

Congregation



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

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

Parashat Vayera

17th Heshvan 5786

Maqam Nawa

Issue #1136

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President

Haftarat Velsha Ahat

November 8th 2025

*Candle Lighting 4:27pm * Shekiah 4:45pm * Shir Hashirim 4:20pm followed by Minha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Minha Shabbat 4:05pm * Shabbat Ends 5:26pm & Rabbenu Tam 5:56pm
Time for Talit 5:35am * Seasonal Hour 60 * Alot Hashahar 5:23am * Netz Hachama 6:35am
Weekday Minha 4:25pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 4:06pm * Tzet Hacoachavim 5:21pm * Chatzot 11:39
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:28am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:28am*

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***Mr. Joey Mrad Allaham HaCohen, his wife Lillian,
their parents, their children, and their grandchildren.***

May Hashem bless them with spiritual and physical success,
Tizku L'Mitzvot, Amen!

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

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Two great Tzaddikim in history were known for their hospitality with guests, Avraham and Iyov. There were fundamental differences between their style of hospitality. Iyov would serve the guest whatever he would usually eat in his own home. Avraham, however, would serve his guests the greatest delicacies, regardless of their regular diet. He would serve them choice meat and fine wine even if they don't usually enjoy meat and wine. Iyov would sit inside his home and answer the door to his guests, while Avraham sat outside and anticipated the opportunity to invite someone inside as a guest. Avraham was known for inviting guests, while Iyov was known for accepting guests. Both performed high levels of hospitality, but clearly Avraham was on a higher level. This is why Avraham merited to host angels, who don't even eat food and yet they ate Avraham's food. Despite Avraham's physical weakness, he sat outside in the terrible heat, anticipated the arrival of

guests, and then ran after them when the opportunity came. When you perform acts of kindness and fulfill Mitzvot, you are given super human strength and the ability to accomplish the greatest of achievements. In reward, Hashem granted Avraham immense blessings of kindness for all his future generations to enjoy. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Insights on the Parasha

1 – *"His wife peered behind him and she became a pillar of salt"* Because she did not offer salt to her guests, she was punished in this fashion. Why does it say that she peered behind *him*, it should have said she peered behind *her*? The answer is as follows: in her mind, she was peering behind her husband, meaning she was trying to visualize her situation after her husband died. They had fled and left behind everything they owned. She was worried about what she would be left with financially after her husband died.

There was nothing left for her to collect her Ketubah. Even at that moment, when they were escaping destruction which was a result of selfishness and a lack of consideration for others, she was still only thinking about herself and worried only about her own future. (*Keli Yakar*)

History in Brief

200 years after the Hurban, calendar year 270. Rebi Chiya teaches us a number of lessons: to protect from digestive issues, regularly dip into vinegar or wine, and do not chase after meals that are tasty but are not nutritious or healthy. Use the restrooms whenever there is a need and do not delay. If you know that your Rebbe can answer your question, then you may ask, but do not ask if he will not be able to answer and will be embarrassed. Do not be stricter than required, because Chava erred when she told the snake that Hashem instructed her not to touch the tree, when in truth the commandment was not to eat from the tree. There was nothing wrong with touching the tree, she was being stricter than required, and this led her to being tricked into eating it. Bnei Yisrael are reserved, kind, and generous. We have great merit from our forefathers Avraham, Yitzchak, and Yaakov, so that when our nation strays off the right path, this great merit helps get us back on course. When we do kindness in this world, the good deed goes up to Hashem, and returns in great increased strength to bring kindness to many others in our nation throughout the generation. Our actions have a ripple effect on everyone else. If we do good, then we increase the influence of good throughout the world. If otherwise, then destruction is given permission to wreak havoc. When Rabbenu Hakadosh passed away, Rebbe did not ask for Rebi Chiya to take his place, because he knew that Rebi

Chiya was very busy with Mitzvot, and he did not want to take him away from those opportunities.

Health and Recovery

1- Everyone's digestive tract is different and functions differently. **2-** Do not chase after good tasting food which is harmful for you. **3-** Soft foods such as cereals and soups are able to be digested quickly, and their nutrients enter the blood easily. They are then quick to adapt to any part of the body where they can provide quality nourishment. **4-** Cleaner blood generally services the organs on the right side of the body, while the less pure blood services the organs on the left side of the body. **5-** Excessive sweating is a sign of weakness in the body. **6-** Sweat is salty. When one is sick, the sweat becomes saltier, just as the taste of saliva in the mouth changes depending on the sickness. **7-** The persistence of worrying melts the fat in the body and dries the meat. **8-** Enjoying delicacies often decreases the quality of the body's blood. **9-** The following activities causes weakness to the body and a plurality of diseases: the pursuit of women - unrestrained avarice – constant demand of power and authority - being envious of others – one who troubles his mind with thoughts of why others are getting rich why he isn't, why others are happy while he isn't; such thoughts are constantly causing restlessness to the mind, which weakens the body and begins causing a number of diseases.

