

Congregation

◆◆◆"Beth Yosef"◆◆◆

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

**Rabbi Aharon Farhi**

**Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President**

**Parashat Achare Mot Kedoshim**

**Maqam Hijaz**

**Haftarat Mahar Hodesh**

29<sup>th</sup> Nissan 5782

Issue #981

April 30<sup>th</sup> 2022

*Candle Lighting 7:31pm \* Shekiah 7:49pm \* Shir Hashirim 7:00pm followed by Minha Friday Night  
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am \* Minha Shabbat 7:15pm \* Shabbat Ends 8:32pm & Rabbenu Tam 9:02pm*

*Time for Talit 4:36am \* Seasonal Hour 8:00 \* Alot Hashahar 4:20am \* Netz Hachama 5:56am*

*Weekday Minha 7:30pm \* Earliest Time for Arbit 6:47pm \* Tzet Hacoachavim 8:27pm \* Chatzot 12:53*

*Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:20am \* Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:40am*

***Sunday May 1<sup>st</sup> & Monday May 2<sup>nd</sup> will be Rosh Hodesh Iyar***

*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

During Yom Kippur, the Cohen Gadol uses a goat to atone for the sins of the nation. What is the service performed with the goat? How is atonement activated? The Cohen Gadol recites Viduy upon the head of the goat and declares it as the Sa'ir Hamishtale'ach. Through Viduy, this goat will atone for all of the sins transgressed by our nation, on condition that they do Teshuvah properly. *Place them upon the head of the He-Goat* – The sins aren't actually placed upon the head of the goat. Rather, Hashem is assuring us that if the Cohen performs this service properly, then the sins will be removed from the people and will be considered as if they are placed elsewhere, where they will no longer be remembered. We learn from here a great lesson regarding the power of speech, words that come out from a persons mouth. The mouth of a Jew is very powerful, and a Jew must therefore be careful with what he puts into his mouth and what he brings forth from his mouth. If he speaks words of Torah, then he brings holiness to the world and blessings to himself, his family, and his nation. Our Sages teach us: every time we do an action, negative or positive, an angel is created. Once we perform an action and create an angel, we have now established the

connection between heaven and earth and can receive the influence, negative or positive. The Gra says: every word of Torah we learn creates the type of angel that bestows upon us many blessings. The Torah we learn ascends up to the source of our souls and descends upon us to bless our bodies as well. One who speaks Lashon Hara sins terribly and causes much destruction in heaven and on earth. Whenever one speaks against a friend, a congregation, a family member, or any part or group of our nation, he creates a prosecuting angel who causes destruction above and then descends and causes more destruction on earth. When Hashem created the world, Hashem used ten declarations to do so. Each declaration, each word, has great power to create and build. When one is embarrassed or offended and yet remains silent, he is saving himself from terrible decrees and is achieving more than many fastings can accomplish. Hold back, choose to be positive instead of negative, and you will merit great reward and blessings. The wrong words at the wrong times can cause terrible destruction. Therefore, we must always be very careful with our speech, to always speak positively, with holiness and goodness. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

### **Insights on Pirke Avot**

Without Torah there is no Derech Eretz, and without Derech Eretz there is no Torah, that is, if a person has no morality, if he does not learn Mussar, then there is no fulfillment with his Torah learning. The Mishnah comes to awaken the person who, although he learns Torah which is primary, nevertheless, he must not neglect the study of Mussar, as morality is the perfection of his Torah, such that if he is a Torah scholar and yet he nonetheless continues chasing after the pleasures of the world, or does not treat people with respect, then his learning of Torah is considered disgusting and an abomination. The Torah says: “*You have progressed and you have become holy*” – this holiness is one’s refrainment and self-control from recklessly indulging in the pleasures of this world and acting without morality.

