



Nitzavim/ Rosh Hashanah: Breaking Through the Shell Rabbi Shmuel Silber

In one of his final addresses to the Jewish people, Moshe says,

For this commandment which I command you this day, is not concealed from you, nor is it far away. It is not in heaven, that you should say, "Who will go up to heaven for us and fetch it for us, to tell [it] to us, so that we can fulfill it?" Nor is it beyond the sea, that you should say, "Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us and fetch it for us, to tell [it] to us, so that we can fulfill it?" Rather, [this] thing is very close to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can fulfill it (Devarim 30:11-14)."

The commentaries are bothered by one simple question, "which commandment is Moshe referring to?" Some explain that Moshe is actually referring to the Torah in its entirety. The Ramban (Nachmanidies, Rabbi Moshe ben Nachman, 1194-1270) explains that Moshe Rabbeinu is referring to the mitzvah (commandment) of Teshuva (repentance, return). Moshe is telling the people that the ability to return and reconnect with God is not beyond us. We do not require an intermediary, expert, or someone more spiritually skilled to help re-forge and reinvigorate the bond with our Father Above. Ki Karov Elecha HaDavar Miod, B'ficha, U'bilivavcha, this thing is very close to you, it is in your mouth and in your heart."

Rav Avraham Tzukerman zt'l (Rosh Yeshiva Kfar HaRoeh) explains, *"Ki mikora shel nishmas ha'adam hu m'limala V'ha'adam sho'eyf tamid lashuv l'mikoro, the source of man's soul is above (in the celestial sphere) and he yearns perpetually to return to his source."* The desire to return is innate. The desire to have a close connection and passionate relationship with God is woven into the very fabric of our spiritual DNA. Although the body was fashioned from the earth, the soul comes from above and yearns to reconnect.

Rav Avraham Yitzchak HaKohen Kook zt'l (1865-1935) offers a beautiful parable. When a chick is ready to hatch, it begins to slowly peck at the shell. When it makes the first hole, it then begins to peck harder, ultimately thrusting its head through the small opening. How does the chick know that there is a whole world waiting on the outside? How does the chick know that what is on the other side of the shell is better than its current circumstances? *Elah zohi techushato ha'tiviit, ha'locheshet lo sod zeh, rather, this is its internal intuition and nature which whispers this secret...."* Just as the chick instinctively knows what to do to get to a better place, the soul knows what to do to reconnect with God.

We often find ourselves encased by the shell of our reality. For some of us, the shell is a result of decisions we made or did not make. For others, the shell is a result of circumstances beyond one's control. This life shell makes us feel removed and so distant from the Heavens above. Rosh Hashanah is the time to peck away at that which confines and limits us. Rosh Hashanah is a time to think beyond our shell and realize that there is a beautiful world with so much opportunity that awaits us. Rosh Hashanah is a time to realize that we can have a meaningful and passionate relationship with God. It is within reach. It is innate. It is possible. *It is very close to you.* Let us each find the strength to open our hearts and allow our soul to go where it knows it needs to go.

I want to take this opportunity to wish each of you Kesiva V'Chasima Tova. May each us together with our families and our nation be inscribed for a year of growth, holiness, health, happiness, and most importantly – redemption.

