

# Q1

AND

## FIVE LESSONS FROM THE GEULAH OF SHOLOM MORDECHAI RUBASHKIN

BY ARYEH GUREWITZ

**A**s Chassidim, we know that from everything we see and everything we hear, we are meant to learn lessons in avodas Hashem. In honor of last week's Zos Chanukah miracle, the Geulah of Sholom Mordechai Rubashkin, I would like to suggest five simple lessons we can learn about the imminent Geulah of Klal Yisroel and how we should relate to it.

### 1. Geulah is a source of incredible simcha.

Just as Sholom Mordechai's Geulah generated such overflowing joy, we are told about Yemos HaMoshiach: "Then our mouths will be filled with laughter."<sup>1</sup> The Rebbe explains that the deeper meaning of our mouths being *filled* with laughter is that the simcha of the Geulah will be incomparably greater than even *the greatest simcha we could possibly have* in the time of Golus.<sup>2</sup>

**2. Geulah is for every single Jew.** One of the most remarkable aspects of Sholom Mordechai's Geulah was how it touched so many Yidden in so many communities. The Gilui Elokus that Moshiach will bring will be for every single individual, regardless of their current affiliation.

### 3. Believing in the Geulah can be a struggle.

During Sholom Mordechai's imprisonment, each of us surely went through different time periods with more or less belief that his Geulah would really come, depending what was going on at that time. In the same way, it is natural to find that the strength of one's real, true, sincere belief in Moshiach fluctuates and requires work to maintain.

### 4. The more we learn, the more we connect.

The more one knew about and thought about Sholom Mordechai's story—either by knowing the family or learning a lot of the facts of his case, for example—the more naturally one would feel connected to it. The same is true of the final Geulah. The more we understand what Golus and Geulah really are, the more we can really connect to what's going on and develop our longing for Geulah.

### 5. The end may be closer than we can possibly imagine.

After all the davening for Sholom Mordechai throughout all the years, his Geulah ended up happening when no one expected it. Imagine if we could have taken a poll, five minutes before the announcement was made, asking how much longer people thought he would have to sit in prison. How many people would have guessed that it would only be five minutes? Probably not many—only those few who were actively involved in facilitating his release. That means that, for a long time, the Geulah was much closer than the average person imagined. The same may very well be true with us.

Mazel tov to the whole Rubashkin family. May they and all of klal Yisroel share only simchas in the future, and very soon, the ultimate simcha of the Geulah Ho-Amitis v'haShleima.

1 Tehillim 126:2

2 V'yihyu Chayei Sarah 5741 (muga), ois 5.