



### SICHA – 20 IYAR, 5740-1980 – To Jewish Children –

*Free Translation\**

In the Torah portion of Beha'alotecha, the Torah relates that, "On the twentieth day of the second month," the 20th of Iyar, the "clouds lifted." God's Clouds of Glory lifted, and showed the Jews that it was time to depart from Mount Sinai, and journey toward the Land of Israel, to the Holy Land.

What is the special lesson from this, for Jewish children?

There are hours in the day when the children are in a mode similar to that experienced by the Jews at Mt. Sinai. They are studying Torah, praying to God, and "know before Whom you stand" –they stand before Him.

Then there are hours in the day: God created people, children too, so that they must rest from time to time by sleeping, and take some time to eat and drink in order to be a healthy child, physically as well.

During those times of eating, drinking and sleeping, one cannot study Torah. One may think, Heaven forbid, that the child is then disconnected from the Torah.

This is why the Torah tells us in the portion of Beha'alotecha that when God's cloud, God's command, was lifted from Mount Sinai and directed each Jew and all Jews that it was time to travel away from there;

It wasn't, Heaven forbid, that they went away from Judaism, or from Torah, or "the Torah that Moshe commanded us" –the manner in which Moshe had taught it. Rather, they were journeying forth in the manner that Torah had directed them to –through Moshe.

In order to know where to go, we are told in the same portion that "God's Ark," the Ark which contained the Tablets, went forth before them, and the Jews—each one, and all of them together—followed the Ark. Even when they went through the desolate desert they did not have to fight at all, for Moshe called out, for the very first time: "Arise, o God, and Your enemies will be dispersed." God stands up for the Jewish people, even before they get there.

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\*) Taken from the Subtitles that appear on the screen



## פרשת בהעלותך

He stands up for them in a way that there is no need for war at all, since “Your enemies will be dispersed” —those who do not love God, which, our sages tell us, is expressed by not loving the Jews.

“And Your foes will flee before You”: They all run away “before You” —from the Ark with the Tablets and the Torah, even before the Jews arrive on the scene. Thus, the Jews can securely continue in the path of God, in the path that He directs them to go.

How do we recognize this path? Since “The Ark of God goes before them”: we place the Torah before us and behave as the Torah guides.

Then everything that is disturbing us or that dislikes us, falls apart and flees, and we are able to go “Securely on our way” —securely, calmly, and happily, as a Jewish child—and as all Jews—should behave.

Until we arrive in the Land of Israel, with the true Redemption.

“And you will dwell securely upon it,” we dwell serenely and securely, for we have children who create true joy and satisfaction to God.

And we continue in this manner, as the verse continues, until “In all of the lands of your inheritance, redemption shall you grant to the land.” The entire land that God gave as a heritage to the Jewish people is redeemed through the proper behavior of every Jew and all Jews.

This, too, will happen very soon, through our work and toil; as a result of the children behaving as they should, and doing everything in their power to “Return the hearts of the fathers with the sons” —to ensure that their parents will increase their dedication to Judaism in their lives and in their homes.

And everyone together—“A great multitude will come there” —will speedily reach “the entire land of our inheritance,” our eternal legacy and heritage in the Holy Land.

