



FROM THE DESK OF RABBI MOSHE HAUER

OU EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT



The Table and the Mizbe'ach

The Talmud (Chagiga 27a) famously teaches that since the *Beit Hamikdash* was destroyed, our dining room table plays the role once played by the Temple's altar. This is accomplished by virtue of the guests we host around that table (Rashi). In the most straightforward terms, if we are unable to make offerings directly to G-d, we must instead redirect those gifts to those for whom G-d is most concerned.

We are living in a time of great material blessing, a gift that brings with it enormous challenges and opportunities. Our tables “runneth over” with every imaginable delicacy, but we are making room at that table for others to share those blessings.

During these extremely trying times, we have seen the huge heart of Klal Yisrael. Every day we hear of people who want to do for others, who think creatively and give generously in their ongoing quest to enhance the religious and the material lives of others. In times of crisis, we are overwhelmed by the incredible desire of so many to give, and give, and then give some more, both of themselves and of their resources.

While the *Mikdash* in Yerushalayim

remains empty for now, Klal Yisrael all over the world is hard at work rebuilding it, acting as G-d's hand to do their utmost to care for those for whom He is most concerned.

Ashreinu mah tov chelkeinu! How fortunate we are!

Y'hi ratzon she'yibaneh Beit Hamikdash b'mheira b'yameinu. ■

Dr. Eliezer Rosenblum

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