

Congregation

◆◆◆"Beth Yosef"◆◆◆

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

Rabbi Aharon Farhi
Parashat Pinehas
24th Tammuz 5782

Maqam Saba
Issue #992

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President
Haftarat Divre Yirmeyahu
July 23rd 2022

*Candle Lighting 8:02pm * Shekiah 8:20pm * Shir Hashirim 7:00pm followed by Minha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Minha Shabbat 7:45pm * Shabbat Ends 9:01pm & Rabbenu Tam 9:31pm
Time for Talit 4:21am * Seasonal Hour 8:40 * Alot Hashahar 4:04am * Netz Hachama 5:45am
Weekday Minha 7:30pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 7:11pm * Tzet Hacoachavim 8:56pm * Chatzot 1:02
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:16am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:40am*

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Please do not read this bulletin during Tefillah or Keriat Hatorah

Portions of Parashat Pinehas are read during many holy days of celebration throughout the year. However, this Parasha is also always read during the three weeks. This is not a coincidence or a contradiction. This teaches us that although in nature the three weeks seem to be a period of unfortunate occurrences, in essence these days actually correspond to days of celebration. The days of celebration throughout the year are few and are therefore precious. When something is rare and uncommon, it is considered valuable. Truly righteous and holy people are a rare commodity in the world and therefore they are very special to Hashem. The holidays are very powerful and they produce influences of blessings and goodness for the regular days of the year. The three weeks, a period of historical unfortunate tragedies that our nation endured, is not just a painful time. The terrible darkness and horrible decrees that seem to saturate the days themselves had not occurred through judgment alone. The opposite is true. In essence, these days are actually very holy days and are therefore very powerful. Potentially, great mercy and kindness can and will be bestowed upon our nation during these weeks. Because these three weeks are so precious and powerful, in order to preserve its purity, some outstanding measures must be

observed. The powerful hidden light is concealed within these three weeks and the days must therefore remain holy. When there are sins, it is these three weeks that are affected most, and therefore it is during this period that the cleansing process through punishment must take place. The 21 days within this period correspond to the 21 days of holiday celebrations that Hashem granted to us as a present: Shabbat, Rosh Hodesh, the 7 days of Pesah, Shavuot, the 2 days of Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and the 8 days of Sukkot. This is hinted in the Pasuk "Only (Ach) good for Yisrael" – the numerical value of the word Ach in Hebrew is 21, referring to the holidays of the year and referring to the three weeks as well. Unfortunately, we are currently not worthy to experience the awesome potential of the three weeks, and the holy powerful light remains hidden. We must draw closer to Hashem, for only then will we together be worthy. The Temple's destruction occurred on the 9th of Av. The letter Tet (9) when written in the Torah has both of its heads facing inwards, teaching us that it contains hidden and secret potential. Very soon in the near future Mashiach will arrive and the 9th of Av will become a day of great celebration. We therefore do not say Tachanun (supplications) on the 9th of Av. It will soon be a holiday

greater than all others. May Hashem merit us to join in the celebration of this holiday with the coming of Mashiach Ben David Bimhera Beyamenu, speedily in our days, Amen.

Insights on the Parasha

1- Pinehas stood in prayer and the plague stopped. What did he do? He took a spear, put it through Zimri and Cozbi the Zonah, and brought them before Hashem. He asked heaven: Could these two be the cause for the death of 24,000 men from Bnei Yisrael? The angels wanted to stop him, but Hashem allowed him to do this, because Pinehas was a zealot who descended from a zealot. His grandfather Levi Ben Yaakov had killed out the men of Shechem after they took his sister Dina. Just as Levi was a zealot who killed those who had caused damage to his family, so too Pinehas his grandson was a zealot, and through his actions and prayers Pinehas was able to stop the plague and save the nation.

2- "Hashem said to Moshe, *'Take to yourself Yehoshua son of Nun... you shall place some of your majesty upon him'...*" Rashi comments that the countenance is the majesty of a person, as the countenance of Yehoshua was called light. Also, "*Some of your majesty*" but not *all*: Concerning this the elders of the generation would say, "*The face of Moshe was like the sun and the face of Yehoshua like the moon*". Why only the elders? Because those younger than forty years old had never even seen the sun and moon, because they had always been enclosed by the Clouds of Glory. Only those old enough to have left Egypt had seen the sun and moon in their lifetime.

History in Brief

100 years after the first Hurban Hamikdash, 190AD. During this time, Rebi Shimon Ben Chalafta's name became widespread. He was poor and lived with great Emunah, along with his righteous wife. He was a great sage in his generation, and heaven took care of him. One Friday, when he didn't have any money to buy

food for Shabbat, he went outside the city and prayed. He was given a precious stone from heaven and exchanged it for money to buy food for Shabbat. When he returned home, his wife asked him where all the food had come from. When she heard, she refused to partake in the food and requested that he return it. Did he want his table in heaven to be lacking? That Friday night, Rebi Shimon went to visit Rabbenu Hakadosh to ask for advice. Rabbenu Hakadosh told Rebi Shimon to return home and tell his wife that she should enjoy the Shabbat meal, and if their table is lacking anything in heaven from it, then he himself will make sure to replenish it for them.

