

Congregation

◆◆◆ "Beth Yosef" ◆◆◆

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

**Rabbi Aharon Farhi**  
*Parashat Miketz*  
30<sup>th</sup> Kislev 5782

*Maqam Siga*  
Issue #962

**Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President**  
*Haftarat Roni V'Simhi*  
December 4<sup>th</sup> 2021

*Candle Lighting 4:10pm \* Shekiah 4:28pm \* Shir Hashirim 4:05pm followed by Minha Friday Night  
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am \* Minha Shabbat 3:50pm \* Shabbat Ends 5:10pm & Rabbenu Tam 5:40pm  
Time for Talit 6:09am \* Seasonal Hour 55:00 \* Alot Hashahar 5:58am \* Netz Hachama 7:04am  
Weekday Minha 4:10pm \* Earliest Time for Arbit 3:56pm \* Tzet Hacoachavim 5:05pm \* Chatzot 11:46  
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:43am \* Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:38am*

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**Vaad Tehilim Torah c/o R' A. Farhi**  
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Please do not read this bulletin during Tefillah or Keriat Hatorah

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This week, in Parashat Miketz, we read about the dreams of Pharaoh, in which weaker cows seemed to overpower stronger cows, and weaker stalks of wheat seemed to overpower stronger stalks of wheat. The whole purpose for these strange dreams was in order to extricate Yosef from the dungeon pits of Egypt and instead place him in the exalted position that he would occupy until his passing. Pharaoh had first called all of his best advisors to help explain the dreams that he had experienced, but they were of no help. The Midrash states that although they gave explanations to Pharaoh for the dreams, his ears were closed to them. Hashem wanted Pharaoh to first allow everyone else a chance before Yosef came and spoke of the true meaning, so that nobody could later complain: *had we been given a chance we would have said the same thing ourselves*. Where was Yosef brought from? He had been locked away in jail for twelve years, when suddenly without warning he was cleaned up from the years of filth and long hair growth, brought before the Pharaoh, and within a short time he was the second in command over the entire Egypt, a great world power at the time! Our Sages teach us from here that the righteous and in fact our nation as a whole can and will be saved from everything and will be granted salvation in the blink of an eye without any warning or indication of a future turn of events! Mordechai HaTzaddik went from a state of mourning, sackcloth, dust, ashes, fasting, and crying suddenly to a state of great honor and prestige, as he was led through the capitol by his

enemy, on the king's horse, dressed in royalty! The Jewish people were suddenly granted great salvation in those times, without warning and amidst thoughts that they were about to be eradicated and annihilated. During the exile of Egypt, we were suffering terribly without salvation in any visible range. We had been worked very hard, with excruciating and backbreaking labor, every single day for many years. Suddenly, we were redeemed and salvation arrived for our nation once again. Our future redemption will follow in the same suit. From within terrible troubles and sufferings we will suddenly be rescued and redeemed. Yosef was taken out from the pits of the dungeons in order to be the second in command to Pharaoh in Egypt! Not only that, the Pasuk clearly states that they rushed him to quickly stand him before Pharaoh! Purim as well includes this idea, as Haman was rushed to the party of Esther, which was a great turning point in the story and almost the end of both Haman and our troubles for the time being. We were rushed out of Egypt as well when we were redeemed. If we stop for a moment to understand our history and involvements, and connect our current situations and truths with that of the past, we might realize what is yet to come. We live in a generation of great technological advancements; the greatest in fact that ever existed since the beginning of creation. Over one hundred years ago everyone was still riding on horses and donkeys without any knowledge of the luxury that is offered by driving in a comfortable air-

conditioned vehicle. Electricity, gadgets, devices... the list of great inventions that were never available to those who lived not long ago, which we have made very much a part of our life today and which most of us deeply depend upon for our normal daily routines, may go on and on. We have become accustomed to these great gifts from Hashem: Telephones, cell phones, radios, computers, etc. Such luxury all developed in so short a span of time! Very soon, and suddenly as well, Hashem is going to redeem us and we will be united in peace and complete servitude and loyalty towards Hashem, with the coming of Mashiach, quickly in our days, Amen!

