

ב"ה  
**Torah  
Tidbits**

ISSUE 1541

נוב. 25 2023 • י"ב כסלו תשפ"ד

פרשת ויצא  
PARSHAT VAYEITZEI



**UNITED  
WITH ISRAEL**

OU  
ישראל



**Push and Pull**  
Rabbi Moshe Hauer  
Page 8



**The Ancient Shul in Gaza**  
Rivi Frankel  
Page 58



**אין זה כי אס-בית אלקים וזה שער השמים**  
בראשית כ"ח:י"ז

YERUSHALAYIM SHABBAT PARSHAT VAYEITZEI ZMANIM  
CANDLES 4:01 PM • HAVDALA 5:15 PM • RABBEINU TAM 5:54 PM



OU ISRAEL 02-560-9100



TorahTidbits.com



ADVERTISING & SPONSORSHIPS 02-560-9125

# Table of Contents

<b>04</b>	Dear Torah Tidbits Family Rabbi Avi Berman	<b>52</b>	Whose Pronunciation Should the Oleh Use? Rabbi Daniel Mann
<b>08</b>	Push and Pull Rabbi Moshe Hauer	<b>54</b>	Buying Fresh Produce without Kashrut Certification from Farmers in the Gaza Envelope Rabbi Moshe Bloom
<b>12</b>	Aliya By Aliya Sedra Summary Rabbi Reuven Tradburks	<b>58</b>	The Ancient Shul in Gaza Rivi Frankel
<b>20</b>	The Character of Jacob Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks zt"l	<b>60</b>	The Y-Files Weekly Comic Netanel Epstein
<b>26</b>	Probing the Prophets Rabbi Nachman Winkler	<b>62</b>	Torah 4 Teens by Teens Lauren Shore // Akiva Fein
<b>32</b>	Crisis Response Initiatives OU Israel		
<b>34</b>	What Was Taught in Yeshivat Shem V'Ever? Rabbi Shalom Rosner		
<b>36</b>	Tremendous Tears Rebbetzin Shira Smiles		
<b>38</b>	Vayeitzei: Climb! Rabbi Judah Mischel		
<b>40</b>	Simchat Shmuel Rabbi Sam Shor		
<b>42</b>	Jewish Exile and the Lavan Strategy Rabbi Moshe Taragin		
<b>48</b>	Flowering Faith Rebbetzin Dr. Adina Shmidman		
<b>50</b>	Chanukah: The Holiday of Peace Rabbi Aaron Goldscheider		

See [TorahTidbits.com](https://www.torah-tidbits.com) > Individual Articles  
for Devar Torah by: Rabbi Dr. Tzvi Hersh Weinreb

## HELPFUL REMINDERS



**Last Opportunity to Say Kiddush Levana  
until: 15 Kislev/Mon. night Nov. 27**

## THIS WEEK'S COVER IMAGE!

Photo taken by  
Shlomo Gherman  
who made aliyah  
from East Meadow  
N.Y. to the Holy City.



## A SHORT VORT | BY RABBI CHANOCH YERES

Rav, Beit Knesset Beit Yisrael, Yemin Moshe

השמר לך מדבר עם יעקב מוטב עד רע (לא:כט)

"Take heed to yourself that you should not speak to Yaakov either good or bad" (31:29)

There are several questions regarding what Lavan revealed to Yaakov, when he caught up to him. After Lavan's sinister plan against Yaakov was prevented, why did Lavan disclose to Yaakov the warning he received from G-d, to refrain from offering him assistance of any kind?

Additionally, why did Lavan have to accentuate that this warning came from G-d? Lavan could have simply departed respectfully from Yaakov, without any further ado.

The Ktav Sofer (Rabbi Avraham Shmuel Binyamin Sofer 1815-1871 Bratislava) answers that G-d did not want Yaakov to be dependent on Lavan, and therefore become indebted to him. We see this in the text of the Haggadah Shel Pesach. It says: "Had G-d not taken us out of Mitzrayim, we, our children, and all our descendants would be indebted to Pharaoh." This hints to us that had Pharaoh released the Israelites based on his own free will, the Holiday of Pesach would have become a tribute to Pharaoh based on his kindness.

This is why G-d prohibited Lavan from extending any help to Yaakov. This was to ensure that Yaakov always remembers that the source of his salvation and safety is from G-d and no other.

