



Shearith Israel
SPANISH &
PORTUGUESE
Synagogue of Montreal
Est. 1768

SHABBAT BULLETIN

February 11, 2023 | 20 Shevat, 5783



Parashat Yitro

THE PARASHA

By: *Reverend Hazan Daniel Benlolo*

This week, I would like to try something new and innovative. Rather than share my thoughts on this week's Parasha I would like to open the door for discussion. Moving forward, three questions will be put forth to you in our Shabbat bulletin. This will enable us to discover in greater depth the hidden meanings of the weekly Parasha.

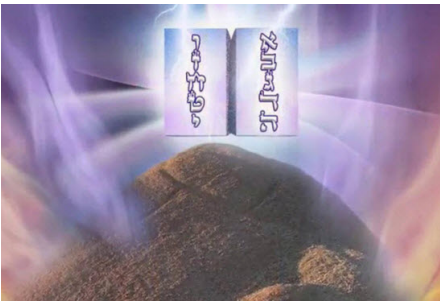
First, a short summary of Parashat Yitro. Hearing of the miracles Hashem performed for the people of Israel, Moses' father-in-law, Yitro, arrives to the desert with his family. Yitro is so impressed by Hashem's power that he chooses to make the Israelites his people. He suggests appointing local judges to adjudicate smaller matters so Moses may attend to larger issues; Moshe accepts his advice.

The Jewish people arrive at Mount Sinai where the Torah is offered to them. After they accept, they prepare them physically and spiritually for 3 days to receive the Torah. On the

3rd day, amidst dramatic thunder & lightning, Hashem's voice emanates from the mountain, and he announces the 10 commandments.

Now for the three questions:

1. What is the uniqueness of the 10 commandments?
2. The first commandment says: "I the Lord am your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage." Why is this a commandment?
3. Since Yitro was not of the Jewish faith, how is it that he has a Parasha named after him?



Cette semaine, j'aimerais essayer quelque chose de nouveau et d'innovant. Plutôt que de partager mes réflexions sur la Parasha de cette semaine, je voudrais ouvrir

la porte à la discussion. À l'avenir, trois questions vous seront posées dans notre bulletin de Shabbat. Cela nous permettra de découvrir plus en profondeur les significations cachées de la Parasha hebdomadaire.

D'abord un bref résumé de Parashat

Yitro. En entendant parler des miracles qu'Hachem a accomplis pour le peuple d'Israël, le beau-père de Moïse, Yitro, arrive dans le désert avec sa famille. Yitro est tellement impressionné par le pouvoir d'Hachem qu'il choisit de faire des Israélites son peuple. Il suggère de nommer des juges locaux pour statuer sur les petites affaires afin que Moïse puisse s'occuper des questions plus importantes; Moshe accepte son conseil.

Le peuple juif arrive au mont Sinai où la Torah lui est offerte. Après leur acceptation, ils les préparent physiquement et spirituellement pendant 3 jours pour recevoir la Torah. Le 3^{ème} jour, au milieu d'un tonnerre et d'un éclair dramatiques, la voix d'Hachem émane de la montagne, et il annonce les 10 commandements.

Maintenant pour les trois questions :

1. Quelle est la singularité des 10 commandements ?
2. Le premier commandement dit : « Je suis l'Éternel, ton Dieu, qui t'ai fait sortir du pays d'Égypte, de la maison de servitude. Pourquoi est-ce un commandement ?
3. Puisque Yitro n'était pas de confession juive, comment se fait-il qu'il ait une Parasha qui porte son nom ?

Shabbat shalom

the ability to sustain us.

The Sefer Haredim, by R. Eliezer Azkari, one of the great 16th century scholars from Tsfat, takes that idea a bit further: by honouring our parents, we are repaying a debt that we owe them.

Abrabanel has an interesting and practical explanation: by honouring our parents, we are setting an example for our own children to respect us.

