



Your request of G-d, the Rosh Hashanah Perspective 2021

The Rosh Hashanah Perspective is in loving memory of Edward Ben Efraim and Shlomo Ben Edward. May their souls be uplifted and their memories a blessing for their families.

The Rosh Hashanah Perspective in honor of the Refuah Shlema of Shaul Ben Berta, Sasson Bezalel Ben Batia, Chana Bas Esther & Yirachmiel Daniel Ben Tova Basha.

We are about to begin a new year and celebrate Rosh Hashanah, the day G-d created Adam and Chava. It is a time when G-d sits on His holy throne of judgment as the fate of every being is decided. But it is also the day that crown G-d as our King, putting our faith and trust in his majesty and sovereignty.

During Rosh Hashanah, we say many moving and stirring prayers as we ask for a year filled with health, happiness, and success. We read the powerful stories of Avraham and Sarah being blessed with a child at an old age. As well as Avraham being tested by G-d to offer Yitzchak, his most beloved son as a sacrifice to G-d.

The Haftorah (*a reading from prophets*) of the first day is an emotional story of a barren woman blessed with a son, the prophet Shmuel. Her name was Chana, and she was not blessed with a child for years, while her husband's other wife had many children.

The story began when her husband, Elkanah, and their family went to Shiloh, where the Mishkan was to celebrate the holidays. He would offer many sacrifices and portioned out pieces of meat to his wives and children.

Chana's prayer used as the primary example of what praying should resemble?!

The Lubavitcher Rebbe answers this question by explaining the depth of Chana's prayer. He writes that Chana said to Eli HaCohen, *"I am not intoxicated, I am pouring out my soul to G-d."* Eli, the high priest, thought that she was intoxicated with physicality and only asking for physical blessings during the holiday.

But Chana explained to Eli that her prayer was not influenced or inspired by a physical need but by a spiritual calling directly from her soul. She was asking G-d to gift her a child, so she could gift him back to G-d. She wanted to give birth to one of the greatest prophets of all time. To bring the world the person who anointed the first two kings of the Jewish people.

The Lubavitcher Rebbe continues that although Rosh Hashanah might not feel like the proper time to ask for physical blessings from G-d, this is when G-d wants to hear them.

For having physical blessings of health, happiness, and success only help us develop a deep and profound relationship with G-d. For our desires and wishes come from the deepest parts of our soul even if we think otherwise. Chana represents the most powerful type of prayer, one that reveals to us the essence of ourselves, G-d.

As we blow the shofar and crown Hashem as the one and only true King, know that He hopes to hear all your needs and requests. He wants you to pray like Chana and pour out your soul to Him in the hopes of you seeing your most authentic self, the child of G-d.

May we all be blessed with a year of purpose and meaning. A year of strength and health. A year of true happiness and prosperity!

*Ksiva V'chasima Tova L'shana Tova Umesuka,
Rabbi Sholom Yemini*