטָם בָּאֶרֶץ יִשְׂרָאַל, כְּדְרָתִיב<sup>יו</sup> לֹא יָרֵעוּ וְלֹא יַשְׁחִיתוּ בְּכָל הַר קַדְשִׁי כִּי מָלְאָה הָאָרֶץ, הָאָרֶץ מַן הָאָרֶץ, אֵבָל בִּשְׁאָר אֲרָצוֹת מון הָאָרֶץ, אַבָל בִּשְׁאָר וְהַכְתוּבִים עוֹלָם כְּמִנְהָגוֹ נוֹהֵג, וְהַכְּתוּבִים וָשָׁא גוי שֶׁל גוֹי חֶרֶב וְלֹא יִלְמְדוּ הַם מִשָׁל, שֶׁכֵן כָּתוּבַין וְהָשְׁבַתוּ יִשָּׁא גוי אָל גוֹי חֶרֶב וְלֹא יִלְמְדוּ עוֹד מִלְחָמָה, וּבְאָרֶץ יִשְׂרָאַל<sup>כ</sup>ּי יִתְקַיֵּם הַפִּשָׁט וְהַמָּשָׁל.

**28**. *Raavad* lodges a **similar** objection in *Hilchos Teshuvah* **8**:2.

29. Vayikra 26:6.

30. Yeshayahu 11:9.

32. See the commentary of *Ramban* cited in footnote 4, and the portion of *Rambam's* "Treatise on the Resurrection of the Dead," *loc. cit.* 

<sup>27.</sup> Furthermore, this teaching itself cites support from the verse (*Yoel* 2:22), "'The trees will bear their fruit and the fig trees and the vine will give forth their strength," which is speaking in a straightforward manner regarding the production of fruit. By contrast, a preceding passage in *Kesubos* (111b), states, "There will not be any shade tree in

<sup>31.</sup> Ibid. 2:4.

Based on this explanation, it could be said that the difference of opinion between *Rambam* and *Raavad* appears to be dependent on the difference between the statements of our Sages in *Toras Kohanim* and those in *Kesubos. Kesubos* speaks of "shade trees in *Eretz Yisrael,*" while *Toras Kohanim* speaks of shade trees as a whole without specifying their location, implying that it refers not only to the shade trees in *Eretz Yisrael*, but to shade trees throughout the world.<sup>33</sup>

The difference between the statements in these sources can be explained as follows: According to *Toras Kohanim*, in the Ultimate Future, the natural order of the world will change. However, according to the Talmud, in the world at large – i.e., outside of *Eretz Yisrael* – there will be no change to the natural order. It is only that in *Eretz Yisrael*, a unique, wondrous pattern will apply.

*Raavad* follows the approach of *Toras Kohanim* that "shade trees" – not necessarily those in *Eretz Yis-rael* – will produce fruit in the Ultimate Future." This teaching leads to the conclusion that the natural order of the world will be nullified.

Similarly, with regard to *Raavad's* objection stemming from the verse, "I will remove hostile beasts from the land." He understands the verse according to its simple meaning. True, the verse could also be interpreted as an analogy, as explained above. However, *Raavad* rejects that approach because the interpretation of that verse in *Toras Kohanim* states, "Rabbi Yehudah says, 'They will be removed from *the world*.' Rabbi Shimon says, 'Their hostile nature will be nullified so that they do not cause harm.'" Thus, both opinions indicate that the verse should be understood according to its straightforward meaning. בּגְמָרָא נָאֲמַר ״אִילָנֵי סְרַק שָׁבְּאֶרָץ יִשְׂרָאֵל״, מַה שָׁאֵין כֵּן בְּתוֹרַת כֹּהְנִים הַלָּשׁוֹן הוּא ״אִילְנֵי סְרַק״ סְתָם, שָׁפַּשְׁטוּת לָשׁוֹן זָה מוֹרָה שָׁאֵינוֹ מְדָבָּר בְּאִילְנֵי זָה מוֹרָה שָׁאֵינוֹ מְדָבָּר בְּאִילְנֵי סְרַק שָׁבְּאֶרֶץ יִשְׂרָאֵל בִּלְבַד אֶלָא

וְהָהֶבְדֵּל בֵּינֵיהֶם: לְפִי הַתּוֹרַת כַּהֲנִים יִהְיֶה לֶעָתִיד לָבֹא שִׁנּוּי מִנְהָגוֹ שֶׁל עוֹלָם, אֲבָל לְפִי הַגְּמָרָא לא יְהָיֶה שִׁנּוּי מִמִנְהָגוֹ שֶׁל עוֹלָם בְּכָל הָעוֹלָם מִלְבַד בְּאֶרֶץ יִשְׂרָאֵל שֵׁתָּהָא בַה הַנְהַגַה מִיְחֵדֵת.

הָרַאֲבַ״ד סוֹבַר כְּשִׁיטַת הַתּוֹרַת כּהֲנִים אֲשֶׁר ״אִילָנֵי סְרַק (סְתָם) עַתִידִים לְהְיוֹת עוֹשִׁים פּרוֹת״, דְמִזֶּה מוּכָח כַּנַּ״ל שֶׁיִהְיֶה בִּטוּל מנהגו שׁל עוֹלם,

שְׁכֵּן הוּא גַם בְּהַשָּׂגָתוֹ מִזְ הַפָּסוּק ״וְהַשְׁבַּתִּי חַיָּה רָעָה מִזְ הָשָּׁרָז״ שֶׁפֵּרוּשׁוֹ כִּפְשׁוּטוֹ (וְלֹא שֶׁגַּם הַפָּסוּק הַזֶּה מְדַבֵּר בְּדֶרָדְ מָשָׁל שֶׁגַּם הַפָּסוּק הַזֶּה מְדַבֵּר בְּדֶרָדְ מָשָׁל בַּבַּ׳לּז, כְּמַשְׁמָעוּת דְרָשַׁת הַתּוֹרַת כֹּהֲנִים עַל הַפָּסוּק ״רַבִּי יְהוּדָה אוֹמֵר מַעֲבִירָן מִז הָעוֹלָם. רַבִּי שׁׁמְעוֹן אוֹמֵר מַשְׁבִיתָן שֶׁלֹא יַזִּיקוּ

**produce its yield,"** the remainder of the verse also refers to *Eretz Yisrael*.

Instead, it is possible to say that all the blessings promised to the Jewish people in the Torah were meant to apply to the Jewish people as they exist under desirable circumstances

וְעַל פִּי זֶה יֵשׁ לוֹמַר, לְכְאוֹרָה, שֶׁמַחֲלֹקֶת הָרַמְבַ״ם וְהָרַאֲבַ״ד הְלוּיָה בַּהֶבְדֵל בֵּין שְׁנֵי מַאֲמָרֵי חַזַ״ל הַנַּ״ל (בְּתוֹרַת כֹהַנִים וּבַכַּתַבוֹת) בְּעַנִיַן אִילַנֵי סָרַק:

<sup>33.</sup> In particular, this is true because the phrase which the Sages in *Toras Kohanim* cite as a prooftext (*Vayikra* 26:4) does not use the words "in *your land*," or "*the land*." It is difficult to say that since the beginning of the verse states, "*The land* will

<sup>-</sup> and that means when the Jews are living in their land. See the interpretation in *Toras Kohanim* of the phrase (*Vayikra* 26:4), "I will grant your rains at the [appropriate] time," which specifies, "'your rains,' and not the rains of other lands."

