

Congregation

◆◆◆"Beth Yosef"◆◆◆

*** 2108 Ocean Parkway Brooklyn, N.Y. 11223 ***

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

Parashat Vayakhel Pekude

25th Adar 5780

Maqam Bayat

Issue #884

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President

Haftarat Ko Amar

March 21st 2020

*Candle Lighting 6:50pm * Shekiah 7:08pm * Shir Hashirim 6:30pm followed by Minha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Minha Shabbat 6:30pm * Shabbat Ends 7:51pm & Rabbenu Tam 8:21pm
Time for Talit 5:46am * Seasonal Hour 71:00 * Alot Hashahar 5:32am * Netz Hachama 6:57am
Weekday Minha 7:00pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 6:17pm * Tzet Hacoachavim 7:46pm * Chatzot 1:02
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 9:05am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 10:16am*

Thursday March 26th will be Rosh Hodesh Nissan

Please do not read this bulletin during Tefillah or Keriat Hatorah

After the completion of the Mishkan, the Pasuk states: *The glory of Hashem filled the Mishkan* – Sefer Beresheet discusses creation, the first generations of the world, the holy Avot, and the beginning of our nation along with the twelve tribes. Sefer Shemot discusses our redemption, and the construction of the Mishkan, ending with Hashem resting His Divine Presence within the holy structure. We have not yet been redeemed for the final time, the third Bet Hamikdash has not yet been rebuilt, and Hashem's Divine Presence is yet to rest upon our nation and the Temple once again. May that day soon arrive with the coming of Mashiach, Amen. Let us talk a little about this subject. The Mishkan and the Temple were both places that Hashem rested His Divine Presence upon. The holy Zohar explains: Hashem rested upon the Temple more than He had rested upon the Mishkan. This is because the Mishkan was not as permanently constructed as was the Temple. In the Temple Hashem was to rest upon us permanently, unlike the Mishkan, which was a temporary structure in comparison. The Malbim writes: Shelomo Hamelech stated that the Temple was the primary resting place of Hashem's Divine Presence, while all other places derived Hashem's Presence and influence of holiness from that initial source. Hashem expressed His agreement by stating that His eyes and heart will remain there; the eyes symbolizing His divine guidance, and his heart symbolizing His deep love for us. Prayers within the holy Bet Hamikdash were special and had a unique effect through Hashem's Presence. Each day we direct our prayers towards the holy Temple. Shelomo Hamelech asked Hashem to answer the nation's prayers which were directed towards His Temple. We recite in the morning prayers that the Temple is the Bet Tefillah, house of prayers. Today we may not have the holy Bet Hamikdash in all its glory, but we do have proper miniature substitutions: our Bet

Kenesset and our Bet Midrash. They are miniature temples and we are obligated to treat them as such. When we pray there, we must accord it with honor and respect, and refrain from improper speech, from speaking during prayers, during Torah reading, and during Kaddish. Hashem's Divine Presence is nearby in such structures and we must therefore understand our responsibilities. We must guard the sanctity of the Bet Kenesset and we must understand that it is a miniature temple in which we sacrifice our prayers to Hashem. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Insights on the Parasha

But the work had been enough for all the work, to do it – and there was extra. There is a contradiction in the Pasuk: If there was enough, then how was there extra? The answer is: there was more than enough available to be donated for the work, and Bnei Yisrael really wanted to donate much more, but in fact the amount that was actually donated was precisely enough for the work in the Mishkan. Moshe had kept track of the donations and finally announced that there would be no more donations after they reached the limit. Nonetheless, because the people wanted to give more, they wanted to donate more of their resources for the work of the holy Mishkan, their intentions and willingness counts forever in their honor and to their credit even though they didn't actually donate more. Good intentions follow the actions and join in, as in this case the airspace in the Azarah would be considered part of the Azarah, and anyone who enters and sits in the Azarah will benefit from the holiness of the area. This added benefit is a direct result of their pure intentions to give more than they were able – to teach us that even just a thought of goodness, even just the thought to do more even if not done, does not go unnoticed and is rewarded. (*Rabbi Meir Shapiro*)

