

### Service Times

\* Though we will not be meeting at the Shul for prayer, it is preferable to partake in prayer services as a community, even apart. Therefore, times will remain listed.

#### **Friday, May 15 (Iyyar 21) 36th Day of Omer**

5:45pm - Pre-Shabbat Ruach via **Zoom**  
Meeting ID: 374-672-2612, Password: 085081  
6:20pm - Mincha/ Kabbalat Shabbat/ Maariv \*  
6:46pm - Earliest Candle Lighting  
7:54pm - Late Candle Lighting

#### **Saturday, May 16 (Iyyar 22) 37th Day of Omer**

9:00am - Shacharit \*  
9:48am - Latest Preferable Time to Say Shema  
  
6:35pm - Weekly Parsha Shiur  
Notes to be sent out before Shabbat.  
7:20pm - Mincha \*  
8:55pm - Maariv/Havdallah \*  
9:00pm - Virtual Havdallah & Schmooze via **Zoom**  
Meeting ID: 374-672-2612, Password: 085081

### Weekday Services

Mincha/Maariv, Monday & Wednesday 6:25pm

In lieu of Minyans at the synagogue, Rabbi Davies will be sending learning material through the [Minyan What's App Group](#).

### Classes

- **Daf Yomi with Rabbi Paul & Yoni Alon**  
Sunday-Thursday 8:30pm, **Phone Conference**.  
Contact Rabbi Elisha Paul [elisha.paul@addlestone.org](mailto:elisha.paul@addlestone.org) for more information.
- **Torah Study: "The Avraham Stories" with Rabbi Davies**  
Sunday 7:30pm, Available via **Zoom** (new link)
  - "Ketuvim with Kenny"  
Monday 7:45pm, **Facebook Live & Zoom**
  - "Lunchtime Talmud" with Rabbi Davies  
Thursday 12pm, **Facebook Live & Zoom**
  - "Cholent and Learn" with Kenny Abitbol  
Thursday 8pm, **Facebook Live & Zoom**

### Announcements

- > Get this week's [Youth Parsha Activities](#) for **Behar-Bechukotai**.
- > Go to [Dortikvah.org/covid19](http://Dortikvah.org/covid19) for details and updates on how we are handling concerns over the **Coronavirus** pandemic.
- > To **volunteer** to assist those who need help with grocery pickup and other errands, contact [oradavies@gmail.com](mailto:oradavies@gmail.com).
- > **Our facilities are currently closed**. You can still contact the Administrative Assistant at [info@dortikvah.org](mailto:info@dortikvah.org).

### Local Virtual Events

**Dor Tikvah Congregational Meeting** – May 17th, 5:30pm  
Join through **Zoom**: Meeting ID: 890-9613-6522 Password: 18181  
Sign in at 5:15 for some schmooze and to address any technical issues. Details at [Dortikvah.org/event/May-Cong-Meeting](http://Dortikvah.org/event/May-Cong-Meeting).

**Torah Slam: Virtually Speaking** – Deadline May 22nd  
Dor Tikvah's annual Shavuot Torah Slam is going virtual. Sign up for a portion from the Book of Exodus with [Rabbi@Dortikvah.org](mailto:Rabbi@Dortikvah.org). Then, video your presentation and send it to the rabbi by the deadline. Details at [Dortikvah.org/event/TorahSlam5780](http://Dortikvah.org/event/TorahSlam5780).

**Conversation with Anat Sultan-Dadon** – May 26th, 1pm  
meet the Israel Consul General to the Southeastern U.S. This event is free and open to all Charleston area residents. Registration is required: [tinyurl.com/cgisrael](http://tinyurl.com/cgisrael). Get details on [Facebook](#).

### Public Virtual Events

**Marriage Workshop with Rabbi Dr. Ari Sytner** –  
Sundays & Tuesdays, 8:00–9:30pm, beginning May 17th  
A 4-part online workshop designed for couples, based on the scientific research of Dr. John Gottman's best-selling book: The 7 Principles for Making Marriage Work. Special Price: \$100 for all 6 hours! Details [HERE](#). Register at [bit.ly/ShalomBaviv](http://bit.ly/ShalomBaviv).

**Be Inspired for Shavuos & Matan Torah** – May 24th, 10am  
Orthodox Union and Yeshivat HaKotel host a worldwide learning experience. Click for the [list of speakers](#) and [more information](#).

### Refuah Shelema

To add or remove a name, contact [charlessteinert@gmail.com](mailto:charlessteinert@gmail.com).

