



BS"D

Weekly Update for the 28th of Elul 5766 (Sep 21, 2006)

The Great Achievement

I stopped on Hamasger Street to buy myself a sandwich. A forty-ish mechanic in a red tank top was also there, finishing off his sandwich before returning to work.

"Shalom Feiglin," he called to me between bites.

"Shalom," I smiled.

"You don't know me, but I voted for you..."

"Thank you," I answered. "Why did you vote for me?"

He wasn't wearing a *kippah* (skullcap) or any religious article. I was hoping that he would nevertheless say something like "Because I am a Jew. Jewish education and my Jewish identity are important to me." But he didn't use our belief-based terminology at all.

"You are an honest man," he declared and continued to chew. I'm sick and tired of all the corruption and lies."

I didn't have time to sit down. In the time that it took for the storekeeper to wrap my sandwich all I had time to say to the Likudnik from Hamasger Street was "I promise you one thing. I will be there for you the next time, as well. My name will be on the ballot until we win."

Eleven years ago, we started publicizing Manhigut Yehudit's ideas. The ideas seemed completely hallucinatory. We took advantage of the public credit that we had earned during our Zo Artzeinu days just to merit some sort of public receptivity to our viewpoint. Five years later we joined the Likud and began connecting our ideas to actual reality. For the first time in 2000 years, Israel was offered Jewish leadership in harmony with its values and faith. Leadership that believes.

The mechanic from Hamasger Street entered the voting booth last year with four possible choices. Three of them represented the faithless leadership of the past. All three of them were easy to vote for. These are the people that had been in the Likud for as long as the mechanic could remember, the people that he was used to seeing on important television interviews. He could certainly choose one of them. Either the talented and skillful speaker that had already served as

Prime Minister, or the candidate that had already served as Foreign Minister and Economics Minister or the candidate that seemed like the most important to rub elbows with -- the one who always answered his phone calls and helped out wherever he could...

There was one more candidate, with none of the above qualifications. The mechanic had never met him, he had never had any official government position, he did not promise an easy victory in the general elections and he had never worked out some bureaucratic problem for him. Not only that, but this candidate had been ceaselessly derided, the mechanic has been warned that he is dangerous and worst of all -- he made no effort to compete with the other candidates. That candidate represented something completely different -- leadership that believes in and is committed to the G-d of Israel.

A third of the people who voted for me were like the mechanic. I don't know exactly what was going on inside their heads. But I do know that it was not easy for them. They had to undergo a true internal metamorphosis. I pray that these voters are just the harbingers of a much wider transformation. In any event, they have proven that the revolution is possible.

In my opinion, the mechanic from Hamasger Street is Manhigut Yehudit's greatest achievement this year, and actually, since it has been established.

And with G-d's help, we will keep our promise to him.

In my name and in the name of Manhigut Yehudit, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all the wonderful people who work day and night to fulfill our dream. May we all be inscribed for a happy, healthy, sweet and blessed New Year.

Moshe Feiglin

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