### **Insights on the Parasha**

**1** – Yaakov Avinu did not know that the viceroy of Egypt, who was dealing seemingly difficultly with the Shevatim, was his own son Yosef, yet he said, “*May Hashem grant you mercy before the man and may he release...*” We learn from here the importance of being careful when choosing our words. Yaakov Avinu had told Lavan, when he was looking for his idols and accused Yaakov or a member of his family of stealing them, that “*With whomever you find your idols, he shall not live*”, however Yaakov did not know that Rachel had stolen them, and Rashi explains that it was from that curse that Rachel shortly after died on the road. Now, as the Shevatim were telling him all about the difficulty they were experiencing with the viceroy of Egypt, accusing them of being spies and holding onto Binyamin, nonetheless Yaakov this time did not speak negatively. He did not curse the viceroy for these troubles. Instead, he prayed for Hashem’s mercy. Because he was careful this time, he did not curse the viceroy, for doing so would have unknowingly cost him the life of his beloved son Yosef, who was in fact the viceroy of Egypt. (*Chafetz Chaim*)

### **Insights on Chanukah**

**1** – Why do we recite the blessing “*To Kindle the Chanukah Light*” while we recite otherwise – “*To Kindle The Light of Shabbat*”? Since the Chanukah light is forbidden to use, we therefore deem it the title ‘*The Chanukah Light*’ to emphasize its only purpose. The lights of Shabbat, however, may be used and therefore it is titled appropriately, indicating that it is the light used for

Shabbat and not just for Shabbat but also for our use, as it isn’t titled ‘*The Shabbat Light*’ but rather the light of Shabbat.

### **History in Brief**

*80 years after the Temple’s destruction, in the year 150AD.* The emperor of Rome brought before him Rebi Chanina Ben Teradyon. Who was Rebi Chanina Ben Teradyon? He was the father of Beruria the wife of Rebi Meir Baal Hanes. He was beloved before Hashem and man. He never spoke ill of others. He was a collector and distributor of charity, whose trustworthiness was exemplary for all generations. Rebi Elazar Ben Yaakov would not give money to charity unless he knew that the one who handled the funds was a trustworthy Talmid Hacham with fear of Heaven like Rebi Chanina Ben Teradyon. Rebi Chanina himself, however, did not give enough charity, compared to his great wealth, he did not do enough Hesed, and he would use the holy 42 letter Name of Hashem at his will. A decree of punishment was therefore passed upon him, his wife, and his daughter. Once, when Rebi Chanina went to visit Rebi Yossi Ben Kisma who was sick, a very old Talmid Hacham who lived before and through the times of the Temple’s destruction, Rebi Yossi asked Rebi Chanina: “My brother Chanina, do you not know that the Romans were given power and jurisdiction from Heaven? They destroyed the Temple and yet they still thrive! How can it be that you are teaching Torah publicly at great risk, and you carry a miniature Sefer Torah with you?” Rebi Chanina answered that mercy comes from Heaven. Rebi Yossi replied, “I ask you with logic, and you answer me dismissively? I wouldn’t be surprised if you and your Sefer Torah are burned in fire!”

### **Health and Recovery**

*1 – Bread, and other baked goods, must be baked completely. 2 – One should not eat until he is full. Rather, he should eat just enough to satiate his hunger. 3 – One who eats a little bit of unhealthy food is better off than one who eats too much food even though it is healthy food. 4 – One should avoid eating different types of foods and drinks during the same meal, i.e. cold and hot, heavy and light. 5 – A person who has a moderate temperament should eat moderately. If one has a very hot temperament, he should not have honey,*

wine, or similar. He should instead have apples, pomegranates, or similar. As well, if a person has a cold temperament, he should eat garlic and peppers. During the winter, one should eat hot foods, and during the summer, one should eat cold foods. Climate is an important factor to a good diet.