In particular, it is noteworthy that these Sages<sup>34</sup> deviate from the wording of the verse and substitute "from the world" for "from the land." Thus, they maintain that the change in the beasts' nature will not be restricted only to "*the land*," *Eretz Yisrael*.<sup>35</sup>

According to *Radbaz*, *Rambam*, by contrast, follows the understanding of the Talmud – that the Sages are speaking only about shade trees in *Eretz Yisrael*. Therefore, "it is proper to believe… where [such prophecies] will be fulfilled in a simple sense in *Eretz Yisrael*.... However, in other lands, the world will follow its natural order."<sup>36</sup>

#### **Difficulties with this Resolution**

4. The statements of *Radbaz*, however, appear somewhat problematic, in particular, when trying to explain *Rambam's* approach for the following reasons:

(a) *Rambam's* above-quoted statement, "One should not entertain the notion that in the Era of *Mashiach* any element of the natural order will be nullified," seems to imply that throughout the entire world, even in *Eretz Yisrael*, the natural order will continue to prevail. The occurrence of such miracles in ordinary material life even in *Eretz Yisrael* would surely appear to be a "nullification of the natural order."<sup>37</sup>

35. See *Likkutei Sichos, loc. cit.*, where these Sages' difference of opinion regarding the interpretation of this verse is explained at length.

36. Radbaz, loc. cit.

37. Perhaps, it is possible to explain *Radbaz's* intent as meaning that what will happen in *Eretz Yisrael* in the era of *Mashiach* will not represent a nullification of the natural order. Instead, these phenomena will occur as miracles for the Jewish people in their land. A miraculous event that is limited in time or place

does not represent a nullification of the natural order.\*

For example, the descent of the manna for the Jews during their journey in the desert: It descended day after day, on weekdays for forty years. Nevertheless, it did not constitute the nullification of the natural order, because it was limited to a specific time and place and, in other places and times, the natural order retained its full strength.

Similarly, the fact that the actual physical space of *Eretz Yisrael* would expand and contract according to its population – as our Sages (*Gittin* 57a, *et al.*) explain in their interpretation of the phrase (*Yirmeyahu* 3:19; see also *Daniel* 11:41 and the commentary

(בִּפְרָט שֶׁמְשַׁנִּים מִלְשׁוֹן הַפָּסוּק ״מִן הָאָרֶץ״ וְאוֹמְרִים ״מִן הָעוֹלָם)״];

מַה שָּׁאֵין כֵּן הָרַמְבַּ״ם נוֹקֵט (לְפִי דַעַת הָרַדְבַּ״ז) כִּלְשׁוֹן הַגְמָרָא, שָׁהַכּוָנָה רַק לְאִילָנֵי סְרַק שָׁהָאָרָץ יִשְׁרָאֵל, שָׁעַל כֵן ״רָאוּי לְהַאֲמִין . שֶׁהַדְבָרִים הֵם גַם כִּפְשׁוּטָם הָאֶרָץ יִשֶׂרָאֵל . אָבָל בִּשְׁאָר אַרָצוֹת עוֹלָם כִּמְנָהָגוֹ נוֹהֵג״.

ד. אוּלָם פֵּרוּשׁ הָרַדְבַ״ז אֵינוֹ מוּבָן לְכָאוֹרָה, בִּפְרָט בְּהַסְבָּרַת דַּעַת הָרַמִבַּ״ם:

א) מִמַּה שֶׁסְתַם הֶרַמְבַ"ם וְכָתַב שָׁבִּימוֹת הַמָּשִׁיחַ לֹא יִבָּטֵל ״דָּבָר מִמְנְהָגוֹ שֶׁל עוֹלָם״ מוּבָן שֶׁנִּכְלָל בְּזָה גַם אֶרֶץ יִשְׂרָאֵל, שֶׁהַרֵי אָם בְּאֶרֶץ יִשְׂרָאֵל יִתְחוֹלְלוּ אוֹתָם נִסִּיוּת, הֲרֵי זֶה (גַם) בִּטוּל מְנָהַגוֹ שֵׁל עוֹלַם<sup>לא</sup>.

of Metzudas David and the sources cited in the marginal note to Rosh HaShanah 13a), "a cherished... land" - did not represent a nullification of the natural order. Similarly, although there were ten ongoing miracles that were performed for our ancestors in the Beis HaMikdash (Avos 5:5), the natural order of the world was not nullified. Instead, these were rather specific miracles that transpired because of a given factor. A similar explanation can be given regarding the prophecy, "I will remove hostile beasts from the land." According to that explanation, however, our Sages' statement (Kesubos 112a; Tosafos, loc. cit., s.v. Rav Chanina; Aruch, erech takel; Ritba, Kesubos, loc. cit.) that the stones of Eretz Yisrael are heavier

<sup>34.</sup> Regarding Rabbi Shimon's view, see the continuation of the passage in *Toras Kohanim*. See also the marginal note in *Likkutei Sichos*, Vol. 7, p. 200.

(b) *Rambam's* conception of the Era of the Redemption is also reflected in the previous chapter of *Hilchos Melachim*. There *Rambam* states:<sup>38</sup>

One should not entertain the notion that the King *Mashiach* must work miracles and wonders, bring about new phenomena into the world, resurrect the dead, or perform other similar deeds. This is [definitely] not true.

[A proof can be brought from the fact that] **Rabbi Akiva**, one of the greatest Sages of the *Mishnah*, [was an active participant in the war of] King ben Kosiva [(bar Kochbah)]..., **he and all the Sages of his generation conceived of him as the King** *Mashiach....* The Sages did not ask him for any sign or wonder.

Moreover, the conception of ben Kosivah as *Mashiach* was so strong that the Sages and the Jewish people went to war – risking their lives – because of his commands.

As indicated from the passage quoted, *Rambam* uses the Sages' acceptance of ben Kosiva as *Mashiach* as proof that *Mashiach* need not work miracles and wonders and that the natural order of the world will continue to prevail in his time, as stated below, sec. 10. Now, ben Kosiva's revolt took place in *Eretz Yisrael*, and yet, it was not accompanied by such miracles. From this, it is logical to conclude that *Rambam* maintains that the natural order will continue to prevail during the Ultimate Future even in the Holy Land. ב) בִּימֵי בָּן כּוֹזִיבָא שֶׁ״ִדִּמָה הוּא (רַבִּי עֲקִיבָא) וְכָל חַכְמֵי דוֹרוֹ שֶׁהוּא הַמֶּלֶדְ הַמָּשִׁיחַ״ִיֹּ - ״ִדְמָה״ עַד כְּדֵי כָךְ שֶׁהָלְכוּ לַמִּלְחָמָה (פִּקוּחַ נָפָשׁ) עַל פִּי לַמִּלְחָמָה (פִּקוּחַ נָפָשׁ) עַל פִּי צַּוּוּיוֹ (שֶׁמָּזֶה מוֹכִיחַ הָרַמְבַ״ם<sup>לָג</sup> עֲשָׁוּת אוֹתוֹת וּמוֹפְתִים לַעֲשׁוֹת אוֹתוֹת וּמוֹפְתִים נוֹהֵג, וֹכְדִלְקַמָן סְעִיף יו״ד) לָא אַרְעוּ הַנִּסִים גַם לֹא בְּאֶרֶץ יִשְׁרָאֶל.

שָׁלְכֵן מִסְתַּבֵּר לוֹמָר, שֶׁלְדַעַת הָרַמְבַ״ם עוֹלָם כְּמִנְהָגוֹ נוֹהֵג לֶעָתִיד לָבֹא גַם בארץ ישראל.

#### An Alternative Resolution: Back to Eden

5. The author of *Avodas HaKodesh*<sup>39</sup> offers a different interpretation of the concept that the natural order will continue to prevail in the Era of the Redemption.

ה. בְּסֵפֶּר עֲבוֹדַת הַקֹדָשׁ<sup>לי</sup> מַסְבִּיר שֶׁ״עוֹלָם כְּמִנְהָגוֹ נוֹהֵג״

Egypt, I will show [the people] wonders." As explained above, these could be considered as specific miraculous events and not a departure from the overall natural order.

