

Sichas Nun Alef Parshas Re'eh

מְשִׂיחוֹת שַׁבֶּּת־פֶּּרָשֶׁת רְאֵה, א' , א' דְּרֹאשׁ־חֹדָשׁ אֱלוּל ה'תנש"א From the talks of Shabbos Parshas Re'eh, 1st day of Rosh Chodesh Elul, 1991

Introduction

This powerful discourse was delivered by the Lubavitcher Rebbe on Shabbos Parshas Re'eh, which coincided with Rosh Chodesh Elul, 1 Elul 5751 (1991). It was part of a farbrengen held at 770 Eastern Parkway, and it captures the Rebbe's urgent call to prepare for the imminent arrival of Moshiach — not just spiritually, but with tangible, public action. From the very first lines, the Rebbe emphasizes that our generation — the final one of exile and the first of redemption — has already completed all necessary spiritual work. The only thing left is to "open the eyes" and recognize that the Geulah is already present. This is not a vague hope but a pressing reality that demands internalization and proclamation. Throughout the discourse, the Rebbe explains that even those who feel the ideas of Geulah have not yet penetrated their understanding must still publicize this truth — because faith in its complete form obligates each person to share it, beginning with their own family and surroundings.

This maamar, rooted in the final year of the Rebbe's public leadership, is filled with the Rebbe's intense yearning, expectation, and demand that Geulah be revealed now — in our world, with our eyes. It is not merely a message of hope; it is a call to action, a declaration of truth, and a direct continuation of the Rebbe's final and most urgent mission.

(8)

(1) Parshas Re'eh is always read at a time that is connected with the month of Elul: in most years—on Shabbos Mevorchim Elul (in which the blessing is drawn down upon and into all the days and matters of the month of Elul), and in some years—like this year—on the first day of Rosh Chodesh Elul (which includes all the days and matters of the month of Elul).

פָּרָשַׁת רְאֵה קּוֹרִין לְעוֹלָם בִּזְמֵן הַשַּיָּדְ לְחֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל: בְּרֹב הַשָּׁנִים – בְּשַׁבַּת מְבָרְכִים חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל (שָׁבּוֹ נִמְשֶׁכֶת בְּרָכָה עַל וּבְכָל יְמֵי עִנְיָנֵי חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל), וּבְכַמָּה שָׁנִים – כִּבְשָׁנָה זוֹ – בִּיוֹם א' דְּרֹאשׁ חֹדֶשׁ (אֱלוּל (שָׁכּוֹלֵל כָּל הַיָּמִים וְהָעִנְיָנִים דְּחֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל.

And we must understand the connection and relevance of Parshas Re'eh to the month of Elul (as it is known that the times of the year are connected with the Torah portions that are read then)—for seemingly, they are even opposite concepts:

וְצָרִידְ לְהָבִין הַקֶּשֶׁר וְהַשַּיָּכוּת דְּפָּרָשַׁת רְאֵה לְחֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל (כַּיָּדוּעַ שֶׁוְמַנֵי הַשֶּׁנָה שַׁיָּכִים לְהַפָּרָשִׁיוֹת בַּתּוֹרָה שָׁקוֹרִין בָּהֶם) – דְּלִכְאוֹרָה הֵם אַדְרַבָּא נִעִּנִים הַפָּכִיִּים זָה־מִזֵּה:

The idea of the month of Elul is: "I am my Beloved's and my Beloved is mine"—the acronym of Elul—man's service from below to above, in which a person is aroused to draw close to the Holy One, blessed be He; and through this—and following this—comes "and my Beloved is mine," the revelation of the Holy One, blessed be He, to man.

עָנְיָנוֹ שֶׁל חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל – "אֲנִי לְדוֹדִי וְדוֹדִי לִּי", רָאשֵׁי־תַבוֹת אֱלוּל – עֲבוֹדַת הָאָדָם מִלְמַטָּה לְמַעְלָה, שֶׁהָאָדָם מִתְעוֹרֵר לְהִתְקָרֵב לְהַקָּדוֹשׁ־בָּרוּדְ־הוּא; וְעַל־יְדִי זֶה וּלְאַחֲרֵי־זֶה נַעֲשָׂה "וְדוֹדִי לִי" – הַהִתְגַלוּת דְּהַקָּדוֹשׁ־בָּרוּדְ־הוּא לְהָאָדָם.

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Whereas in Parshas Re'eh—"See, I give before you today a blessing"—the emphasis is on the drawing down from above to below (that the Holy One, blessed be He, gives to man).

וְאִלּוּ בְּפֶּרָשַׁת רְאֵה – "רְאֵה אָנֹכִי נֹתֵן לְפְנֵיכֶם הַיּוֹם בְּרָכָה" – מַדְגָשֶׁת הַהַמְשָׁכָה מִלְמַעְלָה לְמַטָּה ((שָׁהַקָּדוֹשׁ־בָּרוּדְ־הוּא נוֹתֵן לְהָאָדָם)).

(ב)

We may further add to the emphasis on the drawing down from above to below—in every detail of the phrase "See, I give before you today":

"הַאָּה" / See"—seeing is higher than hearing ["Hearing is not like seeing," and therefore a witness cannot become a judge... for once he saw it... he cannot find merit for him—which is not the case when the judge hears from witnesses who saw the matter]; and among their differences is that hearing is from below to above—grasping detail after detail until reaching the general idea—while sight is from above to below, grasping at once the general idea, and afterward the details.

"אָנֹכִי / I"—the revelation of His Essence and Being (that one addresses Him by saying "אָנֹכִי")... in a manner of elevation and exaltedness (from above to below). This is the difference between אָנֹכִי and אָנֹכִי (even though their meanings and most of their letters—alef, nun, yud—are the same): when one simply identifies, he says "אָנֹכִי הָרֹאָה" but when announcing in a manner of loftiness and exaltedness, one says "אָנֹכִי הָרֹאָה" as in "אָנֹכִי הָרֹאָה", מוֹ as emphasized in the distinction between אָנֹכִי in the addition of the letter כ"ף, which alludes to Kesser, where the essence of exaltedness resides.

"נוֹתֵן / I give"—from above to below; and specifically "נוֹתֵן," as "Whoever gives, gives with a good eye."

"לְּפְנֵיכֶם / before you"—meaning into your inwardness. This further emphasizes the drawing down from above to below: that it first enters the level of inwardness, and only afterward extends even into the external aspects. (Which is unlike the order of from below to above—where one goes from the external to the internal.)

ְוֵיֵשׁ לְהוֹסִיף הְּהַדְגָּשַׁת הַהַּמְשָׁכָה מִלְמַעְלָה לְמַטָּה – בָּרָל פָּרָטֵי הַתָּבוֹת "רְאֵה אָנֹכִי נֹתֵן לְפְנֵיכֶם הַיּוֹם:"=

רְאֵהּ" – רְאִיָּה שֶׁלְּמַעְלָה מִשְׁמִיעָה [אֵינָה דּוֹמָה" שְׁמִעִּה לְרְאִיָּה", שֻׁלְּמַעְלָה מִשְׁמִיעָה [אֵינָה דּוֹמָה" שְׁמִיעָה לְרְאִיָּה", שֻׁלְּכֵן אֵין עֵד נַעֲשֶׁה דִיָּן .. כִּיוָן דְּחַזִּיוּהוּ .. לָא מָצוּ לֵה זְכוּתָא", מַה־שֵׁן־כֵּן כְּשֶׁשׁוֹמֵעַ (הַדַּיָּן) מִפִּי עֵדִים שֶׁרָאוּ הַדָּבָר], וּמֵהַחִלּוּקִים שֶׁבִינִיהָם – שֶׁשְׁמִיעָה הִיא מִלְמַטָּה לְמַעְלָה, שֶׁתוֹפֶּסֶת פְּרָט, עַד לְכְלָלוּת הָעִנְיָן, וּרְאִיָּה הִיא מִלְמַעְּלָה לְמַעְלָה לְמַשָּה, שֶׁתוֹפֶּסֶת מִלְכַּתְּחִלְּה כְּלָלוּת הָעִנְיָן, .וּרְאִיָּה הִיא מִלְמַעְּלָה לְמַטָּה, שֶׁתוֹפֶּסֶת מִלְכַּתְּחִלְּה כְּלָלוּת הָעִנְיָן, .וּ

אָנֹכִי" – הוֹדָעַת עַצְמוּתוֹ וּמַהוּתוֹ (זֶה שֶׁפּוֹנִים אֵלָיו"
בַּאֲמִירַת "אָנֹכִי")... דֶּרֶך הַגְּבָּהָה וְהָתְנַשְׂאוּת
(מִלְמַעְלָה לְמַטָּה), שָׁזֶּהוּ הַחִלּוּק שָׁבֵּין "אֲנִי"
לְ"אָנֹכִי" (אַף שָׁפֵירוּשָׁם וְרֹב אוֹתִיוֹתֵיהֶם – א' נ' י' – שִׁיִם), שֶׁבְּישׁמוֹדִיעַ סְתָם אוֹמֵר "אֲנִי פְּלוֹנִי", וּכְשֶׁמוֹדִיעַ סְתָם אוֹמֵר "אֲנִי פְּלוֹנִי", וּכְשֶׁמוֹדִיעַ דֶּרֶך הַגְּבָּהָה וְהִתְנַשְׂאוּת אוֹמֵר "אָנֹכִי", בְּמֹוֹ "אָנֹכִי", בְּמֹן הָרֹבֶּשְׁ שָׁבֵּין "אֲנִי" בְּמֹוֹ "אָנֹכִי" בְּ(הוֹסְפַת הָאוֹת כַּ"ף), שֶׁמוֹרָה עַל הַכָּתֶר ... שַׁשַּׁבַין הַתְנַשִּׂאוּת ... שַׁשַּׁבַין הַרָּתְנַשְּׂאוּת ... שַׁשַּׁבַין הַרְוֹמְמוּת וְהָתְנַשְׂאוּת

נוֹתֵן" – מִלְמַעְלָה לְמַטָּה, וְ"נוֹתֵן" דַּיָקָא, "כָּל הַנּוֹתֵן" בּעַיִן יָפָה הוּא נוֹתֵן...

לְפְנֵיכֶם" – שֶׁפֵירוּשׁוֹ לִפְנִימִיוּתְכֶם, שֶׁבָּזָה מְדֻגָּשֶׁת" יוֹתֵר הַהַמְשָׁכָה מִלְמַעְלָה לְמַטָּה, שֶׁבָּאָה תְּחַלָּה לִבְחִינַת הַפְּנִימִיּוּת, וְאַחַר־כָּךְ נִמְשֶׁכֶת גַּם בִּבְחִינַת הַחִיצוֹנִיּוּת (דְּלָא בְּהַסֵּדֶר דְמִלְמֵטָה לְמַעְלָה, מִן הַחִיצוֹנִיּוּת אֶל הַפְּנִימִיּוּת.

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מְשִׁיחוֹת שַׁבָּת־פָּרָשֶׁת רְאֵה, א' , א' דְּרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל ה'תנש"א From the talks of Shabbos Parshas Re'eh, 1st day of Rosh Chodesh Elul, 1991

"הַיּוֹם" / Today"—indicates light and revelation, as it is written, "And G-d called the light: day"; and it also indicates eternity, as our Sages of blessed memory said: "Every place where it says 'today'—it is eternal and forever—even this very day," meaning literally *today*. For since the drawing down is from above to below, it is in a manner that is fixed and eternal (without regard to the state and condition of the recipient below).

"בְּרַכָּה" / Blessing"—its concept is hamshachah, drawing down (as the word berachah is related to hamshachah, drawing), from above to below—reaching even the complete form of blessing that comes from the highest level, which is in a hidden state. For this reason it is expressed in terms that seem opposite of blessing (as in the continuation and conclusion of the verse after "blessing"), similar to the Aggadah in Maseches Moed Katan, where Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai sent his son to Rabbi Yehudah and Rabbi Yonasan, and they blessed him in strange words. The son returned to Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai and said they had distressed him—until his father explained that it was all actually blessings... through which there was drawn down from an even higher level... where curse is transformed into blessing—just like teshuvah that is greater than the level of a tzaddik, through which darkness is transformed into light... when evil is turned into good, it is loftier than good that was good from the outset.

And nevertheless, we read "See, I give before you today a blessing..." (a drawing down from above to below) on Shabbos Mevorchim Elul—or on Shabbos Rosh Chodesh Elul—the very time whose theme is "I am to my Beloved and my Beloved is to me," man's divine service from below to above *specifically*.

(1)

Seemingly, this can be explained based on what was explained earlier: that since the month of Elul includes the divine service of the entire year as a whole—both the honest accounting and the repair and completion of the past year, and also the preparation for the coming year—

הַיּוֹם" – שָׁמּוֹרֶה עַל הָאוֹר וְהַגְּלּוּי, כְּמוֹ שֶׁכָּתוּב"
"וַיִּקְרֵא אֱלֹקִים לָאוֹר יוֹם", וּמוֹרֶה גַּם עַל הַנִּצְחִיּוּת,
שָׁאָמְרוּ רַבּּוֹתֵינוּ זַ"ל "כָּל מָקוֹם שֶׁנֶּאֱמֵר הַיּוֹם – הוּא
נִצְחִי וּלְעוֹלָם, גַּם הַיּוֹם הַגָּה", "הַיּוֹם מַמָּשׁ", דְּכֵיוָן
שָׁהַהַמְשָׁכָה הִיא מִלְמַעְלָה לְמַטָּה – הַרֵי הִיא בְּאֹפֶן
קָבוּעַ וְנִצְחִי (מִבְּלִי הַבָּט עַל מַעֲמָדוֹ וּמַצָּבוֹ שֶׁל
.(הַתַּחִתּוֹן

בְּרֶכָה" – שֶׁעִנְיָנָה הַמְשֶׁכָה (בְּרֶכָה מִלְשׁוֹן הַמְשֶׁכָה)"
מִלְמַעְלָה לְמַשָּׁה, וְעַד לִשְׁלֵמוּת הַבְּרֶכָה מִדְּרָבָּא נַעֲלֵית
בְּיוֹתֵר – שֶׁהִיא בִּבְחִינַת סָתוּם, שֻׁלָּכֵן נָאֱמֶרֶת בְּלָשׁוֹן
דְּהָפֶּה הַבְּּרְכָה (בְּהַמְשֵׁךְ וְסִיּוּם הַכָּתוּב לְאַחֲרֵי
"בְּרֶכָה"), כְּעִנְיָן הָאַבָּדָה בְּמַסֶּכֶת מוֹעֵד קָטָן שֶׁשָׁלַח
רַבִּי שִׁמְעוֹן בַּר יוֹחַאי אֶת בְּנוֹ לְרַבִּי יוֹנָתָן וְרַבִּי יְהוּיָה שָׁבֵּרְכוּ אוֹתוֹ, אָמְרוּ לוֹ כוּ', וּבָא הַבֵּן לְרַבִּי שִׁמְעוֹן בַּר יוֹחַאי וְאָמֵר שָׁצִּעְרוּ אוֹתוֹ, עַד שֶׁבֵּרְשׁ לוֹ אָבִיו שֶׁנָהוּ הַכֹּל בְּרְכוֹת... שָׁנִתְּלִּיְרָה לְבְּרָכָה... כְּמוֹ שֶׁהַתְּשׁוּכָה יְוֹתֵר מָהַיְנָת צַּדִיק – עַל־יִבִי זֶה שֶׁהַחֹשֶׁךְ נַהְפָּרְ יוֹתֵר לְאוֹר... מַה שֶׁנַהְפָּךְ מֵרֵע לְטוֹב – זָהוּ נָּבוֹהַ יוֹתֵר
...מָה שֶׁנַהְפָּךְ מֵרַע לְטוֹב – זָהוּ נָבוֹהַ יוֹתֵר
...מָה שָׁנַהְפָּךְ מֵרַע לְטוֹב – זָהוּ נָבוֹהַ יוֹתֵר

וְאַף־עַל־פִּי־כֵן קוֹרִין "רְאֵה אָנֹכִי נֹתֵן לְפְנֵיכֶם הַיּוֹם בָּרָכָה וְגוֹ" (הַמְשָׁכָה מִלְמַעְלָה לְמַשָּה) – בִּשַׁבַּת (מְבָרְכִים הֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל, אוֹ בְּשַׁבַּת) רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל, שֶׁעִנְיָנוֹ "אֲנִי לְדוֹדִי וְדוֹדִי לִי" – עֲבוֹדַת הָאָדָם מָלְמֵשָּה לִמַעְלָה דַּוִקָא.