~ Shabbat Shalom

# CANDLE LIGHTING AND HAVDALA TIMES



	VAYEITZEI		VAYISHLACH	
	CANDLES	HAVDALA	CANDLES	HAVDALA
Yerushalayim / Maale Adumim	4:01	5:15	3:59	5:15
Aza Area (Netivot, Sderot et al)	4:19	5:18	4:18	5:18
Beit Shemesh / RBS	4:19	5:16	4:17	5:16
Alon Shvut	4:16	5:16	4:15	5:15
Raanana / Tel Mond / Herzliya / K. Saba	4:16	5:16	4:15	5:15
Modiin / Chashmonaim	4:16	5:16	4:15	5:15
Netanya	4:16	5:16	4:15	5:15
Be'er Sheva	4:19	5:18	4:17	5:17
Rehovot	4:17	5:17	4:16	5:16
Petach Tikva	4:01	5:16	3:59	5:15
Ginot Shomron	4:15	5:15	4:14	5:14
Haifa / Zichron	4:05	5:15	4:03	5:14
Gush Shiloh	4:15	5:15	4:14	5:14
Tel Aviv / Givat Shmuel	4:17	5:17	4:16	5:16
Givat Zeev	4:00	5:15	4:19	5:15
Chevron / Kiryat Arba	4:17	5:16	4:16	5:16
Ashkelon	4:19	5:18	4:17	5:17
Yad Binyamin	4:17	5:17	4:16	5:16
Tzfat / Bikat HaYarden	4:08	5:12	4:05	5:11
Golan	4:12	5:12	4:11	5:11
Nahariya/Maalot	4:13	5:14	4:11	5:13
Afula	4:14	5:14	4:12	5:13
Rabbeinu Tam (Jerusalem) - 5:54 PM • Next Week - 5:52 PM				

All Times According to MyZmanim (20 mins before Sunset in most Cities;  
40 mins in Yerushalayim and Petach Tikva; 30 mins in Tzfat and Haifa)

**Daf Yomi: Bava Kama 23**



OU Kashrut • NCSY • Jewish Action • JLIC • NJCD / Yachad / Our Way • OU West Coast • OU Press • Synagogue/Community Services • OU Advocacy • OU Israel  
**MITCHEL R. AEDER, PRESIDENT OF THE ORTHODOX UNION** Yehuda Neuberger,  
Chairman of the Board, Orthodox Union | Dr. Josh Penn, OU Kashrus Commission

**RABBI MOSHE HAUER, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT | RABBI JOSHUA M. JOSEPH, ED.D.**  
**EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT & CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER** Rabbi Dr. Tzvi Hersh Weinreb, Exec. V.P. Emeritus

**OU KOSHER:** Rabbi Menachem Genack, CEO/Rabbinic Administrator OU Kosher | Rabbi Moshe Elefant,  
COO/Executive Rabbinic Coordinator **ISRAEL:** Rabbi Yissachar Dov Krakowski, Rabbinic Administrator |  
Rabbi Ezra Friedman, The Gustave and Carol Jacobs Center for Kashrut Education/ Deputy Rabbinic Administrator

Headquarters: 40 Rector St. 4th floor, New York, NY 10006 • 212-563-4000 • website: [www.ou.org](http://www.ou.org)



**Editor Emeritus:** Phil Chernofsky  
**Editor:** Rabbi Aaron Goldscheider | [aaron@ouisrael.org](mailto:aaron@ouisrael.org)  
**Advertising:** Ita Rochel | 02-5609125 or [ttads@ouisrael.org](mailto:ttads@ouisrael.org)  
**Website:** [www.torahtidbits.com](http://www.torahtidbits.com)

**Not getting enough TTs? Too many? None at all?**  
**Contact our DISTRIBUTION 050-577-2111 • [ttdist@ouisrael.org](mailto:ttdist@ouisrael.org)**

## OTHER Z'MANIM



### JERUSALEM

**Ranges 11 days Wed - Shabbat**  
**Nov. 22 - Dec. 2 / 9 - 19 Kislev**

Earliest Tallit and Tefillin **5:19 - 5:27**  
Sunrise **6:13 - 6:21**  
Sof Zman Kriat Shema **8:49 - 8:55**  
Magen Avraham **8:11 - 8:16**  
Sof Zman Tefila **9:41 - 9:46**  
(According to the Gra and Baal HaTanya)  
Chatzot (Halachic Noon) **11:25 - 11:28**  
Mincha Gedola (Earliest Mincha) **11:55 - 11:28**  
Plag Mincha **3:31 - 3:30**  
Sunset (Including Elevation) **4:41 - 4:39**



Seymour J. Abrams • Ortho-  
dox Union Jerusalem World  
Center • Avrom Silver Jerusalem  
College for Adults • Wolinetz  
Family Shul • Makom Balev •  
Birthright • Yachad • NCSY in  
Israel • JLIC in Israel • Camp Dror •  
Pearl & Harold M. Jacobs ZULA Outreach Center •  
The Jack Gindi Oralita Program • OU Israel Kashrut

**STUART HERSHKOWITZ, PRESIDENT OU ISRAEL**  
Zvi Sand / Yitzchak Fund: Former Presidents, OU Israel  
| Rabbi Emanuel Quint z"l, Senior Vice President |  
Prof. Meni Koslowsky, Vice President

#### VAAD MEMBERS:

Michael Elman | Yonatan Frankel | Yitzchak Fund |  
Daniella Hellerstein | Stuart Herszkowitz | Jeremy  
Lustman | Meir Raskas | Atara Reichel | Zvi Sand |  
Norman Schmutter | Mark Schneider | Esther Williams

