

Congregation



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

**Rabbi Aharon Farhi**  
*Parashat **Lech Lecha***  
13<sup>th</sup> Heshvan 5784

*Maqam Saba*  
Issue #1046

**Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President**  
*Haftarat **Lama Tomar***  
October 28<sup>th</sup> 2023

*Candle Lighting 5:40pm \* Shekiah 5:58pm \* Shir Hashirim 5:35pm followed by Minha Friday Night  
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am \* Minha Shabbat 5:20pm \* Shabbat Ends 6:39pm & Rabbenu Tam 7:09pm  
Time for Talit 6:20am \* Seasonal Hour 62 \* Alot Hashahar 6:08am \* Netz Hachama 7:22am  
Weekday Minha 5:40pm \* Earliest Time for Arbit 5:17pm \* Tzet Hacoachavim 6:34pm \* Chatzot 12:39  
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 9:14am \* Latest Time for Morning Amidah 10:16am*

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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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Hashem told Avraham not to be afraid, that Hashem will protect him, and his reward is very great. What should Avraham fear? Why did he need protection? Why did Hashem mention his reward? After Avraham was victorious in the battle against the kings, Avraham was concerned that the miracles performed on his behalf in order to win the battle had costed him his rewards, as our Sages teach us that miracles deplete merits, therefore Hashem told him not to worry, not only would he not lose merits, he actually gained more merits through his actions. Hashem is the One who protects Avraham, not miracles and merits. Avraham then asked Hashem who would inherit him, and Hashem promised him a son. Avraham accepted this, believed Hashem, and considered it righteous. Hashem then promised Avraham the land of Canaan as an inheritance to his son. What did Avraham respond to this? He asked for confirmation. Why did Avraham accept the promise that he would have a son, but asked for confirmation regarding the promise to inherit the land of Canaan? Hashem then told him he would be gathered with his fathers in peace. To explain, this is what happened: Avraham was not asking for confirmation of the promise that his descendants would inherit the land, rather he was asking in what merit would they need in

order to continue living in the land for all of time, because perhaps they would sin and lose out on that merit moving forward. To this Hashem told him to perform sacrifices, teaching that in the merit of sacrifices and services, and in the merit of performing Mitzvot, will we continue to deserve the land of Israel. Hashem told Avraham that he would be gathered with his fathers in peace, because Avraham had asked how he would be the first to inherit the land from his father Terah, and then pass it over to his son? Hashem explained that Terah was actually successful in doing Teshuva, he was in fact the first to merit the land after he converted, and Avraham would be the first to inherit it from his father and pass it on to his son, to continue throughout the generations to come. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

### **Insights on the Parasha**

When there was a disagreement between the shepherds of Avraham and the shepherds of Lot, Avraham told Lot that he did not want to argue with him and they should therefore separate. Was there a disagreement between Avraham and Lot, or was it between their shepherds? Rather, Lot wanted to disagree with Avraham, but he could not instigate it directly, personally, so instead he instructed

his shepherds to start arguing with Avraham's shepherds, which would then draw the two of them into the disagreement. Avraham understood clearly what was really going on, and he called out Lot directly in order to stop it before it even properly started. He decided that they should part ways, as our Sages teach us, distance from arguments and disagreements.

### ***History in Brief***

*130 years after the Hurban, 200AD.* Rebi Meir was the leader of his generation, beloved by Hashem as a son. Before his passing outside of Israel, he instructed his people to bury him in Israel, to place his coffin on the waters and it will go on its own. They placed it on the Kineret and it went to the hot springs of Tiberius where he was then buried. After his passing, the Sages appointed R' Yehuda Bar Ilai to fill his vacant position. R' Yehuda warned his students not to allow the students of R' Meir into the Yeshiva, because they are specifically motivated to question, challenge, and overrule him in Halacha. Sumchus the student of R' Akiva forced his way in and challenged from a teaching of R' Meir: If a man attempts to marry a woman using his portion of meat from a sacrifice in the Bet Hamikdash, then the marriage is not valid. R' Yehuda was upset with his students for allowing Sumchus to enter and say this, because a woman cannot even enter the Bet Hamikdash Azara for this to be happen, and the meat cannot leave the Azara without disqualifying the sacrifice, so the whole topic is irrelevant anyway. R' Yossi was there and did not want people to say about this incident that R' Meir passed, R' Yehuda was upset, and R' Yossi remained silent, so he answered that perhaps the father was accepting the marriage on behalf of his daughter who was a minor, or perhaps a woman appointed a messenger to accept the marriage on her behalf, whereby the woman does not need to be in the Azara nor does the meat have to leave the Azara. R'

