

Parshat Toldot

Friday 17th November 2017

Candle Lighting	6.45pm
Mincha	6.30pm
Maariv	6.45pm

Shabbat 18th November 2017

Shacharit	9.00am
Mincha	7.05pm
Maariv	8.20pm

A word from the Rabbi

THE PIG IN ALL OF US

In Jewish literature, Esau is viewed as the paradigm of evil. He is the forefather of Amalek, Haman, and in general all anti-Semitic leaders throughout history - if not genetically, then at least spiritually.

Born the twin of Jacob, Esau couldn't be less identical to his brother; his days are filled with murder, idol worship and lust. Because of this portrayal of Esau in rabbinic literature, it would be fair to assume that he not only practised an immoral lifestyle, but portrayed this in a physical sense too.

Personally I picture a drug-dealing, tattoo-covered bikey. Interestingly, our Rabbis paint a different portrait, one of a Rabbinic scholar, dressed for the part and going through the motions. He davened three times a day, ate only strictly kosher food, and his payot/side locks dragged along the floor, so to speak. How do we make sense of this?

It is the difference between the private person and his public persona.

We all suffer from this malady - portraying ourselves as righteous individuals when at night and behind closed doors, our secrets are hidden in the history of our Google searches. Only those close to us know us for the real people we are, and sometimes - like Yitzhak, Esau's father - even they don't know.

Rashi, the quintessential commentator on the Torah, describes the Esau personality as that of a pig. (The pig is listed as an animal that only has one of the kosher signs: although it has clean hooves, it doesn't chew the cud.) As the pig wallows in the mud, it metaphorically throws its hooves up in the air, saying, "See, I'm kosher!", whereas within its gut it is really treyf.

We can all be a bit porkish at times. The goal must be to be truly kosher - inside and out.

Shabbat shalom

We wish a hearty Mazal Tov on your Bar/Bat Mitzvah Anniversary to:

Rael Awerbuch
Lauri Moriah
Jaiden Zinn

Eric Berman
Anthony Rom
Shaun Zinn

Mike Meisels
Gina Simon

We wish a hearty Mazal Tov on your Wedding Anniversary to:

Don and Mary Blumgart
Louis and Melanie Shulman

Steven and Joan Gross

We wish long life to the following Members who commemorate Yartzeit this week:

Alan Bortz
Jacqueline Gordon
Leon Cohen
Helen Shacknofsky
David Felthun
Cheryl and Frank
Fingleson
Larry Fingleson
Dianne Fuchs
Ian Joffe
Helene Sacks
Russell Marx
Renee Agranat
Harold Savitz
Lynette Solomon
Joyce Gordon

for his father
for her mother
for his mother
for her father
for his mother

for their son
for his brother
for her father
for his mother
for her father
for his father
for her father
for his father
for her father
for her father

Eli Bortz
Annabelle Barlow
Libby Cohen
Rudi Dreyer
Stella Felthun

Marc Fingleson
Marc Fingleson
George Hollis
Bernice Joffe
Abe Krasnowsky
Milton Marx
Leon Rabin
Israel Savitz
Jack Weiser
Barney Zimmerman

ISRAEL UPDATE



with **UJA CEO**

Yair Miller OAM

November 3, 17

December 1, 15

@6pm

