

Shabbat, August 14 (Elul 6, 5781) Shoftim

tinyurl.com/Shabbat8-14-21

Service Times

We have reimplemented mask requirements for all services and activities. Please see the <u>Safe Services Update</u> for details.

* Sign up for services at <u>Dortikvah.org/event/Join-Minyan</u>.
Please register by Fridays at 5 pm.

Erev Shabbat Friday, August 13 (Elul 5)

6:25 pm - * Mincha / Kabbalat Shabbat / Maariv 6:43 pm - Earliest Candle Lighting 7:48 pm - Late Candle Lighting

Shabbat

Saturday, August 14 (Elul 6)

Please note earlier Shacharit time for this Shabbat.

8:00 am - * Shacharit 10:03 am - Latest preferable time to say Shema

> 7:15 pm - * Mincha / Seudah Shlishit 8:46 pm - Maariv / Havdallah

Upcoming Sponsors

8/21 - Available 8/28 - Avi & Netanel Monderer

Classes

• Daf Yomi with Rabbi Paul & Yoni Alon

Sunday-Thursday 8:30 pm, On Zoom.

Meeting ID: 5212585813

Contributions

> The Rothschild Family

- In honor of Truere Barnett Rothschild on the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah.
 - ➤ Patti & Mickey Bagg > Susan & Juda Jona
 In honor of Edie & Joe's special 60th wedding anniversary.

Contributions of \$10 or more are acknowledged here. Donations to CDT can be made at <u>DorTikvah.org</u>.

Announcements

> Mazel Tov to Truere Rothschild and the Rothschild family on the celebration of Truere's Bar Mitzvah!!

Due to Covid restrictions, attendance is limited to invitation only.

> COVID-19 Update: Face masks are again required for services and activities. See Registration Page for full protocol.

Dor Tikvah Events & Programs

* Congregational Meeting - Aug. 29th, 5:30 pm SAVE THE DATE. Get updates and details at Dortikvah.org/event/Cong-Aug-Meeting.

Community Events & Programs

* Back to School Supply Drive Volunteering

Aug. 11, 5:30 pm - Help pre-pack bookbags for children and their families. Refreshments will be provided. jewishcharleston.salsalabs.org/backtoschoolpacking2021

Aug. 14, 9:00 am - Help staff 16th Annual Eastside Back to School/Kids Fun Day. jewishcharleston.salsalabs.org/backtoschoolday2021

- * PJ in the Park Aug. 15, 9:30 am

 Meet at Mt. Pleasant Waterfront Park for outdoor fun, a story, and a snack!
- * Jewish Heritage Night at the Joe Aug. 22, 5:05 pm Join us as we root on the Charleston RiverDogs! Reserve your free tickets at jewishcharleston.org/jhn2021 by Aug. 19.

Refuah Shleima

To add or remove a name, contact charlessteinert@gmail.com.

Yisroel Chaim ben Pesha
Aron David ben Yudah
Yael Bracha bat Pnina
Channah Penina bat Miriam Rochel
Avraham Moshe Ben Tzora
Nechama Chana bat Tziporah Rachel
Blumah Leah bat Yitzhak Dov
(Rosalind Minster)
Shlomo Yoel ben Miriam
(Stanford Kirshtein)
Rahel Tzvia bat Feigel Sara
Aaron ben Miriam Shonah
Nechemiah ben Chanah

Esther bat Alitza
Elijah Myer ben Chaya
Moshe ben Esther
Simcha ben Ettie
Hodel bat Raozel
Talia bat Shoshana
Reuven ben Chaya
Rina Bat Gisya
Gana bat Gisya
Hank Legare
Shoshona bat Chana
Areilla bat Shoshona

Life Cycle

Birthdays

Anniversaries

> Eran Maron (8/14)

> Joe & Edie Rubin (8/13)

➤ Michael Mintz (8/14)

Yahrzeits

- ➤ Mel Rudnick, Father of Linda Kirshstein (8/15)
- ➤ Rachel Steinert, Mother of Charles Steinert, Aunt of Nathan Kirshstein (8/17)
- > Rose Weinberger, Grandmother of Keath Blatt (8/17)
- > Rhoda Rudnick, Mother of Linda Kirshstein (8/18)



Shoftim

(Deuteronomy 16:18–21:9) Are You Objective?



By Mendy Wolf

Chabad.org

There was once a king who was very fond of target shooting. He practiced daily and arranged competitions. With time he felt that he had gotten pretty good at the sport, yet he continued trying to improve.

One day, as he was traveling through the countryside, the king noticed several target boards near a small peasant hut. Looking closely, he was astonished to see that every one of the many darts on the boards was precisely in the center! This simple peasant was apparently an expert; he had hit a bull's-eye with every try!

Curious to learn how the man had done it, the king knocked on the door of the hut. The peasant who answered laughed heartily at the king's question. "Why, it's very simple," he replied naively. "Instead of drawing the target and aiming towards it, I throw the darts, and then draw the circles around them. It works every time . . . "

The Torah portion of Shoftim (Deuteronomy 16:18–21:9) includes a prohibition for judges to take bribes. The Torah then explains the reason for this commandment: "For bribery blinds the eyes of the wise."

Now, you're probably thinking, "No kidding, that's the definition of a bribe! What kind of reason is that?"

Good point. But, actually, the Torah is not trying to explain what's wrong with paying off a judge; it's obvious that corrupting fair judgment is immoral. Rather, the Torah seeks to clarify a fact. Often, people say, "I can be objective in this case, despite my connection to it." Recognizing the difficulty of proper judgment when personal concerns are involved, we may nonetheless convince ourselves that we are immune to bribery, intellectually and emotionally capable of separating fact from feeling.

Yet the Torah cautions us that the danger of bribery is not merely a possibility, nor even a probability. It is an automatic effect. Bribery—monetary or otherwise—skews one's perception, literally "blinding" him to reality. No one is immune. We are all judges, all of the time. There are important decisions to be made constantly, and these require clear thinking and examination of facts. But often, we may be swayed by bribes—personal concerns, interests and feelings. We may have the best of intentions, yet the possibility of a purely objective decision is technically out of our reach, "for bribery blinds the eyes of the wise."

For this reason, it is crucial that every one of us have a mentor, an objective individual upon whom we rely to help us make decisions. Before signing on the dotted line, run it by someone out of the picture. It's a sort of reality check, a way to make sure that we are aiming towards the target, rather than adjusting the goal to suit us.