

V'ZOT HABERACHA SIMCHAT TORAH

Likkutei Sichos Vol. 29

By Rabbi Shalom M. Paltiel

PARSHA – SIMCHAT TORAH CONNECTION

“The Torah Moses commanded us is the inheritance of the congregation of Jacob.”

(Deut. 33:4)

Rashi: “Achaznuha” - We will hold onto it; we will not forsake it.

Rebbe's question:

Why link specifically INHERITANCE to HOLDING ON?

Why not GIFT or IMPORTANT TEACHING –
both linked to Torah?



REBBE'S INNOVATION:

Rashi's expression, *achaznuha*, is not primarily about **HOLDING ON** - as in *achizah*

Rather: "**AN ANCESTRAL HOLDING**" - *achuzah*
(as in Behar regarding fields)

Rashi now reads perfectly:

"Torah is our **INHERITANCE**:
We will BEAQUEATH it & not forsake it."

THE IMPLICATION:

Torah is **FOREVER** ours.
Even when temporarily forsaken, it reverts to our ownership.

CONNECTING THE DOTS

Finding the connection between:



Torah as
ANCESTRAL
HOLDING



Simchat Torah –
2nd Tablets
(rather than Shavuot)



Continuation
of Sukkot

SHALOSH REGALIM – 3 PILGRIMAGE FESTIVALS

	Passover	Shavuot	Sukkot
JOY	Not mentioned	Mentioned 1x	Mentioned 2x
HARVEST CYCLE	“Spring” Crop not fully ripened	“Harvest” Grain ripened	“Ingathering” Fruit ripened
SPIRITUAL HARVEST	Faith	Thought & speech: Torah study	Action: Mitzvot observed
TESHUVA CONNECTION		1st Tablets – Tzadik	2nd Tablets – Baal Teshuva

CONNECTING THE DOTS - REVISITED



Torah as ANCESTRAL HOLDING
Eternal, essential, inseverable bond

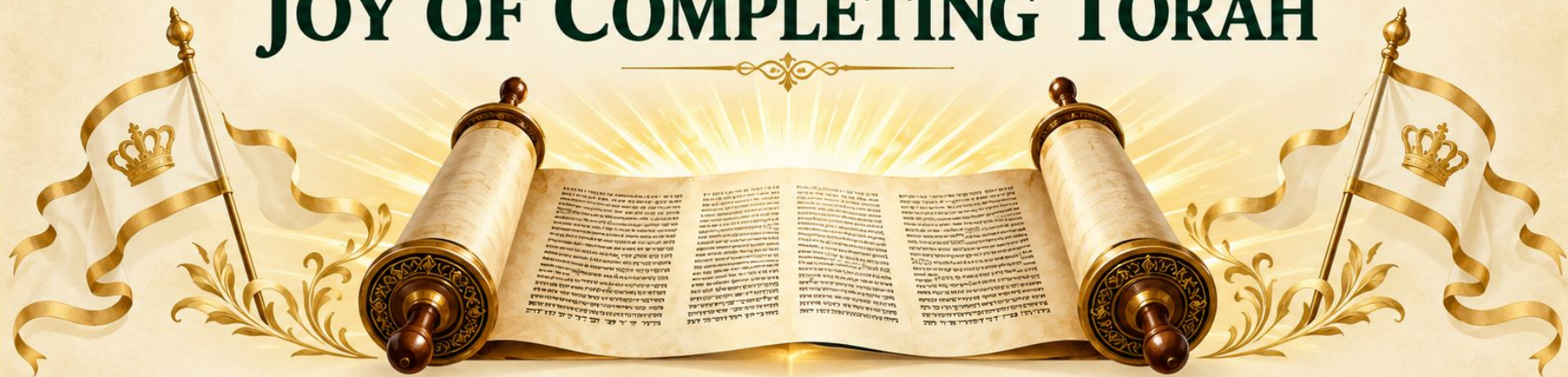


Simchat Torah – 2nd Tablets (rather than Shavuot)
Teshuva uncovers essential bond



Continuation of Sukkot
**Joy emphasized due to “ingathering” –
internalization of spiritual harvest**

SIMCHAT TORAH – JOY OF COMPLETING TORAH



Connection to Simchat Torah's plain meaning - completing Torah:

Torah's ultimate “COMPLETION” = CULMINATION:

Bonding Jew & Torah, revealing their essential oneness

“Israel, Torah & G-d are truly one” (Zohar).

