

## SCHEDULE

ליל שבת קדש

Candles	6:01 PM
Mincha & Kabalas Shabbos	6:01 PM
יום שבת קדש	
Daf Yomi @Main Shul	7:30 AM
SHACHARIS	
@Main Shul	6:50 AM
@Main Shul	8:30 AM
Netz - 7:23 am   Sof Zman K"ס 9:27 א"ס   Sof Zman Tefilah - 11:01 א"ס	
Followed by Kiddush	
Mincha	2:15 PM
Mincha	5:50 PM
Followed by Shalosh Seudos	
Maariv/Havdala	(50min) 7:08 PM



CANDLES NEXT  
SHABBOS - 5:52 PM

## WEEKDAY MINYANIM

SHACHARIS

Sunday - 6:50 & 8:30

Monday, Thursday - 6:35, 7:50

Tue, Wed—**ROSH CHODESH - 6:30**, 7:50

Fri - 6:45, 7:50

MINCHA & MAARIV

Mincha: Sunday - Thursday 1:45 PM

Mincha/Maariv: Sunday - Thursday 6:05 PM

Maariv: Sunday - Thursday 9:50 PM



SEE THE SHIURIM PAGE FOR THE LATEST  
[www.ohelmoshebaltimore.com/shiurim](http://www.ohelmoshebaltimore.com/shiurim)

AM Daf Yomi - Sha/Sun	7:30 AM ~ M-F	5:45 AM
PM Daf Yomi - Sun - Thu	After Mincha/Maariv	
Smichas Chaver Program - Sunday		9:15 AM
Royal Tea - Monday		8:15 PM
Daf Hashavua - Mon. & Wed.		9:00 PM
Breathing Life - Monday		9:10 PM
Holy Machlokes - Tuesday		9:00 PM
Begging For More - Tuesday		9:10 PM
Connections - Wednesday (For Women)		8:00 PM

## SPONSORSHIPS

### KIDDUSH

@Hashkama

Sponsored by: ???

@Main Minyan

Sponsored by:

**Etzion & Faye Brand**

In honor of the Yahrzeit of Faye's father,  
Mr. Ben Koval

### SHALOSH SEUDOS

Sponsored by:

**Chaim Mordechai & Deena Meister**

In memory of Rabbi Dr. Tuvia Meister,  
whose yahrtzeit is this Shabbos.

### RAV'S DRASHA

Sponsored by:

**Tzipora Frager, Rebbetzin Tzivia**

**Dinovitz and Rabbi Yaakov**

**Shuvalsky**

In memory of their Zaidy,  
HaRav Hillel Ben Moshe Shuvalsky,  
whose yahrtzeit is this Shabbos, 27 Tishrei.

### Shul Contacts

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Naftali Miller & Chaim Mordechai Meister - Gabbai@  
Pinchas Friedman, Sasha Zakharin & Aiton Marizan- Lain@

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## CONGREGATION OHEL MOSHE

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אהל משה



*Rabbi Zvi Teichman*

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Issue #752

## RABBI'S MESSAGE:

## No More Excuses!

Once again, we begin anew the cycle of Torah starting from בראשית—the 'beginning', all over again.

Everything was looking great until that fatal error of Adam and Chava having partaken from the Tree of Knowledge, and then all headed downhill from there. We are still trying to recover our former status till this very day.

We just concluded the Tishrei season where we reiterated our acknowledgment of our gratitude, debt and duty to the Creator, admitting our shortcomings, and initiating a process of repentance in the hope we can move closer to the goal posts.

Our sages have revealed that the taking of the Four Species over the holiday of Sukkos is a direct attempt to rectify that very first sin and bring the world to the realm of Moshiach.

It has been noted that the exact words from the verse used by the Torah to describe the four species we take: 'Pri Eitz Hadar, Kapos Temarim, V'Anaf Eitz Avos, V'Arvei Nachal' are numerically equivalent to the sentiment: ארבעת המינים ללב ואותרגוד חדס וערבה תקון לחטא אדם—*the four species, Lulav and Esrog, Hadassim and Aravos is the rectification of the sin of Adam HaRishon.* (3,075)

The great and renowned sage, eighteenth century rabbinic figure, Rav Yaakov Emden reveals in his epic Siddur, that the Esrog is associated with the Tree of Knowledge and the Lulav aligned with the Tree of Life.

These parallels relate to profound mystical concepts beyond simple comprehension, but perhaps the following anecdotes can shed light on these comparisons.

*The renowned eighteenth-century Chassidic leader, Rav Mordechai of Neshchiz, lived a life of poverty. Nevertheless, he managed to collect small coins over the year to enable himself to buy a beautiful Esrog. Legend has it that after accumulating a significant sum, on the way to the Esrog merchant to purchase his longed for Esrog, he came across a fellow Jew whose horse had collapsed dead while hitched to his wagon, his sole means of support for his family. Reb Mordechai immediately assessed the situation, handing over to the poor fellow the funds he desperately needed to provide for his family.*

*The Rav exclaimed with satisfaction, "this year while everyone else will be bentshing the Esrog, Mordechai will be making his blessing over a 'ferd' — a horse!"*

Rav Shaul Alter, the brilliant and beloved Rosh Yeshiva of Yeshivas Sfias Emes, asserts that Rav Mordechai's humorous comment regarding his 'blessing over a horse' has a deeper significance.

When the Prophet Yirmiyah wondered how it was that Nebuchadnezzar was rewarded for taking four steps in honor of G-d, G-d responded, "if you are amazed about the reward given to Nebuchadnezzar for four steps he took for My honor, how much more will you be amazed at the reward given to Avraham, Yitzchak and Yaakov, who ran in front of Me (did My will) **like horses!**" (סנהדרין צו)

Strange that the Patriarchs would be likened to horses!

