

Congregation

◆◆◆◆ **"Beth Yosef"** ◆◆◆◆

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

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

*Parashat **Behar Bechukotai***

22nd Iyar 5780

Maqam Saba

Issue #890

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President

*Haftarat **Uzi UMa'Uzi***

May 16th 2020

*Candle Lighting 7:48pm * Shekiah 8:06pm * Shir Hashirim 7:00pm followed by Minha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Minha Shabbat 7:30pm * Shabbat Ends 8:49pm & Rabbenu Tam 9:19pm
Time for Talit 4:11am * Seasonal Hour 84:00 * Alot Hashahar 3:57am * Netz Hachama 5:38am
Weekday Minha 8:00pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 6:59pm * Tzet Hacoachavim 8:44pm * Chatzot 12:52
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:09am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:33am*

This week's publication is dedicated for the Hilulah of Rabi Shimon Bar Yohai, may his merits protect us, and may he stand before the Throne of Glory and pray for mercy on our behalf, to remove this terrible plague from amongst our nation and all of the world, Amen.

Please do not read this bulletin during Tefillah or Keriat Hatorah

Parashat Behar: Hashem tells us: *You are sojourners and residents with Me.* We are strangers in this world. Our permanent residence is in the next world. We are only passing through this world in order to reach the next world and merit rewards for our services to Hashem. One who realizes that being a sojourner in this world provides him the opportunity to become a resident in the next world will never worry about anything in this world. Such a person will always be happy and full of life, free of stress and pressure. Whether something appears to be good or bad, it matters not, as it is all from Hashem and for the best. What may not be good in this world is in fact great for the next world, which is everlasting and permanent. Therefore, if you lack anything that others are enjoying in this world, know that this is a temporary test, and do not allow this to enter your heart and waste your feelings. Be free of depression and negative feelings, like a man in the desert who knows that what he has will be enough to survive, regardless of what he is lacking in materialism and comfort. He needs only to pass through the desert, not live in it. The Gemara relates, once when Rabi Beroka met up with Eliyahu Hanavi in the marketplace, he asked him if there was anyone present who had earned his portion in the next world. Eliyahu pointed out two men. When Rabi Beroka inquired of those men what made them so special, they replied that they were genuinely satisfied with all that they had and felt that they lacked nothing. They never looked at others and wished they too had something more. Hashem gives us exactly what we need in this world to succeed in life. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Parashat Bechukotai: The Pasuk says: "If you will follow My decrees." Rashi explains: You can fulfill

this by engaging in intense Torah study. According to Rashi, why then did the Torah use the word, "Follow My decrees," when the more appropriate word would've been "Study My decrees"? In Keriat Shema, we likewise use this wording to express learning Torah, "While going on the road". Man is created to grow and advance with each and every day that passes. Therefore, man is called 'Holech' (a walker), unlike the unchanging angels who are called 'Omdim' (standers). Man is supreme over all other creations, in worlds above and below. Therefore, the Parasha began, "If you will follow My decrees," for the nature of man is to follow and advance forward. How can Bnei Yisrael advance? By engaging in intense Torah study. Man, who was created to advance, must do so in spiritual areas and use his body only as an assist to better reach his spiritual goals. We recite each day in Tefillah: Whoever studies Torah Laws (Halachot) every day is assured that he will be present in the world to come, as it's stated, "The ways (Halichot) of the world are his" – Do not read it 'Halichot' (ways), but rather read it 'Halachot' (laws). Why didn't the Prophet just write Halachot? To teach us that learning Halachot is not enough, you must also have 'Halichot', advancement forward through actual positive actions, by applying the newly acquired knowledge in practice. We will then be given spiritual and physical satisfaction. When one travels on the road, he should recite Tehillim or learn Mishnayot by heart, so as to be productive and not waste his time. If it started raining while Rabi Chanina Ben Dosa was traveling, he would pray that it should pause until he reaches his house, and Hashem would answer his prayer. Rabi Yosef asks: how could Rabi Chanina Ben Dosa do this and be answered, if even the Cohen Gadol on Yom Kippur while in the Holy of Holies would pray

that Hashem not listen to travelers who ask that the rain pause, because the world needs rain? The answer is that the Cohen Gadol only prayed to stop those who were traveling from pausing the rain, however Rabi Chanina Ben Dosa was not a mere traveler, he was one who studied Torah all the while he was moving, always performing a Mitzvah and never wasting time, and therefore not within the description of the Cohen Gadol's prayer. We must remember to never waste our valuable time and learn Torah whenever possible, for a moment of learning Torah in this world is priceless in the next world. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Insights on Pirkei Avot