38. Hilchos Melachim 11:3.

39. Avodas HaKodesh, Vol. II, ch. 38.

than the stones of the Diaspora, requires analysis, for that appears as an ongoing phenomenon and not a unique miracle.

Nevertheless, the conclusion from the above explanation – that the *ongoing established pattern of life* in *Eretz Yisrael* in the Era of *Mashiach* will be miraculous and yet, this will not be

considered nullification of the natural order – is difficult to accept.

<sup>\*</sup> This explanation also resolves questions that might arise regarding *Rambam's* approach from Michah's prophecy concerning the Ultimate Redemption (*Michah* 7:15), "As in the days of your exodus from the land of

He maintains that G-d will not bring about a new order that transcends nature at that time. Instead, all elements of creation will return to their original state, exhibiting the traits with which they had been endowed at the beginning of their existence when they were first brought into being,<sup>39</sup> i.e., before the sin of the Tree of Knowledge, which caused a dramatic change in every element of the world's existence.

Based on this conception, the seemingly miraculous prophecies and descriptions of the Era of the Redemption cited by *Toras Kohanim* – that "in the Ultimate Future, a tree will be planted and, on that very day, it will produce fruit," and the like – do not pose a contradiction to *Rambam*'s thesis. Such phenomena do not represent an innovation that runs contrary to the natural order, because in the beginning of the world's creation, before the sin of the Tree of Knowledge, this was the natural order – all trees bore fruit on the day they were planted.<sup>40</sup>

It is possible to say that this explanation resolves the questions that arise regarding the two matters mentioned in the blessings promised at the end of the book of *Vayikra* – that hostile beasts will be removed from the earth and that shade trees will produce fruit. According to this explanation of *Rambam's* words, these apparent novelties do not represent a departure from the natural order because this was the order that prevailed at the beginning of creation, before the sin of the Tree of Knowledge. Then, all the trees bore fruit and no beasts were characterized by hostility or cruelty.<sup>41</sup>

The sin of the Tree of Knowledge debased the spiritual composition of the entire world. As a result, G-d declared,<sup>42</sup> ["The earth will cause] thorns and this-

According to this explanation, *Rambam*, nevertheless, **interprets** 

the prophecy "a wolf will dwell with a lamb," as an analogy because *Rambam* – in contrast to *Ramban* – maintains that this would represent a nullification of the natural order. Even before the sin, when the hostile beasts did not exist as they do now, there were animals that would prey on others for their food; howהַיְנוּ שָׁהַקָּבָּ״ה לֹא יְחַדֵּשׁ דְּבָרִים חוּץ מִן הַטֶּבַע; כָּל הָעִוְיָנִים שָׁבַּרִיאָה יִהִיוּ ״עַל טִבְעָם וְשָׁרִשָּׁם כְּמוֹ שֶׁהָיוּ בִּתְחַלַּת וְשָׁרִשָּׁם כְּמוֹ שֶׁהָיוּ בִּתְחַלַּת סְתִירָה מִדְּרָשׁת הַתּוֹרַת כַּהְנִים הַנַּ״ל אֲשָׁר ״הָעֵץ עָתִיד לְהִיוֹת הַנַּ״ל אֲשָׁר ״הָעֵץ עָתִיד לְהִיוֹת וְעוֹד מַאַמָרֵי רַזַ״ל כִּיוֹצֵא בָזָה וְעוֹד מַאַמָרֵי רַזַ״ל כִּיוֹצֵא בָזָה הַבָּרִיאָה כָּדָ הָיָתַהַדֵּשׁ דָּבָר שֶׁאַינוֹ הַבְּרִיאָה כָּדָ הָיְתָה הַנְהָגַת הַטָּבַע הַבְּרִיאָה כָּדָ הָיְתָה בַּיוֹן שֶׁבָּתְחַלַת הַבְּרִיאָה כָּדָ הָיְתָה בַּיוֹן שֶׁבָּתָזלַי.

עַל פִּי זֶה יֵשׁ לוֹמַר גַם בְּעִנְיָן ״וְהִשְׁבַּתִּי חַיֶּה רָעָה מִז הָאָרָץ״ וְ״אִילְנֵי סְרַק יַעֲשׁוּ פֵּרוֹת״, שֶׁלְדַעַת הָרַמְבַ״ם אֵינָם בָּטוּל שֶׁלְדַעַת הָרַמְבַ״ם אֵינָם בָּטוּל הָהָה הַמַּגָּב בִּתְחַלַת הַבְּרִיאָה קֹדֶם הָזִיה הַעַּץ הַדַּעַת שָּכָל הָאִילָנוֹת נַשְּׁאוּ אָז פֵּרוֹת וְשׁוּם חַיָּה לֹא הזִיקה<sup>ל</sup>י;

אָלָא שֶׁעַל יְדֵי חֵטָא עֵץ הַדַּעַת שֶׁאָמַר הַקָבָּ״ה ״וְקוֹץ ודרדר תצמיח גו׳״ליי נעשׂוּ

ever, they would not cause harm out of aggressiveness or cruelty. Thus, there was not a situation where wolves dwelled with lambs. This is not the place for further discussion of the matter. Further analysis is still necessary.

42. Bereishis 3:18.

<sup>40.</sup> See the above source which elaborates regarding this concept.

<sup>41.</sup> See Ramban, Vayikra 26:6. See also Ramban's sermon entitled Toras HaShem Temimah (Jerusalem, 5723), pp. 154-155.

tles to grow for you." Some of the trees became shade trees<sup>43</sup> and some of the beasts acquired a natural tendency to cause harm.<sup>41</sup>

In the Era of the Redemption, however, these negative qualities will be eradicated,<sup>44</sup> since the world will revert to its original nature before the sin of the Tree of Knowledge.<sup>45</sup> This will be the nature of existence in the Era of the Redemption. The entire world will resemble the Garden of Eden.<sup>46</sup>

#### **Two Conflicting Passages**

6. It is possible to connect the above discussion with the analysis of another fundamental difference between the wording of *Toras Kohanim* and the wording of the Talmud regarding shade trees. *Toras Kohanim* states, "Shade trees will *produce* fruit in the Ultimate Future," while the Talmud states, "In the Ultimate Future, all the shade trees in *Eretz Yisrael* will *bear* fruit."

The wording in *Toras Kohanim*, "produce fruit," implies that in that era, shade trees will produce fruit in the same manner that fruit trees produce fruit at present. By contrast, the wording in the Talmud, "bear fruit," does not imply that they will produce fruit in the way that trees ordinarily do. Instead, they will carry on their branches something that is fundamentally not related to them; it will be like a foreign entity.

This distinction stems from the difference between the verses from which the concepts are derived. *Toras Kohanim* focuses on the verse, "The trees of the field will produce their fruit." This wording implies that the trees of the field will produce fruit in an ordinary manner, in accordance with their nature.

44. This will be accomplished through man's service in refining and elevating the material substance of the world in the era prior to *Mashiach's* coming.

45. See Ramban's Commentary on the Torah, Vayikra 26:6, and his sermon entitled Toras HaShem Temimah, loc. cit.

**46.** Note a further extension of this line of thinking in *Talmud Yerushalmi*,

חֵלֶק מֵהָאִילָנוֹת אִילְנֵי סְרַקִ<sup>לִי</sup> וּבְמִקְצָת חַיּוֹת הָטְבְּעָה נְטִיעָה טִבְעִית לְהַוִּיקִלִי.

