

# From Rabbi Chaitovsky

Pesach is almost here...and I hope that, by now, we are all in the last stages of our preparations. The idea of preparation not only applies to our homes but also to our hearts and minds. The most elaborate meals of the year – the two sederim which take place next Wednesday and Thursday nights – are intense educational experiences. They ask that we become expert story tellers and relate the “greatest Jewish story ever told.” The story may be ancient but it modern at the same time. Are we prepared to tell the story that way?

To help us do that, here are some thought-provoking questions courtesy of my colleague and mentor, Rabbi Mitchell Wohlberg, of Baltimore, MD. Discuss them at your seder while reading the Haggadah and enjoying your delicious meal. They will make you smile and even laugh, they may raise eyebrows, but most importantly they will make you think...and then engage in conversation.

Enjoy!

The first of the Ten Commandments speaks of God “who took you out of the land of Egypt.” Do you believe in God? Do you believe He/She is involved in your life? Does it make a difference? It was God – through the agency of Moshe – who brought the Ten Plagues. Do you think God is responsible for the plague we have been living through- COVID? Earthquakes?

“And a new king arose who knew not Joseph.” One man led to the Jews being enslaved for 210 years. This year we were once again reminded of the power of one man – whether it be Vladimir Putin or Volodymyr Zelensky. With this in mind, what do you think our sages were thinking when they left the name of Moshe out of the Haggadah?

The Jews were very much a part of Egyptian society and then one day it all changed. Is that happening in Europe? Could that happen here in America? How do you explain the rise of anti-Semitism? Are you scared?

As the Jews passed through the Red Sea, the Torah tells us that the water was a “wall” [chomah] on the right, and on the left. Our sages read the word not as chomah (wall) but rather as cheimah, meaning “hatred.” Our country is divided between the left and right, liberals and conservatives. Do the Jewish people today face a greater threat from the right or from the left? Does it make a difference?

The sages in the Talmud disagreed on whether the matzah and maror had to be eaten together or separately. We do both. Either because we don’t know who is right, or both may be right. This is called the act of “compromise.” Wouldn’t it be nice if that is the way politics were conducted in America? In Israel?

A Kabbalistic interpretation of the word “Pesach” views it as a combination of two words: “Peh” – “mouth” and “sach” – conversation. Freedom means to be able to say what you want. Are we being forced to be too politically “correct” when it comes to freedom of speech? In a “cancel culture” are there not some things that should be “canceled?”

In ancient Egypt the Jews were called upon to slaughter a lamb (which Egyptians worshiped) and place its blood on their doorposts to identify themselves as being Hebrew/Jewish. How comfortable are we in modern America identifying openly as Jewish? Is cleaning streams and caring for animals enough to identify as being Jewish?

We speak of the “four children” at the Seder. But now it is said there is a “fifth” one: the one who does not come to a Seder! A recent survey revealed that nearly 40% of American Jews do not attend a Pesach Seder. How is this possible? Will your grandchildren have a Seder? Are you sure? What can you do to make sure?

