The mission of **Torah Is Geshmack** is to bring out the richness and enjoyment of Torah for everyone, and in doing so bring them closer to Hashem.

תשפ״ו

Kid in a Candy Shop: The Rebbe and the Gr"a

Dovid Kopel

I once had the privilege of learning a גר״א with my Rebbe, HaRav Nochum Lansky שליט״א. Somehow, almost magically, it was one he had not seen before. He was truly like a kid in a candy shop — so excited. He went through it, and we got the פשט (*simple meaning*) — really, Rebbe got the פשט, and I was mostly listening — and then we moved on.

Later that day, Rebbe brought in this גר״א. He darshaned on it. He was מדייק (*careful and exact*) on every single word. It was like he was checking off the boxes one by one. Every phrase had to fit. Every word had to be accounted for. Not a letter was extra.

It was amazing to see how precise and exact Torah is when learned that way. But even more than that, what stayed with me was the complete and total ביטול (*self-nullification*) in order to understand. The way he approached the words — not trying to make them say what he wanted, but trying to disappear into what they were actually saying. It was truly breathtaking. Sadly, I do not remember the גר״א itself. But the experience has stayed with me, and it continues to inspire me.

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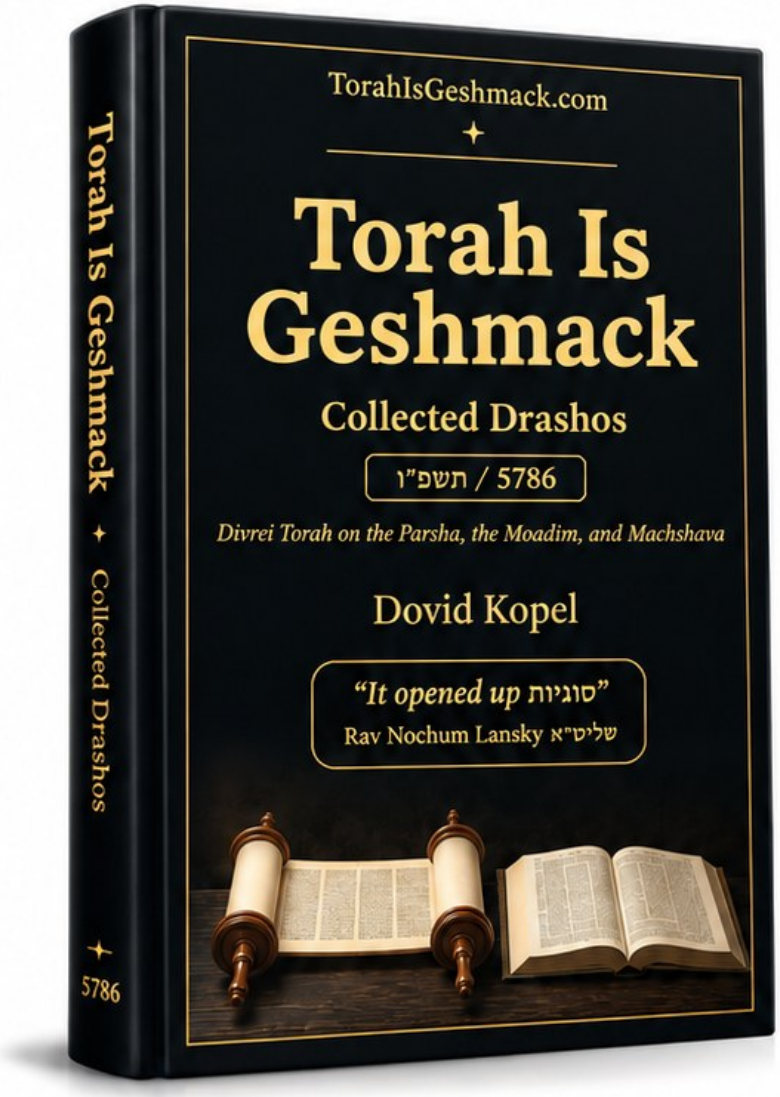
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