### **Rishon LeSion:**

#### ***R' Avraham Ashkenazi 1810-1900***

R' Avraham Ashkenazi was sought after for his sagely advice not only by the Jewish people in Yerushalayim, but even by the non-Jews who honored him and appreciated his guidance. The leaders of the world respected him greatly. He loved the land of Israel with all his heart and he enjoyed living there very much. As such, he did not rest and constantly worked hard to improve whatever he could. There was an old cave which was rumored to be the burial place of the great Rebi Shimon HaTzaddik from the great Knesset Hagedolah. The righteous of Yerushalayim would visit the cave whenever they had the opportunity. Many were blessed with salvation and mercy after such a visit. Every year on the 33<sup>rd</sup> day of the Omer, hundreds would gather there to celebrate the day by his burial place. However, it was located at that time in the territory of non-Jews who would assault the Jews at any opportunity. One day, while a Jewish man was visiting the cave, a non-Jew came off his horse and began screaming at him for damaging his crops and his tools. The Jew explained that he had not traveled through anyone's field, but the man was uninterested in the truth. As he continued to scream about the fabricated injustice, his neighbors came out to see what was going on. Seeing an opportunity, the group began to assault the Jewish man.

#### **Mussar: *Shalom Bayit (Peace at Home)***

Every person is able and obligated to create an atmosphere of paradise at home with his family. Love and affection should be felt in the air. If one is successful, then he is 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 angels. 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 'fire' heats and evaporates the 'water', and the 'water' extinguishes the 'fire' in their family. Poverty, heretic dealings, and deceitfulness are then brought about. 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.

### ***Story***

Our previous story took place in Kiev, the capital and most populous city of Ukraine. It is in north-central Ukraine along the Dnieper River. Like many nice cities in Europe, Jews had lived there for more than a thousand years. In 1900, wealthy Jews built beautiful Shuls, and lived there lavishly and peacefully. During World War 2, in 1939, the Germans made a peace treaty with Russia not to attack one another, however in July 1941 when the evil Hitler saw that he was succeeding in battle against Europe, he rescinded the peace agreement with Russia. Initially the Russians remained safe and the Jews of Kiev, numbering around 160,000, lived in peace, protected from the Nazis. However, when the Nazis finally marched on Kiev, while many Jews fled, most did not, including the elderly, the women, and the children. On September 19<sup>th</sup> Kiev was captured by the Nazis.

### **Laws: *Barech Alenu***

*We begin reciting Barech Alenu in the Amidah starting with Arbit Motzei Shabbat Saturday night December 4<sup>th</sup>.*

**1** – If one forgot to say 'Barech Alenu' and remembered before saying Hashem's name at the end of the Beracha, he must then say 'Veten Tal Umatar Libracha' and then say the Beracha.

**2** – If he remembered only after saying Hashem's name, but before beginning the next Beracha of

‘Tekah Beshofar’ he must say there ‘Veten Tal Umatar Librachá’ and then continue with ‘Tekah Beshofar’.

**3** – If he already began ‘Tekah’, he must continue until ‘Shema Kolenu’, and there, before saying ‘Ki Atah Shomeah Tefillat Kol Peh’, he should say ‘Veten Tal Umatar Librachá’, and end off ‘Shema Kolenu’ as usual. (If he is fasting, and must say Anenu, he should first say ‘Veten Tal Umatar Librachá’ and then Anenu.)

**4** – If he began to say Hashem’s name, he should end off ‘Lamedeni Chukecha’ and return and say ‘Veten Tal Umatar Librachá’, and then end off again ‘Ki Atah Shomeah Tefillat Kol Peh.’ If he finished the Beracha, he should say it before starting ‘Retzeh’.

**5** – If he already said the word ‘Retzeh’, he must return to ‘Barech Alenu’ and then continue from there on to ‘Tekah’ and so on.

**6** – Likewise, he must go back to ‘Barech Alenu’ if he remembered in middle of ‘Modim’ or ‘Elokai Netzor’.

**7** – However, if he remembered after saying ‘Yihyu Leratzon’ a second time, even if he did not move 3 steps back, he must go back to the beginning of the Tefillah and start over.

**8** – All this applies even to Arbit, which is not considered a mandatory prayer.

**9** – The same laws listed above apply to a lady as do to a man.

**10** – If one is uncertain whether or not he said it: If he is within 30 days of the time they started reciting it in prayers, then he assumes he did not say it. However, after 30 days he can consider himself to have said it.

#### *Sponsors*

\*\*\* **R’ Simon Goldstein, his wife Simmy, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Refuah Shelemah for **Eliyahu Chaim Ben Simcha Miriam,** Amen. \*\*\* **R’ Zaki Yedid HaLevi, his wife Frieda, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Morris Dwek HaCohen, his wife Rachel, their parents, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Natan Alfie, his wife, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Joseph Seadia, his wife, and their**

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