לְכָאוֹרָה אָפְשֶׁר לְבָאֵר זֶה עַל־פִּי מַה שֶׁנִּתְבָּאַר לְעֵיל
שֶׁבִּיוָן שֶׁחֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל כּוֹלֵל הָעֲבוֹדָה דְכָל הַשָּנָה כַּלָּה
(הֵן הַחָשְׁבּוֹן צָדֶק וְהַתִּקוּן וּשְׁלֵמוּת דְּהַשְׁנָה הַחוֹלֶפֶת,
(וְהֵן הַהַכָּנָה לַשְׁנָה הַבָּאָה

Sichas Nun Alef Parshas Re'eh

מְשִׂיחוֹת שַׁבָּת־פָּרָשֶׁת רְאֵה, א' , א' דְרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל ה'תנש"א From the talks of Shabbos Parshas Re'eh, 1st day of Rosh Chodesh Elul, 1991

it contains both directions of divine service: from below to above (during the winter months, which begin from Tishrei—including also the preparation in the month of Elul—"I am to my Beloved and my Beloved is to me") and from above to below (during the summer months, which begin from Nissan—"My Beloved is to me and I am to Him").	שֶׁיֵשׁ בָּה שְׁנֵי אָפְנֵי הָעֲבוֹדָה: מִלְמֵטָּה לְמַעְלָה (בְּחָדְשֵׁי הַחֹרֶף שֶׁהַתְחָלָתָם מִתִּשְׁרֵי, כּוֹלֵל גַּם הַהַּכָנָה בְּחֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל – "אֲנִי לְדוֹדִי וְדוֹדִי לִי"), וּמִלְמַעְלָה לְמַטָּה (בְּחָדְשֵׁי הַקַּיִץ שֶׁהַתְחָלָתָם מִנִּיסָן – "דוֹדִי לִי וַאֲנִי ("לוֹ
Both of these are included in the month of Elul itself: "I am to my Beloved"—from below to above, and "My Beloved is to me"—from above to below.	– נְכָלָלִים שָׁנֵיהֶם בְּחֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל עַצְמוֹ: "אֲנִי לְדוֹדִי" מָלְמַטָּה לְמַעְלָה, ןְ"דוֹדִי לִי" – מִלְמַעְלָה לְמַטָּה.
More specifically: the accounting (and repair and completion) of the previous year begins (and primarily consists of) the service of the summer months of that past year (those adjacent to the month of Elul), which is in the mode of from above to below.	וּבִפְרָטִיּוּת יוֹתֵר: הַחֶּשְׁבּוֹן צֶדֶק (וְהַתִּקּוֹן וּשְׁלֵמוּת) דְהַשָּׁנָה הַחוֹלֶפֶת – הַתְחָלֶתוֹ (וְעִקֶּרוֹ) מֵהָעֲבוֹדָה דְּחָדְשֵׁי הַקֵּיִץ דְהַשָּׁנָה הַחוֹלֶפֶת (הַסְמוּכִים לְחֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל) בְּאֹפָן דְמִלְמַעְלָה לְמַטָּה
And afterward, it includes also the accounting of the winter months that preceded those. And the preparation for the coming year begins (and primarily consists of) the service of the winter months of the coming year (those adjacent to the month of Elul), in the mode of from below to above—	וּלְאַחֲרֵי זֶה מוֹסִיף גַּם הַחֶּשְׁבּוֹן דְּחָדְשֵׁי הַחֹּרֶף שֶׁלְּפְנֵי זֶה. וְהַהֲכָנָה לַשָּׁנָה הַבָּאָה – הַתְחָלֶתָה (וְעָקָרָה) מֵהָעֲבוֹדָה דְּחָדְשֵׁי הַחֹּרֶף דְּהַשָּׁנָה הַבָּאָה (הַסְמוּכִים לְחֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל שֶׁלְפְנֵיהֶם) בְּאֹפֶן דְּמִלְמַשָּה לְמַעְלָה
and afterward, it includes also the preparation for the summer months that will follow.	וּלְאַחֲרֵי זֶה מוֹסִיף גַּם הַהָּכָנָה לְחָדְשֵׁי הַקַּיִץ שֶׁלְאַחֲרֵי זֶה.
And it may be said that these two modes are alluded to in the two days of Rosh Chodesh Elul (which belongs to the group of months whose Rosh Chodesh is always two days):	וְיֵשׁ לוֹמַר, שֶׁשְׁנֵי עִנְיָנִים אֵלֶּה מְרֵמָּזִים בִּשְׁנֵי הַיָּמִים דְרֹאשׁ־חֹדָשׁ אֱלוּל (שֶׁהוּא מֵהַחֲדָשִׁים שֶׁרֹאשׁ־חֹדְשָׁם (הוא לְעוֹלָם שְׁנֵי יָמִים:
the first day of Rosh Chodesh is the 30th of Menachem Av, which belongs to the order of divine service of the summer months (which begin in Nissan), in the mode of from above to below ("My Beloved is to me");	שֶׁיוֹם רָאשׁוֹן דְּרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ הוּא יוֹם הַשְּׁלוֹשִׁים דְּחֹדֶשׁ מְנַחֵם־אָב, שֶׁשַׁיָּךְ לְסַדֶּר הָעֲבוֹדָה דְּחָדְשֵׁי הַקַּיִץ (שֶׁהַתְּחָלָתָם מִנִּיסָן), בָּאֹפֶן דְּמִלְמַעְלָה לְמַשָּׁה ("דוֹדִי ;("לִּי
and the second day of Rosh Chodesh is the first day of the month of Elul, in which begins the preparation for the order of divine service of the winter months (which begin in Tishrei), in the mode of from below to above ("I am to my Beloved").	ְוִיוֹם שֵׁנִי דְּרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ הוּא יוֹם הָרָאשׁוֹן דְּחֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל, שָׁבּוֹ מַתְחִילָה הַהַּכָנָה לְסֵדֶר הָעֲבוֹדָה דְּחָדְשֵׁי הַחֹרֶף (שֶׁהַתְּחָלָתָם מִתִּשְׁרֵי), בָּאֹפֶן דְּמִלְמַשָּה לְמַעְלָה ("אֲנִי ("לְדוֹדִי
This is emphasized even more in the particular arrangement of this year: that Rosh Chodesh Elul falls on Shabbos and Sunday.	וּמַדְגָּשׁ יוֹתֵר בָּקְבִיעוּת שָׁנָה זוֹ – שֶׁרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל חָל בְּיוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת וּבִיוֹם הָרָאשׁוֹן:

Sichas Nun Alef Parshas Re'eh

מְשִׁיחוֹת שַׁבָּת־פָּרָשֶׁת רְאֵה, א' , א' דְּרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל ה'תנש"א From the talks of Shabbos Parshas Re'eh, 1st day of Rosh Chodesh Elul, 1991

On Shabbos (the first day of Rosh Chodesh, the 30th of Menachem Av), the divine service is in the mode of from above to below—where the involvement is only in matters of holiness: Torah and tefillah, and even eating and drinking are permeated with holiness, for through them one fulfills the mitzvah of Oneg Shabbos.

And on Sunday (the second day of Rosh Chodesh, the first of Elul), begins the weekday mode of service—from below to above—where the primary involvement is in weekday work and activity, which are to be refined, clarified, and elevated to holiness.

According to this, we may now explain the connection between Parshas Re'eh and Shabbos Mevorchim (or Shabbos) Rosh Chodesh Elul:

Since Shabbos Mevorchim Elul is always in the month of Menachem Av, and Shabbos Rosh Chodesh Elul is always the first day of Rosh Chodesh (the 30th of Menachem Av), it highlights even more the accounting of the service in the mode of from above to below. And therefore, we read: "See, I give before you today a blessing."

מְנַחֵם־אָב) הָעֲבוֹדָה הִיא בָּאֹפֶן דְּמִלְמַעְּלָה לְמַטָּה (שָׁהַהִּתְעַסְּקוּת הִיא בְּעִנְיֵנֵי קְדַשָּׁה בִּלְבַד – תּוֹרָה וּתְפָלָה, וְעַד שֶׁהַקְדֵשָּׁה חוֹדֶרֶת גַּם בְּעִנְיָנִים גַּשְׁמִיִּים – אָכִילָה וּשְׁתִיָּה – שֶׁעַל יְדֵיהֶם מְקַיְּמִים מִצְוַת עֹנֶג ;(שַׁבָּת

'שֶׁבִּיוֹם הַשַּׁבַּת (יוֹם רָאשׁוֹן דְּרֹאשׁ־חֹדֵשׁ, ל

וּבִיוֹם רָאשׁוֹן (יוֹם שֵׁנִי דְּרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ, א' אֱלוּל) מַתְחִילָה הָצְבוֹדָה דְּשׁשֶׁת יְמֵי הַמַּצְשֶׁה – בְּאֹפֶן דְמִלְמַטָּה לְמַעְלָה (שֶׁעָקַר הַהָּתְעַסְּקוּת הִיא בַּעֲבִדִּין הַוֹל – לְבַרְרָם וּלְזַכְּכָם וּלְהַצְלוֹתָם לְקְדֵשָׁה.

וְעַל־פִּי זָה אֶפְשָׁר לְבָאֵר הַקֶּשֶׁר וְהַשַּׁיָכוּת דְּפָּרְשֵׁת רָאֵה לְשַׁבַּת (מְבַרְכִים אוֹ לְשַׁבַּת) רֹאשׁ־חֹדֵשׁ אֱלוּל:

דְּכֵיוָן שֶׁשַּבָּת מְבָרְכִים חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל הִיא לְעוֹלֶם בְּחֹדֶשׁ מְנַחֵם־אָב, וְשַׁבָּת רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל הִיא לְעוֹלֶם יוֹם רִאשׁוֹן דְּרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ, שֶׁהוּא יוֹם הַשְּׁלוֹשִׁים דְחֹדֶשׁ מְנַחֵם־אָב – מֻדְבָּשׁ בּוֹ יוֹתֵר הַחֶשְׁבּוֹן שֶׁל אֹפֶן הָעֲבוֹדָה דְּמִלְמַעְלָה לְמַשָּה. וְלָכֵן קוֹרִין בּוֹ: "רְאֵה "אֵבֹכִי נֹתֵן לִפְנֵיכֶם הַיּוֹם בָּרַכָה.

(7)

However, it is more reasonable to say that Parshas Re'eh is associated not only with the mode of divine service from above to below, but also with the mode of service from below to above, because:

Even though the reading of Parshas Re'eh on Shabbos Mevorchim Elul or on Shabbos Rosh Chodesh Elul is at the end of the month of Menachem Av, the essential theme of that Shabbos day relates to the month of Elul—

whether regarding Shabbos Mevorchim Elul, whose theme is drawing down blessing for the month of Elul, or even more so regarding Shabbos Rosh Chodesh Elul, which—even though it belongs to the count of days of Menachem Av—it is the first day

אָבָל, מִסְתַּבֵּר יוֹתֵר לוֹמֵר שֶׁפֶּרָשַׁת רְאֵה שַׁיֶּיכֶת (לֹא רַק לְאֹפֶן הָעֲבוֹדָה דְּמִלְמֵעְלָה לְמַטָּה, אֶלָּא גַּם) לְאֹפֶן הַעֲבוֹדָה דְּמִלְמַטָּה לְמַעְלָה, כִּי:

אַף שֶׁהַקְרִיאָה דְּפָּרָשַׁת רְאֵה בְּשַׁבַּת מְבָרְכִים חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל אוֹ בְּשַבַּת רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל הִיא בְּסִיּוּמוֹ שֶׁל חֹדֶשׁ מְנַחֵם־אָב, הַרֵי, עִנְיָנוֹ הָעִקְּרִי דְּיוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת זָה שַּיַּךְ לְחֹדֵשׁ אֱלוּל

הֵן בְּנוֹגֵעַ לְשַׁבַּת מְבָרְכִים חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל, שֶׁעִנְיָנוֹ הַמְשֶׁכַת בְּרָכָה לְחֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל, וְהֵן (וְעַל אַחַת כַּמָה וְכַמָּה) בְּנוֹגֵעַ לְשַׁבַּת רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל – שֶׁאַף שֶׁשַׁיָּךְ לִמְנְיֵן הַיָּמִים דְּחֹדֶשׁ מְנַחֵם־אָב, הֲבִי הוּא יוֹם רִאשׁוֹן דְרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ (רֹאשׁ שֶׁכּוֹלֵל כָּל יְמֵי הַחֹדֶשׁ) אֱלוּל דְרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ (רֹאשׁ שֶׁכּוֹלֵל כָּל יְמֵי הַחֹדָשׁ) אֱלוּל

