

Congregation

◆◆◆◆ **"Beth Yosef"** ◆◆◆◆

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

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

Parashat Vaetchanan

11th Av 5780

Maqam Husseni

Issue #901

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President

Haftarat Nachamu Ami

August 1st 2020

*Candle Lighting 7:53pm * Shekiah 8:11pm * Shir Hashirim 7:00pm followed by Minha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Minha Shabbat 7:40pm * Shabbat Ends 8:52pm & Rabbenu Tam 9:22pm
Time for Talit 4:31am * Seasonal Hour 83:00 * Alot Hashahar 4:14am * Netz Hachama 5:54am
Weekday Minha 7:30pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 7:05pm * Tzet Hacoachavim 8:47pm * Chatzot 1:02
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:23am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:46am*

Hatarat Elul will take place Motzei Shabbat Parashat Ekev

Please do not read this bulletin during Tefillah or Keriat Hatorah

Moshe Rabbenu for the second time teaches Bnei Yisrael the Ten Commandments in this week's Parasha. Do you know which Mitzvah is of the most importance from these ten? There is a story: A reporter came to a high-school classroom and asked one student, "Where does the Pasuk of 'love your friend as yourself' appear in the Torah?" The student replied, "In the Ten Commandments." The truth is that the Pasuk is in Sefer Vayikra, the third book of the Torah. However, this answer has depth to it. This Pasuk is more befitting to glorify the Luchos (Tablets) than any other. This Pasuk is the main detail in socialization and civilization. This Pasuk is hidden within the 5th commandment of "Respect and honor your father and mother". The question is: How are they connected? How does the 5th commandment help this Pasuk? Did this student in truth fail to answer properly? Isn't respecting your parents just important for family issues? What does it have to do with the Pasuk of 'Love your friend as yourself'? As we all know, this idea of 'Love your friend as yourself' has been the background, basis, and pretext for many, many speeches devoted to developing feelings within a person. This Pasuk is posted in classrooms and taught in all educational organizations, in order to instill in us feelings for one another. Unfortunately, we are so far from accomplishing this Pasuk that we are drenched in poverty at its concern. It does not affect our lives. We have fallen to a different Pasuk: "One man to another is as a wolf". For this reason, 'Love your fellow as

yourself' is hidden and developed within the 5th commandment of "Honor your parents". How? When a person is young, his framework is first developed through family values which eventually are the source for his social and civilized life. The second Mitzvah cannot be accomplished without the first. The feelings one develops with his family, when properly respecting his parents, develops the proper feelings he needs to socialize and fulfill the Pasuk 'Love your fellow as yourself'. One is commanded to respect his parents no matter what level they're on. Concerning them, he should be completely thankful just for being brought into existence, and it should not make any difference whether they're smart or not, have proper characteristics, or whether or not they are noble. You must respect them no matter what. Through respecting them, you will also develop the great attribute of Hakarat Hatov – acknowledging and appreciating the good one does for you. Even if the only thing they ever did for you was brought you into the world, you still must be very careful to show them appreciation and respect them properly. All the more so if they provided you with everything you need and even luxuries. The Mitzvah of 'Honoring your parents' therefore entails greatly the Mitzvah of 'Loving your friend as yourself', and is the foundation that one needs to properly fulfill the commandment. If one is successful in this difficult Mitzvah, he will surely be successful with his wife, his children, his boss at work, and all his friends. The 5th commandment of

honoring one's parents is therefore the most important, and is the source of success in life. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Insights on the Parasha

1 – *Please let me (Moshe) cross and see the good land...* Isn't it obvious if he crosses then he'll see the land? The point is that everything that Hashem created has two sides: The bad side and the good side. Moshe was asking that Hashem show him just the *good* of the land. (*Ohel Torah*)

2 – *He repays his enemies in his lifetime to make him perish* – Why does the Pasuk begin in plural, *enemies*, and end in singular, *him*? The holy Ohr Hachaim explains: This refers to a father, the individual, and his children, plural. If the father does not follow the Torah, and the children learn from him and also stray from the Torah, then the enemies, plural, the children, will make him, singular, the father, perish, as the father will be punished for the way his children have turned wayward. However, if the children are righteous and grow up to be faithful to the Torah *despite* their wayward father, then their father will not be punished or perish.

