

Congregation

◆◆◆"Beth Yosef"◆◆◆

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

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

*Parashat **Ki Tisa** (Parah)*

22nd Adar 5781

Maqam Hijaz

Issue #929

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President

*Haftarat **Vayhi Devar***

March 6th 2021

*Candle Lighting 5:34pm * Shekiah 5:52pm * Shir Hashirim 5:30pm followed by Minha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Minha Shabbat 5:15pm * Shabbat Ends 6:35pm & Rabbenu Tam 7:05pm
Time for Talit 5:17am * Seasonal Hour 67:00 * Alot Hashahar 5:02am * Netz Hachama 6:22am
Weekday Minha 5:45pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 5:13pm * Tzet Hacoachavim 6:30pm * Chatzot 12:07
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:23am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:30am*

Those who wish to contact R' Farhi can call (646) 552-3412

To sponsor, please mail your donation to:

**Vaad Tehilim Torah c/o R' A. Farhi
2415 Ocean Parkway, Brooklyn NY 11235**

Please do not read this bulletin during Tefillah or Keriat Hatorah

When Bnei Yisrael sinned with the Golden Calf, Moshe prayed for them, asking Hashem why He was angry at His nation. What was Moshe's question? Wasn't it clear what sin Bnei Yisrael had committed against Hashem? Hashem had just redeemed Bnei Yisrael from Egypt, as the world witnessed, with miracles and amazing wonders, and this is how they act at the foot of Har Sinai – creating a Golden Calf, an idol? Rather, Moshe was asking as follows: Master of the world! You do not need to get mad at them, since the idol they created is truly worthless. It is nothing in comparison, void of power and ability, as only a wise man will a wise man envy, and a strong man will only be jealous of the strength of a competitive strong man. Anything less in comparison is not worthy of envy! Hashem explained that of course there is no envy or jealousy of a worthless idol, rather the anger is due to their lies and deceit, as they declared the idol the god of Israel, the one that took them out of Egypt! Such blasphemous behavior, such blatant disrespect warrants anger. Moshe then replied: Look where they are coming from! They have spent the past couple of hundred years in the depths of Egypt, influenced from the lowest levels of impurity and idolatry, mixed with the

Egyptian cultures to a detrimental degree. They have learned quite a bit from the wrong sorts, and the Egyptian impurity inevitably rubbed off on them. Nonetheless, at the core they are still Your nation, the children of Your servants Avraham, Yitzchak, and Yaakov, whom You promised to multiply like the stars in the sky. They just made a mistake, as a force of stupidity entered them and caused them to act wrongly in sin. Hashem then was appeased over their sinful act. R' Levi Yitzchak asks: if Hashem forgave them, why does it say that for all generations Hashem remembers this sin and continues to apply it in times of suffering? Didn't he forgive them after they did Teshuvah? Also, why apply this to future generations who did not even commit this sin? The Torah teaches us that a son does not die for the sin of a father? Rather, let us understand as follows: Of course, Hashem forgave them after they did Teshuvah. What does Hashem remember throughout future generations in times of sin? He remembers their merit, not their iniquity, as they had properly repented following the sin. He remembers that although they lived in Egypt for hundreds of years and were negatively influenced from the impurity, nonetheless, they eventually repented and accepted the Torah once again. They

Bakar Restaurant ◆◆◆ Sandwiches, Mazza, Dry Meat, Butcher Reservations and
Events: Bar Mitzvah, Engagement, Zohar, Brit Milah, Sheva Berachot, etc.
1385 Coney Island Ave (855) 522-2527 Instagram: @BakarNewYork

then built a Mishkan and donated with their heart, so that for all future generations, whenever we sin, Hashem remembers that we are capable of Teshuvah once more, as we are the children of our patriarchs and matriarchs. This is why our Sages teach us that this sin was actually committed not because they were on such a low level, but rather to serve as a source of merit for all future generations, to give them a chance to perform Teshuvah and not be destroyed. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Insights on the Parasha

1 – Regarding Shabbat observance, there are hours on Friday when it is already Shabbat in the eastern hemisphere but still only Friday afternoon in the western hemisphere, i.e., New York and Jerusalem. Likewise, there are hours on Saturday when it is still Shabbat in the west but already Motzei Shabbat in the east. This is why the Torah writes that we observe Shabbat ‘Ledorotam’ for all generations, written without the letter Vav, to also be read ‘Lediratam’ for all communities, specifically because different areas of the world will be observing Shabbat at different hours, based on their geographical location. (*R' Yitzchak Ben Zechariah*)

2 – The Pasuk first prohibits idolatry, and then commands us to observe Pesach. What is the connection? Anyone who acts with haughtiness is considered to have served idolatry. We therefore need to make sure to act humbly and reserved all year around, with the exception of Pesach, a time when we all act with royalty and lean while drinking our four cups of wine. This is the connections in the Pasuk, to single out Pesach as a time that we can gratuitously pamper ourselves with luxury for the sake of the Mitzvah. (*Mishge Laderech*)