**THE BMH-BJ OFFICE AND PRE-SCHOOL  
WILL BE CLOSED FROM WEDNESDAY  
APRIL 5 - MONDAY APRIL 10**

**FRIDAY AND SHABBAT:  
MARCH 31-APRIL 1 /NISAN 9-10  
SHABBAT HAGADOL**

**Candle Lighting - 7:03 PM**

**BMH-BJ / TDK Kabbalat Shabbat - 6:30 PM**

**Shabbat Day Services:**

**Chapel/Shaaarei Simcha - 9:00 AM**

**Main Sanctuary - 9:30 AM**

**Torah portion-Tzav 6:1-8:36 (AS 568 )**

**Haftarah – Malachi 3:4-24 (AS 1220)**

**Torah reading by Daniel Neustadt on the anniversary of his bar mitzvah**

**Rabbi Chaitovsky will be giving his Shabbat HaGadol**

**Drasha at 11:20 AM in the Sanctuary - A Children's Song for Adults: The  
message of Chad Gadyah**

*Kiddush this week is sponsored by BMH-BJ*

*BMH-BJ / TDK Mincha, Refreshments and Torah learning*

*in the Gallery - 6:50 PM Torah study with Rabbi Chai*

**Shabbat ends/Havdalah - 8:06 PM**

**Minyan Next Week: April 2nd- April 7th**

**Sunday 8:30 AM**

**Monday 6:30 AM**

**Tuesday & Wednesday 6:45 AM**

**Thursday & Friday- See Pesach Schedule**



# Refuah Shaleima/Speedy Recovery

Avraham Issur ben Chaya, Joe Bean (Yosef HaLevi ben Rachel),  
Avraham ben Sara, Jeffrey Blum (Yaakov ben Golda Sima),  
Bracha bat Basha, Esther bat Chana, Linda Fox, Alisa Garner,  
Jeff Geller, Linda Gornbein, Debbie Greenberg (Devorah Leah bat  
Ita Liba), Elaine Greenberg, Francine Greenberg (Feige Esther bat Ita  
Liba), Dov Heller (Nachman Dovid ben Reizel), Anna Hemd, Arie Kimel  
(Yehuda Arye ben Miriam), Leib ben Chasha, Yitzchak ben Beile  
(Isaac Krajmalnik), Shraga Feivel ben Sima (Fabian Krajmalnik),  
Jeff and Miriam Miller, Valerie Miller, Mordechai Refael ben Perel,  
Barbara Oxman, Harold Rosen (Chaim Fidel ben Fruma),  
Evelyn Rosemberg (Rut bat Ida), Rivka Aviva bat Esther,  
Ron Saliman, Lilian Schaeffer, Dr. William Silvers  
(Zev Shmuel ben Heleina), Jay Stark, Yaakov ben Sarah,  
Yaakov ben Rivka, Pam Zeldin

## Classes This Week

Daily - Daf Yomi - Rabbi Fleischmann - 7:30 AM  
and 75 minutes after Shabbat ends on Saturday night

WhatsApp dial in number: 701-802-5213 ; Access code: 8622667

Online meeting ID: mfleischmann7

Monday-Sefer haChinuch with Rabbi Stern 8 PM (Miller Library)

Tuesday- with Rabbi Chaitovsky -**Getting it Right: Misconceptions About  
Jewish History, Holidays and Practice** "*The Many Meanings of Pesach*"

7:15 PM on Zoom [Click HERE to join](#) **Class on hiatus until after Pesach**

Wednesday-Devarim Verse by Verse Rabbi Chaitovsky 7:45 AM on Zoom

[Click HERE to join](#) **Class on hiatus until after Pesach**

Wednesday- Torah from Israel with Ellyn Hutt

11:00 AM-12:00 PM on Zoom, [Click HERE to join](#) **Class on hiatus**

Practical Parsha (**Pre-Pesach Edition**) - Shabbat morning at 10:30 AM

with Sara Wolfe - in Preschool Classroom 110

# Yahrzeits

## **Friday March 31, 2023 / 9 Nisan 5783**

Carl Ballus, Ruth Berger, William Chutlow, Morris Dubin, Belle Eskanos, Herman Felsen, Sol Flax, Virginia Freedberg, Mildred Getzen, Dr. Sidney Glassman, Milkah Grossman, David W. Harris, Jennie Kaplan, Werner Kaplan, Arthur Malkin, Isidor Miroff, Samuel Novitch, I. Dean Pepper, William J.L. Platt, Harry Schaffer, Harry Schrier, Alice Shahin, Luba Shoor, Rose Silver, Mike Surek, Alla Trakhtengerts, Elliott Max Weinstein, Edward Wikler, Claire Yoelin

## **Shabbat April 1, 2023 / 10 Nisan 5783**

Bea Alexander, Hyman J. Axler, Fannie Belstock, Lily Block, Fay Boscoe, Raye R. Bronstine, Evelyn Cohen, Sharon Cole, JoAnn Cook, Eve Coopersmith, Rose Debora, Jack Eisen, Giza Gold, Louis Gold, Meyer Gottlieb, Dr. Boris Dov Heifets, Tayba Kaplun, Minnie Kornblatt, Roberta Krim, Philip Lane, Elaine Langsam, Benjamin Mandelbaum, Barbara Marcove, Jacob Mosko, Louise Pells, Celia Perlman, Mathew Perlmutter, Rosa Heller Pfeffer, Matthew Poliakoff, Isadore Radetsky, Brenda Rozenholc, Abe Silver, Louis D. Smith, Leonard Spivak, Rely Wainhouse

