



The Purpose of Nisyonos

Why Hashem gives us tests • Sources and discussion

01

Avraham and the Ten Tests

02

From Potential to Action

03

A Test Can Raise Us Higher

04

Love Expressed Through Deeds

05

The Righteous Are Tested

06

Three Ideas to Take Home

A SHIUR BY

Rabbi Shlomo Fuchs

Sources: Pirkei Avos 5:3; Ramban and Sforno on Bereishis 22:1; Bereishis Rabbah 55:1; Tehillim 11:5. A shiur for group learning by Rabbi Shlomo Fuchs.

If Hashem already knows what we will choose, what is the purpose of a nisayon? The sources below show how tests can make our faith visible in action and allow us to grow. The challenge is to bring those ideas into the decisions we face every day.

01 • PIRKEI AVOS 5:3

Avraham and the Ten Tests

פרקי אבות ה:ג

עֲשָׂרָה נְסִיּוֹנוֹת נִתְּנָסָה אַבְרָהָם אָבִינוּ עָלָיו הַשְּׁלוֹם וְעָמַד בְּכָלֶם

Avraham Avinu faced ten tests and remained steadfast through them all. The Mishnah presents his life as a sustained pattern of devotion.

The idea: Serving Hashem is tested through repeated choices over a lifetime, including ordinary moments of pressure and uncertainty.

FOR DISCUSSION

Which small test comes up repeatedly in our own lives?

02 • RAMBAN ON BEREISHIS 22:1

From Potential to Action

רמב"ן, בראשית כ"ב:א'

לְהוֹצִיא הַדָּבָר מִן הַכָּח אֶל הַפּוֹעַל לִהְיוֹת לוֹ שֹׂכֵר מַעֲשֵׂה טוֹב לֹא שֹׂכֵר לֵב טוֹב בְּלִבּוֹ

The Ramban explains that a test is experienced by the person being tested. It creates an opportunity to turn inner goodness into a real deed.

The idea: We may believe that we possess patience, honesty, or *emunah*. A difficult choice lets us express that quality in practice.

FOR DISCUSSION

When have you discovered a strength only because you needed to act on it?

03 • BEREISHIS RABBAH 55:1

A Test Can Raise Us Higher

בראשית רבה נ"ה:א'

נסיון אחר נסיון וגידולין אחר גידולין ... בשביל לגדלן בעולם

The Midrash connects nisayon with nes, a banner or mast held high. It describes repeated tests as opportunities for growth and elevation.

The idea: A person can emerge from a challenge with greater courage, self-control, or closeness to Hashem.

FOR DISCUSSION

What would it mean to come out of a test spiritually stronger?

04 • SFORNO ON BEREISHIS 22:1

Love Expressed Through Deeds

ספורנו, בראשית כ"ב:א'

כיון שיהיה בפעל אוהב וירא כמו שהיה בכח

The Sforno teaches that the Akeidah brought Avraham's love and awe of Hashem from potential into reality. Through action, he became more like his Creator, whose goodness is active.

The idea: Keeping our word, controlling anger, and doing what is right when no one is watching are opportunities to express our relationship with Hashem.

FOR DISCUSSION

Which mitzvah or middah is hardest to practise when it is inconvenient?

The Righteous Are Tested

תהלים י"א:ה'

ה' צדיק יבִחֵן

"Hashem tests the righteous." The Ramban cites this passuk when explaining how a nisayon can be for the good of the person being tested.

The idea: A challenge is not automatically a sign that someone has done wrong. We should be especially careful not to presume we understand another person's suffering.

THREE IDEAS TO TAKE HOME

- ◆ Tests are part of a life of *avodas Hashem* — Pirkei Avos.
- ◆ Tests move our potential into action — Ramban and Sforno.
- ◆ Tests can elevate us — Bereishis Rabbah.

A QUESTION TO LEAVE WITH

When Hashem gives us a difficult moment, will we allow it to bring out the worst in us, or will we use it to bring out the greatness within us?

PERSONAL REFLECTION

One nisayon I want to approach differently this week is:

• • •

Sources: Pirkei Avos 5:3; Ramban and Sforno on Bereishis 22:1; Bereishis Rabbah 55:1; Tehillim 11:5. A shiur for group learning by Rabbi Shlomo Fuchs.

Layout & design: Live613 · live613.com

KEEP LEARNING

Where to go *from here*

RABBI SHLOMO FUCHS

Live613

Rabbi Fuchs' home for Torah wisdom for a fulfilling life: short teachings, voice notes and videos, plus a direct line to ask him anything.

live613.com/subscribe	Get new teachings by email, and join the WhatsApp updates
live613.com/library	Every teaching in one place: writings, audio and video
live613.com/events	Upcoming classes and Pizza & Parsha
live613.com/connect	Ask a question or reach Rabbi Fuchs directly



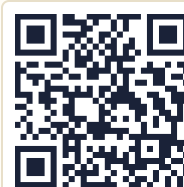
SUBSCRIBE

HERE IN LONDON

Chabad of Golders Green

Weekly programmes for university students, post grads and young professionals, Friday night dinners, and a warm shul.

chabadgg.com/7538836	Students: Pizza & Parsha RSVP and student events
chabadgg.com/5659992	Young Professionals: Shabbat dinners, trips and holiday events
chabadgg.com	Synagogue, weekly schedule, courses and Ask the Rabbi



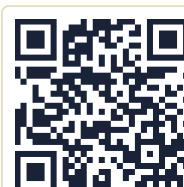
STUDENTS

WHEREVER YOU ARE

Chabad around the world

Keep going with the weekly parsha, and find a Chabad House wherever life takes you.

chabad.org/parshah	The weekly Torah portion with articles, audio and video classes
chabad.org/centers	Find a Chabad House near you, anywhere in the world
jewishinsights.org	More of the Rebbe's teachings



PARSHAH

Bring a friend next week.

Pizza & Parsha · every week · live613.com/events