



# MENUCHA V'SIMCHA

Candle Lighting 5:44 PM

Vol. 19 Issue 16

## THE GREAT LEAP

By Rabbi Levi Berg

Wait, is this a leap year? Do we have an extra month of Adar this year? Do we need to wait until we celebrate Purim? I was born in the first Adar, so when do I celebrate my Bar Mitzvah in a year with two Adars?

There are a lot of questions that a leap year brings. We need to ask ourselves the question, why do we have leap years? The answer is in this week's parshah. The Torah tells us (34:18) that the Yom Tov of Pesach must be celebrated in the spring. The Jewish calendar follows the lunar year of 354 days. However, the seasons follow the sun. In a solar year there are 365 days. That means every year the Jewish calendar is 11 days earlier in the sun's cycle. If we would not add an extra month, the Jewish holidays would change seasons. For example, if Pesach is April 1st one year, the next year it would be around March 19th, followed by March 8th, etc. So, we need to add an extra month approximately every three years to keep Pesach in the spring. Why is it so important to have Pesach in the spring? We don't find Shavous needs to be in the summer or Yom Kippur in the fall.

The Torah answers this question. We left Egypt in the spring. But why should that matter? The answer Rabbi Frand shares is something amazing and shows Hashem's extreme love for us. He says imagine a husband wants to get his wife a beautiful diamond ring for their 50-year anniversary. He went to six stores until he found the ring he knew his wife would absolutely love. However, he doesn't stop there, he

goes to four more stores until he finds the perfect wrapping paper. What a strange person! It makes sense why he went to six stores for the \$15,000 ring. However, the difference between a paper bag and wrapping paper is probably 50 cents. So why did he go to four stores for wrapping paper? It seems so insignificant in the big picture!

The answer is simple, when you love someone not only is the gift important, it's also the way you give it. The Jewish nation left Egypt where they were beaten and tormented for 210 years. Hashem gave them the gift of freedom. However, Hashem did not stop there, he wanted to give this priceless gift in a caring and loving way. The Jewish nation was about to travel toward Har Sinai; the summer would be too hot and the winter would be too cold. They got their freedom in the most amazing weather, the beautiful spring. Although the weather seems insignificant in the big picture, Hashem wanted to show His love for us and give us this gift of freedom in the wrapping paper of beautiful weather. Hashem is our loving Father, and He wants us never ever to forget how much He loves us! So, He commanded us to celebrate Pesach in the spring. He wants us to remember His love, care and His beautiful wrapping paper for His dear dear children!! Next time we hear the word leap year we should be reminded of this great love, because that's exactly what our dear Father wants! Good Shabbos!!

## Biur HaTefilla #2

BY RABBI YOEL D. ZEFFREN  
ASSOCIATE ROSH KOLLEL

Now that we know the origins of many of these precious words of tefilla, we should point out the power of davening in general. In Meseches Kiddushin (29b) a story is told of a destructive angel who would frequent the Beis Midrash of the great Amora, Abayeh. Abayeh heard that a great man named Reb Yaakov son of Rav Acha would be visiting the city. He instructed the residents of the city not to invite him to stay in their home, as would be customary. This was in the hope that he would stay in the bais medrash and vanquish the destructive angel. The angel in fact appeared, this time as a creature with seven heads. The great Rav Yaakov davened and with each of his bowings, one head disappeared until the creature disappeared entirely. The next day Rav Yaakov expressed his disappointment with Abayeh and said, "If not for the fact that a miracle transpired you would have subjected me to danger." The Maharsha asks, how was it permitted for Abayeh to put Rav Yaakov in such a predicament on the chance that a miracle would transpire. Is it not forbidden to rely on a neis? To this he responded that relying on Rav Yaakov's piety and tefilla would not constitute a miracle at all.

The power of tefilla is such that it transforms the miraculous into a natural result. This is such a reality that it changes the halacha and allows us to expect an outcome that would otherwise be forbidden to rely on.

# MENUCHAV'SIMCHA



## PESACH MAOS CHITIM/BEDIKAS CHOMETZ:

**Q-** What is Maos Chitim? Where did this custom originate?

**A-** Maos Chitim, which means "money for wheat," dates back to the times of the Gemara. It was an obligation for everyone to give wheat (or money) to the poor so that they could have matzah for Pesach. Today, it is not practical to give wheat or flour, so the obligation is to give money instead, allowing the poor to buy matzah (and other foods) for Pesach.

רמ"א או"ח סי' תכ"ט ס"א ומ"ב שם. ועי' בשעה"צ סק"ז, (עי' במנעדים זמינים ח"ז סי' קס"ה).