**RABBI AVI BERMAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
OU ISRAEL**

David Katz, CFO, OU Israel | Chaim Pelzner, Director  
of Programs, OU Israel | Rabbi Sam Shor, Director  
of Programs, OU Israel Center | Rabbi Shalom  
Gold zt"l, Dean, Avrom Silver Jerusalem College  
for Adults

22 Keren HaYesod <> POB 1441 <> Jerusalem

9101032

phone: (02) 560 9100 | fax: (02) 561-7432

email: [office@ouisrael.org](mailto:office@ouisrael.org)

website: [www.ouisrael.org](http://www.ouisrael.org)

**Founders and initial benefactors of the OU Israel  
Center: George and Ilse Falk a"n**

Torah Tidbits and many of the  
projects of OU Israel are assisted  
by grants from **THE JERUSALEM  
MUNICIPALITY**



OU Israel, Torah Tidbits does not endorse the political or  
halachic positions of its editor, columnists or advertisers, nor  
guarantee the quality of advertised services or products. Nor  
do we endorse the kashrut of hotels, restaurants, caterers or  
food products that are advertised in TT (except, of course,  
those under OU-Israel hashgacha). Any "promises" made in  
ads are the sole responsibility of the advertisers and not that  
of OU Israel, the OU Israel Center, Torah Tidbits.



## DEAR TORAH TIDBITS FAMILY

RABBI AVI BERMAN  
Executive Director, OU Israel

Every so often, I hear people of my generation express concern for today's youth for being glued to their smartphones, addicted to TikTok, Instagram, WhatsApp, and all the rest. "What's going to be with the next generation?", they'll wonder aloud. If the last month and a half has shown me anything, it's assured me that our youth are going to be fine. There are countless personal stories I can share with you about how young adults, teens and pre-teens, have stepped up in a real way to volunteer and help, taking on tremendous responsibilities for people their age, and with tremendous passion.

This week's parsha, *Vayetzei*, describes the beginning of the journey of how we went from a small family to how we became Bnei Yisrael. Avraham and Sarah had a small family, with two children. Yitzchak and Rivka had another two children. Suddenly, with Yaakov, the family unit expands rapidly, with eleven children born in this week's parsha. This teaches us that we became a Jewish nation through our youth.

The *Midrash* states (*Bereshit Rabbah* 71:4, quoted by *Rashi* on *Bereshit* 29:35) that it was known that Yaakov was going to have twelve sons, and each of the mothers of the 12 tribes tried to have as many as she could to fulfill this promise and build Bnei Yisrael. When Leah had a fourth child, one more than what she perceived as her allotted amount, she thanked G-d, naming him Yehuda.

The *Imahot* knew something that I have

been discovering over the past few weeks: it is our youth that should be our focus. We must guide the next generation and trust that they will determine our future. I have personally witnessed the endless initiatives that our youth have taken upon themselves, volunteering opportunities, and willingness and determination to engage with the problems at hand. It is heartwarming to see that not only do they take these heavy responsibilities upon themselves, but often they are taking the lead, getting adults to follow their ideas.

Let's not forget that so many of our brave soldiers are themselves still teenagers. We are entrusting them with our lives, and they are the ones defending us and defeating our enemies. These brave men and women are our future. The next generation. Seeing their passion is unbelievable. How did they become this way?

In normal times, OU Israel teenage participants come to our programs to learn from our counselors. I've been absolutely floored by the amount of responsibility that these same youth have taken upon themselves. Not just 18 year olds, but as young as 13

  
Mazal Tov to    
**Rabbi Moshe & Serena Benovitz and family**  
**on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Yosef Shalom**  
**Mazal Tov to the grandparents**  
**David & Esther Benovitz**  
**and Shlomo & Chaya Goldstein**  
**Rabbi Avi Berman & the OU Israel Family**





years old, proactively seeking ways to help. They are literally picking up their sleeves to get to work and volunteer in the most incredible ways possible. I've seen how being part of these initiatives has impacted them. This sheds light onto what kind of soldiers they will be, what kind of adults they will be, and what kinds of families they will raise.

My 16 year old son learns in Charasha, a wonderful small yeshiva of approximately 100 students in *Yishuv* Charasha, right next to Talmon. He told me that last week the boys of the yeshiva approached the Rosh Yeshiva, rabbis and teachers and asked if they could devote Sunday as a day of volunteering in the fields down south. There are many farms near the Gaza border whose produce are now in season but no one is around to help them pick the produce. including watermelon, cabbage and other leafy vegetables. These farmers had thriving farms with many foreign workers, especially from Thailand, who understandably

have fled Israel in the wake of the attacks on October 7th. Getting people to come help pick for them has been a challenge. The boys of the yeshiva were ready and willing to help.

The Rosh Yeshiva and rabbis were so enthusiastic, "Of course yes!" The boys boarded buses down south for 2.5 hours each way, and they worked for hours to help these farmers in their time of need. They didn't just do it once. They did it again this Sunday. These young men dropped everything to work in challenging conditions so that they could do chesed and help their fellow Israelis and Jews.

