

Congregation

◆◆◆◆ **"Beth Yosef"** ◆◆◆◆

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

**Rabbi Aharon Farhi**

**Parashat *Beshalah***

13<sup>th</sup> Shevat 5783

**Maqam Ajam**

Issue #1016

**Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President**

**Haftarat *Vatashar Devora***

February 4<sup>th</sup> 2023

*Candle Lighting 4:57pm \* Shekiah 5:15pm \* Shir Hashirim 4:55pm followed by Mincha Friday Night  
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am \* Mincha Shabbat 4:40pm \* Shabbat Ends 5:57pm & Rabbenu Tam 6:27pm  
Time for Talit 6:03am \* Seasonal Hour 60:00 \* Alot Hashahar 5:51am \* Netz Hachama 7:03am  
Weekday Mincha 5:10pm \* Earliest Time for Arbit 4:37pm \* Tzet Hacoachavim 5:52pm \* Chatzot 12:09  
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:51am \* Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:51am*

**Note:** *Sunday February 6<sup>th</sup>* the Seasonal Hour will be 60:00, according to Halacha Alot Hashahar is one and a fifth of the Seasonal Hour before Netz Hachama, which is 60+12=72 minutes, this means Alot Hashahar will be 5:50am, not 6:00am as is printed in other publications, as it should be 72 minutes, not 62 minutes. For those who understand.

***Shovevim Fasting:***

*Thursday February 2<sup>nd</sup> fast starts 5:55am and ends 5:39pm*

*Monday February 6<sup>th</sup> there's no fasting – Tu B'Shevat*

*Tuesday February 9<sup>th</sup> fast starts 5:45am and ends 5:55pm*

*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

***Moshe took the bones of Yosef with him, for he had firmly adjured Bnei Yisrael*** Later, the Torah writes that Bnei Yisrael were the ones who buried Yosef, whom they had taken from Egypt, in Shechem. This seems contradictory – wasn't Moshe the one who took Yosef's bones out of Egypt, as is written in this week's Parasha? If so, asks *Rav Chaim Palagi*, why wasn't Moshe mentioned in that Pasuk? We could venture to answer that since Moshe did not actually bury Yosef in Shechem, since he never entered Israel, the act is therefore not written in his name. But how could we say this when our Sages have taught us that if one tries to perform a Mitzvah but could not because of occurrences that are out of his hands and not in his power, then he is still credited for the act. For example, even though David could not build the Bet Hamikdash and his son Shelomo actually built it, the Mitzvah is still

remembered and credited in David's name, as is written in Sefer Tehillim. Why then isn't the same true by Moshe? The difference is that one is credited for the performance he could not complete only when the occurrence was unavoidable on his part and not his fault. Moshe could not bury Yosef because he never entered Israel. However, not entering Israel was a punishment that he was given for hitting the rock instead of speaking to it. Since he could have avoided this, it is considered his fault and he is therefore not credited for burying Yosef's bones. David, on the other hand, was not able to build the Bet Hamikdash because his hands were 'soaked in blood' from the wars he had fought. Since the wars were done in the name of Hashem with Hashem's permission, it is therefore not his fault that he couldn't build the Bet Hamikdash and he is still credited. May Hashem merit us, Amen.

### **Insights on the Parasha**

**1 – Hashem shall make war for you, and you shall remain silent** The Egyptians understood from the Ten Plagues that it was Hashem Himself who was acting for Bnei Yisrael. If so, then when they were chasing after Bnei Yisrael, they weren't waging war on Bnei Yisrael, rather, based on their knowledge, they were trying to fight Hashem. It was therefore Hashem's war to wage and Bnei Yisrael must do nothing besides remain silent. (*Rabbenu Bachya*)

**2 –** A full Omer measurement of Mon was put in a jar and placed before Hashem in front of the Aron. Mon symbolizes Parnassa (livelihood, income) and the Aron represents the Torah. The closer one is to the Torah and the better he fulfills its laws, the more blessings of Parnassa he will receive and be comfortable.

