



Shearith Israel  
**SPANISH &  
PORTUGUESE**  
Synagogue of Montreal  
Est. 1768

# SHABBAT BULLETIN

October 9, 2021 | 3 Heshvan 5782



## Parashat NOAH

to Abraham

*Resilience to Personal Growth*

*By: Rabbi Maimon Pinto*

A few months back, I have discovered a new book titled “Layers; Personal Narratives of Struggle, Resilience, and Growth From Jewish Women.

“Layers” features 34 true stories from Jewish women living in Israel who are immigrants or refugees born worldwide. Written in their voices and paired with numerous full-color images, each chapter is unique in offering a narrative full of raw emotional and universal experiences.

The book features pregnancy loss, mental health, grief, conversion, disability, antisemitism, terrorism, chronic illness, cancer, eating disorders, Holocaust, wartime in Israel, the refugee experience, aliyah, and much more.

These women teach us how to love through suffering and live beyond heartache. They teach us to be sensitive to those different from us and open our minds to realities we never knew. The be honest, at first, I thought that this was not for me. It's by women for women. I was wrong. I read a sample and later the introduction of

the book written by the author, Shira Lankin Sheps. I was blown away by her courage and resilience by the end of my reading of her story. I realized how silly and judgemental I was. As the saying goes: “don't judge a book by its cover.” We can all use a bit of faith, resilience, and courage. We all live a life with some challenges, pain, and suffering. Perhaps some of us more than others, but we all have the little baggage we carry around in our hearts and minds. We may read a book like Layers and realize that our lives are not as merely as complicated as some of the women in this book, but we can relate. We can learn, aspire, and maybe, just maybe, we can also be thankful. Women and men alike.

Noah is this week's parasha illustrates the possibility of human life self-destruct. Noah is unable to cope with a perverted and corrupt world. He finds shelter in the ark, but he cannot forget the destruction that he witnessed.

Noah survives, but he is also a victim of that flood. And the first thing he does upon leaving the ark is planting a vineyard. He becomes drunk on the resultant wine. Rashi, the classic Torah commentator, comments on his decision's foolishness and emphasizes his inability to move past the trauma of the flood.

In Pirkei Avot, the sages compliment

Abraham on his ability to do so ten times in his lifetime. Don't get me wrong, Noah's challenges were no small by all measures. The utter and complete destruction of the entire world. The fear Noah had for his life and his family. The responsibility for humanity laid on his shoulders from that point on was far beyond what any of us will ever experience. But the Torah is a book of lessons, and in our smaller and individual world, we must learn.

We learn from this tragic episode in our history is that; In many cases, overcoming our challenges in life displays our ability to move on with life and not be destroyed by events and experiences.

My wife and I met via zoom, the author of “Layers” Shira, and she said a sentence that has stuck with me since. Resilience must lead to personal growth. I think that sums up our patriarch Abraham, the first Jew, accurately. She elaborated more, but I will leave it to her to tell you. We are honored to have Shira talk to us this coming Sunday, October 10, at noon (see more details on our website).

Friends, Women, and MEN, please join us; their stories are perhaps different from ours, said in other words and with other characters, but they inspire the same message.

Shabbat Shalom

## OPINION

## Chevra Shaas

Words From

**Rabbi Menahem White**

**NOAH 5782**

This past Simchat Torah, the Jewish people suffered a terrible loss: the passing of Rabbi Dr. Moshe D. Tendler.

The motto of the yeshiva where I did my undergraduate studies and also studied for semicha, namely Yeshiva University, is Torah U-Madda, that is, the synthesis of Torah/Talmud and general studies. Rav Tendler z”l was certainly one of the greatest exemplars of this Maimonidean ideal.

For many years, he was head of the biology Dept. at YU, besides being a Rosh Yeshiva, and a renowned

poseq; a world recognized authority in matters of bioethics (such as euthanasia) and family halacha. He stressed the importance of the Harvard criteria of brain death (i.e. flat encephalogram.)



Rav Tendler was also the Rav of a synagogue in Monsey, where I lived for several years before moving to Montreal, and as is well known, he was the son-in-law of the great poseq Rav Moshe Feinstein.

Although I was not in his class in Yeshiva, nor attended regularly his shul in Monsey, I had many interactions with him over the years, and learned much from him. Many years ago, he was the first to bring to my attention the amazing speech

given by the Rav of Danzig (Yisrael Lifshitz) in the 1840's (!), reconciling the science of palaeontology with Jewish tradition.