Young people all over the country have become expert volunteers. They've taken on cooking food for soldiers, for displaced people from north and south, for families whose husbands have been called up. They've been helping to clean up their houses and babysit their children. They've been going



**The OU Israel Family  
extends heartfelt condolences to  
Lenny Bessler and family  
(Asst. Dir. Human Resources, OU)  
on the passing of his father**

**SHALOM SHRAGA  
(SIGI) BESSLER ז"ל**

המקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים

to hospitals to cheer up the injured, bringing the patients and hospital staff food and other items showing how much they care.

In recent weeks, this column has focused a lot on volunteering being done by adults. Many of us know people from North America and elsewhere who cleared their schedules to come to Israel to volunteer, and OU Israel has been offering volunteer opportunities, including volunteering in a chili pepper and soy farm. This is so incredible, but when we turn towards our youth, it indicates the future.

Several years ago, OU Israel's Pearl & Harold Jacobs Zula Outreach Center started a program called *Midreshet Zusha* for young women who want to enhance their connection to *Hakadosh Baruch Hu* that they might have struggled with in high school. Headed by Yehuda and Hadar Sales and other Zula staff, *Midreshet Zusha* caters towards young women who do not fit into normative *midrashot*. Led by Sima Ezra who is coordinating volunteer opportunities, they are literally going to volunteer every day. They're going to hotels to play with the young girls evacuated from the South. They're coming to the OU Israel Center to help make camouflage *tzitzit* for soldiers. Last week I walked into the OU building to find 45 women, among them Zusha participants, sitting and tying

*tzitzit*, doing their part for *Klal Yisrael*.

This is happening all over the country. This is our youth. When we see all of this, we can rest assured that our future is indeed passionate and engaged. We're seeing a nation of youth who are ready and willing to lead with *chesed* and strength.

On Friday night, in *Lecha Dodi*, we declare, "*Hitnaari me'afar kumi, livshi tefartech ami*," "Shake off your dust, arise! Put on your glorious garments, My people." Last Shabbat, I couldn't help but notice that "*hitnaari*", to shake off, shares the same root as "*naar*," youth. It is our youth who will shake off the dust and allow us to pick up our heads again, and raise them high. They will be the ones who will bring us to where we need to be - deeper connection, more passion, and a higher spiritual level than we ever have before. Not only to be connected, but also doing what *Hakadosh Baruch Hu* wants us to do, to help save *Klal Yisrael*, defeat our enemies, and bring *Mashiach, bimheira beyameinu*.

Wishing you an uplifting and inspiring Shabbat,

Rabbi Avi Berman

Executive Director, OU Israel  
aberman@ouisrael.org



Scan to Donate



Oded  
Lewensohn,  
Adv. & Notary

לבינסון רז ושות'  
משרד עורכי דין ונוטריון



Lewensohn Raz & Co.  
Law Offices & Notary

Estates, Probate,  
and Inheritances\*

Real Estate  
Transactions

Tama 38 and Renovation  
Construction Projects

\* Durable Powers of Attorney for Health and Financial Matters



Moshe Raz,  
Adv. & Notary

27 Keren Ha'Yesod St., Jerusalem | 02-6731000 | 054-6380149 | office@lawlr.co.il | www.lawlr.co.il

[www.MarSeaModest.com](http://www.MarSeaModest.com)



Delivery & Home Shopping available J'lem  
Global Shipping - 972 (0)50-424-8359  
Showroom: Kochav Yaakov  
Email: [info@marseamodest.com](mailto:info@marseamodest.com)

WOMEN & GIRLS  
UP TO 3x

*MarSea*  
Modest Swimwear

### TUVIA ANDY HAAS

## BALANCE and FALL-PREVENTION SPECIALIST for OLDER ADULTS

- Maintain Healthy Bones and Muscles
- Decrease Stiffness and Joint Pain
- Increase Strength! Stay Independent!

MASSAGE THERAPIST & FITNESS TRAINER

052.673.3704 | [www.andyhealth.com](http://www.andyhealth.com) | [jerusalemmyhome@hotmail.com](mailto:jerusalemmyhome@hotmail.com)

## Lenny Davidman

## Professional Planning & Production

English Speaking  
Pesach Program  
at the Dead Sea

Events, Congresses &  
Tours in Israel

[pesach.LDevents.com](http://pesach.LDevents.com)  
[www.LDevents.com](http://www.LDevents.com)

054-557-3101

[Lenny@LDevents.com](mailto:Lenny@LDevents.com)



*Jeff Mor*  
DIAMONDS & JEWELRY



TRUE WHOLESALER FROM THE DIAMOND  
BOURSA WITH OVER 25 YEARS EXPERIENCE

MEMBER DIAMOND DEALERS CLUB

ENGAGEMENT RINGS • STUD EARRINGS  
PENDANTS • TENNIS BRACELETS

☎ 050-573-9061 ✉ [jeffmor36@gmail.com](mailto:jeffmor36@gmail.com)  
🌐 [www.JeffMorDiamondJewelry.com](http://www.JeffMorDiamondJewelry.com)

**PolarAir** 

## Air Conditioning & Heating

Sales & installation of  
Inverter | Multi | VRF | Central

- ✓ Plenty of references
- ✓ Professional & reliable
- ✓ Only Jewish labor



[www.polarair.biz](http://www.polarair.biz) | [polarairbiz@gmail.com](mailto:polarairbiz@gmail.com) | ☎ 052-240-5063



## BROTHERS MOVING CO.




**THE STRONGEST... THE MOST GENTLE**

054-216-0087 • [brothersmovingisrael@gmail.com](mailto:brothersmovingisrael@gmail.com)



## KEREN MALKI

התנועה לזכויות ילדים והוראת הורים  
THE MALKI FOUNDATION

.....

