

(04:10:10) Q So, tell me what you are doing here, what you're working on now.

A Now I'm working, I'm making fillets from Cod fish. 90% of this fish is going for the Seder that will be conducted for Russian people. Rabbi Spitz makes a Seder for 2,000 new Russian immigrants, and he gives them Passover food for them to eat, because he doesn't want them to eat Chometz - bread. I'm making for him gefilte fish.

Q What kind of fish is this?

A Cod fish.

Q What are the people outside here saying, what are they waiting for?  
(04:10:55 - 04:12:03)

A I'm collecting from people who have leftover breads and cakes from companies, I'm saving it together since Purim is approaching, I give for Shalach Manos for everyone a package. In each package there are cookies with a chicken, and other sweets for the children so that they have a happy holiday. Usually I make a list. First I had written up 50 people, now another 15 asked to be listed, so now I have 65, and then there are people who are waiting, that I'm not sure I will have enough for them. Whatever remains from the packages, we will give them. We hope everyone will have enough and all will be satisfied.

Q One more thing. The gentlemen whom you were teaching the Bracha to in Yiddish, is he Russian?  
(04:12:13)

A He also just arrived from Russia, a year or two ago, but he was there a Chassidic Jew, He prayed every day 3 times daily there too, and he conducts a Seder and he conducted there a Seder too, even in Russia.

Q And what type of fish is this?  
(04:12:29)

A This is carp, and this is for Gefilte Fish. They give this fish to 2,000 Russian Jews so that they eat Pesach food during Pesach. There is a Rabbi Spitz in Flatbush who rented 2 schools for this purpose and he gives 3 times a day food Kosher L'Pesach.

Business interruption...

(04:17:45)  
A Now we're starting to give the people who are written up outside their Mishloach Manos. Usually, this should have been given out tomorrow. However, since I don't live here, I'm giving this out today instead of tomorrow. The Mitzvah actually is to distribute this on Purim, but because I won't be here, I'm giving this today.

(04:18:47)

...Why I'm standing here in front of the Television...

They tell the story of the old holy Vishnitzer Rebbe Z"tl, someone came and wanted to do a picture of him, the Rebbe didn't approve of photographs of himself. So the Jew says to the Rebbe I'll take a nice picture of you, I'll go out to the street and I'll be able to make a living out of this, So the Rebbe says: Oh, a Jew has to make a living, So he posed for the picture, just so a Jew can make a living. So I'm saying, I never look at Television or hold of it, and I won't even look at this, but because a Jew needs to make a living... I'm agreeable to this filming. A Happy Purim.

(04:36:38)

...Two schools, for boys and girls, they're building now a Mikvah and they're helping with Kashrus for the Jews. They send many many things from here. And this is also a part of this Yeshuas Yisrael that we're helping the Jews.

(04:36:53)

A Chasid doesn't only mean that he does good. Every Jew has to do good, but...

Q We would like to know... influence of a Rebbe, Satmar Rebbe...

(04:37:05)

A I belong to Satmar Chassidus. My father, grandfather, and I myself was born to Satmar. But this doesn't only have to say for Satmar, this goes for every Jew, as soon as one is a Jew, one has to help. It doesn't make a difference what type of Jew.

Q What did you learn from the Rebbe? Is there anything you can relay to us from him?

(04:37:26)

A The Rebbe, of blessed memory, his every move, one could learn from him, like the Shulchan Aruch. I'm not the right person to be able to relay this. A Rebbe influences each of his Chassidim in whatever the individual need. One person needs this, the other that, so the Rebbe has to be able to influence him. Even with the same word, one gets this feeling, the other that. But I'm not able to portray a thing how the Rebbe, of blessed memory was.

Q We have heard that the Rebbe established very many Chesed organizations...

(04:38:08)

A The Rebbe, of blessed memory, was an entire being of Chesed (to do good deeds). From the time he was born, as a small child, he was 3 years old and gave away all his money for Jews.

Q You probably were a good student of his...

(04:38:27)

A I wish I would and should be. I would be proud to be a good student. Another thing, has to do with the home. By us at home, the door wouldn't close. Whatever you learn at home transfers over.

Q How do you think this way of Chassidus from back home was transferred over to this new life, and was able to sustain itself in this new land?

