

Congregation

◆◆◆"Beth Yosef"◆◆◆

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

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President

*Parashat **Mishpatim Shekalim***

Maqam Saba

*Haftarat **Vayichrot Yehoyada***

27th Shevat 5783

Issue #1018

February 18th 2023

*Candle Lighting **5:15pm** * Shekiah **5:33pm** * Shir Hashirim **5:10pm** followed by Minha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat **8:15am** * Minha Shabbat **5:00pm** * Shabbat Ends **6:16pm** & Rabbenu Tam **6:46pm***

*Time for Talit **5:43am** * Seasonal Hour **6:30** * Alot Hashahar **5:29am** * Netz Hachama **6:46am***

*Weekday Minha **5:25pm** * Earliest Time for Arbit **4:52pm** * Tzet Hacoachavim **6:11pm** * Chatzot **12:09***

*Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema **8:39am** * Latest Time for Morning Amidah **9:42am***

Tuesday February 21st & Wednesday February 22nd will be Rosh Hodesh Adar

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

This week's Parasha warns us against cursing: *Do not curse parents, Hashem, a prophet, a deaf person, and many more Pesukim.* Also, it says that *those who curse will be cursed.* Our Sages teach us that cursing is bad for both the recipient and the distributor. If it is a curse without reason or merit, the curse will return to the distributor and he will be hit instead when it is fulfilled. Even if the curse is within reason and merit, the recipient will be cursed but the distributor also will have to face judgment as to why he caused his friend a loss. Many times, curses uttered even by laymen and regular people are fulfilled. This is often found amongst women, since they deal with the troubles of raising children. They know what they're doing is wrong and do not really wish to curse their children, they really care and wish to protect their children, however anger takes control of their mind and mouth, cursing against their better judgment. One who gets angry is considered to have sinned by serving idolatry! One sin just leads to another. Curses can be very dangerous and should always be avoided at all costs. Our Parasha begins with the laws concerning man and his fellow, beginning with the words *'and these'* to connect the importance of these Mitzvot with the importance of the Mitzvot just

discussed, the ones in Parashat Yitro that are between man and his Creator. Just as those were from Sinai, so too are these from Sinai. We need to develop a strong sensitivity regarding our overall relationship with others. The Torah is always very concerned with the weak, the damaged, the downtrodden, the orphan, the widow, the poor, the helpless, the slave, the stranger, the convert, etc. It is also very concerned about the honor of parents, the quarrels between man and his fellow, the monetary loss of a person, etc. Also, the Torah is wary of false witnesses, bribes, etc. From all of these categories of concerns that the Torah describes and focuses on, we can learn what it means to live the life of a Jew. Our Sages teach us that the Ten Commandments were all said at once. Why? To teach us the lesson that the two categories are equal in importance. One must be just as concerned with transgressing and sinning against his fellow as he is regarding transgressing against Hashem. All Ten Commandments are within one thread, one belief, without a difference. One who fulfills the Mitzvot but is nonetheless immoral and behaves characteristically improper is not fulfilling his obligations and is spiritually lacking in his religious observance. We must be careful with our actions towards others. Are

we careful with the laws of Kosher? Are we careful with the laws of Shabbat? We must likewise be careful with the commandment to: *Love your fellow as yourself!* This applies to the way we treat others is action and also in speech. We have to behave properly with others, not just with the actions we do, but also with the words we say to others and about others, How did Rabi Akiva teach Torah on one foot? What did he focus the lesson on? *What you despise, do not do to others!* This is a very important lesson to live by. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Insights on the Parasha

1 – “*Do not execute the innocent or the righteous, for I shall not exonerate the wicked*” What is this Pasuk talking about? Of course we shouldn’t execute the innocent or the righteous, and of course Hashem does not exonerate the wicked? Rather, it should be understood as follows: if two witnesses are needed in order to convict someone for murder and deserve the death penalty, even if you have a clear understanding that the person is guilty, if you do not have two witnesses then you cannot convict. He is considered innocent and righteous to you until you can prove otherwise according to the Torah. So what should be done with the wicked who will not be sentenced by the Bet Din due to technicalities? Do not worry, as the Pasuk concludes, for Hashem *shall not exonerate the wicked*, and he will be held responsible and punished by heaven. (*Mei Menuhot*)

Shabbat Shekalim

During the times of the Bet Hamikdash there was a Biblical Mitzvah for each person to give a half Shekel each year, and from that money they purchased sacrifices on behalf of the nation for the year. After the destruction of the Bet Hamikdash, our Sages decided to continue the collection. A half Shekel is worth \$8.00 USD. The money is used to fund Torah learning. It is a safeguard from sickness, as is

clear from the Pasuk. It is a Segulah for children’s success, and Bnei Yisrael is redeemed through charity. It also atones for our sins. We will merit a long life of health and blessing as well. Starting from Rosh Hodesh Adar until Purim before reading the Megillah, men women and children each give, even for a baby still in the mother’s womb. If you cannot afford \$8 per family member, at least give for the adults \$8, and for the children a coin according to your ability. Adults are those of Mitzvah age. The money is not to be taken from Ma’aser.