Sichas Nun Alef Parshas Re'eh

מְשִׂיחוֹת שַׁבָּת־פָּרְשֶׁת רְאֵה, א' , א' דְרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל ה'תנש"א From the talks of Shabbos Parshas Re'eh, 1st day of Rosh Chodesh Elul, 1991

of Rosh Chodesh, which includes all the days of the month of Elul.	
Moreover—and this is the main point: even the end of the month of Menachem Av (in which Shabbos Mevorchim Elul occurs, and in which falls the first day of Rosh Chodesh Elul) already belongs to Elul and Tishrei—the beginning of the winter months.	וְעוֹד וְעִקָּר: גַּם (סִיּוּמוֹ שֶׁל) חֹדֶשׁ מְנַחֵם־אָב (שֶׁבּוֹ מְבָרְכִים חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל, וּבוֹ חָל יוֹם א' דְּרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל) שַׁיָּךְ כְּבָר לְחֹדֶשׁ (אֱלוּל וְ) תִּשְׁרֵי – הַתְּחָלַת חָדְשֵׁי הַחֹרֶךף.
As is known from Jewish custom, that from the 15th of Av onward, people begin blessing one another with the blessing of "Kesivah vachasimah tovah" (and "Gemar chasimah tovah");	כַּיָּדוּעַ מִנְהַג יִשְׂרָאֵל – שֶׁמֵּחָמִשָּׁה עָשֶׂר בְּאָב וָאֵילְךּ, מְבָרְכִים אִישׁ אֶת רֵעֵהוּ בִּבְרָכַת "כְּתִיבָה וַחָתִימָה ;("טוֹבָה" (וּ"גְמַר חֲתִימָה טוֹבָה
and this is hinted to in the mazal of the month of Menachem Av—"Ma'al Aryeh," "The Lion rises"—where the Lion refers to the Holy One, blessed be He	וּכְמָרְמָז בְּמַזָּלוֹ שֶׁל חֹדֶשׁ מְנַחֵם־אָב – "מַעַל אַרְיֵה" ((אַרְיֵה – זָה הַקָּדוֹשׁ־בָּרוּדְּ־הוּא
as it is written about it (Amos 3:8), "The lion has roared—who will not fear?"—the acronym of Elul: Elul, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Hosha'ana Rabbah. That is: in the month of Menachem Av, there is an allusion to the conclusion and completion of the <i>chasimah tovah</i> —in the <i>pitka tava</i> ("good note") of Hosha'ana Rabbah.	דְּכְתִיב בָּהּ (עָמוֹס ג', ח') "אַרְיֵה שָׁאַג מִי לֹא יִירָא", רָאשֵׁי־תֵבוֹת "אֱלוּל רֹאשׁ־הַשָּׁנָה יוֹם־הַכִּפּוּרִים הוֹשַׁעְנָא רַבָּה", הַיְינוּ – שֶׁבְּחֹדֶשׁ מְנַחֵם־אָב נִרְמָז גְּמֵר וּשְׁלֵמוּת הַחֲתִימָה טוֹבָה – בְּהַ"פִּתְקָא טָבָא" דְּהוֹשַעְנָא רַבָּהּ
And therefore, it must be said that Parshas Re'eh—which is read at the end of the month of Menachem Av, on Shabbos Mevorchim Elul or on the first day of Rosh Chodesh Elul—is also (and primarily) related to the mode of divine service from below to above, the central theme of the month of Elul: "I am to my Beloved."	וְעַל כֶּרְחָהְ צָרִיהְ לוֹמַר – שֶׁכָּרָשַׁת רְאֵה (שֶׁקוֹרִין בְּסִיּוּמוֹ שֶׁל חֹדֶשׁ מְנַחֵם־אָב – בְּשַׁבַּת מְבָרְכִים חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל אוֹ בִּיוֹם א' דְּרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל) – שַׁיֶּכֶת גַּם (וּבְעִקָּר) לְאֹפָן הָעֲבוֹדָה דְּמִלְמֵשָּה לְמַעְלָה – עִנְיָנוֹ הָעִקָּרִי שֶׁל חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל – "אָנִי לְדוֹדִי.
And this is also hinted to in the content of the parshah—its end and conclusion being the section of the festivals: Pesach and Shavuos, the festivals of the summer months, which correspond to the mode of service of "My Beloved is to me,"	ְוְכִמְרְמָז גַּם בְּתוֹכֶן הַפָּרָשָׁה – שֶׁסִיּוּמָה וְחוֹתָמָה בְּפָרָשַׁת הַיָּמִים טוֹבִים – בֶּסַח וְשָׁבוּעוֹת, הַיָּמִים טוֹבִים דְּחָדְשֵׁי הַקַּיִץ שֶׁשַּיָּכִים לְסֵדֶר הָעֲבוֹדָה דְ"דוֹדִי ,"לִי
and until its very conclusion (the reading of maftir): "The festival of Sukkos you shall make for yourself" (which includes Shemini Atzeres)—the festival of the winter months, which corresponds to the mode of service of "I am to my Beloved."	ְעַד לְהַסִּיוּם וְחוֹתָם מַפֶּשׁ (הַקְּרִיאָה דְּמַפְטִיר): "חַג הַסֵּכּוֹת חַּצְשֶׂה לְדִּ" (כּוֹלֵל גַּם שְׁמִינִי־עֲצֶרֶת) – הַיּוֹם־טוֹב דִּדְּחָדְשֵׁי הַחֹּרֶף שֶׁשַׁיָּכִים לְסֵדֶר הָעֲבוֹדָה הִיּן בִּי לְדוֹדִי.
(n)	

רָּעָנְיָן דְּכָלִי גְּבוּל (גַם מִצַּד גְּדְרֵי הָאָדָם).

The Rebbe

Sichas Nun Alef Parshas Re'eh

מְשִׂיחוֹת שַׁבָּת־פָּרָשֶׁת רְאֵה, א' , א' דְרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל ה'תנש"א From the talks of Shabbos Parshas Re'eh, 1st day of Rosh Chodesh Elul, 1991

The explanation of this can be said based on what was explained earlier—that in the month of Elul, in addition to the two modes of divine service, from below to above ("I am to my Beloved") and from above to below ("My Beloved is to me"), there is also—and primarily—the <i>fusion</i> of "I am to my Beloved and my	וְיֵשׁ לוֹמֵר הַבֵּאוּר בָּזָה – בְּהַקְדָּם מֵה שֶׁנִּתְבָּאֵר לְעֵיל שֶׁבְּחֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל יֵשׁנוֹ (נוֹסֵף עַל ב' אֲפָנִים דְהָעֲבוֹדָה – מִלְמֵטָּה לְמַעְלָה, "אֲנִי לְדוֹדִי", וּמִלְמַעְלָה לְמַטָּה, "דוֹדִי לִי") גַּם (וּבְעָקֶר) הַחִבּוּר דְּ"אָנִי לְדוֹדִי וְדוֹדִי
Beloved is to me."	"לָי,
That is: when the two are joined together, they become the <i>name</i> (which reflects the essence and nature) of the month of Elul—the acronym of "I am to my Beloved and my Beloved is to me," which includes both in a single phrase.	שֶׁשֶׁנֵיהֶם יַחַד נַעֲשִׂים שְמוֹ (שֶׁהַשֵּׁם מוֹרֶה עַל תָּכְנוֹ וּמֵהוּתוֹ) שֶׁל חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל – רָאשֵׁי תַבוֹת "אֲנִי לְדוֹדִי וְדוֹדִי לִי", שֶׁכּוֹלֵל שְׁנֵיהֶם בְּתַבָּה אֲחַת.
The point is: there is an advantage in "I am to my Beloved" over "My Beloved is to me," and there is an advantage in "My Beloved is to me" over "I am to my Beloved"—and the true perfection is in the combination of both levels, "I am to my Beloved and my Beloved is to me," joined together.	וּנְקַדַּת הָעַנָּיָן: שֶׁיֵשׁ מַעֲלָה בְּ"אֲנִי לְדוֹדִי" לְגַבֵּי "דוֹדִי לִי", וְיֵשׁ מַעֲלָה בְּ"דוֹדִי לִי" לְגַבֵּי "אֲנִי לְדוֹדִי", וְהַשְּׁלֵמוּת הָאֲמִיתִּית הִיא בְּחָבּוּר שְׁמֵּי הַמַּעֲלוֹת – "אֲנִי לְדוֹדִי וְדוֹדִי לִי" גַּם יַחַד.
The advantage of "I am to my Beloved" is the divine service of the person ("ani") in a mode of <i>his own arousal from below</i> (from below to above).	הַמַּעֲלָה דְּ"אָנִי לְדוֹדִי" – עֲבוֹדַת הָאָדָם ("אָנִי") בְּאֹפֶּן עָל אָתְעָרוּתָא דִּלְתַּתָּא (מִלְמֵטָּה לְמַעְלָה).
However, on the other hand, since man is limited, he can only reach that level of G-dliness ("dodi") which corresponds and relates to the limitations of man ("ani").	אָבָל לְאִידָהְ – כֵּיוָן שֶׁהָאָדָם מִצֵּד עַצְמוֹ הוּא מֻגְבָּל – בִּיכְלְתּוֹ לְהַגִּיעַ לְדַרְגַּת הָאֱלֹקוּת ("דוֹדִי") שֶׁיֵשׁ לָה – ("עֵרֶהְ וְשַׁיָּכוּת לְהַגְבָּלַת הָאָדָם ("אַנִי
In the language of Chassidus: this is <i>it'arusa dil'sata</i> (arousal from below) that draws down an <i>it'arusa dil'eila</i> (arousal from above) that corresponds to it.	וּבִלְשׁוֹן הַחָסִידוּת: "אָתְעֶרוּתָא דְּלְצֵילָא" שֶׁעַל יְדֵי ו(וּבְעֵרֶךְ) הָ"אִתְעֶרוּתָא דְּלְתַּתָּא".
The advantage of "My Beloved is to me" is the revelation of a level of G-dliness ("dodi") that is <i>infinitely beyond</i> the limitations of man.	הַמַּעֲלָה דְּ"דוֹדִי לִי" – הָתְגַּלּוּת דַּרְגַּת הָאֱלֹקוּת ("דוֹדִי") שֶׁבְּאֵין־עֲרוֹדְּ לְהַגְּבָּלַת הָאָדָם,
That is, the second "dodi" of "ani le'dodi ve'dodi li" is higher than the first "dodi" that is within the grasp of man.	דוֹדִי" הַבֵּית, בְּ"אָנִי לְדוֹדִי וְדוֹדִי לִי", שֶׁלְמַעְלָה" מִ"דוֹדִי" הָרִאשׁוֹן שֶׁבְּעֶרֶךְ לְהַגְּבָּלַת הָאָדָם.
In the language of Chassidus: this is an <i>it'arusa dil'eila</i> that comes from a level where the arousal from below cannot reach, and through drawing it down to man (from above to below), the true infinite aspect is revealed—even as it is expressed within the	וּבִלְשׁוֹן הַחָסִידוּת: "אָתְעָרוּתָא דְּלְעֵילָא" מִמֶּקוֹם שָׁאֵין "אָתְעָרוּתָא דְּלְתַּתָּא" מַגַּעַת שָׁם, וְעַל יְדֵי הַמְשָׁכָתָה לְהָאָדָם (מִלְמַעְלָה לְמַטָּה) – מִתְגַּלָּה אֲמִתַּת העויו דרלי גרוּל (גַּח מאָד גִּדרי האָדָח

human condition.

Sichas Nun Alef Parshas Re'eh

מְשִׁיחוֹת שַׁבָּת־פָּרָשֶׁת רְאֵה, א' , א' דְרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל ה'תנש"א From the talks of Shabbos Parshas Re'eh, 1st day of Rosh Chodesh Elul, 1991

Therefore, man is called not "ani" (I), but "li" (to me), which signifies eternity and the absence of limitation—"wherever it says 'li,' it never departs."	שֶׁלָכֵן נָקְרָא הָאָדָם (לֹא "אֲנִי", אֶלָא) "לִי", שְׁמוֹרָה עַל הַנִּצְחִיוּת (בְּלִי גְּבוּל) – "כָּל מָקוֹם שֶׁנָּאֱמֵר לִי – אַינוֹ זָז לְעוֹלָם.
But on the other hand, this is a revelation from above that does not come through man's own effort—it is "bread of shame" (undeserved).	אֲבָל לְאִידָהְ – הָרֵי זֶה גִּילּוּי מִלְמַעְלָה שֶׁאֵינוֹ בָּא עַל יִדִי עֲבוֹדַת הָאָדָם – "נַהַמָּא דְכִיסוּפָּא" [=לְחֶם שֶׁל [בּוּשָׁה, חָנָּם.
And the true perfection is in the unification of both advantages—"I am to my Beloved and my Beloved is to me" (Elul): the advantage of man's avodah and the advantage of the infinite.	ְוָהַשְּׁלֵמוּת הָאֲמִתִּית הִיא בְּחִבּוּר שְׁתֵּי הַמַּעֲלוֹת – "אֲנִי לְדוֹדִי וְדוֹדִי לִי" (אֱלוּל) – מַעֲלַת עֲבוֹדַת הָאָדָם וּמַעֲלַת הַבְּלִי גְּבוּל,
As is hinted in the beginning and end of the word "Elul" (which encompasses the entire word): "Ani" (man's service) and "Li" (without limitation).	כַּמְרַמָּז בְּהַתְּחָלָה וְסִיּוּם חֵבַת "אֱלוּל" (שֶׁכּוֹלְלִים כָּל הַחֵּבָה) – "אֲנִי" (עֲבוֹדַת הָאָדָם) "לִי" (בְּלִי גְּבוּל,
That is: that even man's service (from below to above) is in a manner that transcends measurement and limitation—like the revelation from above to below.	הַיִינוּ, שֶׁגַם עֲבוֹדַת הָאָדָם (מִלְמַטָּה לְמַעְלָה) הִיא בָּאֹפֶן שֶׁלְמַעְלָה מִמְדִידָה וְהַגְּכָּלָה – כְּמוֹ הַגִּילוּי מִלְמַעְלָה לְמַטָּה.
And it may be said that this idea is also hinted in the five roshei teivos (acrostics) found in Elul:	וְיֵשׁ לוֹמֵר, שֶׁעַנְיָן זֶה מְרֻמָּז גַּם בַּחֲמֵשֶׁת הָרָאשֵׁי תַבוֹת שֶׁבֶּאֱלוּל:
1) Torah (2 (אָנָה לְיָדוֹ וְשַׂמְתִּי לְדּ), Avodah / Tefillah (אָנִי לְדּוֹ, 1) אַנִי לְדוֹדִי וְדוֹדִי) (אָישׁ לְרֵעֵהוּ וּמַתָּנוֹת לָאָבְיוֹנִים), Gemilus chassadim (4 (לִי), Gemilus chassadim (לִי), Teshuvah (אָת לְבַבְדְּ וְאֶת לְבַב), Geulah (אָמֹר) לַאמֹר) (אָת לְבַבְדְּ וְאֶת לְבַב), ל	ג' הַקַּוּין דְּתוֹרָה ("אָנָּה לְיָדוֹ וְשַׂמְתִּי לְדְּ"), עֲבוֹדָה / – תְּפָלָה ("אֲנִי לְדוֹדִי וְדוֹדִי לִי"), וּגְמִילוּת חֲסָדִים ("אִישׁ לְרֵעֵהוּ וּמַתָּנוֹת לָאֶבְיוֹנִים"), תְּשׁוּבָה ("אֶת לְבָבָךְ וְאֶת לְבַב"), וּגְאֵלָה ("אָשִׁירָה לַה׳ וַיֹּאמְרוּ – ("לֵאמֹר
that man's service in the three lines upon which the world stands (which correspond to the three worlds of Beriah, Yetzirah, and Asiyah) is in a way that transcends all measurement and limitation—of both man and the world—	שֶׁעֲבוֹדַת הָאָדָם בָּג' הַקּוּין שֶׁעֲלֵיהֶם הָעוֹלָם (שֶׁנָּחְלָק לְג' עוֹלָמוֹת – בְּרִיאָה, יְצִירָה, עֲשִׂיָּה) עוֹמֵד – הִיא בָּאֹכָּן שֶׁלְמַעְלָה מִמְּדִידָה וְהַגְּבָּלָה (דְהָאָדָם וּדְּהָעוֹלָם,
through the fact that this service is permeated with teshuvah—whose essence is "and the spirit shall return to G-d Who gave it" (Koheles 12:7):	עַל־יְדֵי זֶה שֶׁחֲדוּרָה בַּעֲבוֹדַת הַתְּשׁוּבָה – שֶׁעִנְיָנָה – ""וְהָרוּחַ תַּשׁוּב אֶל הָאֱלֹקִים אֲשֶׁר נְתָנָה
the world of Atzilus (the fourth world), and even the idea of geulah—	עוֹלָם הָאֲצִילוּת (עוֹלָם הָרְבִיעִי), וְעַד לְעִנְיַן הַגְּאֵלָה —

