

*The calm that engulfed her was life changing as it removed the doctor's dire prognosis' hold over her. She now would approach her illness with the brachah of the greatest tzaddik in the generation. And it was not merely a brachah, the tzaddik had bestowed it in the form of an assurance that all would be well.*

Imagine that brachah had been given by the Chofetz Chaim, the Vilna Gaon, Rashi, an Amarah, a Tanna, or Mosheh Rabbeinu himself. How much calmer would one feel?

But what can calm us when we face calamity?

In this week's parshah (Bereishis 18:9) we learn that Sarah laughed to herself upon hearing the words of the angel to Avraham, "I will return to you next year, and your wife Sarah shall have a son!" (ibid. 18:10) The Sefurnu explains her reasoning: "She assumed that the words of the angel were merely a blessing, not a prophecy, as occurred with the novi Elisha (*Melachim II 4:16*) She believed that when such a blessing is given to old people it cannot be effective even when given by the greatest novi. For to return one's youth after old age is equivalent to reviving the dead which is impossible without a direct command of Hashem or with a pleasing tefillah before Him."

Upon hearing what she believed was the assured blessing of a Novi she laughed. I have already used something much more powerful than the blessing of the greatest Novi: Tefillah! I spoke directly to my Father in heaven, who loves me more than any love imaginable in this world! In fact, He created the entire world just for me! What can the blessing of a novi, even the greatest one, add to that!

So back to our question above: What can calm us when we face calamity?

Speaking directly to our Father in heaven, who loves us more than any love imaginable in this world! In fact, He created the entire world just for each and every one of us! The blessing of a novi, even the greatest one, cannot compare to that!

*Established By:*



Priority-1