

The Daily RYS 11/5/06 Gerer Rebbe

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R. Israel traveled to Warsaw to pay his respect to R. Isaac Meir, the rabbi of Gur (Gerer Rebbe). The Rebbe showed great deference to R. Israel even escorting him into the street. The news spread like wildfire among the local Chasidim that an outstanding personality had come to town. By the time R. Israel entered the synagogue for the Minchah service, a large crowd of Chasidim was waiting to greet him. How disappointed they were, when this "Lithuanian" tzaddik finished reciting his Shemoneh Esreh together with the common people and indeed was among the first even of them. R. Israel noticed their surprise and remarked: "I noticed that a number of people had left work on my account. The shoemaker has left his last, the tailor — his needle, the blacksmith — his bellows, and so on. Were I to prolong my Shemoneh Esreh I would be the cause of money loss in Israel."

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