Health and Recovery

One of the most important nutrients for body building is protein. Protein is used to build the skeletal bones, cells, tissues and hormones of our body. Therefore, diets based on the avoidance of eating protein are not healthy. Protein is found in milk and dairy products, meat and beef, chicken, eggs, and legumes. While hard-boiled eggs can be difficult to digest, it is best to eat soft-boiled eggs. Just place the eggs in water, boil the water, and after the water has boiled for two minutes extinguish the fire and remove the eggs to produce soft-boiled results. Legumes, such as hummus, peas, lentils, millet, buckwheat, and quinoa, are rich in protein. Soybeans are also rich in protein, but should be avoided, as consumption can interfere with the healthy production of thyroid hormones. There is also a high-volume of aluminum in soy. Whole-grain rice contains many vitamins and nutrients, such as B vitamins and many minerals, and should be consumed. Chickpeas provide a relatively high level of protein, of course not in industrially prepared hummus, which actually contains a lot of tahini and a lot of salt and margarine, which is hardened vegetable fat, and includes other stabilizers and preservatives as well as other non-healthy supplements. Protein is also found in almonds and sunflower seeds, but they would need to be chewed well.

Mussar: *Shalom Bayit (Peace at Home)*

Every person is able and obligated to create an atmosphere of paradise in his home with his family. Love and affection should be felt in the air all around. If one will be successful with this, then he will likewise be at peace with Hashem as well. When a husband and wife are friendly and affectionate with one another, then they have 'Shalom', peace, which is also 'Shelemut', completeness. A couple is compared to fire and water. When they are at peace, then the heavens are at peace as well, and Hashem takes pride and glory from such a household, as it is a family that positively affects even the angels. The worlds above are united through peace. Heaven forbid, if the opposite transpires and negative energy fills the household, then curses, pain, suffering, and evil are unleashed, and bitter times hit the family. They are destined for Gehinam as the 'fire' heats and evaporates the 'water', and the 'water' extinguishes the 'fire' in their family. Poverty, heretic dealings, and deceitfulness are then brought about as a result. Heaven forbid if divorce should occur as a result of their fights, then their bond with heaven is broken, which is then the source of many problems that occur upon the land. Therefore, everyone must learn to forgive and forget. Do not hold a grudge; rather, help each other improve. Increase the honor and care that is provided for one another, for then the Shechinah will rest upon your household and fill it with blessings and happiness, Amen.

Earthquakes in Agadir Morocco 1960

Thousands of Jews traveled from all over and settled in Agadir Morocco about a hundred and fifty years ago. Many Hachamim and Torah Scholars were among those thousands, including their leader R' Khalife Ben Malka, author of Kav VeNaki. On Tuesday 2nd of Adar in 1960, in middle of the night, a 6.7 magnitude earthquake wreaked havoc for fifteen seconds, destroying most of the city, killing thousands, their bodies buried in the

rubble of houses and buildings. Until today an exact body count is unknown, but it is estimated at around 1,300 Jews, may their memory be blessed. The Yeshiva destroyed, many moved to Israel. Years earlier an earthquake had shaken up Morocco. From those who went to Israel was their leader R' Yehuda Shitrit who became the Rabbi of the city Afula, Israel. The king of Morocco, Hassan the second, dressed in black and uncovered his feet. He addressed his people and promised to rebuild. There is a small Jewish community that observes the Torah and Mitzvot, may Hashem protect us, Amen.

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

In his youth, his parents sent him to a religious school, not a regular Talmud Torah Yeshiva, and he studied there until he reached the age of Mitzvot. He was then transferred to a Talmud Torah to learn from Gaon Rabbi Elchanan Perlmutter zt"l. He grew in Torah until his Rebbe guided him to then learn at the prestigious Bet Yosef Yeshiva in Jerusalem, where he became one of the greatest Talmidim under the guidance of Rav Shach zt"l, who he even learned with personally, and spread his teachings throughout his life. When Rav Shach went to lead the Ponevezh Yeshiva in Bnei Brak, R' Shimon Ba'adani went to learn in Yeshivat Porat Yosef under the guidance of Gaon Hacham Ezra Attie zt"l. He grew exponentially in his learning and helped guide the other students in their learning. Among the other students was Rabbi Moshe Maya, also a member of Moetzet Chachmei HaTorah, who recounts the greatness of Rabbi Shimon Ba'adanin until this day.

Story

The sick father of Yosef sat to speak with the Chafetz Chaim on the train, relating his worries that the doctors had given up on him, and asked for a blessing for health. He asked if the Chafetz Chaim would pray for him. The Chafetz Chaim answered that the holy day of

Shabbat is the source of all blessings. It is a father's responsibility to make sure that the children properly observe the sanctity of Shabbat. If children desecrate Shabbat, the father is held accountable for not teaching them properly. If he wants a blessing of health and life, he must watch over his son Yosef and make sure that he is observing Shabbat properly. That is the best blessing for health and recovery.

Laws: Shabbat

1 – During Shabbat, if there is broken glass in a place that people walk through and it could be harmful and cause damage, one may sweep it up and throw it away. It is best to do so by sweeping it aside with a broom in an unusual fashion.

2 – The reason we eat eggs during Shabbat, in the morning and by Seudah Shelisheet, is because we commemorate the mourning over the passing of Moshe Rabbenu and David Hamelech, who passed away during Shabbat.

3 – Rabi Yossi says: Shabbat is compared to the entire Torah, and the Torah is fire symbolically. The wicked who transgressed the Torah are punished with the fires of Gehinam, which never fades.

4 – Every Shabbat night, the angels that govern Gehinam announce that the King has arrived, the day is sanctified, the fires extinguish, and the wicked may rest. However, those who desecrated Shabbat in their lifetime do not rest and the fires of Gehinam continue to burn for them.

Sponsors

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the entire family, in honor of his father-in-law **Mr. Nissim Levy**, may Hashem watch over him, Amen. *** **Mr. Larry Hefes, his wife Karen, their parents, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his mother-in-law **Roslin Bat Chava a"h**, Amen. *** **Mr. Mordi Lozie and his daughters Clemence, Yafit, Orly, Sara, and Shirly.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother **Loris Bat Latifah 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, Simon, and Rina 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. 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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