

BAIS TORAH BULLETIN

פרשת וילך שבת שובה

September 10, 2021

הדלקת נרות 6:55

ד' תשרי תשפ"ב

parshas hashavua

ערב שבת פרשת וילך

Candle lighting.....6:55 p.m.
Mincha7:00 p.m.
Sh'kiah.....7:13 p.m.

שבת פרשת וילך

Daf Yomi.....8:00 a.m.
Shacharis.....8:45 a.m.
Sof Zman K'Shema ...9:42 a.m.

Shabbos Shuva Drasha 5:30 p.m.

Mincha6:45 p.m.
Ma'ariv7:54 p.m.
Shabbos ends.....8:02 p.m.

Rabbi's Gemara Shiur

Zoom #721 128 697

Sunday8:30 a.m.

Rabbi's Daf Yomi

Zoom #266 109 506

Sunday – Wed.....6:45 a.m.

Friday.....7:00 a.m.

Selichos and Shacharis

Zoom #790 613 352

Sunday.....7:15 a.m.

Monday.....5:50, 7:15 a.m.

Tuesday.....5:55, 7:15 a.m.

Wednesday.....6:10, 7:30 a.m.

Shacharis

Friday.....6:25, 7:40 a.m.

Mincha-Ma'ariv

Zoom #790 613 352

Sunday – Tues.....6:55 p.m.

ערב שבת פרשת האזינו

Candle lighting.....6:43 p.m.
Mincha6:50 p.m.

A Forest of Reward

by Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb



The penultimate of the 613 *mitzvos*, appearing in this week's Torah reading, is the directive to gather the entirety of the nation once every seven years to hear the reading of the law. On the *Sukkos* following the *shemitta* year, we are instructed to gather all men, women, and children in Jerusalem, where the king will read portions of the book of *Devarim* to the assem-

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what's new

Please join us on Shabbos afternoon at 5:30 p.m. for Rabbi Gottlieb's **Shabbos Shuva Drasha**. The topic will be "Prayer, Penitence, and Reflection in a 288-Character World."

Thank you to David and Regina Abramczik, sponsors of **Ner LaMaor** for the month of Tishrei.

Rabbi Gottlieb's Daf Yomi shiurim are streamed live on Zoom every morning and are also available on our website, www.baistorah.org. Monday's shiurim are being dedicated by Menachem Srulowitz in memory of his father, Dovid ben R'Yitzchok. To dedicate a shiur, kiddush or seudat shlishit in memory or in honor of a loved one, please contact Jack Gross.

Masks are strongly suggested for all and are required for anyone who is not yet vaccinated, including children.

Yom Kippur 5782

Erev Yom Kippur · Wednesday, September 15

Daf Yomi.....6:45 a.m.
Selichos and Shacharis.....6:10, 7:30 a.m.
Mincha.....3:00 p.m.
◇ Candle lighting.....6:47 p.m.
Kol Nidre.....6:55 p.m.

Yom Kippur · Thursday, September 16

Shacharis8:30 a.m.
Sof Z'man Krias Shma9:44 a.m.
Yizkor not before11:15 a.m.
Mincha.....5:15 p.m.
Neila6:30 p.m.
Fast ends.....7:46 p.m.

גמר חתימה טובה

Refuah Shelaima

Yossi Stern יוסף בן-ציון בן מלכה פראדל
Visitors please call first
845-352-5138

Gordons' daughter-in-law
שולמית בת מירל

Katie Tannenbaum's grandson
יהונתן משה בן דבורה טובה

Rosalie Kallner
שיינה רחל בת שרה הודל

Larry Seligson's son
רפאל אפרים בן סימא פריעדל

Ruth Malinowitz
רבקה בת פריידא

Andy Yurowitz
אליהו זבי בן חנה

Goldress grandson
אילן רפאל בן טובה רבקה

Bikur Cholim

Please call

Rosalie Kallner, Fountainview
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Bikur Cholim
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Shul Bulletin
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A Forest of Reward *(continued from previous page)*

bled. Vestiges of the practice remain in the modern state of Israel, where various rabbinic and political dignitaries have, over the decades, publicly read the relevant Torah portion at the Kotel plaza in the post-*shemitta* year.

The Torah is very specific in delineating who is to come to this ceremony, demanding that all men, women, and infants be present for the event. The list of participants perplexes the rabbis of the *Talmud* who wonder what value there would be in bringing children too young to listen to such an event. The answer they provide is perhaps more perplexing than the question, as the rabbis tell us, "Men come to study, women to listen, and infants in order to grant reward to those who bring them."

In essence, the Torah seems to be giving a needless command, just to reward us for then carrying out that commandment. We certainly have no shortage of *mitzvos* from which to draw reward, and adding another for no other purpose seems quite superfluous.

The *Chiddushei Ha'Rim* offers an intriguing perspective that speaks volumes about the relationship between G-d, the Jewish people, and the Torah. As he explains, once there is an obligation for each and every adult male in the entire country to travel to Jerusalem to be present for this event, who will be left behind to babysit the young children? It is inevitable that all young children be brought along, for there is simply no other option. If so, why must the Torah bother to instruct us to bring the very young, when there is no choice but to bring them?

That is the great insight of the *Chiddushei Ha'Rim*. Without the explicit instruction in the Torah to bring the children, we would have done so anyway, but there would have been no *mitzvah* to do so and therefore no reward for it. G-d, wishing to shower his beneficence on the People of Israel made the inevitable into a *mitzvah* in order to grant us reward for that which we would have done in any event.

While this phenomenon is unique to the *mitzvah* of *hakhel*, the underlying sentiment is not. The purpose of the entirety of the Torah is to bring reward and benefit to its adherents. We often lose sight of the forest of reward for the trees of the Torah's restrictions. This *mitzvah* helps reframe our perspective.

As Rabi Chanania *ben Akashia* reminds us in the final chapter of *Makkos*, "G-d desired to grant benefit to Israel. That is why he gave them a plentitude of Torah and commandments." The ultimate goal of Torah and *mitzvos* is not restriction, pain, suffering, or asceticism. The Torah and all its commandments are G-d's way of bringing reward to all who follow its precepts.

That is a vital perspective in these Days of Awe. While we rightly stand in trepidation in this most vital time period, we should not lose sight of the fact that G-d, Himself, is rooting for our success. His desire is to shower us with blessing and bounty. Our task is to help G-d to reach that goal by removing anything that might stand in the way.

Wishing all a Good Shabbos and a *gmar chasima tova*.