

Congregation

◆◆◆"Beth Yosef"◆◆◆

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

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

Parashat Devarim

6th Av 5784

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President

Maqam Hijaz Haftarat Hazon Yeshayahu

Issue #1084

August 10th 2024

*Candle Lighting 7:42pm * Shekiah 8:00pm * Shir Hashirim 7:00pm followed by Minha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Minha Shabbat 7:25pm * Shabbat Ends 8:41pm & Rabbenu Tam 9:11pm
Time for Talit 4:43am * Seasonal Hour 80 * Alot Hashahar 4:27am * Netz Hachama 6:03am
Weekday Minha 7:00pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 6:56pm * Tzet Hacoachavim 8:36pm * Chatzot 1:01
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:27am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:47am*

9th of Av, Monday Night August 12th, Fast Begins 7:56pm

Fast Ends Tuesday Night 8:20pm, for the Strict 8:31pm

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

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Please do not read this bulletin during Tefillah or Keriat Hatorah

Eichah, a word which connotes suffering and lamentations, appears four times in Tanach; twice in the Torah and twice in Neviim. Hashem told Adam Harishon "Ayekah?" but of course Hashem knew exactly where Adam was at all times. The word can be read *Eichah*, the first time it appears in the Torah. Moshe asked *Eichah*, how can he carry the nation. Of course, Yeshayah and Yirmeyah also used the word *Eichah*. All four instances share a common theme. Adam lived in Gan Eden, a life of complete peace and satisfaction. All he had to do was not commit one sin, and he couldn't do it. As punishment, he was cast out of Gan Eden and would live a hard life until death. *Eichah* here clearly connotes lamentations. Moshe Rabbenu was leading the greatest generation through the desert, high as the stars in the sky and not low like the dust of the earth, and yet they complained and chose suffering. Yeshayah witnessed Bnei Yisrael

securely in their land, the holy land of Israel, governing their own people with the Bet Hamikdash, everything peaceful and to satisfaction, and yet instead of just thanking Hashem, they complained and were ungrateful. Yirmeyah prophesized during the times of the destruction of the Bet Hamikdash, a consequence that was unnecessary if only Bnei Yisrael would have lived a life of proper service to Hashem and enjoyed the peace and satisfaction without sinning and being ungrateful. We must learn from these four instances in Tanach which uses the word *Eichah*: do not be ungrateful, do not be particular, appreciate what we have, appreciate each other, be forgiving and understanding of one another, we all are not perfect, we must thank Hashem and praise Hashem for everything, we must be happy with our situation in life, what we have and who we are, there is always so much to appreciate, and we must not chase desires until we exhaust ourselves

into oblivion. We pray that Hashem returns us to a time like 'Kedem', a time when Adam Harishon, before committing the first sin, was settled in Kedem of Gan Eden. We wish to return to that time, so that we can serve Hashem once again without worry, without problems, without sin, and rejoice in the final redemption, quickly in our times, Amen.

Insights on the Parasha

Moshe Rabbenu began his words with reproach, but after the rebuke ended, he blessed the nation and said to them: "*May Hashem increase you and bless you*". One must ask: What is the connection between the admonition and the blessing? The children of Israel at that time were not the ones who had sinned years earlier, sins hinted to in all the places Moshe had mentioned, for the actual sinners had all died in the wilderness. Rather they were their sons, and yet when Moshe came and rebuked them, they nonetheless listened and received the reproach. When Moshe saw this, he explained to them that because they heard and received the reproach, they will therefore be blessed, that our nation's numbers be increased with people just like them.

History in Brief

150 years after the Hurban, calendar year 220. As Rabbenu Hakadosh was preparing the Ketubah, marriage document, for his son to be wed to the daughter of Rebi Chiya, the future bride passed away. They researched lineage and found that Rabbenu Hakadosh was a descendant of one of the wives of David Hamelech, and that the future bride was a descendant of David's brother Shimi, not from the Davidic royal dynasty. Rebbe then asked for the daughter of R' Yossi Ben Zimra to be the bride for his son. They

agreed to allow Rebbe's son to continue learning in Yeshiva for twelve years and then he would marry. However, when his son met his future bride, he appreciated her so much that he told them that he would marry after learning for six years. After meeting with her a second time, he decided to marry her right away and then learn after marriage. After marriage, he learned for twelve years in Yeshiva, and his wife unfortunately was barren and did not conceive. Rebbe did not know what to do. Without children, should they divorce? She waited for twelve years. How could they now divorce? If he marries a second wife for children, she would feel terrible from the competition. Rebbe prayed for her and she conceived a child for his son. Rebbe's wife passed away and he remarried. He instructed his children before passing away that they should respect her as if she was their own mother. Rebbe's maidservant was not Jewish, but she was wise and understanding. When she was ninety-two years old, still with strength, she would be able to taste the food being prepared and know exactly what it needed. Once when she witnessed someone hitting his oldest son, she excommunicated him, which the Hachamim enforced for three years in honor of Rebbe's maidservant, and afterwards released him.