### **History in Brief**

80 years after the Temple’s destruction, in the year 150AD. Elisha Ben Abuya was a Lamdan, a Torah Scholar, learned in all areas of the Talmud, but unfortunately he turned away from the Torah and became wicked. A heavenly voice rang out and said that since he should have known better, as he was someone who learned all Torah and understood so much of Hashem’s will, by rebelling he has burned his bridges and could never do Teshuvah. In response to this, Elisha Ben Abuya decided to dive deep into all the pleasures of this world, since he anyway would not merit the world to come. He found an impure woman in the streets and joined her circles. She asked him, wasn’t he the famous holy man known as Elisha Ben Abuya? He then desecrated Shabbat in front of her, to which she decided that this cannot possibly be that holy man, and must be *Acher*, someone else. He became known as Elisha Acher from that day forward. He went to the government and spoke very negatively against the Jewish people. The Romans took his words seriously and killed many Jews as a result. He then went into the Bet Midrash and asked the Torah Scholars why they were wasting their time studying these books, when they should

instead go out to the streets and learn a trade to make a living. He convinced quite a few students that they were not being successful in their learning, and caused them to forsake their teachers to instead go out to the markets and learn a trade.

### **The Road to Health and Recovery**

Fresh bread - even when made from whole wheat flour, simply cannot be chewed properly enough in the mouth. Therefore, the best way to eat fresh bread is to first dry it up by placing it in a toaster until it becomes toasted, so that it can then be chewed properly. During Shabbat, the suggestion is to slice the bread before Shabbat and dry it in the oven. Once you have eaten the required portion amount from the fresh Hamotzi bread, afterwards only eat from the toasted bread. During times when bread cannot be dried in the oven or in the toaster, the bread can be left out for a while in the air to dry. Bread that is sealed in a plastic bag remains fresh for a few days, and is still considered fresh regarding purposes of this discussion. The Ben Ish Chai writes: Do not eat any baked goods when they are still hot as doing so can be dangerous, rather you need to wait until the baked product has cooled down. Do not eat any baked products, even a slice of toast, when it’s still hot, even though it may taste better. Now we will mention reasons why people sometimes swallow too quickly: 1 – Speech; talking with food in the mouth is dangerous and can cause one to swallow too soon. 2 – Sight; when the eye sees food ready to enter the mouth and desires it, this can cause one to swallow too quickly. 3 – Hearing; when you hear your name being called, or when the phone rings, or when the doorbell rings, all of these can cause one to swallow in haste. 4 – Thinking; reading or thinking about different matters distracts from chewing and causes food to reach the throat quicker and then swallowed in haste.

### **Mussar: Sefer HaMidot**

1- One who does not accept rebuke will eventually incur suffering. 2- One who spends

time preparing for prayer, even if he doesn't end up concentrating during the prayer, will be saved from suffering. 3- Haughtiness causes one to lose Hashem's kindness. 4- Saying Tikun Hatzot saves one from judgment. 5- Staying awake all night saves one from terrible judgments. 6- Visiting a Tzaddik sweetens one's judgment. 7- Giving money to Tzedaka also sweetens one's judgment. 8- Laziness causes bad things to eventually befall a person. 9- Learning Torah causes one's prosecutors to turn away. 10- Falling may sometimes be a kindness, and could even be inflicted instead of an actual death decree. 11- Sometimes the Gadol Hador's Mitzvot that are done in public erase the judgments of the people. 12- Upon hearing troubles and problems, one should say "Lo Alenu" – not upon us. 13- Toiling in Torah study at night allows Hashem to bestow kindness throughout the day and shield us from sickness. 14- One who doesn't pray for the generation will eventually be punished gravely. 15- If one is sick in the house, ask a Hacham to pray for him and bless him. 16- The gates of livelihood are opened for those who do not speak during Chazarah, Kaddish, and Torah. May Hashem bless us, Amen.

### **Rishon LeSion: R' Rephael Meir 1801-1893**

A book was published in Egypt that accused the Jewish leaders of killing young non-Jewish boys in order to use the blood for Matzot to celebrate Pesah. Unfortunately, this terrible book of lies began spreading fast throughout the towns and cities. Fearing terrible consequences, R' Rephael quickly sent a delegation of Rabbanim to the leader in Egypt whom he had been acquainted with in the past, asking him to rectify the situation. When the Egyptian leader heard the name of R' Rephael, he immediately took action on his behalf and banned the book from further production. He also ordered all existing copies to be burned and anyone caught with it in their possession would be punished severely. Their plot thwarted, those who hated the Jews did not want to give up. They planned to convince their leader. They took a famous young non-Jewish

boy and hid him in the city Yaffo. Then they spread rumors that the Jews had kidnapped him and used his blood for Matzot. Through a miracle, somehow it became known that the boy was actually alive and well, healthy and returned home, and their plan was once again thwarted. Another such miracle occurred in 1890, when two Jewish store owners closed for Rosh Hashanah and their non-Jewish helper who was off from work made believe he had been kidnapped in order to get his bosses in trouble, however fortunately that plan was thwarted as well before any damage could be done to the Jewish people.