In my shul in Teaneck this past shabbat, people were complaining that it was so cold. The wind chill (what they call here "real feel,") was below zero fahrenheit (= around minus 19 celsius.) I told them, "you ain't seen nothin'". I understand it was around minus 38 in Montreal. So, kol ha-kavod to those who were able to come to shul and participate in the minyan in that bitter cold.

Shabbat shalom, have a warm shabbat.

SHABBAT SHALOM

Start/Debut 4:56 p.m. End/Fin 6:01 p.m.

PARASHAT YITRO
HERTZ PAGE 288
HAFTARAH ISAIAH
HERTZ PAGE 302

SHABBAT SERVICES
SHAHRIT: 8:30A MINHA: 4:45P

WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Sunday
Shahrit: 8:30A Minha: 5:00P

MONDAY - FRIDAY
Shahrit: 7:30A Minha: 5:00P

CHEVRA SHAAS Service Schedule

SHABBOS, February 11TH
Schachris 9:30 a.m.

SUNDAY, February 12TH
Schachris 8:00 a.m.

TORAH CLASS

Join **ANDRE ROTCHEL** every
Shabbat after services
Beit Hamidrash
Refreshments

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



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

My concern is not whether God is on our side; my greatest concern is to be on God's side, for he is always right.

- Abraham Lincoln | Aish HaTorah

OPINION

Chevra Shaas

Words From
Rabbi Menahem White
YITRO 5783

Dear mitpallelim,

This Friday is the 1st yahrzeit for my Aunt Betty Shapiro, Bessie bat Tsvi Hirsh. As you may remember, she passed away in Boston last year, "be-seivah tovah," at the age of 105. Until about her last year, we would go over the parasha by phone every Thursday night. As she died without children, my brother and I said kaddish during the year.

This Shabbat, 20 Shevat, is the yahrzeit for my dear mother, Chana bat Tsvi Hirsch..

21 Shevat is yahrzeit for Sender Goldstein, grandfather of Stanley Goldstein and Mariam Mintz.

It is also the yahrzeit of Yeshua ben Chaim, father of Adele Haimovici and grandfather of our hazzanim Yaakov and Yehoshua.

Honoring parents, as we all know, is one of the 10 commandments. As the 5th commandment, it serves as a bridge between the 1st group: which are mitzvot concerning our relation to HaShem, and the 2nd group: which deal with relations among people. Thus, honouring parents is a mitzvah containing both elements.

What is so special about honouring parents? According to Sefer ha-hinukh, a tremendous 14th century Sephardic work which gives a rationale for all of the torah mitzvot, this mitzvah is based on "hakkarat ha-tov," i.e., appreciation to our parents for having given birth to us, and for having sustained us and guided us. And likewise, we thank HaShem for having given our parents



S.&P. Shabbat Kiddush is Sponsored by:

The Congregation

S.&P. Seudah Shlishit is Sponsored & Co-Sponsored by:

Albert Soussan, à la mémoire de son père,
David Soussan z'l.

Saleh Family, in memory of Rosa Saleh z'l.

C.S. Shabbos Kiddush is Sponsored by:

The Congregation

A Note From:
Reverend Hazan Daniel Benlolo

Dear congregants and friends,

As most of you are aware, I was asked to play the role of spiritual leader on this years *March of the Living trip (MOL 2023)*.

I am both honoured and proud to be representing our Spanish and Portuguese synagogue in this moving and incredible mission.

This Saturday evening (Feb. 11) we have invited all the participants and leaders to join us for Havdalah in our beautiful Mashaal sanctuary. The service will begin at 7:00 p.m.

The Havdalah service will be broadcast through zoom and hope you can join us from the comfort of your home.

Here is the zoom link: 914 650 9809

Shabbat Shalom

INSIGHTS

Congregation
Maghen Abraham

PERASHA "YITRO"

Thoughts: Mayer Sasson

"And all the people were seeing the sounds... and the nation saw and they trembled and stood afar off."

