

BAIS TORAH BULLETIN

פרשת שופטים - פרקי אבות פרק ו'

August 24, 2012

ו' אלול תשע"ב

ערב שבת פרשת שופטים

מנחה 7:00

הדלקת נרות:

Shul accepts שבת 7:20

Actual time 7:23

שקיעה 7:41

שבת פרשת שופטים

דף היומי 8:00

שחרית 8:45

סוף זמן ק"ש 9:37

פרקי אבות שיעור 5:35

הלכה שיעור* 6:25

מנחה 7:10

שקיעה 7:39

מעריב 8:21

Weekday Schedule:

שחרית 8/26-8/31

Sunday 7:45

Mon,Thurs 6:20,7:45

Tues, Weds Fri
6:30,7:45

מנחה - מעריב

Sun-Thurs 7:10

Next Week:

שבת פרשת כי תצא

הדלקת נרות 7:11

מנחה 7:15

שקיעה 7:29

WHAT'S NEW

This week's Kiddush is sponsored by Jamie and Elana Nussbaum in honor of the bar mitzvah of their son Jake

שבת סעודה שלישיית is sponsored by Allen and Miriam Nussbaum in honor of the bar mitzvah of their grandson Jake Nussbaum

***Rabbi Gottlieb's Shabbos afternoon Halacha Shiur** will be "Forgeries, Frauds, and Feuds: Shavous Night Revisited"

Celebrate with us! The next **Birthday and Anniversary Kiddush is Shabbos Parshas Ki Seitzei September 1**. If you are celebrating a birthday or anniversary in August or September help support our weekly Kiddush! Please contact the shul office or Sharon or Michael Kronenberg to be included, only \$18.00 per listing. **The deadline is THIS Tuesday August 28.**

This Sunday (really!), **August 26 join Bais Torah at the Museum of Jewish Heritage and the 9-11 Memorial** in Battery Park. Call Aviva in the shul office or Doris Newman 352-2816. This is a docent-led tour.

A lovely time was had by all who attended the Mostly Mozart concert..Special thanks to Sandy Thurm and the Adult Education Committee for a wonderful evening.

Seats are going fast! The Yomim Noraim are around the corner. Please be sure to mail back your seating information and requests for Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur as soon as possible. Or, contact Abe Frankel, Eveline Kranzler or Doris Newman.

Are you traveling overseas? Will you need local currency for when you first arrive? The shul has received a donation of English pounds, as well as various currencies for other countries, and would like to "sell" them at the current exchange rate. It's an easy way to help the shul, and have some money in your pocket when you land in a foreign country! Please contact Marty Ginsberg, Yussie Deutsch or David Abramczik

Clean Your Closet, Do a Mitzvah—the 3rd Annual Yad Leah Clothing Drive is in full swing. Please donate clothing in GOOD condition to be sent to Israel. Monetary donations are also welcome. Donations can be dropped off at the Katz home, 6 Misty Lane in front of the first garage. No donations after 6 PM September 3rd. Any questions please contact: Dovid Katz at 845-729-5329

Congregation Bais Torah will be hosting a special Daf Yomi Siyum Hashas for the Monsey community on Sunday, September 9th. Special Guest Speaker, Rav of the White Shul, **Rabbi Eytan Feiner**. Reception at 3:30, siyum at 4:00, followed by the guest speaker and a sumptuous seudas mitzvah. There is no charge to attend the first part of the program. Couvert for the Seudah is **\$35 per person** pre-paid and couples are cordially invited to attend. To reserve, please call Aviva at the shul office. The guest speaker is sponsored by David and Ruth Lehmann in memory of Shprintze bas Moshe Gedalia; sponsorships available.

MAZAL TOV

James and Elana Nussbaum on the bar mitzvah of their son Jake

Allen and Miriam Nussbaum on the bar mitzvah of their grandson Jake Nussbaum

Mendel and Renee Rosenbaum on the marriage of their children Adeena and Yehuda Abboudi

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

Rena Rossman's mother - שושנה בת לאה צירל

Leni Loebenstein - הלני בת רחל

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

Ed and Helen Furman's son in law - רפאל צבי בן עיטא לאה

Manny Mayerfeld - מנחם בן קילה

SHIURIM

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

Sunday:

6:25 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 Shoftim Righteousness Righteousness Shall You Pursue (Devorim 16:20)

Our parashah opens with Moshe Rabbeinu instructing the People of Israel how to implement a just society once they arrive in Eretz Yisroel: "Judges and officers shall you appoint within all of your gates, which HaShem your G-d is going to give you, for your tribes; and they shall judge the people with righteous judgment." (Devorim 16:18). Moshe continues on the theme of a righteous society, "You shall not pervert judgment, you shall not overly respect any of the litigants' presence; and you shall not accept a bribe, for a bribe will blind the eyes of the wise and make just words crooked. Righteousness, righteousness shall you pursue, so that you will live and possess the Land that HaShem, your G-d, gives you." (Devorim 16:20)

In the Torah's discussion of the case of the idolatrous man or woman, we find, "... and it will be told to you and you will hear; then you shall investigate well, and behold! It is true, the testimony is correct – this abomination was done in Israel ... By the testimony of two witnesses or three witnesses shall the condemned person die, he shall not die by the testimony of a single witness." (Devorim 17:6) The use of a " , pair of witnesses, is the chief means, both in capital cases and cases involving only monetary disputes, of establishing the truth, in a Jewish court of Law. The members of the pair must undergo a rigorous process of " דרישה , questions of differing levels of detail, to eliminate cases of self-contradiction or ignorance. Confession is accepted only in cases involving "mammon", money, where we employ the principle "the confession by a litigant is equivalent to the testimony of one hundred witnesses," but in 'nefashos', capital cases, we say "a person cannot declare himself a 'rasha', a wicked person."

Regarding judges, a court, a group of individuals is always required. To determine guilt or innocence, a vote is taken and a majority of two is needed to determine the verdict, and every effort is made to establish a verdict of "innocent" in capital cases. Rabbi Yishmael the son of Rabbi Yosi, says in Pirkei Avos (4:10) "Do not be a solitary judge, for there is only one such Judge (namely, the Almighty)." The principle regarding the quality of judges is, "Yiphtach (an inferior judge) in his generation, commands the same respect and level of obedience as does Shmuel (a superior judge) in his generation."

When the Torah (the Written Law) mentions a punishment of "an eye for an eye", the Oral law explains that this refers to a monetary punishment, for the monetary payment, extremely high, accomplishes atonement for the perpetrator. The only case where money cannot accomplish atonement is the case of murder, where the Torah says, regarding the taking of a priceless human life, "a life for a life."

On the other hand, the Rabbis were very loath to impose the death penalty. One opinion is that a Sanhedrin which imposed the death penalty once in seven years (another opinion is that the number of years is not seven, but seventy) is called a "bloody Sandhedrin". Another is that he would ask such difficult questions to the witnesses that he would always disqualify them; thus effectively reducing the death penalty to a theoretical law. An opposing opinion is that being so loath to impose the death penalty would increase the number of murders in Jewish society. While yet another opinion is that when the number of murders was very high, the death penalty was completely abandoned as a measure of control.

It is clear that, despite the errors and over-simplifications in the above essay, which are obviously totally my responsibility, the Torah's System of Justice was very sophisticated and advanced far beyond anything that co-existed with it in the world.

L'lluy 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 Steve Fessel 845 300 5106 ,sfessel@gmail.com

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.