אַך מֵאַחַר שֶׁבִּימוֹת הַמָּשִׁיחַ עָתִיד הָעוֹלָם לְהַגִּיעַ לְאוֹתוֹ מַצֶּב שֶׁעֲמַד בּוֹ קָדֶם חֵטְא עֵץ הַדַּעַת<sup>ַ</sup>, יְהֵא זֶה טִבְעוֹ וּ״מִנְהָגוֹ שֶׁל עוֹלָם״ בָּאוֹתוֹ הַזָּמַןמיץ.

ו. וְיֵשׁ לְקַשֵׁר הַדָּבָר עָם שְׁנוּי (עִקָּרִי) נוֹסָף בֵּין לְשׁוֹן הַתּוֹרַת כֹּהֲנִים וּלְשׁוֹן הַגְּמֶרָא: בְּתוֹרַת כֹּהֲנִים הַלָּשׁוֹן הַאִילָנֵי סְרַק עַתִידִים לִהְיוֹת עוֹשִׁים בֵּרוֹת", וְאַלוּ בְּגְמָרָא הַלָּשׁוֹן "שָׁיִּטְעַנוּ בַּרוֹת".

עושים פּרוֹת״ (כְּבְתוֹרֵת כֹּהֲנִים) מַשְׁמָעוֹ שָׁאִילְנֵי הַסְרַק כֹּהֲנִים) מַשְׁמָעוֹ שָׁאִילְנֵי הַסְרַק יוֹצִיאוּ פּרוֹת כְּמוֹ שֶׁכָּל אִילְנֵי הַמַּאֲכָל ״עוֹשִׁים פּרוֹת״, מַה שָׁאֵין כֵּן לְפִי הַגְּמָרָא יִהְיָה בְּאֹפֶן שֶׁל אִילָן, כִּי אָם ״טְעִינָה״ שֶׁל שָׁר שַבַּעַצם אינו שִׁיך לָהם

ןּהְחַלּוּק זֶה נוֹבַעַ מֵהֶבְדֵּל הַמְקוֹרוֹת שֶׁמֵּהֶם הָעִנְיָן נִלְמָד: הַמְוֹרַת כֹּהַנִים יַלְפִינָן מִן הַפָּסוּק אַתוֹרַת כַּהַנִים יַלְפִינָן מִן הַפָּסוּק זְעֵץ הַשָּׁדָה יִתֵּן פִּרְיוֹ״, דְהַיְנוּ נְתִינַה רְגִילַה שֵׁל עֵצֵי הַשֵּׁדֵה,

<sup>43.</sup> See Ramban's commentary on Bereishis 1:11, which states that because of G-d's "curse, (Bereishis 3:17) 'May the ground be cursed,' [some of the trees] became barren." Or HaChayim Bereishis 1:12 offers a similar interpretation of that verse. See the sermon entitled Toras HaShem Temimah cited above; Korban Aharon on Toras Kohanim, loc. cit.

Shivi'is 4:8, which comments on the verse (Yoel 2:22), ""The trees will bear their fruit' – this teaches that they do not bear their fruit in the present era. 'And the fig trees and the vine will give forth their strength' – this teaches that they do not give forth their strength in the present era." The implication is that the true fertile nature of the earth will not be given full expression until the Era of Mashiach.

By contrast, the Talmud derives its teaching from the parallel yet distinctly different wording used in the verse previously cited, "The trees will bear their fruit and the fig trees and the vine will give forth their strength." *Rashi* explains the derivation as follows, "Since it is written, 'the fig trees and the vine will give forth their strength,' [the verse] has spoken about fruit trees. What then is meant by 'the trees will bear fruit'? That even shade trees will bear fruit."

The verse implies that there will be a difference between "trees," i.e., shade trees, and "the fig trees and the vine," i.e., fruit trees. Fruit trees will "give forth their strength" according to their natural tendencies. By contrast, shade trees will "bear fruit," i.e., as if they are carrying a foreign substance, not something that grows in the ordinary manner.<sup>47</sup>

Based on the above, it is possible to say that the difference in approach between *Toras Kohanim* and the Talmud is connected with the difference of opinion in *Bereishis Rabbah*<sup>48</sup> – whether or not trees that are now shade trees initially produced fruit.<sup>49</sup>

*Toras Kohanim* follows the approach of Rabbi Pinchas in *Bereishis Rabbah* who understands the phrase,<sup>50</sup> "trees producing fruit," as teaching that even shade trees produced fruit at the time of creation. According to that understanding, the fact that "shade trees will produce fruit in the Ultimate Future" does not represent an innovative change in creation. It is only that the original nature which shade trees possessed at the beginning of creation will emerge again.

Shalom,\* by producing shade trees, the earth "violated the decrees of the Holy One, blessed be He," for G-d desired that all trees bear fruit. By contrast, Rabbi Pinchas maintains that the earth "rejoiced in G-d's command and added [a further benefit, by producing] shade trees" – which, as *P'nei Moshe* explains – "are needed to be used by man for kindling and building." See also *Mareh HaPanim* 

אבל הגמרא לומדת מכפל ושנוי לְשׁוֹן הַכַּתוּב ״כִּי עֵץ נַשָּׂא פִּרִיוֹ תְאֵנָה וַגֶפֵן נַתְנוּ חֵילַם", וּכְפֵרוּש רַשִׁ״י: ״מִדְכָתִיב תָאֵנָה וַגֵּפֵן נַתָנו חילם הרי עץ פרי אמור מה תַלְמוּד לוֹמַר כִּי עֵץ נָשָׂא פִרִיוֹ אַף אִילָנֵי סְרַק יִשָּׂאוּ פִּרִי״, כָּלוֹמַר שֶׁהַפָּסוּק מִחַלֵּק בֵּין הַ״עֵץ״ (אִילְנֵי סְרַק) לְבֵין ״תִאַנָה וַגֵפֵן״ (״עֵץ פּרִי״), שֵׁבָּעֵץ פּרִי הוא בָּאֹפֶן שֶׁל ״נָתִנוּ חֵילַם״, נִתִינה, וְהַנְתִינַה הִיא לְפִי כחֵם ותְכוּנַתֵם שַׁלָהֵם (״חֵילָם״), מַה שֵׁאֵין כָּן בְּאִילְנֵי סְרַק שֶׁהוּא בִּאֹפֵן שֵׁל ״נַשַא״, כָּאָלוּ נוֹשֵא דָבַר שַחוץ מִמֶּנוּ, לא עַל יִדֵי גִדוּל רָגִיל<sup>מנ</sup>].

וְעַל פִּי הַנַּ״ְל יֵשׁ לוֹמֵר שֶׁהֶבְדֵלֵי הַלְשׁוֹנוֹת בְּתוֹרַת כֹהֲנִים וּבִגְמָרָא קְשׁוּרִים בְּהַמַחֲלֹקֶת שֶׁשְׁנוּיָה בִּבְרֵאשִׁית רַבָּה<sup>מג</sup> אָם בִּתְחַלַת הַבְּרִיאָה הוֹצִיאוּ אִילָנֵי סְרַק (שֶׁל עַכִשָׁו) פֵּרוֹת אוֹ לאמי:

הַתּוֹרַת כּהַנִים קָאֵי בְּשִׁיטַת רַבִּי כּנְקָס (בִּרָרֵאשִׁית רַבָּה) שָׁאֲפִלּוּ אִילָנֵי סְרַק עָשׁוּ פּרוֹת, וְיָלִיף מֵ״עֵץ עוֹשָׁה פְּרִי״, וּלְפִי זֶה הַרֵי מַה שֶׁ״אִילְנֵי סְרַק עֲתִידִים לְהִיוֹת עוֹשִׁים פּרוֹת״ אֵינוֹ שַׁנּוּי שָׁל חִדוּש בְּמַעֲשֵׁה בְרָאשִׁית, כִּי אָם שֶׁטֶבַע הָאִילָן הַזֶּה חוֹזַר וְנַעוֹר כִכִּי שֶׁהָיָה בְּתִחַלַת הַבָּרִיאָה,

50. Bereishis 1:12.

<sup>47.</sup> See Maharsha's Chiddushei Aggados, Kesubos, loc. cit.