History in Brief

Rabi Yochanan Ben Zakai and his court enacted decrees for the nation before his passing: 1- During the times of the Bet Hamikdash the courts would receive testimony regarding the new moon for the new month and announce it on Rosh Hodesh. However, after Bnei Yisrael's exile, in which the distance would prevent and delay them from knowing when the court proclaimed Rosh Hodesh, Rabi Yochanan established that those outside of Israel in exile would celebrate two days of holidays in consideration of the uncertainty. This is a tradition and custom that is still in effect today and cannot be changed. 2- Initially those providing testimony to the court about the new moon would even violate Shabbat in order to reach the court with their testimony on time to properly sacrifice the Rosh Hodesh Olah offering. After the Bet Hamikdash was destroyed, when the witnesses would come Friday night, Rabi Yochanan would ask them, "Why are you desecrating Shabbat? We no longer sacrifice the Rosh Hodesh offering?" He therefore established that the witnesses would no longer violate Shabbat in order to testify. His court would send out messages every month to those outside of Israel in exile informing which day was established as Rosh Hodesh that month, so that they would know which day would be a holiday. Earlier generations risked their wellbeing to travel through harsh conditions in order to deliver these messages to those in exile specifically six times every year: 1- Nissan, to inform regarding Pesah. 2- Av, to inform regarding the fast. 3- Elul, to inform regarding Rosh Hashanah. 4- After Rosh Hashanah, to inform regarding Yom Kippur and Sukkot. 5- Kislev, to inform regarding Hanukah. 6- Adar, to inform regarding Purim. Those in exile who were close enough to Israel would then schedule the holidays accordingly. However, those too far would always have two days of holidays, which was called the second day of holiday for those in exile.

Health and Recovery

The use of aluminum baking and cooking utensils should be avoided, as when aluminum comes into contact with high heat during cooking and baking, it secretes toxins into the food, which over time can help cause Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases which are known to be associated with those who eat foods cooked with aluminum. According to the blood test of such patients, aluminum deposits were found. Barbecuing (BBQ) using charcoal as the cooking method should also be avoided. You should

instead barbecue using an electric or gas grill, provided that you do not burn or roast the meat too much. If you use charcoal, the burned parts must be removed due to carcinogenic effects from the prolonged cooking over the coals, and therefore such parts of the food should be avoided. It is also advisable to reduce the use of the microwave, and is advisable not to stand near it when it is operating. So far we have been talking about the human body's digestive system. We will now add more things to the discussion which will help us keep our bodies healthy through things outside the digestive system, such as the overall health of the gums and teeth. People are disturbed by the state of their teeth and take action to keep them clean, but they do not care enough about the condition of the gums, which is really just as important.

Mussar: Hashem's Kindness

We must constantly grace and thank Hashem for the countless blessings He bestows upon us every day throughout our entire life. He gives us even though we haven't earned it. He has created us from nothing. He has given us a body which is composed with countless wonders and outstanding wisdom. We were given a powerful and holy soul. We have intelligence in order to decipher between good and bad, right and wrong, and the ability to think and observe in order to recognize our Creator and Master. Hashem feeds us and gives us our necessities – even extras as well as some luxuries. He does not forsake us and cares for us every moment. The least we could do is recognize His greatness and bless His holy name in the world. Do not slumber and be ungrateful. Sing His praises to others and spread His presence throughout the world. He has created us in the form of His image, and blew a living soul within us, a soul of superiority and sovereignty; a soul with wisdom and great power, with the ability to understand and develop, greater than any other creation. The body is so complex and the mind is the control center. We must realize the awesome gift of life and praise Hashem with great devotion and emotion. Those who praise Hashem in this lifetime will praise him after a long life in the next world – where the true praises are spoken. May Hashem watch over us, Amen. (*Ma'alot Hamidot*)