### **History in Brief**

*100 years after the Hurban, 170AD.* After the destruction of the Bet Hamikdash, great Sages were produced in our nation, the holy Tanaim who understood the depths and hidden secrets of the Torah, but were not allowed to reveal it in writing to the world, until many years later Rebi Shimon Bar Yohai and his colleagues were given permission, but not initially, only after Rebi Shimon, who was from the spark of Moshe Rabbenu, had spent thirteen years hidden away in a cave, then he was given permission to reveal the secrets to the world in writing. His student Rebi Aba called him Butzina Kadisha, holy light. When Rebi Shimon passed away, his son Rebi Elazar and his students, and his students' students, completed the holy Sefer Zohar. With Rebi Shimon, Rebi Yossi Bar Yaakov Rebi Chizkiya and Rebi Yossi, when they passed away, they saw the holy angels carrying them. When was the holy Sefer Zohar revealed? The Ramban found the Sefer Zohar in Israel, sent it to Spain, came to the hands of R' Moshe De Leon, and was then published after his passing. Rebi Shimon wrote *praiseworthy is the generation in which it is revealed*. This was in the year 1200AD. The world was created for Rebi Shimon, as it says, *Beresheet Bara Elokim*, the letters of *Beresheet* begin the words *Et Torat*

*Rebi Shimon Bar Yohai, Bara Hashem Et Hashamayim Ve'et Haaretz*, for the teachings of Rebi Shimon did Hashem create the heavens and the earth.

### **Health and Recovery**

We've all heard about irritable bowel syndrome, but the truth is this is not such an unfortunate situation and it can be remedied. If you eat the wrong foods in the wrong way, then it will have a direct negative impact on the intestines. The remedy is: Eat properly and then the intestines will not get upset. If you have irritated your intestines for a long period of time, then you will need to invest more and more attention in the near future. What damages the whole body the most is the emotion character trait of anger. Rambam, Maimonides, writes that the best way to behave is the balanced path, disciplined, calm and collected. Regarding all character traits and emotions, one must behave in a moderate manner, but there are certain traits that one must not treat with mediocrity. It is fitting for a person to distance himself from anger until the very last day of his life, and teach himself never to be angry, even when being angry can be justified. The holy Chida writes: Friday afternoon, the eve of the holy Shabbat, we always face a dangerous time that is primed for dispute between a man and his wife, the servants, and the children of the household. Tensions are high, everyone is busy and rushing, and the evil inclination takes advantage of the situation, an opportunity to cause a lot of trouble and stir up a quarrel with little effort. The heaven fearing man will not forcefully impose his will on others during this time. Anger flares up from two main places: When a person is hungry, or is not taking care of himself, then he is able to become angry very quickly. The second is based on the person's degree of pride and choices of stringencies.

### **Mussar: The 15<sup>th</sup> of Shevat – Tu B'Shevat**

The 15<sup>th</sup> day in the month of Shevat is a very special day. The traditions and customs that we observe when celebrating this holiday were established by the Mekubalim in the 1600's, during the time when Spain and Portugal, as well

as many European communities, exiled the Jewish people from their lands and borders. Many Pirushim wished to establish stringencies and prohibitions upon the nation, i.e. not to eat meat, drink wine, or consume fruits, because of the loss of the Bet Hamikdash, as we are no longer able to perform the Korban sacrifices, the wine libations, or dedicate our first fruit as Bikurim. However, the Mekubalim established that during the 15<sup>th</sup> of Shevat we should increase in our consumption of fruits, specifically fruits from the seven species: grapes, figs, dates, pomegranates, olives, wheat, and barley. Some have the custom to consume 12 types of fruit, others 15, and others 30. The reason to increase the number is because our nation is compared to fruit. Therefore, eating the fruit is a form of praise and thanks to Hashem for creating the world with beautiful and delicious fruit bearing trees for man to enjoy. This holiday signifies the blossoming of existence. It is also a day for self-analysis and contemplation: Hashem created such wonderful and enjoyable fruits, ranging through many colors, tastes, shapes, scents, and sizes. Why – for whom to enjoy? Can man not survive with just bread and water? Hashem wishes for us to enjoy His world! We should enjoy this world and show appreciation for it. When one troubles another and causes him pain, he must realize that the world was created to enjoy and he is going against the grain of creation, against the purpose of the creation, by causing pain. We must treat each other nicely, greet each other with a smile, and honor one another, only bringing joy and happiness to each other. Have a happy holiday, Amen.

