

Congregation



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

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

Parashat **Korah**

2nd Tammuz 5781

Maqam Husseni

Issue #941

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President

Haftarat **Vayomer Shemuel**

June 12th 2021

*Candle Lighting 8:08pm * Shekiah 8:26pm * Shir Hashirim 7:00pm followed by Minha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Minha Shabbat 7:50pm * Shabbat Ends 9:09pm & Rabbenu Tam 9:39pm
Time for Talit 3:58am * Seasonal Hour 87:00 * Alot Hashahar 3:41am * Netz Hachama 5:25am
Weekday Minha 7:30pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 7:15pm * Tzet Hacoachavim 9:04pm * Chatzot 12:55
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:02am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:29am*

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Please do not read this bulletin during Tefillah or Keriat Hatorah

Korah was a distinguished, exalted, and honored man within our holy nation. He helped carry the Holy Aron. What foolishness caused him to question Hashem's chosen one, Moshe, whom we are to trust and believe forever? Moshe, the Torah teaches us, was humbler than any other person. He never argued with anyone for the sake of his own honor. Moshe had even defended Bnei Yisrael by saying that if Hashem would not forgive them, then Moshe's name should be erased from the Torah. However, Korah possessed a terrible characteristic, one of three listed in Pirke Avot which removes a person from this world: he was jealous. He did not have a complaint against Moshe directly, rather he questioned the appointment of Elitzafan Ben Uziel and believed that he, Korah, deserved that position, as he was the son of Yitzhar, the second son of Kehat, after Amram, and Uziel was only the fourth son of Kehat, therefore Korah son of Yitzhar believed he deserved to be appointed as Nasi before Elitzafan son of Uziel. Through jealousy, Korah failed drastically with one of the three things that remove a person from this world: jealousy, desire, and honor. We must all learn a valuable lesson from this episode: it is vital to realize the importance of looking away from the possessions of others, to remove ourselves from jealousy, and understand with clarity that Hashem gives each and every individual exactly

what he requires in this world in order to face and pass the trials and tribulations that are set forth before him during his lifetime. Do not look at what your friend, your neighbor, or even your brother and family have, for it will lead to jealousy if you are noticing with an evil eye instead of with a good eye of blessing. Remember that there are two worlds, this world and the next world. We all have our own purpose in this world and Hashem provides us with the necessary tools in order to succeed with our goals, so that we can earn reward for the next world. Everyone can appreciate his own lot if he just recognizes how fortunate he is to have what Hashem has given him. Enjoy life in this world and acknowledge all the blessings that you have. Thank Hashem for waking up every day, for everything that you are blessed with, and be satisfied with your lot. The three characteristics of Jealousy, desire, and honor will not only remove you from this world, but also from the next world! Instead, we must use the three parts of Tanach – Torah, Neviim, and Ketuvim – within the nation divided in three – Cohen, Levi and Yisrael – guided by our trusted leader Moshe born third after Miriam and Aharon, by learning the Torah which was given to us in the third month of Sivan, on the third day of preparations. Why always three? In order to counteract against the three terrible characteristics of jealousy, desire, and honor.

Our focus in this world must be on ourselves, to grow in Torah, and draw closer to Hashem. We must bless our friends, our neighbors, and our relatives, and gaze upon them with a good eye, that they should enjoy their lot, so that we too may enjoy our blessings in this world with happiness and appreciation, thanking Hashem for everything we have each and every day. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Insights on the Parasha

1 – The Pasuk made a point of mentioning the names of Datan and Aviram, more than any others who joined Korah. Why? Because their involvement was unique. Why did they join Korah anyway? They weren't Cohanim or Leviim, they weren't even the oldest in their family, they had an older brother Nemuel. If so, why were they fighting? What did they have to gain? The Pasuk therefore singles them out and lists their name because they entered the dispute just for the sake of the fight.

History in Brief

82 years after the Temple's destruction, in the year 150AD. After halting the rebuilding of the Bet Hamikdash, it wasn't long before the Romans went back to harassing the Jewish inhabitants of Jerusalem, making their lives difficult, disrupting their Torah and Mitzvot. The wicked Rufus, who was positioned by Rome over Jerusalem, asked Rebi Akiva: If Hashem loves the needy, why doesn't He just support them with a livelihood? Rebi Akiva explained: because Hashem wishes for us to be saved from the punishments of Gehinam through the merits of charity. Once, when Rufus returned home in a state of anger and frustration, his wife asked him what was wrong, and he explained that Rebi Akiva's words and arguments every day were causing him displeasure. His wife reasoned that Hashem hates adultery and immorality, if her husband would allow her permission, she would cause Rebi Akiva to sin, as she was beautiful. Her husband agreed to her devious plan. She found Rebi Akiva and exposed herself to him. He spit in front of her, he laughed, and then he cried. She

was taken aback from these three reactions, none of which she expected. She asked him for an explanation, but he said he could only explain two: He spit in front of her because she is not Jewish and he cannot marry her. He cried because she was indeed beautiful, and such beauty will one day rot in the ground. Why did he laugh? She bothered him until he answered: he saw through Ruach Hakodesh that she would one day convert to Judaism and marry him. The time came that her Roman husband died, she realized the truth and converted to Judaism, and she in fact married Rebi Akiva, bringing into the marriage quite a fortune of money.