History in Brief

50 years after the Temple's destruction, in the year 118AD. For 15 years, Domitian, Caesar *Domitianus* Augustus, served as the Emperor of Rome. He was cruel and destructive, even to his own people, created many enemies, and eventually was assassinated by his own guard in a palace conspiracy. Nerva then became the Caesar, proclaimed emperor after the murder of Domitian, and was the first of the "Five Good Emperors". He allowed those who had been exiled to return home to Rome, and even provided them with some financial support. He also removed the extra taxes placed on the Jews by his predecessors. He allowed Goyim to convert and do as they pleased. He was

66 years old when he became Caesar, very advanced in age for that period in history, and had a sickness in his stomach. He was very weak and only ruled for two years until his passing when his wife killed him at night. Next, Trajan, Caesar Nerva *Traianus* Augustus, ruled as Caesar. He was the adopted son and heir of Nerva. His reign marked the geographical peak of the empire. He was originally from Spain and had served as a Roman General. Although he was merciful and courteous to his people, he loathed the Jews. He loved war, and in a battle against the Germans, thousands of soldiers died on both sides. He conquered towards the east, imperialized the land, and freely killed Jewish people as his army moved forward. He was determined to wipe out the Davidic Family. He also moved towards the north of Africa, as well towards Alexandria, Egypt.

Health and Recovery

Doctors always recommend that their patients check their vitamin D levels, regardless of lifestyle, because more times than not the levels are very low and need to be supplemented on a daily basis. Do not be shy, ask your doctor to check your levels. Most doctors will assume that your levels are low and recommend that you supplement vitamin D even without checking. Request that the doctor check your levels regardless. The correct levels should be between 30-100. If you do not need to supplement and your body already has enough vitamin D, then it can be dangerous to raise the levels unnecessarily. Although unlikely, if vitamin D is taken excessively, then calcium in the body can be raised to dangerous levels and cause complications. For example, heightened levels of calcium can cause kidney stones, and a doctor should therefore always be consulted with testing.

Mussar: Shalom Bayit (Peace at Home)

Every person is able and obligated to create an atmosphere of peace and paradise at home with his family. Love and affection should be felt in the air. If one is successful, then he will be at peace with Hashem as well. When a husband and wife are friendly and affectionate with one another, then they have ‘Shalom’, peace, which is also ‘Shelemut’, completeness. A couple is compared to fire and water. When they are at peace, then the heavens are at peace as well, and Hashem takes pride and glory from such a household, a family that even affects the holy angels above. The worlds

are united through peace. Heaven forbid, if the opposite transpires and fights fill the household, then curses, pain, suffering, and evil are unleashed, and bitter times hit the family. They are destined for Gehinam as the 'fires' heat and evaporate the 'waters', and the 'waters' extinguish the 'fires' within their family. Poverty, heretic dealings, and deceitfulness are then brought about as a result. Heaven forbid if divorce should occur as a result of their fights, then their bond with heaven is broken, which is then the source of many problems that occur upon the land. Therefore, everyone must learn to forgive and forget. Do not hold a grudge; rather, help each other improve. Increase the honor and care that is provided for one another, for then the Shechinah will rest upon your household and fill it with blessings and happiness, Amen.

Rishon LeSion: R' Yehuda Navon 1770-1845

After R' Avraham saved the life of the young Arab by bribing the current leader, for only one year R' Yehuda Navon filled his role as Rishon LeSion. In 1842, enemies spoke negatively about R' Yehuda to the leader and he immediately removed him from his position. But the enemies were not done, and they continued speaking negatively until they also condemned his friend R' Avraham Bechor. The police arrived at R' Avraham's house, shackled his hands, and carted him off to prison. When the prison warden saw R' Avraham, he was shocked. The warden was the young Arab that R' Avraham had saved from a death sentence! He hugged R' Avraham and thanked him once again for saving his life. He immediately uncuffed him and led him to his own quarters, and did not rest until R' Avraham was exonerated and free once again from being wrongfully accused of a crime. On the 23rd of Kislev in 1845, the light dimmed as the holy soul of R' Yehuda Navon was returned to his Creator. His tombstone screamed without words, as the sun set, and darkness set in without his presence in this world. May his merits protect us, Amen.

