



Menucha v'Simcha



A PARSHA WEEKLY BY THE PHILADELPHIA COMMUNITY KOLLEL

Candle Lighting: 4:44 p.m.

Parshas Yisro 5774

Vol. 10 Issue. 14

DVAR TORAH

The Search for Greatness

Rabbi Shmuel Grunberger

Yisro advises

Moshe to appoint lawyers and judges to help him with the nation's legal issues. Chazal expound on this insightful idea and praise Yisro for this tremendous contribution to Klal Yisroel. What was so significant about this plan? It seems rather obvious that Moshe shouldn't sit alone from morning to evening judging Klal Yisrael.

Rav Shimshon Pincus Zt"l answers that really Moshe could have managed on his own, being the "man of G-d" that he was. However, Yisro understood that if the situation persisted, no one would have the ambition to aspire for gadlus - greatness. They might feel that there is to be only one Rav and the rest of Klal Yisrael would just be his students. Therefore Yisro tells Moshe, "There are *anshei chayi* [men of virtue], G-d fearing people, men of truth, and people who despise money among Klal Yisrael. Appoint them as leaders of thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens". Yisro truly believed that at least one out of every ten Jews had the qualification to be a Torah leader. Yisro felt that this would help inspire Klal Yisrael to strive for attainable greatness and realize that everyone can become great, even if they are not as great as Moshe.

Moshe followed Yisro's advice and chose the "*anshei chayi*" from Klal Yisroel to head the nation. He didn't find people of the caliber Yisro spoke of, but he did learn the extremely important lesson. He learned that as long as a person is serious about his *avodas Hashem*, service of Hashem, and *limud haTorah*, then he's a "*chayil*," "virtuous," and befitting to learn Torah from. Even if he isn't as great as the *Rabbanim* from the previous generation, he is still considered a great person for his level and his generation.

It would seem Yisro and Moshe had a very optimistic and positive view of the greatness of Klal Yisrael. They felt

that one out of every ten Jews was worthy of becoming a great Rav. However, Hashem had even more confidence in Klal Yisrael's potential. Hashem introduced the giving of the Torah with the words: "*V'huiyisem li segulah mikal hamim...v'atem tihu li mamleches kohanim v'goy kadosh,*" "And you will be to Me treasured from amongst the nations... and you will be to Me a nation of princes and a holy nation." Compared to the other nations, every Jew is a "*segulah*" - a treasure and part of "a nation of princes." Rather than one out of every ten Jews being a great Rav, Hashem proclaims "one out of every ten people is a Jew, who is great in Torah and part of a treasured nation full of great and prominent people."

To Hashem, each one of us is a gem and a treasure, and He loves us dearly. Our job is to realize this and strengthen ourselves in *limud HaTorah* and *avodas Hashem*. Every person can maximize their potential to become a "*Gadol*" in their own right and on their own level. *Gadlus* is not only reserved for the elite. True, not everyone has the ability to become a prominent Rav or Rebbe. But being Hashem's "treasure", we can all aspire to become great, disseminate Torah, and appreciate the beauty of being a Jew - a "*segulah*."

DVAR HALACHA

Halachos of Remembering Shabbos

By Rabbi Yochanan Eskenazi

The fourth commandment of the *Aseres Hadibros* is "*Zachor es yom ha-Shabbos L'kadsho*" (Remember the Shabbos to sanctify it) [Shemos 20:8].

Ramban explains the reason why this commandment specifically follows the first three commandments, is that after we are commanded to believe that *Hashem* created the world, and is the all-Capable, and even His Name is

holy and we are not allowed to say it for no reason, *Hashem* commands us to have a constant sign to remember that He created everything, *zecher l'maaseh beraishis*, which is a foundation of all our beliefs. This is why *Chazal* teach that the *mitzvah* of *Shabbos* is of equal importance to all the commandments in the *Torah* [like idolatry] (see *Gemara Chullin 5a*); for keeping *Shabbos* is an essential reminder of our belief in *Hashem*.