The Road to Health and Recovery

1- One with a clear mind and a good appetite is presumably healthy. The opposite are unhealthy symptoms. 2- Height is beauty in youth, but tough in old age. 3- Season changes can cause health issues throughout the year. 4- Everyone reacts differently to the weather: some appreciate the winter weather over the summer, some vice versa. 5- Immediate weather changes that occur usually during spring and fall, from hot to cold or vice versa, causes many sicknesses. 6- Constant heat, whether internally through fever, or externally through exposure to the sun, causes damage to the body, weakness and vulnerability. 7- Exposure to constant cold causes damage to the bones, nerves, teeth, mind, and spine. 8- Most health issues manifest with and also cause unhealthy digestion. 9- Food is broken down into three areas progressively: the stomach, the liver, and the other limbs.

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 acquire 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 give.

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' Chaim Nissim Abulefia 1776-1861

The city of Tiberias is the resting place of many holy Tzaddikim that passed away: Rebi Meir Baal Haness, Rebi Yochanan Ben Zakai and his students, Rebi Akiva and his 24,000 students, and the Rambam. But there was a time when Tiberias was void of Jewish inhabitants for an extended spell, and only occasionally would a Jew venture out there to visit the resting place of a holy Tzaddik. Once, the Rav of Sefat, R' Chaim Abulefia and his assistant traveled to Tiberias. During their visit, the assistant went out to buy some food for his Rabbi. On the way he encountered a group of young Arabs. He did not understand Arabic and therefore did not know what they were planning until he began feeling the pain of the rocks thrown at him from all sides. As they laughed, he bled. He somehow managed to escape, and made his way back to safety. When he came upon a local, he screamed

in protest about the attack from these youngsters. The local recognized the group and advised the assistant to visit the Sheikh of the city and tell him of the attack, as one of the boys in that gang was his son and he would surely punish him for his crimes. He even offered to show him the house of the Sheikh.

Story

R' Tzvi Hersh is telling over a story to the once wealthy man and his Gabbai attendant: He was determined to visit Rav Sar Shalom the Rebbe from Belz. The journey would be long and difficult, but with Hashem's help, he would do it. If he did not have a large sum of money to hire a wagon to transport him directly to Belz, then he would have to first visit Warsaw and get a lift with someone's wagon traveling there. Not having the necessary funds to rent his own wagon, he made his way to Warsaw, where he found a Jewish man, with a large Yarmulka and Tzitzit, who was willing to bring him to Warsaw with his other passengers. He fed his horses and made some reinforcements to the wagon while the passengers arrived and boarded. Soon enough, the wagon was full and ready for the journey.

Laws: Blessings

1 – A person cannot speak after reciting a blessing before tasting the food, and if he does speak even one word that does not relate to the eating, then he must recite another blessing on the food.

2 – A person shouldn't interrupt after reciting a blessing before tasting the food even with silence. He should taste immediately after the blessing. If he interrupted with only silence, then he does not recite another blessing.

3 – If there is a shell or a peel covering the fruit or nut, i.e. a banana, then first remove this covering before reciting the blessing.

4 – Hold the food in your right hand while reciting the blessing, even if you are a lefty, and you can then eat it with either hand.

5 – Do not recite the blessing while holding the food on a knife in your hand, or on an iron fork. It is best to hold the food in your hand if

possible, and then you can use utensils to continue eating.

Sponsors

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a"h, Amen. *** **Mr. Isaac Anbi and his children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother **Eva Aysha Bat Liza a"h**, Amen. *** Askan Tzibur **Mr. Shlomo Cohen, his wife Gila, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his mother **Kourjie Yaffa Bat Simha 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. *** **Mr. Shahoud Mishanie, his wife Nadia, and their children.** Blessings, health, and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his father **Moshe Ben Zakie a"h**, and Leilui Nishmat his mother **Margo Bat Bahie a"h**, Amen.


*Please join us for a Hachnassat Sefer Torah
Leilui Nishmat Rabbi Michael Nimni ztl,
Tuesday evening June 15th Mincha/Arbit at
7:30pm in Bet Knesset Kol Yaakov, Tizku
L'Mitzvot, Amen.*

*This week's sponsorship total is \$1100.
Weekly cost this week total \$1500.
Tizku L'Mitzvot, Amen!*

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