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Spice for Shabbos

"Sholom Aleichem" to the Malochim
created by our Mitzvos during the week.

Every Friday night – Leyil Shabbos, when we come home from shul before Kidush, it is our costume to welcome the Malochim with the warm greeting: **"שלום עליכם מלאכי השרת מלאכי השלום מלאכי עליון"**.

The Tiferes Shlomo (parshas Bamidbar) suggests that we say Sholom Aleichem, to welcome those Malochim who were created by Mitzvos done during the week that need to be enhanced by Shabbos. So we welcome them with **"שלום עליכם"** and then bid them farewell with **"צאתכם לשלום"**, to bid them farewell as they leave to be elevated to the higher heavenly spheres.

Translating the Tiferes Shlomo's words:

"Every Mitzva that a person does properly creates a Malach. All week, these Malochim wait as if they have a body but no Neshome, no soul, waiting for Shabbos which will elevate them heavenly, to the highest spheres. The **"שלום עליכם"** that we say after coming home from shul is to these Malochim who after the arrival of Shabbos are elevated, so we then say **"צאתכם לשלום"** as they leave to be elevated to the higher heavenly spheres which is their proper place"

We can add a little Shabbos spice to this with the Noam Elimelech (beginning of Vayigash): During the week our service to Hashem is out of *Yirou* - fear, but on Shabbos it is out of *Ahavo* - love. But even during the week we need to remember Shabbos to incorporate our love of Hashem with our fear of Hashem.

Similarly, the Chozeh of Lublin in Divrai Emes (parshas Yisro) explains the possuk (Shmos 34:21): **"ששת ימים תעבוד וביום השביעי תשובת"**, 6 days you should work and on the 7th you shall rest, with what we say in Ata Chonen on Motzai Shabbos: **"אבינו מלכנו החל עלינו הימים הבאים לקראתנו לשלום, חשוכים ומדובקים ביראתך"**. - **"מכל חטא ומנוקים מכל עון ומדובקים ביראתך"**. "Father in Heaven, begin the coming days for us with peace, free and cleansed of all sin and attached to you with fear", suggesting that our service during the week is out of fear.

"ששת ימים תעבוד" - tavod, has the root avoda or eved a servant who serves from fear, as it says (Malachi 1:6): **"If I am the Master where is my fear?"** **וביום השביעי תשובת** – suggests relaxation and joy, our service to Hashem on Shabbos is from love and happiness.

In Tikunai Zohar (10:25) it says that **אהבה ויראה** - fear and love, are like 2 wings that can elevate our Torah learning and good deeds to the heavens. But if someone's service to Hashem is only out of fear, it is as if it only has one wing and can't get elevated until service from love is added.

So during the week when our service of Hashem is only from fear our actions don't have the "2 wings" they need to fly upwards. But when Shabbos comes and adds the service out of love, the Malochim can be elevated so we say to them Shalom Aleichem, Shalom, suggesting complete, acknowledging that they are now complete and capable of being elevated to the heavens, so we say to them **"צאתכם לשלום"** as they leave to fly up to the heavens.

This fits beautifully with the words of Rashi (Beraishis 2:2) on the possuk: "Vayeichal Elokim bayom hashviei melachto asher osoh". Rashi says: **"מה"** - "What was the world lacking at the end of the 6th day? Rest, Shabbos came and then rest came". During the week when we serve Hashem from fear, the world is missing the restful state of Shabbos when we serve Hashem from love, therefore our torah and mitzvos don't rise to the highest levels, but when Shabbos comes: **"כלתה"** - our work is finished, since all the good work we did during the week is completed and finished and can reach the enhanced levels of the highest heavenly spheres.

So Chaveirim, this week when we say **"שלום עליכם"**, let us remember that we are welcoming the Malochim created by all our Mitzvos and Torah learning from the entire week, and as we say **"צאתכם לשלום"** let's remember that we are blessing the Malochim that we created as they go to present themselves before Hashem.

Have a sweet and lechtiken Shabbos.