<sup>48.</sup> Bereishis Rabbah 5:9.

<sup>49.</sup> The understanding of *P'nei Moshe, Talmud Yerushalmi, Kilayim* 1:7, is that the opinions of both the Sages mentioned there suggest that, in the beginning of creation, there were shade trees that did not produce fruit. The difference of opinion is that, according to Rabbi Yudan bar

on *Talmud Yerushalmi*, *loc. cit.*, and the commentaries on *Bereishis Rabbah*, *loc. cit*. See also the sources cited in footnote 43 above. See also footnote 54 below.

<sup>\*</sup> It is likely that Rabbi Yudan bar Shalom mentioned in the *Talmud Yerushalmi* is identical with Yehudah ben Rabbi Shalom mentioned in *Bereishis Rabbah*.

This follows the context of the preceding interpretations in *Toras Kohanim* of the verse, "the trees of the field will produce their fruit," on which *Toras Kohanim* comments:

[The earth will not give forth produce] as it does now, but rather as it did in the time of Adam, the first man....

"A fruit tree producing fruit according to its kind"<sup>51</sup> – this teaches that on the very day [a tree] was planted, it would produce fruit.

Similarly, regarding *Toras Kohanim's* teaching that, "in the future, the tree itself will be eaten," this is a reversion to its initial state at the time of Adam, the first man, as our Sages explain based on the verse cited.<sup>50</sup>

By contrast, the Talmud follows the opinion<sup>52</sup> that, initially, at the time of creation, shade trees did not bear fruit. Thus, the fact that they will bear fruit in the Ultimate Future is a new development. Therefore, they are described as "bearing fruit," i.e., producing the fruit in an unnatural manner.

#### The Rejection of This Thesis

7. After a careful analysis, however, it is difficult to explain *Rambam's* position according to the explanation given by *Avodas HaKodesh* for several reasons. Among them:

a) The interpretation of the passage in *Toras Kohanim* that there may be – and indeed there will be – a change in the nature of shade trees in the Ultimate Future because that was their original state at the beginning of creation is problematic.

In the prior statements describing the wonders implied by the verses cited, *Toras Kohanim* specifically mentions the earth and the plants following their pattern at "the time of Adam, the first man" and the מַה שָּׁאֵין כֵּן הַגְּמָרָא סְבִירָא לֵיה כְּהַדֵּעָה<sup>מו</sup> שָׁבִּתְחַלַת הַבְּרִיאָה לָא נְשָׁאוּ אִילְנֵי סְרַק פֵּרוֹת, וְאָם כֵּן, לֶעָתִיד שָׁיִשְׁאוּ פֵּרוֹת יִהְיָה זֶה שִׁנּוּי שָׁל חִדּוּשׁ, וְלָכֵן הוּא בְּאָפֶן שֶׁל ״ִיִטְעֲנוּ״ וְ״נָשָׂא פִרְיוֹ״, לֹא בָּאַכֵּן הַרָגִיל וְהַטָּבִעַי.

ז. אוּלַם כַּד דַיְקָת שַׁפִּיר אִי אֶפִּשֶׁר לוֹמַר כֵּן מַכַּמָה פָּנִים:

א) אֵין הַפֵּרוּשׁ הַנַ״ל בְּתוֹרַת כֹּהֲנִים (שֶׁבְּאִילְנֵי סְרַק יִתָּכֵן הַשְׁנּוּי (וְכָךְ יִהְיָה בָּהָם) לֶעָתִיד מִשׁנּוּי (וְכָרְ יִהְיָה בָּתְחַלַת הַבְּרִיאָה) מְשׁוּם שֶׁכֵּן הָיָה בִּתְחַלַת הַבְּרִיאָה) מְשׁוּם שֶׁכֵּן הָיָה בְּתְחַלַת הַבְּרִיאָה) בַּפָּסוּק אִיתָא בְּתוֹרַת כֹהְנִים לְהָדְיָא שֶׁהוּא ״בְּדֶרֶךְ שֶׁעָשְׁתָה בִּימֵי אַדַם הָרִאשוֹן״ וְנִלְמֵד

derstanding of Rabbi Yehudah ben Rabbi Shalom in *Bereishis Rabbah*, *loc. cit.*, and it is shared by all the Sages in the *Talmud Yerushalmi*, *loc. cit*. See footnote 49 above.

<sup>(</sup>וּבָּא בְּהֶמְשֵׁךְ לִדְרָשׁוֹת שָׁלְפְנֵי זֶה בְּתוֹרַת כֹהֲנִים עַל הַפָּסוּק ״וְעֵץ הַשָּׁדֶה יִתֵן פִּרְיוֹ״, ״לֹא כְּדֶרֶך שָׁהוּא עוֹשָׁה עַכְשָׁו אֶלָא כְּדֶרֶך שָׁעִשְׁתָה בִּימֵי אָדָם הָרִאשוֹן עַץ פְּרִי עוֹשָׁה פְּרִי לְמִינוֹ<sup>כּה</sup> מְלַמֵּד שָׁבּוֹ בַיּוֹם שֶׁהוּא נָטוּעַ בּוֹ בַיּוֹם עוֹשָׁה פַּרוֹת״, וְעַל דֶּרֶך זֶה עִנְיַן ״הָעֵץ עָתִיד לְהִיוֹת נָאֶכָל״ שֶׁיִהְיֶה כְּדֶרֶך שֶׁהָיָה בִּימֵי אָדָם הָרִאשוֹן וְכִדְיַלִיף מֵ״עֵץ פִּרִי״ם״,

<sup>51.</sup> Bereishis 1:11.

<sup>52.</sup> This is the straightforward un-

concepts that are derived from the wording in verses describing the time of creation. By contrast, regarding the production of fruit by shade trees, *Toras Kohanim* does not refer to the pattern of nature at "the time of Adam, the first man" or the like. Moreover, the fact that shade trees will produce fruit is derived from an interpretation of a verse regarding the prophecies of the Ultimate Future – that "the trees of the field will produce their fruit."

b) Even if one would accept that the reference to the pattern of nature at "the time of Adam, the first man" also applies to shade trees<sup>53</sup> – and that Toras Kohanim follows the approach of Rabbi Pinchas<sup>49</sup> that, at the beginning of creation, shade trees did produce fruit - the explanation is still somewhat problematic. Rabbi Pinchas maintains that, according to G-d's command, the nature of creation included shade trees that did not produce fruit.<sup>54</sup> It is only that the earth deviated from G-d's command and the shade trees did produce fruit. Afterwards, due to the sin of the Tree of Knowledge, that deviation was nullified and the shade trees ceased producing fruit. Thus, according to G-d's original intent, the inherent nature of the world is that there should be shade trees, i.e., trees without edible fruit.55

c) Regardless of the interpretation in *Toras Kohanim*, it is difficult to juxtapose the interpretation of *Avodas HaKodesh* within the context of *Rambam's* stance. His

Note, however, the end of Ramban's

commentary on *Bereishis* 1:29, which states that, even before the sin of the Tree of Knowledge, trees were not edible. This understanding is also reflected in *Rashi's* commentary (*Bereishis* 1:11) that the earth deviated from G-d's command by not producing edible trees.