"The people were seeing" or "he saw" On this verse the Sar Shalom of Belz asks: Why does the verse begin in the plural "were seeing" and end in the singular "he saw"?

In order to explain this question the Rabbi Belz asks an additional question: It says in Sefer Yeshayahu that in the future when Mashiach comes the world will be filled with knowledge and wisdom, as it says "for the world will be filled of knowledge of G-d like water that covers the sea". This means that in the future at the End of Days each person will be filled and covered with the knowledge and wisdom of G-d, just as the water covers the sea.

The Sar Shalom asks – how can it be that they will all be full of the wisdom of G-d with no difference? How will a simple person be able to be the same as a righteous person on a high level? The Sar Shalom answers: From the top the sea seems to be all equal and at a single height, but we know that this is not so. The height of the bottom of the sea varies greatly. There are places where it is high and places that are low; there are mountains in it and there are valleys.

That is how it will be in Future Times: On the surface it will seem that everyone is equal in knowledge and wisdom (like the sea that seems to be a uniform height on the surface). However, in truth each person will merit to be filled with knowledge at a different level, according to his level, just like the bottom of the sea that has various levels.

So too in Parsha of Yitro. It says "And all the people were seeing the sounds" – even the simple ones merited to see Divine revelation, just like the sea that seems to be the same all over. However, each person saw differently, each one according to his level. Therefore, at the end of the verse, it says in the singular "and the nation saw and they trembled and stood afar off". Each person saw according to his level and understanding.

cont'd. next week

Jewish Wisdom
HALAKHA

Are We Obligated to Forgive?
by Rabbi Dovid Rosenfeld

I was hurt very deeply by another person. She either isn't aware how hurtful her actions were or just doesn't care. I'm wondering what I should do now, especially with Yom Kippur approaching. I know I am supposed to forgive everyone, but I honestly do not have it in my heart to let her behavior pass. Even if I said I forgive her, I wouldn't really mean it. So, what should I do?

The Aish Rabbi Replies: I'm very sorry to hear of your upset, but it's nice that you are so intent on doing the right thing.

The truth is, although you feel you must forgive everyone who has hurt you, that is really not the case. Jewish law advises that we be forgiving to our fellow, but that is referring specifically to if the person truly regrets what he did and comes to beg our forgiveness. If (and only if) that occurs, we are told to open our hearts and accept his apology.

If, however, a person hurts you and does not even care, you most certainly do not have to magically erase all your hurt and forgive him. Forgiveness comes after the apology and resolution, not before. Even if the person who hurt you does apologize, you have the right to feel that his apology is not sufficiently sincere and heartfelt, and as a result reject it. It is his obligation to appease you and to show that he truly understands the extent of his wrong and honestly wants to make up for it.

There is, however, a different obligation in a case like yours. Leviticus 19:17 states, "You shall not hate your fellow in your heart; you shall surely rebuke your fellow..." We are not allowed to just hate a person who has hurt us and keep it bottled up. We are obligated to somehow convey to him our hurt – and by so doing afford him the opportunity to own up to his bad behavior and make amends.

SHINSHIN
ARIEL LEVY

PLEASE JOIN ME IN SONGS

Hello everyone and Shabbat Shalom! This is Ariel Shinshin, and every week I will share with you my two weekly songs, you are invited to listen to them during the week and share with me what you thought of them!

In order to listen to my songs, scan the following QR code



The first song of this week is "Shoshanim Atzuvot" by Eden Hason and Yasmín Moallem. I chose this song because I believe it reflects the situation that Israel and its citizens have been facing in the last week. After two terror attacks, and Rockets from Gaza. As an Israeli, who lives in Canada, watching the news from here was heartbreaking, and I hope things will get better as time goes on.