History in Brief

20 years after the Temple's destruction, in the year 88AD. On the same day that they removed Raban Gamliel from his position as Nasi and replaced him with Rabi Elazar ben Azaria, they also removed the guard blocking the entrance to the Bet Midrash, and gave permission to any student who wanted to learn Torah to enter. According to Raban Gamliel, not every student who wanted to enter was allowed to enter the Bet Midrash, only those deemed worthy. That day many benches and chairs were added to the Bet Midrash, until the number reached seven hundred new chairs. Raban Gamliel became weak from this news and felt sorry. Had he prevented so many people from learning Torah? On that day they determined and decided in ruling many laws that had hitherto been in dispute between the Sages. One of the famous laws that they were able to establish that day: if a person asked a question to one Sage, who ruled and forbade him, he cannot then go ask another Sage. Likewise, if he asked one Sage who allowed him, he could not then ask another Sage. If he already asked a second Sage and one forbade him

and another allowed him, he then needs to ask a third Sage who will be the deciding ruling between them. If he did not ask a third sage, then if this is something that is a prohibition from the Torah, then he should do as the strict Sage, but if this is forbidden from the Rabanan, then he can do as the permissive Sage. While all turned to Rabi Elazar ben Azaria as their new Nasi and leader, in place of Raban Gamliel, Raban Gamliel nonetheless did not remove himself from the Bet Midrash for even one moment. He joined along with the students in learning and would sit and listen to the new Nasi together with everyone else.

Health and Recovery

The heart pumps the blood throughout the body by circulating it through the arteries. In order for the blood to reach anywhere in the body, the heart sends the blood by using pressure. This is called blood pressure. The walls of the arteries are strong so that they can withstand the blood pressure. Once the blood has reached its destination, it returns to the heart through the veins, without the pressure of the heart. The veins of the legs are surrounded by muscles, so that any action in the legs contracts the muscles. This contraction presses on the veins and causes the blood inside it to be pushed back upwards towards the heart. In the veins there are flap-like 'leaves. These leaves are called valves. When the muscle contracts and pushes the blood upwards, the leaves open and allow the blood to rise. When the muscles relax and the blood tries to go back downwards due to gravity, the leaves close and prevent the blood from flowing downwards. Veins do not have to withstand great pressure, so their walls are less strong than artery walls. This weakness of the vein walls allows them to expand. As age increases, the vein walls weaken, and together with prolonged standing conditions, causes more blood to accumulate in the veins, which becomes a kind of recurring cycle.

Rishon LeSion: R' Moshe Meyuhav 1730-1806

After R' Moshe's vision weakened, his remaining days were few on this world. In Tishre of 1806, after serving as Rishon LeSion for only four years following the passing of his father-in-law R' Yom Tov Algazi, his holy soul returned to heaven. He left behind a wondrous and special will. He made

the will during his youth, and his father, the Gaon R' Raphael Meyuhav, had signed it. In the will he asks that his sons not eulogize him or praise him at all after his death. The wording to be written on his tombstone was predetermined as well: "Zion, the late young man from the inhabitants of the Holy City of Jerusalem, Moshe Ben Harav Rephael Meyhuas, in the bonds of life, may Hashem resurrect him with the others". He also instructed his sons to repay all his outstanding debts, to grow in Torah with all their potential, and to be very careful with the honor of their mother. He concludes: My children, please do not pain me in my grave with any anger or quarrels, for all who overcome their character defects will be forgiven for all their iniquities. May his merits protect us, Amen.

Mussar: *Inclination and Desire*

The purpose of creation is for man to overpower his Yetzer Hara and earn enjoyment and reward in Olam Haba. If not for the Yetzer Hara we would not be able to deserve reward, just like the angels. When a person is strong and remains in control of himself and his situation, even though the Yetzer Hara is trying to convince him to lose control and act otherwise, he creates great pride and satisfaction for Hashem and he will be rewarded according to his toil. The *Sefer Hachasidim* explains that one who performs a Mitzvah by controlling himself when he is really being influenced to do otherwise by the Yetzer Hara, will be rewarded a hundred times more than one who performs a Mitzvah under regular circumstances without the pressure. The great level and heights that a *Baal Teshuva* can reach is actually so unique that even a completely righteous person cannot reach that level, since a complete Tzadik, although he has overpowered his Yetzer Hara, has never developed bad habits and the sense of regularity towards sins. Therefore, when a *Baal Teshuva*, which is anyone who has ever committed any sin and now wishes to repent, overpowers his evil inclination, his success is that much greater. When you control your inclinations and desires, it is greater than fearing heaven, since it requires so much more work. Therefore, we should

appreciate our Yetzer Hara and use it to grow, gain reward, and create a sense of great pride and satisfaction for Hashem, our Father in heaven, Who wishes to merit us always, Amen.