🌐 [kerenmalki.org](http://kerenmalki.org)  
☎ 02-567-0602

Keren Malki empowers families of children with special needs in Israel to choose home care. Donations are tax-approved in Israel, US and UK.

Honoring the memory of Malka Chana Roth מ"ד 1985-2001, killed in the Sbarro bombing.



## FROM THE DESK OF RABBI MOSHE HAUER

OU EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT



# Push and Pull

I learned new and useful terminology, that migration and movement are governed by “push factors” and “pull factors”. Put simply, a push factor is a repulsive consideration that motivates people to leave where they are, while a pull factor is an attraction that draws them to a new place.

These factors are visible at the outset of our parsha: “Yaakov departed from Be'er Sheva and went to Charan.” *Bais HaLevi* explained that the two phrases used in the verse – “departed” and “went to” – relate to the push and pull factors involved in Yaakov’s move. On the one hand, Yaakov was advised by his mother to depart, “pushing him” out of the land due to the imminent fear of reprisals from Eisav over Yaakov’s claim of their father’s blessings. On the other hand, Yaakov was sent by his father to their family homeland of Charan in pursuit of a suitable marriage partner. In this version, it

is not so much that Yaakov was pushed from home – *vayeitzei* – as much as he was drawn and attracted to Charan – *vayeilech*.

Rav Kook zt”l applied this duality to a passage in Yeshayahu (60:8): “Who are these that fly as a cloud, and as the doves to their pens?” This verse – discussing the return of the exiles – alludes to two forms of return to Eretz Yisrael. There are those who will travel like the clouds, blown along by external forces that will dislodge them from wherever the exile had taken them, *vayeitzei*. And then there are those who will move like the dove that returns home to its pen, not pushed from the exile but attracted and drawn home, *vayeilech*. Rav Kook thus noted the advantage of being amongst those who are drawn home to the holiness of Eretz Yisrael rather than coming to the land to flee the persecution and antisemitism found elsewhere.

Some have noted a recent uptick in Jews connecting to Yiddishkeit. This could be seen through last week’s rally, the many

In memory of

**Rabbi Shimon Herman ז”ל**

beloved husband, father,  
grandfather, great grandfather  
on his 5th yahrzeit, 15 Kislev

*Charlotte, N’тина, Yehuda, Moshe,  
Shmuel, Reuven and families*

יהי זכרו ברוך

May the Torah learned from this  
Torah Tidbits be in loving memory of and לע”נ

**RACHEL GUTMAN a”h**  
**רחל בת יצחק הלוי ע”ה**

Our loving mother  
on her 48th yahrtzeit - יא כסלו


*Tzippy Grunstein and family  
Tova Hoffman and family  
Eli Gutman and family  
Frieda Brodsky and family*



unaffiliated who are embracing Mitzvos, and the many already observant who are taking on extra tefilah, Torah, and chesed. Some are being pushed away from their comfort as they witness the growing antisemitism, abroad and at home, and finding refuge in their faith, *vayeitzei*. Others are being drawn to the beauty of Judaism, the moral clarity in a confused society, and the pride in being connected to such a people, *vayeilech*.

I learned these terms – push and pull factors - while studying and discussing migration of a very different kind, specifically the phenomenon of attrition from the observant community. People may leave Orthodoxy because they are “pulled” or attracted to something they feel they can only find outside of their observant framework, or by “push factors,” such as either religious doubts or some form of discomfort, dysfunction, restriction, and/or trauma they have experienced within our community. Yet, while these are all issues that have impacted many and led to both *vayeitzei* and *vayeilech*, the most critical premise to prevent attrition is the strength and thickness of the original connection we establish with our faith and community. That connection must be built upon a firm, warm, and relevant Emunah, and by the nurturing of a community of kindness and loyalty.

It is upon each of us to make our faith and community powerfully compelling and embracing to all its members, creating bonds that will withstand and overcome the pushes and pulls we encounter. ■



**Sperka Realty**  
**FOR SALE: French Hill, Jerusalem:**  
 4 Rooms, 90m, 2nd floor, elevator,  
 Near train, Great Neighborhood  
 2,800,000 Fraida 053-312-5769

בש"ה

## Ashkelon Sea-Front Properties

Now is the time to seriously consider buying a sea-front property in Ashkelon. Gaza will soon no longer be a threat and prices will soar. We have the largest stock of new and second-hand properties at the best prices.

