

Congregation

◆◆◆◆ **"Beth Yosef"** ◆◆◆◆

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

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

Parashat Vaetchanan

16th Av 5782

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President

Haftarat Nahamu Nahamu

August 13th 2022

Maqam Husseni

Issue #995

*Candle Lighting 7:39pm * Shekiah 7:57pm * Shir Hashirim 7:00pm followed by Minha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Minha Shabbat 7:20pm * Shabbat Ends 8:38pm & Rabbenu Tam 9:08pm
Time for Talit 4:45am * Seasonal Hour 8:00 * Alot Hashahar 4:29am * Netz Hachama 6:05am
Weekday Minha 7:30pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 6:53pm * Tzet Hacoachavim 8:33pm * Chatzot 1:00
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:29am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:49am*

Hatarat Elul:

***Motzei Shabbat Parashat Vaetchanan August 13th after Havdalah,
and again on Monday Night August 15th at 7:50pm***

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

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Please do not read this bulletin during Tefillah or Keriat Hatorah

Every year after Tisha B'Av we read Parashat Vaetchanan, in which we repeat the Ten Commandments for a second time. The author of Avodat Yisrael explains, we are not allowed to learn Torah on Tisha B'Av. Therefore, after Tisha B'Av we read the Ten Commandments in order to accept the Torah again, anew, as if we were once again at Har Sinai receiving it. The numerical value of Vaetchanan is 515. Moshe prayed 515 times asking to enter Israel, but was denied. Hashem told him not to continue. Why 515? And why was he told to stop? Hashem placed 103 angels to protect the eastern entrance of the Bet Hamikdash. Avraham came and prayed for another 103 angels on the southern side, as the Pasuk says Avraham called the place *Har Hashem*. The inclusive numerical value of *Har* equals 206, which is 103+103. Yitzchak then prayed for another 103 angels on the western side, as the Pasuk says that he called the place he prayed a *Sadeh*. The numerical value of *Sadeh* equals 309, which is 103+103+103. Yaakov then added another 103 angels on the Northern side, as the Pasuk says he called the place a *Bet Elokim*. The numerical value of *Bet* is 412,

which is 103+103+103+103. Now all 4 sides of the Bet Hamikdash would each be protected by 103 angels. Moshe Rabbenu then prayed for an additional 103 angels, which brings the total to 515 angels, the numerical value of Vaetchanan. Hashem asked Moshe, where shall I place the additional 103 angels? Moshe told him to place them on the roof above, to protect from on top. Hashem then told him to stop. He could not place them on the roof, because the Bet Hamikdash was going to be destroyed, and the fire would descend from above. It was a great mercy that the Bet Hamikdash was destroyed, because the alternative would have been for the nation to be destroyed. Hashem took out His anger on wood and stone, and spared our destruction. Therefore, he told Moshe to stop. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Insights on the Parasha

Shabbat Nahamu, the Shabbat of consolation which follows Tisha B'Av, is named for the Haftara we read, Nahamu Nahamu Ami. What consolation do we have after fasting and crying over the destruction of the Bet

Hamikdash, for close to two thousand years? The explanation is as follows: it is a mercy that one is able to forget the loss of a loved one and be able to move on. Not just for losing a person, but for losing anything important that has value as well. A person is able to grieve, mourn, and then mercifully move on. For the Bet Hamikdash, however, we continue to mourn and grieve its loss every year for close to two thousand years, without the mercy of forgetting. Why? Every year we cry and fast! Why? Because the Bet Hamikdash is indeed not lost, not dead, not gone completely forever, and we therefore are not able to forget! The fact that we continue to fast and cry is proof that it will be rebuilt again speedily in our days! Therefore, we read Nahamu, consolation, because it is the fact that we annually mourn and grieve, and cannot be consoled – that itself is the greatest consolation, as it is proof that it will one day be rebuilt, Amen

History in Brief

100 years after the second Hurban Hamikdash, 190AD. Once, Rabi Shimon Ben Chalafta attended a Brit Milah and Seuda which continued late into the night. At midnight, Rebi Shimon left to go home. On the way home, he met up with the angel of death, who looked bothered, deep in thought. Rabi Shimon asked what was troubling his mind, and he answered that he was pained over the words of the people who are always saying that they plan to do this and that in the future, but they in fact have no idea when the angel of death is scheduled to take them away from this world. For example, just now at the Brit Milah, the father dreams of walking his son down the aisle to his wedding canopy, but he does not know that he is scheduled to leave this world in thirty days. Rabi Shimon then asked him to disclose the date and time that he would be scheduled to leave this world. The angel of death explained that there was no way for him to know that information. Many times, if a

person is needed for the public, in order to teach the people Torah or fulfill acts of kindness, then Hashem adds time to their life, delaying the schedule he was trying to keep, and making it impossible to properly predict a person's death. When a person is needed in this world to teach Torah or to help others, Hashem adds more time to his life, and he therefore could not answer his question.

Health and Recovery

1- A person must train himself to stop and think before putting anything in his mouth. Only eat what is healthy! That thought will make you stronger and help you feel satisfied with an amount that is necessary. Such practice will prevent many sicknesses and visits to the doctor. **2-** One who is suffering with frailty and weakness should consume healthy food that will increase fat, for example he should eat in the morning wet foods such as cereals, and in the evening eat dry foods such as bread and meat. **3-** One who has been eating unhealthy without any discipline for quite some time should not suddenly switch to only healthy and completely change his diet, as it will be harmful and even dangerous if not done gradually. **4-** One should not drink more than a Reviit of wine per day, for it will cause damage, anger, and bad character.

