

Congregation

◆◆◆"Beth Yosef"◆◆◆

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

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

Parashat Tetzaveh Zachor

8th Adar 5785

Maqam Siga

Issue #1110

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President

Haftarat Vayomer Shemuel

March 8th 2025

*Candle Lighting 5:36pm * Shekiah 5:54pm * Shir Hashirim 5:30pm followed by Minha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Minha Shabbat 5:20pm * Shabbat Ends 6:37pm & Rabbenu Tam 7:07pm*

*Time for Talit 5:11am * Seasonal Hour 68 * Alot Hashahar 4:57am * Netz Hachama 6:19am*

*Weekday Minha 5:45pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 5:07pm * Tzet Hacoachavim 6:32pm * Chatzot 12:06*

*Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:21am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:29am*

***Petirat Moshe Rabbenu Thursday March 6th, Reading Begins 6:15pm in Beth Yosef
Taanit Esther Fast Thursday March 13th, Begins 5:48am, Ends 7:25pm, Strictly 7:37pm***

*Thursday Night & Friday Morning, **Purim: Minha 6:30pm, Megillah Reading 7:00pm***

*Shaharit Purim **6:00am, Megillah Reading 6:40am, Megillah for Women 11:00am***

*This week's publication has been generously sponsored by the good-hearted
Mr. Heskell Cohen, his wife Bella, and their children. May their entire family
be blessed with spiritual and physical success in all that they do, 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

Last week, in Parashat Terumah, we discussed the construction of the Mishkan as well as the Aron, Shulhan Menorah, Mizbeah Olah, Kerashim, and Yerirot - all in detail. This week, in Parashat Tetzaveh, we begin by discussing the holy garments of the Cohanim, worn by Aharon and his children, followed by the inaugural sacrifices and offerings, followed by the sanctity of the Ohel Moed, the Mizbeah, and Aharon and his sons in service, and finally the declaration that Hashem will dwell in the midst of our holy nation. All preparations and services result in the Holy Presence of Hashem amongst us. The Parasha then concludes with the vessels of the Mishkan, and finally the Mizbeah Haketoret. Why does the Parasha conclude specifically with the Mizbeah Haketoret, after already discussing all the other holy items, services, and promise of Hashem's Presence? Here we have an important lesson that should be used to guide us through life: The Tabernacle was the place

of Divine service, sanctification and transcendence, and every detail instructs us towards a particular lesson: the Aron and the Luhot correspond to the study of the Torah. The pure Menorah corresponds to the refinement of character, from its pure gold to its pure olive oil. The Shulhan corresponds to the sanctity required in eating, or rather materialism and livelihood. The priestly garments represent atonement, or rather Teshuvah and repentance, for transgressions and bad deeds. Finally, the Ketoret, which the holy Zohar explains at length as a catalyst for great Segulot that can sweeten judgment and nullify catastrophic consequences, as we have seen that Aharon HaCohen stopped the plague by means of the Ketoret, corresponds to the power of our Tefillah which is in place nowadays instead of sacrifices and services. It is known that by even just learning the passage of the Ketoret one is able to bring forth the performance of miracles today in order to

influence an abundance of good. Therefore, Jewish life corresponds directly to the entire course of the Mishkan and its services: 1 - Torah study. 2 - The refinement of character. 3 - The sanctity of eating and materialism, which also includes how we work to earn a livelihood. 4 – The correction of defects and evils through repentance as merited through the priestly garments. 5 - The worship of Hashem with prayers today instead of sacrifices. Finally, after accomplishing all these, the Segulot of the Ketoret can then come to sweeten judgment and cancel out prosecutors. Therefore, every morning, we must schedule enough time to read the Ketoret at the conclusion of the morning prayers, just as it has been established in the Torah after all the vessels of the Mishkan and its services were mentioned. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Insights on the Parasha

1 – While Aharon would mix in with the people, strive to bring peace amongst the people, his brother Moshe was a leader who was slightly removed from the general public and not as involved personally as Aharon. Therefore, Hashem commands Moshe to *bring his brother Aharon closer* – meaning that Moshe should adopt the positive quality that Aharon has and increase his personal involvement with the people. A true leader is constantly and actively living amongst his people. (*R' Meir from Parmishlan*).

