

# אֵלֵינוּ לְלֵבֵנוּ לְלֵבֵנוּ לְלֵבֵנוּ

*Shir HaShirim analogizes the relationship between Klal Yisroel and Hashem to a great king who sought to marry. All of the kings of the world aspired to give their daughters to him in marriage. He, however, didn't want to marry a princess, so that she not be conceited. He, therefore, married a lowly girl from amongst some slaves, who had pure and refined lineage. Although her friends as well as all of the kings were jealous of her, as long as she was in the house of the king and in good standing they could do her no harm, for her husband was more powerful than all of the other kings. However, when she betrayed her husband, became depraved in his eyes and was sent from his house, he hid his face from her. All of the kings of the land who hated her said: The day that we have awaited for has arrived! However, the king had written in her kesuba that even if he would send her away he would return her if she would return and cry out to him. Eventually, in her poverty and hardship, recalling all that she had had during the times that she had been virtuous in the eyes of the king, and upon reading her kesuba, and what he promised her, she is consoled. She begs her husband to kiss her as he had done in times gone by, for his love is more precious to her than all the pleasures of the world! (Vilna Gaon, Shir HaShirim 1:1)*

It seems that the prerequisite for the final redemption which we all pray and await for each day, is the study of *Shir HaShirim*, and awakening within us our deepest desires that so often go unnoticed even whilst we serve Hashem. To desire that Hashem kiss us and comprehend that “Your love is more precious to us than any pleasure in the world!” How sad is it then that this subject is so rarely focused on? **This is in fact the prerequisite to the coming of Mashiach!** Let us do our part in strengthening this study, thereby hastening our final redemption and receiving that kiss which is sweeter than all of the pleasures of this world!