#### ***Gaon R' Shimon Ba'adani zt"l 1928-2023***

Our nation painfully mourns the passing of our Sephardic leader Hagaon Hatzaddik R' Shimon Ba'adani zt"l, leader of Moetzet Hachmei HaTorah, longtime senior leader of the Shas Party, and Rosh Kollel of Torah Chaim in Bnei Brak, Israel. Our nations leaders and Sages attended the Levaya to his Kever burial in Bnei Brak along with countless others. He passed away at the age of 94 after suffering from sickness for months, hospitalized many times

while his sickness intensified. In his last month, with the mercy of heaven, he was allowed to return home for a few weeks until he returned to the hospital the last time. During his last week, many prayers were recited throughout the world for his recovery, as well as adding a name: R' Refael Shimon Ben Chaviva. Unfortunately, we now grieve and mourn for his passing, the holy Aron Hakodesh is broken, as a darkness covers our nation, the world of Torah, over this great loss.

#### ***Story***

After the Asifah of the Rabbanim in Vilna, each Rav spent the night by their host, and began their journey back home in the morning. Rav Zalman noticed that he was traveling on the same train as the Chafetz Chaim who was traveling back home to his city, Radin. He then noticed someone else on the train. It was the father of Yosef, the one accused of desecrating Shabbat by transporting passengers on the holy day. He had been told that his father was lying sick in bed, under the care of his family. Rav Zalman went right over to the father, greeted him Shalom, and asked how he was able to travel while fighting a sickness. The father explained that the doctors had already given up hope of ever curing him. However, he had a dream and was instructed to go receive a blessing from the holy mouth of the Chafetz Chaim. Rav Zalman told him that he was fortunate, heaven had shown his mercy, for on that very train the Chafetz Chaim was sitting on his way back home and he didn't need to travel any further.

#### ***Laws: Tu B'shvat***

- 1** – Some give the number 91 to charity, the numerical value of the word 'Ilan' (tree) and of the word 'Amen'.
- 2** – Some place on the table 12 types of fruits, corresponding to the 12 tribes of our nation. Some place 15, related to that day of the month. Some set up 30 different types. The more types included the better, for we wish blessings this year on all fruits.
- 3** – The 15<sup>th</sup> of Shevat is the New Year of trees. We are forbidden to fast, and Yehi Shem is recited.

**4** – Fruits that may have worms (i.e. figs, dates...) must be inspected before consumption. One who eats a worm or bug has sinned greatly, transgressing five negative commandments. Their soul is soiled, and their heart is blemished. Such conditions decrease a person's ability to serve Hashem.

**5** – Reciting 'Peri Haetz' once is enough for all types of fruits, whether currently in front of him or in his thoughts and later brought. Another blessing need not be said. This applies to all blessings.

**6** – 'Hamotzi' takes precedence over all other blessings. Without bread, the next in line is 'Mezonot'. After 'Mezonot' comes 'Peri Haetz' – first upon olives, dates, grapes, figs, and pomegranates, then upon all others grown from trees. After this, 'Haadamah' is recited upon all other fruits and vegetables. Then, all things under the 'Shehakol' category are blessed. This is the order of precedence.

**7** – This order applies only when both are set before you and are desired by you. However, if one is not present, then waiting is not necessary and the order does not take effect. Within a category, those you like better gain precedence.

**8** – Lechatechilah, one should not bring fruits after Birkat Hamazon in order to make 'Beracha Acharona', for you are causing a Beracha that is not necessary, and some are strict with this matter. Heed their words. If you did so by chance and did not plan it out, i.e. you forgot, then you can eat them. (However, one may bring fruits after Birkat Hamazon during Shabbat in order to add to the required daily hundred blessings one is responsible to recite.)

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groom **Dove and Jama, Mabrouk, Amen.** \*\*\* **Mr. Albir Leon Farhi, his wife Grace, their parents, and their daughter Eva.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* Pharmacist **Mr. Eli Shalouh HaCohen, his wife Lillian, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his father **Hacham Aharon Shalouh HaCohen Ben Leah a"h,** Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Yehoshua Houdrie HaCohen, his wife Susan, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his brother the holy soldier **Aharon Ben Frieda 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. 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. \*\*\* **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.

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