History in Brief

180 years after the Hurban, calendar year 250. Rebi Shimon Ben Lakish, also known in the Gemara as Reish Lakish, was a student of Rabbenu Hakadosh. He married the sister of Rebi Yochanan, and was about ten years younger than him. Earlier in his life he learned Torah but had then removed the yoke of Torah off his shoulders for many years, until he later did Teshuvah and became one of the greatest in his generation. He lived in Babel and moved to Israel in order to learn Torah. He and Rebi Yochanan learned Torah from Rebbe. They said that they merited to learn Torah just from looking at the tips of Rebbe's fingers. Their colleague was the great Rav. Rebi Yochana would say that Reish Lakish was the key to the Bet Midrash because he arrived earliest every day. They both were known as the greats of the world,

counted amongst the first of the Amoraim generation. Rebbe had two other great students, Yosef Chafni and Shimon Ephrati. He instructed them to take care of his burial arrangements when he passed away, but they didn't merit this because they passed away first, and help him instead in the next world. Before attending the Shiur of Rebi Yochanan, Reish Lakish would review forty times. Towards the end of his life, there was a clear difference in Halacha between him and Rebi Yochanan. He argued very strongly and convincingly, which caused Rebi Yochanan to feel weak, and as a result Reish Lakish passed away, in the calendar year 279. Rebi Yochanan mourned the passing of Reish Lakish, ripping his garment, and a short while later Rebi Yochanan also passed away. Reish Lakish left behind for his children only a Kav measure of carobs, 1380 grams. He would teach: a person only sins if a spirit of foolishness enters his mind. He would also teach: first rebuke and restrict yourself before rebuking and restricting others.

Health and Recovery

For all kinds of legumes, soaking in water is beneficial for the dissolution of the gas molecules, which then makes it much easier to digest, but you must add fennel seeds in the water during cooking. Lentils of all colors help digestion, is good for cholesterol balance, and is easy to digest. Hummus is recommended as a source of energy for those who compete in sports, and contributes to the balance of blood sugar levels in the body. In addition, chickpeas are rich in folic acid, and therefore recommended for women. Beans are good for those suffering from anemia, as it is rich in iron and a good source of calcium. In fact, white beans contain calcium similar to milk, and also contains magnesium and zinc that contribute to bone strengthening. Mash beans are especially known for detoxifying and strengthening the liver. Peas are relatively low in calories and are recommended for weight loss and stabilizing blood sugar levels. Canned legumes contain a lot of salt, and therefore pose a health risk. As a rule, all canned foods are terribly lacking compared to fresh foods, as its nutritional value is terribly compromised and even destroyed during the conservation process. Legumes prepared personally are always the best, but if you are short

on time, frozen vegetables and legumes, rather than canned, preserve many nutritional values and save precious time.

Mussar: Imperfection

Nobody is perfect. Everyone makes mistakes and has their own personal package of flaws. Only Hashem is complete and perfect. Unfortunately, man has the custom to see the flaws of others, and often does not see his own imperfections. Perhaps his flaw may even be greater than that of his friend. Seek out the truth and develop yourself properly. Go to the Rabbanim and ask for constructive criticism. Fear heaven and always do the right thing, even if you may not fully understand. Change for the better a little bit each day and declare, *'When will my actions reach the level of my forefathers Avraham, Yitzchak, and Yaakov?'* Pray for success and truth. One time, a Jewish man in Bagdad came before the great *Rav Yosef Chaim (Ben Ish Hai)* and explained that his neighbor was a sinner. He asked if he must sell his house and move, as the Mishnah states *'Distance from a neighbor that is bad'*. The Rav explained that he must actually read the Mishnah in this situation as *'Distance a neighbor from bad'* – meaning, he must pray and work with wisdom to show his neighbor the truth. One mustn't always abandon his neighbor just because he is at fault, rather he must sometimes find a way to rid his neighbor of the fault, thereby eliminating the need to move altogether. This man listened to the Rav and was successful in helping his neighbor repent.

Rishon LeSion:

Maran Hacham Ovadia Yossef 1921-2013

Yeshivat Porat Yosef was a holy Mikdash upon which the Shechinah rested. In this holy place, the greatest Sephardic Hachamim of our times learned Torah and developed their spiritual potential. The young Ovadia studied diligently day and night, gained great discipline in his learning, and evolved into a world-renowned Torah scholar under the tutelage of the great Rosh Yeshiva Gaon Hacham Ezra Attieh. It wasn't long before the world learned his name and realized his greatness. His group included great minds who studied with intense focus. Maran would learn in the cafeteria while he ate, using every opportunity to advance, and completed Masechet Baba Kama during his

lunch breaks in a short time. Once, when the old city was under attack from missiles, Hacham Ezra instructed R' Benayahu Shmueli to locate two of his students who were missing, Hacham Ovadia and his colleague Hacham BenSion Abba Shaul, who were both young men at the time. When he couldn't find them in the Yeshiva, Hacham Ezra advised him to look in the library on the bottom floor of the Yeshiva, where they were eventually found, entirely engrossed in their learning, completely unaware of the great danger outside from the missiles.

