



Project: Sermon Resource for Shluchim
 Distribution Date: April 11, 2007 / כ"ג ניסן תשס"ז
 Parsha: Shemini / שמניי

ב"ה

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1. Upon arriving in the US the Previous Rebbe said: "My coming to America is a mission for my soul, to spread Judaism here."



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2. The Rebbe arranges the creation of an "Old Country Style Yeshiva" saying, "*America is nisht andersh.* – America is no different!"

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3. Radio Show Host Pinchas Teitz visited the Rebbe that night.
 Rabbi S. Gurarie told him, "Announce on your show that the Rebbe has established a Yeshiva in NY."



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4. The Rebbe's close friends advised him against opening the Yeshiva.
 This distressed the Rebbe greatly and he cried "if my *friends* feel this way, how will everyone else feel!"



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5. Yet the Rebbe's little Yeshiva grew to over forty branches and thousands of students worldwide.



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6. Where did the Rebbe find the strength?

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7. The Parsha this week is called Shmini, "The Eighth".
 It is the eighth day of the Mishkan's dedication when the walls were left standing and G-d rested in it.



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8. Why does the Torah stop in the middle of a story - between the seventh and eighth days of the dedication?



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9. The Rebbe explains:
 Seven = Nature.
 Seven days in a week etc.
 Eight = Higher than Nature.



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10. Chanukah- a supernatural miracle is eight days.
 Circumcision is on the eighth day - for our connection with G-d transcends nature.

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11. By pausing Torah teaches that the Eighth day was a whole new level, not just the day after seven.
 On this day the Infinite G-d rested in a tiny Mishkan - a supernatural miracle!



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12. Refaenu in the amida seems to be a prayer for natural healing, but it is the eighth blessing - a prayer for supernatural healing!



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13. The previous Rebbe was the eighth Rebbe from the Baal Shem Tov. Being number Eight his life was supernatural.

He had no reason to fear the natural order that threatened to thwart his plans for a Jewish America - he superseded that nature!



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14. America is not different, and Jews are Supernatural!

We must do our best and G-d will do the rest!

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