Story: Baron Sir Moses Montefiore 1785-1885

During his third visit to the Land of Israel, he made his way to the Cave of the Patriarchs, the Maarat Hamachpelah, in 1849 when he was 64 years old. This visit was historic, as for many years a Jewish foot did not dare to tread there for fear of the Arab residents of Hebron. Moses managed to enter the cave under heavy guard placed by the Hebron Pasha, while the inhabitants gathered enthusiastically against him en masse and wanted to trample him alive. However, the goodwill that the governor of Hebron extended towards Montefiore protected him and his companions from harm. The plight of Russian Jews, the abductions of Jewish children to be turned into communists, also reached Montefiore, and he traveled to Russia to meet with the cruel Czar Nicholas, but their meeting did not produce much good. In Vilna he was more successful in supporting the Jewish people and protecting them. In 1855, Moses visited Israel for the fourth time at the age of seventy years old, and this time his only goal was to further develop the Land of Israel, and to build colonies outside the walls of Jerusalem.

Two Halachot: Posek Rav Mordechai Eliyahu

1 – Two brothers are not given an Aliyah to the Torah one after the other, even if they are only brothers from the father or the mother. This also applies to a father and son, as well as a grandfather and grandson. This is due to Ayin Hara. This applies even if they say that they are not strict, and even if one receives Mashlim and the other Maftir, however when there are two Sefer Torahs being used, i.e. Shabbat Rosh Hodesh, then you do not have to be strict with Mashlim and Maftir. If necessary, you can be lenient with two brothers only from the mother, or with a grandfather and grandson.

2 – One who received an Aliyah in one Shul, or in one Minyan, can receive another Aliyah in a second Shul, or a second Minyan, even for the

same Parasha. Regarding a public fast, only one who is fasting receives an Aliyah. If he is the only Cohen and is not fasting, or if he will not complete his fast, then three Yisraels are given the Aliyot instead.

Laws: Circumcision

1 – When circumcision is postponed because of a dangerous illness, upon recovery first wait seven days before performing the circumcision, whether for a newborn or an adult.

2 – For a baby who was not dangerously sick but if was necessary to postpone the circumcision, if he became healthy on a Thursday, then he should be circumcised a week later on a Sunday. If he became healthy on a Tuesday, then he should be circumcised a week later on a Wednesday.

3 – A baby born on Shabbat who has a problem with blood clotting and will need shots in order to assist with blood clotting, may be circumcised during Shabbat, even though he will need shots to clot the blood.

4 – The baby is named following the Milah. If the baby is so sick that they wish to pray for his recovery, then a Mi Sheberach is recited without a specific name, just saying he is a baby the son of his mother. However, some say you could use his upcoming name in order to pray for his recovery.

5 – A baby born already circumcised should nonetheless have some blood released, gently, and a careful inspection should be made that the natural circumcision is actually complete.

6 – A child born circumcised with a little bit remaining that needs to be circumcised, should be circumcised with the complete procedure as if he was not circumcised at all.

Sponsors

*** **Dr. Mayer Ballas, his wife Rachel, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his mother **Esther Bat Nazira a”h**, Amen. *** **Mr. Albert Nousseiri, his wife Arlett, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his mother **Badia Bat Salha a”h**, Amen. *** **Mr. Victor Maleh, his wife Shirley, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his father **Yehuda Aslan Ben Jamila a”h**, Amen. *** **Blessed**

siblings: Soly, Hillel, Arlett, and Sofia of the Bawabe Family. Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father **Yitzhak Ben Simcha a”h**, Amen. *** **Blessed siblings: Faraj, David, Clod, Edmon, Janett, Rina, Esther, Gila, Syma, and Evon of the Nahum Family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother **Ayala Gazalo Bat Rima 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 Shakalo family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother **Touni Mazal Bat Rachel 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. *** **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. *** **Blessed siblings: Sarah, Linda, and Yosef of the Halabieh Family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father **Nissim Ben Esther a”h**, and Leilui Nishmat their mother **Miriam Bat Salha a”h**, Amen. *** **Anonymous.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. *** **Mr. Eli Levy, his wife Becky, and their children.** Blessings, health, and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat **Rosalyn Bat Chava a”h**, Amen. *** **Blessed siblings: Aharon and Morris of the Abadi Family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father **Yosef Ben Banout a”h**, Amen.

*This week’s sponsorship total is \$1050. Weekly cost of production and distribution total is \$1300.
Tizku L’Mitzvot, Amen!*

Since we launched our newly designed website in April 2020, we already had **12,200** visitors!

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