

Congregation

◆◆◆◆ **"Beth Yosef"** ◆◆◆◆

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

**Rabbi Aharon Farhi**

*Parashat **Ki Tavo***

16<sup>th</sup> Elul 5780

*Maqam Siga*

Issue # 906

**Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President**

*Haftarat **Koumi Ouri***

September 5<sup>th</sup> 2020

*Candle Lighting 7:04pm \* Shekiah 7:22pm \* Shir Hashirim 7:00pm followed by Minha Friday Night  
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am \* Minha Shabbat 7:00pm \* Shabbat Ends 8:02pm & Rabbenu Tam 8:32pm  
Time for Talit 5:13am \* Seasonal Hour 75:00 \* Alot Hashahar 4:58am \* Netz Hachama 6:28am  
Weekday Minha 7:00pm \* Earliest Time for Arbit 6:23pm \* Tzet Hacoachavim 7:57pm \* Chatzot 12:54  
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:43am \* Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:58am*

**Selihot 5:10am Weekdays & Sundays**

**Hatarat Nedarim for Rosh Hashanah:**

**September 12<sup>th</sup> Motzei Shabbat Parashat Nitzavim-Vayelech after Havdalah,**

**& again, Thursday September 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm after Minha & Arbit,**

**Women should have in mind this year during Hatara to rescind their tradition to hear the Shofar.**

*Sponsored by:* The honorable, generous benefactor, supporter of Torah learning, **Mr. Jojo Chehebar, his wife Terry, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Mazal Tov on the marriage of their son, the bride and groom, **Ricky and Myra**, may they be blessed with building a beautiful family together, Mabrouk, Amen.

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Please do not read this bulletin during Tefillah or Keriat Hatorah

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In less than two weeks the outstanding day of Rosh Hashanah, the Day of Judgment, will be upon us. On this day the future of all living beings will be decided. Who will live, how much longer, in what conditions, for good or otherwise, heaven forbid. We are now completing a year that encompassed many blessings and many tragedies. Everything had already been decided from last year's Rosh Hashanah! What will transpire next year is now in our control. It is up to us to dictate what kind of year we are going to experience. We must believe this with all of our heart and soul, for then we will make sure to take the proper precautions in order to ready ourselves for this awesome day. Fortunate is the one who increases his good deeds and decreases his sins, for then the scales will tip in his favor. This is really not that difficult, even though it is of supreme importance, since every feeling of regret, every thought of repentance and resolution, will cause the scales to tip a little bit more in our favor. One thought must be remembered and kept in mind at all times: Although we perform many Mitzvot every day, we mustn't forget to do them Leshem Shamayim, for the sake of, and in the name of, Heaven, for one who does so with sacrifice and humbleness will receive many times more blessings and protection than one who does the Mitzvot otherwise. We pray on Rosh Hashanah that the old year should end along with its curses, and the New Year should begin with blessings. Appropriately, our Parasha discusses blessings and curses. The Parasha first discusses the laws of Bikkurim, always while we are in the midst of the month of Selihot and days of mercy, in preparation for judgment. What can we learn from the topic of

Bikkurim? An owner of a field comes and stands before a Cohen with his new fruits and declares a few words, which Rashi explains serves to prove that he appreciates what Hashem has done for him and that he does not take his blessings for granted. Hashem has given him a field with trees and has allowed them to sprout fruits. It is not good enough for him to just say 'thank you', rather he must perform an action to show his gratitude. He takes his first fruits and carries them in a basket to Yerushalayim, to the holy Temple, and places them before the holy Altar. He then waves them there and recites the declaration stated in the chapter of Bikkurim. This entire Mitzvah is in essence a complete performance of Hakarat Hatov, gratitude and recognition. May Hashem grant us opportunities to repent from our sins and to thank him for all His kindness. May we one day merit to bring actual Bikkurim to Yerushalayim, and may we be written for a year of life and only blessings, Amen.

