The Chashmona'im

Lecture 388

In memory of
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לאה כת מרים



Contents

Publisher's Introductionxix
Note to the Reader
1: The Chashmona'im
2: Student of the Miracles
3: The Gift of Miracles
4: Miracles111
5: Secret of the World
6: The Test of Resistance
7: The Eternal Light
8: The Shechinah

The Chashmona'im

Part 1

A Miracle for Those Who Fear Hashem

Tonight is Rosh Chodesh Kislev, so we begin to think of the big event that transpired this month. As we consider the daily siddur, we see that there is a family that got into the siddur. That family is found in all the siddurim in the world. With the exception of the machzor of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, and the machzor of Pesach, Shavuos, and Sukkos, all siddurim in the world mention the name of one family, the Chashmona'im. It's a remarkable *zechiah* that they were *zocheh* to.

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Now, the Chashmona'im were zocheh because of more than one thing. Their accomplishments are manifold, and we don't have time to study all of them. But we shall choose one accomplishment now, and that is that a neis was done for their sake.

Now when a neis is done for somebody, it's a rare distinction. Like the pasuk says, נְתַתְּה לִירֵאֶיךְ נֵס לְהַתְנוֹסֵס — "You gave to those who fear You a מַּם, a miracle, by which לְהַתְנוֹסֵס, to elevate themselves, to become prominent in the world" (Tehillim 60:6). A neis is a gift. And this gift, נְתַתְּה לִירֵאֶיךְ, was given to those who fear You: the Chashmona'im. They received a מַּם, a miracle, לְהַתְנוֹסֵס, and thereby they become elevated.