

Sava Kadisha of Radoshitz - The Significance Of A Rosh Chodesh Seuda

R' Yisachor Dov Ber, the Sava Kadisha of Radoshitz (1765-1843), was one of the great legendary Chassidishe Rebbes of his generation. Known as a great miracle worker, he was mainly a talmid of the Chozeh of Lublin and Yid HaKodosh of Peshischa, but also learnt from the Magid of Koznitz, Apta Rov and many others. He used to say: "I served 120 "Ba'alei Ruach HaKodesh". Many make the pilgrimage to his kever for the yahrzeit.

The Sava Kadish of Radoshitz was once seated with his chassidim by a Rosh Chodesh seuda when a misnaged, known to make disparaging statements about chassidim, happened by. The rebbe asked him: "Why aren't misnagdim particular about making a meal in honor of Rosh Chodesh, when the Shulchon Aruch says it's a mitzva to make a meal in honor of Rosh Chodesh?" (The Mishna Berura says that although it's not an actual obligation to eat bread, one who does so is praised.)

When the tzadik didn't get an answer he said he would like to offer the reason. When a misnaged does a mitzva he puts that mitzva away in his collection of mitzvas and when he does an aveira he puts it in his collection of aveiras. A chosid, however, is always worried whether he sinned or not, without realizing and whether the mitzvas he did do, were done properly, and for the sake of Heaven.

Now, Chazal say that since we don't have the Mizbeach to atone for our sins, one's table atones for his sins. Different korbanos atone for different sins, and the korban of Rosh Chodesh atones for those sins that one doesn't even know about.

Putting it all together, the tzadik explained, we can understand why chassidim are particular to make a special meal in honor of Rosh Chodesh. (Note: I heard that the Vilna Gaon was very particular about having a seuda in honor of Rosh Chodesh)

This misnagid was so inspired by the explanation of the Radishitzer that he became a dedicated chosid of his. From then on this former misnagid would make a Rosh Chodesh seuda every month and tell over this explanation that he heard from the Sava Kadisha.

The Yahrzeit of the Sava Kadisha of Radoshitz, R' Yisachor Dov Ber ben R' Yitzchok is 18 Sivan.

<http://zchusavos.blogspot.com/2007/06/sava-kadisha-of-radoshitz-significance.html>