Rav Tendler's wise halachik decisions actually saved many lives.

In addition, I cherish the fact that he agreed to be the sandak at the berit of my son Yehoshua.

I might also point out that when I consulted with Rav Tendler about the offer I received to move to Montreal, he strongly encouraged me to accept the position, saying that there is no Jewish community in the world, outside of Israel, that can rival Montreal.

May his memory be for a blessing. Let's hear only good news.

Shabbat shalom

## SHABBAT SHALOM

**Start/Debut**      **End/Fin**  
**6:02 pm**            **7:03**

*Parashat Noah - Hertz page 26*  
*Haftarah Isaiah - Hertz page 41*

### Shabbat Services

Shahrit: 8:30      Mincha: 5:45

## WEEKLY SERVICE SCHEDULES

**Sunday:**                    **8:30 a.m.**

**Monday - Thursday**

**Shahrit:**                    **7:30 a.m.**

**Mincha:**                    **5:30 p.m.**

**Friday Mincha**           **5:30 p.m.**

## CHEVRA SHAAS Service Schedule

**SHABBOS, OCTOBER 9<sup>th</sup>**  
Schachris 9:30 a.m.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10<sup>th</sup>**  
Schachris 8:00 a.m.

## BEIT HAMIDRASH HELWANI WITH RABBI PINTO

**Monday through Friday**

**8:40 am** - Hok L'Israel

**Dvar Torah**

**Weekly Debate** - Sunday after services

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday**

**8:25 am** - Halaka/Talmud

**6:15 pm** - Jewish Wisdom

*Dear friends,*

*I am here for you. Whether you want to ask a question, consult, learn or just chat, you can call me on my mobile (514) 506-3164 or to my email [rabbip@thespanish.org](mailto:rabbip@thespanish.org)*

*I am available 24/6.*

*Shabbat, emergencies only*

**Rabbi Maimon Pinto**

*To contact Hazan Daniel Benlolo:*  
*[cantorbenlolo@thespanish.org](mailto:cantorbenlolo@thespanish.org)*  
*(514) 892-2859*

*The synagogue office will be closed Monday, October 11.*



## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*“The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated.”*

Mahatma Gandhi | Aish HaTorah



Our Shabbat Kiddush is Sponsored/Co-Sponsored By:



Our member, **Guila Chetrit**, in honour of the Bat Mitzvah of her granddaughter, **Naomi Elsa Nataf**, daughter of **Renée Benhaim & David Nataf** and sister of **Zachary**.

Mazal Tov To



Our member, **Guila Chetrit** on the Bat Mitzvah of her granddaughter, **Naomi Elsa Nataf**, daughter of **Renée Benhaim & David Nataf**.



Our members, **Nilly & Albert Levy** and **Murielle & Albert Ouaknine**, on the birth of their granddaughter, daughter of **Julia & Adam Levy**.

Congregation Maghen Abraham

Thoughts: Mayer Sasson  
Parasha Noah - "Noah Found Grace"

"These are the products of Noah, Noah a righteous man was perfect...." (6,9)

We learned in the Gemara (Sanhedrin): Rabbi Yishmael said that for Noah as well it was decreed (to die in the flood) but he found grace in G-d's eyes as it says, "I have been caused to alter My decision that I have made them. But Noah found grace..." (Breishit 6)

We have to understand. The Torah itself testified about Noah "Noach was a righteous man, was perfect in his generation, with G-d did Noach walk." If so, why was a decree made for Noah to be killed in the flood?

The Holy Zohar says: It is true that Noah was righteous and perfect but he had a great flaw that he did not pray for the people of his generation the way Moshe Rabeinu ob'm did (and therefore the flood was called in Noah's name as it says (Yeshayahu) "For this is the waters of Noah"). The Chatam Sofer adds that Noah worried for himself and did not fulfill the mitzvah of admonishing his fellow man, to admonish the people of his generation to repent from their evil ways.

Therefore G-d alluded to him in the measurements of the Ark – "three hundred cubits the length of the Ark- three

hundred is the numerology of SHIN – and fifty cubits its width – fifty in gematria is NUN – and and thirty cubits its height – thirty in numerology is LAMED. Together we get the letters לָשׁוּ (missing a VAV)– tongue- to hint to him that he had a flaw in his tongue that he did not use it to reprimand the people of his generation and to pray for them.

