



Facing an unpopular truth

Almost every year, Parashat Miketz is read on the Shabbat during Chanukah. NCIS Special Agent, Leroy Jethro Gibbs' rule no. 39 reminds us that there are no coincidences. That begs the question; what is the connection between Miketz and Chanukah? There is an explanation that says the connection is the willingness to be unpopular at the time, in order to be vindicated (and subsequently serve as an example) later.

Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dreams in a truthful and prophetic, but critical and honest fashion. He tells Pharaoh that there will be a devastating famine and that Pharaoh's authorities are not prepared for it. Pharaoh's rule as king could be threatened unless he changes his policies, prepares properly for the future, and does not waste the abundance currently being enjoyed. We know that governments opt to sacrifice tomorrow for today, to turn a blind eye to the future and focus on the glory of the successes of the present.

Pharaoh had many advisers that attempted to interpret his troubling dreams. They were "yes-men", who only said what they believed Pharaoh wanted to hear. They told him that there was nothing wrong with how matters were being managed, and that future potential dangers were not the fault of the king or a lack of planning, and they said that these dangers could not be prevented. Pharaoh eventually ignores their interpretations. We find that Joseph is the only one who dares to explain the meaning of the dreams, and that something needs to be done. After all, there is a deeper reason why these dreams disturb Pharaoh so much. Not at all a popular approach, but Joseph knows that it is the truth that will help save Pharaoh and Egypt, and as we learn, other people as well, including Joseph's father and brothers and their families.

In its simplest form, the story of Chanukah repeats the same message of facing an unpopular truth, especially in Jewish life and history. The Syrian-Greeks offered a desirable and civilised culture. The Jews, with their established practices and Torah-based ideals, seemed primitive in comparison with the Syrian-Greeks and their customs. Many thousands of Jews converted to the Syrian-Greeks and became Hellenists. Moreover, they demanded that the Jews who remained loyal to the Torah and the values of their ancestors not only accept them as Hellenists, but also agree that they (the new Hellenists) would be the ones to lead the Jewish people into a brave, new Greek world. They were not willing to face the truth that Hellenizing Jews

continued over...

MAZAL TOV

Kimon Tellidis & Julia Glaser on their **auf ruf** (*main sanctuary*)

Coco Lavigne on her **Bat Mitzvah** (*mincha*) (*New Sanctuary*)

CANDLE LIGHTING

Friday 7:38pm

Saturday 8:40pm

TORAH (*page 250*)

Genesis 41:1 - 44:17

Numbers 28:9 - 28:15

Numbers 7:42 - 7:47

HAFTARAH (*page 1269*)

Zechariah 2:14-4:7

SHABBAT SERVICES

Erev Shabbat

- 6:15pm - *Shabbat Live* (*New Sanctuary*)
- 6:15pm - Masorti service (*Neuweg*)

Shabbat Morning

- 9:00am - Masorti service (*New Sanctuary*)
- 10:00am - Progressive service (*Neuweg*)

Morning Minyan

Mon at 6:30am and
Thurs 6:30am (*Neuweg*)

Thank you to Kimon Tellidis & Julia Glaser for sponsoring the Progressive kiddush

could eventually mean the destruction of the Jewish people, and thereby Judaism.

We learn that the Hasmoneans not only fought the Syrian-Greeks, liberated the Temple and rekindled its menorah, but perhaps, even more importantly, they were not afraid to tell the truth to the Jewish people. An unpleasant truth that struck at the core of what those who had converted to Hellenism would rather not hear. They told them that a Judaism without Shabbat and other important Jewish rituals and practices will have a dire effect on Judaism and the Jewish people. It wasn't so much about adaptation, but rather complete assimilation.

Both Joseph and the Hasmoneans opted to take the more difficult approach in delivering their respective messages. They both realised that sometimes you have to convey these messages and lessons in a firm and straight-forward manner. Often it's the last thing people want to hear, but it may be necessary if you want to achieve the desired result.

Shabbat Shalom,

Reverend Sam Zwarenstein

Let's CELEBR8o!

Sunday 9th December from 5pm

Its the end of our 80th year and its time to celebrate!

**You are invited to our 80th birthday party
with '80s music, clothes, drinks & nibbles**

- Rejoice in the 8th night of Chanukah
- Celebrate Rabbi Ninio's 20th anniversary with the synagogue
- Enjoy the launch of our photo exhibition of the past 80 years



*Rabbi Jeffrey B. Kamins OAM
Arno & Hella Seefeldt Rabbinic Chair*



Rabbi Jacqueline Ninio

Lunch 'n' Learn
This Saturday 8th December
after services
Join Rabbi Dr Orna Triguboff
Chanukah - How it relates to you
We explore teachings of the Hasidic
tradition to find relevant meaning
in the Festival of Light.



Rabbi Rafi Kaiserblueth



*Rev. Sam Zwarenstein
Director of Communal Engagement*



Cantor George Mordecai



Rabbi Dr Orna Triguboff

WHAT'S ON

Kef Kids - Fridays from 4:00pm-5:30pm

Kef Kids is an educational program for children in years K-5 - an exciting, fun way for kids to connect with Judaism and their community.