Yisrael Haynu ben Shimon Avraham	Simcha ben Etlle
Yisroel Mordechai ben Fradel	Hodel bat Raozel
Blooma bat Chaya Sara (Bertha Hoffman)	Miriam bat Mazal
Tova bat Sarah (Katie Bielsky)	Talia bat Shoshana
Yesuskah Levy ben Shosha Hannah	Yehudit bat Sarah
Refael Aharon ben Devorah	Yocheved bat Sarah
Gershon Ben Sarah (Jerry Polinski)	Isabella Beaudoin
Arlene Polinski	Yoseph ben Sara
Michal bat Cayla Mynda (Michele Perrick)	David ben Malkah
Elijah Myer ben Malkah	Esther bat Alitza
Chaiah Leah bat Shier	Yisrael ben Chaya

### Life Cycle

#### Birthday

- > Janet Fox (5/15)
- > Russell Binder (5/16)
- > Esther Beckmann (5/16)
- > Dan Beckmann (5/17)

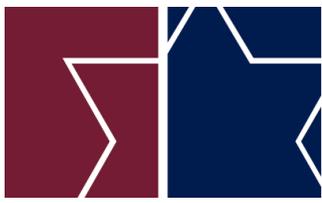
#### Yahrzeit

- > Marilyn Saltman, Mother of Jennifer Schager (5/15)
- > Israel Bronshtein, Father of Ben-Zion Bronshtein (5/21)

### Contributions

- > Jamie and John Carter in memory of Rose Goldberg

We appreciate all contributions – those of \$10 or more will be acknowledged here. Contributions can be made at [DorTikvah.org](http://DorTikvah.org).

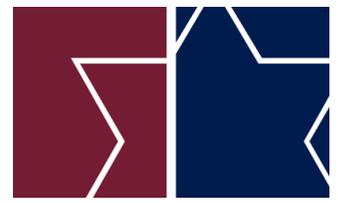


# Behar-Bechukotai

(Leviticus 26:3-27:34)

## Walking the Right Way

By Rabbi Benji Levy [aish.com](http://aish.com)



As the Torah approaches the end of the Book of Leviticus, it dedicates several chapters to a description of the rewards for observing G-d's commandments, and the punishments that will befall us should we choose to disregard them. The Torah begins this section with the famous line, '*im bechukkotai telechu*' (Lev. 26:3). Most translate this phrase as, 'if you will follow My decrees'. However, the word *telechu* comes from the Hebrew root *halach*, which means walk, and therefore this perplexing phrase could be translated literally as, 'if you will walk with My decrees'.

The Midrash interprets this verse by referring us to a different verse, in the Book of Psalms. King David says, 'I considered my ways, and I returned my feet to your testimonies' (Psalms 119:59). The midrash explains that King David says to G-d, 'Master of the Universe! Every day, I think things over, and decide to go to such and such place...But my feet keep returning me to synagogues and to houses of learning' (Lev. Rabba 35:1). On a simple level, King David seems to be saying that each day he ponders where to go, but no matter what destination he decides upon, his feet always end up leading him to a synagogue or a house of learning, places of holiness. The Sefat Emet, however, has a novel approach to this midrash. Everything in the world contains the same inherent G-dly spark. In some places this holiness is more apparent, whilst in others it is more obscure. Therefore, according to the Sefat Emet, King David is saying that despite the fact that during each day he may go to a number of different places, wherever he goes, even if it is to the most mundane destination, he encounters the Divine Presence to the same extent that he would were he in a synagogue or place of study. In other words, the world's inner reality is identical everywhere. There is a wellspring of spirituality lurking beneath the surface of every moment and every place. Sometimes it is more easily accessible, and at other times it requires more effort to dig deep enough to reach it.

Our challenge in life is to tap into this source of infinite holiness that is present in all our endeavours and in every place. It is often thought that learning Torah and praying, in contrast to the rest of our mundane daily activities, are two of the only ways to connect with G-d. According to the above explanation of the midrash, however, we can and should strive to attain a connection with the Divine Presence everywhere. G-dliness can be seen in almost everything, from admiring a sunset at the beach, for example, to listening to the laughter of children as they play. Through paying attention to the beautiful details that exist in G-d's masterpiece of a world, we can elevate the spiritual level of our existence to one that is not restricted to the hallways of the study house or the benches of the synagogue. This point is clearly illustrated through a famous story told of Rabbi Shimshon Rephael Hirsch, the great nineteenth-century leader of German Jewry, who once travelled to Switzerland by foot in order to see the Alps. When his students tried to dissuade him from traveling so far, Rabbi Hirsch explained to them, 'When I come before G-d, I will have to answer for many things. But what will I tell Him when He asks me, "Have you seen My Alps?"'

G-d created a beautiful world for His creations to encounter and enjoy. It is incumbent upon all of us to seek out the spiritual threads that are woven within every element of the world, as it says in Deuteronomy, 'And you shall seek the Lord thy G-d; and you shall find Him, if you search after Him with all your heart and with all your soul' (Deut. 4:29). Every place that we go to, and every endeavour upon which we embark, contains a divine spark waiting to be tapped into. In that context we can understand why the entire set of Jewish laws and practices are called *halacha* – a term that uses that same root, *halach*, walk. The Jewish laws and practices are far more than a system of rules. Rather, they represent an entire way of life, geared towards elevating all that we do and everywhere we go to a higher spiritual level, and serving as a constant reminder of our relationship with the Divine. Thus, every encounter affords us with an opportunity to fulfil the opening phrase of this portion of the Torah, allowing us to find holiness everywhere if we 'walk' with G-d's decrees. As Jews, our religious experience should not be simply confined to the synagogue. Rather, we must delve into every situation armed with the knowledge that we have the potential to tap into the infinite wellsprings of holiness that underpin our existence.