

SCHEDULE

שבת קודש

Mincha Erev Shabbos	5:01 PM
Friday Night Learning	7:30 PM
Shacharis	8:30 AM
<i>Sof Zman K"ס מ"א 9:13 גר"א 9:49</i>	
Mincha- Followed by Shalosh Seudos	4:55 PM
Maariv	6:09 PM

Sunday

Shacharis	8:30 AM
<i>Followed by Shiur</i>	
Mincha / Maariv	5:10 PM
Torah Youth Shiur	7:30 PM
<i>for High School Boys</i>	
<i>Followed by Maariv at 8:00 PM</i>	
Maariv	9:45 PM

Weekday Minyanim & Shiurim

Monday—Friday

Gemarah Shiur (M—F)	6:00 AM
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Masechet Avodah Zarah with Rabbi Teichman

Shacharis

Mon & Thur	6:40AM	Tues, Wed, Fri	6:45AM
Tur & Beis Yosef—Orach Chaim Shiur	7:30AM		
Additional daily minyan (Mon—Fri)	8:10AM		
Mincha— Mon, Tue, Wed, Thur	*12:50PM*		
Open Beis Hamedrash	8:00 PM		
Shiur	9:30 PM		
Nightly Maariv	9:45 PM		

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On the birth of a daughter

last Shabbos

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CONGREGATION OHEL MOSHE

שבת קודש

פרשת יתרו

י"ט שבט

אהל משה



Rabbi Zvi Teichman

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Volume #27

RABBI'S MESSAGE

Strangers in the Night

At the onset of the פרשה we are reintroduced to the children of משה רבינו with the return of יתרו and his daughter, צפורה, the wife of משה רבינו. The first child גרשם is so named "כי אמר גר הייתי בארץ נכריה"; "for he had said: a stranger I have been in a strange land". The second child born was named אליעזר, "כי אלקי, אליעזר"; "אבי בעזרי ויצלני מחרב פרעה"; "for the G-d of my father is my help and delivered me from the sword of פרעה".

The great and illustrious Rebbe of Klausenberg זצוק"ל asked shortly after the Holocaust where he lost his entire family, why didn't משה רבינו first commemorate his salvation from the executioner at the birth of his first son? Wouldn't that be the first in the order of thanks? Secondly, why does the פסוק emphasize "for he had said..." in the naming of גרשם which is absent in the naming of אליעזר?

The Holocaust, he went on to explain, taught us that even amongst the most enlightened of nations a Jew has no place. Our goal must be to reestablish ourselves in ארצנו הקדושה, the land that was bequeathed to our אבות. Only there can we be assured that "וישבתם לבטח", that we will find ultimate security and purpose.

If Jews will feel comfortable and secure in foreign lands then their having been saved will have no context and will be devoid of meaning and unworthy of thanks. It was for this reason that משה רבינו first declared his station as a "stranger" in a strange land in the naming of his first child, גרשם, to assert his goal of never to become complacent in reaching his eventual goal of returning to ארץ ישראל. This was his motto, "כי אמר"; "for he had said", constantly reiterating his discomfort in גלות. This sentiment is the prerequisite for being able to place in proper context the thanks for his salvation from the sword of פרעה.

The Rebbe concluded that it couldn't be that we were saved simply "to eat more potatoes, loafs of bread and all sorts of delicacies". There must be a more noble purpose.

May I suggest that it wasn't until his children successfully returned from מדין, intact with their aspiration to return to ארץ ישראל not having succumbed to the comforts of מדין, that משה רבינו actually granted the name אליעזר to his second son. This would explain why his name is mentioned only first now and not earlier during the incident at the inn and his ברית, and perhaps also why it omits "כי אמר" since he was first named now.

We have just celebrated the ראש השנה לאילנות, the beginning of the fiscal year for תרומות ומעשרות. We reaffirm the supremacy of ארץ ישראל as the home of our nation and the center of our universe and השגחת השם.

May we never get comfortable in the darkness of גלות and all its accoutrements and may we continue to long to return to our true and only home.

May the אמונתך בלילות; remaining faithful to our mission in the long night of גלות allow us, להגייד בבקר, to express our appreciation for the multitude of kindness when the גאולה will come!

באהבה,
צבי טייכמן

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כנס זכרון

לכבוד הרב יוסף שכטר ז"ל

Memorial Gathering in memory of
Rabbi Joseph Schechter

Words of inspiration from
Rabbi Moshe Heineman
Rabbi Yissocher Frand

Monday Evening, January 28th, 2008
8:30 PM

Lasson Agudath Israel Center
6200 Park Heights Avenue

Rabbi Teichman, Unplugged

Join us weekly for 30 minutes of uninhibited
Hashkafa & Mussar with Rabbi Teichman.

Thursday Nights after the 9:45 Maariv.

Topics will cover a variety of subjects from
Shalom Bayis, to Chinuch, to matters of
Parnassa and more!

You don't want to miss this...

- For Men -