

RaYBaSH's Torah Thoughts for Kids
Parashah # 46 Eikev: "Because"
Devarim (Deut.) 7:12-11:25
By: Yehudah ben Shomeyr

In the Parashah of Eikev ("Because"), Moses continues his last speech to the Children of Israel, telling them that if they will fulfill the commandments (Mitzvot), the Torah, they will be prosperous in the Land that they are about to take over.

Moses also reminds them of how the first generation of the Exodus didn't do as God said and so they were not allowed to go into the Promised Land. Moses told the 2nd generation of the bad things the first generation did, recalling their worship of the Golden Calf, the rebellion of Korach, the sin of the Spies, and so on. Moses was telling them not to make the same mistakes as they did.

Moses describes the Land they are about to enter as "flowing with milk and honey". This means that the Land has plenty of good food to eat, and things grow well there.

Moses commands them through God to destroy the idols the religion and the people who occupied the land before them, and to beware lest they become prideful and start to believe that "my power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth." The only reason that they are to get the Land is not because they were better than everyone else, but because this is a promise that G-d gave to their forefathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and He will not fail to fulfill it.

Their success in the Land that they are about to possess is entirely dependent on their obedience to the Torah, meaning their obedience to God, for the Torah is His very Words and Rules He spoke to His people to obey. The same holds true for us today.

Shabbat Shalom and Shavuah Tov.
-- Yehudah ben Shomeyr