**Insights on the Parasha**

**1** – "Today Hashem Elokecha commands you to do" - The Zohar explains that the day referred to in this Pasuk is Rosh Hashanah. Rosh Hashanah is the day that the rest of the year depends upon, for life, health, livelihood, goodness and blessings. The Pasuk says both names, Hashem Elokecha, to teach us that Elokim, the name of strict judgment, will switch to the name of Hashem, to a judgment of mercy, on Rosh Hashanah. Every day that you attend Selihot, you create a ministering angel to serve in your defense during the day of judgment. These angels will help tip the scale in your favor. (*R' Yosef Ben Harush*)

2 – “Hashem will lead you and your king... among all the peoples where Hashem will lead you.” These Pesukim teach us that although we are in exile, the Pasuk does not use the word Galut, exile, but rather uses words for leading and accompanying, because while in exile Hashem does not just cast us away as if unwanted, on the contrary Hashem is exiled along with us, leads us forward, and holds our hand like a father taking his son to Yeshiva, as the Pasuk says that throughout all our pain Hashem suffers with us. (*Lehem Abirim*)

### ***History in Brief***

20 years after the Temple's destruction, in the year 88AD. During the years of Rabban Gamliel's leadership the Roman government returned to their ways of suppressing the Sages from learning and teaching Torah. Rabban Gamliel would travel, even to Alexandria Egypt, and secretly answer many questions in Halacha for the people. This continued until the end of the current Caesar of Rome's rule, Domitian, who had been ruthless, and hated the Jewish people. His wife conspired against him and his own guards assassinated him, around 24 years after the Churban of the Temple. On the same day, Nerva was declared emperor. As the new ruler of the Roman Empire, he vowed to restore liberties which had been curtailed during the autocratic government of Domitian. He was older in age, at sixty-six years he was more experienced in life than other Caesars, and had served Rome in high positions before. He silenced those who wished to slander others, even saving the Jews from those who usually caused them harm through baseless hatred. He removed the heavy taxes from the Jews, had mercy on the poor, and ruled justly and honestly.

### ***Health and Recovery***

When a woman often performs heavy weight lifting, such as lifting the weight of older toddlers, this weakens the abdominal muscles, and over time causes detachment and tearing of some of these muscles, so that in addition to the aftermath of birth on the body, these actions also contribute their part, which then in older age presents a problem of sagging abdominal muscles. The treatment is usually only surgical, and the sooner they treat it, along with some therapy exercise, the less the damage. Women should not lift children or anything heavy without taking the long-term effects into account. When you go shopping, make sure to take a shopping cart and do not carry the heavy items around the store or back home. Special care should be taken when moving through an apartment that is so messy that you do not pay attention while cleaning and pick up things that have a heavy weight. Always try to avoid standing on your feet from morning to evening without a break. Walking is a wonderful exercise; it improves our mental ability. Studies have shown that brisk walking is particularly effective in treating depression, and sometimes more successful than medication, because walking sharpens the brain, and reduces mental

deterioration much more than other physical activity. Proper walking is performed by changing up the pace of the walking, that is, start with a normal pace, move to medium, and then to fast. Then again, gradually change the pace of walking while slowing down.

### ***Rishon LeSion: R' Yaakov Ayash ztl 1750-1817***

Rabbi Yehuda only enjoyed Jerusalem for two years, as after two years, in 1760, Rabbi Yehuda Ayash returned his holy soul to heaven at the age of sixty years old. With a broken heart the family members accompanied their great father, the exalted rabbi of the people, who left them without a leader. His passing left a void which no one could fill, his young son Yaakov only ten years old, left without a father and without a guide. When Rabbi Avraham Ben Asher HaRishon LeSion saw him in Jerusalem, he did him a favor and brought him to his house. Rabbi Avraham did not know that he was now raising in his house the greatest mind of the generation, a leader of the next generation indeed, Rabbi Yaakov Moshe Ayash. The boy grew up and his name was known at all the gates as a Torah scholar advanced beyond his years. The Sages of the lands called upon him to serve the people, and to spread Torah. From the beginning he decided to make his way to North Africa, his birthplace, where his late father had served as rabbi and spiritual leader. The Jews of Morocco welcomed him with royal respect, his visit to their country made a great impression on their hearts and aroused in the hearts of every Jew the longing for the Holy Land. For a long time, they sat and listened to his teachings intertwined with them words of affection for the Holy Land of Israel.

### ***Mussar: Fortunate is the generation that understands the Shofar's blows***

The Rambam writes: A person whose nature is to enjoy this world and indulge in its pleasures forgets the purpose of life and creation. He is riding on the chariot of pleasures and is being led to destruction by the Yetzer Hara. He hasn't any idea where to turn. He is in a deep slumber and cannot understand his surroundings. Hashem gave us the month of Elul out of mercy. He gave us Rosh Hashanah, the 10 day of repentance and Yom Kippur in order to awaken us from whatever degree of sleep we may be in, so that we should use our own intellect and logic and not that of the Yetzer Hara. In the Amidah, the Beracha of repentance (Hashivenu) is preceded by the Beracha of knowledge (Atah Honen) since all need intellect in order to do what's right. Therefore, David Hamelech A"H said: *Fortunate is the generation that knows the Shofar's blows*. It does not say 'hear', rather 'know' – for thoughts and knowledge is what is significant. Fortunate is Yisrael who knows which path to follow in life – the knowledgeable path. A Shofar has a wide top and a narrow bottom in order to signify that we must decrease our worldly matters while having pity for those who increase, and we must increase our spiritual matters. We must understand the purpose of