54. Both the *Bereishis Rabbah* and the *Talmud Yerushalmi* quote Rabbi Pinchas as speaking of an addition being made to G-d's commandment. According to the commentary of *P'nei Moshe* on the *Talmud Yerushalmi* (cited above in footnote 49), the addition was that the earth produced מִלְשׁוֹנוֹת הַפְּסוּקִים בִּימֵי אָדָם הָרִאשׁוֹן (בְּמַעֲישֵׁה בְרֵאשִׁית), וְאָלוּ גַּבֵּי אִילְנֵי סְרַק לֹא אָמְרוּ בְּתוֹרַת כֹּהֲנִים שָׁהוּא ״כְּדֶרָק שֶׁעֶשְׁתָה בִּימֵי אָדָם הָרִאשוֹן״ (אוֹ שֶׁעֶשְׁתָה בִּימֵי אָדָם הָרִאשוֹן״ (אוֹ הַשְׁדָה יִתֵּן פִּרְיוֹ״.

ב) אֲפָלּוֹ נֵימָא שֶׁהַנָּאֱמָר בְּתוֹרֵת כֹהֲנִים ״כְּדֶרֶך שֶׁעָשְׁתָה בִּימֵי אָדָם הָרִאשׁוֹן״ קָאֵי גַם עַל אִילְנֵי סְרַק<sup>מו</sup> וְהוּא כְּדַעַת רַבִּי כִּנְחָס שֶׁכָּך הָיָה גַם בְּתְחַלַת הַבְרִיאָה, עַדַין אֵינו מַסְפִיק, שֶׁהֲרֵי לְדַעַת רַבִּי פִּנְחָס מַסְפִיק, שֶׁהֲרֵי לְדַעַת רַבִּי פָּנְחָס סְרַק, אֶלָא שֶׁהָאָרֶץ שׁוָּתָה (וּלְאַחַר הַחַטְא הִתְבַּטֵל הַשָּׁנוּי), מִזַד עַצְמוֹ הוּא לְהַכָּרָ נָשְׁאוּ פּרוֹת וּמָדָר עַצְמוֹ הוּא לְהַכָּרָ מָשָׁאוּ פּרוֹת אילַנֵי סַרַק.

ג) וּבִכְלָל, קָשֶׁה לְפָרֵשׁ כֵּן דַעַת הָרַמְבַּ״ם, שֶׁהַרֵי מִתּכֵן וְהָמִשֵׁך

shade trees. According to *Bereishis Rabbah*, the addition was that the shade trees produced fruit. Thus, the implication of this understanding is that their production of fruit was in addition to the natural tendency G-d granted them.

55. True, *Ramban* (*Bereishis* 1:11) and others, as stated in sections 5-6, maintain that, initially, the inherent nature of shade trees was also to produce fruit. However, that does not follow the opinion of Rabbi Pinchas in *Bereishis Rabbah*, *loc. cit*.

<sup>53.</sup> I.e., according to this explanation, the phrase, "not as it does now, but rather as it did in the time of Adam, the first man," is a general introduction to all the blessings to be mentioned. Afterwards, the *Midrash* gives particular details: "Which source [teaches that] in the Ultimate Future a tree will be planted and produce fruit that day...? "Which source [teaches that in the Ultimate Future a tree will be edible...? "Which source [teaches that] in the Ultimate Future shade trees will produce fruit?"

קְּבָרָיו מוּכָח שֶׁשׁוֹלֵל לֹא רַק חִדּוּשׁ הַמַעֲשָׂה בְרֵאשִׁית, הַיְנוּ דָּבָר שָׁלֹא הָיָה כְּלָל בְּמַעֲשָׁה בְרֵאשִׁית, כִּי אִם גַם בְּטוּל ״דָּבָר מַמַוְהָגוֹ שֶׁל עוֹלָם״מּט (אֶלָא ״עוֹלָם כְּמַוְהָגוֹ גוֹהָג״),

וְזֶה בָּרוּר שֶׁעַנְיְנֵי הַשְׁנּוּיִים הַנַּ״ל אֵינָם ״מִנְהָגוֹ שֶׁל עוֹלָם״, כִּי בֵּרוּשׁ ״מִנְהָגוֹ שֶׁל עוֹלָם״ הוּא כְּהַנְהָגַת הָעוֹלָם בְּפַעַל בַקְבִיעוּת, כְּהַנְהָגַת הָעוֹלָם בְּפַעַל בַקְבִיעוּת, וְאֵין נַפְקָא־מִנָּה כְּלָל מֻתַי נִקְבְּעָה הַנְהָגָגָה זוֹ, בִּתְחַלַת הַבְּרִיאָה מַמָּשׁ אוֹ לְאַחֵרי זֶה'; לְאַחַר שֶׁכָּך נְקְבָע אוֹ לְאַחֵרי זֶה'; לְאַחַר שֶׁכָּך נְקְבָע יוֹצִיאוּ פֵּרוֹת וְשָׁל חַיוֹת רְעוֹת בְּנִזְרָגָעָם שֶׁל אִילְנֵי סְרַק שֶׁלֹא יוֹצִיאוּ פֵּרוֹת וְשָׁל חַיוֹת רָעוֹת הַנְזָרָאי שֶׁשָׁנּוּי שְׁנַעֵשָה בָּהָם הַכֶּך שִׁנוּי, הְרֵי זָה מִנְהָגוֹ שֶׁנַעשָׁה בָּהָם הַכָּך וּבְוַדַּאי שֶׁשְׁנּוּי שֶׁנַּעֲשָׁה בָּהָם הַכָּך שׁל עוֹלם.

וּבְּוַדֵּאי אֵין מָקוֹם לוֹמַר שָׁטַּבְעָם דְּאִילְנֵי סְרַק לֹא נִשְׁתַּנָּה, שְׁטַּבְעָם דְּאִילְנֵי סְרַק לֹא נִשְׁתַּנָּה, וְאַף בִּזְמַן הַזֶּה הֵם בִּכְלַל אִילְנוֹת עוֹשִׁים פַּרוֹת, אֶלָא שֶׁמַּסָבָּה חִיצוֹנִית (גְּוַרַת הַקָּבָּ״ה) אֵינָם מוֹצִיאִים פַּרוֹת בְּפַעַל<sup>נא</sup> (וְעַל דֶרֶך זֶה בְּבַעֵלֵי חַיִּים); אֶלָּא שֶׁפֵּרוּשׁ

statement – that "one should not entertain the notion that any element of the natural order will be nullified or that there will be any innovation in the work of creation" – clearly indicates that not only does he negate the possibility of a new pattern within creation – i.e., the initiation of something that never existed – but, furthermore, he negates a deviation from the natural order.<sup>56</sup> As he states, "Rather, the world will continue according to its pattern." It is obvious that these changes – shade trees bearing fruit or hostile beasts ceasing to cause harm – are not the ordinary pattern of the world.

"The natural order" refers to the order that prevails in our ongoing, actual experience. It does not matter exactly when this pattern was established, whether at the very beginning of creation or afterwards.<sup>57</sup> Once it was established that the nature of shade trees is not to produce fruit and that the nature of hostile beasts is to cause harm and these trees and beasts have carried on in this manner for thousands of years without change, that became and continues to be the natural order. If there is a deviation from this pattern and the trees and the animals conduct themselves in an opposite manner, this constitutes a negation of the natural order.

It is not at all logical to say that the nature of shade trees has not changed and that, even at present, the nature of these trees is to produce fruit. Why then do they not follow their nature? Only because of an external factor. G-d's decree is preventing them from actually producing fruit.<sup>58</sup> Similarly, it is not logical to say the same regarding hostile beasts.

Obviously, this is not *Rambam's* intent. **Instead**, the explanation is that – even according to those opinions that, initially, shade trees produced fruit and the hostile

57. Indeed, it was only after the

Flood that the natural order as a whole was established in a manner whereby it continues without change or variation, as stated in *Bereishis* 8:22.

