

## REJEWVENATE

### Background

The word quickly spread to the surrounding nations of the greatness of the miracles that HASHEM brought for his people. But of all the gentiles, Yisro alone was so moved that he came to join the Jewish Nation. Rashi teaches us that the specific miracles that made him want to join us were the greatness of the splitting of the sea and the war with Amalek.

When Yisro arrived, Moshe began telling him about the splitting of the sea and the war with Amalek. Rashi explains that this was to bring him closer to Torah.

### Questions

Rabbi Boruch Davidowitz asked: if the reason that Yisro came was because he heard these things, then what was to be accomplished by telling them to him again? Clearly, he knew about them; they were the reason that he came, so what benefit could be derived by telling them to him again? And why did Moshe Rabbeinu see fit to include them among the first things that he told his father-in-law?

#### ספר שמות פרק יח

(א) וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ כֹּהֵן מִדְיָן חֹתֵן מֹשֶׁה אֵת כָּל אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים לְמֹשֶׁה וּלְיִשְׂרָאֵל עַמּוֹ בְּיַד הוֹצִיא יְדוּד אֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמִּצְרַיִם

*And Yisro, the priest of Midyan, the father in law of Moshe, heard all that HASHEM did for Moshe and Yisroel his people, for HASHEM took Yisroel out of Egypt.*

#### רש"י על שמות פרק יח פסוק א

(א) וישמע יתרו - מה שמועה שמע ובא קריעת ים סוף ומלחמת עמלק (זבחים קטז):

*What report did he hear that had such a great effect on him? He heard about the splitting of the sea and the war with Amalek.*

#### ספר שמות פרק יח

(ח) וַיִּסְפֹּר מֹשֶׁה לְחֹתְנוֹ אֵת כָּל אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה יְדוּד לְפָרְעָה וּלְמִצְרַיִם עַל אוֹדֵת יִשְׂרָאֵל אֵת כָּל הַתְּלָאָה אֲשֶׁר מָצְאָתֶם בְּדַרְךְ וַיֹּצִלֵם יְדוּד:

*And Moshe told over to his father-in-law all that HASHEM did to Pharaoh and Mitzrayim for the sake of Yisroel, and all the trouble that befell them along the journey, and how HASHEM saved them from it.*

#### רש"י על שמות פרק יח פסוק ח

ויספר משה לחתנו - למשוך את לבו לקרבו לתורה (מכילתא)  
את כל התלאה - שעל הים ושל עמלק (מכילתא)

*And Moshe told over to his father-in-law – To pull his heart closer to Torah (Mechilta)  
All of the trouble – On the sea and with Amalek*