
The Torah's Shortest Verse

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From the smallest packages come the greatest gifts.

In this week's portion, pasha Vayigash, amidst the listing of the **70** Israelites who entered Egypt to begin the exile there, we find a **3** word verse, the Torah's shortest verse, Genesis 46:23, "And the sons of Dan were Chushim" (VBNI DN ChShYM ???????-??? ???????).

As stated in "A Treasury of Chasidic Tales" about Rebbe Yissachar Dov of Radoshitzhe "Sabba Kadisha" ("Holy Grandfather") of Radoshitz, a disciple of the Seer of Lublin, it's explained that "Paradoxically, the verse in question employs the plural form - 'The sons of Dan were' - even though Dan had only one son, Chushim. The Talmud explains that this plural form is a hint at Dan's later posterity, for through the offspring of Chushim, Dan became the progenitor of a large tribe.

But a glance into the *sod* (secrets) of this verse reveal that *Hushim* (ChShYM ???????) is a permuted version of MSHYCh, *Mashiach*. And *V'Benay* (VBNY) has the numerical value of *chaim*, life, and *Dan* (DN ???) has the numerical value of **54** and the *sofit* numerical value of **704**.

Using the *sofit* value the first 2 words with the *kolel* (6 letters) add up to **778**, as in the year **5778**, the year prophesied by *chazal* for the arrival of *Moshiach* and the end of the final exile, the *geula*. And the *sofit* value of Dan, **704** is that of the 4th line of the *Shem Mem-Bet* (**42**-Letter Name), where the *brit* (covenant) of *Mashiach* is concealed.

Moreover, it is from the *dalet* and *nun* (DN) that Abraham tells us in the *Sefer Yetzirah* that *Mashiach* will come, and since **54 x 107 = 5778** and since all the positive integers through **107 = 5778**, in the **10** letters of it's shortest verse, the Torah has spelled out when *Mashiach* lives, which is further emphasized because the first letters of the **3** words add up to **18**, the numerical value of *Chai* (lives).

And indeed even the structure of **3** words and **10** letters, hints at the **3** column, **10** *sefirot* (dimension) structure of the tree-of-life which will once again be revealed in the time of *Moshiach*. And while the last letters of the 3 words of the verse sum to **100**, as in *keter*, and the **100** sub-*sefirot* of the tree-of-life, the letter pattern in the **3** words is **4-2-4**, as in the numerical value of *Mashiach Ben David*, **424**.

The lesson from the Torah is to never overlook the little things.

Rebbe Yissachar Dov of Radoshitzhe used this verse to bestow the blessing of many descendants on someone. We can use it to find those little sparks of goodness, holiness, around us, and scattered throughout the **70** nations, to help bring about the messiah (tree-of-life) consciousness within us, and the final redemption to the whole world.

B"H, it will happen soon.