One who says, "What's mine is yours and what's yours is mine" is an Am Haaretz, simpleton. Rav Simcha Bunim explains: Hashem controls everything, however, Hashem has given man control of his Yirat Shamayim, fear of heaven. An Am Haaretz is one who reverses this, as follow: one who says to Hashem, *what's mine is yours*, meaning my Yirat Shamayim is really not in my control but in the control of heaven, and also says, *what's yours is mine*, meaning I really control everything else i.e. all my success and achievements are due to my strengths and abilities, such a person has completely reversed the roles, and is categorized as a utter simpleton.

History in Brief

16 years after the Temple's destruction. The Jewish Sages of Israel would visit the Roman authorities to ask for mercy, in order to rescind harsh decrees against the Jews. Once, as Rabi Eliezer, Rabi Yehoshua, and Rabban Gamliel went together to Rome, they noticed a house with a Mezuzah on the doorpost. Certain that this house belonged to a Jew, they entered and were greeted warmly by the host. After a meal was enjoyed, the host asked them to pray on his behalf for children. They replied that had this been their mission, to pray for a Tzaddik to be born, it would have been enough. A son was born to the man, who was known as Rabi Yehuda Ben Beteira. Another time, as Rabi Yehoshua Ben Chanania made his way to Rome, he was informed that a young Jewish boy was in prison and would not be released unless a payment was submitted on his behalf as redemption. Rabi Yehoshua vowed not to leave until the money was collected and paid for the boy's release. It was in fact a large sum of money, but he paid it, redeemed the boy, and sent him to Israel to learn Torah. This boy grew up to be Rabi

Yishmael Ben Elisha, the grandson of the famous Rabi Yishmael Ben Elisha Cohen Gadol who had been killed.

Health and Recovery

There's great value in keeping the mouth closed. What is the benefit? Saliva is known to be very beneficial and important to life. Among other things, it specifically has disinfectant properties. When a person doesn't have any disinfectant, saliva can be used as a disinfectant for cuts and the like. Saliva protects the teeth and gums, as it contains calcium, phosphorus, and other essential minerals. Saliva also flushes out the acidity created in the mouth, which can otherwise damage your teeth. When the mouth is closed, there is always saliva in the mouth, which is important, as opposed to one who often has his mouth open and does not retain enough saliva in his mouth. When a mouth is usually open, the mouth aids in the breathing, meaning one is also breathing orally, which causes two drawbacks: the first – that the air that enters does not pass through the nose, thereby losing the benefits of the natural filters we have in the nose, instead going straight into the lungs unfiltered, and the second – that the inhalation of air through the mouth causes dryness in the mouth. When the mouth is open too often, it lacks protection for the teeth and gums. One of the causes of a constantly open mouth is usually because a person has a cold which stuffs up the nose, making it necessary to breathe orally instead. This is usually only a temporary problem.

Mussar: Proper Characteristics

1 – One is forbidden to become angry. One who gets angry is considered to have worshipped idolatry, as the Torah commands: one should not create for himself an idol image to worship. We can read the Pasuk to mean that he should also not create an idol out of himself, for through anger one can lose his soul's holiness and have instead a terrible impurity.

2 – One is forbidden to test Hashem, to see if he will have good results from acting properly. The only way a person is allowed to test the results of his good deeds is through giving Ma'aser, tithes from his earnings, since Hashem promises wealth to those who do.

3 – One is forbidden to hate a person. One who hates another and does not speak to him for three days because of his hatred has transgressed. However, if you rebuke a wrongdoer and he does not listen to you, then you may hate him, as he is hated by Hashem for his actions.

4 – One may not take revenge, i.e. he didn't help me so I won't help him either. Also, one may not say to another *'even though you did not help me I won't be like you and will help anyway – I am better than you'*. Rather, forget and forgive, and help without saying anything negative.