	23/24 FRI/SHABBOS	25 SUNDAY	26 MONDAY	27 TUESDAY	28 WEDNESDAY	29 THURSDAY	30 FRIDAY
WEEK AT A GLANCE 9/23-9/30	SHABBOS NIGHT 6:15p Toameha 6:45p Candle Lighting 6:45p Mincha followed by Kabbolas Shabbos	EREV ROSH HASHANAH 6:45a Selichos 7:15a Shacharis 7:55a Daf Yomi 8:30a Selichos 9:00a Shacharis 6:41p Candle Lighting 6:45p Mincha followed by Maariv	ROSH HASHANAH 8:00a Shacharis (Ks- 9:58a) 10:45a Shofar 1:00p Shofar 5:25p Daf Yomi 6:15p Mincha 6:45p Tashlich 7:30p Maariv 7:40p Candle Lighting	ROSH HASHANAH 8:00a Shacharis (Ks- 9:58a) 10:45a Shofar 1:00p Shofar 5:35p Daf Yomi 6:25p Mincha 6:55p Shiur- Rabbi Richter 7:40p Maariv 7:40p Havdalah	TZOM GEDALIA 5:40a Fast Begins 5:45a Daf Yomi 6:25 Selichos 6:45a Shacharis After 6:45 Shacharis Mishna Berura Shiur 8:35a Selichos 9:00a Shacharis 5:30p Plag Mincha/ Maariv 6:45p Mincha/ Maariv 8:00p Chassidus Chabura	5:45a Daf Yomi 6:25a Selichos 6:45a Shacharis After 6:45 Shacharis Mishna Berura Shiur 8:35a Selichos 9:00a Shacharis 5:30p Plag Mincha/ Maariv 6:45p Mincha/ Maariv 8:00p Chassidus Chabura	5:45a Daf Yomi 6:25a Selichos 6:45a Shacharis 8:35a Selichos 9:00a Shacharis 6:05p Toameha 6:33p Candle Lighting 6:35p Mincha followed by Kabbolas Shabbos
	SHABBOS DAY 7:00a Hashkama 8:45a Shacharis (KS - 9:57a) 9:15a Teen Minyan 9:30a Junior Congregation 5:00p Women's Pirkei Avos Chabura 5:50p Daf Yomi 6:40p Mincha 7:44p Maariv/Havdalah						

MEMBER NEWS

CONDOLENCE

Michael (Rachel) Lebowitz on the passing of Michael's father Edward Lebowitz, Ezra ben Naftali Chaim z'l. Michael is sitting Shiva at 7504 Slade Avenue. The family requests no visitors please between 5:55 and 6:55p. Selichos followed by Shacharis: 6:30a Friday, 6:50a Sunday. Mincha/Maariv: 3:00p Friday & Sunday, & Motzei Shabbos Maariv: 7:44p.

BIRTHDAYS

Beth Eisenberg, Shimon Friedman, Israel M. Oppenheimer, Marvin Schwartz, Devorah Silbiger, Raymond Smith, Selma Woolf

UPCOMING YAHRZEITS

Rosalyn Brodsky, Max J. Brown, Eva Farber, Hachazan Menachem Mendel Fogel, Ida Goldberg, Ashira Hirsh, Louis Ingber, Milton Jacobson, Bessie Kramer, Chiena Oszmian, Andrew Ross, Max Lester Schwartz, Binyamin Zigdon

SPONSORSHIPS & DONATIONS

TALMUD TORAH

Shaindy & Avraham Kelman in honor of Yechiel's engagement to Ilana Falick and in memory of our parents, Jerome and Bernice Kelman and Alexander and Friderica David, AH.

Barak, Maia, Sandy Hoffman, Dora Lemus, & Avi Melamed in memory of Reuven ben Emanuel z'l.

Ayal & Sara Steinberg in the zechus of a refuah sheleimah for Shulamis bas Susha and her continued health.

Daf Yomi Shiur in the zechus of a refuah sheleimah for Yehuda ben Michal, son of our devoted shiur member and maggid shiur, Reb Kalman Akiva Kovacs.

WEEK OF LEARNING

Louis Goldberg thanking Hashem for the engagement of his grandson Eli Bogart to Rivi Goloskov, daughter of Steve Goloskov.

Joseph & Ellen Miller, Iris & Ed Miller & Family, Leslie & Adam Rosen & family l'zecher nishmas Yerachmiel ben Chaim z'l, beloved brother-in-law and uncle, his soul should have an Aliyah and the family a nechama.

Jeff & Karen Cohn in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Jeff's mother, Elinor Cohn, Elka bas Binyomin Zvi z'l.

