

Congregation

◆◆◆"Beth Yosef"◆◆◆

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

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

Parashat Tetzaveh

11th Adar Aleph 5782

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President

Haftarat Atah Ben Adam

February 12th 2022

Maqam Siga

Issue #972

*Candle Lighting 5:08pm * Shekiah 5:26pm * Shir Hashirim 5:00pm followed by Mincha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Mincha Shabbat 4:50pm * Shabbat Ends 6:09pm & Rabbenu Tam 6:39pm*

*Time for Talit 5:52am * Seasonal Hour 62:00 * Alot Hashahar 5:40am * Netz Hachama 6:54am*

*Weekday Mincha 5:20pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 4:47pm * Tzet Hacoachavim 6:04pm * Chatzot 12:10*

*Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:46am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:48am*

Last of the Shovevim Fasting: Thursday February 10th fast starts 5:42am and ends 5:50pm

Those who wish to contact Rabbi Aharon Farhi can call (646) 552-3412

To sponsor our weekly publication, 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

The Pasuk says that Aharon carried the names of Bnei Yisrael on his two shoulders as a remembrance. What do we learn from this Pasuk? We know that there are 600,000 letters, or symbols, in the Torah which correspond to the 600,000 Jewish souls. Each soul is connected to one letter, and the hint to this is the word Yisrael, as the letters that form the word Yisrael can each be used to start the words: *Yesh Shishim Ribou Otiyot LaTorah, there are 60 myriads (600,000) letters in the Torah*. Now, just as all 600,000 souls are not on the same spiritual level, so too the 600,000 letters are not all of equal value. Let us explain in order of greatest to least. There are letters that form Hashem's name, and there are letters that form the names of our holy forefathers and other holy personalities throughout the Torah. There are letters that are used to write about a Mitzvah, and there are letters not used to write about a Mitzvah. Each soul corresponds to the letter that best matches its spiritual level. Then there are souls that do not correspond to letters, but to the Tagin (crowns) of the letters, or to the Nekudot of the letters. Then there are souls that not only do not correspond to letters, but also not to Tagin and not to Nekudot. What do those lower souls correspond to? The actual empty spaces throughout the parchment page

of the Torah. Hashem did not need to include such spaces in the Torah, between paragraphs and pages, but did so because even the spaces correspond to Jewish souls. If one letter in the Sefer Torah is touching another letter, thereby invading the space that should be there, then the Torah is invalid until it is fixed, as this space corresponds to a Jewish soul. When Bnei Yisrael sinned with the Golden Calf and Hashem wanted to destroy them as a punishment, Moshe argued that if so then he should be erased from the Torah, whereas Hashem responds that those who sinned should be erased. But were they mentioned in the Torah, as was Moshe, to even be able to be erased? Yes, every Jew is in the Torah and corresponds to one letter. Those who sinned with the Golden Calf had lost their connection to the Torah. Aharon HaCohen, who loved and pursued peace, who loved the people and brought them closer to the Torah, taught them how to do Teshuvah for their sins, and brought them back the merit of connecting with the letters of the Torah. This is the meaning of the Pasuk we mentioned in the beginning: Aharon carried the names of Bnei Yisrael on his two shoulders as a remembrance. With the Urim VeTumim that Aharon wore, their souls lit up once again through the letters of the Torah,

and they merited to be whole once again, having gained atonement through Teshuvah with the help of Aharon HaCohen. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Insights on the Parasha

1 – Pituchei Chotam (Signet Ring) Kodesh L'Hashem – Our Sages teach us that there are three keys that only Hashem controls – birth, rain, and resurrection. The Hebrew word Mafteach, key, hints to these three keys – letter Mem for Matar (rain), letter Peh for Parnassah (livelihood), letter Taf for Toldot (generations), Letter Chet for Chayim (life). The Gra explains: everything is alluded to in the Torah, as in this Pasuk *Chotam* is spelled using three letters: Chet for Chaya (midwife), Tet for Tichya (resurrection), and Mem for Matar (rain) – Kodesh L'Hashem – Hashem is the one who controls these three.