Yehuda and R' Yossi argued until they resolved like R' Meir that a woman cannot be married using sacrificial meat, and R' Yehuda allowed the students of R' Meir to enter the Yeshiva.

### ***Health and Recovery***

Now that we have established the importance of relieving the body from waste in a timely manner, and the potential damage that can be caused to the body when one procrastinates with this, we will now illustrate the point with the difference between a person who finds an ant on his table and a person who feels an ant enter into his clothes. A person who feels an ant in his clothing will immediately get up and go to the dressing room to get rid of it. The same is true of the need to relieve oneself. As soon as we receive a warning from the body, we must immediately remove the pest from our bodies, even if we are sitting with important people and need to interrupt, or in any given situation. The correct education is to accustom your children from an early age to go to the bathroom before going out of the house, and again when coming home. To become accustomed to always initially go to the bathroom will save them in the future from a lot of trouble. Drinking deficiency is one of the causes of bladder cancer. A study of 48,000 people conducted by researchers at Harvard University, and Ohio State University, found that those who drank more than eight glasses of water per day had a 51 percent lower risk of developing bladder cancer compared to people who only drank two cups a day. In addition, the lack of drinking water makes the waste become concentrated, and as a result, a person constantly feels the need to relieve himself, always in only small concentrated amounts.

### ***Mussar: Love for Others***

Everyone is obligated to love others. The way to develop this is to help others, whether physically, spiritually, or monetarily.

Everyone needs help from others, no matter their financial or spiritual standings. Give gifts to others and show that you care about them. Through these actions you will develop a sense of love for others. Be forgiving and easy going. In business, be honest and courteous to others. Do not be strict with people or particular. Speak softly and kindly. Be careful not to embarrass others, and avoid confrontations. Smile pleasantly to people, for this will enhance the love for one another. Be concerned about the welfare of another, and soften their worries. If one confides their secrets or private issues to you, do not reveal them to anyone. If one angers you, let it pass. Do not listen to talk about the faults or shortcomings spoken of another. Always strive to find the good in people. Follow these steps and you will love others, and be loved by others in turn, and by Hashem, Amen.

#### **Rishon LeSion: R' Yaakov Meir 1850-1939**

In 1907 the president of the congregation in Salonica approached R' Yaakov and offered him the position as rabbinical leader. After much discussions and deliberations, R' Yaakov agreed to leave Israel and serve as their Rabbi. The people of Salonica were overjoyed as they began a time in their history of great success and stability through his leadership. He established great schools for the children, and guided the adults on a path to greatness. At that time, the younger generation of Turkey overthrew their king from his throne and kicked him out of the palace. The government changed, and they required a new Chief Rabbi instead of R' Moshe HaLevi. They searched and decided there was no other more fitting to serve as Hacham Bashi of Turkey than the Rabbi of Salonica, R' Yaakov. They sent a delegation to R' Yaakov with the invitation to serve as Hacham Bashi and he was happy to agree.

#### **Laws: Mezuzah**

**1** – Simply, a Mezuzah written with a tracing device, with a stencil, or in any fashion other than regular old-fashioned straight handwriting, is completely invalid. Unfortunately, such invalid Mezuzot are available to the public.

Therefore, educate everyone you know that a Mezuzah must be bought from a known and trusted Torah Scholar.

**2** – A Mezuzah may not be worn around the neck as a talisman or source of protection.

**3** – A Mezuzah may not be sold to a Non-Jew as a form of protection. If one would be in trouble of danger if he would not agree to sell it to him, then he may.

