

Congregation

★ ★ ★ "Beth Yosef" ★ ★ ★

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

Rabbi Aharon Farhi

Parashat **Vayishlah**

16th Kislev 5786

Maqam Bayat

Issue #1140

Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President

Haftarat **Hazon Ovadia**

December 6th 2025

*Candle Lighting 4:10pm * Shekiah 4:28pm * Shir Hashirim 4:00pm followed by Minha Friday Night
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am * Minha Shabbat 3:50pm * Shabbat Ends 5:10pm & Rabbenu Tam 5:40pm
Time for Talit 6:10am * Seasonal Hour 56 * Alot Hashahar 5:59am * Netz Hachama 7:06am
Weekday Minha 4:10pm * Earliest Time for Arbit 3:55pm * Tzet Hacoachavim 5:05pm * Chatzot 11:47
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:47am * Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:43am*

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Please do not read this bulletin during Tefillah or Keriat Hatorah

Rashi comments that Yaakov Avinu sent actual angels to deliver the presents to Esav and let him know that he was coming. He instructed them to speak to his 'Master' Esav, and mention the 613 Mitzvot that he observed while living in Lavan's home. Why were angels necessary? Why did he use the term 'Master' if he wasn't even in front of Esav? Also, why did he mention his observance of 613 Mitzvot, how would that impress Esav? Rather, let us explain, he wasn't trying to communicate with Esav, but rather with Hashem. Yaakov was praying to Hashem for salvation, and he used angels as messengers to ask Hashem for mercy. When he said 'Master' he was in fact referring to Hashem, and when he mentioned his observance of the 613 Mitzvot, he was praying in the merit that he did not learn from the sinful ways of Lavan and instead connected to Hashem. Of course, Yaakov understood that Esav has no power over him whatsoever if not for Hashem allowing something to happen. Therefore, he prayed to Hashem and prepared in ways that would enable him to receive Hashem's protection. With Hashem's protection, no enemy in the

world can touch you. The Parasha mentions that the sun rose up for Yaakov in order to heal his injured thigh. Those two hours in which the sun rose early for Yaakov balanced out the two hours when the sun set early in order for Yaakov to sleep in that place on his way from Be'er Sheva to Haran. No matter how dark it gets, no matter how serious and negative a situation can become, a Jew must always know that times change for him and good things are coming, with great light and happiness. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

Insights on the Parasha

Yaakov traveled to a place and built shelter and Sukkot for his livestock, so they called the place Sukkot. Is that the way of the world, to name a place after the sheltering of animals? Rather, this is teaching us a lesson. The importance of a person's action is based on the kindness he performs for others, even animals. Therefore, the name of the place was not referring to his own dwelling, but rather the name refers to the shelter he built for others, even animals, which signifies the greatest of man's

kindness, to help others and give for others. By calling the place Sukkot, it teaches us the importance of giving.

History in Brief

200 years after the Hurban, calendar year 270. As troubles and suffering increased for the Jewish people, they spent less time learning Torah. They began forgetting the Torah, and so it was time to take measures to ensure that Torah would not be forgotten from the nation. Rabbeinu Hakadosh, descendant of Hillel Hazaken, descendant of David Hamelech, the Gadol Hador, during his days many Tanaim and Sages of the Mishnah multiplied in numbers. The Halacha is said to be according to Rebbe when he argues with Tanaim, even when he argues with his father. He was humble, excelled in character, and nobody else spread Torah throughout the nation as he. Since the days of Moshe Rabbeinu until Rebbe there never was Torah and greatness in one person. Rebbe was exceedingly wealthy and had direct access to kingdom, government, and those in power. He was singularly unique in his generation; despite outstanding wealth he distanced himself from all physical benefits in this world. He supported the Rabbinical scholars from his tables. Realizing the lengthening exile, the growing levels of suffering and worries, and the decreasing numbers of rabbinical students, as the Roman Empire grew in strength and numbers in the world, Rebbe took a personal concern in making sure that Torah would never be forgotten. He was agreeable for the Oral Torah to be compiled and published in text, even though it had not been allowed to be written down before. When the need comes to act for the sake of Hashem, one must change even the Halacha. In order to ensure that the Oral Torah would not be forgotten, he allowed it to be recorded on paper. 150 years after the destruction of the Second Temple, he gathered the greatest Sages in the world at the time, and together Rebbe

began writing down the six Sedarim of the Mishnah. He recorded all the Halachot, opinions of the Sages, and the disagreements they had on each topic.

Health and Recovery

Our Sages warn: there should be no talking during a feast, lest food enter the windpipe instead of the esophagus and cause choking. If food or saliva were to enter the lungs, the person's life would be in immediate danger through suffocation. This is a very dangerous junction. An accident at this junction can become a fatal situation at any age without prior warning. Unlike other diseases or sicknesses, even if a person is generally careful, the situation can elevate without symptoms or warning. Sometimes if it happens that food enters the windpipe, with the mercy of Hashem, miraculously the person will be able to immediately cough up the food which is pushed out of trachea and the danger of suffocation will be prevented. The rule is that the more you chew the better you will be able to digest your food, both through being well crushed and along with the saliva of the mouth that mixes with it and breaks it down further. It is important to know that if you eat healthy foods, in the proper amount with the desired form of chewing, the chances are that the overall desire to eat more and snack more will decrease, and the feeling of fullness will satisfy you. The right way is to eat a little at a time, and then in a short time you will feel a tremendous change in your feelings of hunger. It is the desire to fill the belly that causes most patients to become sick, according to the writings of the Rambam. You should know that carbohydrates are mainly broken down in the mouth with saliva. Therefore, continuous chewing of carbohydrates is done in the mouth through saliva and thus it is very important to chew thoroughly because it causes the maximum breakdown of carbohydrates, which will then produce the maximum benefit to the body from the food.