Rishon LeSion: R' Yom Tov Algazi 1727-1802

After visiting France, Rabbi Yom Tov made his way on to Germany, where he met up with the leaders of the generation: Rabbi Natan Adler, known as the

great eagle, and Rabbi Pinchas Horowitz, known as the man of wonders. With great respect, Rabbi Yom Tov was introduced to Rabbi Natan Adler's Bet Midrash, and his disciple Rabbi Moshe, the Chatam Sofer, who worked hard to do whatever he could to help Rabbi Yom Tov succeed in his mission. He gathered the people and explained the dire situation their brethren were facing in Jerusalem. With great efforts he explained the needs, and requested the help of the people of Frankfurt. The people of the city could not remain indifferent in these troubled times, and the mission was successful. Rabbi Natan Adler also spoke to the people, but recited Pesukim that did not seem related to the cause. As Rabbi Yom Tov listened, the words reminded him of his Rebbe the Rashash, Rav Shalom Sharabi. These were the same Pesukim he had told him before he departed on this journey. He committed the Pesukim to memory and moved on. After the speeches concluded and the gathering dispersed, Rabbi Yom Tov continued thinking deeply in holy learning. Days later news reached all corners of Germany: the holy Rashash, Rav Shalom Sharabi had passed away. The eyes of Rabbi Yom Tov dimmed, as he blessed Baruch Dayan HaEmet. He tore his garment and sat on the floor. It was later clarified that his Rebbe had passed away during the speech of Rabbi Natan Adler, as he was reciting the Pesukim that reminded him of his Rebbe, hinting to him about the terrible news through the Derasha.

Story

Jacob, an orphan who lives with his widowed mother Esther, was very poor. He would always proactively search for some temporary work, in order to earn a few pennies to purchase some flour, oil, and legumes to bring home for his mother to at least make a simple meal. One day, after he finished the morning prayers, he began his rounds, searching here and there, offering himself to perform whatever tasks necessary, in order to bring home an honest day's wages. He was usually shrugged off or neglected, because he was but only eleven years old. Nobody would take such a "boy" seriously to perform any meaningful work. Suddenly, while wandering the streets, Jacob smelled a strong scent of fresh bread and pastries. He found himself in the doorway of a large pastry shop, whose owner was a wealthy merchant in the Jewish community. A brave idea sparkled in his mind. He went into the bakery and asked where and how to meet with the dignified owner. "He's right over there", an employee pointed

out without even looking at him. The worker knew that the aggressive owner would be angry if he interrupted his focus on his work for even a moment too long. Woe to the negligent employee! After strolling around the impressive bakery, he came to the owner's desk, who was looking at him inquisitively, curious to know what such a small boy wished to ask of him. The boy opened his mouth with his eyes pleading along with his words: "Maybe you can give me some work to perform for you?" Thundering laughter echoed throughout the bakery. This offer made the gentleman very amused. He looked at the child while finding it very hard to stop his laughter. "Will you be my employee?!" Tears filled his eyes as he continued to roar with laughter.

Two Halachot: Posek Rav Mordechai Eliyahu

1 – Before reciting Kedusha, have in mind to fulfill the Pasuk that Hashem will be sanctified within Bnei Yisrael. The Hazzan recites Kedusha out loud, and should have in mind to fulfill the obligation of those still reciting the silent Amidah. If one is still in middle of the silent Amidah and he hears the Hazzan recite Modim, if he is in middle of reciting a blessing he should bow along with everyone else, however if he is in between blessings then he should not bow as one is not allowed to add bowing to the Amidah more than the established four times: two times in the first three blessings and two times in the last three blessings.

2 – One should make sure to answer Amen to the previous concluding blessing of Retzeh before bowing and reciting the Modim DeRabbanan. In Birkat Cohanim, make sure to answer Amen to each of the three Pesukim blessings, after the Cohen recites it, but not after the Hazzan. On a fast day, only Cohanim that are fasting can recite Birkat Cohanim during Mincha. If none of the Cohanim are fasting, the Hazzan recites the version of Birkat Cohanim himself of "Elokenu". In a house of mourning, the Cohanim recite Birkat Cohanim, but the mourner who is a Cohen does not. Cohanim is also recited on the 9th of Av.