<sup>56.</sup> On this basis, we can understand the two clauses *Rambam* employs in that *halachah* – "One should not entertain the notion that... any element of the natural order will be nullified, or that there will be any innovation in the work of creation." It could be said that he stated them in this

specific order to imply that what is described in the first clause will not occur and, needless to say, what is described in the second clause also will not. See *Rambam's* choice of wording in ch. 11, *halachah* 3, cited in sec. 10 below.

**<sup>58.</sup>** To cite parallel: There are times when rain does not descend because of a Divine decree.

beasts did no harm – their previous nature was nullified by the sin of the Tree of Knowledge.<sup>59</sup> In the present era, the nature of these trees is that they are shade trees and the nature of these animals is that they are predators.

Thus, it is still difficult to comprehend: How can *Rambam* reconcile his principle that the natural order will not be altered in the Era of the Redemption with the statements of our Sages which appear to indicate that the Era of the Redemption will initiate a new world order in which nature will give way to miracles?

*mi, Kilayim, loc. cit.*). By contrast, it is forbidden to graft two different species of fruit trees together. The rationale is that, in the present era, shade trees do not have the potential or the nature to produce fruit. The fact that they will do so in the Ultimate Future represents an

59. It is possible to say that, for this reason, it is permitted to graft a shade tree of one species onto another of a different species (*Rama*, *Yoreh Deah* 295:6. See *ibid*. 295:3 and *Sifsei Kohen* 295:3. This also applies according to *Rambam*; see *Mareh HaPanim*, *Talmud Yerushal*-

א) פי״ב ה״א.

- ב) ראה בפירוש ואם יעלה על הדעת -ברמב"ם רפ"א (הדרן לרמב"ם (קה"ת, ברוקלין, יא ניסן תשמ"ה) ס"ט).
- ג) וכן הוא בהלכות תשובה פ״ט בסופו (״כמנהגו הולך״). פירוש המשנה סנהדרין - הובא לקמן הערה עז.
  - ד) יא, ו.

מה שהקשה הרמב״ם ממה שנאמר בישעי׳ - ולא הקשה ממה שנאמר בתורה (בחוקותי כו, ו) "והשבתי חיה רעה״ (וכהשגת הראב״ד, הובא לקמן בפנים סעיף ג) - כי פסוק זה אפשר לפרשו כהרמב״ן על הפסוק (וראה אגרת תחיית המתים להרמב״ם) ״שלא יבואו חיות רעות בארצכם כי בהיות יבואו חיות רעות בארצכם כי בהיות מלאות אדם לא תבואנה חיות בישוב״. ואין צריך לדחוק בכתוב שנאמר דרך ואה לקמן בפנים סעיף ג.

- ה) שינוי הצענזאר וצריך להיות "גויים" או אומות העולם".
  - ו) ירמי'ה,ו.
  - ז) ישעי' שם, ז.
- ח) שם ה"ב. וכן הוא במקומות שבהערה ג.
  - ט) ברכות לד, ב. ושם נסמן.
- י) וראה דברי הרמב״ם עצמו בזה (אגרת תחיית המתים שלו אות ו' (הובא לקמן

סעיף טז)).

יא) הובא בפירוש רש"י על הפסוק.

- יב) כו, ד. יג) יואל ב, כב.
- יד) ולהעיר דהחילוק בין שני סוגי אילנות אלו, עץ מאכל ואילני סרק, הוא גם בהלכה (וראה גם לקמן הערה נב): בעץ מאכל נאמר (שופטים כ, יט) "לא תשחית את עצה", "רק עץ אשר תדע כי לא עץ מאכל הוא אותו תשחית וכרת" (שם, כ), מה שאין כן אילני מאכל (בבא קמא צא, סוף ע"ב. רמב"ם הלכות מלכים פ"ו ה"ח־ט)".

\*) ואין להקשות (ע"פ הנ"ל בפנים): מכיון שאילני מאכל אסור לקצוץ אפילו בחורף, שאז אין עושין פירות, כיון שבקיץ עושין - למה מותר לקצוץ אילני סרק בזמן הזה, הרי (אף על פי שעכשיו אילני סרק הם) יטענו פירות לעתיד לבא?

כי התורה בעצמה חילקה בזה, ואמרה "עץ אשר תדע כי לא עץ מאכל הוא אותו תשחית גו", דהיינו שהאיסור הוא לקצוץ אילן שהוא (עתה) בסוג "עץ מאכל" (ואילן שהוא בסוג זה - גם בחורף אסור לקצצו); אבל אילן שאינו בסוג זה, שהוא אילן סרק, אף על פי שלעתיד לבא יטעון פירות - אינו בכלל האיסור (ובפרט על פי דלקמן בפנים

סעיף ו', דזה שלעתיד לבא יטענו פירות העיף ו', דזה שלעתיד לבא יטענו פירות הוא חידוש בהאילנות).

- יד\*) ודוחק גדול לומר שהרמב״ם סבירא ליה שהמאמר בתורת כהנים והמאן־דאמר בגמרא סוף כתובות הוא דלא כשמואל דאין בין עולם הזה לימות המשיח אלא כו' (שהרמב״ם פסק כוותיה -ראה לקמן סעיף ח)". וכדמוכח גם מזה שבפירוש המשנה (שהובא לקמן הערה עז) מסביר מאמר רז״ל ודעת החכם דארץ ישראל תוציא גלוסקאות, ולא כתב שהוא דלא כשמואל (וכדעת חכמים בשבת סג, א).
- \*) ובפרט דבעל המאמר בכתובות הוארב.
- טו) ראה על דרך זה בענף יוסף לעין יעקב כתובות שם. ולהעיר גם מעיון יעקב שם.
  - .א. (טז) ראה תענית ז
  - יז) ראה רמב״ם סוף הלכות מלכים.
- יח) על פי מאמר הז״ל סוטה (מו, סוף ע״א. וראה בראשית רבה פ״ל, ו. ועוד. וראה לקו״ש ח״ד ע׳ 1114 ואילך) ״מאי פירות . . מצות״ - שגם אלו שבזמן הזה הם רק בסוג ד״מלאים מצות כרמון״ (ברכות נז. א. ושם נסמן), לעתיד לבא יעשו הרבה מצות ומעשים טובים.
- יט) אבל ראה רמב״ם הלכות תשובה פ״ח ה״ב (וראב״ד שם). פירוש המשנה

הַדָּבָר הוּא שֶׁלְאַחַר חֵטָא עֵץ הַדַּעַת בָּטֵל טִבְעָם הַקּוֹדֵם<sup>נב</sup>, וּבִזְמַן הַזֶּה הֵם אִילָנֵי סְרַק בְּטִבְעָם (וחיות טורפות)).

innovation and the nullification of their present nature. Therefore, the *halachah* applies to the shade trees as they exist in their present state.

as they exist in their present state. See also the explanation in footnote 16 above.

שבהערה עז. יט\*) בחוקותי כו, ד.