Mussar: Seclusion with Hashem

Seclusion with Hashem is a very important trait that is greater than the rest. Seclusion means to devote and dedicate a special frame of time to privately speak with Hashem and ask from Hashem what you need. Speaking with Hashem should be done privately where

nobody sees and one should ask Hashem to help him come closer to Him and serve Him better, in the best and most optimal way. This conversation with Hashem could be conducted in any language and should express whatever is in your heart, whether it is regret or repentance for the past, or the intentions to be closer to Hashem from that point on. Every person should come closer to Hashem using the tools Hashem has given him, each on his own level. The key is consistency – every day one should make an effort to draw closer, as this will also make the day into a happier one. Even if a person can only speak about one thing with Hashem, that is also a great thing. He should be strong and steadfast, and if possible, he should try to do this a few times during each day. The added result: you will see success and salvation in your kids. These conversations with Hashem help void evil decrees without even knowing about their possibilities. A person must know: a Jewish man's sword is his prayer, as this is the connection between Hashem and man. If you see a change in your daily life, don't say it's a coincidence; rather be a devout believer that it's all from Hashem. Ask from Hashem that you shouldn't be put to test, that you should not experience disgrace due to the Yetzer Hara's strong and sharp strategies against man. Who can withstand them? Pray to Hashem so that He will help and save you from the Yetzer Hara. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Rishon LeSion:

Maran Hacham Ovadia Yossef 1921-2013

Friday night in Egypt, Hacham Ovadia would give a Derasha in Bet Midrash Bar Yohai, and then walk quite a distance to Ahava Ve'Ahva where the people would come to hear him deliver a Shiur, after the people ate their Seudat Shabbat in their

homes. Hacham Ovadia repeated this again the next day during Shabbat. On Motzei Shabbat he would return home. Every student and congregant was important to Hacham Ovadia, and he would notice their attendance and absence, to make sure to ask each how they are doing. At that time, a merchant purchased from Israel twelve Etrogim. He gave one Etrog to each of the ten congregations, and then gave one to the Chief Rabbi and one to Hacham Ovadia. One time the congregation of Bet Kneset Shaare Tzedek in Cairo did not have an Etrog and could not get one. When Hacham Ovadia heard about it, he gave his own Etrog to the congregation and fulfilled his Mitzvah along with them.

Story

Mekubal Rabbi Leib Sarah zt"l 1735-1796

Rabbi Leib Sarah went to visit the Gaon Rabbi Itamar HaCohen about whom it was said that he could serve as Cohen Gadol if the Bet Hamikdash would be restored that day. He spent hours with him alone locked in a room discussing hidden matters. Rabbi Yitzchak M'Kalish wanted to hear what they were discussing. He stood by the wall and tried to listen in. Immediately Rabbi Leib opened the door and told him that if he was not permitted to enter then he was also not permitted to listen through the wall. Rabbi Leib understood each occurrence in its proper time. When the day came for him to leave this world, he told his children not to bother bringing the doctor, because he would be departing this world in two hours. And so it was.

Laws

1 – If you remove your Talit with the intention of putting it back on, within a half hour another blessing is not recited, however after a half hour another blessing is required.

2 – If he removed his Talit without the intention of putting it back on, i.e. holding it up and putting it away in the bag, then right away a blessing is required if he wants to put it back on.

3 – When mashing a potato, avocado, or something similar, the same blessing is still recited.

4 – However, when mashing something that will become liquid, then the blessing changes to Shehakol, since it no longer resembles its past form.

5 – The blessing on melon seeds is Shehakol, but if someone recited Ha'adamah then he has fulfilled his obligation.

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children. Blessings, health, and success for the entire family, Amen. *** ***Mr. Yosef Alfaks, his wife Leah, and their children.*** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their son ***Mordechai Ben Leah a"h***, Amen. *** ***Mr. Albert Shaya, his wife Shoshana, and their children.*** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat his father ***Moshe Ben Miriam a"h***, Amen. *** ***Mrs. Nina Saade and her blessed children: Yosef, Jack, Ziko, Sofia, Dolly, and Karen.*** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father ***Avraham Saade Ben Shafiah a"h***, Amen. *** ***Mr. Nissim Alkada, his wife Rima, and their children.*** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her father ***Yehuda Ben Rima a"h***, and Leilui Nishmat his mother ***Rachel Bat Latifah a"h***, Amen. *** ***Mrs. Brenda Heffez and her blessed children: Larry, Gabriel, and Jack.*** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father ***Avraham Ben Dora a"h***, Amen. *** ***Mrs. Norma Assa and her children.*** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her husband and their father the Shochet Hacham ***Yosef Ben Nizha a"h***, Amen.

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