History in Brief

80 years after the Temple's destruction, in the year 150AD. Rebi Elazar Ben Shamua HaCohen was one of the five students that Rebi Akiva taught Torah to in his old age. He possessed outstanding wisdom. His heart was as profound as the opening of the Hechal. Once, as he and Rebi Yochanan HaSandelar were going to Babylonia to learn Torah from Rebi Yehuda Ben Beteira, they reached Sidon and remembered the holy land of Israel, and remembered the Pasuk that says we inherit Israel to dwell in it. Suddenly their eyes filled with tears and they realized that the Mitzvah of living in Israel was greater than all of the Mitzvot. He had many students, including Rabbenu Hakadosh Rebi Yehuda Hanasi. Each student learned from him with sacrifice, as there was not enough room for everyone to fit comfortably. He would always say that the master must respect the student more than himself, one should respect a friend as much as he respects his master, and one must respect his master as much as he must respect heaven. He merited to live a long life. His students

asked what actions merited him longevity, and he explained that he never used a Shul as a convenient walkthrough. For twenty years terrible executions were decreed against the Jews, and Rebi Elazar Ben Shamua HaCohen was the last of the ten Harugei Malchut.

Health and Recovery

Cholesterol is a substance that is partly produced by the body itself, and in part is created and acquired from the food that is consumed. The good cholesterol is called HDL. It helps to remove excess cholesterol from the blood and thus reduces the risk of atherosclerosis. The good cholesterol is achieved first and foremost by proper management of diet, and by exercising and walking. Bad cholesterol LDL is a fatty substance that accumulates in the artery walls and gradually leads to obstruction and sometimes total blockage of the blood vessels. Atherosclerosis occurs, which can result in heart attack, cerebral conditions, and all diseases associated with obstructing blood vessels. The fats from animals can increase the “bad” and reduce the “good”, while some vegetable fats perform the contrary, and are recommended, of course to a measured extent. Olive oil is excellent, and is called “green gold”. It contains monounsaturated fat and a little saturated fat, provided that it is cold pressed and not refined, which is better to be less than 1%. The recommended use of olive oil is to blend it into the food and not consume in the form of a drink. An important fact: the body cannot absorb more than two tablespoons of olive oil in a meal, as excess will go out uselessly. Canola oil is superior to soybean oil.

Mussar: Talking during Sefer Torah

The *Chafetz Chaim* elaborates on the strict prohibition against speaking unworthy words in Shul. One must realize the severity of such an action. When one begins relating a story to his friend right before the Torah reading, a story that forces the one telling it to transgress

many laws of Lashon Hara already from the beginning all the way through to the end, as the Torah is opened before the congregation the Yetzer Hara enters this man and convinces him to continue speaking his sinful words even during the recitation of the Torah! Many times the speaker is a distinguished man who is sitting in front of the Shul, and his sin is noticed by everyone. Continuing such talk in front of many, at least ten men, is a public desecration to Hashem's name, which is a direct transgression in the Torah. Also, the great Mitzvah of reading the Torah in Public is wasted. We are obligated to observe and fulfill every Mitzvah in the Torah. Unfortunately, it is not in our power to fulfill today such commandments as Korbanot, sacrifices. The reading of the Torah which includes all of the 613 Mitzvot is a method we use today in order to be considered to have fulfilled the entire Torah. If one speaks and interrupts the recitation, and he ends up missing Pesukim, then he loses out on the fulfillment of the Mitzvot included in those Pesukim! Even missing one letter is a great loss! The outstanding sin is too burdensome to bear! One likewise should be careful not to miss out on answering Amen to Kaddish, for one who answers Amen Yehe Shemeh Rabbah properly will gain great atonement for even sins such as heresy. The sufferings that a man endures during his life are directly caused by speaking during Sefer Torah, Kaddish, and Chazara. May Hashem protect us from acting so foolishly, Amen.

Rishon LeSion: R' Raphael Meir 1801-1893

R' Raphael moved on to his next destination, Tunisia. They lacked rain there and were experiencing a terrible famine. R' Raphael went out to the street and raised his hands to heaven in prayer. As R' Raphael finished praying, the skies became dark with clouds and rain showered down upon Tunisia. News spread of the miracle performed, and the king wished to greet the holy righteous man who

brought them rain in their time of need. When he greeted R' Raphael, he stood up in honor of his presence, his face shining with holiness as a man of Hashem. When the king asked how he was able to perform such a miracle, R' Raphael humbly explained that it was Hashem that made it rain. The king was so impressed that he had his royal scribe write up a document that decreed wherever he went he would be escorted by a soldier of the royal army and be provided with a horse to ride. He then filled his pockets with plenty of money for his journey and his mission. He also dressed him royally in magnificent clothing, and ushered him from the palace with great praises and words of admiration. While in Tunisia R' Raphael merited another miracle to be performed through him, but we will write more about that next week.

