



Parashat Bo

January 2023

Conversation 1

Some people in a car stopped to ask directions to our local lake. So I gave them directions and I asked them about Parashat Bo, can you give me a few sentences about it? And immediately one of the fellows in the car said Bo el Paroh, Hashem says to Moshe, and the fellow in the car says it shouldn't be bo come to Pharaoh, but it should be lech go to Pharaoh. Pharaoh is not right here right now. And the fellow explained it to say bo el Paroh, come into Pharaoh and I'll be there. It's appropriate for us to go there. I'm not sending you away to do this by yourself. Bo el Paroh, come in and know that I am with you as you are going into Pharaoh. When I asked two other people about parshat Bo, they gave very similar responses in the way that the first person did in the car.

Conversation 2

Then two fellows on the promenade by the sea, I asked them and they also gave this same bo el Paroh explanation, but they took it to a much different level. They said, we're going to tell you a bit of the spiritual and mystic aspect of it. Come into Pharaoh means I am part of Pharaoh, Hashem is saying I am part of Pharaoh. And the guy who was telling me this, he said I don't understand this myself. Somehow Hashem in the mystic approach, in the Kabbalistic, or whatever it might be, that Hashem is part of Paroh and Paroh is part of Hashem, the mix of good and evil. And he said, I'm expressing this, but I can't explain it because I don't understand it myself.

Conversation 2.5

Then finally, on Shabbat in the morning there was a religious fellow standing on the street corner. So I walked up to him and asked about Parashat Bo, and he said he's looking to complete a minyan and he asked if I can join him and the other people

Weekly~Portion



פרשת~השבוע

praying in the shul. And I said, well I'm going to have to silence my cell phone and I'm only wearing shorts because I'm really out on my walk. And he said, that's okay, please come in, I'll give you a kipa and a talit. And so it wasn't actually a conversation, but it was a definite connection to Parashat Bo.