### ***Story***

Shimon the flour merchant, who leased a wheat grinding mill from the owner to produce flour, was suddenly informed one month, while paying the monthly rent, that unfortunately he could not continue leasing the mill, as there was a much larger offer for it. He began to plead and reason with him, reminding him of the facts: he never missed a payment and was always on time, he had eight children and a wife, he was employing and supporting so many locals, and feeding them as well with the flour he produced, and so many people would be terribly hurt from this decision. But all his words of pleading were not making any difference. The bottom line: it was all about money. He had until the end of the month to leave. Shimon began telling the bad news to his family, friends, workers, and neighbors, all of whom would be negatively affected from this sudden turn of events, hoping that perhaps someone would have a good idea. Alas, nobody could think of anything better than to travel to the holy Rebbe, R' Yaakov Aryeh of Radzymin, to whom thousands visit for a blessing and advice in their time of need. He would help the poor, the needy, the downtrodden, and the abused, with miraculous salvations. Someone who infringes on the boundary of his friend brings curses upon himself. The Jewish people recognized the Rebbe's ability to resolve disputes one way or another, as well as the non-Jews, and they

quickly agreed to listen to him in order to avoid unpleasant consequences.

### **Laws: Pidyon HaBen**

**1** – When a firstborn is birthed through caesarean procedure, the father is exempt from redeeming him. The next child also does not require Pidyon HaBen redemption.

**2** – Even if the firstborn through caesarean does not live for at least thirty days, the second child still does not require redemption.

**3** – If the doctor used an instrument to help pull the baby out, then a blessing should not be said on the Pidyon. However, one who does recite a blessing has what to rely upon.

**4** – If the doctor widened the birth canal, this does not invalidate the Pidyon in any way.

**5** – A doctor that used a device that pumps and vacuums in order to assist with the birth, this does not invalidate the Pidyon in any way.

**6** – A woman that became pregnant artificially from her husband, with the approval of a Hacham, and gives birth to a firstborn son, the father is obligated to perform the Pidyon. If the father is unknown, then the son must redeem himself when he grows older.

### **Sponsors**

\*\*\* **Mrs. Rosette Cohen and her children.** Blessings, health, and success for the entire family, Mazal Tov to **Shlomo and Rosie** on the Bar Mitzvah of their son **Avraham**, Mabrouk, Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Mrad Levy, his wife Ketty, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Mazal Tov to **Shlomo and Rosie** on the Bar Mitzvah of their son **Avraham**, Mabrouk, Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Mrad Guindi, his wife Linda, and their children.** Blessings, health, and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Farah Hamra, his wife Dina, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Baruch Haba welcome to **Mr. Shlomo Khafif** and his family from Israel, Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Soli Araman, his wife Vicky, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his mother **Rachel Bat Zahie a”h**, Amen. \*\*\* **Mrs. Eva Dahab Boroman and her children: Jonathan**

**and Kamila.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Mazal Tov to her son **Eliyahu and his wife Deborah** on the birth of a newborn son, Mabrouk, Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Elias Levy, his wife Bella, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, special thank you to **Rabbi Aharon Farhi** for this publication of Torah in three languages every week, may Hashem bless him to continue spreading and teaching Torah, Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Avraham Aharon Farhi, his wife Rania, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Mazal Tov to **Hacham Eliyahu Boroman and his wife Deborah** on the birth of a newborn son, Mabrouk, Amen. \*\*\* **Mrs. Berta Malbasati, her husband Eliyahu Elias, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her father **Avraham 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. \*\*\* Askan Tzibur **Mr. Isaac Jrade and his family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his mother **Jamila Bat Bahie a”h**, Amen.

*This week's sponsorship total is \$1600  
Cost of publication & distribution is \$1400*

**88,000** website visits!  
**1900+** since last publication.

Those who wish to receive this publication in the mail, available in 3 languages: Hebrew, Arabic, and English, should call (718) 382-6057 or (347) 634-3381, donation of \$36 for 6 months.

\* \* \* \* \*

***www.BethYosef.com***