Health and Recovery

Regarding the health of the neck: Prolonged bending of the head to the left or right, i.e. to hold the phone between the ear and the shoulder during a telephone call, while allowing simultaneous operation with your free hands, can cause severe damage to the neck vertebrae from the pressure on the blood vessels that lead the blood to the brain. In rare cases it can cause a stroke in young people. In addition, this causes the muscles to tighten on one side and stretch on the other side, which in turn will cause stiffness and limitation in turning the head to the sides, and in old age the result can be a tilting to one side. When continued in practice over a long period of time, the most definitive result will be uncomfortable lingering neck pain. These types of pain do not go away, unlike the pain caused from the constant blowing of a fan, air conditioning, or resting on high cushions, which all pass over time. The location can be massaged, warmed, loosened with physical therapy, however there's usually no treatment for healing to speak of, so these practices should be avoided altogether. The neck is very important, and if damaged or strained, repair and restoration is far from guaranteed. Nowadays, with the increased use of computers in our generation, more and more

people are typing on the computer for hours on end, not knowing how to properly position themselves while working on the computer, and as a result they are causing harm to their bodies. It is important to know that working on a computer for a long and uninterrupted period of time, even unintentionally, can lead to severe consequences such as shoulder issues, joint pain, cartilage erosion, tendonitis, and much more, all of which are difficult to treat and cure.

Rishon LeSion:

R' Yaakov Shaul Elyashar 1817-1906

For 4 months R' Eliezer hid away in Damascus with his relative. But he longed so deeply to reunite with his family. He secretly sent a letter to his wife, to be delivered by a Jewish traveler coming from Damascus. When she received it, she recognized his handwriting and quickly opened it with excitement. It said that she should take their son Yaakov and her mother and travel to Jerusalem. She should not tell anyone of her plans of running away. At midnight on Motzei Shabbat, she waked them up and they quickly left the house without a sound. Nearby were two donkeys ready for the journey. Throughout the night they traveled in darkness. When the morning came, they hid away in a garden in Tiberius for the duration of the day. When the darkness of night came, they set out once again on their way. This continued on for days, travel by night, hide away by day. One night, she noticed three men dressed as Arabs coming towards them. She felt her stomach drop.

Mussar: *Love for Torah*

Anyone fortunate enough to spend time toiling in the study of Torah with the devotion of his heart and soul will merit true and everlasting joy and happiness from the Torah. There is no comparison to it or imitation besides it. One who has this will need nothing else, as the Ran explains, "*Once the Torah shows you it's true face, you will not desire any reward in this*

world, and you will be satisfied only and definitely through the Torah". We must overpower our evil inclination. We must be patient. We must eat, sleep, and relax properly in order to be able to learn Torah properly. Never forsake your learning. Why does one have a hard time when he first sits down to learn? Because a person is physical and the Torah is completely spiritual. One must subjugate his physical being and humble himself before the Torah in order that its spirituality enters his body. Continue learning page after page and you will realize that you are accomplishing and acquiring true feelings of joy and happiness. In the worlds above there is nothing else besides the joy of Torah. One who learns Torah will be granted access through all the heavenly gates, and anything he needs, both physically and spiritually, will be made available to him. May Hashem allow us the privilege and ability to toil in learning Torah, Amen.

Story

The winter in Ukraine was very cold that year. As the holy month of Tishre passed, Heshvan brought an increase in cold weather, with snow covering the rooftops and all the trees, painting a white picturesque landscape. The wind blew hard, the freeze biting at any exposed area of a person. It was impossible to hear someone speaking through the merciless wind, as their ears were very well covered with scarves and earmuffs to protect from the cold. All creatures found shelter from the cold to survive the winter months. One home in a small neighborhood of Zolote belonged to Nissan and his wife Bella, where they lived with their eight children in a large, wide home that had many, many rooms.

Laws: *The Three Weeks*

1 – There are many customs of mourning observed during the three weeks between the 17th of Tammuz until after the 9th of Av. One may not listen to live music, or music played on tapes, CDs, and radio.

2 – Dancing is prohibited even without music during this time frame.

3 – Items that require the blessing of Shehechyanu (for example: new fruit or new clothing) should be avoided. However, Shehechyanu is recited for a Brit Milah and Pidyon HaBen. A new fruit may be used during those times with the blessing of Shehechyanu, and afterwards the fruit is eaten with its proper blessing.

4 – During Shabbat one may recite Shehechyanu on new fruit or new clothing. It is better to be strict.

5 – During the 9 days, from Rosh Chodesh Av until after the Ta'anit, joyous forms of business or transactions are decreased, for example: purchasing items for a wedding or for the house of newlyweds, as well as jewelry, new clothing, or new shoes.

6 – Some allow the purchase of furniture or electrical appliances (not for newlyweds). Those that are strict will be blessed.

7 – One may purchase jewelry, clothing, and furniture for a wedding only if it's possible that they will go up in price and he will end up paying more money if he waits.

8 – One may not paint his house during the nine days. If he began painting before Rosh Chodesh and will lose money on workers if he waits, he may finish the job.

9 – Sewing/tailoring new clothing during the nine days is forbidden.

Sponsors

*** **R' Simon Goldstein, his wife Simmy, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. *** **Mr. Shlomo Guindi HaCohen, his wife Batia, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his mother **Odette Bat Rachel a"h**, Amen. *** **Blessed siblings: Soly, Hillel, Arlet, and Sophie of the Bawabe Family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father **Zaki Yitzchak Bawabe Ben Simcha a"h**, and Leilui Nishmat their uncle **Jack Yaakov Bawabe Ben Simcha**

a"h, Amen. *** **Blessed siblings: Jack, Joey, Raizy, Vera, and Lina of the Sardar Family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother **Rachel Bat Alvira a"h**, Amen. *** **Mr. Shlomo Shalouh HaCohen, his mother Selly, his wife Lillian, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his father **Yosef Shalouh Ben Amilia a"h**, Amen. *** **Mr. Isaac Shakalo and his sisters: Gracie, Shella, Violet, Stella, and Claudi.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother **Bella Bat Kahila 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 & success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his mother **Jamila Bat Bahie a"h**, Amen.

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