Mussar: Life

Do you wish to live in peace and tranquility? Do not become accustomed to the physical enjoyments of this world. If Hashem has blessed you with wealth and prosperity, do not spoil yourself or teach your family to require higher standards of living, complete with the much-desired enjoyments of this world. We do not know what tomorrow will bring. If one becomes accustomed to higher standards, he will require it. A child will feel a great need to satiate this requirement even in his old age. If the child is raised in such a fashion but cannot fulfill this higher standard later in life, he may be led to theft. He will live in pain if he cannot continue living the way he has become accustomed to when he was growing up. One must be happy and satisfied with what he has and needs, and should teach himself control and discipline, for then he will be praised in this world and in the next. One should despise the physical and mundane enjoyments that this world tries to force a person to chase after, for the pleasure is momentary while the destruction caused can be catastrophic and long lasting. Desire the true life! Chase after the life of Torah, Mitzvot, and good deeds. Serve your Creator and present a wonderful fragrance before Him through your deeds. Don't waste your precious life with foolish silliness while chasing after your desires. Perform the will of Hashem with all of your might and ability. Do not cease from learning His laws and commandments, and structure your day to include a set of uncompromised time for Torah study. One who follows this advice will merit a truly wealthy life of health, happiness, and longevity, Amen.

Rishon LeSion:

Maran Hacham Ovadia Yossef 1921-2013

As Sukkot was approaching, Hacham Ovadia faced a challenge with the Jewish community in Egypt. Long ago they had stopped building Sukkot and were unaccustomed to performing this Mitzvah. They would recite Kiddush in

the Sukkah in Shul and that was the extent of their observance. There was fear of what the Arabs would do to them if they became angered and bothered from the Sukkot, and it was simply a lot of work to build a Sukkah on the roof that convincing them would be a serious challenge. Hacham Ovadia gave speeches and classes on the topic, explaining that it was a very clear positive biblical commandment and they weren't allowed to just not observe it. He explained that they were not fulfilling even their basic obligations by hearing Kiddush in the Shul's Sukkah. Despite the threat of the Goyim, they had to believe that Hashem would protect them in order to fulfill the Mitzvah. That first year only Hacham Ovadia built a Sukkah on his roof, clearly visible and standing out in the whole city. When the authorities noticed the suspicious structure on his roof, they immediately ascended and found Hacham Ovadia shaking his Lulav and Etrog. They once again began accusing Hacham Ovadia of being a spy for Israel, believing that these actions were somehow preparations to rise up against the Egyptian government.

Story

Gaon Rabbi Leib Sarah zt"l 1735-1796

Rabbi Leib was passing through a city and stayed as a guest in a Jewish home. His host knew that Rabbi Leib was one of the hidden thirty-six Tzaddikim, but his wife thought their guest was a simple wood merchant. The host asked his holy guest to assist him with business advice. He was restocking his store and needed advice what to purchase to be successful in business. Rabbi Leib went with him and gave him a list of products to purchase. He also told him what not to purchase, such as gloves. The host thanked him for his help and Rabbi Leib thanked him for his hospitality as he returned to his travels. The man purchased everything Rabbi Leib had advised, but then also purchased gloves for his inventory, thinking that it was a very common

need and would surely yield an easy profit. Shortly afterwards, soldiers came to town and needed supplies. They raided his store, but needed nothing besides gloves. They cleaned out his full stock of gloves, free of charge of course for the sake of the soldiers, and left everything else alone.

Laws

1 – During Shabbat, a person can be crafty and creative in order to recite one hundred blessings.

2 – For example: after reciting Kiddush, before Netillat Yadayim and Hamotzi, a person can recite four blessings, Mezonot, Ha'etz, Ha'adamah, and Shehakol.

3 – Even during the week, a person can be creative to recite one hundred blessings. For example: when eating rice with potatoes, you can recite Ha'adamah first on the potatoes have in mind not to include the rice, and then recite Mezonot on the rice.

4 – If you have a plate of rice and meat, in which the meat is primary, first recite Shehakol on the meat and then recite Mezonot on the rice.

5 – If you have a plate of rice and large noticeable pieces of vegetables, you can first recite Ha'adamah on the vegetables and then recite Mezonot on the rice.

6 – If you have wine and another drink, you can first recite Shehakol on the drink and then Hagefen on the wine.

Sponsors

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Houdrie HaCohen Family. Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their brother **David Ben Frieda 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 Alkade, 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 Najla a"h**, Amen. *** **Anonymous Woman, her husband, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Amen. *** **Mr. Edward Cohen, his wife Kamo, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Mazal Tov to the bride and groom **Hanri and Debra**, Mabrouk, Amen.

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