בס״ד

Ranon Ginsberg

Shabbat Sukkot

יד׳ בתשרי ה׳תשפ״ז

This Dvar Torah is dedicated in honor of the first Yahrtzeit of my Uncle יעקב בן רבקה on this upcoming Sunday טז׳ בתשרי.

Trust Him

I went to Israel for what was supposed to be one temporary year. Now I live here. America was supposed to be the permanent thing, the home I'd eventually go back to. Israel was supposed to be the short-term stop. But it's actually the complete opposite. America was the temporary stop on the way to returning home to the land Hashem promised to us all those years ago. The "temporary" place is where I'm actually building something real. The thing labeled temporary is the one that turned out to hold my actual life.

Interstellar contains a very similar idea. Earth is dying, not quickly, but slowly and quietly. Dust storms and failing crops are on the rise, under the veil of a world that still seems solid and permanent. Cooper's farmhouse, the place his family lived for generations, feels secure. But it isn't. The only way to actually save anyone is to leave the comfort of this world, not for something more secure, but for the exact opposite: a small ship, a wormhole no one fully understands, and physics past the bounds of human control. There's no grand palace waiting on the other side. Just Cooper's trust in something well beyond anything he can engineer or command. And that's exactly where salvation ends up coming from. The solid, permanent-feeling place was the one actually failing the whole time.

This connects to the Mishnah in Masechet Sukkah which says that for seven days we make the sukkah our permanent dwelling and our actual house temporary. We trust in something greater than what we can understand to switch up our entire living situation for seven days. The place that looks stable isn't always where the real security is. Sometimes it's the

exposed thing, the thing that seems uncertain and temporary. That's where you're actually meant to build.

For one week a year, we're asked to step out of our comfort zones and live that on purpose. Step out of the structure that looks secure, and sit in the one that admits it isn't, and remember that real security was never actually about the strength of our own walls, but faith in Hashem, in something we can never fully understand.

Shabbat Shalom and Chag Sukkot Sameach!