

CONGREGATION BAIS TORAH

December 24, 2005 · 89 West Carlton Rd., Suffern, NY 10901 · (845)352-1343 · www.baistorah.org כ"ג כסלו שנת פרשת וישב

ערב שבת פרשת וישב

הדלקת נרות 4:14 PM

מנחה 4:20 PM

Rabbi Gottlieb's שבת הלכות shiur 8:15 PM at the Nussbaum's..

Sunday שחרית 7:45 AM

Weekday שחרית

Mon.: 7:45 AM

Tues. through Fri.: 6:20 and 7:45 AM

שבת פרשת וישב

שחרית 8:45 AM

סוף זמן קריאת שמע 9:38 AM

שבת מברכים מבת

נמרא שיעור 3:20 PM

מנחה 4:05 PM

סעודה שלישית

מעריב 5:15 PM

Weekday מנחה-מעריב

Sunday -Thursday: 4:20 PM

Second מעריב 8:00 PM

ערב שבת פרשת מקץ וראש חודש

הדלקת נרות 4:19 PM

מנחה 4:25 PM

Shiurim

Sundays at 8:30 AM – מסכת סנהדרין – Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

היוםי Mordechai Rudman at 6:30 AM and Rabbi Yosef Fischer at 9:30 AM.

Mondays at 6:30 PM – מסכת ברכות – Rabbi Chaim Wein

Mondays at 8:00 PM - Hachnosas Kallah of Monsey sponsors lectures for women of all ages. Rabbi Luchins is speaking.

Tuesdays at 8:15 PM – Partners in Torah

Wednesdays at 8:15 PM - ספר עזרא - Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

Monday through Friday after the second שחרית - ספר מדע - שררה להרמב"ם - Rabbi Yosef Fischer

Monday through Thursday at 9:45 AM - נמרא shiur - Rabbi Leibel Reznick

היוםי I, Monday through Friday 5:25 AM – Mordechai Rudman

היוםי II, Monday through Thursday at 7:00 PM – Rabbi Yosef Fischer

Women's תהלים group meets on שבת 45 minutes before מנחה.

Shul Announcements

Our third annual **Avot U'Banim Learning Program** continues this Motzoei Shabbos, at 6:15 PM in the library. Fathers and grandfathers, bring your progeny to the library, learn together and reward yourselves with a pizza melave malka. Sponsorships (\$36 per session) are invited. Contact Michael Kronenberg at 845.368.1064 or mkronenberg@advgi.com to donate or obtain further information. This week's program is sponsored by the Libersohns.

Bais Torah and three other local shuls invite **teenagers only** to a Chanukah Bash at Community Synagogue on December 31 at 8:00 PM with live music, bingo and donuts. Free admission.

On Sat. night, Jan. 7, at 8:30 PM, the shul will hear from Philip Rosenthal of the County Sheriff's department about **"Controlling the Internet before it Controls Us: Internet Safety and Tips for Parents and Users."**

Bais Torah is proud to present the film **Paper Clips** Saturday night, January 14th at 8:30 PM in shul. Paper Clips is an inspiring documentary that captures how students, teachers, families and the entire town of Whitwell, TN responded to lessons about the Holocaust. Rated G, it was named one of the top films of 2004 (documentary) It has received audience and jury awards at film festivals across the country. For trailers and more information on the film, go to www.paperclipsmovie.com.

Keep us informed. Our shul secretary, Esther Garber, is in the office Mon. through Thurs., 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM.

Mazel Tov

Allen and Miriam Nussbaum on the birth of a grandson, born to Mark and Rena Nussbaum. The shalom zocher will be at the Nussbaums, 13 Olympia Lane, from 7:30 PM on. Rabbi Gottlieb's שבת הלכות shiur will take place there at 8:15 PM.

Marvin and Sally Borgen on the birth of a grandson, born to Melissa and Lazer Borgen.

Refuah Shelaimah

Michael Rossman's mother, Ilse Rossman - שרה בת שרה

Shirlee Aaronson - שרה חנה בת בלומא

Mr. Shapiro - חיים מאיר יחיאל בן מלכה לאה

Jerry and Roz Seigel's son, Yoni - יהונתן בן שושנה

Phil Holzer - ירוחם פישעל בן שרה רבקה

Yis Helprin's mother, Dora - דבורה בת ברינה

How to Reach Us

Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb 357-3913, rabbigottlieb@yahoo.com – Daytime emergency 362-8362

President Peter Katz, 357-0129 peter@pkatech.com

Treasurer Barry Lifschitz, 352-0226, Fax 352-0841 or barry@lifschitz.net

Maintenance Yis Helprin 494-7446

Chesed Committee Charlie Grandovsky, 425-4683

Bikur Cholim Eveline Kranzler, 352-8410 and
Chosh Levy, 425-6827

Shul Secretary Esther Garber, 352-1343

Sisterhood Liaison Betty Schloss, 369 – 1833

Lost and Found Michael Loebenstein, 425-8895

Chevra Kadisha Steve Fessel, 425-1713, Ephraim Pessin, 914-420-6714 or Gloria Gordon, 425-1276

Sisterhood Tribute Cards Esther Garber, 352-1343

Bais Torah Bulletins Email baistorah@taxprof.net, Fax (845) 368-4172, or call (845) 368-2222. To receive e-mail updates, write to baistorah@aol.com. This bulletin is now downloadable from the web at www.baistorah.org.

