the TORAH of CHARACTER
with Rabbi Dr. Mordechai Schiffman
Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks · Herenstein Center for Values and Leadership · Yeshiva University

From Past to Future: Parshat Eke

P o ec on i the abili to think abo imagine and lan fo the f e De e ed eo le end to ge ck in a e e ience and a Ma n Seligman and Anne Ma ie Roe ke de c ibe in the book *H ec* the al o e hibi fa l thinking abo the f e Cogni e beha io al the a and oi e cholog in e en on a ge mina e thinking abo the a and am lif o mi c thinking abo the f e Thi eek a ha highligh the oi e and nega e a ec of o ec on

The o ening o d of *a ha E e* fo e am le i no i name ake *E e* b *eha a* And i hall be *eha a* if e o li en to the e la and a e ca ef l to follo them then the Lo d o God ill kee the co enan and lo e i h hich He made an oa h to o fa he De One mid a h e lain tha the o d *eha a* gene all conno e ha ine hile the o d *a eh* and i a deno e ain and adne *Be e h Rabbah*

Rabbi Da id Tebel o ed b Rabbi Ba ch Simon in hi *I e Ba ch* o ide an a e chological in igh to enligh en thi c c mid a h The oo of the o d *eha a i ha a* hich mean a The le e a the beginning of the o di kno n a a *ha h f ch* hich an fo m the o d fom a and i a o f e en e hall be In con a the oo of *a eh i eh* hich i f e en e hall be b the o ening change the o d o and i a *eha a* e ec the abili to an fo m the a in to the f e and *a eh* e e the f e back to the a Rabbi Tebel

gge tha tha ine em f om the abili to be f e o ien ed hile emaining ck in the a lead to mi e

The e a e oo the efe ence in *a ha E e* to the o d *eha a* Ba ed on the afo emen oned mid a h commen a ie a em o f ame the e e e tho gh the i m of ha ine a ell In a ling age the e e a e And i hall be *eha a* if o e e fo ge ha h ah h hah the Lo d o God I e f again o oda tha o ill el ei h De A li e al eading of the e e a f e in hich the I aeli e o en all fo ge God ha d l allo fo an in e e a on of *eha a* a ha ine

Rabbi Menachem Mendel of Ko k e ead the e e i h in e en al Ha idic c ea i In Heb e the o d fo fo ge i i en i e *ha h ah h hah* The Rebbe of Ko k gge tha the e e can be li in to o leading to an inno a e in e e a on *eha a ha h ah* And if o fo ge *eha a* meaning if o fo ge to be ha then o ill ine i abl h ah e Ha he fo ge God Jo i e en al to the i i al e I i di c l to e e God o el in a a e of dejec on

Ye ch ha ine need to be an o ia el eligio ha ine The hi d e e tha a i h the o d *eha a* i al o the beginning of the econd a ag a h of the dail Shema ecita on *eha a* And i hall come to a ha ah h e if o el li en to M commandmen hich I am commanding o toda to lo e the

Lo d o God and o e e Him i n all o hea and all o o l De Rabbi Chaim ibn A a in hi commen a Oh HaChaim i