The Rosh HaYeshiva explains with an anecdote.

*His grandfather, the Imrei Emes, possessed a pair of Tefillin that belonged to the great Tzaddik, Rav Moshe of Pshvorsk, and had hoped to bequeath it to his son, the Pnei Menachem upon his Bar Mitzvah. But he gifted it to a poor Yid who needed a pair of Tefillin instead. He calculated that although he had intended for his son to benefit from wearing such a holy and inspiring pair which could certainly have long reaching effects upon him and his generations, but that would be for his own 'needs' — spiritual ones notwithstanding — but not solely to fulfill the pure will of G-d to do a charitable act in helping the poor man. He realized we don't educate our children for 'our' sake but rather to perform that which is demanded of us at that moment.*

A horse has no 'will' of its own, it merely responds to the prod of the rider. That is the attribute of our illustrious Patriarchs, as they too are merely the chariot for the Divine Presence to ride upon.

No doubt Reb Mordechai's waving of his longed for Esrog would have reverberated

immeasurably upon the heavens, but it would have paled in significance to the pure and selfless act of charity he merited to perform.

The word we call this fruit — *Esrog* – אֶסְרוֹג, is rooted in the Aramaic word, רגג—*desire*. The description of the fruit on the Tree of Knowledge as נחמד לנראה—*desirable for the eyes*, alludes to being naturally drawn towards this fruit. One opinion posits it was indeed an Esrog that they ate from.

Evidently not everything we are attracted to is an indication of its propriety.

In life we face numerous situations where we rationalize our behavior based on personal 'desires' and 'interests' convincing ourselves it is in fulfillment of the will of G-d.

Defining the fine line between the two is then the challenge of the 'Esrog'. No wonder it is the symbol for the temptation of the Tree of Knowledge and the challenge in distilling our interests from those purely for the sake of G-d.

The straight and narrow Lulav, in contrast, represents the Tree of Life. The numerical value of Lulav – לולב is equivalent to חיים—*Life!*

The Rosh HaYeshiva directs us to the passage in the Talmud that states that we make the blessing over the shaking and waving of the Lulav and the other three species, specifically לולב—*on the taking of the Lulav*, since it is the tallest of them all.

Although we generally extol the value of humility, here we emphasize 'standing tall'.

This is predicated, he says, on another law that calls for these items that grow from the ground to be held in a position דרך גיליתן—in the direction they grow [naturally] — upward.

This emphasizes our yearning to achieve closeness. It is the compulsion to 'reach for the heavens' that infuses us with devotion and total submission to the will of G-d.

May I humbly add that the straight Lulav rising unimpeded and upward reflects on the words of Koheles who reminds us how although G-d made us ישר—*straight [simple and uncomplicated]*, but they have engaged in חשבונות רבים—*too much reasoning.* (קהלת ו כט)

The Tree of Life that we must grab on to is the unrelenting commitment to the will of G-d without rationalizations or excuses.

In the prayer *Asher Heini* we recite after reading Esther, we mention how א פרח מלובב—a blossom bloomed from a Lulav branch, a reference to Mordechai whose unwavering commitment to never compromise — לא יכרע ולא ישתחוה—*would not bow or prostrate himself [before Haman]*, straight and proud defying the forces of Amalek who seek to sow self-doubt in all that we do.

He defeats Haman who as well, the Talmud teaches, is alluded to in the Tree of Knowledge, ... הנן הני—*Have you eaten from the tree from which I commanded you not to?* For is it not our own 'reasonings' that mimic the arrogance of Haman in attempting to operate out of the realm of providence?

Rabbeini Bachya in fact records a Midrash that corresponds the ארוך—length of the Lulav to Haman being hanged on ארוך—a lengthy pole. (כד הקמח לולב) (Kudos to R'Issac Maron for this find)

When we rise high in our quest for closeness, we defeat those who rise with arrogant defiance against the will of G-d.

May we forge forward in 'uplifting our hearts in the ways of the Lord', without compromise, without excuses, in bringing back the closeness we so pine for!

באהבה,  
צבי יהודה טייכמן

## MEMBER NEWS

!!!HAPPY HEBREW BIRTHDAY!!!

Nesanel Burk, Meira Einbinder, Sara Bracha Vaks, Dena Mako

!!!BAR/BAT MITZVAH PARSHA ANNIVERSARY!!!

Shmuly Abramson, Ephraim Relerford

!!!BAR/BAT MITZVAH COMING UP SOON(ish)!!!

Akiva Leichter (Lech Lecha)

### YAHARZEIT

Chaim Mordechai Meister, for his father -  
Tuvia Avraham Meister

טוביה אברהם בן יוסף מאיר

Faye Brand, for her father - Mr. Ben Koval

ר' חיים ברוך בן הרב אלימלך

*Members: Please keep your profile updated in Shul Cloud so we can celebrate and commemorate all our important dates with you! (And occasionally save you from forgetting one!!)*

## ~ THANK YOU! ~

To all those who organized, assisted, sponsored, participated and contributed in any and every way to an inspiring and beautiful Sukkos, Shmini Atzeres & Simchas Torah!

*The genuine Simcha, love of Torah, and sense of community & friendship was inspiring. We hope that Hashem will look kindly on our Torah-true Simcha and bless us all with a year of good health, success, inspiration and many more opportunities to share in Simchas!*  
**A'Goot Vinter!**

## “CONNECTIONS”

By Rebbetzin Teichman

A New Shiur For Women

Tuesdays - 8:00 PM

@Main Shul

Upstairs Classroom