Barak, Maia & Sandy Hoffman & Dora Lemus & Avi Melamed in memory of Reuven ben Emanuel z'l.

DAY OF LEARNING

Sandra Hoffman in memory of her mother, Mindel Rudman, Bryna Minna bas Boruch z'l.

Alan Wiseman in memory of his wife, Reda Ruth, Rivka Rachel bas Zecharya z'l.

Judy and Joel Pomerantz in honor of Rabbi Silber for providing so many wonderful opportunities to learn. Shana Tova.

DAF YOMI

Mordy Tusk in honor of his wife Malky on the occasion of their 25th anniversary.

Hillel Soclof l'zecher nishmas his father, Avraham Abba ben Shmaryahu z'l.

Daniel & Avigayil Khaver עליו נשמת יצחק בן דוד ע"ה

Gobbie & Shayna Cohn in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Gobbie's grandmother, Elinor Cohn z'l.

EMUNAH MINUTE

Jerry & Abby Appelbaum in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Jerry's aunt, Lillian (Dubin) Breindel, Leah bas Aaron z'l.

CHASSIDUS CHABURA

Barry Dubin and Yehoshua Portnoy

NEW MISHNA YOMI SPONSORSHIP

Charles & Patty Leve in memory of Marion Lloyd z'l & Beryl Leve z'l.

SPONSORSHIPS & DONATIONS COT'D

KIDDUSH

Matt & Susie Schoenfeld for their prior growth sponsorship for Parshas Ki Seitzei. In honor of the 10th anniversary of the SOTC- IJC daf yomi: **Rabbi & Mrs Shmuel Silber, Mr & Mrs Modo Artman, Mr & Mrs Shmuel Artman, Dr & Mrs Dovie Elman, Mr & Mrs Josh Erez, Mr & Mrs Jesse Meyerowitz, Mr & Mrs Ed Miller, Dr & Mrs Jacob Milner, Dr & Mrs Josh Rosenbloom, Mr & Mrs Matt Schoenfeld, Mr & Mrs Jon Kaplan, Rabbi & Mrs Ari Lerner, Mr & Mrs Ira Grossman, Mr & Mrs Jeremy Lasson, Mr & Mrs Gedaliah Rosenbloom, Mr & Mrs Manny Topper**

SHALOSH SEUDOS

Yitzy & Melissa Shnidman l'zecher nishmas Yitzy's father, Rav Reuven ben Yehuda Leib z'l.

WOMENS PIRKEI AVOS- FINAL WEEK 5782

Sponsored by a grateful chaburah member and Devora Stern in appreciation to all the chaburah members.

DONATIONS

Jerry & Abby Appelbaum in memory of Edward Lebowitz, Ezra ben Naftali Chaim z'l, beloved father of Michael Lebowitz.

Ira & Miriam Grossman in memory of Michael Lebowitz's father.

Ira & Miriam Grossman in memory of Nathan Adler's father.

Dr. Arnold Goldberg & Nina Allen-Goldberg in memory of Edward Lebowitz z'l.

SOTC UPDATES

NEW GROUP THIS SHABBOS:

Girls group, grades 6-8, led by Shana Kaplan.

Location for this week: Room 3

Time: 10AM

BOOK CLUB:

The next meeting of the Suburban Orthodox Book Club will be on Tuesday, October 25, 2 p.m., at the Shul. Selection: "The Surgeon's Daughter," by Audrey Blake.

Upcoming Book Club Meetings: Tuesday, November 29, Wish You Were Here by Jodi Picoult, and Tuesday, January 17, Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus.

שבת שובה תשפ"ג
**Shabbos Shuva
 Drasha**
 RABBI SHMUEL SILBER
**TESHUVA:
 BUILDING A FUTURE,
 WEIGHED DOWN BY
 THE PAST**
**SHABBOS
 10.01.22 5:30p**
 ו' תשרי תשפ"ג
SUBURBAN ORTHODOX

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