Rishon LeSion:

R' Yaakov Shaul Elyashar 1817-1906

After the passing of R' Eliezer, his young son Yaakov Shaul, only seven years old, along with his widowed mother, sent instructions that the house of Elyashar should be sold. The proceeds were used to pay back all debt, including what was owed to the non-Jew who took care of R' Eliezer while in prison. What was leftover they used to settle down once again. She worked as a seamstress in order to support herself and her son. A large portion of her earnings were used to pay a Rebbe to teach her son Torah, and the rest was used for housing and food. The young boy loved

learning Torah! He learned day and night, and grew in his learning every day. When he was eleven years old, his mother took him to learn Torah from the Mekubal R' Binyamin Mordechai, author of Bnei Binyamin, grandson of R' Yonah Navon, author of Nechpah Bakefef. Every night they would learn Torah together, delving into the Gemara Talmud for many hours. On Friday night they would learn Shulchan Aruch Halachot. The young boy quickly became great in Torah, and many came to hear the young orphan teach his words of wisdom.

Mussar: *Inclination and Desire*

The purpose of creation is for man to overpower his Yetzer Hara and earn enjoyment and reward in Olam Haba. If not for the Yetzer Hara we would not be able to deserve reward, just like the angels. When a person is strong and remains in control of himself and his situation, even though the Yetzer Hara is trying to convince him to lose control and act otherwise, he creates great pride and satisfaction for Hashem and he will be rewarded according to his toil. The *Sefer Hachasidim* explains that one who performs a Mitzvah by controlling himself when he is really being influenced to do otherwise by the Yetzer Hara, will be rewarded a hundred times more than one who performs a Mitzvah under regular circumstances without the pressure. The great level and heights that a *Baal Teshuva* can reach is actually so unique that even a completely righteous person cannot reach that level, since a complete Tzadik, although he has overpowered his Yetzer Hara, has never developed bad habits and the sense of regularity towards sins. Therefore, when a *Baal Teshuva*, which is anyone who has ever committed any sin and now wishes to repent, overpowers his evil inclination, his success is that much greater. When you control your inclinations and desires, it is greater than fearing heaven, since it requires so much more work. Therefore, we should appreciate our

Yetzer Hara and use it to grow, gain reward, and create a sense of great pride and satisfaction for Hashem, our Father in heaven, Who wishes to merit us always, Amen.

Story

The small town of Nissim and Bella was abuzz with the news that the Maggid was going to be passing by their town in Ukraine on his way to a neighboring town. He was scheduled to pass by the border of their town by the gates and spend just one night in the home of Shimon the businessman. Bella asked her neighbor if she could be invited to her home, in order to get a blessing for her daughters. Surely this would bring salvation, so that her precious daughters would not remain as hidden treasures alone in their poor home. But the neighbor couldn't make such an arrangement. Everyone would want an audience with the Rebbe, and she couldn't do that. What if the Rebbe didn't give her the blessing she wanted, then what would they have accomplished besides making her husband angry. Bella did not give up. She had a plan. She would come with her daughters and block the road so that the entourage would have to stop and allow her a moment to speak with the Rebbe.

Laws: *Shabbat*

- 1** – We still recite Retzeh Vehachalitzenu during Birkat Hamazon of Seuda Shelisheet even if the meal continued into Motzei Shabbat, as long as we did not yet pray Arbit.
- 2** – If the meal continued into Motzei Shabbat which is Rosh Chodesh, then Yaaleh Veyavo is not recited. However, if he ate a Kezayit after dark he can say Yaaleh Veyavo but not Retzeh. It is best not to eat a Kezayit after dark.
- 3** – One should not perform work before Havdalah or before saying Atah Chonantanu while praying Arbit, unless he first says Baruch Hamavdil Ben Kodesh Lechol.
- 4** – A woman or child should hear Havdalah from a man, however a woman can recite it just for herself if necessary.

5 – One should use wine for Havdalah, but can use beer if necessary.

6 – Observing Shabbat is similar to observing the entire Torah. Desecrating Shabbat is similar to desecrating the entire Torah

7 – One must smell Besamim Motzei Shabbat to revive his spirit that is sad with the departure of Shabbat. One who doesn't have Besamim can still perform Havdalah. If he gets Besamim later, he recites the blessing then.

8 – One who can't smell for whatever reason does not recite the blessing of Besamim. It's best to use branches, leaves, or flowers than to use liquid fragrances.

9 – Each person should smell the Besamim on his own.

10 – We recite a blessing on fire and light during Havdalah since it was created on Motzei Shabbat – however it does not hold back from performing Havdalah.

11 – Its best to recite on a candle that has two or more wicks together. One uses the light to tell the difference between his fingernails and the skin of his fingers.

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*** **Anonymous Donor.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. *** **Mr. Eli Levy, his wife Becky, and their children.**

Blessings, health, and success for the entire family, 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. *** Askani Tzibur **Mr. Isaac Jade and his family.**

Blessings & success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his mother **Jamila Bat Bahie a"h**, Amen.

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