



Yaakov Avinu Couldn't - But We Do

When Yaakov Avinu was on his deathbed, he gathered his children with the plan of telling them with Ruach HaKodesh, what would be at the end of the Egyptian experience. The commentaries tell us that this ability was withheld from him and he was just able to bless the Tribes.

As mentioned in the title of this Lead Tidbit, in a manner of speaking, we (sort of) manage to detail the future.

On Pesach, we relive the slavery experience and the miraculous events of Yetziat Mitzrayim.

According to the opinion that the four cups of wine at the Seder represent the first four terms of redemption, there is still much of the story not yet told.

[Actually, was in the Haggada text, we find many allusions and hints to what happens beyond Yetziat Mitzrayim - such as the full Dayeinu, the Bracha of Geula, L'shana Ha'baa - yet Pesach is Zman Cheiruteinu, the time of our freedom with much more to come.]

Enter the Haftara of Shabbat HaGadol. Since Haftaras are all from Neviim, the portion which we read for Shabbat HaGadol is prophecy.

In fact, the Haftara of Shabbat HaGadol is the very last part of the Booklet of Malachi, which is the 12th

Booklet of Trei Asar which is the last book of Neviim.

In the Haftora, before we get to the famous ending, we find ZICHRU TORAT MOSHE AVDI... - remember the Torah given to us by Moshe...

This is a preview on the Shabbat before the Seder of the event that occurred weeks after the Exodus. More than that, the Torah represents an on-going, lifelong anchor for the Jew as an individual and for Am Yisrael.

Then comes the last p'sukim where we are told that Eliyahu HaNavi will come before the Messianic Era, when parents and children will be reconciled (and on the same page, so to speak, in the best sense of the word).

Chazal, in their wisdom, started us off with the bright picture of the future even before we re-experience Egyptian slavery and freedom there from. It gives us a more complete picture and adds significance to those passages in the Haggada referred to before.

For example, Dayeinu begins with our leaving Egypt, takes us through the Sea, into the Midbar, the gift and covenant of Shabbat, revelation at Sinai, entering Eretz Yisrael and the building of the Beit HaMikdash, BIMHEIRA B'YAMEINU AMEIN.