5 – Do not speak or accept Lashon Hara. However, if one tells you Lashon Hara that someone intends to harm you, then you may use the information to be careful even though you do not necessarily accept the information as truth.

6 – Don't hold yourself in your eyes believing that you are a Tzaddik. Even if you are very successful, believe that it is in merit of your ancestors. Worry that perhaps you are using up your merits in this world. Therefore, perform Mitzvot in order to earn more and more merit.

Rishon LeSion: R' Yom Tov Algazi 1727-1802

R' Yom Tov had one son and three daughters. He treasured his son, who would follow in his holy path. Already from a young age it was clear that the boy was destined for greatness in Torah. In his youth, the following occurred: residents of Hebron came to R' Yom Tov and asked, "Rebbe, do us a favor, we need a Hacham who is smart and trustworthy to oversee the financials of the Kollel in our city". He gave this task to his young son, who he explained was wise beyond his years. R' Yaakov was appointed to the position, and successfully fulfilled the role of handling the financials for the Hebron Kollel. Years passed and hard times came, when their financial situation took a turn for the worse, and they were forced to borrow from the Goyim. Every month their situation worsened, as they kept borrowing and going deeper into debt without a plan for repayment. The people went to R' Yom Tov to inform him that due to their large debt, his son R' Yaakov had been taken to jail for borrowing and not repaying. R' Yom Tov traveled to collect the necessary funds. After three months of collecting, he returned to Israel with the funds to redeem his son and pay off the debt. Unfortunately, he was too late. The Goyim had grown impatient over the debt and slaughtered his son. R' Yaakov left behind young children, orphans without a father. In 1802, R' Yom Tov became very sick and passed away, returning his holy soul to heaven after living 75 years of hardship and suffering. His grave is next to his father's in Har HaZetim, also near the grave of his Rebbe, the Rashash, R' Shalom Sharabi. May his merits protect us, Amen.

Story

Jacob the young orphan is in the freezing cold river late at night, while his mother watched from the riverbank. She collected and placed wood logs as close as possible

to the water and set it on fire. She said to her son, "Here Jacob, this should at least ease your pain, as the fire will warm the water closest to you and it will not be as cold." Unfortunately, the fire had almost no effect, as he continued to suffer throughout the night. As the first signs of morning started to appear, the bakery owner came out of his house, viewed the situation, and returned back inside. Jacob finally came out of the freezing cold river waters and quickly changed into dry clothing, sat near a fire with his mother who gave him a hot beverage to drink, and eventually they made their way home. In the afternoon, Jacob and his mother paid a visit to the bakery owner to collect the money he had promised Jacob for passing this challenge. However, the bakery owner was not in his office. He had not slept properly the night before, constantly waking to check on Jacob's progress, and was now tucked away in his bed at home, making up for lost sleep. They went to his home and knocked on the door. When he opened the door and looked at them, he asked them what they wanted. Jacob responded that he was there to collect the thousand Lirot as payment for the night before, as promised. The owner began thundering with laughter. "Did you really believe I would pay you so much money to do something so silly and pointless? Congratulations, you survived the challenge, but what benefit did I derive from it all? Get lost, and don't bother me anymore with this nonsense!" Jacob was unfazed. He pulled out the signed legal document from his pocket, complete with witnesses and all. He then read through the entire document out loud, clearly, word by word.

Two Halachot: Posek Rav Mordechai Eliyahu

1 – The make-up Amidah for a missed prayer needs to be the same as the current prayer, not the missed prayer. For example: if one did not pray Minha Erev Shabbat, he prays Arbit of Shabbat twice, even though the prayer he missed was a weekday Amidah. In both he recites the blessing Mekadesh HaShabbat in the Amidah. The same applies to missing Minha Erev Rosh Hodesh, he recites Arbit twice, mentioning in both Yaaleh Veyavo.

2 – If while praying Minha on Rosh Hodesh one forgets Yaaleh Veyavo and must repeat the Amidah, but he does not repeat Minha before the time for Minha had already passed, if it is no longer Rosh Hodesh then he does not pray Arbit twice, since he will not recite Yaaleh Veyavo in Arbit and will not benefit anything by repeating the Amidah.