Health and Recovery

Simple yet important diet pointers: 1- It is much better to lose some extra weight slowly and progressively, even over the course of a couple of months, than to lose more quickly, for then the simple changes in your lifestyle that have contributed to the weight loss will become permanent and meaningful, in contrast to extreme changes and immediate weight loss that do not stand the passing of time. 2- Never eat anything while standing. Always enjoy your meal while sitting. This

habit of always sitting while eating will help you decline certain quick snacks that are usually eaten while standing and should really not be eaten at all. 3- Water! It is best to drink eight to ten cups of water a day. Sometimes people think they are hungry when in fact their body is thirsty. By keeping properly hydrated, one can reduce excess intake of food.

Mussar: *Serving Hashem*

1 – We must believe that Hashem created everything from nothing and is always watching over everything. **2** – Hashem has no partners and needs no helpers. We must fear His judgment and His supremacy. **3** – Saying Hashem’s Name any time besides during prayers or learning, and in any language, is forbidden. **4** – We must pray and learn with love and affection, and sing Hashem’s praises. **5** – One may enjoy pleasure from this world only in order to continue serving Hashem, and in order to help others serve Hashem as well. **6** – Always keep in mind that your actions are in order to serve Hashem, whether you are eating, sleeping, playing, or working. **7** – Honor and love those who learn Torah properly. **8** – Recite Shema at the correct times – during Shaharit, Arbit, and before falling asleep. **9** – Concentrate during prayers and know what you are saying. **10** – Emulate Hashem’s ways: be merciful like Him. **11** – Honor and respect the Shul and Midrash. Don’t chat or act disrespectful while there, and sit properly with awe and Midot Tovot (proper conduct). **12** – Distance yourself from a possible transgression, and definitely from a known transgression. **13** – Trust only Hashem. Do not consult psychics, soothsayers, or star-gazers. **14** – Remember Hashem’s kindness every moment, and constantly thank Him for everything. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Rishon LeSion:

Maran Hacham Ovadia Yossef 1921-2003

R’ Yaakov Ovadia, father of Maran Hacham Ovadia Yossef, was getting ready to perform a Pidyon Haben for his newborn son Ovadia who would be 30 days old on the 12th of Cheshvan in 1921. That day the son of the Ben Ish Chai passed away, R’ Yaakov Chaim, and everyone ended their business dealings early in order to attend the funeral processions. The father of Hacham Ovadia also stopped preparing for the Seudat Pidyon and joined the attendance at the funeral. After the funeral, he made an announcement inviting everyone to the Seudat Mitzvah Pidyon Haben. Everyone came to celebrate the Mitzvah, all who were present, including great Rabbanim and officials of high positions who were just in attendance at the important funeral. Hacham Ovadia was redeemed from a very distinguished Cohen, R’ Ephraim HaCohen ztl. They blessed the newborn boy to be their consolation, to grow in Torah, to fill a void of greatness. When he was only a few months old, as he lay in his bassinet in the yard, he was almost bitten by a deadly snake, but was saved by an Arab neighbor who killed the snake before he could cause harm. Some ask, if his father’s name was R’ Yaakov Ovadia, why does his family now have the last name Yossef? In Babel, the custom was not to have a last name, but rather a person’s second name was his father’s name. When they moved to Israel, they no longer kept this custom, and therefore adopted the last name Yossef moving forward as the family name.

Story

R’ Yehuda prayed to Hashem for punishment and forgiveness in order to atone for the terrible sin he committed against Yehoshua the orphan, whom he falsely accused of stealing and had caused him great

shame and embarrassment. The heavens accepted his prayers and the punishment that followed was a story that will shake you to the core of your soul: In the city of Ardishov lived many counts and dukes, men of high positions of power with great palaces filled with luxury testifying to their wealth befitting their elevated stature in society. The count Nalovski had such magnificent wealth and possessions, matched only by the count Potoski. Count Nalovski constantly worked hard to upgrade his furnishings, his prized paintings, antiques and rare collectibles, and his palace was truly magnificent. One of his most favorite purchases was high quality tobacco. He would snap his fingers, give a sack of coins to a messenger, and request the very best tobacco to be purchased on his behalf, which he would enjoy using the best packaging, prepared expertly for optimal satisfaction.

Laws

1 – Boreh Nefashot does not need to be recited in the same place that you ate or drank, unlike Birkat Hamazon, and can be recited in another location.

2 – If one ate fruits and was satisfied but forgot to recite a blessing afterwards, he can still recite the blessing until 72 minutes after eating.

3 – After 72 minutes, he can only recite the blessing afterwards if he still feels full. If he is unsure if he still feels full from the fruits, then he should not recite the blessing.

4 – If one ate a small amount of fruit and was not satisfied, he should recite the blessing afterwards right away, because if he does not recite it within a half hour, then he should eat more fruit and only then

recite the blessing afterwards for all the fruit he has eaten. He can also hear someone else recite the blessing afterwards and fulfill his obligation through the other person's recitation. If he cannot eat more or find someone to recite it for him, then he can still recite it until 72 minutes.

Sponsors

*** **Anonymous.** Blessings, health, and success for the entire family, Amen. *** **Blessed siblings: Soly, Hillel, and their sisters, of the Bawabe Family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father **Yitzchak Zaki Ben Simcha a"h**, Amen. *** **Mr. Edmon Nahum, his wife Lina, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat the pure soul of the young child **Yosef Chaim Ben Olga 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 Sabour 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.

*This week's sponsorship total is \$400
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