

Congregation

◆◆◆"Beth Yosef"◆◆◆

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

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

Parashat Noah

6th Cheshvan 5781

Maqam Siga

Issue #910

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President

Haftarat Roni Akarah

October 24th 2020

*Candle Lighting 5:45pm * Shekiah 6:03pm * Shir Hashirim 5:30pm followed by Mincha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Mincha Shabbat 5:30pm * Shabbat Ends 6:43pm & Rabbenu Tam 7:13pm*

*Time for Talit 6:15am * Seasonal Hour 6:30:00 * Alot Hashahar 6:02am * Netz Hachama 7:18am*

*Weekday Mincha 5:45pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 5:19pm * Tzet Hacoachavim 6:38pm * Chatzot 12:39*

*Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 9:11am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 10:14am*

*Sponsored by: The generous brothers Mr. Yechezkel Cohen, his wife Bella, Mr. Toby Cohen, his wife Shella,
and all their children. May Hashem bless them with success, both spiritually and physically, Amen.*

Please do not read this bulletin during Tefillah or Keriat Hatorah

After the cleansing of the world through the Great Flood, Hashem promised Noah that never again would the world be destroyed through the waters of a Mabul, specifying the reason: because man's heart possesses an evil inclination from his youth. Why didn't Hashem use that reasoning in order to prevent the Great Flood from taking place initially? If man is burdened with an evil inclination from his youth, and this is a sufficient reason to promise that never again will man be destroyed with a Great Flood, then why not prevent the flood altogether? What changed from before the flood to after the flood? The Ramban explains: Noah offered a sacrifice to Hashem after surviving the Mabul, which convinced Hashem to make this promise to Noah. Let's discuss this further: thousands upon thousands of sacrifices have been offered throughout history, in the Bet Hamikdash, in the Mishkan, in the desert, in Shiloh, in Gibeon. Shelomo Hamelech even brought thousands in one day. Even before Noah, Adam and his children Kayin and Hevel offered sacrifices. However, none was as powerful as the sacrifice offered by Noah after the Mabul. Why? For 120 years while Noah was building the Ark, his generation would mock him, belittle him, and threaten him, warning that they would never allow him to enter the Ark and just leave them behind. Why is the Mabul named after Noah, as the 'Waters of Noah'? This was a punishment for not praying for mercy on behalf of his generation. Had Noah prayed for his generation, the Great Flood could have been prevented. Instead he remained silent and did not beseech Hashem on their behalf. Had he prayed for them, Hashem would have reasoned that man sins because he is burdened with an evil inclination immediately from his youth. When Noah emerged from the Ark with the full realization that the world had been destroyed and the human population decimated to single digits, he finally prayed to Hashem to never again bring such destruction to the world. With his prayers and

sacrifices, Hashem accepted his request and promised, based on the reasoning that man is burdened from his youth with an evil inclination. Prayer is the key, offering a sacrifice is not enough. Through prayer Noah reached a level he had not been able to reach before the Great Flood. With prayer he could have prevented the Great Flood, and is therefore credited with the calamity. On the other hand, Noah then chose to be a man of the earth and planted a vineyard. He fell from a high spiritual level through this choice of action. Wine can be used for great spiritual purposes when measured and controlled, as the vineyard he planted had been taken from Gan Eden. Noah however became intoxicated in his tent, which resulted in his decline in spirituality, great personal embarrassment, and ultimately in the cursing of his son, causing a third of the future world to be subjected to the curse of slavery and servitude. We must learn from this to always strive to grow in spirituality and be vigilant in never falling backwards with sin. We must use the inspiration and effects of the past months of Elul and Tishre to grow further in spirituality throughout the coming months of the year and continue to draw closer to Hashem every day without setback. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Insights on the Parasha

1 – The Torah explains that Hashem instructed Noah to build an ark measuring specific dimensions in length, width, and height. However, such measured dimensions are simply not nearly large enough to house all the creatures of the world, and especially not large enough to also store enough food to last the journey. Rabenu Bachye explains: Even fifty arks of such size would not have been enough. Rather, everything fit because Hashem performed a miracle. Hashem knows how much Noah was able to accomplish. Hashem knows how much we all can each accomplish. Yet, the expectations seem to be at

times far from our abilities, completely out of our natural reach! How can the Torah command us to achieve the impossible? This is the valuable lesson: Hashem just wants us to do our part, whatever we are able to accomplish naturally, and then Hashem will perform miracles on our behalf in order to achieve the desired results. How many times throughout Tanach did Bnei Yisrael go out to war and return victorious when all odds were heavily against them? Hashem is always fighting our battles for us, we need only to do our part, do our best, and Hashem will perform miracles and do the rest.