What does it mean to remember *Shabbos*? *Ramban* explains the *mitzvah* to remember means one should remember the concept of *Shabbos*, i.e. realize it is unique for what it represents and it should not be mistaken as on par with the other days of the week. We are able to fulfill this *mitzvah* the entire week, not exclusively on *Shabbos*. One of the ways we do this is by counting the days of the week in reference to *Shabbos*: *yom rishon l'shabbos*, *yom sheni l'shabbos*, etc. as opposed to other nations that have specific names for the days of the week [Sunday, Monday, etc.]. This is why we add the phrase “*Ha'yom yom... b'shabbos*” preceding the *Shir Shel Yom* (Song of the Day) each day at the end of *davening Shachris*, to verbally remember *Shabbos* each day of the week (Sefer Lev Tzioni pg. 168). Harav Mattisyahu Salomon, *shlit'a*, points out that many people unfortunately recite these words each



day without putting any thought into it. If a person pauses a moment and thinks about what he is saying, not only will he be fulfilling a *mitzvas asei*, he will also develop the mindset of preparing for *Shabbos* (Matnas Chaim, *Shabbos V'Rosh Chodesh*, pg. 19). Some Poskim rule that even on days that one did not recite the actual *yom* [e.g. he did not have a siddur], he should nevertheless recite the words “*Ha'yom yom... b'shabbos*” (The Aura of *Shabbos* pg. 2).

Additionally, when writing the date on a *kesubah* (marriage agreement) or *get* (divorce document), the date is written as *Yom ... l'Shabbos* [as opposed to the month (e.g. *Shevat*)] (Shulchan Aruch EH 126:3 & Aruch Hashulchan ibid: 10).

The *Gemara* [Beitzah 15a] brings a disagreement between *Shammai* and *Hillel* as to the ideal way to fulfill this *mitzvah*. *Shammai* holds if someone acquires a nice thing, either a food or an article of clothing etc., one should set it aside in honor of *Shabbos*. If later that week he acquires something nicer, he may consume the original item that was set aside, and use the nicer object for *Shabbos*. By always saving the nicest thing for *Shabbos*, *Shammai* was “Remembering the *Shabbos*” the entire week. The *Mishneh Berurah* [250:2] rules that we follow this opinion.

Kollel News

Friday, January 17:

4:44p.m.: Candle Lighting

5:02 p.m.: Shkiya/sunset

Shabbos, January 18:

8:15 a.m.: *Shacharis*

9:09/9:45 a.m.: Latest *Krias Shema*

Chaburas Chacham Lev
4:23 p.m.: Mincha
5:03 p.m.: Shkiya/ Sunset
5:58 p.m.: Ma'ariv.
6:15 p.m.: 72 minutes
6:45 p.m.: Masmid Program
7:30 p.m.: Rabbi Reisman's Navi Shiur

1. This Week's Masmid Program is sponsored by: Mrs. Eileen Stieglitz and Family, Linda and Barry Eichler, Drs. Nancy and Joel Horowitz, Rhoda and Stephen Sand, Dr. David and Ellen Weiss, Max and Gale Bienstock, and Rabbi Yoel D. and Shayna M. Zeffren. In memory of our dear husband, father, and Friend: Dr. Barry Stieglitz, z"l, Yitzchak Dovid ben Moshe Klonimus z"l, v'chosno, Shmuel Paltiel ben Nisan z"l

2. Tu B'shevat Shiur: Maximizing Our Potential: In lieu of a Rosh chodesh shiur, there will be a special shiur in honor of Tu B'Shevat for women **This Shabbos** afternoon, Parshas Yisro 3:45 pm- 4:30 pm given by Rabbi Biberfeld at the Philadelphia Community Kollel.

3. Attention Mothers and Daughters NEW LEARNING PROGRAM: ~KESHER~ Come Join this Sunday Morning January 19th! This week's KESHER has

been Sponsored Anonymously.: Kesher, a new learning program for mothers and daughters grades 1-5. The program will run for six Sundays during January and February from 10:00-11:15am at the Union Fire Station Social Hall on Montgomery Avenue. Coffee, hot cocoa, and refreshments will be served. **THIS PROGRAM OF KESHER IS SPONSORED IN EVERLASTING MEMORY OF MRS. ESTHER STRONG Z"L, BY HER SONS, DR. & MRS. JIM STRONG, AND, DR. & MRS. FRANK STRONG.** Future sponsorships available

Community News:

Bnos of Bala Cynwyd will iy"H meet this Shabbos Parshas Yisro, Jan 18th from 3:00 - 4:00pm (please note new time). **Torah Youth** will Not meet this week.

Mazal Tov:

Mrs. Eileen Stieglitz on birth of a grandson, **Yitzchok Dov** born to her children, **Mr. and Mrs. Jason Schmidt**.

Dr. and Mrs. Mendel and Shira Kupfer on the birth of a baby girl. **Mazel tov** to the grandparents, **Mr. and Mrs. Ken and Michele Miller**.

Rabbi Yaakov (Jack) Cohen on his engagement to **Rachel Jakob** of NY.

Gabe and Rebecca Aaronson on the birth of a baby girl **Maayan Eliana**

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