Yahrzeit Tikun Moshe Tilson, 426-0976

Simcha Room Reservations/Kiddushim Jack Gross, 357-4121

Eiruv 362-4302

Mikvah 425-6101

Youth Felise Katz 357-0129

Hachnosas Orchim Facility for homeless, Shea Jacobs 425-9617

In Case of Emergency

The **Red Hatzoloh Phone** is in the hallway on the wall between the rear washing station and the Simcha Room.

The **Defibrillator** is in a cubby in the coat room opposite the Hatzoloh phone.

Parashat Vayeshev - 5766 - "Seasonings of Wisdom" in the Language of the Torah

One of the basic ways in which the Torah can be interpreted is Remez (hints at underlying truths). And one of the paths of Remez is that of Gematria, the search for meaning by evaluating the numerical equivalents of Hebrew words and verses by using the number values of the letters of the Aleph Bet (Aleph = 1, Bet = 2, ...). In Pirkei Avot (3:23), the Mishnah quotes Rabbi Eliezer ben Chisma as follows: "The laws of bird-offerings and the laws of Pischei Niddah are essential laws ... astronomy and gematriaot are like the seasonings of wisdom." The Muslims claim that Yishmael, and not Yitzchak, was the rightful heir of Avraham and that, in line with their assumption, it was Yishmael, not Yitzchak, who was bound on the altar at the time of the Akeidah. The Baal HaTurim brings a gematria which defends, from within the very language of the Chumash, against this Islamic claim. The gematria of Yitzchak is 208. When Avram's name is changed to Avraham, because he will be an "Av Hamon," "Father of Multitudes," that expression is used twice. The gematria of this double expression is also 208! Other gematriaot which serve to strengthen the Avraham - Yitzchak and the Yitzchak - Akeidah connections are as follows: In the expression used by Hashem to Avraham, "U'Melachim mimecha yatzau," "And kings will descend from you," the gematria of "mimecha," "from you," is 100, the age of Avraham **at the time of Yitzchak's birth**, and the gematria of the phrase "mimecha yatzau," "will come from you," is 207! (In gematria, a discrepancy of 1 is permitted.) At the time of the Akeidah, when the Angel of Hashem prevents Avraham from completing the sacrifice, an "ayil achar," "a different ram" is brought to Avraham's attention. The gematria of "achar," "different," is 209.

In the study of Chumash, one deals with the rich and suggestive language of the text as well as with ideas, and the two interact with each other. An example occurs in our Parashah: Rav Yissachar Yaakovson, in "Bina BaMikra," cites M. D. Kassuto who among others points out the very similar language used in two instances in the Parashah. The first is when Yoseph's brothers bring the "kesonet pasim," the "many-colored coat," the symbol of their rage and frustration, dipped in goat's blood, to their father. They say to him, in perhaps the cruelest expression in all of the Bible, "zot matzanu; *haker na*, ha'ketonet binecha hi im lo?," "We have found this; *identify it, please* - is it the coat of your son or not?" And Yaakov is forced to respond, in a grief beyond words, "It is the coat of my son; Yoseph is without doubt torn by a wild beast" (Bereshit 37:32-33). The second is when Tamar, accused of adultery, says at her trial, (Bereshit 38:25-26) "*Haker na*, lemi ha'chosemet vaha'ptilim ve'ha'mateh ha'aleh?," "*Identify these, please*, whose are they - this signet, this cord and this staff?" (indicating that it is the owner of those items by whom she is pregnant).

Yehudah was most responsible for the cruel deception upon his father, for it was his suggestion that Yoseph be sold into slavery. He was punished "midah k'neged midah," "measure for measure," when Tamar, having been frustrated in her attempts to become a "mother in Israel," tricked her father-in-law into a quasi-"Yibbum," "levirate marriage." And, at her trial, she sent to Yehudah the objects which accused **him - silently**, teaching for all generations that it is preferable for a person to enter a fiery furnace, for that was to be her punishment, than to embarrass someone else in public. Yehudah, confronted with this evidence, rises to the challenge, and says "Tzadkah mimeni!" "She is more righteous than I!" On Tisha B'Av and on Yom Kippur we read of the cruel executions of the Ten Martyrs by the Romans, although we know that the executions were not in fact performed simultaneously. The paytan, based on the Midrash, relates the deaths of these great men of Israel to the crime of the brothers of Yoseph, who sold him into slavery for a pair of shoes. The question arises, "Is there any evidence of this in the Chumash itself?"

I would suggest that the parallelism suggests that the courageous "viduy," confession, "Tzadkah mimeni" was in fact a "kaporah," an atonement, for the sin of "mechirat Yoseph," the sale of Yoseph. When we evaluate the gematria of the passuk representing the sin, from "zot matzanu" thru "im lo," we find that the total is 1906. The gematria of Tamar's statement which triggered the kaporah, from "haker na" thru "ha'aleh" is 1896. The discrepancy between the sin and the kaporah is precisely ten, and it was to complete the kaporah, that the deaths of the *Ten Martyrs* were called for by the "Midat HaDin," the Attribute of Strict Justice." PF