

## SCHEDULE

### שבת קודש

Mincha Erev Shabbos	7:00 PM
Shacharis— Followed by Kiddush	8:30 AM
Sof Zman K"ס מ"א 8:54 גר"א 9:30	
Pirkei Avos Shiur	7:35 PM
Mincha- Followed by Shalosh Seudos	8:10 PM
Maariv	9:24 PM

### Sunday

Shacharis	8:30 AM
<i>Followed by Shiur</i>	
-New Topics from יורה דעה, חולין	
Mincha / Maariv	8:25 PM

### Weekday Minyanim & Shiurim

#### Shacharis

Monday, Thursday	6:40 AM & 8:10 AM
Tues, Wed, Fri.	6:45 AM & 8:10 AM
Dirshu Halacha Program (Mon-Fri)	7:30 AM
Mincha (Mon-Thurs)	1:45 PM
Mincha / Maariv (Sunday-Wed)	8:20 PM
Shiur Sefer Da Es Atzmecha (M-T)	9:30 PM
Maariv (Mon-Thurs)	9:45 PM

Thursday Night Shiur by Rabbi Teichman **After Maariv**

## SPONSORSHIPS

### Kiddush

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**Moti Teichman**

*Wishing a Refuah Shlaima to all who need it.*

*May his efforts succeed in healing the world.*

### Shalosh Seudos

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*In honor of the Birth & Bris of*

**Nosson Akiva**

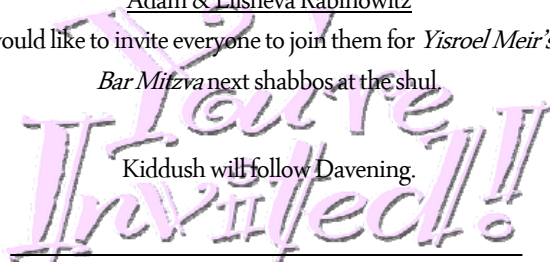
*Donations Can Be Made For Any Occasion*

### Adam & Elisheva Rabinowitz

would like to invite everyone to join them for *Yisroel Meir's*

*Bar Mitzva* next shabbos at the shul.

Kiddush will follow Davening.



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Volume #98

## RABBI'S MESSAGE

### For Heaven's Sake, Saint or Sinner !?

*Chillul Hashem!* So often lately, this refrain has become an all too common expression of frustration. From financial scandals to inappropriate expressions of protest we are upset and disappointed. We react with a sense of anger, disgust and disgrace and seek to disassociate ourselves from these people and their behaviors.

But why are really so upset? If these news items wouldn't make first page would we react the same? Are we really so concerned with G-d's name being defamed or are we merely worried about our image and how others will perceive us? Maybe it's our sense of security and the walls of comfortable existence that surround us that we feel is being jeopardized with these depictions of "Jews"? Why is our gut reaction always more one of the fear of increased antisemitism more than it is the hurt over the diminished honor of Hashem?

קנאה is a word that is used to describe a wide range of emotions, envy, vengeance, jealousy and anger. What is the common denominator in all of these expressions? Rav S.R. Hirsch suggests that it is rooted in the word קן, nest, implying a reaction that seeks to protect ownership just as a bird creates a shelter for its young. We are jealous of others because we see in their qualities or possessions a threat to our own distorted sense of self and security. We seethe with anger when others encroach on "our territory" by demeaning our false perceptions of ourselves, and we think by evincing our wrath we will "regain" our rightful pride.

פנחס, the paradigm קנאי, Zealot, restores the honor of Hashem through his courageous act of vengeance. Yet the Jewish people aren't convinced and accuse him of misguided intentions. They attribute his tainted ambitions and deficient character to his inferior lineage through his mother who was a descendant of "פרטיאל", who is none other than יתרו, so called because he had פוטי, **fattened** calves to be sacrificed for אל, **idols!** (רש"י) It was to negate these claims that Hashem called him a descendant of אהרן who was noted for his love of humanity and peace, to attest to his true nobility.

How unfair! Were they so cruel to actually incriminate פנחס with idolatrous designs? Should יתרו, one of the heroes of our people, be so defamed by conjuring his regretted past in so abusive an assault on his beloved grandson?

Zealotry is a dangerous tool, true it can be used to uphold the honor of Hashem but it can be equally abused to promote one own's selfish interests. Even when defending G-d, is it really Him that we have in mind or is His cause at times merely an instrument for our own self expression? A person may possess a enthusiastic personality that seeks a forum to manifest itself. Sure he is happy to benefit the greater cause through his efforts, but is that the goal or just a added gain? Especially when dealing with others and imposing physical force the difference is critical. It's the difference between sanctifying the name of G-d or committing murder!

The tribes knew that פנחס was certainly no idol worshipper, however they suspected at worst that his zeal was an overcompensation for a murky ancestry in an attempt to "prove" himself "worthy", and at best that he too was an extremely passionate individual who was seeking a "venue" for self expression. This would explain their allusion to יתרו having been a "ardent religionist" as evidenced in his fattening the young calves. In this case where 24,000 people from the tribe of שמעון perished this distinction would be a most decisive one in determining whether he was a saint or a sinner.

It was only the יודע מחשבות, the all knowing G-d who could affirm his genuineness.

When our reactions affect others, we too must scrutinize our motivations. When we impose in our homes halacha is it honestly for the sake of heaven or to show control? Are our expectations from our children in their behavior truly representative of Hashem's honor or merely an assertion of our authority. When we wince in pain over shameful behavior of our brethren are we angry with "them" or do we sense a vacuum of כבוד שמים ?

The מדרש describes how the entire tribe of שמעון sought revenge by attempting to kill פנחס. The verse states in ויעמד פנחס , תהלים קו , *ויעמד פנחס stood and prayed and the plague ceased*. The גמרא (סנהדרין מד) reports how פנחס threw the sinning couple to the ground and exclaimed "for these it is worth killing 24,000 people!", convincingly bringing the plague to an end. פנחס had no issue or anger towards those who sought his death, on the contrary he sought their welfare and interceded to save them. His sole goal was to restore the glory of Hashem!

May we stand for a moment and contemplate our actions and the motivations behind them and make sure that it is not selfish anger but genuine zeal that prods us to bring honor to Hashem!

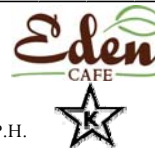
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Get a pan(9x26-deep) of scramble eggs free with your order.

# Thank You!

The barbecue was a HUGE success!

Special Thank You to all of our volunteers for making it happen!

#### SPECIAL OFFER:

We have some NEVER DEFROSTED extra's for sale:

**1 Pack of 30 Beef Hot Dogs \$15.00**

**Burger Patties, 10 for \$10.00 (approx 100 available)**

**Contact Eitan if interested.**



#### CHANGING OF THE GABBI

After two years of dedicated service, Dr. Dovi Turner is Turning over the aliyah cards to Naftali Miller, who will be inaugurated this Shabbos as the new Gabbi Rishon.

We thank Dovi for his hard work and wish Naftali luck in his new post.

Although he wont be Gabbi Rishon any longer, Dovi would like to let everyone know that can still give him *matanaos* any time!