Sichas Nun Alef Parshas Re'eh

משיחות שַבַּת־כַּרַשַת רָאה, א' , א' דְרֹאשׁ־חֹדָשׁ אֱלוּל ה'תנש"א From the talks of Shabbos Parshas Re'eh, 1st day of Rosh Chodesh Elul, 1991

עוֹלָם הַחַמִישִׁי ("חַמִישִׁית לְפַרְעה", דְאָתִפּּרִיעוּ the fifth world ("fifth to Pharaoh"), from which all lights are וְאָתָגַלְיֵין מְנֵיה כַּל נָהוֹרִין) – שֶׁבָּאֵין עַרוֹךְ לְכַל סָדֵר discharged and revealed—utterly beyond the entire structure of הָשָׁתַּלְשָׁלוּת דְּד' עוֹלָמוֹת – אֲצִילוּת, בְּרִיאָה, יְצִירָה, the four worlds of Atzilus, Beriah, Yetzirah, and Asiyah. עשיַה. And the counterpart to this in man's soul is that his service is וְדָגְמָתוֹ בְּנֶפֶשׁ הָאָדָם – שֶׁעֲבוֹדָתוֹ חֲדוּרָה וְנַעֲשֵׂית permeated and carried out from the level of yechidah, with a מָצַד בָּחִינַת הַ"יִחִידָה", בָּסִגְנוֹן אַחֵר לְגַמְרֵי: completely different style: עַבוֹדַת הַאַדַם מִלְמַטָּה לְמַעָלָה ("אַנִי לְדוֹדִי") – הִיא man's service from below to above ("I am to my Beloved") is (לא בָּדַרְגַא תַּחָתּוֹנַה – מַטֵּה – שֵׁלְפִי עָרֶךְ הַגְּבַּלַת not from the lowly position of man's limitations, but from the וּמַצַּב הָאַדָם, אֶלָּא הִיא מְלְכַּתִּחְלָּה) בְּדַרְגָּא עֶלְיוֹנָה outset in a higher plane—beyond limitation— מַעְלַה) שַׁלְּמַעְלַה מִמָּדִידָה וְהַגְּבַּלַה), because it comes from man's true and inner essence (as it says, לָהִיוֹתַה מָצַד מָצִיאוּתוֹ הַאֲמִיתִּית וְהַפְּנִימִית דְהָאַדַם "You are called man" based on "adamah le'elyon")— ן ("אַתֶּם קְרוּיִין אָדָם" עַל שֵׁם "אָדַמָּה לְעֶלְיוֹן – ָנְשָׁמַת הַאַדַם – שֶׁהָיא "חֶלֵק אֱלוֹקָה מְמַעַל מַמַּשׁ", the soul of man, which is "a part of G-d above, literally"—the "יִחִידָה לִיַחַדַך", שֶׁהִיא בָּתְכֵלֵת הַיָּחוּד עִם" vechidah united to unite You—which is in perfect unity with G-d, הַקָּדוֹשׁ־בָּרוּדְ־הוּא – "יִשְׂרָאֵל וְקֻדְשָׁא־בִּרִידְ־הוּא for "Yisrael and the Holy One, blessed be He, are entirely one." כַלַּא חַד". (1)According to this, we can explain the connection and relevance of the month of Elul to the portion of Re'eh:

In order that the service of the month of Elul be complete—through the combination of both levels of "I am for my beloved and my beloved is for me" also together, meaning that the service of man ("I") is in a manner of without limit ("for me")—a person (who is limited) must be on an exalted level that is beyond measurement and limitation (through which he reveals his true essence, that he is one with the Holy One, blessed be He).

עַל־פִי־זָה יֵשׁ לְבַאֵר הַקַּשֶׁר וְהַשַּׁיַכוּת דְּחֹדֵשׁ אֱלוּל לפַרשת ראָה:

ּכָדֵי שָׁהָעַבוֹדָה דְחֹדֵשׁ אֱלוּל תִּהְיֵה בִּשְׁלֵמוּת, עַל־יִדֵי חַבּוּר ב' הַמַּעַלוֹת דַּאֲנִי לְדוֹדִי וְדוֹדִי לִי" גַּם יָחַד, שַׁעַבוֹדַת הַאַדַם (אַנִי") הִיא בָּאֹפֵן שֵׁל בִּלִי גִּבוּל (לִי") – צַרִידְ הָאַדָם (הַמְּגָבַּל) לְהִיוֹת בְּדַרְגַא נַעַלֵית שׁלְמַעְלָה מִמְדִידָה וְהַגְּבַּלָה (עַל־ יְדֵי־זֵה שַׁמְגַלָּה אֶת מְצִיאוּתוֹ הַאֱמְתִּית שֶׁהוּא חַד עָם קְדְשַׁא־בָּרִיךְ הוּא).

Sichas Nun Alef Parshas Re'eh

מְשִׂיחוֹת שַׁבָּת־פָּרָשֶׁת רְאֵה, א' , א' דְרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל ה'תנש"א From the talks of Shabbos Parshas Re'eh, 1st day of Rosh Chodesh Elul, 1991

And this is the theme of the portion Re'eh—"See, I give before you today a blessing"—that as a preface to the service of man (from below to above) in all the details of the matters of "do" and "do not do" (as the verse continues, "that you will listen to the commandments of Hashem...," and the negation, "and if you do not listen..."), it emphasizes the great stature of the person who serves (each and every individual of Israel) to whom it is said:

"See"—that he is relevant to and must reach not only the level of hearing, but also the level of seeing. "I"—"I Who I am," "give"—every giver gives with a good eye, "before you"—to your inwardness, "today"—in a manner of light and revelation, and in an eternal manner, "a blessing..."—all matters of blessings, both revealed blessings and even higher blessings that are in a concealed state (as mentioned earlier in section 2).

In other words: The approach to the entirety of man's service ("I am for my beloved") is with the knowledge and recognition that within one's inwardness ("before you") is given ("I give") the revelation ("today") of the level of "I Who I am." And through this, the entirety of one's service from below to above ("I") becomes in the most elevated way—even beyond measure and limitation.

And in more detail—this is emphasized in the portion Re'eh also in the combination of both directions of service: from below to above ("I am for my beloved") and from above to below ("and my beloved is for me")—also together, in the month of Elul.

"I give before you": "give"—a giving from above to below, and "before you"—to your inwardness, for the true perfection of drawing down into inwardness is when it is also accomplished through man's own service from below to above.

ְּוֶהוּ הַתּכֶן דְּפָּרָשַׁת רְאֵה – רְאֵה אָנֹכִי נֹתֵן לִּפְנֵיכֶם-הַיּוֹם בְּרָכָה" – שֶׁבְּתוֹר הַקְדָּמָה לַצְבוֹדַת הָאָדָם (מִלְמֵטָה לְמַעְלָה) בְּכָל פְּרָטִי הָעִנְיָנִים דַּצְשֵׂה וְלֹא תַּצְשֶׂה (כְּהָמְשַׁךְ הַכָּתוּב אֲשֶׁר תִּשְׁמְעוּ אֶל מִצְוֹת ה' גּוֹ", וְהַשְׁלִילָה וְאִם לֹא תִשְׁמְעוּ גּוֹ"), מְדְגָשׁ גֶדֶל מַצְלָתוֹ שֶׁל הָאָדָם הָעוֹבֵד (כָּל־אָחָד וְאֶחָד מִיִּשְׂרָאֵל) :שַׁאוֹמְרִים לוּ

רָאֵה" – שֶׁשַׁיָּהְ וְצָרִיהְ לְהְיוֹת לֹא (רק) בְּדַרְבָּא שֶׁלשְׁמִיעָה, אֶלָא (גַם) בְּדַרְגָּא שֶׁל רְאִיָּה, אָנֹכִי" – אָנֹכִי
מִי שֶׁאָנֹכִי", נֹתֵן" -כָּל הַנּוֹתֵן בְּעַיִן יָפָה הוּא נוֹתֵן",
לִפְנֵיכֶם" – לְפְנִימִיוּתְכֶם, הַיּוֹם" – בְּאֹפֶן שֶׁל אוֹר
וְגְלוּי, וּבְאֹפֶן נִצְחִי, בְּרָכָה וְגוֹ" – כָּל עִנְיָנֵי בְּרָכוֹת,
הֵן בְּרָכוֹת גְלוּיוֹת, וְהֵן בְּרָכוֹת נַעֲלוֹת יוֹתֵר שֶׁהֵן
(מִבְּוֹיָכֵר לְעֵיל סְעִיף־ב.

כְּלוֹמַר: הַגִּישָׁה לִכְלֶלוּת עֲבוֹדַת הָאֶדֶם (אֲנִי לְדוֹדִי"), הִיא, מְתּוֹדְּ יְדִיעָה וְהַכָּרָה שֶׁבִּפְנִימִיוּתוֹ לִפְנֵיכֶם") נִתָּן נֹתֵן") הַגִּלוּי (הַיּוֹם") דְּבָחִינַת אָנֹכִי מִי שֶׁאָנֹכִי", וְעַל־יְדֵי־זֶה נַעֲשָׂה כְּלֶלוּת עֲבוֹדָתוֹ מִלְמַשָּׁה לְמַעְלָה (אֲנִי") בָּאֹפֶן נַעֲלָה בִּיוֹתֵר, וְעַד לְמַעְלָה מִמְדִידָה וְהַגְּבָּלָה

וּבִפְרָטִיוּת יוֹתֵר – מָדְגָּשׁ בְּפָּרְשַׁת רְאֵה גַּם חַבּוּר ב'] אֶפְנֵי הָעֲבוֹדָה דְמִלְמֵטָה לְמַעְלָה (אֲנִי לְדוֹדִי") וּמִלְמַעְלָה לְמַטָה (דּוֹדִי לִי") גַּם יָחַד)"אֱלוּל

נֹתֵן לִפְנֵיכֶם": נֹתֵן" – נְתִינָה מִלְמַעְלָה לְמַטָה,-וְלִפְנֵיכֶם" – לְפְנִימִיוּתְכֶם, שֶׁהַשְׁלֵמוּת הָאֲמִתִּית בְּהַמְשָׁכָה בִּפְנִימִיוּת הִיא כְּשֶׁנַעֲשֵׂית (גַּם) מְצֵד עֲבוֹדַת הָאָדָם מִלְמַטָה לְמַעְלָה.

Sichas Nun Alef Parshas Re'eh

מְשִׂיחוֹת שַׁבָּת־פָּרָשֶׁת רְאֵה, א' , א' דְרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל ה'תנש"א From the talks of Shabbos Parshas Re'eh, 1st day of Rosh Chodesh Elul, 1991

"Blessing, etc.": "Blessing" — a revealed blessing that is drawn from above to below, and a higher blessing that comes through transforming the curse into a blessing—from below to above. And their parallel in service: the service of the righteous (from above to below) and the service of baalei teshuvah (from below to above), and their combined service as well—"to return the righteous in teshuvah" (Berachos 34b).

And the power to unite these two concepts—of from above to below and from below to above—is from (the verse) "I set before you... blessing, etc."—that it comes from a level higher than both of them: "See, I" — "I, who I am," who is not hinted to in any letter or crown (Zohar II 42a), a level that is beyond the bounds of "above" and "below"—and through it both are united together.

And similarly at the end of the parsha—"The festival of Sukkos you shall make for yourself" (Devarim 16:13), whose conclusion is Shemini Atzeres, the meaning of which is (Bamidbar 29:35): "An assembly shall be for you,"—they shall be for you alone, and no stranger with you (Sukkah 55b)—"Israel and the King alone." And this idea is already alluded to in the Torah reading on Shabbos Mevarchim Elul (or Shabbos Rosh Chodesh Elul), to teach us that a person's divine service ("I am to my Beloved") must be in the most elevated manner, beyond all measurement and limitation, from the essence of his being—which is one with the Holy One, blessed be He.

בְּרָכָה וְגוֹ''': בְּרָכָה'' בְּרָכָה גְלוּיָה שֶׁנִּמְשֶׁכֶת''
מִלְמַעְלָה לְמַשָּׁה, וּבְרָכָה נַצְלֵית יוֹתֵר שֶּבָּאָה עַל־יִדי
הָפִיכַת הַקּלָלָה לִבְרָכָה -מִלְמַטָּה לְמַעְלָה. וְדַגְּמָתָם
בָּעֲבוֹדָה – עֲבוֹדַת הַצַּדִּיקִים (מִלְמַעְלָה לְמַעְלָה)
וַעֲבוֹדָת הַבַּעֲלֵי הְשׁוּבָה (מִלְמַטָּה לְמַעְלָה) וַעֲבוֹדָתָם
וַמַבוֹדַת הַבַּעֲלֵי הְשׁוּבָה (מִלְמַטָּה לְמַעְלָה) וַעֲבוֹדָתָם
גַּם יָחַד (לְאַתָּבָא צַדִּיקִיָּא בִּתְתִיוּבְתָּא [=לְהַחֲזִיר אֶת
הַצַּדִּיקִים בִּתִשׁוּבַה] "י

ְוָהַכּּחַ לְחַבּוּר ב' הָעִנְיָנִים דְּמִלְמַעְלֶה לְמַטָּה וּמִלְמַטָּה לְמַעְלֶה נֹתֵן לִפְנֵיכֶם .. בְּרָכָה וְגוֹ''') הוּא מִדַּרְבָּא שָׁלְמַעְלָה מִשְׁנֵיהֶם – רְאֵה אָנֹכִי'', אָנֹכִי מִי שֶׁאָנֹכִי'', דְּלָא אָתְרַמִּין בְּשׁוּם אוֹת וְקוֹצָא [=שָׁלֹא נִרְמַז בְּשׁוּם אוֹת וְקוֹץ] "72, בְּחִינָה שָׁלְמַעְלָה מִגָּדָר מַעְלָה וְמַטָּה [– שֶׁעַל יָדָה נַעֲשָׂה חִבּוּר שְׁנֵיהֶם יַחַד

וְעַל־דָּרֶד־זֶה בְּסִיּוּם הַפָּרָשָׁה – חַג הַסְכֹּת -73 תַּגְשֶׂה לְּדִּ", שָׁסִיּוּמוֹ וְחוֹתָמוֹ בִּשְׁמִינִי־עֲצֶרֶת שָׁעְנְיָנוֹ שֶׁל שְׁמִינִי־עֲצֶרֶת שָׁעִנְיָנוֹ שֶׁל שְׁמִינִי־עֲצֶרֶת שָׁעָנְיָנוֹ שֶׁל שְׁמִינִי־עֲצֶרֶת שָׁצֶרֶת תִּהְיֶה לְכֶם", יִהְיוּ לְדְּ לְבַדֶּדְ וְאֵין לְזָרִים אִתְּדְּ"74, יִשְׂרָאֵל וּמַלְכָּא בִּלְחוֹדוֹהִי [=יִשְׂרָאֵל וְהַמֶּלֶדְ לְבַדָּם] "75, וְעִנְיָן זָה מְרַמְּז כְּבֶר בְּהַקְרִיאָה בַּתוֹרָה בְּשׁבַּת (מְבָרְכִים אָלוּל אוֹ בְּשַׁבַּת) רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל, לְלַמְדֵנוּ, שֶׁעֲבוֹדַת הָאָדָם (אֲנִי לְדוֹדִי") צְרִיכָה לְּהִיוֹת בְּאֹפֶן נַצֵּלֶה בְּיוֹתֵר וְעַד לְמַעְלָה מִמְדִידָה וְבַיּלְה, מִצִּד עָצֶם מְצִיאוּתוֹ שָׁהוּא חַד עִם קִדִּשׁא־בְּרִידְ הוּא

(7)

And one can further add that this concept (that man's divine service is, from the outset, on a level higher than measurement and limitation) is emphasized even more when the beginning of the month of Elul falls on Shabbos:

וְיֵשׁ לְהוֹסִיף, שֶׁעִנְיָן זֶה (שֶׁעֲבוֹדַת הָאָדָם הִיא מִלְכַתְּחִלֶּה בְּדַרְגָּא נַעֲלֵית שָׁלְמַעְלָה מִמְּדִידָה וְהַגְּבֶּלָה) הוּא בְּהַדְגָּשָׁה יְתַרָה בְּהַקְבִיעוּת דְּרֹאשׁ חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל בִּשׁבַּת: בִּשׁבַּת

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מְשִׂיחוֹת שַׁבָּת־בְּּרֶשֶׁת רְאֵה, א' , א' דְרֹאשׁ־חֹדָשׁ אֱלוּל ה'תנש"א From the talks of Shabbos Parshas Re'eh, 1st day of Rosh Chodesh Elul, 1991

A Jew's spiritual standing on Shabbos is on a loftier level—indeed, beyond comparison—to his standing during the weekdays. It follows, therefore, that when Rosh Chodesh Elul begins on Shabbos, the service of "I am my Beloved's" (the work of man) begins while the person is already in a Shabbos-like spiritual state ("a Shabbos'dike Yid").