Laws: Pesach

1 – Women as well are obligated to fulfill the commandment to destroy their Chametz. Therefore, if a man is not destroying it for her, a woman must destroy her Chametz herself and recite in the day of the 14th the Kal Chamira three times only after burning the Chametz.

2 – After breakfast on the 14th, brush your teeth very thoroughly, using warm or hot water if and when necessary.

3 – Do not buy any type of Chametz after Pesach from anyone except from someone who had sold his Chametz according to the laws explained by the Rabbanim and through their assistance.

4 – If one did not sell his Chametz according to the laws explained by the Rabbanim and through their assistance, the Chametz is forbidden to be used for any form of pleasure.

5 – One may not even benefit from forbidden Chametz by smelling their fragrance.

6 – Chametz that will be left over Pesach must be stored in a safe specific place, especially away from children.

7 – Rice is allowed to be eaten on Pesach, provided that one checks through it three times, when children are not around.

8 – Chametz that was rendered undistinguishable before Pesach when it was mixed within a ratio of 1/60 may be eaten during Pesach, since it is not considered Chametz to be prohibited on Pesach when even the smallest amount of Chametz is forbidden to consume. However, this applies only when the Chametz had become mixed inadvertently, and only once mixed can the law be so. However, one may not mix the Chametz within a ratio of 1/60 with intention.

9 – Makeup and cosmetics are allowed on Pesach because they are not edible.

10 – Electric ovens or electric appliances must first be cleaned well by hand with hot water and cleaning agents, not used for 24 hours, turned on to the maximum, and then left on for one hour.

11 – One who is strict not to use microwaves at all during Pesach will be blessed. Microwaves not used for cooking food, only warming up food, should be cleaned well. One should then place a cup of water, with a cleaning agent in it, into the microwave and let it heat up until the walls of the microwave inside condensate. Food placed within the microwave during Pesach should be wrapped.

12 – One shouldn't purchase medication without a Hashgacha and Kosher symbol stating that it's Kosher for Pesach, because flour may be mixed with salt in the ingredients.

13 – Tea and coffee may be drunk during Pesach, but you must make sure you are buying the brands that are Kosher for Pesach even without a Kosher for Pesach symbol. Also, make sure to buy it from a

producer who fears sinning and cleans the equipment thoroughly for Pesach.

Sponsors

*** *Dr. Fouad Albagdadi, his wife Tina, and their children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his mother *Hasiba Sayeh Albagdadi Bat Esther a”h*, Amen. *** *Mrs. Frieda Hasbani and her children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father *Nissim Sammy Hasbani Ben Amilya a”h*, Amen. *** *Mr. Abboud Avraham, his wife Sabah, and their children: Naim, Yosef, Moshe, and Yonatan.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their son who passed away at a young age *David Ben Sabah a”h*, Amen. *** *Mrs. Sely Jajati and her children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father *Yehuda Leon Ben Jamila a”h*, Amen. *** *The Hafif Family.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother *Rachel Bat Zakie a”h*, Amen. *** *The Nakab Family.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father *Jamil Ben Aysah a”h*, Amen. *** *The Shakalo family.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother *Touni Mazal Bat Rachel a”h*, Amen. *** *Anonymous.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. *** *The Family of Mayer Sutton.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. *** *Mr. Yitzchak Farhi, his wife Shoshana, and their children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his mother *Dorett Sarah Bat Zakie a”h*, Amen.

As many Shuls are currently closed, instead of placing a stack of this weekly publication inside the Shul as usual, we will be placing a stack of this weekly publication by the door of your local Shul, available for you to collect at your convenience.

This week sponsorship total \$550.

Weekly expenditures total \$1300.

Tizku L’Mitzvot, Amen!

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