Rishon LeSion: R' Rephael Hazzan ztl 1741-1821

The grandfather of R' Rephael Hazzan, R' Yosef Hazzan, was from a distinguished family originating in Izmir Turkey. He authored the Sefer Ein Yosef, as well as other Sefarim. Why did he call it Ein Yosef? A severe disease afflicted his eyes, and his condition deteriorated day by day. Many doctors were brought in to try to cure his eyes, but their toil was in vain, and the light of his eyes was taken from him. Rabbi Yosef was very sorry, but not because of his suffering as a blind man, rather he was saddened for no longer being able to delve his soul into the Torah learning. For a year and a half, Rabbi Yosef Hazzan bore his suffering in silence, and tried to quench his thirst for Torah in the pages of the Gemara that he remembered orally. One day Rabbi Yosef felt that his eyes were beginning to see shadows. As the days passed, the shadows became clearer, and shapes of objects began to appear before his eyes. His heart was full of praise to the Creator of light and darkness, Who restored the light of his eyes. But his grief was still great, for he could not yet see the letters of the books. In due time, his eyesight completely returned to normal, and he was able to even read the small letters of Rashi. He therefore called his Sefarim which he then authored "Ein Yosef" and "Ein Yehosef", in commemoration of his great miracle, for the return of his eyesight. During this time, in Izmir Turkey 1741, his son R' Chaim Hazzan was blessed with a son of his own, Rephael, who would light up the world with Torah.

History in Brief

23 years after the Temple's destruction, in the year 91AD. As the Sages of the generation, Rabban Gamliel, Rabi Yehoshua, Rabi Akiva, and Rabi Elazar, traveled by ship to visit the new emperor, when they arrived in Rome, the Roman priests came

out to greet them with their idols. They argued and asked the Sages: "If your Hashem does not want idols to be served, why then does he not simply cancel them out and erase them from existence?" The Sages answered: "If you would bow to such things that are never needed, then Hashem would definitely cancel them, but alas you serve such things as the sun, the moon, and the stars, and Hashem does not wish to cancel them and destroy His world just because of the actions of some fools! The world continues to exist, while the spoiled fools will one day be judged for their actions." The priests then challenged, "If so, then why doesn't Hashem destroy any idol that is not essential to the world?" The Sages explained sharply: "If Hashem would destroy the idols that are not essential and allow the other things worshipped to survive because they are essential, then the people will mistakenly say that only the fake idols were destroyed while all others remain in existence not because they are essential, but they survived because they are truly powerful! This will result in even more worship than before." The priests continued to ask: "How come sometimes when someone is sick, he goes to the doctor but is not healed, but then he goes to an idol and is healed – surely it looks like the idol has healed him, do you not agree?" Rabi Akiva answered: "Every sickness comes to a person at a specific time and place. The Yetzer Hara knows this, and encourages the person to visit the idol, worship it, and leave at the precise time that the sickness is scheduled to leave, so that it should appear as if the idol healed him, when in fact he would have been healed regardless!"

Health and Recovery

At times, you hear people shouting in the street that a person has fallen down and needs help. They immediately come to help him and raise him up. Usually the one who falls is an older person. They ask him "What happened?" and he replies, "I stumbled and fell". We ask ourselves, after all, many people have passed through today, through the same place, but while they had no problem passing through, this person fell. Why is it that the person who usually falls is an older person? Rarely do we find that it was a young man who has fallen. Why? If we look into this, we will notice a number of reasons for this difference: 1- An older person does not lift his feet as high off the ground when he walks as a younger person lifts his feet. The feet are therefore closer to the ground and have a greater

tendency to encounter obstacles on the ground, while the youngster lifts his feet higher off the ground, and therefore does not encounter as many obstacles. We learn from this that we must always pay attention to the way we walk, ensuring to raise our feet high enough off the ground with each step, and avoid dragging our feet too close to the ground.

2- The younger person usually has better vision, and therefore recognizes obstacles that the older person does not recognize, since his vision is not at its best.

3- The inflexibility of the limbs and organs of an older person decreases response time to potential obstacles, and prevents the older person from avoiding a fall. In order to prevent possible accidents, those in the middle-age group, starting from the age of forty, must perform stretches and flexibility exercises regularly in order to protect himself from a potential accident. It is common for older people to fall and hurt themselves while getting out of bed in middle of the night, for the same reasons listed above.

