

PARSHAT BEHA'ALOTCHA
NUMBERS 8:1-12:16
HAFTARAH ZECHARIAH 2:14-4:7
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In Every Chamber of the Heart
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HIDDEN DESIRES,
CONSCIOUS CRAVINGS

1. The people took to complaining (*mitonehnm*) evil in God's ears... (Numbers 11:1)

מִתְאַנְּנִים – אָנָּן, only hithpoel, complain, murmur

(Lit., “The people were like those stir up in themselves complaints...”)

“The people were like those who seeks pretexts.” The word *mitonehnm* expresses nothing but pretext. They seek a pretext in order to move away from God. (Rashi)

2. The riffraff (רִצְצָא) in their midst felt a gluttonous craving (הִתְאַוּוּ תַאֲוָה)...
(Numbers 11:4)

רָצַף – gather; רִצְוִי – harvest; רִצְוִי – storehouse

הִתְאַוּוּ – v., desire; תַאֲוָה – n., desire

3. “Now our gullets (נִפְשָׁנוּ) are shriveled. There is nothing at all (כֹּל)! Nothing but this manna to look to!” (Numbers 11:6)

4. The leech has two daughters, "Give" and "Give." There are three that are not sated, and four that do not say, "Enough!"

The grave, the confined womb, and the earth, which is not sated with water, and fire, which does not say, "Enough!" (Proverbs 30:15-16)

5. Therefore, behold I will seduce her and lead her into the wilderness (*midbar*), and I will speak comfortingly to her heart. (Hosea 2:16)