פי כה אמר ה' צבקות אלקי ישראל עוד  
 יקנו בתים ושדות וכרמים בארץ הזאת  
 ירמיהו ל"ב טו:

"For this is what the Lord Almighty, the G-d of Israel, says: Houses, fields and vineyards will again be bought in this land."

Jeremiah 32:15



**Ashkelon Properties**  
 LIVE OPPOSITE THE SEA  
 call David at 054-433-2621  
 davidz@AshkelonProperties.com  
[www.ashkelonproperties.com](http://www.ashkelonproperties.com)



**WOLGEL LAW**  
 U.S. IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION

American Immigration  
 & Naturalization Law

**Michele Coven Wolgel**

US Citizenship for Children &  
 Grandchildren

**Quick appointments available  
 for special circumstances.**

[www.wolgelaw.co.il](http://www.wolgelaw.co.il)  
[lawyer@wolgelaw.co.il](mailto:lawyer@wolgelaw.co.il)

Tel: 02 590 3444

[facebook.com/uscitizenshipinfo](https://facebook.com/uscitizenshipinfo)

**יחד ננצח!**

## AM YISRAEL CHAI

We continue to pray for the safety  
and quick return of our soldiers, the  
injured, and the hostages being held  
in captivity.  
עם ישראל חי!

### Kovshei Katamon, Katamon <sup>JLM</sup>

**Brand New On The Market!** Turnkey 94 SQM APT. 3 bedrooms, potential for Tama 38(Reg. Garden)! high-end finishes, bright and airy, spacious! Asking: 4.580 NIS

### Gershon Avner, A. Hanatziv

**Priced To Sell!** Renovated 109 SQM apt. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, 23 SQM balcony, parking, storage, shabbat elevator, modern building. Asking: 2,680,000 NIS

### Derech Beit Lechem, Baka

**Brand New On The Market!** New Building Post Tama 38! Spacious 100 SQM, fully renovated, Currently 5 rooms, brand new plumbing & electric, private parking, accessible, balcony, excellent location! Asking: 4.2m NIS

### Yaar Baram, Nofim, Modi'in


**Modern and well-designed** 130 SQM duplex penthouse in a **New Building!** 5 Rooms, 2.5 baths, 2 succah balconies, bright and spacious, open views facing the park, 2 parking, storage, elevator. Asking: 3.990m NIS

### Yehudit, Elazar <sup>Elazar</sup>

**Tremendous 397 SQM free standing house** in the charming Elazar Yeshuv. 650 SQM lot, 12 rooms, wrap-around garden, parking, Jacuzzi, central air and more!


### Matityahu Hacohen, Zayit <sup>Efrat</sup>

**NEW PRICE!** Tremendous 240 SQM apartment with large succah balcony off the living area. 6 Rooms, 2 bathrooms, private entrance, 2 parking spots, storage and more! Great location! Asking: 3,200,000 NIS



**Yaniv: 052.614.1442**  
Yaniv@gabairealestate.com

**Elia: 052.862.9208**  
Eliagabai@gmail.com



## TzviAir

### AIR CONDITIONING ENGINEERING, DESIGN AND INSTALLATIONS

“Tzvi Air is a pleasure to  
work with and did  
an amazing job!”  
*Jamie Geller, Celebrity Chef*



**100%  
SATISFACTION  
GUARANTEED**

Nothing matters to us more than a  
satisfied and happy customer. **We**  
guarantee that you will be  
**100% thrilled.**

**BEST PRICE  
GUARANTEED**

If you find the same level of quality  
and service for a lower price,  
**we'll match it.**

**NEW  
DESIGNERS  
AND ARCHITECTS**



**Send your plans for  
free design today.**

**Call/Whatsapp 02-628-8282**  
or email us at [info@tzviar.com](mailto:info@tzviar.com)



We pray for the safety and success of our soldiers, for the well-being and immediate return of the hostages, and for the health and recovery of the wounded

Send your contributions to:

Clara Hammer Chicken Fund

P.O.B.18602 Jerusalem 91185 | Tel.02-5823477

Donate via PayPal at [Chickenladyofjerusalem.com](http://Chickenladyofjerusalem.com)

Or pay Hacker's Butcher Shop Directly via credit card

Tel. 02-5819378



ARE YOU REALLY ON TOP OF  
YOUR FINANCES?

DO YOU KNOW WHEN YOU  
CAN RETIRE?

AS A US TAXPAYER, DO YOU  
KNOW WHERE TO INVEST?