Mussar: *Coronavirus*

How can we save ourselves from this Corona Virus? During the days of King David, there was a plague that claimed the lives of one hundred people every day. King David did not know what to do. Through Ruah HaKodesh, divine inspiration, it was revealed to him that the reason for the plague was because people did not express appreciation for all the good Hashem had blessed and showered upon them. He therefore established that everyday each person should recite one hundred blessings to Hashem. In the merit of these blessings, the plague ceased. In the merit of the blessings we recite every day, with concentration, thanking Hashem for everything, we continue to survive throughout the exile. May Hashem continue to protect us and save us from punishment and suffering that comes to the world! We must therefore be careful:

- 1- To recite the words of each blessing properly with concentration.
- 2- Understand the meaning and the purpose.
- 3- Prepare your mind before reciting the blessing.
- 4- Understand what the blessing is in reference.
- 5- Keep in mind that you are standing before Hashem, the King of all kings.
- 6- Do not look around at distractions while reciting the blessing.
- 7- Stop! Don't do anything at all while reciting the blessing.
- 8- Do not allow your mind to wander.
- 9- Say the blessing out loud, at least so that your own ears can hear the blessing.
- 10- Pronounce each syllable, each letter, slowly and properly.
- 11-

Do not interrupt between reciting the blessing and eating or drinking.

Story

Zev, the wealthy Jew, while visiting his Rebbe, Rabbi Yitzchak Isaac, was asked by the Rebbe to help him collect 300 rubles in order to fund a poor bride's wedding with dignity. Zev explained that he was ready to give the whole 300 rubles, an amount that was not easy for him to afford, in exchange that the Rebbe sing the sounds of his holy prayers from the high holy days for the sake of his wife, so that she could understand why he travels every year to the Rebbe to spend the holidays with him. The Rebbe agreed to consider it, and instructed them to return the following day. The next day, the Rebbe explained that he wouldn't be able to do it. Every year, when he would pray on the high holy days, the angels would come down to hear his voice and his tune. However, if he were to perform the prayers now, they would come down and ask one another, "What happened to Yitzchak Isaac? For just 300 rubles he's performing these holy prayers?!" He would be too embarrassed at that point to do it. Zev understood, only gave the Rebbe a small donation instead, and told his wife what the Rebbe had said.

Two Halachot: *Posek Rav Mordechai Eliyahu*

1 – The custom is to begin reciting Kaddish for parents on Friday night after Bameh Madlikin, until the day of the passing in middle of the week Mincha. If the Yahrzeit falls out on Shabbat, then Kaddish is recited starting from the previous week Shabbat.

2 – Even though Kaddish helps lift the souls of the parents, a son should do much more by fulfilling Mitzvot, learning Torah, and living a life with Hashem. If a son pays someone else to recite Kaddish for his parents, they must start each day by saying that they are reciting Kaddish for that specific individual's soul, and end each day saying that the Kaddish recited for that individual's soul should keep away all prosecutors and allow the soul to rest with peace and honor.

Laws: *Shabbat*

1 – Rabenu Tam teaches: Seudah Shelisheet is different than any of the other meals of Shabbat, as it does not require Kiddush.

2 – Seudah Shelisheet should be done with bread, at least 54 grams. If he intends to only eat 28 grams, then he washes his hands without the blessing of Netillat Yadayim.

3 – If he is full and cannot eat bread, he can eat Mezonot and recite Al Hamichya.

4 – If he is full and cannot eat even Mezonot, he should drink a Reviit of wine, or a Kezayit of fruit from the seven species so that he can recite Al Ha'etz afterwards.

5 – If he still cannot do even that, then he can eat an egg, or meat, or fish, or even ordinary fruit and recite only Boreh Nefashot afterwards.

6 – It is best to eat Seudah Shelisheet after praying Minha, however if he ate it before praying Minha then it is good enough. If he cannot eat after Minha for whatever reason, then he can even initially eat before Minha.

Sponsors

*** **Mr. Emil Kameo, his wife Paula, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Mazal Tov to the bride and groom **Albert and Grace Farhi**, Mabrouk, Amen. *** **Mr. Farah Hamra, his wife Dina, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Mazal Tov to the bride and groom **Albert and Grace Farhi**, Mabrouk, Amen. *** **Mr. Meyer Wahba, his wife Pauline, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. *** **Mrs. Bella Shakalo and her children: Yitzchak, Gracie, Shella, Violet, Stella, and Clod.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their brother and her son **Rachamim Ben Bella a”h**, Amen. *** **Mr. Faraj Malbasiti, his wife, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. *** **Mr. Morris Marshli, his wife Esther, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his father **Yitzchak Ben Kilsom a”h**, and Leilui Nishmat his father-in-law **Yaakov Janani Ben Sarah a”h**, Amen. *** **Mr. Shelomo HaCohen, his wife Gila, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his mother **Kourjie Yaffa Bat Simha a”h**, Amen. *** **Mrs. Vicky Alkada, her husband Joseph, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui


Nishmat his uncle **Dr. Albir Alkada Ben Rosa a”h**, Amen. *** **The Family of Mr. Meyer Sutton a”h.** Blessings and success for the entire family, 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. *** **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. *** **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. Frieda, her husband Edmon Haber, and their children.** Blessings, health, and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her father **Yitzchak Paredes Ben Frieda a”h**, Amen.

*This week's sponsorship total is \$1,700.
Tizku L'Mitzvot, Amen!*

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