

BAIS TORAH BULLETIN

הדלקת נרות 6:23
YOM KIPPUR

September 29, 2017

ט'תשרי תשע"ז

EREV YOM KIPPUR

Mincha 3:00PM
Candle lighting 6:23
Kol Nidre 6:30

YOM KIPPUR

Shacharis 8:30 AM
Sof Zman K"Sh 9:49AM
Yizkor not before 11:30
Mincha 4:35 PM
Neilah 6:05 PM
Fast Ends 7:22 PM

Weekday Schedule:

Week of 10/1-10/4

Sun. 7:40
Mon 6:20, 7:45
Tues, Weds 6:30, 7:45

MINCHA-MAARIV

Sun-Tues 6:25PM

WHAT'S NEW

Thursday September 28 at 8 PM Rabbi Frand will be giving a special Teshuva drasha through TCN. All are invited to attend.

Please join us **Thursday nights at 9PM**, for **Rabbi Frand's** shiur through the Torah Conferencing Network. All are invited to attend. Rabbi Mansour's shiur begins after Succos. Rabbi Resiman's opening shiur of the season will be shown **SUNDAY night Oct 15th at 8:30 PM**. Thereafter, every motza'ei Shabbos, check this space for times.

LAST CHANCE! You can sponsor the TCN shiurim, the weekly showing of Rabbi Frand's, Rabbi Mansour's and Rabbi Reisman's Shiurim in our shul. This year they will be dedicated l'zecher nishmas our dear and highly respected members, **Doris Kushner a"h and our esteemed former president, Allen Nussbaum a"h**, whom we lost this past year. Please contact Michael Kronenberg or Sandy Lieder to join this special sponsorship. All sponsors will be listed in a special scroll and posted for the year. **Please respond by October 3rd to be included in this opportunity.**

Those who wish to donate to the Houston Relief Fund please contact Rabbi Masri at RDM@Bethrambam.Org or send to Beth Rambam 11333 braesridge Dr Houston Texas 77071. 100% of the donation goes directly to the needed families.

SUCCOS and SHABBOS BEREISHIS

SCHEDULES ARE ATTACHED

G'MAR CHASIMA TOVA!

GOOD YOM TOV!

MAZAL TOV

Dr Leon and Rena Pachter on the birth of a granddaughter, Livia Miriam, born to their children Adiv and Sarah Pachter of L.A

David and Ruth Lehmann on the birth of a great-granddaughter, born to their grandchildren Yosef and Elisheva Perlowitz of Afula. Mazel tov to grandparents Ariel and Shira Benmergui of Yerushalayim.

Refuah Shelaimah

Katie Tannenbaum's grandson-

יהונתן משה בן דבורה טובה

Rosalie Kallner

שיינה רחל בת שרה הודל

Henry Shapiro-

חיים מאיר יחיאל בן מלכה לאה

Bob Schore -

חיים ראובן בן הענדל יהודית

Larry Seligson בן אריה לייב בן רבקה

Larry Seligson's son-

רפאל אפרים בן סימא פריעדל

Manny Mayerfeld

מנחם בן קילה

פנחס לייאן בן ריזל

Ruth Malinowitz

רבקה בת פריידא

Andy Yurowitz אליהו זבי בן חנה

Shira Steinberg שירה רות בת שרה

Rechy Ortner's cousin

רחל ביילא בת גיטל

Goldress grandson

אילון רפאל בן טובה רבקה

Jennifer Herrman's mother

שרה צירלא בת ידיל

BIKUR CHOLIM-

Please Call Before Visiting

Rosalie Kallner

Fountainview 356-2506

Tova Eizik 356-7981

Bob Schore 356-2512

Rebecca Tilson 369-9789

Hilde Zauderer 357 2556

SHIURIM

Women's Tehilim, I'zecher nishmas Feigel bas Menachem Mendel, meets **Shabbos** afternoon 45 minutes before the Halacha shiur

Sunday:

6:25 AM Daf Yomi

Rabbi Avromy Fein

8:30 AM Gemara Mischeches Pesachim

Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

Mon-Friday

5:25 AM Daf Yomi I

Rabbi Avromy Fein

7:00 AM Daf Yomi II

Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

8:25 AM Chumash Shiur

Rabbi Yosef Fischer

9:45 AM Gemara Shiur

Rabbi Leibel Reznick

Wednesday –on hiatus

8:30 PM Navi Shiur

Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

Thursday

8:00 The Sandra Thurm Women's Mishna Class

Dr. Deborah Raice Fox

Yom Kippur The Father of Compassion and Forgiveness

At the end of "Tzom Gedalya," Rabbi Gottlieb was discussing the Haftarah said at Minchah: "Seek HaShem where He can be found; call Him when He is near. Let the wicked one forsake his way and the iniquitous man his thoughts, and let him return to HaShem and He will show him mercy, return to our G-d, for He will be abundantly forgiving. For My thoughts are not your thoughts, and your ways are not My ways, the words of HaShem. As high as the heavens over the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts higher than your thoughts." (Yeshayahu 55:6-9)

