

Congregation

◆◆◆"Beth Yosef"◆◆◆

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

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

Parashat Shemini Hachodesh

27th Adar Sheni 5784

Maqam Husseni

Issue #1069

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President

Haftarat Ko Amar

April 6th 2024

*Candle Lighting 7:07pm * Shekiah 7:25pm * Shir Hashirim 7:00pm followed by Minha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Minha Shabbat 6:50pm * Shabbat Ends 8:08pm & Rabbenu Tam 8:38pm
Time for Talit 5:16am * Seasonal Hour 75 * Alot Hashahar 5:01am * Netz Hachama 6:31am
Weekday Minha 7:00pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 6:29pm * Tzet Hacoachavim 8:03pm * Chatzot 12:58
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:46am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 10:01am*

Tuesday April 9th will be Rosh Hodesh Nissan

Sponsored generously by the good-hearted:

Mr. David Farhi, his wife Suzi, and their children.

May Hashem bless them with spiritual and physical success,
Mazal Tov on the birth of a grandson, *Nissim*, Mabrouk, Amen.

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

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**Vaad Tehilim Torah c/o R' A. Farhi
2415 Ocean Parkway, Brooklyn NY 11235**

Please do not read this bulletin during Tefillah or Keriat Hatorah

*Moshe said to Aharon... Perform the service of your sin-offering... and provide atonement for yourself and for the people. Did Aharon sin regarding the Golden Calf and therefore needs atonement for himself? And if he did in fact sin and required atonement, how could he be anointed as the Cohen Gadol who would pray for the nation's atonement every year on Yom Kippur? Our Sages teach us, the Pasuk which states *love righteousness and despise evil* is about Aharon, and the conclusion of the Pasuk is, *therefore Hashem anoints with oil to rejoice from amongst your friends*. Can Aharon be appointed and anointed as Cohen Gadol because of what transpired with the sin of the Golden Calf? Here are the facts: After Bnei Yisrael killed Hor Ben Miriam for not helping them create the Golden Calf, they turned to Aharon for assistance. What did Aharon do? He understood that if he would not help them, then they would just help themselves, and build a Mizbeah Altar very quickly, bringing all the stones and rocks in haste to sin. Instead, he agreed to help, and planned to stall for time,*

to appear as if meticulous and in deep thought while constructing, so as to waste as much time as possible, in the hopes that Moshe would return before he was done. Unfortunately, Moshe was still not back by the time he was done, and Aharon was forced to make another calculation: if he allowed them to act then it would be very detrimental for the nation. Instead, he planned to act and perform the sin, so that his actions without the wrong intentions would be less severe than their actions with the wrong intentions. Hashem knows what is in the heart of man, why he performs his actions, and therefore Aharon was rewarded to be anointed as Cohen Gadol, to eat from the table of Hashem, enjoying the twenty-four priestly gifts. If so, that Aharon's actions regarding the Golden Calf were for the sake of heaven, why did Moshe instruct Aharon to offer the sin-offering to provide atonement for himself? What did he do wrong? When the nation was bringing their sacrifice to the Golden Calf, Aharon criticized them with words, and therefore caused those

who are sinning incidentally without malicious intention to now be sinning on purpose with guilt, which is a more severe form of sin and requires that much more atonement and consequence. This was Aharon's sin towards the people, as one should not chastise those who will not listen. It would have been better to not explain to them what they were doing wrong and allow them to sin without intention. Therefore, Moshe advised Aharon to gain atonement for himself through the sin-offering. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Insights on the Parasha

After the passing of Nadav and Avihu, Moshe instructed Mishael and Eltzaphan, Leviim, to enter the Kodsh and carry out the bodies of the two fallen brothers outside the camp. Why didn't he ask their younger brothers Elazar and Itamar, who were regular Cohanim allowed to become impure for the sake of their own brothers? Why ask Leviim? The reason is because Elazar and Itamar had been anointed that day as Cohanim, and this teaches us that on the day a Cohen is anointed he is to be treated as the Cohen Gadol who cannot become impure for a relative. This is the reason Moshe explained when he said that *today they were anointed by Hashem. We learn this Halacha from this episode. (Sheerit Yaakov)*