Chanukah Daily Inspirational Emails from December 2nd

Free for Chanukah, the Festival of Light - receive an inspirational email each day from 2-9 December from Rabbi Dr. Orna Triguboff based on Kabbalah. It's a gift of light. Email: orna@emanuel.org.au

Shabbat Tot - Friday December 7th from 4:30pm-5:30pm

A lovely way to introduce your children to Shabbat and an opportunity to meet other families in the community. For 2 to 5 year olds. Parents and grandparents welcome!

Family Friday - Friday December 7th from 5:30pm-6:15pm

Come along for a light, child-friendly dinner and then stay for services. A great opportunity to meet families in the congregation and to celebrate Shabbat together.

Conversations about Israel - every Monday from 10:00am-11:30am

Every Monday, join Rabbi Jeffrey Kamins or guest speakers to examine the complex issues facing contemporary Israel.

This Monday December 10 from 10:00am -

Dave Sharma - My experiences as Australia's Ambassador to Israel

Dave served as Australia's Ambassador to Israel from 2013 to 2017. This period coincided with some of the busiest and most productive years for the Australia-Israel relationship, with trade, investment and innovation ties strengthened significantly.

Renewal Musical Kabbalat Shabbat on the beach - December 21 from 7:00pm

followed by pot-luck Picnic Dinner - bring something vegetarian to share
Email orna@emanuel.org.au to find out details of location

Chanukah Light Workshop

9th December from 10:30am - 12:30pm

A chance to celebrate the "Festival of Light" with Kabbalah meditation, gentle stretches, relaxation and more. Connect with your inner light, with Rabbi Dr. Orna Triguboff, Kabbalah teacher and David Goldman, clinical psychologist and musician

It will also be Rosh Chodesh, so we will also be supported by the new moon energy.

Emanuel Synagogue members - \$10 online.

Others \$20 early bird booking or \$30 at door.

Book now: tinyurl.com/light-emanuel More information: orna@emanuel.org.au

Plus61J together with Emanuel Synagogue present

ISRAEL, JEWS & THE MIDDLE EAST THROUGH FILM

Join us each month for a fascinating festival of film followed by engaging discussion

This Wednesday 12th December, 7:00pm for 7:15pm

Gotta be Happy" – Yiddish humour in America

The Komediant (2004, 85 Minutes) The glory days of the Yiddish stage are brought to life in this bittersweet saga of a legendary theatrical family, the Bursteins.

More info and bookings: emanuel.org.au/films

IN MEMORY

There are mourners in our community to whom we extend our sincerest sympathies on the death of their loved ones.

Shiva: Egon Auerbach, Myrna Freed, Rosaline Goldstuck, Gabriel Brown
Shloshim: Elizabeth (Leslie) Goodman, Jeremy Spinak, Gary Kurzer, Oren Snir, Rose Rosenfield, John Bluthal, Erika Fulop

This week we observe the Yahrzeits of (observed by):

* Memorial Light

Dorothy Ruth Abrahams (Beth Levy)
Alba Barda (Felix Barda, Joseph Barda, Manou Heman)
Margaret Bohn (Erika Goldbaum)
Uta-Malka Broch (Toni Kleiner)
Annette Camden-Smith
(Stephen Camden-Smith)
* **Henryk Checinski** (Steven Kalowski)
* **Siba Coppleson**
Gabor Engel (Coryl Engel, Jenifer Engel, Susan Engel)
Yahya Ezekiel (Aaron Ezekiel)
Rose Faigen (Betty Kohane)
David Friedman (Graeme Friedman)
Gita Greiss (Ellis Rosen, Marshall Rosen)
Miriam Rivkah Grinberg (Karin Banna, Ofra Grinberg)
* **Grace Grunberg**
Helana Habib (Bernadette Crain)
* **Fanny Heilman**
Leonie Hilton (Jeffrey Hilton)
Leonard Hotz (Sandra Hotz, Alix Cane)
* **Henry Hyman**
Lucy Ingster (Lorraine Fox)
Emanuel Jacobson (Pamela Karp)
* **Samuel Kranz**
Peter Kutis (Therese Kutis)
* **David Francis Luber**
Walter Mankiewicz (Renee Koonin)
* **Hilde Violette Marks**
Shefreh Bat Yacov Meschemberg
(Jeannine Revi, Hamish Irving)
Nora Mosselson (Peter Keeda)

Henryk Przednowek (Lucy Taksa)
Bex Querido (Frankie Blou)
Yosef Rabinovitch
(Emma Bronfentrinker)
Allan Stanley Rein (Rosalind Tarszisz)
Leni Rispler (Alfredo Rispler)
David Elia Rosen (Ellis Rosen, Robert Rosen)
David Selinger (Michael Selinger)
Jules Barney Sevelson (Moya Kertesz)
Maurice Shoolman (Linda Morton, Hymie Shoolman)
Ernest Silver (Ruth Silver)
Danielle Nicole Sirmai (Ari Feller)
David Sneddon (Clare Sneddon)
Anne Snow (Marice King)
Renee Solomon (Michelle Favero)
Leonie (Lee) Steinberg (Randolph Baral, Yadida Sekel, Scott Whitmont, Steph Whitmont)
Simon Swaab (Debbie Hausman)
Bernard Taylor (Suzanne Rosen)
* **Richard Werner**
Faye Zucker (Ben Zucker)

Shoah remembrance: Edith Leibowic was born in Berlin, Germany in 1910 and lived there until she was murdered during the Holocaust.