

BAIS TORAH BULLETIN

פרשת שלח - פרקי אבות פרק ג'

June 15, 2012

נו' סיון תשע"ב

ערב שבת פרשת שלח

מנחה 7:00

הדלקת נרות:

Shul accepts שבת 7:20

Actual time 8:13

שקיעה 8:31

שבת פרשת שלח

דף היומי 8:00

שחרית 8:45

סוף זמן ק"ש 9:10

מברכים החדש תמוז

פרקי אבות שיעור 6:25

הלכה שיעור** 7:15

מנחה 8:00

שקיעה 8:31

מעריב 9:13

Weekday Schedule:

שחרית 6/17-6/22 Week of

Sunday 7:45

Mon 6:20, 7:45

Tues, Friday 6:30, 7:45

ראש חדש תמוז:

Weds Thurs 6:10, 7:35

מנחה - מעריב

Sun-Thurs 8:20

Next Week:

שבת פרשת קרח

מנחה 7:00

הדלקת נרות:

Shul accepts שבת 7:20

Actual lighting time 8:15

שקיעה 8:33

WHAT'S NEW

This week's Kiddush is available for sponsorship

סעודת שלישיית is available for sponsorship

***Rabbi Gottlieb's Contemporary Halacha shiur for the upcoming weeks is "A special series on the evolution of halacha." The shiur takes place Shabbos afternoon 45 minutes before mincha.

The Bais Torah Sisterhood invites ladies of all ages to its **Simcha Tea. THIS Shabbos Parshas Shlach, June 16 at 4 p.m. in (where else?) the Simcha Room.** Come celebrate the simchos from this past year, and enjoy great entertainment from The Bais Torah Players!

Bais Torah's Graduation, Birthday and Anniversary Kiddush will be Shabbos Parshas Korach, June 23. If you would like to honor a graduate or are celebrating a birthday or anniversary in June or July help support our weekly Kiddush for only \$18 per name or couple. Call Aviva in the shul office to join in. Deadline is June 19

General Membership Meeting and Elections will take place motza'ai Shabbos June 30 at 10:30 pm . All members in good standing are urged to attend.

The new 2012-2013 KOSHER DISCOUNT CARD is now available! Great savings and giveaways at places you already shop! Only \$20.00, and the card is valid for one year! Proceeds benefit Bais Torah and Jewish Family Service. For more information and to purchase the card call Aviva in the shul office or Leslie Goldress. 352-3257

The next **Kosher Food Pantry** collection date is **July 9**. Bais Torah's commitment is **130** cans for the month. Thanks to Doris Kushner, Diane Schmeltz and Leslie Goldress for helping to pack and distribute food to 130 families at the Kosher Food Pantry.

Save the Date! Sunday, August 26 join Bais Torah at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in Battery Park. Some of the Special Exhibits include "Filming the Camps: From Hollywood to Nuremberg" rare footage of the liberation of Dachau with detailed directors' notes, narratives describing burials at Falkenau, and the documentary produced as evidence at the Nuremberg trial. Also "Emma Lazarus: Poet of the Exiles," her Sephardic background, her American roots, and her work for Jewish causes and a Jewish homeland. For details please contact Doris Newman or David Lehmann.

MAZAL TOV

Fishel and Pessy Strenger on the birth of a granddaughter, Perel Yehudis, born to Chaim Ezra and Tzipora Strenger.

Chatz and Libby Lazarus on the engagement of their son, Hillel, to Cara Kalichman of Teaneck.

Ralph and Esther Gable on the engagement of their son Mordechai Zev to Shoshana Frank of Far Rockaway.

Refuah Shelaimah

Katie Tannenbaum's grandson- הונתן משה בן דבורה טובה

Teddy Kallner- תודרוס בן הינדא

Henry Shapiro- חיים מאיר יחיאל בן מלכה לאה

Manny London מנחם מונש בן חנה פרידא

Bob Schore - חיים ראובן בן הענדל יהודית

Tova Eizik's grandson - שלמה יעקב יונתן בן חנה רייזל

Leni Loebenstein - הלני בת רחל

Ben Zauderer - בנימין בן בילה

Chana Mayerfeld- חנה פרומה בת יהודית גיטל

Larry Seligson- אריה לייב בן רבקה

Larry Seligson's son- רפאל אפרים בן סימא פריעדל

Felise Katz's father- חיים בן חנה

SHIURIM

Women's Tehilim, I'zcher nishmas Feigel bas Menachem Mendel, meets Shabbos afternoon 30 minutes before Pirkei Avos Shiur

Sunday:

6:30 AM Daf Yomi
Rabbi Avromy Fein

8:30 AM Gemara Miseches Pesachim
Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

Sun-Thurs:

10:00 AM Daf Yomi
Rabbi Yosef Fischer

Mon-Friday

5:25 AM Daf Yomi I
Rabbi Avromy Fein

7:00 AM Daf Yomi II
Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

8:25 AM Navi Shiur
Rabbi Yosef Fischer

9:45 AM Gemara Shiur
Rabbi Leibel Reznick

Wednesday

8:15 PM Navi Yechezkel
Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb-will resume in the fall

Thursday

8:00PM Women's Mishnayos class-Will resume in the fall

Parashas Shelach Dor HaMidbar," The Generation of the Wilderness and "Acher," the Other One

In Parashas Shelach, we encounter perhaps the greatest sin committed by the people of Israel in the Wilderness. They accepted the slander of the "Meraglim" concerning Eretz Yisrael, lost hope concerning their ability to conquer the Land, and of HaShem's ability to lead them to victory, and decided to return to Egypt. So grievous was this sin that the Talmud in "Perek Chelek" in Sanhedrin 108a considers the possibility that the "Dor HaMidbar" had lost its portion in the World-to-Come. Actually there is a dispute between Rabbi Akiva, who maintains that they did indeed lose their portion and Rabbi Eliezer, who says that they did not.