History in Brief

140 years after the Hurban, calendar year 210. Antoninus would feed a meal to Rebbe every day, and give him to drink. When he would ascend into his bed, Antoninus would crouch and allow Rebbe to step on his back to get into bed. Rebbe commented that it is not the way of the world to use a king in such a fashion. Antoninus answered that it is not this world that he is concerned with. He asked Rebbe if he was worthy of a portion in the next world, and Rebbe answered affirmatively. Antoninus was confused, because it says that

the house of Esav would not receive a portion of the next world, and Rebbe explained that this is only if one acts like Esav, follows his ways, and doesn't deserve, unlike Antoninus who clearly does not follow in the ways of Esav and deserves a portion. One of Antoninus's servants was deathly sick in bed, and he asked Rebbe to send one of his students to heal him. Rebbe sent R' Shimon Ben Chalafta. When he arrived and found the servant spread out lying on his bed, he asked the servant how it could be that he was lying down while the king was standing by his side, surely it is the servant who must stand by the side of the king! He told the servant to get up, and the servant got up, healed from his sickness. One Shabbat Rebbe served a cold meal to Antoninus, and a following weekday he served him a hot meal. Antoninus commented that the cold meal had in fact been much tastier than the hot meal! Rebbe explained that something was missing in the hot meal that was in the cold meal. Antoninus asked how that could be, surely the king possessed all the necessary spices and ingredients. Rebbe explained that Shabbat was the ingredient in the cold meal which was missing from the hot meal.

Health and Recovery

Lacking drinking water causes a decrease in blood volume and therefore a decrease in blood pressure. An adult who takes blood pressure medication, and does not drink enough, can have too much blood pressure and a lack of blood supply to the brain, which can then cause a stroke and kidney damage. Adults, and all those around adults, must be careful with drinking enough water. Now that we have learned how important drinking water is for our health, it is important to be careful not to be drawn after methods that recommend little drink, since they are very dangerous. Sudden onset of weakness or drowsiness of the face (crooked mouth), or to the arm or leg, usually on one side, can be caused from a lack

of water. Sudden onset of confusion, difficulty in speech or understanding, sudden disturbance in balance, sudden vision disorder, sudden sharp headache without a known cause, all are warning signs of a stroke. Early detection and quick reaction to these signs with the provision of medical treatment within 4 hours can save lives and prevent serious disability. It should be noted that this can sometimes be but a short passing incident, which is a vital warning sign of the danger in the case of a repeat event. Lifestyle changes can reduce risk factors, improve health, maintain functionality, and prolong life. Until now, we have been dealing with the food we eat - what to stay away from and what to fight against. Now we will approach issues no less important - the digestion process. On this subject, we will elaborate on this process in detail, and whoever is careful will be able to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

Mussar

A person has to live in the moment, understand that all he has is right now, not the past, not the future, and make the most of the present opportunity before him. This is the essence of life, the truth and the sweetness of living now, today. The world belongs to Hashem. The past. The future. What can you do? Focus on what you are now, what you have now, what you can do now, what you can accomplish and achieve in this moment. Do not become lost in concern for a world that is not yours. What happened is gone. It is for Hashem. What will happen in the future is not yours, it is for Hashem. All you have is now, and that is more than enough. It is your responsibility, your concern, your privilege, your obligation, and your blessing. Don't chase after things beyond your control, for that will only lead to destruction and devastation. Avoid the downfall, the problems, the sicknesses and the consequences. Trust in Hashem, take what Hashem has given you today and act accordingly, responsibly, and righteously. Hashem sustains all life, provides, and directly supports all categories of creation. All that exists, all that grows, all that lives, and all that speaks and thinks, nature, wildlife,

animals, men, women, children, old and young alike, are all in Hashem's hands, every day Hashem renews all of creation, and all we must do is trust, believe, and live today in the moment to properly succeed and serve Hashem, Amen.

