

The RYS Daily 11/22/06 Early Life of RYS IV

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Around R. Zvi, a number of outstanding Torah scholars of the vicinity had joined together to devote themselves intensively to Torah study, and R. Israel became one of the group as well, spending all his days and nights learning. R. Zvi and his seven closest associates were compared to the candlestick of the Temple with its seven branches. Among these were R. Zundel, R. Israel, R. Samuel Salant, R. Moshe Yitzchak, later rabbi of Ponevezh (Panevezys), and Plungyane, R. Mosheh Zeitlin, son-in-law of R. Zvi Braude, R. Alexander Mosheh Lapidus, later rabbi of Rossiyeny (Raseiniai), and thereafter rabbi in Vindava and Seredzis. Later on, R. Zvi appointed R. Israel to deliver discourses in the local Bet Midrash, and he would send several members of the group to listen to the lectures.

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