The second song is "Musica Tova" by Ravid Plotnik. As you already know, I am a big fan of Ravid Plotnik, and this song is one of his oldest songs. This weekend I cooked for my host family, and I like listening to music while I'm cooking. When I heard this song, I thought it would be a good idea to add it to the weekly song!

I can't wait to hear your opinion about the songs!

I wish you Shabbat Shalom.



PARNASS HAYOM
BEIT HAMIDRASH
HELWANI

SHABBAT 20 SHEVAT - FEBRUARY 11
Armand Mamane, en l'honneur de sa famille.

SUNDAY/DIMANCHE 21 SHEVAT - FEBRUARY 12
Dr. Joshua Haimovici, in memory of Yehoshua ben Yossef ז"ל

TUESDAY/MARDI 23 SHEVAT - FEBRUARY 14
Schachter Family, in memory of their mother, Miriam Schachter ז"ל

WEDNESDAY/MERCREDI 24 SHEVAT - FEB. 15
Richard Saleh, in memory of his mother, Rosa Saleh ז"ל

THURSDAY/JEUDI 25 SHEVAT - FEBRUARY 16
Famille Abitbol, à la mémoire de leur père, Haim Abitbol ז"ל

Françoise Babulot, à la mémoire de sa mère, Emilie Beller Brod Babulot ז"ל

FRIDAY/VENDREDI 26 SHEVAT - FEBRUARY 17
Joseph Ovadia & Family, in memory of his father, Sasson Ovadia ז"ל



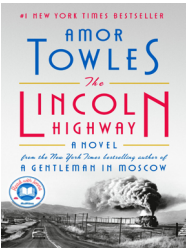
Upcoming Events



IMMEDIATE
SISTERHOOD PURIM BASKETS (MISHLOAH MANOT)
ORDER: your Purim baskets Today!

Deadline: Tuesday, February 28th, 2023 at 12:00P.

\$45/basket - Phone: 514-373-3695 - OR
visit our website: www.thespanish.org

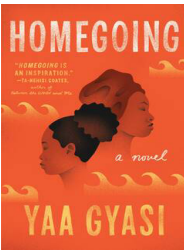


SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12 | 10:30A - 12:00P
SISTERHOOD BOOK REVIEW: The Lincoln Highway
by: Amor Towles - Reviewer: Yvonne Saleh
Battat Hall

\$5 FOR SISTERHOOD MEMBER & \$8 FOR NON-MEMBERS



TUESDAY, MARCH 7 | 7:00 PM
PURIM GAME NIGHT | JOIN US FOR FUN & GAMES,
BACKGAMMON, DOSA, PRIZES, MUSIC, COCKTAIL DINATOIRE &
OPEN BAR - PRIZE FOR BEST COSTUME.
\$75 BY DEADLINE DATE: FEBRUARY 27 - \$85/ADULT AFTER.
VALET PARKING INCLUDED.
Registration: <https://www.thespanish.org/event/PGN23>

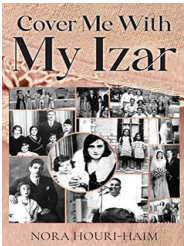


SUNDAY, MARCH 12 | 10:30A - 12:00P
SISTERHOOD BOOK REVIEW: Homegoing
by: Yaa Gyasi - Reviewer: to be advised - Battat Hall
\$5 FOR SISTERHOOD MEMBER & \$8 FOR NON-MEMBERS



SHABBAT, APRIL 1 | 10:00A - 1:00P
SPY KIDS SHABBAT HAGADOL TAKEOVER
Join us for a fun song filled, children led service.
Followed by a kid friendly kiddush.

Please contact Julia Peress julia@thespanish.org if
your child would like to participate in the service.



TUESDAY, APRIL 4 | 10:30A - 12:00P
SISTERHOOD BOOK REVIEW: Cover Me With My Izar
by: Nora Houri-Haim - Reviewer: Joe Menashe
Battat Hall

\$5 FOR SISTERHOOD MEMBER & \$8 FOR NON-MEMBERS