Story

R' Naftali was telling his grandson Zalman a story about the time during his youth when he went to Meron to learn with his friends by the Kever of the holy Tana Rashbi, Rebi Shimon Bar Yochai, who is buried in Meron. He had a bag filled with food, water, and his Sefarim in one hand, and his Talit and Tefillin in the other hand. As they walked together towards the resting places of great Tannaim, they discussed Torah that they had each learned. It was Sunday and so they decided that they would stay for the week by the grave of Rashbi, until Friday morning when they planned to return home in time for Shabbat. At times they learned together, other times they each learned on their own. For many consecutive hours each day they would learn Torah while wearing their Talit and Tefillin. At night they would remove their Talit and Tefillin, eat dinner, and then return to learning. They had a place to sleep nearby, but they wouldn't waste time with sleep, as the learning was their rest, comfort, and support. Only when sleep was the only option, completely overcome with exhaustion, would they leave

to sleep for a short amount of time as needed. They did this all week until they reached Rosh Hodesh Elul.

Laws: Chanukat Habayit

1 – It is our custom to make a Seudah of thanks to Hashem upon building a new home or purchasing a home. There should be words of Divrei Torah during the Seudah and songs of praise to Hashem.

2 – The custom is that the new owner of the house recites Shehechyanu on a new fruit, or a new garment, and has in mind to cover his new home as well with the blessing. Nonetheless, one's happiness over acquiring a new home to reside in is enough on its own to enable him to recite the blessing of Shehechyanu.

3 – One who acquires a new home in which others had lived should first have it plastered and painted before moving into it, since a place has an influence upon a person, and the previous owners could have had a history of fighting, suffering, or sicknesses. Therefore, it is best to plaster and paint so as to rid their influence from the residence.

4 – If a house is ruined for whatever reason and is then rebuilt, even though it was rebuilt to be exactly as it had been before, still a Seudah should be made with Shehechyanu.

5 – An extension to a current residence does not obligate a Seudah; however Shehechyanu should be recited upon a new garment as mentioned above.

6 – A Seudah should be made also upon renting a home, and is not limited to owning a home. The Seudah should always be made immediately, and one should not wait until everything is fixed according to preference, since this Seudah is very important and it wards off evil and damagers from the new home. Ten men, or at least three, should join together and recite the Seder Chanukat Habayit.

Sponsors

*** **R' Simon Goldstein, his wife Simmy, their parents, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. ***

Mrs. Sarah Yedid Cohen, her husband Joey, their parents, and their children. Blessings and success for the entire family, may she have an easy pregnancy/delivery and a healthy baby, 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**, Amen. *** **Mrs. Shella Katash Swed and her son Victor.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his father **Jack Swed Ben Badia a"h**, and Leilui Nishmat his uncle **Eliyahu Swed Ben Badia a"h**, Amen. *** **Mrs. Berta Malbasati and her siblings: Ovadia, Yitzchak, Morris, Eli, Natan, Celia, Lyzet, Lillian, and Claudi.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father **Avraham Nouseiri Ben Sabrie a"h**, Amen. *** **Mr. Victor Guindi HaCohen and his children Henry, Freddy, and Bella.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother **Nadia Chaya Bat Victoria a"h**, Amen. *** **Mr. Leon Farhi, his wife Eva, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat **Rachel Sithon Bat Bahia a"h**, Amen. *** Askani Tzibur **Mr. Isaac Jrade and his family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his mother **Jamila Bat Bahie 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**, please join us for Derush Sunday February 13th in Bet Keneset Chessed Avraham 5:00pm, Tizku LeMitzvot, Amen.

*This week's sponsorship total is \$700
Cost of publication & distribution is \$1350
Tizku L'Mitzvot, Amen!*

78,200 website visits!
1000+ since last week.

* * * * *

www.BethYosef.com