## **Sunday April 2, 2023 / 11 Nisan 5783**

Rose Ansel, Ruth Boxer, Richard Cook, Semyon Dershteller, Sarah Finegold, Leib Furer, Pearl A. Gordon, Alexander N. Gottlieb, Abraham Himelgrin, Rose Kaplan, Esther Lipsman, Harry Lopata, Harold McCrensky, Theresa Messinger, Celia Morrison, Fannie Nash, Melich Oderberg, Hyman Olsen, Herman M. Platt, Aileen Roth, Berish Rubinstein, Adolph Saphir, Louis Strait, Doris Weinrich, Jerold Weissfeld, Gitla Winograd, Irwin Zwerin

## **Monday April 3, 2023 / 12 Nisan 5783**

Morris Aven, Philip R. Bert, Athena Blitz, Helen Davidson, Aaron Dunievitz, Dora Faktorovich, Ben Fishman, Rose Golden, Beckie Griss, Golda Idleberg, Sue Jacobs, James Kahn, Leya Kotlovich, Mac Krone, Tully Lipsitz, Max Lubick, Carol F. Miller, Cecelia Minowitz, Lottie F. Moskin, Ida Mosko, Max Nadler, Irving (Itzi) Oppen, Nathan Pohostkin, Stuart Rogell, Mary (Mania) Roland, Herbert Rose, Edmund G. Rubin, Hilda Rubinsal, Sarah Bluma Rusman, Ben J Shapiro, Ann Sidon, Max Weissmann, Roslyn Wiseman, Isaak Zadov

## **Tuesday April 4, 2023 / 13 Nisan 5783**

Samuel Ansel, David Barter, Doris J. Berkowitz, Bessie Bronstein, Fannie Cohen, Perry Friedman, Golda Gussie Gilman, Richard Phillip Goldhammer, Miriam Gorodina, Anna M. Harris, Bella Khabarova, Carol Klein, Abish Klurman, Abraham S. Levy, Jennie Levy, Joseph Deane Pepper, Pinchus Phil Perlmutter, Julius Perotin, Theodore Pomeranz, Smiley Rabicoff, Reubin M. Rashbaum, Fannie Rosenfeld, Hilda Ross, Hershal Saphir, Bernice "Bebe" Schmerman, Myron (Mike) Schwartz, Edward Isadore Silverman, Louis Silverman, Sarah Smith, Annie Stark, Anita Stieglitz, Jack Treister, Rose Bauer Volock, Abraham Weinstein

## **Wednesday April 5, 2023 / 14 Nisan 5783**

Saul Asarch, Melvyn Bemel, Anna Bernstone, Ida Boxer, Hyman Bush, Rosabel Druckman, Carl Feldhamer, Hyman Max Felsen, Oscar Fistell, Abraham Abba Friedman, Sarah Friedman, Benjamin Hoffman, Eva Juliusburger, Esther Lander, Feivel Lowen, Harry Mathless, Alfred R Oppenheimer, Selma Radetsky, Mania Riesel, Nathan Rothschild, Theodore (Ted) Ruskin, Louis Schiff, George Shidler, Cathy Sue Simon, Chester Waldman, Gertrude Friedman Waldman, Leah Liss Wohl, Philip P. Zinn

## **Thursday April 6, 2023 / 15 Nisan 5783**

Marcel Aron, Mascha Bekerman, Marvin Clumpus, Emma Fisher Cohen, Hyman Cohen, Morris Dickstein, Max Epstein, Henry Finkelstein, Yetta Forman, Samuel E. Fox, Benjamin Freedberg, Anna Froimovitz, Samuel Garlett, Jack Geller, Luba Heifets, Benjamin Heller, Herman Kernis, William Lapin, Dora Levand, Fortune Levy, Irene Mayer, William Sachs, Syril Salzer, Irving Silber, Esther Winters, Anna Kleiger Young

# Pre-Pesach **PASTA** Dinner

BMH  BJ

**Registration extended!  
Only 15 more slots  
available. Sign up by  
10:00 pm tonight.**

*Let us cook for you*

Sunday night, April 2, 2023 at 5:00 pm in the Social Hall  
Take an evening off from cleaning and join us for a pre-Pesach Pasta  
Party featuring garlic bread, soup, salad, and pastas.