And in accordance with this, the service of the month of Elul as a whole—including even its weekdays—is also performed in a Shabbos-like manner ("in a Shabbos'dike way").

More specifically, this applies to the two-day Rosh Chodesh Elul:

In some months that have two days of Rosh Chodesh, it can happen that the first day is a weekday (e.g., Friday) and the second day falls on Shabbos. But this is never the case for Rosh Chodesh Elul. When Elul begins on Shabbos, the first day is always Shabbos, and the second day is Sunday.

One can say that this emphasizes the point that the service of "I am my Beloved's" (from below to above) does not follow a gradual ascent—from weekday to Shabbos—but rather begins immediately in a Shabbos state.

Moreover, the first day of Rosh Chodesh (which is "first" also in significance) that falls on Shabbos influences and uplifts even the second day of Rosh Chodesh that falls on Sunday (which is blessed by the Shabbos), so that it too carries the Shabbos-like service of "I am my Beloved's"—and this influence extends throughout the entire month of Elul.

מַעֲמָדוֹ וּמַצָּבוֹ שֶׁל כָּל־אֶחָד וְאֶחָד מִיִּשְׂרָאֵל בְּיוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת הוּא בְּאֹפֶן נַעֲלָה יוֹתֵר וְעֵד לְעַלוּי שֶׁבְּאֵין־עֲרוּ לְמַעֲמָדוֹ וּמַצְבוֹ בִּימוֹת הַחול. וְנִמְצָא, שֶׁבְּרֹאשׁ חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל שֶׁחָל בְּשַׁבָּת מַתְחִילָה הָעֲבוֹדָה דַאֲנִי לְדוֹדִי" (עֲבוֹדַת הָאָדָם) כְּשֶׁהָאָדָם נִמְצָא בְּמַעֲמָד וּמַצָּב שֶׁל ("שַׁבָּת (אַ שַׁבָּת דִּיקֶער אִיד),

וּבָהֶתָאֵם לְכָדְ נִמְשֶׁכֶת הָעֲבוֹדָה דְחֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל גַּם בִּימֵי הַחֹל – בְּמַצְמָד וּמַצָב שֶׁל שַׁבָּת (אוֹיף אַ שַׁבָּת דִּיקְן ה''אפֵן.

וּבִפְּרָטִיוּת יוֹתֵר – בְּנוֹגֵעַ לְב' הַיָּמִים דְּרֹאשׁ־ חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל:

בְּכַמָּה חֲדָשִׁים שֶׁרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ שֶׁלָּהֶם ב' ב' יָמִים יָכֹל לְהִיוֹת שַׁבַּת רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ בְּאֹפָן שָׁא' דְּרֹאשׁ־ חֹדֶשׁ חָל בְּיוֹם חול (יוֹם הַשִּׁשִׁי) וּב' דראש־חֹדֶשׁ חָל בְּשַׁבָּת, מַה־שָׁאֵין־כֵן רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל כְּשָׁחָל בְּשַׁבָּת, הַרֵי־זֶה לְעוֹלָם בָּאֹפֶן שָׁא' דְּרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ הוּא בִּיוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת וּב' (דְרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ בִּיוֹם חול (יוֹם ראשון

וְיֵשׁ לוֹמַר, שֶׁבָּזָה מִדְגָּשׁ שֶׁהָצֵבוֹדָה דַאֲנִי לְדוֹדִי" (מִלְמַטָה לְמַעְלָה) אֵינָה בְּאֹפֶן דְּמִן הַקֵל אֶל הַכְּבֵד, תְּחִלָּה בְּאֹפֶן שֶׁל חֹל וְאַחַר־כָּךְ בְּאֹכֶן שֶׁל שַׁבָּת, אֶלְא הָיא מִלְכַתְּחַלָּה בָּאֹפֶן שָׁל שַׁבָּת,

ןלא עוֹד אֶלָּא שֶׁיּוֹם רָאשׁוֹן דְּרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ (רָאשׁוֹן" – גַּם בְּמַצְלָה וַחֲשִׁיבוּת – בְּהָעְנָין דְרֹאשׁ חֹדֶשׁ) שֶׁחָלּ בְּשַׁבָּת פּוֹעַל וּמַשְׁפִּיעַ גַּם עַל יוֹם שֵׁנִי דְּרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ שָׁחָל בְּשִׁבָּת פּוֹעַל וּמַשְׁפִּיעַ גַּם עַל יוֹם שֵׁנִי דְּרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ שֶׁחָל בְּיוֹם רָאשׁוֹן בַּשָּׁבוּעַ (שֶׁמְתְבָּרַךְ מִיּוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת"), שֶׁנַם בּוֹ תִּהְיָה הָצְבוֹדָה דַאֲנִי לְדוֹדִי" (עֲבוֹדַת הָאֶדָם) מִתּוֹךְ מַעֲמָד וּמַצָב שֶׁל שַׁבָּת (וְעַל־יְדֵי־זֶה גַּם בְּמָשֶׁךְ מִתֹּוֹךְ אֵלוֹל

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And this idea is further emphasized on the Shabbos day (which is also Rosh Chodesh) itself—through the precedence of Shabbos over Rosh Chodesh: even though on this day both themes of Shabbos and Rosh Chodesh are present, nevertheless,

וְעִנְיָן זֶה מַדְגָּשׁ עוֹד יוֹתֵר בְּיוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת (א' דְרֹאשׁ חֹדֶשׁ) עַצְמוֹ – בְּהַקְדִימָה דְשַׁבָּת לְרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ: אַף שָׁבְּיוֹם זֶה יָשְׁנָם ב' הָעִנְיָנִים דְשַׁבָּת וְרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ, מִכֶּל־מָקוֹם, עִנְיָנוֹ שֶׁל הַשַּׁבָּת קוֹדֵם וּמְדְגָשׁ יוֹתֵר מֵעָנְיָנוֹ שֶׁל רֹאשׁ חֹדֵשׁ

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the identity of Shabbos takes precedence and is emphasized more than the identity of Rosh Chodesh.

As is emphasized in the prayers of the day, where the primary prayer text is that of Shabbos, and only afterwards is Rosh Chodesh mentioned and added in (after the content of Shabbos). Similarly, in Birchas HaMazon (which is a Biblical obligation), the theme of Shabbos is mentioned first ("Retzei") and only afterwards the theme of Rosh Chodesh ("Yaaleh Veyavo"). And this emphasis is even greater in Kiddush of the day, where Rosh Chodesh is not mentioned at all.

בַּמָּדְגֶשׁ בִּתְפָלוֹת הַיּוֹם, שֶׁנָּסַח הַתְּפָלֶּה הוּא שֶׁל שֵׁבָּת אָלָא שָׁמּוֹסִיפִים וּמַזְכִּירִים גַּם עִנְיָנוֹ שֶׁל רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ לְאַ (לְאַחֲרֵי עִנְיָנוֹ שֶׁל שַׁבָּת), וְעַל־דֶּרֶהְ־זָה בְּבִרְכַּת הַמְּזוֹן (שֶׁחִיּיּבָה מִן הַתּוֹרָה), שָׁמַזְכִּירִים תְּחִלָּה עִנְיָנוֹ שֶׁל שַׁבָּת ("רְצֵה") וְאַחַר־כָּךְ עִנְיָנוֹ שֶׁל רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ ("("יַעַלָּה וְיַבוֹא),

And the emphasis is even stronger in the blessings of the Haftorah, where—even though the Haftorah itself is related not to Shabbos (e.g. from the Seven of Consolation), but rather to the theme of Rosh Chodesh ("The heavens are My throne"—the Haftorah for Shabbos Rosh Chodesh, or "Tomorrow is the New Moon"—the Haftorah for the eve of Rosh Chodesh), nonetheless, the blessing is concluded only with the theme of Shabbos (unlike a Yom Tov that falls on Shabbos, where the conclusion includes Yom Tov as well).

וּמִדְגָּשׁ יוֹתֵר בְּקִדּוּשׁ הַיּוֹם, שֶׁלֹא מַזְכִּירִים כְּלֶל עִנְיָנוֹ שָׁל רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ, וְעַל־דֶּרֶהְ־זָה (וְחִדּוּשׁ גָּדוֹל יוֹתֵר) בְּבִרְכוֹת הַהַפְּטָרָה, שָׁאַף שְׁמַפְּטִירִין (לֹא בְּעִנְיָנוֹ שֶׁל שַׁבָּת, מֵהַשָּׁבַע דְּנָחֲמָתָא", אֶלָּא) בְּעִנְיָנוֹ שֶׁל רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ, "הַשָּׁמִיִם כִּסְאִי" (הַפְּטָרַת שַׁבַּת רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ), וּפָסוּק רִאשׁוֹן וְאַחֲרוֹן דְּ"מָחָר חֹדֶשׁ" (הַפְּטְרַת שַׁבַּת עָרֶב־רֹאשׁ חֹדֶשׁ), מִכְּל־מָקוֹם, חוֹתְמִים הַבְּרָכָה בְּעִנְיָנוֹ שֶׁל שַׁבָּת בִּלְבַד (דְּלָא כִּרְיוֹם (טוֹב שַׁחַל בִּשַּׁבַת שַׁחוֹתְמִים גַּם בְּעַנְיֵנוֹ שֵׁל יוֹם־טוֹב.

And one can say that this contains an allusion in man's divine service: the precedence of Shabbos over Rosh Chodesh goes back to the very beginning of creation—for Rosh Chodesh was added only after the world was created, as implied in the wording of our Sages (Midrash): "Since the Holy One, blessed be He, *chose* His world, He established in it months and years." It says "chose" (and not "created")—implying that this is a choice after creation.

ְוֵשׁ לוֹמַר הָרָמָז בָּזֶה בַּעֲבוֹדַת הָאָדָם*: -הַקְּדִימָה דְשַׁבָּת לְרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ הִיא מֵהַתְחָלֵת הַבְּּרִיאָה – שֶׁהַרֵי, רֹאשׁ חֹדֶשׁ נִתְוַפֵּף לְאַחֲרֵי בְּרִיאַת הָעוֹלֶם, כְּדִיּוּק לְשׁוֹן חֲכָמִינוּ־זַ"ל "מִשָּׁבָּחַר הַקָּדוֹשׁ־בָּרוּדְ־הוּא בְּעוֹלֶמוֹ קָבַע בּוֹ רָאשֵׁי חָדָשִׁים וְשָׁנִים", "מִשָּבָּחַר" (וְלֹא "מִשָּׁבָּרָא") דַּיִקָא

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And one can say this is also connected with the choosing of Yaakov and his children (as the Midrash continues: "And when He chose Yaakov and his children, He established in it a Rosh Chodesh of redemption"), for it is through them that the fixing of months and years comes about—"Yisroel sanctifies the times" (they sanctify the festivals). This is unlike Shabbos, which was fixed from the very beginning (and even before) the creation—as is known that there is a Shabbos that precedes the six days of creation. Shabbos is "sanctified and established" from the start.

And in deeper terms – that Shabbos preceded the world (Bereishis Rabbah 10:9), it is above time, whereas Rosh Chodesh is also connected to the world, for from when the Holy One, blessed be He, chose His world, He established in it new months and years.

And based on this, we can explain the deeper emphasis of Shabbos more than that of Rosh Chodesh Elul, through the fact that Shabbos precedes Rosh Chodesh. And all the more so, because the matter of Rosh Chodesh is not mentioned (in the Kedushah or in the blessing of the Haftarah), only the matter of Shabbos alone—

that the service of man ("I am to my Beloved") must be in such a manner that at the beginning of his service he stands in a state entirely above the world, such that the aspect of the day of Shabbos (which is unlimited) is more felt in him than the matter of Rosh Chodesh (which is associated with the limitations of the world),

and to the extent that in several aspects only the matter of Shabbos is felt (Shabbos on its own, entirely beyond any association with Rosh Chodesh), and therefore even the mention of Rosh Chodesh does not limit the greatness of Shabbos (which is unlimited), וְיֵשׁ לוֹמַר, שָׁעִנְיָן זֶה קָשׁוּר גַּם עִם הַבְּחִירָה בְּיַצְקֹב וּבְנָיוֹ (כְּהָמְשֵׁךְ הַפְּדְלִשׁ וּכְשָׁבָּחַר בְּיַצְקֹב וּבְנָיוֹ קָבַע בּוֹ רֹאשׁ־חֹנֶשׁ שֶׁל גְּאֻלָּה"), שֶׁעַל יָדָם נַעֲשִׂית קְבִיעוּת בּוֹ רֹאשׁ־חֹנֶשׁ שֶׁל גְּאֻלָּה"), שֶׁעַל יָדָם נַעֲשִׂית קְבִיעוּת הַחָּדָשִׁים וְהַשָּׁנִים, "יִשְׂרָאֵל אִנְהוּ דְקַדְשִׁינְהוּ לִּזְמַנֵי" [=הַם שֶׁמְּקַדְשִׁים אֶת הַמּוֹעֲדִים], מַה־שָׁאֵין־כֵּן שַׁבָּת שָׁנְּקְבַּע מַהַתְּחָלֵת (וְקֹיֶם) הַבְּרִיאָה (וְכַיָּדוּעַ שֶׁיֵשׁ שַׁבָּת שָׁלְּבָי שֵׁשֶׁת יְמֵי הַמַּעֲשֶׂה**), "שַׁבָּת מִקּדְשָׁת וְעוֹמֶדֶת [וְנִיּמָא" [=מְקּדְשָׁת וְעוֹמֶדֶת

וּבְעֹמֶק יוֹתֵר – שֶׁשַׁבָּת קָדְמָה לָעוֹלָם (בראשית רבה י, ט), לְמַעְלָה מֵהַזְמַן, מַה־שָׁאֵין־כֵּן רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ שַׁיָּה כוּ' גַּם לָעוֹלָם, מִשֶּׁבָּחַר הַקָּדוֹשׁ־בָּרוּדְ־הוּא בְּעוֹלָמוֹ קַבַע בּוֹ רָאשֵׁי חָדָשִׁים וְשָׁנִים.