The Gemara elaborates on this dispute on Sanhedrin 110a, where we find, "The Generation of the Wilderness has no share in the World-to-Come, as it is stated: *'In this Wilderness they will cease to be, and there they will die'* (BaMidbar 14:35). *'They will cease to be'* refers to 'This-World;' *'and there they will die'* refers to the 'World-to-Come.' Moreover, it states: *'Therefore I have sworn in My wrath that they shall not come to My resting place.'* (Tehilim 95:11) This refers to the Generation of the Wilderness, as stated in the previous verse, *'Forty years did I (G-d) contend with this Generation.'* These are the words of Rabbi Akiva. Rabbi Eliezer says, 'They will be admitted to the 'World-to-Come,' as it is stated, *'Gather unto Me My devout ones, who seal My covenant through sacrifice'* (Tehilim 50:5) "...Rabbi Shimon ben Menasya affirms Rabbi Eliezer's position; "They will come to the 'World-to-Come,' as it is stated, *'And those redeemed by HaShem will return, and they will come to Zion with glad song.'* (Yeshayahu 35:10)"

We find in Chagiga 14b the following: "The Rabbis taught, 'Four great Sages entered the mystical Orchard: Ben Azzai, Ben Zoma, 'Acher,' and Rabbi Akiva.'" "Acher" is a dishonorable reference to Elisha ben Avuya, a "Tanna" who had achieved greatness, as we see here, where he elevated himself to the level of a "Merkava" (Divine Chariot) Vision. In the course of that vision, he saw the Angel Metatron in a sitting position, because he had been given permission to do so, in order to record the merits of the Jewish People. Elisha saw this and misunderstood Metatron to be in the position of a minor G-d, thus crossing the threshold of 'Two Reshuyos,' Two Divine Authorities. That was a heresy which someone of his greatness, **who had seen the Glory of G-d**, should never have entertained in his mind. This sin was so serious that his name was "stricken from the record" everywhere in the Talmud, and replaced by "Acher," the "Other." Yet his great student, Rabbi Meir, never gave up trying to lift him out of his depression and conviction that the Doors of Repentance had shut for him forever.

The comparison to the "Generation of the Wilderness" was that they too had seen the "Glory of G-d" on two occasions: The first was when they crossed the Sea of Reeds on dry land, and it was concerning that occasion that the Midrash says that "a handmaiden saw at the Sea more than did Yechezkel ben Buzi, in his vision of the Divine Chariot." The second was during the Revelation of HaShem at Sinai, an event compared by the Sages to a "wedding" between the People of Israel and HaShem.

It is true that Rabbi Akiva abandoned here his general toleration of human frailty. But he had come so far himself in his own spiritual growth, from one who "hated the Torah scholars" to entering the "mystical Orchard" and departing from it in sound mind, and now who was prepared to give up his life for the love of HaShem and His Torah, could not forgive the generation who had "seen it all" and, in a sense, was now willing to throw that greatness away.

Rabbi Eliezer, the teacher of Rabbi Akiva, had a greater appreciation of HaShem's capacity for forgiveness, and perhaps understood on a deeper level the spiritual shock that the People of Israel had undergone in transitioning from slavery to freedom. And that it was too soon to expect their "slave mentality" to be lifted, so that they could see themselves as "masters" – even for their greatest ones, as the "Meraglim" undoubtedly were. After all, they had been told at the Sea *"HaShem will fight for you, and you should remain silent."* (Shemos 14:14) And now they were confronted with the requirement to conquer the fierce nations of Canaan, basically **on their own, with sword and arrow**, albeit with the miraculous assistance of HaShem.

L'Iluy Nishmas beni, Aharon Baruch Mordechai ben Pinchas Menachem

How to Reach Us

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

President Michael Kronenberg 368-1064, president@baistorah.org

Treasurer Jay Kimmel, 357-9571

Facilities Yis Helprin 494-7446

Shul Secretary Aviva Schmutter 352-1343 aviva@baistorah.org M-TH 9:00-3:00, To receive e-mail updates, write to baistorah@gmail.com

Simcha Room Reservations/Kiddushim Jack Gross, 357-4121

Bikur Cholim Eveline Kranzler, 352-8410 Sandy Lieder, 352-0122

Eiruv 362-4302 Mikvah 425-6101

Chesed Committee Charlie Grandovsky, 425-4683

Youth Jonathan Rosenstock 369-6349

Sisterhood Liaison Betty Schloss, 369-1833 Hinda Kimmel 357-9571

Lost and Found Michael Loebenstein, 425-8895

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

Misaskim - 917-217-1545

Sisterhood Tribute Cards, Mona Selzer 356-0219

Bais Torah Bulletin call (845) 371-5337 or Email: baistorahbulletin@gmail.com. All submissions are subject to review and must be submitted by 9pm Wednesday evening. Bulletin is downloadable from the web at www.baistorah.org.

In Case of Emergency The red Hatzolah 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 Hatzolah phone.