

SCHEDULE

שבת קודש

Mincha Erev Shabbos	7:03 PM
Shacharis- Followed by Kiddush	8:30 AM
Sof Zman K"ס- מ"א 9:53 < גר"א 9:17	
Pirkei Avot Shiur	6:20 PM
Mincha- Followed by Shalosh Seudos	6:55 PM
Maariv	8:09 PM

Slichos Motzei Shabbos

12:45am Divrei Hisorerus

1:00am Slichos

Sunday

Shacharis	8:30 AM
<i>Followed by Shiur</i>	
Mincha / Maariv	7:05 PM

Weekday Minyanim & Shiurim

Shacharis *Changed Time for Slichos*

Monday - Friday	6:25 AM & 7:50 AM
Mincha (Mon-Thur)	1:45 PM
Mincha / Maariv (Sunday-Th)	7:05 PM
Shiur Sefer Da Es Atzmecha (M-Th)	9:30 PM
Nightly Maariv (Mon-Thur)	9:45 PM

Thursday Night Shiur by Rabbi Teichman after Maariv

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Kiddush

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In honor of the birth of

Devorah Shayna

Shalosh Seudos

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To our in-house construction crew for a lot of hard work getting the Shul ready for Yom Tov.

Among the builders:

Ari Braun, Rocky Caine, Dani Kermaier,
Azi Rosenblum, Shui Steinharter
& Dovid Wealcatch....

Feeling left out? See other side for details

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Issue #107

How Sweet It Is!

On the last day of his life, in פרשת נצבים, משה רבינו summons the entire nation to renew the ברית, the covenant that began at הר סיני. At this juncture they are to assume ערבות, responsibility one for another in assuring the collective adherence and culpability for all of the מצות. This gathering and its admonitions and oaths was undertaken to prevent a שרש פורה ראש ולענה, a root flourishing with gall and wormwood, two bitter and poisonous roots, from developing and influencing subsequent generations. The רמב"ן points out that the usage of the metaphor of "bitterness" to indicate the dangerous consequences of sin and alienation, is to teach us that "משרש מתוק לא יצא מר", from a "sweet" root no bitterness can come.

Later on that same day, in פרשת וילך, משה רבינו charges כלל ישראל with the very last מצוה of תרי"ג, the command for each Jew to write a ספר תורה. The term used throughout these verses in referring to it being written and referenced to when facing distress in serving as an antidote to trouble, is as שירה, song, וענתה כתבו, וענתה השירה הזאת, לכם את השירה הזאת.

It seems self evident that משה is conveying the key for success in assuring the continuance of his magnificent legacy; be joyous and make the תורה pleasant and sweet! Bitterness breeds discontent, joy and song is contagious!

Perhaps the oft quoted חז"ל, כל ישראל ערבים זה בזה, all Jews are guarantors for one another, has this connotation as well.

We recite in ברכת התורה, the request that והערב נא... may Hashem make the Torah we learn pleasant and sweet, so that ונהיה אנחנו וצאצאנו... we and our descendants remain loyal devotees to the study of Torah. The word "ערב" implying "sweet" is the "ערב", the guarantor, that we will successfully support each other in our common mission. It is only the pleasantness in our attitudes towards others and the sweetness in our relationships that will eradicate "bitterness" and create roots of eternal "sweetness"!

Embedded in the phrase שרש פורה ראש ולענה, is the acronym for שופר.

The ספרים הקדושים tell us that the שופר has the power to be "sweeter" the judgment.

We wallow all year in self pity, anger, resentment and all sorts of acrimonious sentiments. The שופר with its sweet notes arouses us from our stupor, directing our attention to the מלך העולם who has orchestrated every event in our lives precisely in accordance to our unique script. We are inspired by the עקידה of יצחק to relish our relationship with Hashem, allowing all other concerns and fears to pale in their significance. We recall the שופר of הר סיני and remember the exquisite sweetness of תורה and its מצות. Suddenly we are rejoicing, forgiving and accepting, restoring both our sense of ערבות, responsibility and עריבות, sweetness.

Our custom to dip our bread and apple in honey and request for a שנה טובה ומתוקה, a sweet new year, is perhaps a really an expression of a profound desire that Hashem restore that sense of sweetness in our עבודת השם and in our relationship with others.

May we merit to "sweeten our deal" with a new and improved attitude, because only that can assure us success in the יום הדין.

באהבה מתוקה,
צבי טייכמן

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TESHUVA



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If available, contact the paint job coordinator:

Yaakov Berkowitz

yberkowitz@talmudicalacademy.org

917-541-0218 (leave a message)