AARON FROLICH, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER 054-320-8077

[aaron@greenpeakadvisors.com](mailto:aaron@greenpeakadvisors.com) | [www.greenpeakadvisors.com](http://www.greenpeakadvisors.com)



GREEN PEAK ADVISORS  
Guiding You To Financial Security



**BAKA - stunning 3 story house on a quiet  
& pastoral cul-de-sac, very high-end  
designed, swimming-pool, large wrap  
around garden, parking**

**MENDEL 052-8980111**

**BAKA / MEKOR HAIM - 4 rooms, 90m,  
2nd floor + elevator, renovated by  
architect, fireplace, air conditioning,  
very central, close to all amenities**

**3050000 NIS - MENDEL 052-8980111**

**ARNONA - 3 rooms that will be  
transformed into 90m., 3rd floor  
with elevator, store-room, parking**

**Only 2520000 NIS - MICHAEL 052-3202488**

**MOSHAVA - 3 bedrooms in a new  
boutique building, parking,  
sukka porch, quiet, pastoral area**

**4500000 NIS - MENDEL 052-8980111**

## LIFE SETTLEMENTS

Do you have a life insurance policy you:

- No longer want?
- No longer need?
- Can no longer afford the premium?
- Could you use extra money instead of keeping your policy?

**I can guarantee that if you qualify with the  
underwriting process I can get you more money  
than if you cash it in with the company.**

Please contact Moshe Russell at:  
[Buymypolicy32@gmail.com](mailto:Buymypolicy32@gmail.com)



**The Leak Detectives**  
Experts in non-invasive leak detection

**Water Leaks? Mold and Mildew?  
Peeling or Bubbling Paint?**

- Infrared Thermal Imaging Inspections
- Certified Professional Trained Inspectors
- Comprehensive Reports
- Inspections for Insurance Claims
- Pipe Cameras, Tracer Gas,
- Acoustic Testing, Balloon Tests and More
- Waterproofing, Plumbing, Roofing
- Inspection Before Purchasing

Leak detection is a service that uses advanced technology to identify and eliminate all forms of water intrusion

*Tricallly Anglo Street*  
Call today for a free phone consultation!

**053-712-0322**

We proudly service all of Israel





## ALIYA-BY-ALIYA SEDRA SUMMARY

RABBI REUVEN TRADBURKS  
RCA ISRAEL REGION

### PARSHAT VAYEITZEI

Our parsha begins with Yaakov fleeing the Land of Israel from Esav's murderous intent and it concludes with his return to the Land of Israel. He dreams as he leaves of a ladder reaching to Heaven with G-d promising that He will bring Yaakov back in peace. Yaakov meets Rachel at the well in Charan, marries Leah and Rachel, 11 of the 12 sons and Dina are born. Lavan and Yaakov bicker. Yaakov earns his wages through animal husbandry. Angels greet Yaakov on his return to Israel.



#### 1ST ALIYA (28:10-22)

Yaakov flees the Land of Israel.

He dreams: a ladder with angels, G-d at the top. G-d reiterates to Yaakov the promise of the Land of Israel and of numerous descendants. And that He will protect Yaakov and bring him back to the Land. Yaakov makes a monument at that spot and declares that upon his safe return he will come back and make this spot a house of G-d.

One of the great dreams of the Torah. In fact, the first dream of an upcoming series of dreams in the Torah: Yosef's dream, Paro's dream. In this dream Yaakov is assured of Divine protection. But why did he need this assurance? What was on his mind?

Let's place ourselves in Yaakov's sandals. He does not know the end of the story. We do but he doesn't. He is filled with uncertainty. Avraham had 2 children: Yishmael and Yitzchak. One, Yitzchak continued Avraham's legacy

as a Jew. The other, Yishmael, was out. Then Yitzchak had 2 children, me and my brother Esav. Maybe we too will repeat this same pattern: one will be in and one will be out. Who is the one – am I in or am I out? I stole the blessing intended for Esav, my brother. Perhaps my fleeing Israel now is a Divine sign that I am out and Esav is in. After all, my father Yitzchak never left the Land. So, am I being expelled from the Land, expelled from the promise of the Land? G-d reassures him – I will give *you* the Land and bring you back. But. In a dream. Are dreams real or wishful thinking?



#### 2ND ALIYA (29:1-17)

Yaakov arrives in Charan. He converses with shepherds at the well. They are waiting for a crowd of them to remove the stone over the well. He inquires of Lavan; that is Rachel, daughter of Lavan, coming now. Yaakov removes the heavy stone of the well, gives Rachel water. He tells her he is Rivka's son. Rachel runs to tell her father; Lavan runs to greet Yaakov. Yaakov stays with them for a month.

If Yaakov is looking for a sign that G-d is with him, he got it. There are so many parallels to Eliezer finding Rivka at the well. Except in reverse. Rivka drew the water for Eliezer and his camels; Yaakov removes the stone and gets water for Rachel and her animals. Eliezer asked Rivka who she was; Yaakov tells Rachel who he is. Rivka ran home to her mother; Rachel runs home to her father. Lavan ran out to greet Eliezer; and Lavan runs out to greet Yaakov. Eliezer was seeking



a wife for Yitzchak and returning to Israel; Yaakov is seeking family but not leaving.



