SHABBOS SCHEDULE
Shabbos Mevarchim Shabbos Night
5:32p Candle Lighting
5:35p Mincha followed by Kabbolas Shabbos
Shabbos Day
8:35a Chassidus of the Parsha (Rabbi Richter)
9:00a Shacharis (9:35a KS)
10:45a Shabbos Drasha (Rabbi Richter)
11:30a Kehilla Kiddush
4:35p Daf Yomi (Rabbi Richter)
5:25p Mincha followed by Shalosh Seudos
6:34p Maariv/Havadala
7:35p Motzei Shabbos Learning

WEEKLY SCHEDULE
Sun 2/23, 28th of Shevat
7:15, 9:00a Shacharis
5:40p Mincha/Maariv
Mon - Fri a.m.
6:45, 9:00a Shacharis
(Tues & Wed 6:30, 9:00a - Rosh Chodesh Adar)
5:40p Mincha/Maariv
8:55p Maariv

WEEKLY SHIURIM
with Rabbi Silber
Sun 8:00a Daf Yomi
Mon - Fri
5:45a Mesillas Yeshirim (Th, Fri only)
5:55a Daf Yomi (Tues & Wed 5:45a)
Following 9am minyan 15 Minutes of Mishnayos (Rabbi Richter)
Mon
CHAW resumes 3/16
Wed
WIT Tehillim Shiur resumes 3/4
Night Seder with Rabbi Richter
Mon-Thurs 8:30-8:55p
Mon Halacha from the Daf
Tues Contemporary Halacha
Wed-Thurs Kitzur Shulchan Aruch

ONE RAMP AT A TIME
RABBI SHMUEL SILBER

“And these are the ordinances that you shall set before them.” (Exodus 21:1)

Society is built on laws. Our legal system creates expectations, obligation and attempts to safeguard the individual from harm and society from decay. Mishpatim is filled with detailed laws regarding damages, fair treatment for servants, charity and looking out for the needs of the underprivileged. These laws serve to create an atmosphere of justice, fairness and compassion.

The Talmud (Sanhedrin 7b) notes an interesting juxtaposition between the first verse in this week’s Parsha (mentioned above) and the last verse in Parshas Yisro; “And you shall not ascend steps upon My altar, so that your nakedness shall not be exposed upon it (Exodus 20:23).”

The Talmud explains:

Bar Kafra asked: ‘From where do we know the concept of hevu misunim b’din (one must be deliberate in judgement)?’ The verse says, ‘you shall not ascend with steps,’ and then afterwards it says, ‘These are the laws.’

The Torah prohibits the use of stairs to ascend the altar – we must construct a ramp. A ramp represents incremental ascension, whereas as a step must be taken all at once. The Talmud explains that the juxtaposition of these verses teaches that just as the Kohin (priest) must ascend slowly to the top of the altar, so must the judge take his time in deciding and adjudicating the legal disputes before him. The judge must take the time to analyze, process and review all pertinent information before issuing a proper verdict. The placement of this important lesson comes at the end of Yisro, the parsha in which Moshe sets up the Jewish judicial system and the beginning of Mishpatim where Moshe gives us the body of tort and interpersonal law.

But there is another lesson to be learned, a lesson that applies to us all. Rav Chaim Shmulevitz zt’l (1902-1979) explains that the word misunim does not simply mean deliberate, it means patience. The Rabbinic were not simply telling us to take our time in issuing judgement; they were telling us to learn the art of patience. Up until this point, whatever the people needed was provided immediately. They needed the sea to part – it split. They needed food – manna came down from the heavens. The desert was hot by day – there was constant cloud cover. The desert was cold at night – there was fire to warm them. Whatever they needed – they were granted. And it is now that God instructs Moshe to tell the Jewish people – life is a ramp. You must take small steps to accomplish your goals. Your growth must be incremental. You won’t always see immediate results. You must work on creating a just society. You will not be able to solve all of the problems at once. There will be widows and orphans who you must help, yet you will never get to all of them. There will be the poor and hungry who you must clothe and feed, yet there will be those who remain destitute. At times you may feel frustrated and wonder if you are really accomplishing anything, you may wonder if you are really moving the needle on these dramatic life issues? And so, God tells us, you must be patient. You will accomplish, self-actualize, and grow – but it will all take time. I have provided you with instant gratification because in your