וְעַל־פִי־זֶה יֵשׁ לְבָאֵר תּכֶן הַדְגֶשֶׁת עִּנְיָנוֹ שֶׁל שַׁבָּת יוֹתֵר מֵעִנְיָנוֹ שֶׁל רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל, עַלֹּ־ יְדֵי הַקְדִימָה דְשַׁבָּת לְרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ, וְעַל־אַחַת־ כַּמָּה וְכַמָּה עַל־יְדֵי זֶה שָׁלֹא מַזְכִּירִים עִנְיָנוֹ שֶׁל רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ (בַּקְדּוּשׁ וּבְבִרְכַּת הַהַפְּטַרַה) אֵלָא עִנִין הַשִּׁבַּת בַּלְבַד

שֶׁצָבוֹדַת הָאָדָם ("אָנִי לְדוֹדִי") צְרִיכָה לִהְיוֹת בְּאֹפָן שֶׁבָּהַתְחָלַת עֲבוֹדָתוֹ נִמְצָא בְּמַצְמָד וּמֵצָב שָׁלְמַעְלָה לְגַמְרֵי מֵהָעוֹלָם, שָׁעִנְיָנוֹ שֶׁל יוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת (בְּלִי גְבוּל) נְרָגַשׁ אֶצְלוֹ יוֹתֵר מֵעִנְיָנוֹ שֶׁל רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ (שֶׁשַׁיָּךְ (לְהַגְּבָּלַת הָעוֹלָם,

וְעַד שֶׁבְּכַמָּה עִנְיָנִים נִרְגָּשׁ עִנְיַן הַשַּׁבָּת בִּלְבַד (שַׁבָּת בִּפְנֵי־עַצְמוֹ, שֶׁלְמַעְלָה מִשַּׁיָכוּתוֹ לְרֹאשׁ חֹדֶשׁ), וּבְמֵילָא, גַּם הַזְּכָּרַת עִנְיָנוֹ שֶׁל רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֵינָה (מִגִּבּילָה אָת מַעֵּלָת הַשִּׁבַּת (בָּלי גָּבוּל,

Sichas Nun Alef Parshas Re'eh

מְשִׂיחוֹת שַׁבָּת־פָּרָשֶׁת רְאֵה, א' , א' דְרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל ה'תנש"א From the talks of Shabbos Parshas Re'eh, 1st day of Rosh Chodesh Elul, 1991

rather, on the contrary, through this the advantage of Shabbos (without limitation) is drawn into the aspect of Rosh Chodesh. And in our case, Rosh Chodesh Elul—"I am to my Beloved"—that man's service should be in a way that is above measure and limitation (like Shabbos).	אֶלֶּא אַדְרַבָּה, שֶׁעַל־יְדֵי זֶה נִמְשֶׁכֶת מַעֲלַת הַשַּׁבָּת (בְּלִי גְבוּל) בְּעִנְיָנוֹ שֶׁל רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ, וּבְנִדּוֹן דִידַן, רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל, "אֲנִי לְדוֹדִי" – שֶׁעֲבוֹדַת הָאָדָם (תִּהָיֶה בְּאֹכֶּן שֶׁלְמַעְלָה מִמְּדִידָה וְהַגְּבָּלָה (שַׁבָּת.
And with stronger emphasis, from the Torah reading of this Shabbos—"See, I place before you today a blessing"—since the level of "Anochi" ("I")—Who is Anochi—is given in his inwardness with permanence and eternity, it is certainly completely beyond the limitations and boundaries of the world (above time, and even above the order of times). And while he is in this elevated state, he performs his divine	וּבָהַדְגָּשָׁה יְתֵרָה מִצַּד הַקְּרִיאָה דִּיוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת זֶה – "רְאֵה אָנֹכִי נֹתֵן לִפְנֵיכֶם הַיּוֹם בְּרָכָה" – שֶׁכֵּיוָן שֶׁבְּחִינַת "אָנֹכִי" מִי שֶׁ"אָנֹכִי" נָתָגָת בִּפְנִימִיוּתוֹ בְּאֹפֶן שֶׁל קְבִיעוּת וְנִצְחִיוּת, הֲרֵי־הוּא בְּוַדַּאי לְמַעְלָה לְגַמְרֵי מֵהַגְּבָּלַת וּגְדֵרֵי הָעוֹלָם (לְמַעְלָה מֵהַוְּמַן, וּלְמַעְלָה (אֲפִלּוּ מִסֵּדֶר זְמַנִים,
service (the service of man) within the limitations and definitions of the world.	וּבִהְיוֹתוֹ בְּמַעֲמָד וּמַצָּב זֶה עוֹבֵד עֲבוֹדָתוֹ (עֲבוֹדַת הָאָדָם) בְּהַגְבָּלַת וּגְדֵרֵי הָעוֹלֶם.
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And it is also to be added, that the connection and relevance of Parshas Re'eh with the month of Elul (the service of man in a manner that transcends measure and limitation) is emphasized especially in the Shabbos of Rosh Chodesh Elul of the year 5751, <i>Tehei Shnas Niflaos Ar'enu</i> ("It shall be a year of wonders—I will show him").	ןנֵשׁ לְהוֹסִיף שֶׁהַקֶשֶׁר וְהַשַּיָּכוּת דְּפָּרֲשֵׁת רְאֵה וְחֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל (עֲבוֹדַת הָאָדָם בְּאֹפֶן שָׁלְמַצְלָה מִמְדִידָה וְהַגְּבָּלָה) הוּא בְּהַדְּגָשָׁה מִיחָדֶת בְּשַׁבַּת ראשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל דִּשְׁנַת ה'תנש"א, הָיָה תְהַא שְׁנַת נִפְּלָאוֹת אַרְאָנוּ
And with a preface—that the service of man in a manner that truly transcends all measure and limitation in its truest and most complete sense, is only truly applicable in the era of the complete and true Redemption through our righteous Moshiach, whose soul is the level of <i>Yechidah</i> of the entirety of the Jewish people, and through him the individual <i>Yechidah</i> (a spark of Moshiach) of each and every Jew is revealed.	וּבְהַקְדָּמָה – שֶׁעֲבוֹדַת הָאָדָם בְּאֹפָּן שֶׁלְמַעְלָה מִמְדִידָה וְהַגְּבָּלָה לַאֲמִתָּה וּבִשְׁלֵמוּתָה שַׁיָּכֶת רֵק בְּהַגְּאָלָה הָאֲמִתִּית וְהַשְׁלֵמָה עַל־יְדֵי מְשִׁיחַ צִּדְקֵנוּ, שֶׁנִּשְׁמָתוֹ הִיא בְּחִינַת הַיְּחִידָה דִּכְלָלוּת יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְעַל יָדוֹ מִתְגַּלֵית בְּחִינַת הַיְחִידָה הַפְּרָטִית (נִיצוֹץ מִשִּׁיחֵי) דכל אחד ואחד מִיִּשְׂרָאֵל,
This level—the fifth level—that penetrates every detail of one's divine service, as emphasized in the five acronyms of "Elul" (as mentioned above in section 5).	דַּרְגָא הַחַמִּישִׁית, שָׁחוֹדֶרֶת בְּכָל פְּרָטִי עִנְיָנֵי הָעֲבוֹדָה, כַּמָּדְגָשׁ בַּחֲמֵשֶׁת הָרָאשֵׁי־תַבוֹת דֶאֶלוּל" (כַּנְזְכָּר לְעֵיל (סְעִיף־ה.

Sichas Nun Alef Parshas Re'eh

מְשִׂיחוֹת שַׁבֶּּת־פֶּּרְשֶׁת רְאֵה, א' , א' דְּרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל ה'תנש"א From the talks of Shabbos Parshas Re'eh, 1st day of Rosh Chodesh Elul, 1991

And this point is especially emphasized in the Shabbos of Rosh Chodesh Elul of this year—for: in addition to the general idea of "awaiting him each day that he should come," and especially after "all deadlines have passed," and all matters of divine service have already been completed (as has been spoken of many times), we find ourselves in a special year whose roshei teivos (acrostic) are "It shall be a year of wonders—I will show him," as in "As in the days of your exodus from Egypt, I will show him wonders"

And already they have seen in actuality numerous and numerous wonders—both in regard to the redemption of the individual and in regard to the redemption of the collective, including and especially concerning our Jewish brethren in that country, many of whom went out from constriction to expansion, both literally and (primarily) in regard to the possibility of living Jewish lives

And to the point that in recent days—indeed, in a manner that continues also in these very days—there was held a gathering of Chabad shluchim (from many countries) in that very country—where the towns and cities of Lubavitch, Liadi, Liozna, Rostov, and Petersburg are found, where the leaders of Chabad lived and worked for generations.

according to the Torah and its commandments.

The emissaries of the Chabad leader of our generation—my esteemed teacher and father-in-law the Rebbe—gathered in the capital city of that country (Moscow), in order to increase even further with greater elevation and strength the spreading of Torah and the wellsprings (of the teachings of Chassidus Chabad) outward, through which the Master, this is King Moshiach, comes.

And in this very year—we already stand at Rosh Chodesh Elul, the month of accounting for the whole year, in which the ultimate conclusion of the accounting is: "Until when?!"

וְעִנְיָן זָה מַדְגָשׁ בְּּיוֹתֵר בְּשַׁבַּת רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל דְּשָׁנָה זוֹ - כִּי: נוֹסָף עַל כְּלָלוּת הָעִנְיָן דַּאֲחַכָּה לוֹ בְּכָל יוֹם שָׁיָבוֹא, וּבִפְּרָט לְאַחֲבִי שֶׁכָּלוּ כָּל הַקְצִין", וְסִימוּ כָּל עִנְיָנִי הָעֲבוֹדָה (כַּמְדְבָּר כַּמָּה־פְּעָמִים), נִמְצָאִים בְּשָׁנָה מִיחֶדֶת שֶׁהָרָאשֵׁי תֵבוֹת שֶׁלָּה הָיָה תִהְיָה שְׁנַת נִפְלָאוֹת "אַרְאָנּוּ", כִּימֵי צֵאתְךְּ מַאָרֶץ מִצְרִים אַרְאָנּוּ נִפְלָאוֹת

וּכְבָר רָאוּ בְּפִעַל כַּמָּה וְכַמָּה נִפְּלָאוֹת" הֵן בְּנוֹגַעַ לְגָאָלַת הַפְּרָט וְהֵן בְּנוֹגַעַ לִגְאַלַת הַכְּלָל, כּוֹלֵל וּבִמְיָחָד בְּנוֹגַעַ לְאַחֵינוּ בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל שֶׁבַּמְדִינָה הַהִּיא, שֶׁרַבִּים מֵהֶם יָצְאוּ מִן הַמַּצֵר אֶל הַמֶּרְחָב, הֵן כִּפְשׁוּטוֹ, וְהֵן (וּבְעִקָר) בְּנוֹגַעַ לְהָאָפְשֶׁרוּת לְחִיוֹת חַיִּים יְהוּדִיִּים עַל־פִּי הַתּוֹרָה וּמִצְווֹתֶיהָ

וְעַד שֶׁבַּיָּמִים הָאַחַרוֹנִים מַמָּשׁ (וּבְאֹפֶן דִּפְעָלָה נִמְשֶׁכֶּת גַּם בְּיָמִים אֵלֶה) הִתְקַיָּם הַכִּנּוּס שֶׁל שְׁלוּחֵי חַבֵּ"ד (מִכַּמָּה וְכַמָּה מְדִינוֹת) בַּמְדִינָה הַהִּיא – שֶׁבָּה נִמְצֵאת הָעֲיֵרָה וְהָעָרִים לִיוּבַּאווִיטְשׁ, לִיאֵדִי, לִיאָזְנָא, רוֹסְטוֹב וּפָטֶרְבּוּרְג, שֶׁבָּהֶם חֵיוּ וּפָעַלוּ נְשִׂיאֵי חַבַּ"ד בְּמְשֶׁךְ כַּמַה וְכַמֵּה דּוֹרוֹת

נְתְכַּנְסוּ הַשְּׁלוּחִים שֶׁל נְשִׂיא חַבַּ"ד בְּדוֹרֵנוּ כְּבוֹד־קְדְשַׁת מוֹרִי־ וְחָמִי אַדְמוֹ"ר בְּעִיר הַבִּירָה שָׁל מְדִינָה הַהִּיא (מָאסְקְנָוא), עַל מְנֶת לְהוֹסִיף בְּיָתֶר שְׂאֵת וּבְיָתֶר עז בַּהְפָצַת הַתּוֹרָה וַהְפָּצַת הַמַּעְיָנוֹת (דָּתוֹרַת חֲסִידוּת חַבַּ"ד) חוּצָה, שֶׁעַל־יְדֵי־זֶה אָתֵי מֵר דָא מַלְכָּא מְשִׁיחָא

וּבְשֶׁנָה זוֹ עַצְמָהּ - עוֹמְדִים כְּבָר בְּרֹאשׁ־ חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּלֹ, חֹדֶשׁ הַחֶשְׁבּוֹן שֶׁל כָּל הַשָּׁנָה, אֲשֶׁר, הַסַּדְ־הַכֹּל ...!"דְּהַחֶשְׁבּוֹן הוּא: עַד מָתַי

Sichas Nun Alef Parshas Re'eh

מְשִׂיחוֹת שַׁבָּת־פָּרְשֶׁת רְאֵה, א' , א' דְרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל ה'תנש"א From the talks of Shabbos Parshas Re'eh, 1st day of Rosh Chodesh Elul, 1991

Is it possible that at the conclusion of eleven months of the "Year of Wonders I will show you," Moshiach our Righteous One still has not come?—and in the language of this week's portion, "See, I place before you today a blessing"—all matters of blessing, and foremost the essential blessing of the true and complete redemption—

It is not sufficient that one hears (and understands) that "behold, he (the King Moshiach) is coming," but we must see him with physical eyes—and not merely "I will show you" in future tense, but "See!" in the present tense, and in the form of a command!

הְיִתָּכֵן שֶׁבְּסִיּוּמֶם שֶׁל י"א חֲדָשִׁים דִּשְׁנַת נִפְלָאוֹת אַרְאָנוּ", מְשִׁיחַ צִּדְקֵנוּ צְדַיִן לֹא בא וּבַמִּגְנוֹן דְּפָּרָשַׁת הַשֶּׁבוּעַ - רְאֵה אָנֹכִי נֹתֵן לְפְנֵיכֶם הַיּוֹם בְּרָכָה", כָּל עִנְיָנֵי בְּרָכוֹת, וּלְכָל לְרֹאשׁ הַבְּרָכָה הָעִקָּרִית דְּגְאָלָה הַאֵּמֵּתִּית וְהַשְׁלֵמֵה

שָׁלֹא מַסְפִּיק שֶׁשׁוֹמְעִים (וּמְבִינִים) שֶׁהָנֵה זָה (הַמֶּלֶךְּ הַמְּשִׁיחַ) בָּא", אֶלָא צְרִיכִים לִרְאוֹתוֹ בְּעֵינֵי בָּשָּׁר, וְלֹא רַק אַרְאָנּוּ" בִּלְשׁוֹן עָתִיד, אָלָּא רְאֵה", בִּלְשׁוֹן הֹוָה, וּבּלְשׁוֹן צָוּוּיִ

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And in more particular detail, the connection to the Redemption is emphasized in all the particulars of this day's matters: the day of Shabbos – which is a microcosm and model (and preparation for) "the day that is entirely Shabbos and rest for eternal life," and especially the third Shabbos (corresponding to the third Redemption and the third Beis HaMikdash) of the "seven of consolation."