**Q-** I am going away for the whole Pesach. Do I need to do bedikas chometz?

**A-** If someone leaves their house within 30 days of Pesach, even if they don't plan on returning until after Pesach, they are obligated to do a bedikah, without a bracha, on the night before their departure. On that night, they should also nullify .the chometz, just as is done normally on the night of the 14th

ש"ע ורמ"א או"ח סי' תיל"ו ס"א. ועי' בבריה"ל ד"ה ולא יברך שמשפיק דעת' אם יברך, אבל בשעה"צ (ס"ה ת"ג סק"ה) סתום שלא יברך, וגם כאן ב"מ לא העיר כלום, וכ"כ האגרשי"א (היל"כ ש פסח פ"ה ד"ה כ"ט) שהמנהga הוא שאינו מברך.

**Q-** I am going away for the whole Pesach. If I sell my entire house to a non-Jew, do I need to do a bedikah on the house?

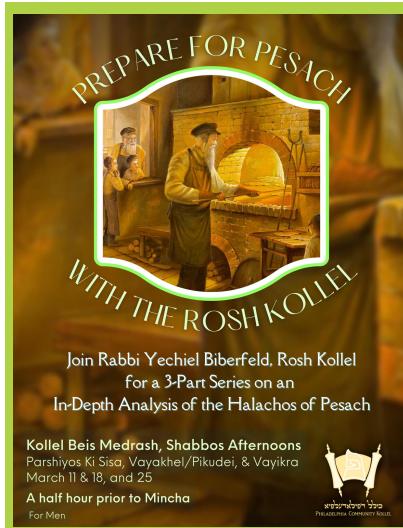
**A-** The custom is to be lenient and not require a bedikah on the rooms that will be sold to a non-Jew. However, if one sells their entire house, they will lose out on the mitzvah of bedikas chometz. The optimal way of doing it is to sell the entire house except for one room where chometz is brought into. This way, the person can still fulfill the mitzvah of bedikas chometz on that room, and the rest of the house does not need to be checked.

עי' במ"ב סי' תל"ו סקל"ב שהביא מה' אם möglich לבדוק החדרים שבduto למחזר לנכרי, ומסייעי אף דאין למחרות ביד המקיים, המוכר ביום י"ג עדיף טפי. אבל החוזא"א (אורחות רבי מ' ז' והאגראשי"א (hilchic'h פסח פ"ה ד"ה ו') כתבו שהמנהga להקל, וכתבו הפסוקים העצה שהבאתי.

**Q-** Do I need to do bedikas chometz at my work office?

**A-** If one owns or rents an office for work, and it's a place that chometz is brought into periodically, there is an obligation to do bedikas chometz there. This is even if they don't plan on using the office over Pesach.

שו"ע או"ח ס"ה תל"א ס"א ומ"ב סק"ד.



## THIS WEEK'S TOPIC

If a sh'liach does bedikas chometz in your house, who makes the brocha: the baal habayis or the sh'liach?

## THE SUNDAY MORNING CHABURA SERIES



## TURNING THE HIDE

THE HALACHOS & PROCESS OF TURNING HIDES INTO PARCHMENT FOR SIFREI TORAH AND TEFILLIN

With  
**Rabbi Betzalel Katkofsky**  
Sofer STA"M of Note

Sunday, March 12

9AM : Coffee & Pastries

9:15AM: Preparation of Sources with Kollel Rabbis

10AM: Shiur from Rabbi Betzalel Katkofsky

FOR MEN

## דברי זכרון

לע"מ מrown שרג הורתה

## הרבה הגאון רבי חיים קנייבסקי זצ"ל

TO COMMEMORATE THE FIRST YARTZHEIT OF MARAN SAR HATORAH,

**HORAV CHAIM KANIEVSKY, ZT"L**

WE WILL HAVE THE PRIVILEGE ONCE AGAIN TO HAVE A CLOSE TALMID,

**RAV AARON PESSIN, SHLIT" A,**

RAV KEHILLA BNEI HAYESHIVA, RAMAT BEIS SHEMESH

TO SPEAK ABOUT REFLECTIONS AND STORIES OF RAV CHAIM, ZT"L

MONDAY, MARCH 13TH, 8:30 PM

IN THE KOLLEL BEIS MEDRASH

FOR MEN & WOMEN



## PARSHAS KI SISA/PARAH SHABBOS ZEMANIM

**Friday, March 10**

4:49 pm - Plag Hamincha

5:44 pm - Candle Lighting

5:47 pm - Mincha/Maariv

6:02 pm - Shkiya/Sunset

**Shabbos, March 11**

8:15 am - Shacharis

8:39/9:15am - Latest Krias Shema

5:23 pm - Mincha

Shalosh Seudos

6:03 pm - Shkiya/Sunset

6:58 pm - Maariv

7:15 pm - 72 minutes

8:30 pm - Rabbi Reisman TCN Navi Shiur