Story

R' Chaim's wife told him to travel with their daughter and visit the great Tzaddik R' Noam Elimelech, who was known to help cure those who were mysteriously sick through the power of his holy prayers. She was confident that the Rabbi would bring forth a salvation for their daughter. R' Chaim told his wife that he didn't doubt the holy power of the Rabbi, but such a long journey would cost him so much time away from his precious daily Torah learning. The loss would be guaranteed, while the cure was questionable. How could he give up a definite for a chance? He therefore continued his learning and did not go. However, after a few more days he realized that his daughter was becoming deathly ill, and the situation was serious enough that he had no choice but to go visit R' Noam Elimelech. His wife prepared everything he would need for the journey, and the father and daughter set out together on their way. While they rode in the wagon, the father continued learning from his Sefarim, while the daughter rested, lying down, wrapped tightly in blankets.

Laws: Purim

1 – Today the value of a Machatzit Hashekel, ten grams of silver, is approximately eleven dollars. Women are also obligated to give this amount, as well as for their children, and also for an unborn child within the mother. If one cannot afford this, he should at least give eleven dollars for the adults and whatever amount he could afford for the children. One may not use Ma'aser money for this Mitzvah.

2 – Ta'anit Esther, Thursday March 13th, begins 5:48am, the seasonal hour, Shaah Zemanit, is 69,

as one and a fifth seasonal hours before Netz is Alot HaShahar, according to the Ben Ish Hai and Hacham Ovadia. The fast ends 7:25pm, and 7:37pm for the strict.

3 – Megillah reading Purim night in Beth Yosef will be at 7:00pm after Mincha (6:30pm) in middle of Arbit. Friday Morning, Purim, Megillah reading will be at 6:40am, and again at 11:00am for the women. Women please do not be late.

4 – Pregnant or nursing women, women who miscarried, or women who recently gave birth, are exempt from this fast. A sick person, even if he is not in a serious situation, is also exempt. An old person who doesn't have adequate strength is exempt as well. A Hatan (Groom) and the three people who are directly involved in a Brit Milah, father, Mohel, and Sandak, are likewise exempt.

5 – One who missed the Megillah reading at night for whatever reason cannot fulfill that obligation during the day by reading twice.

6 – Shehechyanu recited by the reading should cover the other Mitzvot of Purim as well – Mishloach Manot, Matanot La'Evyonim, and the Seudah.

7 – After the reading, roll up the Megillah and recite 'Ha-el Harav Et Rivenu...' and end 'Baruch Atah... Hanifrah Le'Amo...' and do not say Ha-El Hanifrah.

8 – A Beracha after the reading is only recited when ten men or ten women are present.

9 – If one forgot Shehechyanu at night, he should recite it in the morning before the Megillah reading.

10 – If one does not have a Kosher Megillah then he cannot read along and must be completely silent while listening to the recitation. Do not respond Baruch Hu Ubaruch Shemo.

11 – One may not eat a meal before the reading of the Megillah, both at night and in the morning. However, one may snack on something small.

12 – After reading a page, do not roll it up until the end of the entire reading.

13 – Speaking and motioning during the reading is not allowed. If you have a Kosher Megillah, then you may answer Amen or Kedusha, as you will be able to read yourself and not miss a word.

14 – One who missed Al Hanissim in Amidah or Birkat Hamazon and already recited Hashem's name cannot go back, but should include it in Elokai Netzor or the Harachamans.

15 – One should dress nicely on Purim.

16 – Shaving, haircuts, and cutting nails are prohibited during Purim.

17 – Perform Mishloach Manot and Matanot La'Evyonim before the Seudah.

18 – A mourner within 30 days, or within 12 months for his parents, cannot send Mishloach Manot but may receive. Some hold he may send to one person.

19 – When Purim falls out on a Friday, Erev Shabbat, like this year, we eat the Seudah earlier in the day, closer to the morning than the evening, in honor of Shabbat, before Chatzot 12:05pm. If one cannot eat the Seudah earlier, the latest he should eat is until 4:00pm.

Sponsors

*** The wise Avrech **Aharon Avraham Farhi and his wife Esther**, blessings and success for the entire family, Mazal Tov, Mabrouk, Amen.

*** **Mr. Raphael Sardar HaLevi, his wife Shelly, their parents, and their children.**

Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. *** **Mr. Oni Naim, his wife Susan, and their children.**

Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her father **Nuriel Ben Sarah a"h**, and Leilui Nishmat her mother **Chana Bat Sultan a"h**, Amen. *** The family

and friends of the righteous woman Tzadeket Eshet Hayil **Sibbie Bat Rosie, may her soul be bound up in the bonds of eternal life**, Amen. *** **Mrs. Adele Hudeidi and her children.**

Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her husband and their father **Chaim Ben Farha 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.

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