

**** ***The Rebbe of Papa discharges his disciple from the army through a miracle.*** ****

Rabbi Yaakov Yechezkia Greenwald was born in the city of Csorna to his holy father, Rabbi Moshe Ztzal, the Arugus Habosem, the Rav of Chust, and he was his close disciple. He got married in 1900 to the daughter of Rabbi Yisrael Menachem Braun, the Rabbi of Brezowitz. In the year 1906, he became the Rabbi of Lykov. In the year 1912, he became the Rabbi of Tzheilim, in place of his uncle Rabbi Eliezer David Greenwald, author of the sefer "Keren LeDavid." In 1924, he became the Rabbi of Hunyad, Hungary. In 1929, he became the Rabbi of Papa and founded the now famous Papa Yeshiva with many fine students who became Rabbanim until the Nazis closed the Yeshiva in 1941. He authored the sefer Vayaged Yaakov, and is called by the name of his book. His son, Rav Yosef, who continued the Yeshiva after the war in Williamsburg, survived him. The Yeshiva and Chassidus are flourishing under his son, Rav Yaakov Yechezkia Greenwald.

Rabbi Yisrael Meisner studied in the Papa Yeshiva under the Vayaged Yaakov and was a good student. When the time came to enlist in the army, he was a tall and healthy young bachur who, under normal circumstances, would not have been able to be exempt from serving, and no doctor would sign that he was not fit to serve. Rabbi Yisrael went to see his Rebbi, the Vayaged Yaakov, and asked for a blessing and advice on how he could be exempt from being taken into the army.

The Vayaged Yaakov gave him a brocha that he would not have to go into the army. But Rabbi Yisrael was not happy with just a blessing when his Jewish religion was in danger, and he stood firm and told the Rebbi he did not want just a blessing he wanted a promise that the Rabbi would promise him he would not be enlisted into the army! The Vayaged Yaakov became serious and thought for a long time, and summoned his gabbay - later known as Hagoan Rav Yitzchak Shlomo Ungar the Rav of Chug Chasam Sofer - and talked quietly in his ears that he should go to his relative who is sewing shrouds, and she should give you some material that were left with her from the veil of a dress and bring some here.

The gabbay quickly went to his relative and brought some material to the Vayaged Yaakov. The Rebbi sent the gabbay out of the room, and locked himself in the room with the bachur Yisrael for a long time. After a while, Reb Yisrael came out of the room with strong faith in Hashem that he would be discharged from the army. In the morning, when Reb Yisrael had to go to the army

headquarters, he suddenly felt that he was itchy all over his body and started scratching the itchiness, and the pimples opened up with pus coming out of them. His body was now full of pus. When Yisrael walked into the army headquarters, an officer felt pity on him and quickly summoned a doctor to check on him. The doctor told him to wait outside, and in a few minutes, Yisrael was handed his discharge papers and was advised to check into a hospital to get healed of the infection.

Yisrael was thrilled that they released him from army duty, but he was now devastated that he will have to suffer from the infections for the rest of his life, and this would also hinder his studying Torah! But he gathered himself, and understood that the Rebbi who put him in this situation would definitely heal him. He immediately went to the Rebbe to deliver the good news of being freed from the army. However, he begged the Rebbe to heal him as he cannot bear the itchiness much longer.

Again, the Rebbe sent out the gabbay from the room, and locked himself in the room with Yisrael again for a while. After about an hour, the door opened, and Yisrael walked out the door without the pimples and a completely healthy Bochor! The Rebbe forbade Yisrael to tell anyone what transpired in the room how the Rebbe cured him! The whole episode was a deep mystery to all the students in Yeshiva, but Yisrael kept his promise and didn't divulge any details. Rav Yitzchak Shlomo Ungar was sure that the material from the Rebbe's relative played a major role in the illness's cause and the cure!

He waited for the opportunity to ask Reb Yisrael. Years went by, and when World War II was over, Reb Yisrael and Rav Yitzchak Shlomo Ungar both survived the war and both emigrated to Israel. Hashem provided that they met, and Rav Yitzchak Shlomo Ungar courageously asked Reb Yisrael what the Rebbe did with the material from his relative, and how he created the wounds, and how he cured him? Reb Yisrael at first hesitated to tell. However, he said, since the Rebbe has long passed away and I am already an old man, I will tell you. When I was to enlist in the army, the Rebbe took the material and rubbed it into my body. The Rebbe told me exactly what would happen. When I came back to the Rebbe to have him heal me, he did the same thing, and my wounds were healed. I want the world to know who our Rebbe was and his ability to make wondrous miracles.

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