- כ) מה שאין כן במאמר חז"ל שבת (ל,
   ב) "עתידים אילנות שמוציאין פירות
   בכל יום" (בלי הדגשה "כדרך שעושה
   בימי אדם הראשון"), אין מוכרח שהוא
   כפשוטו. וראה לקמן הערה עז.
- כא) ראה תוספות כתובות קיב, ב ד״ה עתידין: לפי שרוצה לסיים בדבר טוב נקט לה הכא. אבל על פי הידוע שגם כשמאמר רו״ל בא כדי לסיים בטוב וכיוצא בזה ישנה שייכות ביניהם -מסתבר לומר, שעל כל פנים שווים הם בזה שכולם פירושם כפשוטם. וראה לעיל בגמרא שם קיא, ב ״דאיירי בהני מילי״ (לשון התוספות שם). וראה הערה כד.
  - כב) שם קיב, א.
  - כג) שם, סוף ע״א ואילך.
- כד) וגם (במאמר זה עצמו) הרי מביא ראיה מהכתוב "עץ נשא פריו תאנה וגפן נתנו חילם" שמדובר בפשטות עלי דבר גידול הפירות. מה שאין כן לפני זה בכתובות שם (קיא, ב) "אין לך כל אילן סרק שבארץ ישראל שאינו מוציא משוי שתי אתונות", שלמדין מהכתוב משוי שתי מט, יא) "ולשורקה בני אתונו", שאין זה "פשטיה דקרא". וראה המשך הגמרא שם.
  - כה) וכן בהלכות תשובה פ״ח שם.
    - כו) כו, ו.
    - .כז) ישעי' יא, ט
    - כח) שם ב, ד (ושם: לא ישא).
- כט) ראה גם כן רמב״ן הנ״ל הערה ד. אגרת תחיית המתים שם.
- ל) ובפרט שבהפסוק עליו קאי (כו, ד) לא נאמר "בארצכם", "הארץ" וכיוצא בזה (על דרך שנאמר בפסוק שם, ה׳ו).
   הכתוב "ונתנה הארץ יבולה". אלא שיש לומר שבא בהמשך לתחילת שיש לומר שכל הברכות לישראל -בפשטות הכוונה לבני ישראל בזמנים כתיקונם - כשישראל בארצם. וראה דרשת התורת כהנים בפירוש "ונתתי גשמיכם בעתם".
- לא) ואולי יש לפרש כוונת הרדב"ז שזה יהיה בארץ ישראל לא בתור ביטול מנהגו של עולם כי אם רק נס דבני ישראל בארץ ישראל, שענין שנעשה בדרך נס, מוגבל בזמן או במקום אינו ביטול מנהגו של עולם<sup>°</sup>

על דרך המן וכו' בהיותם במדבר,
 שירד להם ארבעים שנה רצופות דבר

יום ביומו, ומכל מקום אינו ביטול מנהגו של עולם, מכיון שזה היה רק בזמן ומקום מסוים, ובשאר המקומות והזמנים נשאר הטבע בתקפו. וכן זה ׳ירמי (ירמי ארץ . . צבי" (ירמי ג, יט. וראה דניאל יא, מא (ובמצודת דוד) ובהנסמן על הגליון ראש השנה יג, א) בזמן שיושביה עליה - רווחא, ובזמן . אין יושביה עליה - גמדא (גיטין נז, א ועוד); ועשרה נסים שנעשו לאבותינו בבית המקדש (אבות פ״ה מ״ה) - שכל זה אינו ביטול מנהגו של עולם, אלא נס המחודש מפני דבר שנתחדש. ועל דרך זה - והשבתי חיה רעה מן הארץ. וצריך עיון בהא שאבני ארץ ישראל כבידות מאבני חוץ לארץ (כתובות קיב, סוף ע"א ותוספות ד"ה רב חנינא שם. ערוך

ערך תקל. ריטב"א כתובות שם) -אבל דוחק לפרש כן, שתהיה הנהגה קבועה ותמידית בארץ ישראל בימות המשיח - באופן של נס (ולא - יבטל מנהגו של עולם).

\*) ועל פי זה בטלה התמיה על הרמב"ם ממה שנאמר (מיכה ז, טו): כימי צאתך מארץ מצרים אראנו נפלאות.

- לב) לשון הרמב״ם הלכות מלכים פי״א ה״ג.
  - לג) שם.
  - לד) ה״ב פל״ח.
  - לה) לשון עבודת הקודש שם.
    - לו) עיין שם כארוכה.
- לז) רמב״ן בחוקותי כו, ו. וראה גם רמב״ן דרשת תורת ה׳ תמימה (ירושלים תשכ״ג) ע׳ קנד־ה.

[מה שאין כן "וגר זאב עם כבש" (שמפרש הרמב"ם שהוא משל) - יש לומר דסבירא ליה להרמב"ם (מה שאין כן להרמב"ן) שהוא ביטול מנהגו של עולם, לפי שגם קודם החטא, כשלא היה חיות רעות בעולם, היו בעלי חיים טורפים זה את זה בשביל מזונם (אבל לא להזיק) ולא היה מצב של "וגר זאב עם כבש". ואין כאן מקומו. ועדיין צריך עיו].

- לח) בראשית ג, יט.
- לט) ראה רמב״ן על התורה בראשית א, יא: ואם כן נאמר כי מקללת ארורה האדמה (שם ג, יז) היו סרק (וכן הוא באור החיים על הפסוק). וראה דרשת תורת ה' תמימה הנ״ל. קרבן אהרן לתורת כהנים שם.
  - מ) ראה רמב"ן שם ובדרשת תורת ה' תמימה הנ"ל.
  - מא) ולהעיר (יתירה מזו) מירושלמי שביעית

כ"ד ה"ח: כי עץ נשא פריו מגיד שלא נשא פריו בעולם הזה וגפן ותאינה נתנו חילם מגיד שלא נתנו חילם בעולם הזה.

מב) ראה חדושי אגדות כתובות שם.

- מג) פ״ה, ט.
- מד) בירושלמי כלאים פ״א ה״ז (לפירוש הפני משה), לב׳ המאן־דאמר היו אילני סרק בתחלת הבריאה שלא נשאו פירות, אלא שלחד מאן־דאמר בזה שהוציא אילני סרק ״עברה על גזרותיו של הקב״ה״ ולחד מאן־דאמר ״שמחה בציווי והוסיפה אילני סרק״ - ״שהן גריכין לתשמישו של אדם לעצים ולבנין״. וראה מראה הפנים לירושלמי שם. מפרשים לבראשית רבה שם. וראה בהנסמן לעיל הערה לט.
  - מה) בראשית א, יא.
- מו) כן הוא בפשטות לדעת ר' יהודה ב"ר שלום - בבראשית רבה שם. ולהירושלמי כן הוא לכולי עלמא (כבהערה מד).
- מז) והיינו שמה שכתוב לפני זה "לא כדרך שהיא עושה עכשיו אלא כדרך שעשתה בימי אדם הראשון" היא הקדמה כללית, ואחר כך מפרט הפרטים "ומנין שהעץ עתיד להיות נטוע . בן יומה .. מנין שהעץ עתיד להיות נאכל כו' ומנין שאף אילני סרק כו". אבל ראה רמב"ן שאף אילני סרק כו". אבל ראה רמב"ן נשהעץ נאכל) לפני החטא. וכן הוא לפירוש רש"י בראשית (שם, יא) שבזה קלקלה "ולא עץ פרי".
- (א, אף שלהרמב"ן (בראשית א, יא) ועוד הוא כדלעיל סעיף ה־ו, שבטבע מתחילה עשו גם אילני סרק פירות.
- מט) ועל פי זה מובן ב' הלשונות ברמב"ם שם. ומה שכתבם בסדר זה דוקא - יש לומר שהם בסדר דזו ואין צריך לומר זו. וראה לשונו בפי"א ריש ה"ג הובא לקמן בפנים סעיף י.
- נ) והרי אפילו כללות ההנהגה הטבעית שנקבעה באופן ש"לא ישבותו" נעשתה רק אחר המבול (נח ח, כב).
   נא) ועל דרך כשאין מטר יורד.
- נב) ויש לומר שלכן מותר להרכיב אילני סרק זה על זה אף על פי שאינו מינו (רמ"א יו"ד סרצ"ה ס"ו. וראה שם ס"ג וש"ך שם סק"ג. וכן הוא לדעת הרמב"ם - ראה מראה הפנים לירושלמי שבהערה מד) - כי בזמן הזה אין בהם כלל הכח והטבע לעשות פירות, ולעתיד לבא יהיה זה חידוש וביטול טבעם של עכשיו.



SICHOS IN ENGLISH