



When Leaders Atone • Parshat Shmini

A nę m e m j opened p in B ookl n, c a ed b a licen ed p chologi -The M e m of Fail e i a collec ion of p ojec and p od c f om a o nd he, o ld ha opped-I _ ea o a k, "Wha , e e he hinking , i h hind igh -I _ ha de o ecogni e ha ome fail e n in o inno a ion -The m e mi de igned o help people ake a meaningf llook a mi ake and i k and accep ha he e i of en p og e hidden in fail e-B no al a -Some ime /fail e i j a o l c hing eali a ion ha i eli ed again and again-

In he ancien , o ld fail e, a of en acknq ledged and a oned fo , i h he gi ing of a ac i ce-A ac i ce co ld no e e o e a e a mi ake b c ea ed a i ali ed b eak f om i ha eq i ed a igni can lo o en ncia ion f om he gi e le alone he animal-When, e e he, o d ac i ce oda , e all mean ha omeone i ead o gi e p ome hing of pe onal impo ance fo a belief o an ideal o o achie e a pa ic la e l -On ome le el he gi ing ha o h o be meaningf l-

The la o nding all ac i ce in *Vayikra*, he book of Le i ic , a e highl de ailed-Mo he Halbe al,in hi book *On Sacrifice* e plain ha i al,in he ca e of ac i ce , "i an a emp o g apple, i h he inhe en np edic abili of ejec ion- When, egi e a gif o God, he he o of hank o g il , i i no like a h man gif c cle- In a h man gif e change,I gi e a gif o o on he p e mp ion ha , hen he occa ion call fo i ,

o , ill do he ame fo me/a pa of a no ma i e ocial anda d-I _ an e, p e ion of ocial capi al-B , hen a pe ongi e agif o God o o an a ho i g e, he e i no e pec a ion of ecip oci -We gi e gif o pe io o eek hei app o al o appea e hem/o o p o el e in hei good g ace ,no o ge a ecip ocal oken of hei a ec ion-Wi h ch gif , e migh , o ha he gif , ill be igno ed o e en ejec ed/a , a he ca e fo Cain ea l in Gene i " o Cain and hi o e ing God paid no heed-Cain, a m ch di e ed and hi face fell Ge- -Some ime , a in he o of Cain/no e, plana ion fo hi di mi ali o e ed-

To a oid ejec ion in ch gif gi ing, e do a m ch e ea ch a , e can o ge i igh -Halbe al ea on ha all he de ail and p o ocol abo ac i ce ela ed in he book of *Vayikra* e e a a " hield fo he h man app oaching God-An change in he p o ocol migh be le hal The one , ho i o e ing a ac i ce, i hed o appea befo e God, o be made i iblē And e being in he po ligh befo e po e can be e if ing- Halbe al , a n ha ho e ac i cing ho ld no ha e ; ongl p e med in imac , i h he Di ine, he , a ha , o of Aa on did-

In hi , eek To ah eading *Shmini*, Mo e aid "Thi i , ha God ha commanded ha o do, ha he P e ence of God ma appea o o -Then Mo e aid o Aa on Come fo , a d o heal a and ac i ce o ino e ing and o b n o e ing/making e pia ion fo o elf and fo

he people and ac i ce he people o e ing and make e pia ion fo hem/a God ha commanded. Le - Thi m ha e been ing Halbe al e plana ion, he mo e if ing ac i ce of all-Pa of Aa on job a a Kohen Gadol, a High P ie , a o eek e pia ion fo him elf and hi people-Fail e, a a med, i h he job de c ip ion-I _ impo ible o e e o he a a leade and no make h nd ed of mi ake , a Rabbi Jona han Sack , o e in *Lessons in Leadership*, “Leade make mi ake -Tha i an occ pa ional ha a d of he ole-Manage follo he le , b leade nd hem el e in i a ion fo , hich he ea e no le “The Une pec ed Leade , *Vayigash* - Whe e he ea e no clea g ideline o p eceden , leade m el on common en e/in inc , and e, pe ience-I _ ea o ge i , ong-

Rabbi Ab aham Ibn E a_ commen a on Le - e plain Aa on ole he e “The ei adi ine command ha o make a onemen fo o elf and fo all of he people-Yo , ill a one fo o elf , i ha in o e ing b llock-Af e , a d o , ill a one fo he cong ega ion b o e ing he people- ac i ce/fo a pe on canno a one fo ano he nle he ha been p i ed f om all in- I no onl ha a leade m be clean ed of in in o de o ep e en o he on he al a in o de o achie e a onemen , he leade m confe hi q n in -Leade migh complain abo o beli le hei follo e o ega d hem el e a pe io -The a onemen ac i ce onl , o ked beca e he High P ie ca alog ed hi q n an g e ion ,making him h mbl a a e of hi q n mallne befo e he confe ed on behalf of he people-

Imagine, fo a momen ,if all leade oda in e e eld had a da of a onemen , hen he had o pend an entire da bo h e ec ing on and confe ing hei mi ake and ca ing he , ongdoing of ho e he e e o ha he migh a k fo gi ene -Pe hap man of oda , scandal in ol ing he na ci i ic/e en c iminal

beha io of poli ician ,CEO ,celeb i a hle e , and en e aine migh be kep in be e check-S ch leade do no ake e pon ibili fo o he beca e he al o do no feel acco n able hem el e -E e da ,e e ne pape ca ie ch headline -

In con a , he High P ie i acco n able fo him elf and fo e e one el e-I _ an a oni hing model of leade hip-Gi o d Thoma ,in hi a icle “Leade Take All The Blame and Gi e A a All The C edi Ma , i e ha leade “ ake e pon ibili —fo EVERYTHING-The n each mi ep in o an oppo ni o lea n f om he mi ake in ead of poin ing g e he p ll he h mb and a k hem el e , ha co ld I ha e done di e en l . In a o al hif of mind e ,leade “ nd a le on, hile o he onl ee a p oblem-The p i a el add e hei bo dina e mi ake , i h hem/b ake he blame p blicl , i ho di en -If omeone lipped p/ he pick hem p/ he don_ poin he nge and pa he blame-

The g ea e ac of e pon ibili a a leade i o hold he mi ake of o he a o q n-On he one hand,leade canno be liable fo e e fail e of hi o he follo e -On he o he hand, e pon ible leade m al a e ec on he p oblem in a c l e ha he a e lima el e pon ible fo b a king h ee e en ial q e ion I he e an hing I co ld ha e done o prevent hi p oblem

Wha did I contribute o hi p oblem Po ibl b igno ing i o no aking i e io l eno gh Wha can I learn f om he, a I handled hi p oblem ha migh p e en fail e in he f e Ul ima el ,a leade i al a a lea ne , ho nde and he impo ance of di ec ion, e ec ion, and co e co ec ion-

So, ha fail e ha e o e, pe ienced ha _ been o g ea e eache