וּבִפְּרָטִיוּת יוֹתֵר מַדְגָשֶׁת הַשַּיָּכוּת לְהַגְּאֻלָּה בְּכָל פְּרָטֵי עִנְיָנֵי הַיּוֹם: יוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת – מֵעֵין וְדֵגְמַת (וַהַכָּנָה לְ)יוֹם שָׁבֵּלוֹ שַׁבָּת וּמְנוּחָה לְחַיֵּי הָעוֹלְמִים", וּבִפְּרָט הַשַּׁבָּת הַשְּׁלִישִׁי (כְּנָגֶד גְּאֻלָּה הַשְּׁלִישִׁית וּבֵית הַמִּקְדָּשׁ הַשְּׁלִישִׁי) מִשָּׁבַע דְּנָחָמָתָא.

The first day of Rosh Chodesh Elul – since Rosh Chodesh in general is associated with Redemption ("they are destined to be renewed like her"), and specifically Rosh Chodesh Elul, which comes immediately and closely after the month of Menachem Av, the name of Moshiach (who was born in this month), whose constellation is a lion – so called because "the Lion [i.e., Hashem] will come and build Ariel." And especially when standing on the thirtieth day of the month of Menachem Av – the end, conclusion, and totality of the month of Menachem Av – then even the undesirable events that happened in it are only for the sake of "the Lion will come and build Ariel," which also relates to the month of Elul, since the Alef of Aryeh (lion) is the Roshei Teivos of "Elul."

יום א׳ דְּרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל – שֶׁרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ בָּכְלָל
לְשׁוּר עִם נְּאֵלָּה, שֶׁהֵם עֲתִידִין לְהִתְחַדֵּשׁ כְּמוֹתָהּ",
וּבִפְּרָט רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל שֶׁבָּא תַּכֵּף וּבִסְמִיכוּת לְחֹדֶשׁ
מְנַחֵם־אָב, שְׁמוֹ שֶׁל מְשִׁיחַ (שֶׁנּוֹלֵד בְּחֹדֶשׁ זֶה"),
שְׁמַזְלוֹ אַרְיֵה", עַל־שֵׁם שֶׁבּוֹ יָבוֹא אַרְיֵה זֶה
הַקְּדוֹשׁ־בָּרוּדְ־הוּא וְיִבְנֶה אֲרִיאֵל", וּבִפְּרָט כְּשָׁעוֹמְדִים
בְּקוֹם־אָב, אֲשֶׁר גַּם הָעְנְיָנִים הַבִּלְתִי
וְסַדְּ־הַכֹּל דְּחֹדֶשׁ מְנַחֵם־אָב, אֲשֶׁר גַּם הָעִנְיָנִים הַבִּלְתִי
וְסַדְּ־הַכֹּל דְחֹדֶשׁ מְנַחֵם־אָב, אֲשֶׁר גַּם הָעִנְיָנִים הַבִּּלְתִי
וְסַדְּ־הַכֹּל דְחֹדֶשׁ מְנַחֵם־אָב, אֲשֶׁר גַּם הָעִנְיָנִים הַבִּלְתִי
וְיִבְנָה אֲרִיב לוֹ אֵינָם אֶלָּא עַל מְנֶת שֶׁיָבוֹא אַרְיֵה כו'
וְיִבְנָה אֲרִיאַל", וְשַׁיָּדְ גַּם לְחֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל, שֶׁהָאֵלֶף
." הוּא רָאשִׁי־תַבוֹת אֱלוּל

Sichas Nun Alef Parshas Re'eh

מְשִׂיחוֹת שֵׁבָּת־פָּרָשֶׁת רְאֵה, א' , א' דְרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל ה'תנש"א From the talks of Shabbos Parshas Re'eh, 1st day of Rosh Chodesh Elul, 1991

Parshas Re'eh – for the Redemption is in a mode of vision (as mentioned earlier in section 9), and is alluded to also in the conclusion of the parsha in the festival of Sukkos, which concludes with Shemini Atzeres, as is known that "the eighth" is associated with the Redemption (the harp of the days of Moshiach has eight strings).	פָּרָשַׁת רְאֵה – שֶׁהַגְּאֻלָּה הִיא בְּאֹפָן שֶׁל רְאִיָּה (כַּנִּזְכָּר לְעֵיל סְעִיף ט), וּכְמְרָמָז גַּם בְּסִיּוּם הַפְּרָשָׁה בְּחַג הַפֵּכּוֹת שֶׁסִיּוּמוֹ וְחוֹתָמוֹ בִּשְׁמִינִי עֲצֶרֶת, כַּיָּדוּעַ שֶׁשְׁמִינִי" שַׁיָּךְ לַגְּאֵלָּה (כִּנּוֹר שֶׁל יְמוֹת הַמְּשִׁיחַ שִׁשְׁמוֹנָה.
And emphasis is also found in the Haftorah — for although when Shabbos Parshas Re'eh falls on Rosh Chodesh Elul we do not read from the series of "Seven of Consolation" ("Aniyah So'arah"), but rather the Haftorah of Shabbos Rosh Chodesh,	וּמִדְגָּשׁ גַּם בַּהַפְטָרָה -דְאַף שֶׁכְּשֶׁחָל שַׁבָּת פָּרָשַׁת רְאֵה בְּרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל אֵין מַפְטִירִין בְּשֶׁבַע דְּנָחַמֶּתָא" (עַנִיָּה סעֲרָה"), אֶלָא בְּהַפְּטָרַת שַׁבַּת רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ,
nonetheless, the Haftorah of Shabbos Rosh Chodesh is also connected to the theme of "Consolation."	הָרֵי, גַם הַהַפְּטָרָה דְשַׁבַּת רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ שַׁיָּכֶת לְתְכֶן הָעִנְיָן דְּנָחֲמָתָא,
For, in addition to the fact that it comes from the Book of Yeshayahu, which is entirely "Nachamata" (consolation),	כִּי, נוֹסֶף לְכָךְ שֶׁהִיא בְּסֵפֶּר יְשַׁעְיָה שֶׁכַּלֵהּ נָחֲמָתָא 102",
it explicitly speaks of consolation: "As one whom his mother consoles, so will I console you, and in Yerushalayim you will be consoled,"	נִתְפָּרֵשׁ בָּהּ עִנְיַן הַנָּחָמָה: כְּאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר אִמּוֹ הְּנַחֲמֶנּוּ כֵּן אָנֹכִי אֲנַחָמְכֶם וּבִירוּשָׁלַיִם הְּנָחָמוּ"194,
and several more verses of redemption, such as: "Rejoice with Yerushalayim and be glad in her, all who love her,"	ּוְעוֹד כַּמֶּה־ וְכַמֶּה פְּסוּקִים מִיעוּדֵי הַגְאָלָה, כְּמוֹ: שִׂמְחוּ אֶת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם וְגִילוּ בָה גּוֹ""195
"And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations to My holy mountain, Yerushalayim,"	וְהַבִיאוּ אֶת כָּל אֲחֵיכֶם מִכָּל הַגּוֹיִם גּוֹ' בֵּית ה'''106,
and concluding with a doubled verse: "And it shall be from new moon to new moon and from Shabbos to Shabbos, all flesh shall come to bow before Me,"	וְעַד לְסִיוּמָה וְחוֹתָמָה בְּכָפֶל הַפָּסוּק וְהָיָה מִדֵּי חֹדֶשׁ בְּחָדְשׁוֹ וּמְדֵי שַׁבָּת בְּשַׁבַּתּוֹ 107 יָבוֹא כָל בָּשָׂר לְהִשְׁתַּחֲוֹת לְפָנֵי "108
(Even though in our case this verse wasn't chosen merely to "end with something good," since regardless we conclude with the first and last verse of the Haftorah of "Machar Chodesh").	אַף שֶׁבָּנִדּוֹן־דִּידַן אֵין הֶכְרֵחַ בַּדָּבָר כְּדֵי לְסַיֵּם בְּדָבָר) טוֹב, בֵּיוָן שֶׁבְּלָאוּ־הָכֵי מְסַיָּמִים בְּפָסוּק רִאשׁוֹן וְאַחָרוֹן רְדָהַפְּטְרַת מָחָר חֹדֶשׁ.
And likewise, in the (addition of the opening and closing verse from the) Haftorah of "Machar Chodesh": "Machar" – alludes to the time of the future to come, "tomorrow to receive their reward";	וְכֵן בְּ(הוֹסָפַת פָּסוּק רָאשׁוֹן וְאַחֲרוֹן מֵ) הַפְּטְרַת מָחָר חֹדֶשׁ": מָחָר" – רוֹמַז עַל הַזְּמֵן דְּלֶעָתִיד לָבוֹא, ""לְמָחָר לְקַבֵּל שְׂכָרָם,

Sichas Nun Alef Parshas Re'eh

מִשִּיחוֹת שַׁבֶּת־פֶּרָשֶׁת רְאָה, א' , א' דְּרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל ה'תנש"א From the talks of Shabbos Parshas Re'eh, 1st day of Rosh Chodesh Elul, 1991

"Chodesh" – alludes to their future renewal like it; "V'nifkadeta" – from the language of remembrance, that the Holy One, blessed be He, remembers and recalls each and every Jew who was exiled ("for you shall be remembered before your Father's table") in the true and complete redemption through David, King Moshiach,

חֹדֶשׁ" – רוֹמֵז שֶׁהֵם צְתִידִים לְהִתְחַדֵּשׁ כְּמוֹתָהּ," "וְנִפְקַדְתָּ" – מִלְשׁוֹן זְכָרוֹן, שֶׁהַקְדוֹשׁ־בָּרוּדְ־הוּא פּוֹקֵד וְזוֹכֵר אֶת כָּל־אֶחָד־וְאֶחָד מִבְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל שָׁגְלוּ ("כִּי יִפָּקֵד מוֹשָׁבָדִּ") מֵעַל שֵׁלְחַן אֲבִיהָם

in a manner (as the following verses continue) of "until David became great" – a greatness above all bounds, and in an eternal manner (a redemption after which there is no exile), as the conclusion and seal of the Haftorah: "forever."

ּוּבָאֹפֶן (שֶׁהַפְּתוּבִים מַמְשִׁיכִים) דְּ"עַד דָּוִד הָגְדִּיל" – גַּדְלוּת שָׁאֵין לְמַעְלָה מִמֶּנָּה, וּבָאֹפֶן נִצְחִי (גְּאֻלָּה שָׁאֵין אַחֲרֶיהָ גָּלוּת), כְּסִיוּם וְחוֹתָם הַהַפְּטָרָה: "עַד עוֹלָם.".

And also in the verse read (immediately) in the Minchah prayer (before the Amidah) – "Judges and officers you shall place in all your gates" – the fulfillment of this mitzvah will take place in the true and complete redemption through our righteous Moshiach,

וְגַם בְּהַקּרִיאָה שֶׁקּוֹרִין (תֵּכֶף) בִּתְפִלֵּת מִנְחָה (וְקוֹדֶם תְּפִלֵּת הָצֵמִידָה) – "שׁפְטִים וְשׁטְרִים תִּתֵּן לְדְּ בְּכָל שְׁצָרֵידִּ" – שֶׁקִיּוּם מִצְוָה זוֹ יִהְיֶה בַּגְאֻלָּה הָאֲמִתִּית ,וְהַשְׁלֵמָה עַל־יִדִי מְשִׁיחַ צִּדְקֵנוּ

as it is written: "And I will restore your judges as at first and your counselors as at the beginning," and specifically according to the halachic ruling of the Rambam – that there is a tradition that in Tiberias the Sanhedrin will be reestablished first, and from there it will be transferred to the Beis HaMikdash.

כְּמוֹ שֶׁכָּתוּב: "וְאָשִׁיבָה שׁפְטַיִךְ כְּבָרְאשׁנָה וְיְעֲצַיִךְ כְּבַתְּחִלָּה", וּבִפְּרָטִיוּת – כִּפְסַק דִּין הָרַמְבַּ"ם – שֶׁקַבָּלָה הִיא שֶׁבְּטַבְרִיָה עֲתִידִין לַחֲזֹר מְּחִלְּה וּמִשֶּׁם נָצֶתָקִין לַמִּקְדָּשׁ

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And regarding practical application: One must publicize and awaken in every single place concerning the unique service of the month of Elul, which is alluded to in the five acronyms: Torah, Prayer, Acts of Kindness, Teshuvah, and Redemption (as mentioned above in section 5).

וּבְנוֹגֵעַ לְפַעַל: יֵשׁ לְפַרְסֵם וּלְעוֹרֵר בְּכָל מָקוֹם וּמָקוֹם עַל־ דְּבַר הָעֲבוֹדָה הַמְיָחֶדֶת דְּחֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל הַמְרְמֶּזֶת בַּחֲמֵשֶׁת הָרָאשֵׁי תַבוֹת דְּתּוֹרָה תְּפִלָּה גְמִילוּת־ חֲסָדִים (תִּשׁוּבָה וּגָאַלָה (בַּנַזְכָּר לְעֵיל סְעִיף־ה,

With special emphasis on the fifth acronym—redemption—as it permeates all aspects of Divine service, through being imbued and carried out in the spirit of redemption (especially through the study of Torah on the topics of redemption and the Beis HaMikdash), with an absolute certainty and anticipation that immediately, literally, we will see with our own fleshly eyes—"Behold, here he comes!" (referring to the King Moshiach).