**4** – Upon selling a residence to a Non-Jew, one must remove the Mezuzot before the Non-Jew moves in.

**5** – If one lives in a city or town that is mostly inhabited by Non-Jews, and he believes that when he moves out a Non-Jew would move in and possibly defile the Mezuzah, then he may take the Mezuzah with him when he leaves.

**6** – If one believes that the house he is leaving will be demolished and rebuilt, then he must definitely must take the Mezuzot with him.

**7** – If one drops a Mezuzah he need not fast, especially if he is a Torah Scholar who must conserve his energy in order to learn Torah. He therefore gives charity, and should preferably check the other Mezuzot in his house.

**8** – A renter is responsible to furnish the Mezuzot.

**9** – A renter in Israel is responsible to furnish the Mezuzah immediately. Outside of Israel, only if the renter will be there for more than 30 days. If neither the owner nor the renter may back out, and if he brings in his furniture and belongings - only then must he furnish Mezuzot immediately. However, if he merely rents without the above requirements, then he need only furnish the Mezuzot after 30 days.

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A request was submitted to explain how to calculate the *Time for Talit* according to the Ben Ish Chai and Maran Hacham Ovadia Yosef zt"l. The *Seasonal Hour* this week is 62 minutes. *Alot Hashahar* is one and a fifth seasonal hours before *Netz Hachama* which this week is  $62 + 12 = 74$  minutes. Therefore, *Alot Hashahar* is 6:08am, *Netz Hachama* is 7:22am, and *Time for Talit* is one *Seasonal Hour* before *Netz*, so 62 minutes before 7:22am = 6:20am.

### **Sponsors**

\*\*\* **Mr. Albir Mordechai HaCohen, his wife Nina, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Toufic Shakalo, his wife Lyzett, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Zouki Metta, his wife Deniz, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* Mashgiach **Mr. Yermeya Tuvia, his wife Malka, and their children.** Blessings, health, peace, and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* **Anonymous Donor, her husband, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her father **Marko Shalouh HaCohen Ben Zahie a"h,** Amen. \*\*\* Avrech **Hacham Mark David Hefes, his wife Esty, their parents, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family and the success of Am Yisrael, Amen. \*\*\* **Mrs. Suzi Farhi Aboudi, her husband David, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her brother **Avraham Aboudi Ben Linda a"h,** Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Eli Levy, his wife Becky, and their children.** Blessings, health, and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her father **Shlomo Ben Hasiba a"h,** Amen. \*\*\* **Mrs. Sophie Mougrabi and her children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her husband **Avraham Ben Koni a"h,** Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Avraham Aharon Farhi, his wife Rania, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat **Yaakov Jack Shakalo Ben Mazal a"h,** Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Isachar HaCohen Ambalo, his wife, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* **Anonymous Donor Mrs. A.B. and her children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Shana Tova, Amen. \*\*\* The young man, Bachur **Rimy Tawil from Eli HaCohen, his grandparents, his parents, and his siblings.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* **Mrs. Olga Yosef, her husband, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family,

Amen. \*\*\* The young woman, Bachura **Ruty Farhi, her grandparents, her parents, and her siblings.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* The young man, Bachur **Joey David Farhi, his grandparents, his parents, and his siblings.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* **Mrs. Tania Antabi and her son Soly Shaalo, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her mother **Linda Bat Tera Esther a"h,** Amen. \*\*\* **Mrs. Eva Khafif Antabi, her husband Shlomo, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her mother **Linda Bat Tera Esther a"h,** Amen. \*\*\* **Blessed siblings: Azar, David, Charlie, Estella, and Arlit of the Halabi Family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their sister **Sonia Bat Rachel a"h,** Amen. \*\*\* **Blessed siblings: Sammy, Seymour, and Renee of the Esses Family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father **Ovadia Ben Rina a"h,** Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Toby Cohen, his wife Shella, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her father **Avraham Ben Badia a"h,** Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Nissim Kassab HaCohen, his wife Maggie, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his mother **Odette Bat Sofia a"h,** Amen. \*\*\* **Mrs. Leah Bareket and her children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her husband **Yehuda Ben Rima a"h,** Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Shaul Shahoud Mishanie, his wife Nadia, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Mazal Tov to the bride and groom **Baruch Ted and Sarah, Mabrouk, Amen.**

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