Registration info at

<https://www.bmh-bj.org/event/let-us-cook-for-you.html>





Add a beautiful touch to your Passover celebration with Godinger's' heirloom quality Pomegranate Seder Plate.

This exquisite piece features embossed detail and an elegant golden leaf motif.

Also makes a treasured gift to mark any Jewish holiday

All Passover supplies are out now, including Seder plates. Gift Shop Store Hours:  
Sunday-Friday 9:30 AM-1:00 PM

## Keeping you informed

### **VBM Virtual Library** - Available Now

Did you miss a class or want to revisit your favorite talk?

Access the Valley Beit Midrash Virtual Library anytime. Click [HERE](#) to scroll through classes or use the search function to find a specific topic

### **Chametz Sale**

To sell your chametz through Rabbi Chaitovsky, please fill out your information online by clicking [HERE](#) or call (303) 388-4203 to do it over the phone. The deadline for submission is this Sunday, April 2, 2023.

### **Update: Cantor's Class**

Cantor Marty's newest class, "Sci-Fi, Fantasy & Torah" will be starting on **April 27th** and will consist of three classes.



# Complete Pesach Schedule

## **Erev Pesach, Tuesday, April 4**

Bedikat Chametz/Search for Chametz after nightfall

## **Erev Pesach, Wednesday, April 5**

Fast of Firstborn / Shacharit 6:45 am (Chapel) with Siyum

Latest time to EAT Chametz 10:53 am

Latest time to BURN /NULLIFY/SELL Chametz 11:57 am

Mincha/Maariv 7:00 pm (Chapel)

Candle Lighting 7:08 pm

Earliest Seder / Kiddush 8:10 pm

## **1st Day Pesach, Thursday, April 6**

Shacharit 9:00 am (Chapel), 9:30 am (Sanctuary)

Mincha/Maariv 7:00 pm (Chapel), Candle Lighting and Second Seder 8:11 pm

## **2nd Day Pesach, Friday, April 7**

Shacharit at 9:00 am (Chapel only)

Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30 pm (Chapel), Candle Lighting 7:10 pm

## **Chol Hamoed, Shabbat, April 8**

Shacharit 9:00 am (Chapel), 9:30 am (Sanctuary)

Havdalah 8:13 pm

## **Chol Hamoed**

**Sunday, April 9**, Shacharit 8:30 am (Chapel);

**Monday, April 10**, Shacharit 6:30 am (Chapel);

**Tuesday, April 11**, Shacharit 6:30 am (Chapel),

Mincha/Maariv at 7:00 pm (Chapel), Candle Lighting at 7:14 pm

## **7th Day Pesach, Wednesday, April 12**

Shacharit at 9:00 am (Chapel only)

Mincha/Maariv 7:00 pm (Chapel), Candle Lighting 8:17 pm

## **8th Day Pesach, Thursday, April 13**

Shacharit 9:00 am (Chapel), 9:30 am (Sanctuary)

Yizkor service at approx. 10:30 am (Sanctuary and Chapel)

Mincha/Maariv 7:15 pm (Chapel), Havdalah 8:18 pm

***Allow approximately 35 minutes after the end of yom tov before eating chametz.***



# SCI-FI, Fantasy & Torah

*with Cantor Goldstein*

It is no coincidence that so many of the great science-fiction writers were members of the tribe, in other words, Jewish.

Among the greatest proponents of the genre known as science fiction, speculative fiction and even comic books were Isaac Asimov, Robert Silverberg, Harlan Ellison, and many others.

In this class, we will explore some of the great themes in both Torah and science fiction that will show how much future thinking matters to the Jewish people.

This **three-part** series will take place  
Thursdays at  
7:00 PM on April 27th,  
May 11th and 18th  
Exclusively on Zoom