Hashem said to Moshe, Behold you will lie with your forefathers. (31:16)

The word "hin'cha" - "behold you will", is a compound expression composed of the word "hein," "behold", and the suffix denoting "you." The Midrash tells us that Moshe was unhappy when Hashem introduced his imminent death using the phrase "Hein karvu yamecha lamus, " "Behold, your days are drawing near." He asked Hashem how He could have decreed his death with the same word that he had used to glorify the Almighty, declaring, "Hein I'Hashem Elokecha Hashamayim u'Shmei ha'Shamayim," "Behold to Hashem your G-d are the Heavens and the highest Heaven" (Devarim, 10:14). Hashem responded with the word, "hin'cha" stating that Moshe was assured with his rightful portion in Olam Habah. Hence the word, "hincha," has a positive connotation, suggesting that Hashem will grant great reward to Moshe.

Horav Eli Munk, zl, notes that the word, "hein," is unique by virtue of the fact that it is composed of two consonants, "hay" and "nun," each of which needs another letter like itself in order to be pronounced. In other words, the "hay" needs two "hays," and the "nun" needs two "nuns" in order to be enunciated. Also, the numerical equivalent of "hay" is five. When it is complemented by another "hay" it achieves completion, ten. Similarly, the numerical value of "nun" is fifty, which needs only another "nun to attain its completion, to achieve a numerical value of one hundred. Moshe chose this unique word, "hein," with which to praise Hashem. He was surprised that Hashem used the exact same word to reply to him concerning a matter of an opposite nature. Hashem explained to him that this world and the World to Come exist in harmony with one another The World to Come is the natural complement of this world, a completion which is symbolized by the repetition of the "hay" and the "nun."

1/1