the Shofar. There is a Mashal (parable) of an ignorant villager who saw a huge fire and heard the alarm sound off. He thought that the alarm was meant to extinguish the flames and so he purchased more alarms in order to successfully put out the fire. The people of the village mocked him and explained that the alarm was only meant to warn people of the fire and to run to safety. The alarm does not extinguish the flames! Some believe that the Shofar brings repentance. This is the same mistake the ignorant villager made! The Shofar's purpose is to awaken Bnei Yisrael to take action and repent, extinguishing the fire of the Yetzer Hara. May we be written for a good year, Amen.

### **Story**

Zev, the wealthy Jew from Budapest, each year would travel to the city of Kalib, Hungary to spend the High Holidays praying with his Rebbe, Rabbi Yitzchak Isaac. He would ask his wife to join him, explaining that the prayers with the Rebbe were special beyond comparison, but she would decline. This year, the month of Tishre came and left, along with Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, and even the lights of Chanukah came and went. One night, in middle of the year, rumors began to spread through Budapest that the Rebbe was coming to visit. Nobody knew why the Rebbe was coming, and after a few days the Rebbe finally arrived. He stayed by the home of a wealthy man, and many flocked from all over to pour out their hearts to the Rebbe and ask for his blessings and prayers. The home of Zev was alive with song and happiness, as he thrilled his wife with the news of his Rebbe's arrival. She would now have the opportunity to meet the Rebbe and witness for herself why he traveled to spend time with the Rebbe every year.

### **Two Halachot: Posek Rav Mordechai Eliyahu**

**1** – Alenu LeShabe'ah should be recited with awe and respect. Yehoshua Bin-Nun established the prayer when they conquered Yericho. Some recite after Alenu the Pesukim that Elkanah spoke to his wife Chana, as well as other Pesukim, which are a Segulah for Parnassah, blessings, and health. When leaving the Shul, do not leave with you back to the Aron Hakodesh, rather leave sideways. Also, leave a Shul with measured steps, so as not to appear in a haste or rush to leave.

**2** – One who recites Kaddish for someone who passed away saves the soul from punishment and judgment in the next world. An Aliyah of Maftir on Shabbat raises the soul higher in heaven, as well as praying as Hazzan, especially during Arbit. During the first seven days of mourning you do not pray as Hazzan unless there are no others available.

### **Laws: Rosh Hashanah**

**1** – Women recite during candle lighting '*...to kindle the light of Shabbat and Yom Tov*'. On the first night of Rosh Hashanah one lights before nightfall, the same as Erev

Shabbat, and on the second night one lights before Kiddush.

**2** – It is customary to dip the bread in sugar or honey after making the Hamotzi blessing. Nuts and black grapes should not be eaten on Rosh Hashanah. There are those who have the custom not to eat any sour or bitter foods on Rosh Hashanah.

**3** – There are two customs as to what the order of eating the different foods is. The first custom is as follows: After Kiddush and before making Netillat Yadayim, one should make "Ha'etz" on a date and have in mind to exempt all other fruits which have the same Beracha. A special "Yehi Ratzon" is recited after tasting the date. Then comes the pomegranates. Before eating from them one should say the "Yehi Ratzon" and then eat. Then comes the beans (Rubya or Lubyah in Arabic) with a Beracha of "Borei Peri Ha'adamah" which should also be in mind to exempt all other vegetables. After eating some beans, a special "Yehi Ratzon" is recited. Then comes the pumpkin and carrots as a Siman that Hashem should rip up our harsh decrees. Then comes the leek. If it is cooked then a "Yehi Ratzon" is recited and then it is eaten. But if the leek is raw, one is not obligated to eat it since it is hot. Then comes Swiss chard (Silka). After that, a Beracha of Shehakol is recited on the head of lamb and is eaten with a "Yehi Ratzon" following. If one cannot find the head of a lamb or sheep, he can take the head of a different animal, ram or bird, and shouldn't say in memory of Yitzchak's Akeda, but just that the year should be as the head and not as the tail. If he wants to also say in memory of Yitzchak's Akeda, he should include meat from a sheep or lamb with the other head from a ram or bird and doesn't necessarily need the head of the sheep or lamb.

