



The Joy of Torah - For Life

Parshas Emor - Hashem Wants Our Comfort!

Shmuz by Rabbi Yisrael Davidowitz

In this week's Parsha, the Torah commands us that we can bring a קרבן from a שור או כשב או עז, an ox, sheep or goat, the Medrash in Vayikrah Rabbah explains that Hashem tells us there in 10 animals that potentially could be karbanos, but only three are permissible to be brought, the ones that drink from the troughs in our property, because He does not want us to be inconvenienced by having to bring karbanos from the other seven animals which would require us to go up to the mountains to try to catch them. The Eitz Yosef asks why not permit all 10, this way if we wish, we can bring one from within our property or if we want to do the extra toil we can go up to the mountains and hunt one down.

Says the Eitz Yosef, of course, Hashem could have done that, but he wanted to teach us an important lesson, that He does not want our tircha, our discomfort, in fact, he despises it!

The obvious question on this Medrash is that we have 613 Mitzvos min Hatorah, and many thousands of details that go with them, and many more mitzvos d'rabbanan, and minhagim, that almost all require effort or limit us in one way or the other, so how can the Medrash say Hashem doesn't want our tircha, we are avdei Hashem and that's what avadim do?

From this Medrash we see that it must be that all of the mitzvos are they are just to enable us to survive and live our lives appropriately in this world, and they are they are all absolutely necessary for us to become the Adam Hashalem. However, Hashem does not want us to endure one iota of pain or suffering, or even discomfort in serving him, and doing his mitzvos that is not completely necessary for our own good!