When I heard this, I asked, "Don't those words contradict the description of the creation of the human being in Bereshis, "G-d created Man in His image..." (Bereshis 1:27) Rabbi Gottlieb acknowledged the appropriateness of the question, and suggested I research the subject and write my conclusions in an essay. I accepted the assignment, and turned to other matters. While preparing to read Megilas Koheles on Succos, I came across a verse which gave me pause: "Be not rash with your mouth, and let not your heart be hasty to utter a word before G-d, for G-d is in heaven and you are on earth, so let your words be few." (Koheles 5:1)

The key to the solution of the problem is the precise definition of "in His image." But no dictionary exists with that definition. In reverse translation, "the image of G-d" is "be-Tzelem Elokim." "Tzelem" is an "external image" and, in modern Hebrew, a "matzlema" is a "camera," which captures external images. The problem is that HaShem has no external image. In the third of the Rambam's Thirteen Principles of Faith, we find: "I believe with perfect faith that the Creator, Blessed is His Name, "aino guf," "is not physical," and is not affected by physical phenomena, and that there is no comparison whatsoever to Him." In the ArtScroll footnote on this Principle, it says that "G-d's essence cannot be grasped by the human imagination, because we are physical and cannot conceive of a Being totally unaffected by material conditions or the laws of nature or physics..."

The Kabbalists, do believe that G-d has a "guf," else there would be no model for the human body, but that the Divine "Guf" is not anything we would recognize as a "body," it is entirely spiritual, entirely abstract; indeed, a "virtual" body.

In view of that, what are we to make of the Biblical expression, "the image of G-d?" Perhaps it means that the human being was created with Divine potentials, such as "free choice," and tendencies to be loving, compassionate and charitable. HaShem is the "real deal." We can only aspire to be like Him. Perhaps that is why we can visualize Him only from the rear, not from His front. And this limitation applied as well also to the greatest human being who ever lived, Moshe Rabbeinu, the "Master of the Prophets," who was described by HaShem as "פה אל פה אדבר" "פה אל פה אדבר" "Mouth-to-Mouth do I speak with him" (BaMidbar 12:8) – paradoxically, even he could only see HaShem in prophecy from behind.

And, between Moshe and Albert Einstein, the great physicist, but Einstein also said that his goal was only "to trace His lines after Him."

Let us return to the initial question, to see if I have answered it at all. The question involved the seemingly absurd comparison between HaShem and the human being, Creator to creature, on a qualitative level and on a quantitative level. Qualitatively, the comparison is weak. After all, we say in "וכל אדם כזב" "All men are deceitful." (Tehilim 116:11) And, by contrast, in the liturgy of the High Holy Days, we find that the Seal of HaShem is Truth. And quantitatively, the comparison seems even more absurd. For man is anchored to the earth, bound in time, whereas HaShem, Creator of Time, inhabits Eternity and permeates all of space, such that "לית אתר" "There is no place where He is not."

In the end, we must confess that HaShem has created us as a puzzle and a paradox. For we find, in the following declaration by David HaMelech: "When I behold Your heavens, the handiwork of Your fingers, the moon and the stars that You have established – what is Man that You remember him? - The son of Man, that You take note of him? Yet You have made him only a little bit lower than the Almighty, and with Glory and Splendor have You crowned him!" (Tehilim 8:4-6)

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 Jack Gross 845 659-6590 Jack2act@gmail.com

Treasurer Michael Kronenberg 845 368 1064 mkron1950@gmail.com

Facilities Yis Helprin 746-8065

Shul Secretary Rivke Faivelson 352-1343 baistorah@gmail.com M-TH 9:00-1:00,

To receive e-mail updates, write to baistorah@gmail.com

Simcha Room Reservations/Kiddushim Jack Gross 845 659-6590

Rivke Faivelson, 352-1343

Shalosh Seudas Reservations Jack Gross 845 659-6590

Bikur Cholim Sharon Kronenberg 368-1064 Sandy Lieder, 352-0122

Eiruv 362-4302 Mikvah 425-6101

Chesed Committee Charlie Grandovsky, 425-4683

Sisterhood Liaison Hinda Kimmel 357-9571 Miriam Frankel 356-8558

Lost and Found Michael Loebenstein, 425-8895