**4** – All of the above applies only if one is eating before Netillat Yadayim. One should be careful to eat very little of each food so that he may not enter into uncertainty concerning whether it's necessary to recite Beracha Acharona. Even if one does eat the Shiur, a Beracha Acharona is not recited.

**5** – The second and more proper custom is to make Kiddush and Netillat Yadayim. Then a piece of bread weighing 30 grams should be eaten. After that one should continue with the order mentioned above, except for the Beracha of "Ha'adamah" which should not be recited on cooked vegetables that are common during a meal, rather on the raw carrots. Also, a Shehakol is not recited on the cooked lamb's or sheep's head, only a Yehi Ratzon is recited.

**6** – Some have the custom that the head of the household recites the blessings as well as the Yehi Ratzon and everyone else fulfills their obligations by reciting Amen afterwards. In any event, if you hear another recite a Yehi Ratzon, you should recite Amen afterwards.

**7** – If one is tired during Rosh Hashanah and needs to rest, he may only do so after Hatzot (midday). One should not be angry, even in his mind, during Rosh Hashanah, since it might be bad for the person during these days, besides

for the prohibition of being angry that is all year round. Be friendly, smile, and don't be particular or stubborn about anything.

**8** – Shehechyanu is recited at the end of Kiddush on both nights, but not in the day.

**9** – One who forgot to say 'Yaaleh Veyavo' in Birkat Hamazon on Rosh Hashanah should follow these rules: If he said Hashem's name in the Beracha but did not say Boneh Yerushalayim, then he should say with Malchut, "Baruch Atah... Asher Natan Yamim Tovim Le'amo Yisrael, Et Yom Hazikaron Ve'et Yom Tov Mikraei Kodesh Hazeh, Baruch... Melech Al Kol Ha'aretz Mekadesh Yisrael Veyom Hazikaron." If he remembered after he began the fourth Beracha, he can end the Beracha with "Asher Natan Yamim Tovim..." However, if he began to say "Hakel Avinu Malkenu" then he may not go back and must continue as usual.

**10** – The blower of the Shofar and the congregation must be careful not to speak between the Beracha and the blowing. 'Baruch Hu Ubaruch Shemo' must not be recited for this Beracha.

**11** – One is forbidden to talk during the blowing until the end of Mussaf.

**12** – A Shofar is Muktzeh on Shabbat and may not be touched. Women are accustomed to be strict and come to Shul to hear the Shofar. If a woman or man cannot make it to Shul, a blower may blow for her or him. However, it is forbidden for her, or for her blower, to make the Beracha, if the blower already fulfilled his obligation. For a man, however, a Beracha may be recited.

**13** – The blower and congregation must have in mind to fulfill their obligation to hear the Shofar. After prayers blowing without purpose is prohibited.

**14** – During the Ten Days of Repentance, *Oseh Hashalom* is recited at the end of the Amidah, and the Chazzan recites it in Kaddish Titkabal of Shacharit and Mincha, but not in the Kaddish Titkabal of Arbit, or at the end of Selihot. However, Friday night when the Chazzan recites the Beracha of Seven after the Amidah, if he then says *Oseh Hashalom* in that Kaddish Titkabal, he has what to rely upon.

#### *Sponsors*

\*\*\* *Mr. Moni Harbon, his wife Frieda, and their children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* *Mrs. Malka Wassfeld Taus, her husband,*

*and their children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* *Mr. Isaac Ambalu, his wife, and their children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* *Blessed brothers: Henri and Isaac Sarwa.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father *Shimon Sarwa Ben Badia a"h*, Amen. \*\*\* *Mrs. Frieda Shahino, her husband Mordechai, and their children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Refuah Shelemah for her and her granddaughter *Karo Bat Tikva*, Refuah Shelemah, 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. \*\*\* *Mrs. Sely Jajati and her children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father *Yehuda Leon Ben Jamila 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. \*\*\* *The Shakalo family.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother *Touni Mazal Bat Rachel a"h*, Amen. \*\*\* *Mr. Ovadia 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. 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. \*\*\* *Blessed siblings: Soly, Hillel, Arlett, and Sofia of the Bawabe Family.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father *Yitzchak Zaki Ben Simcha a"h*, Amen.

*This week's sponsorship total is \$1800.*

*Tizku L'Mitzvot, Amen!*

Since we launched our newly designed website in April 2020, we already had **15,900** visitors!

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