



Bleach, Scrub Brushes, & Mr. Clean Getting Ready For Pesach Rebbetzin Tziporah Heller

We begin to sense the light of Pesach immediately after Purim. The light of Pesach is a blend of Emunah and Geulah, believing that all that occurs is good and is a means for self actualization and realization of our potential as a people.

As we go through the process of ridding chometz from our homes we need to focus on cleaning the chometz from our hearts too. Recognizing the difference between ikur (what is important) and tafel (what is subordinate) is part of this process. Working to nullify our ego,

avoiding small-mindedness and controlling anger is a way of elevating ourselves through Emunah- believing that whatever situation we find ourselves in is good even if it is not exactly what we want.

Chometz is called the yeast in the dough because symbolizes the evil inclination in general, and gaavah (haughtiness) in particular. Yeast compels dough to rise in the same way that the evil inclination forces us to grow. Overcoming temptation and facing challenges with inner fortitude and strength forms us into greater beings. Haughtiness is an overblown sense of

self, where one's focus is on oneself and not Hashem. Matzah symbolizes humbleness. We celebrate Pesach in the Spring time when the creativity and rebirth in nature humbles us before the awesome grandeur of our Creator.

Preparing for Pesach is not only about scrub brushes, Mr. Clean, and bleach. It's about cleaning up spiritually too, by reviewing the laws of Pesach, listening to spiritually empowering shiurim, and scrubbing away the evil traits lurking inside of us to reveal the gleaming inner goodness within.