

## **Avraham Avinu added, proceeded (25:1)**

The Torah informs us that Avraham remarried Hagar. The word *Va'yosef*, he proceeded, also means that he added. The *Sefas Emes* interprets this as an allusion that teaches us the importance of *tosfos Shabbos*, adding on to *Shabbos*, i.e. beginning *Shabbos* earlier and extending it past the set time. The *Pnei Menachem* zl explains that prior to *Shabbos* (Friday) and after *Shabbos* (Sunday) there are *klipos*, "shells" (metaphysical barriers between ourselves and the light of the Creator.) Which represent evil or impure forces. They are the *klipah* of Yishmael which is on Friday (their day of rest) and the *klipah* of Esav which is on Sunday, the day of rest selected by his descendants. By adding to *Shabbos*, we override the *klipos* by infusing the sanctity of *Shabbos* to counteract the impurity generated by them. The *Arizal* explains that this is implied by the prayer, *V'haser Satan milfaneini u'mei' achareinu*, "And take the Satan from in front of us and from behind us." This is a reference to the *klipos* that precede and follow *Shabbos*.

One who is unable to add "time" to *Shabbos* should add to its sanctity. The *Imeri Emes* zl suggested that we speak and act differently. This elevation/adding to the *kedushah* that has already permeated the day. Indeed, the *Imrei Emes* would don his *Shabbos* clothes much before the beginning of *Shabbos*. He instructed his chassidim to do likewise.

A distraught father came to the *Pnei Menachem* to weep over the terrible *tzarah*, anguish, that had befallen his family. One of his sons had been swayed from the path of observance and was now totally distant from *Yahadus*, religious observance. The entire family was broken up. The anguish that he was suffering had destroyed his taste for life. The mere thought that he would no longer see his son on the path of Torah was too much for him to handle.

The *Rebbe* replied, "My saintly father (*the Imrei Emes*) would say that a powerful *segulah* (protective or benevolent incantation or ritual) was to observe *Tosfos Shabbos*- and to use the extra time to recite *Tehillim*. The father, mother, and entire family began this ritual and, six weeks later, their son returned home.

I write this in hope that those who are in need will avail themselves of this *segulah* and will receive a benevolent response to their prayers.