Rishon LeSion:

R' Ben-Zion Uziel 1880-1953

In 1916, during World War I, Jamal Pacha decided that their location near the water was prime for an army base, and during the war it should not remain a residential area. He therefore passed judgment that all residents of Yaffo and Tel-Aviv near the water must vacate their homes and relocate to a new area, as this current area would be declared a military war zone within twenty-four hours. Many Jews were forced to take whatever they could carry and quickly move to areas such as Petah-Tikvah, where Jewish residents there would do their best to accommodate as many as possible with lodging, supplies, and food, so they could live with some dignity. Although R' Uziel was the Hacham Bashi and had plenty of responsibilities to fulfill, he went along with the thousands of Jews on their journey in exile. Many built huts just to survive the weather, many perished due to hunger, sickness, and hardships, and many scattered throughout the lands from the Galil until the Negev. R' Uziel continued serving and leading the people, despite the passing of his wife during these years and the yoke of raising his children weighing upon him heavily. He moved into his mother's house in Jerusalem and served the people from there. With the conclusion of World War I, anyone who was not Muslim was removed from the land, including R' Uziel.

Story

When the father and son entered the study of the Rebbe again on Friday and repeated their troubles through tears, this time the Rebbe told them to return Motzei Shabbat after he performs Havdalah on a cup of wine. They enjoyed the holy day of Shabbat with great hope and anticipation in their hearts. The Rebbe hadn't sent them away empty-handed, and they were

sure on Motzei Shabbat they would finally be blessed with a favorable future. When the time came, and everyone stood around to witness, the Rebbe asked the boy to speak his name, and the boy said “Mordechai”. Everyone burst out in celebration over the miracle that took place before their eyes. The father was overjoyed with tears to hear his son finally speak words. The Rebbe then asked the boy to wish him a good week, and the boy said with great happiness “Shavua Tov Kevod Harav!” The Rebbe asked if he learned Torah, and the boy explained that for years, despite his inability to speak, he had been learning Torah very diligently.

Laws: Pesah

1 – All who keep Hametz in their possession during Pesah transgress a positive and negative commandment. One must sell his Hametz through the Rabbanim that are in charge. One who did not sell cannot benefit at all from the Hametz, not even to smell it, and must destroy it.

2 – Do not buy Hametz after Pesah from anyone except those who have sold it through the Rabbanim.

3 – The sick and elderly can appoint a messenger to sell their Hametz through the Rabbanim. If one sells another’s Hametz without his knowledge, *Bediavad* (aftermath) it’s a sale; however, it is *Lechatechilah* (initially) not a sale unless one first receives permission.

4 – Vessels used for Hametz must be cleaned with boiling water in order to render it fit for use during Pesach. Vessels used over fire require the *Leeboon* koshering process, while *Hagalah* isn’t good enough to render it fit for use. Ovens, however, cannot be cleaned with *Leeboon*.

5 – Electric ovens must first be cleaned well by hand, not used for 24 hours, and then turned on to the maximum and left on for one hour.

6 – One should use handmade Shemura Matzah for the Seder.

7 – Work (physical labor) may not be done Erev Pesah after Chatzot, unless a non-Jew is the one working. Business deals and transactions, however, may be performed until 4:00pm.

Sponsors

*** **Mr. Hillel Tawil HaCohen, his wife Nina, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. *** **Dr. Fouad Albagdadi, his wife Tina, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Mazal Tov to **Mr. David Farhi and his family** on the birth of a grandson *Nissim*, Mabrouk, and Leilui Nishmat his mother **Hasiba Bat Esther a”h**, Amen. *** **Mr. Eddie Sitt HaCohen, his wife Esther, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family and their parents, Leilui Nishmat his grandmother **Zehaba Bat Nehama a”h**, Amen. *** **Mr. Ezra Shasho HaLevi and his daughters: Lydi, Silva, Noura, and Tova.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his wife and their mother **Nina Sarah Bat Silva Sabout a”h**, Amen. *** **Blessed siblings: Avraham, Morris, Edward, Rimon, Esther, Berta, and Norma, of the Cohen Family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother **Joul Bat Bahie a”h**, Amen. *** **Mrs. Suzi Farhi, her husband David, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her brother **Avraham Ben Linda a”h**, 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. *** **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.

*This week’s sponsorship total is \$1600
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