

*And I, in Your kindness have placed my trust, my heart rejoices in Your salvation (Rav Chaim Brisker explains: Even before it actually takes place, for I am so certain it will.)
I will sing to Hashem when He has saved me. (Tehillim 13:4-6)*

“What are we going to do?” cried the innkeeper, R’ Mottel’s wife.” If you don’t pay the Polish landowner the entire amount you owe him by 9:30 tomorrow morning, he promised to throw our whole family into his dungeon.”

“I’ve been working on my bitachon for many years now,” replied R’ Mottel, “and I’m not worried in the slightest, I have no doubt that my dear Father-in-Heaven, who cares about me more than we even care about our own children, will take care of everything.” The Vilna Gaon, a guest at the inn witnessing this exchange, waited to see how this man’s Heavenly salvation will come about.

At 9:25 am the next day, the Gaon sees R’ Mottel reassuring his wife, “True, I still do not have the money, but I will go right now to him and you’ll see how Hashem will take care of everything.” The Gaon followed R’ Mottel from a distance on the five-minute trek to the Polish landowner’s mansion, to see what would happen.

9:26: Suddenly, the Gaon sees a wealthy man on horseback ride up to R’ Mottel and engage him in conversation. R’ Mottel shakes his head with an emphatic “no” following which the man rides away.

9:28: The rider returns to R’ Mottel, says a few words following which R’ Mottel again shakes his head emphatically and the rider rides away.

9:30: It’s the dreaded deadline and R’ Mottel is standing confidently in the doorway. Suddenly, the Vilna Gaon sees the rider returning, he exchanges something with R’ Mottel and rides off. The Polish landowner opens the door, accepts something from R’ Mottel, who then turns around and heads back to the inn.

“What happened?” asks the Gaon.

“When I was already in the doorway, without any money, Hashem sent someone to buy my entire fruit crop for the coming year for their full value which is more than twice the sum I owed!”

“But what happened the first two times he came up to you?” asked the Gaon.

“The first two times he offered me a little less than the true value of my crops, so I refused to sell them!”

When one is already rejoicing in Hashem’s complete salvation, with the Hallel already at the tip of his tongue, you don’t settle for anything less!!

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