<u>Schedule</u> שבת קדש	
Mincha Erev Shabbos 7:00 & Candle lighting Daf Yomi Shacharis- Followed by Kiddush	8:15 PM 8:15 PM 7:30 AM 8:30 AM
-Sof Zman K"S- 8:31	גר״א 9:23
Mincha	2:15 PM
Pirkei Avos Special Guest Speaker - R' Naftali	7:20 PM <i>Hexter</i>
Mincha - Followed by Shalosh Seudos Special Guest Speaker - R' Yaakov	8:10 PM <b>Berkowitz</b>
Maariv -	9:25 PM
BRIS KODESH! Chaim & Deena Meister want to inform everyone of the upcoming Bris of their son Sunday morning, 8:45am at Agudah of Greenspring.	
Weekday Minyanim & Shiurim	
Sunday	
Shacharis I	6:50 AM
Daf Yomi	7:30 AM
Shacharis II	8:30 AM
Mincha / Maariv	8:25 PM
Weekday	
Daf Yomi	5:45 AM
Shacharis	
Monday, Thursday	6:40 AM
Tues, Wed., Friday	6.55 AM
Mincha (Mon–Tues)	1:45 PM
MINCHA/MAARIV (Monday)	8:25 PM
Daf Yomi (Take II)	9:00 PM
Maariv (Monday-Thursday)	9:45 PM



CONGREGATION OHEL MOSHE

שבת קודש פרשת שלח

> ט`ו סיון 6/13

# אהל משה



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Issue#338

## RABBI'S MESSAGE

# Very, Very Land

Anyone visiting our holy land will immediately discover a land of extremes. Extremely hot, extremely cold. Extremely religious, extremely secular. Extremely passionate, extremely apathetic. Extremely expressive, extremely reserved. Extremely arrogant, extremely humble.

Whatever one confronts in this country whether its people; its food; its culture; its society, one word seems to capture its essence – Intense!

The Spies observe a land of great extremes. Its inhabitant are giants, its produce is enormous, its cities extremely fortified with insurmountable walls. They fret and declare ! MRC impossible! They conclude that this extreme reality is evidence of its dangerous quality that is incapable of sustaining our nation. This is not land of opportunity but rather 'Never, Never Land'.

Yehoshua and Calev deny this assertion responding with equal conviction, במדבר יד ז), the land is exceedingly good!

How did they seek to win over the populace by not addressing head on the realities the spies presented? Simply claiming it was good is not a very convincing retort to the evidence the spies presented. Yet that is precisely what they appear to be asserting, that not only is it very good, it is very, very good!

The first time the Torah emphasizes the quality of something being 'very' is at the end of Creation when G-d takes a look at his final product and exclaims, (בראשית א לא, and behold, it was very good.

The Midrash tells us that the 'good' He created refers to the good inclination we are blessed with, but what makes the world 'very' good is the instilling within us an evil inclination. ( $\tau = \tau' = 0$ )

What makes us great are the hurdles we surmount. The greater the potential the more difficult is its acquisition.

The message Yehoshua and Calev sought to enlighten them with was this very notion. They were instructing them not to be deluded by the excessive and overwhelming qualities they observed. This was merely the physical manifestation of this 'very' quality inherent within this special land. Its overpowering material capacity reflects on the enormous spiritual possibilities that are in store for us if we manage to tackle the physical excessiveness in our lives. If we see beyond our desires and strive for spirituality, the land will give forth unbelievable bounty in matters of the spirit as well.

This magnificent land responds to the intensity of its inhabitants, it merely depends what it 'wills' from it.

The very word ארץ is rooted in the sentiment רצון, will or desire.

This is a land of strong 'wills' indeed. Herzl touched on this truth when he stated, אם תרצו זו לא אגדה, if you desire it, it is not a legend. No doubt the depth of the Jewish soul even when misguided unwittingly pines for a return to G-d's embrace. No wonder despite the secular notion intended we have achieved a land that is 'very' good. But it has to be 'very, very' good.

One gains a glimpse into the magnificence of our collective soul when observing even the most alienated and uneducated Jews as they pour their hearts out at the Kosel pining for G-d to embrace them.

We who know better have the duty to express that true 'will' so that we will inspire those who have yet to comprehend it.

How much do we truly want or even think about it?

Do we feel we are missing something or are we comfortably ensconced in our habitats?

There is much greatness in this land. The intensity of the struggle to express the true will of G-d is our ultimate test. We are still reeling from the effects of the sin of the spies. It is incumbent upon us to re-examine where our true will lies,

Do we live in Never, Never Land or are we ready to be 'very, very' honest in awakening at least the hunger for greater possibilities?

I am fortunate to be in the midst of celebrating a Bar Mitzva together with a family that if not for the anchor of belief that was rooted in this Promised Land and the bond it created between our people, could have easily disappeared. That is 'very' good. But it has to be better.

We must strive for a time that it isn't just the pride of a nation that is willing to sacrifice itself to stay united for nationalistic or historic sake alone, but in the absolute adherence to the will of our Creator as expressed in our holy Torah.

When seeing a young boy who hails from a family whose grandparent hadn't possessed a pair of Tefillin nor was able to read Hebrew, stand in the shadow of the Western Wall in the holy city of Jerusalem donning Tefillin, reading from the Torah, expressing praise to G-d for having chosen us to give His Torah, that is 'very, very' good!

May we inspire a world that desperately needs to finally see the full expression of His will through the enthused lives of His beloved children!

באהבה מירושלים עיר הקודש, צבי טייכמאן



""HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Hindy Abramson, Tova Cohn, Deborah Marizan, Eliana Rosenblum, Eli Siegel, Abbi Breitowitz

#### ""HAPPY anniversary !!!

Bernard & Tova Fellner Mark & Shoshana Goldberg Herbert & Renee Siegel

This space is provided by YOU through the member database. Please be sure to update!

### **GREETINGS FROM ISRAEL!**

Rabbi & Mrs Teichman send warm greetings from Israel! A special message will be delivered Shabbos morning from the Rabbi. It will be 4 minutes or less! \*



 \* 4 minutes including greetings, welcome messages, program information, and all other good wishes.
From Bruchim HaBaim to Bimheyra BeYameinu Amen. In 4 minutes or less. - Shmuli Abramson, official timer.