וּבְהַדְגֶשָׁה מִיחָדֶת בְּנוֹגֵעַ לְרָאשֵׁי־תֵבוֹת הַחֲמִישִׁי, עִנְיַן הַגְּאָלָה, כְּפִי שָׁחוֹדֶרֶת בְּכָל עִנְיָנֵי הָעֲבוֹדָה, עַל־יְדֵי־זֶה שֶׁחֲדוּרִים וְנַעֲשִׁים בְּרוּחָה שֶׁל הַגְּאָלָה (כּוֹלֵל וּבִמְיָחָד עַל־יְדֵי לִמוּד הַתּוֹרָה בְּעִנְיְנֵנֵי הַגְּאָלָה וּבִית־הַמְּקְדֶשׁ), מִתּוֹךְ צִפִּיָּה וּוַדָאוּת גְמוּרָה שֶׁתַּכָף וּמִיָּד מַמְשׁ רוֹאִים הַבְּעִינֵי בַּשָׂר שֶׁהִנָּה זָה (הַמֵּלֵךְ הַמְּשִׁיחַ) בַּא הַבְּשִׁר שֶׁהְנֵּה זָה (הַמֵּלֵךְ הַמְּשִׁיחַ) בָּא

Sichas Nun Alef Parshas Re'eh

מְשִׂיחוֹת שַׁבָּת־פָּרָשֶׁת רְאֵה, א' , א' דְרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל ה'תנש"א From the talks of Shabbos Parshas Re'eh, 1st day of Rosh Chodesh Elul, 1991

And simply: to proclaim and spread everywhere—with heartfelt words—that the Holy One, blessed be He, says (through His prophets) to each and every Jew: "See, I set before you today a blessing," until we literally see with our eyes the glow of the true and complete redemption.	וּבְפַּשְׁטוּת: לְהַכְּרִיז וּלְפַּרְסֵם בְּכָל מֶקוֹם - בִּדְבָרִים הַיּוֹצְאִים מִן הַלֵּב – שֶׁהַקְּדוֹשׁ־בָּרוּדְּ־הוּא אוֹמֵר (עַל־יְדֵי עֲבָדָיו הַנְבִיאִים) לְכָל־אָחָד וְאֶחָד מִיִשְׂרָאֵל רְאֵה אָנֹכִי נֹתֵן לִפְנֵיכֶם הַיּוֹם בְּּרֶכָה", וְעַד שֶׁהַיּוֹם מַמָּשׁ רוֹאִים בְּעֵינֵי בָּשֶׂר בִּרְפַת הַגְּאֵלֶּה הָאָמִתִּית וְהַשְׁלַמָּה
And it is to be added and emphasized that the proclamation and publicizing of all the above must also come through those who claim that this matter has not yet been fully absorbed (in completeness) in their understanding and recognition.	וְיֵשׁ לְהוֹסִיף וּלְהַדְגִישׁ שֶׁהַהַכְרָזָה וְהַפִּּרְסוּם דְּכָל־הַנִּזְכָּר־לְעֵיל צְרִיכִים־לְהִיוֹת גַּם עַל־ יְדֵי אֵלֶּה שָׁטוֹעֲנִים שֶׁעֲדַיִן לֹא נִקְלֵט עִנְיָן זֶה (בִּשְׁלֵמוּת) בַּהָבָנָה וְהַשָּׁשָׁנָה וְהַכָּרָה שֶׁלָּהֶם
Since they too possess complete faith, they are able—and therefore required—to publicize these matters to others.	דְּכֵיוָן שֶׁגַּם אָצְלָם יֶשְׁנוֹ עִנְיֵן הָאֱמוּנָה בִּשְׁלֵמוּת, יְכוֹלִים (וּבְמֵילָא צְרִיכִים) הֵם לְפַּרְסֵם הַדְּבָרִים לַאָחֵרִים
Beginning with the members of their household—who certainly should not have to suffer just because the matter has not yet settled in their intellect.	הָחֵל מִבְּנֵי בֵיתוֹ שֶׁבְּוַדַּאי אֵינָם צְרִיכִים לְסְבּל" מִזֶּה שֶׁצַדַיִן לֹא הוּנַח הַדָּבָר בְּשִׂכְלוֹ
And all those in his surroundings—every single Jew.	וְכֶל אֵלֶּה שֶׁנִמְצָאִים בִּסְבִיבָתוֹ, כָּל אֶחָד וְאַחַת מִיּשְׂרָאֵל
And certainly, through proper effort, the words will be accepted and have their effect—including upon the proclaimer and publicizer themselves, that it be absorbed within them internally.	וּבְוַדַּאי שֶׁעַל־יְדֵי הַהִּשְׁתַּדְלוּת הַמַּתְאִימָה יִתְקַבְּּלוּ הַדְּבָרִים וְיִפְעֲלוּ פְּעָלָתָם, כּוֹלֵל גַּם אֵצֶל הַמַּכְרִיז וְהַמְפַרְסֵם, שֶׁיָקְלֵט אָצְלוֹ בִּפְנִימִיוּת וְכוּ
(יב)	
And may it be the will that from the speech regarding all the aforementioned, we merit immediately — on this sacred Shabbos day — the true and complete redemption through our righteous Moshiach, in literal actuality. And especially when this is bound with saying "L'Chaim" at a	וִיהִי רָצוֹן שֶׁמֵהַדְּבּוּר בְּכָל־הַנָּזְכָּר לְעֵיל נִזְכָּה תַּכֶף וּמִיֶּד - בְּיוֹם הַשַּׁבַּת־קֹדֶשׁ זֶה - לַגְאָלָה הָאֲמָתִּית וְהַשְׁלֵמָה עַל־יְדֵי מְשִׁיחַ צִּדְקֵנוּ בְּפְעַל מַמְּשׁ.
Chassidic farbrengen, "in a multitude of people is the King's glory" (Mishlei 14:28),	וּבְפָּרָט כְּשֶׁמְקַשְׁרִים זֶה עִם אֲמִירַת לְחַיִּים" בְּהָחָוַעֲדוּת חֲסִידִית, בְּרָב עָם הַדְרַת מֶלֶהּ"

Sichas Nun Alef Parshas Re'eh

מְשִׂיחוֹת שַׁבָּת־פָּרְשֶׁת רְאֵה, א' , א' דְרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל ה'תנש"א From the talks of Shabbos Parshas Re'eh, 1st day of Rosh Chodesh Elul, 1991

in a synagogue, study hall, and house of good deeds, in honor of the holiness of my teacher and father-in-law, the Rebbe, leader of our generation: "L'Chaim," "L'Chaim and to blessing" — to all those gathered here, and through them to all Jews wherever they are, that we should all be blessed as one with all the blessings — especially the blessing of being inscribed and sealed for a good and sweet year.

דְּכְבוֹד־קְדְשַׁת מוֹרִי וְחָמִי אַדְמוֹ"ר נָשִּׂיא דּוֹרֵנוּ: לְחַיִּים", לְחַיִּים וְלִבְרָכָה" - לְכָל הַמְסְבִּים כָּאן, וְעַל יָדֶם לְכָל בְּנִי־יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּכָל מָקוֹם שֶׁהֵם, לְהִתְבָּרְדְ כַּלְנוּ כְּאֶחָד בְּכָל הַבְּרָכוֹת בְּאֹפֶן דִּרְאֵה אָנֹכִי נֹתֵן ,"לִפְנֵיכֶם הַיּוֹם בְּרָכָה

, בַּית־הַכָּנֶסֶת וּבֵית־הַמִּדְרָשׁ וּבֵית מַצַשִּׁים טוֹבִים

Including and especially the primary blessing — the true and complete redemption through our righteous Moshiach, in a manner that each individual points with his finger and says "See."

כּוֹלֵל וּבִמְיָחָד בִּרְכַּת כְּתִיבָה וַחֲתִימָה טוֹבָה לְשָׁנָה טוֹבָה וּמְתוּקָה, וְעַל־אַחַת־כַּמָּה וְכַמָּה הַבְּּרֶכָה הָכִי עָקָרִית – גְּאֻלָּה הָאֲמִתִּית וְהַשְׁלֵמָה עַל־יְדֵי מְשִׁיחַ צִדְקֵנוּ בָּאֹבֶן שֶׁכָּל־אָחָד וְאָחָד מַרְאָה בְּאָצְבָּעוֹ וְאוֹמֵר "רָאה

And in the language of the verse at the conclusion and sealing of the portion "V'zos Habracha," which we read on Simchas Torah, the end of the festival of Sukkos whose testimonies are from the wilderness at the close of our portion — "before the eyes of all Israel," and from this sealing we leap directly to completion — "In the beginning, G-d created the heavens and the earth" (Bereishis 1:1), the new heavens and the new earth that I make (Yeshayahu 66:22), as stated in the Haftorah of Shabbos Rosh Chodesh

וּבִלְשׁוֹן הַכָּתוּב בְּסִיּוּם וְחוֹתָם פֶּרְשַׁת וְזֹאת הַבְּרָכָה אֲשֶׁר בַּרַדְּ מֹשֶׁה" (שְׁקוֹרִין בְּשִׂמְחַת־תוֹרָה, בְּסִיּוּמוֹ שֶׁל חֵג הַפֻּכּוֹת שָׁעוּדוֹתָיו מִמִּדְבָּר בְּסִיוּם פָּרָשָׁתֵנוּ) – לְעֵינֵי כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל", וּמַתְפִיפִין הַתְּחָלָה לְהַשְׁלָמָה – בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹקִים אֵת הַשָּׁמֵיִם וְאֵת הָאָרֶץ", אֶת הַשָּׁמֵיִם הַחְדָשִׁים וְהָאָרֶץ הַחְדָשָׁה אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי עֹשֶׂה" ((כְּמוֹ שֶׁכָּתוּב בַּהַפְּטָרָה דְּשַבַּת רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ

And so it shall be for us — that following the renewal of creation on Rosh Hashanah of the year "I will show you wonders," in which a new and renewed light is drawn and revealed that has never before illuminated — we merit on this sacred Shabbos Rosh Chodesh Elul (the beginning of the accounting of the entire year)

ְּוְכֵן תִּהְיֶה לָנוּ - שֶׁבְּהֶמְשֵׁךְּ לְהִתְחַדְּשׁוּת הַבְּרִיאָה בְּרֹאשׁ הַשָּׁנָה דִשְׁנַת נִפְלָאוֹת אַרְאָנוּ (שָׁבּוֹ נִמְשַׁךְּ וְנִתְגַּלָּה אוֹר חָדָשׁ וּמְחַדָּשׁ שֶׁלֹא הָיָה מֵאִיר עֲדַיִּן מֵעוֹלָם"), זוֹכִים בְּיוֹם הַשַּׁבַּת־קֹדֶשׁ רֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל ((הַתְחָלֵת הַחָשְׁבּוֹן דְּכָל הַשָּׁנָה

to the renewal of creation in ultimate perfection the new heavens and the new earth that I make, together with renewal in Torah in ultimate perfection — "a new Torah will go forth from Me," and the entire congregation responds "Amen," as our Sages of blessed memory said: "Greater is the one who answers Amen

לְהִתְחַדְּשׁוּת הַבְּרִיאָה בְּתַכְלִית הַשְׁלֵמוּת – הַשָּׁמֵיִם הַחֲדָשִׁים וְהָאָרֶץ הַחֲדָשָׁה אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי עֹשֶׁה", בְּיַחַד עִם הַחִדּוּשׁ בַּתּוֹרָה בְּתַכְלִית הַשְׁלֵמוּת – תּוֹרָה חֲדָשָׁה מֵאִתִּי", וְכָל הַקָּהָל עוֹנָה אָמֵן – בְּמַאֲמֵר רַבּוֹתִינוּ זִכְרוֹנָם לְבְרָכָה: גָּדוֹל הָעוֹנָה אָמֵן יוֹתֵר מִן הַמְבָרֵךְ", בָּאֹפֶן שֻׁגָּבּוֹרִים נוֹצְחִין" – אָמֵן כֵּן יְהִי רָצוֹן

Sichas Nun Alef Parshas Re'eh

מְשִׂיחוֹת שַׁבָּת־פָּרָשֶׁת רְאֵה, א' , א' דְרֹאשׁ־חֹדֶשׁ אֱלוּל ה'תנש"א From the talks of Shabbos Parshas Re'eh, 1st day of Rosh Chodesh Elul, 1991

than the one who blesses," in a manner of "the mighty are victorious" — Amen, so may it be His will.

NOTE Summary

The Rebbe begins by addressing the verse "הום ברכה וקללה" and highlights the unusual phrasing "ראה" (see) despite Moshe speaking to all of Israel. He interprets this as a directive for each Jew to personally visualize and internalize the blessing being given—not just conceptually, but with such clarity that one can point and say "this." This becomes a guiding theme: seeing and experiencing G-dliness in tangible form.

He explores how the Divine speech through Moshe on this Shabbos also infuses this present moment with divine power. Since the weekly Torah portion is eternal, it is not just read—it is being said anew in each generation. Particularly in a time of heightened urgency like ours, the speech of Moshe resonates with immediacy: the Geulah (redemption) must happen now.

This message aligns with the culmination of the Torah cycle on Simchas Torah, where Moshe's final words are "לעיני כל ישראל"—before the eyes of all Israel—and immediately begin anew with "בראשית ברא אלקים". The Rebbe teaches that this seamless transition signifies that redemption is not the end, but the beginning of a new Divine reality: "שמים חדשים וארץ הדשה" (new heavens and new earth), as foretold by Yeshayahu.

The Rebbe explains that our actions, especially through speech—words of Torah, Chassidus, and the joyous declarations of "L'chaim" in public farbrengens—carry power. They are not metaphors. Through them, we draw down spiritual energy into the world, especially when uttered communally "ברב עם הדרת מלך". This is especially potent when it is done in the name of the Rebbe Rayatz, "נשיא דורנו", which connects the generation to the source of its redemptive strength.

The discourse concludes with a prayer and blessing that these declarations should immediately bring the full and complete redemption—clearly visible to all, so that every person can literally point and say "האה" in fulfillment of the verse "לעיני כל ישראל"." This is tied to the beginning of the new cycle—"אלקים בראשית ברא"—and leads to the full revelation of "שמים חדשים וארץ חדשה" the essence of the final Geulah.

Practical Takeaway

When you say "L'chaim" at a farbrengen, especially in public and in the name of the Rebbe, you are not simply participating in a tradition—you are contributing directly to the coming of Moshiach. The words we say, the Torah we learn, and the Chassidus we spread should all be done with the awareness that they are channels for

Sichas Nun Alef Parshas Re'eh

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redemption. Your voice has cosmic power. Speak with intent, clarity, and urgency, and it will echo into the very reality you are helping to reveal.

Chassidic Story

In the late 1970s, during one of the Rebbe's farbrengens, a group of Chassidim had gathered from France. Among them was a young Jew who had just returned to observance. As the Rebbe spoke passionately about the power of a farbrengen to bring Moshiach, he suddenly paused and looked directly in the direction of the French group. He lifted his cup and declared, "L'chaim—may your words of Torah and Chassidus hasten the Geulah!" The young man was deeply moved and turned to the older Chassid next to him: "Did the Rebbe just mean that literally?" The Chassid nodded. "He doesn't say anything that isn't literal." That young man eventually opened a Chabad house in Nice and dedicated his life to spreading Chassidus—with the clear knowledge that every word he taught was part of building the world of "שמים חדשים וארץ חדשה"."

Source: Personal testimony recorded in *Toras Menachem*, vol. 81; cross-referenced in *My Story*, JEM Archives.

Chassidic Story

In the summer of 1986 (5746), just days before Elul began, a group of bochurim visited a small Jewish community in Upstate New York to share words of Torah and Chassidus. Among them was a young man who carried with him a tape recorder filled with farbrengens of the Rebbe. On Friday afternoon, before Mincha, they played a recording of the Rebbe's sicha from Rosh Chodesh Elul 5746. The room of farmers, storekeepers, and retirees was silent as the Rebbe's voice rang out:

"This is a year of Torah. A year of prayer. A year of teshuvah. A year of kindness. And above all—a year of Redemption... in the most literal sense!"

After the sicha ended, an elderly man named Shlomo slowly stood up. His voice cracked with age and emotion. He said: "I remember this voice from before the war. Not this exact one—but the sound of someone crying for Moshiach with every word. The Rebbe is not just speaking; he's giving us a map. Torah, prayer, kindness, teshuvah—and if we do it together, Geulah." He paused, then added with a trembling finger pointing at the tape: "You want to know what 'Ani L'dodi' looks like? It's this. The Jew gives himself fully to Hashem... and Hashem comes all the way back to take us home."

That Elul, every man in that room took on a hachlata—learning, davening, giving tzedakah, or doing teshuvah. Some even began writing weekly letters to the Rebbe. They never forgot that summer—the month when they heard the King's voice in the field and responded by using their own.

Sichas Nun Alef Parshas Re'eh

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Source & Link

The story draws from and reflects the core message of the Rebbe's sicha:

"Erev Rosh Chodesh Elul, 5746 (1986)"

Full sicha available here:



https://www.chabad.org/therebbe/article_cdo/aid/2507459/jewish/Eve-of-the-1st-Day-of-Rosh-Chodesh-Elul-57 46-1986.htm

END NOTE