And let us add the saying of the Gemara (Shabbat) "He who could have protested to his family members and did not – is held responsible for his family members; to the people of his city – is held responsible for the people of his city; to the entire world – is held responsible for the entire world.

G-d said to Gavriel (during the destruction of the Temple) Go mark the foreheads of the righteous with a mark of ink so that the destructive angels do not overpower them; and the foreheads of the wicked with a mark of blood so that

the destructive angels do overpower them.

The Attribute of Law said to G-d: Master of the universe, how are these different from those? He said to it: These are totally righteous and those are totally evil. The Attribute of Law said to Him: Master of the universe, they (-the righteous) could have protested (and admonished the evil ones) but they didn't protest. G-d said to it- It is known and revealed to Me that if they (the righteous) would protest they (the evil ones) would not accept it. The Attribute of Law said to Him: Master of the universe, to You it is revealed, but who revealed it to them? (i.e. it was obvious to You that the evil ones would not accept the reprimands of the righteous but to the righteous ones it was not obvious – therefore they have to be punished for not reprimanding the evil ones.

SHABBAT SHALOM!!

Jewish Wisdom

Des miroirs partout  
Rabbi Maimon Pinto

[Shem et Japhet] marchaient à reculons et couvraient la nudité de leur père.

Le Ba'al Shem Tov a enseigné que les personnes que nous rencontrons dans nos vies sont nos miroirs : si nous voyons le mal en eux, nous voyons vraiment un reflet du mal en nous. Puisque nous sommes généralement aveugles à nos propres défauts, Dieu s'arrange pour que nous les remarquions chez quelqu'un d'autre, s'attendant à ce que nous prenions le signal et reconnaissons que nous possédons ces mêmes défauts afin que nous puissions les corriger en nous-mêmes.

Ainsi, puisque Shem et Japhet ne partageaient pas la faiblesse de leur père Noé, ils ne se sont pas concentrés sur elle ; au lieu de cela, ils se sont concentrés sur la façon dont ils pourraient l'aider. En revanche, Ham partageait la faiblesse de son père ; par conséquent, il s'est concentré sur la honte de son père plutôt que sur la façon dont il pourrait être utile.



Got A Question for Reverend/Hazan Daniel Benlolo?

Dear Danny: Can you explain the role of the Messiah according to different streams of Judaism?

Dear reader: The first century sage Rabban Yochanan Ben Zakcai once said: "If you should happen to be holding a sapling in your hand when they tell you that the Messiah has arrived, first plant the sapling and then go out and greet the Messiah."

An old Jewish story tells of the Russian Jew who was paid a ruble a month by the community Council to stand at the outskirts of town so that he could be the first person to greet the Messiah upon his arrival. When a friend said to him, but the pay is so low, the man replied: "true, but the job is permanent." Although many Jews have long been skeptical of predictions announcing the imminent arrival of the Messiah, the belief in the Messiah is so deeply rooted in Jewish tradition that a statement concerning the Messiah became the most famous of Maimonides's 13 principles of faith: "Ani Ma'amin Be'emunah Sheleima, Beviat Hamashiach" – "I believe with a full heart in the coming of the Messiah, and even though he may tarry, I will wait for him on any day that he may come." Even in the concentration camps, it is reported that many Jews recited the Ani Ma'amin while walking to the gas chambers. On one hand skepticism on the other passionate faith: what then is the Jewish position on the Messiah?

Jewish tradition affirms the following about the Messiah; He will be a descendent of King David, gain the sovereignty over the land of Israel, gather the Jews from the four corners of the earth, restore them to full observance of the Torah law and bring peace to the entire world. The Jewish belief is that the Messiah's reign lies in the future has long as distinguished Jews from their Christian neighbors who believe, of course, that the Messiah came 2000 years ago in the person of Jesus. According to Jewish thought Jesus did not usher in world peace as Isaiah had prophesied. This belief stems from the fact that Jesus did not help bring about Jewish political sovereignty for the Jews or protection from their enemies.