(04:39:05)

A This is all in the merit (z'chus) of the Satmar Rebbe, of blessed memory. No one can deny this, that only in the merit of the Satmar Rebbe, of blessed memory, this way of life got transferred over. They also say that the first time the Satmar Rebbe came to America, he went on the street with a Shtreimel and Kaftan Friday. An American Jew, who could not stand to see the European Immigrants coming over and dressing in this manner from the old home, remarked: "Oy, I'm afraid that this Rebbe will ruin America." So the Rebbe responded with "I have not as yet ruined America, but I will in the future." The truth is, that he was the only person who established the Chesed institutions and said that in America one should behave the same way as in Europe, after all it's the same Torah. G-d is here the same way as in Europe. And it really could not be any other way, but in his merit.

Q Tell me what it means for you to be a Chassid in America. Do you find it difficult or easy to be a Chassid here?

(04:41:15)

A I'll tell you the truth. One that is not a Jew thinks that to be a Jew is a difficult thing. They say: "It's hard to be a Jew". I feel just the opposite - it's difficult to be a Gentile. Take for instance this evening, we'll drink a good L'Chaim, we'll sing, we'll make ourselves happy, which Gentile has such a time in his life - couldn't be. A Jew who sits Shabbos at his table with his children and conducts the table... I don't believe that the biggest President has such spiritual fulfillment like I have. So what is this hardship, it is not difficult at all, quite the opposite, it is sheer spiritual enjoyment. A spiritual feeling, you cannot explain. A spiritual influence, from G-d, one has more, one has less, but nevertheless, spiritual it is, so what is hard?

Q Were you born here?

(04:42:17)

A I was born in Satmar.

Q In Satmar. When did you arrive, how old were you?

(04:42:24)

A I was a year old and went to Israel.

Q And here in America how old were you when you arrived?

(04:42:32)

A Here in America, I was 15 years old when I came. Alone. My family lived in Eretz Yisroel and I was learning here.

Q When you came to America, was it hard to get used to?  
(04:42:39)

A A Jew has to know that he has a mission in this world. A person doesn't come to this world for enjoyment. Maybe an animal. A Jew has a mission. Now they put him here, like a soldier. He has to do this and this. I need to be here now, so I'm here. I don't think whether it's better here or better there. Here I am and that's that. When I came here to live with my family, I already had 3 children. I sold everything in Eretz Yisroel and came here. I didn't think whether if I don't like it I'll return, I need to be here, I'll be here. Divine providence ordained that I should be here, so I'll be here. And G-d helps. That's when a person is not satisfied, when one thinks to himself, I would have wanted this, I want to do that, one is unhappy. But when one knows that this is the way it is ordained from above...

Q What is the secret...  
(04:44:31)

A The secret is, what the Rebbe, of blessed memory said at the beginning. All the Jews that came to America, the truth of the matter is, that every land, even if you build... the first time, things don't grow that well, but when things do start growing, it doesn't mean that nothing got done originally. The first Jews that came to America, they started to plow and work. But they weren't successful. So this is what the Rebbe, of blessed memory, said, They were very observant Jews, didn't want to work on Shabbos, went to Shul. However, their children went to Public School. They prayed very fervently. So the evil inclination (Sitra Acha) the Satan said, you pray fervently. You just give me your children, the youth. I won't disturb you, you want to pray, to eat Kosher, no problem. Just give me the young children. The Rebbe, when he came to America, did just the opposite. You're an old person, you I don't want to change. Just give me your children. He started to build the first Talmud Torahs and Yeshivas for children, and this over the years built up and flourished. So today, it is not difficult at all. For instance, I was just in California and I wasn't embarrassed to walk around with my Payos and other garments. No Jew gave it second thought, it is nowadays a natural phenomena - it's already an established factor. The main thing is that we have to watch our children. Many times we see that parents aren't all that good, but if the children are good, new generations spring up and the children turn their parents back to Judaism.

Q What is the future for Chassidic life?  
(04:46:14)

A We Jews live in the hope that the Messiah should come very very soon. Our goal and future is not monetary. Our life is not made happier by money, or these things.

Our future hope is that G-d should help us, we should be redeemed and Moshiach should arrive. This is our whole goal.

Q This is it. You should have a Happy and Joyous Purim. Nachas from your children, make only happy occasions (Simchas), You should continuously be able to give...

(04:46:53)

A Amen, Amen. Be well, Best wishes... Interaction, etc.