Story

Shimon the wealthy man had embarrassed Reuven, the poor water carrier, during his Sefer Torah banquet. That evening, Shimon fell into a deep sleep. In his dream, he found himself in the middle of a dark and empty desert. A palace stood before him from which rang out announcements declaring the presence of David HaMelech! Then he heard announcements declaring the presence of R' Yisrael

Baal Shem Tov! He looked around to get a glimpse of them, but all activity was happening from within the walls of the palace. He then heard David Hamelech say, "I have a claim against Shimon who made a banquet for a new Sefer Torah today but embarrassed Reuven the one who reads my Sefer Tehillim every day!" The Baal Shem Tov then appointed himself as the prosecutor against Shimon for when he comes to heaven in judgment. Shimon suddenly became very weak with fear as his knees buckled and his heart sank. David Hamelech wished to bring Shimon to judgment! Tehillim reading is very powerful. "What shall be done to Shimon for embarrassing Reuven?" Shimon's face turned pale, his hair stood on end, and his heart raced. His fear was worse than death. He could not see anything, he could only hear David Hamelech declaring judgment against him.

Two Halachot: Posek Rav Mordechai Eliyahu

If someone is sinning or deviating from the proper path of Mitzvot, it is a Mitzvah to enlighten him back to righteousness, and explain his iniquity and the error of his ways, whether between him and his Creator, or between him and his fellow man. Speak softly, encouragingly, with patience, and explain that you only wish the best for him, to bring him towards life, and to merit Olam Haba. If you are able to help and you choose not to, you are considered an accomplice in his misdeeds. This is all only if you know that he will listen to you and you have the potential to help, but if you are certain that you will not be helpful and your words will fall on deaf ears, then it is actually prohibitive to approach him in the first place.

Laws: Pesach

- 1** – Thirty days before Pesach we begin learning all the laws pertaining to the fast-approaching holiday. *Yehi Shem* is recited throughout the month.
- 2** – There aren't any communal fasts during the month of Nissan. However, it is permitted for an individual to fast on the passing of a father or mother.
- 3** – Both men and women are obligated to recite Birkat Ha'Ilanot, the blessing on the trees. It is preferable to recite it with a group of ten men.
- 4** – The blessing on the trees should be recited on fruit bearing trees, in the presence of at least two such trees, before the fruit grows, before the flowers fall, and can even be recited during Shabbat and Yom Tov.

5 – It is a good custom, beginning from the first day of the month of Nissan, to read every day the Parasha of the Nasi's donation for the day.

6 – It is a special Mitzvah for every person, before the start of Pesach, to give charity to the needy so that they should have enough for all their holiday needs.

7 – A person that is careful from even the smallest amount of Chametz on Pesach will receive special help from Heaven to avoid sinning throughout the entire upcoming year!

8 – The Shabbat immediately preceding Pesach is called *Shabbat HaGadol*, the *Great Shabbat*, and on this day there's a holy obligation upon everyone to gather in Shul to listen to the rabbi discuss the laws and topics pertaining to Pesach.

Sponsors

*** *Mr. Albert Nouseiri, his wife Arlett, and their children.* Blessings, health, and success for the entire family, Amen. *** *Mr. Dani Khaski, his wife Rosi, and their children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his brother *Marcell Rachamim Ben Alice a"h*, Amen. *** *Blessed siblings: Nissim, Julie, Sofia, and Norma of the Kassab Family.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother *Frieda Odett Bat Sofia a"h*, Amen. *** *Mr. Farah Hamra, his wife Dina, and their children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his mother *Latifa Bat Esther a"h*, please join us reciting Tehillim for her soul on Shabbat Kodesh March 6th, Tizku L'Mitzvot, Amen. *** *Mr. Marco Malah HaLevi, his wife Rachel, and their children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his father *Chaim Ben Shafika a"h*, Amen. *** *Mrs. Shella Katash Sweed and her son Victor Sweed.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her husband and his father *Jack Sweed Ben Badia a"h*, please join us to hear Derush for his soul on Sunday March 7th Minha at 5:40pm in Bet

Kenesset Shevet Achim, Tizku L'Mitzvot, Amen. *** *Mr. Yosef Alkadaa, his wife Viki, and their children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his mother *Rachel Bat Latifa a"h*, Amen. *** *Blessed siblings: Dibo, Mordechai, Sami, Touni, Ketty, Lina, and Nadia of the Kafif Family.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother *Olga Bat Zakie a"h*, Amen. *** *Askan Tzibur Mr. Shlomo Cohen, his wife Gila, and their children.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Mazal Tov to the bride and groom, Mabrouk. Leilui Nishmat his mother *Kourjie Yaffa Bat Simha 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. 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 and Hillel Bawabe.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother *Rachel Bat Shafika a"h*, Amen. *** *The Janani Family.* Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat *Jack Yaakov Chaim Ben Sara a"h*, Amen.

This week's sponsorship total is \$700.


Weekly cost total is \$1,300.

Tizku L'Mitzvot, Amen!

Since we launched our newly designed website in April 2020, there has been **35,800** visits!

* * * * *

www.BethYosef.com

Shlomi Glatt  Bet Yosef Meat, Groceries, & Vegetables
2382 Coney Island Ave (718) 382-1981