Laws:

1 – If one is eating a Kezayit or more of a cookie, cake, or biscuit, and wishes to dip it in milk, tea, or coffee, if he will not be touching any liquid with his hands, then

he does not need to wash his hands. However, if he will be touching liquid with his hands, then he must wash his hands before dipping.

2 – However, if he is not going to eat a Kezayit then he need not wash his hands even if he will be touching liquid.

3 – If one is eating wafers, he recites Mezonot, but only recites Al Hamichya afterwards if he eats a Kezayit within the required time frame, and the Kezayit must be calculated without the filling in between the wafer.

Sponsors

*** *Mr. Uri Fried, his wife Iris, and their children.*

Blessings and success for the entire family, Mazal Tov to his daughter *Chana and her husband Nir*, on the birth of twins, Mabrouk, Amen. *** *Mr. Mordechai Guindi, his wife Linda, and their children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, they ask that all do their best to stay healthy during these dangerous times, to wear a mask and gloves when outside, as the Torah commands us to guard our health, may Hashem watch over us, Amen. *** *Mr. David Aharon Farhi, his wife Suzi, and their children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Mazal Tov to *Joey Guindi and his wife Linda*, on the birth of a daughter, Mabrouk, Amen. *** *Dr. Victor Khalife Fariwa, his wife Shella, and their children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his father *Zaki Ben Hasiba a”h*, and Leilui Nishmat his brother *Aharon Ben Badia a”h*, Amen. *** *Mr. Victor Kabariti, his wife, and their children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Refuah Shelemah, Amen. *** *Mrs. Simcha Franco and her children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her sister *Esther Bat Sarah a”h*, Amen. *** *Mr. Shlomo Galapo and his children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother and grandmother *Allegra Simcha Bat Amar a”h*, Amen. *** *Blessed siblings of the Hasbani Family.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother *Rachel Bat Sarah 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 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. *** *Mr. Toufic Shakalo, his wife Lezett, and their children.* Blessings and success for the entire

family, Leilui Nishmat his mother *Sarah Bat Simcha a”h*, Amen. *** *The blessed siblings: Albir, Nissim, Julie, Sophie, and Norma of the Kassab Family.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother *Odette Bat Shafika a”h*, Amen. *** *Mrs. Frieda Hasbani Rabi and her children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father *Nissim Sami Hasbani Ben Amilia a”h*, Amen. *** *Hacham Avraham Zarif, his wife Henriette, and their children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his father *Shlomo Ben Altoun a”h*, Amen. *** *Mr. Joseph Alkada, his wife Vicky, and their children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat *Yaakov Jack Ben Badia a”h*, Leilui Nishmat *Albir Alkada Ben Rosa a”h*, and Leilui Nishmat the young girl who passed away so early in life *Rosi Bat Klodi a”h*, Amen.

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1 – Thank you to the doctors, pharmacists, and stores that so generously allow us to place a stack of our weekly Torah publications in their establishments, in all three languages, so that while visiting you can take a copy home to read and enjoy. Tizku L’Mitzvot!

2 – Those who wish to receive this weekly publication in the mail, or via email, can make the request on www.BethYosef.com. You can also download a copy and print directly from the website. Last week 800 people visited our newly designed website. Tizku L’Mitzvot!

3 – You can also get a printed copy from a box located outside the house of R’ Aharon Farhi, 2415 Ocean Parkway, Brooklyn NY 11235. Available in English, Hebrew, or Arabic.

All donations towards this holy work for the benefit of the public is greatly appreciated. May Hashem bless you with success, Amen.

This week’s sponsorship total is \$1500.

Tizku L’Mitzvot, Amen!

It is a great Mitzvah and powerful Segulah to take part in the Tikun Karet, the sixth day of the sixth week of Sefirat HaOmer, which this year falls out on Tuesday night May 19th. We read Adra Raba, Adra Zuta, and Sefer Tehillim. This Tikun provides atonement for the harshest of sins and also provides Segulot for Parnassah and health. Fortunate are those who take part. Tizku L’Mitzvot, May Hashem bless us, Amen.

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