We live in a world which craves instant gratification. We want it all and we want it now. And when we don’t get it – the process, the product or the person must be broken. Couples have challenges in their marriage and if the therapist can’t fix it immediately there is a temptation to throw in the towel. We take on certain responsibilities or embark on new life initiatives and if we can’t accomplish or cross the finish line quickly we are ready to move on to other things. We work on finding inspiration in our Judaism and if we can’t feel it after one shiur, Drasha or lecture, we’re ready to move one. God teaches us that patience is not a virtue, it is a necessity. We must be patient and allow our efforts to bear fruit. We must be patient and find the strength to work through our challenges. If we learn to embrace the ramp of life, we will realize success as individuals and as a nation.

Weekly Parsha Essay, Parsha Thought and Shiurim available on rabbisilber.com or the Rabbi Silber Podcast.

Parshas Mishpatim Shekalim
27 Shevat | February 22, 2020
Candle Lighting 5:32p
Mincha 5:35p
Torah Reading Pg. 416
Haftorah Pg. 1156
Candle Lighting 2/28 5:40p
MEMBER NEWS

THANK YOU

Kiddush set up: Shira Krawatsky, Bracha Strimber

BIRTHDAYS


YAHZEITS


SHUL HAPPENINGS

Bone Marrow Drive for Sue
Sun 2/23 from 9:00a-2:00p | Suburban
Small Beis Midrash
Siyum Maseches Berachos
Sun 3/8 at 7:30p | Warschawski
Daf Yomi participants, spouses, and those joining for Maseches Shabbos are invited to celebrate suburbanorthodox.org/event/berachos

SOTC Book Club
Tues 2/25 at 2:00p | Suburban
Gateway to the Moon by Mary Morris

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Rabbanit Yemima Mizrachi
Tues 2/25 at 8:00p | Double Tree Hilton
Mikvah of Baltimore Generation Dinner
Wed 2/26 at 7:00p | DoubleTree Hilton
mikvahofbaltimore.org

JWOW! Jewish Women of Wisdom
“New Challenges, Opportunities, Wisdom” Sun 2/23 from 1:00-3:30p | 3209 Fallstaff Road

SPECIAL PURIM SHIUR

SEEING BEHIND THE MASK

WEDS 3/4
8:00PM
FOR MEN & WOMEN

TALMUD TORAH

SPONSORSHIPS

All learning in the month of Shvat has been generously sponsored by Ed & Faith Wolf in memory of Faith’s mother, Nessa bas Velvel (Zev) z’l and by Bracha Strimber in memory of her husband Avraham ben Kalman Eliezer HaLevy z’l

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SHABBOS DRASHA

Mildred Bashevkin Shapiro and Family in memory of William Bashevkin, Zev ben Dovid z’l

Nachman & Fay Kreitman in the merit of a refuah sheleimah for Nachman’s mother, Chana Rachel bas Sora Gittel

Baruch Ness, Elain Diller, Amen Ness, Tova Ness Aiver and Miriam Litt for the yahrzeit of Rabbi Levi Ness, HaRav Aryeh Leib ben Osher Selig HaKohen z’l

SHALOSH SEUDOS

Bernie & Sonia Kozlovsky and Family, Harry & Adriane Kozlovsky and Family in memory of Bernie’s and Harry’s mother, Rose, Rachel bas Leib Fishel z’l

Akiva & Leah Weichselbaum in honor of our very dear children Shilomo and Yael Kanner and in memory of their great grandfather נפתלי بن ברוך שלום ז’ל who perished this day In Theresienstadt in 1943

SEEING BEHIND THE MASK