There has been many self proclaimed Messiahs; Shimon bar Kochba and more recently Shabbetai Tzvi to name a few. In the modern world, Reform Judaism has long denied that there will be an individual Messiah who will carry out the task of perfecting the world. Instead, the movement speaks of a future world in which human efforts, not a divinely sent messenger who will bring out a utopian age. The reform idea has influenced many non-Orthodox Jews: among traditional Jews, the belief in a personal Messiah seems to have grown more central in recent years. Today however, one large movement within Orthodoxy called Lubavitch, has placed increasing emphasis on the eminence of the Messiah's arrival. No matter your belief in this matter, one thing is true; we all aspire to a gentler, quieter and peaceful world. If this can be achieved by the coming of a Messiah in the form of a human being or communal effort to do good in this world - time is of the essence. (Note: excerpts from–Jewish Concepts, Jewish Virtual Library)

PARNASS HAYOM

Shabbat 3 Heshvan - October 9 octobre  
Fattal Family, in memory of their parents, Jacob & Josephine Fattal ז"ל.

Sunday 4 Heshvan - October 10 octobre  
Fattal Family, in memory of their mother, Josephine Fattal ז"ל.

Forever in our hearts, Adullah Sassoon  
Zubaida ז"ל.

Famille Nezri, à la mémoire de leur père, Hanania Nezri ז"ל.

Monday/Lundi 5 Heshvan - October 11  
Famille Elbaz, à la mémoire de leur père, Hanania Elbaz ז"ל.

Tuesday/Mardi 6 Heshvan - October 12  
Albert Mann, à la mémoire de son père, Haim Mann ז"ל.

Wednesday/Mercredi 7 Heshvan - Oct. 13  
Famille Malka & Sequerra, à la mémoire de Maryse Miriam Malka bat Hanna ז"ל.

Bernard Atlan, à la mémoire de sa mère, Fortunee Atlan ז"ל

Carolla Family, in memory of their mother, Jeanne Carolla ז"ל.

Thursday/Jeudi 8 Heshvan - Oct. 14  
Karkoukly Family, in memory of their father, Naim Karkoukly ז"ל

Rachel Archibald, in memory of her sister, Nadia Haim ז"ל.

Friday/Vendredi 9 Heshvan - Oct. 15 Oct.  
Karkoukly & Aintabi Families, in recognition of their support & generosity to BH & S&P.

Upcoming Events



**Sunday, October 10 | 12:00 - 1:00 pm**  
Jewish Women Today - featuring Layers; Personal Narratives of Struggle, Resilience, and Growth From Jewish Women  
3-series event, featuring the author, Shira Lankin Sheps.  
Sunday, Nov. 7 and Sunday, Dec. 5  
Rabbi Pinto Zoom ID 526 438 1158



**Monday, October 11 | 7:00 - 8:30 pm**  
Lecture Series with Rabbi Pinto - Mindfulness/Conscious Living. Six-part series. In person & on Zoom. Mondays, Nov. 15 Gratitude: Modin Anachnu Lach, Dec. 13 Adult Rites of Passage, Jan. 10 Tzedakah/Philanthropy, Feb. 7 Leadership, Mar. 21 Insights to the Passover Seder  
Rabbi Pinto Zoom ID 526 438 1158



**Wednesday, October 13 | 10:00 - 11:00 a.m**  
Women's Learning Group - The Uniqueness, History, and Future of the Jewish Arabic Dialects of Iraq with Dr. Assaf Bar-Moshe  
Zoom ID 898 8229 8754 - Password: WLG2021  
Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89882298754?pwd=VS9D-NEljNGtjTmxJRkdJQWVFcFVrdz09>



**Thursday, October 14 | 11:30 a.m**  
Sisterhood: Art Mural Walking Tour Montreal  
Meeting place at Atwater Market in front of Première Moisson - Confirm: sisterhood2020@hotmail.com OR Grace (415) 979-9779



**Tuesday, October 19 | 1:00 - 3:30 p.m**  
Sisterhood: Game Day  
Back by popular demand! Join us for an in person Covid safe game day in Lawee Hall - Registration required limited space: only 16 spots. **Confirm:** sisterhood2020@hotmail.com OR Grace (415) 979-9779



**Thursday, October 21 | 10:00 am**  
WLG North Africa's Jewish Musical Past: A History in Records - with Dr. Christopher Silver

Zoom ID898 8229 8754 - Passcode: WLG2021



**Monday, October 25 | 8:00 pm**  
Ten Paths to God - Concluding The Program with André Rotchel

Zoom ID 846 5677 7165 - Password: 058194



**Tuesday, October 26 | 12:00 - 1:00 pm**  
Sisterhood Book Review: The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry - By Rachel Joyce Reviewed by: TBA

Zoom ID 895 2182 1866 - Password: SISBOOK