### 3RD ALIYA (29:18-30:13)

Yaakov loves Rachel. When Lavan inquires how he can compensate Yaakov for his work, Yaakov offers to work 7 years to marry Rachel. At the end of that time, Lavan makes a celebration. He gives Leah to Yaakov. In the morning Yaakov realizes. Lavan remarks that here we don't switch younger and older. Yaakov marries Rachel and works another 7 years. Leah has 4 children: Reuven, Shimon, Levi, Yehuda. Rachel is upset, as she is barren. She gives Yaakov Bilhah, her maidservant. She has Dan and Naphtali. Zilpah, Leah's maidservant, has Gad and Asher.

Let's get back in Yaakov's sandals. He still wonders if he is part of the Jewish people or has been spurned – was that dream of Divine protection prophetic or mere wishful? He is tricked at night when it is hard to see and marries Leah. Is this a sign from G-d of displeasure at Yaakov tricking his blind father to get the bracha? Maybe I am out. On the other hand, my dear wife Rachel seems to follow in my grandmother Sarah's footsteps; she is barren and gives her servant to me to have a child, just like Sarah was barren and gave Hagar to Avraham to have a child.



### 4TH ALIYA (30:14-27)

Reuven brings jasmine, a fertility enhancer to Leah. Rachel asks for it and in exchange Leah conceives and has Yissachar, followed by Zevulun. Rachel bears Yosef. Yaakov asks Lavan permission to return home.

11 of the sons of Yaakov and his daughter Dina have been born. There is but one son from his dear wife Rachel. If we get back in Yaakov's shoes, he does not know if he is to be in the

## SHLOMO SEALING & ROOF

Advanced sealing system  
Repair of tiled roof

- > Licensed sealer
- > 23 years of experience
- > Warranty on every job

We specialize in sealing roof and building walls, constructing and repairing roof tiles, constructing and repairing drainpipes, sealing balconies, basements and pools.

Our company uses only SII-certified approved by Ministry of Health.

Among our clients: the Jerusalem municipality, Bezeq, Ben Gurion Airport, house committees and more.

visit and consultation - no strings attached  
FAIREST PRICE GUARANTEED!

Email: [gagotshlomo@gmail.com](mailto:gagotshlomo@gmail.com)

Shlomo: 050-266-9766

Office: 052-774-3343

## WANT TO BUY/INVEST IN ISRAEL BUT DON'T HAVE THE WHOLE BALANCE TODAY?

WE HAVE MANY OPTIONS FOR YOU....

"BUY LAND + RIGHTS NOW,

THEN PAY AS YOU GO"

**RESIDENTIAL LAND+ PROJECTS IN**

NETANYA, REHOVOT,

LAKE KINNERET, MEVASERET,

HASHMONAIM

**OFFICE PARK LAND+ PROJECT IN**

PARDES CHANA

WANT TO PUT DOWN ONLY 5% OR 7% NOW

AND BALANCE AT COMPLETION WITHOUT

ADDED INTEREST? WE HAVE PROJECTS IN:

LAKE KINNERET, BAT YAM (SEA VIEWS), RAMOT



IZZY LEIZEROWITZ

WANT TO USE YOUR IRA AND 401K  
FUNDS TO BUY INVESTMENT  
PROPERTY IN ISRAEL WITHOUT TAX  
PENALTIES? ASK ME HOW!

IL: 972.52.682.9367

Broker fee 2% + VAT

USA 786.385.8859

[info@keteradvisors.com](mailto:info@keteradvisors.com)

[www.keteradvisors.com](http://www.keteradvisors.com)

Jewish people or not. Because another thing may sit uncomfortably with him. Avraham was the first generation of the Jewish people. While he was in, his brother Nachor was out. Back at the end of Vayera (22:20-14), we learn that Nachor had 8 sons with his wife Milka and 4 with his concubine Reuma. 12 sons. And at the end of Chayei Sarah (25:12-15), we learn of the children of Yishmael, the one who is out of the Jewish people. 12 sons. Hmm, the ones who are out of the Jewish people, Nachor, Avraham's brother, and Yishmael, Yitzchak's brother, had 12 sons. I have 11. On the other hand, all my children are walking in the footsteps of Avraham, leaving their land of Charan and journeying to Israel. Which sign is it? Am I in or out?



#### 5TH ALIYA (30:28-31:16)

Lavan asks Yaakov what his wage is for all the work he has done. Yaakov asks that he be allowed to select and breed certain animals as his wage. He is wildly successful and becomes laden with livestock. Lavan's sons become jealous. Yaakov knows it is time to leave. He carefully explains to Rachel and Leah that he is worried as Lavan has not been honest with him. And that the angel has told him it is time to return to the Land. They agree that whatever G-d says they must do.

Yaakov creates enormous wealth. Perhaps this is a Divine sign: Avraham had great wealth, Yitzchak was blessed with "meah

shearim", a 100-fold bounty of agriculture. Yaakov too has been unusually blessed in his breeding of flocks. Perhaps this is a Divine sign that I walk in my forefather's footsteps.



#### 6TH ALIYA (31:17-42)

Yaakov and the family leave without telling Lavan. Rachel steals Lavan's idols. Lavan pursues. G-d tells him not to harm Yaakov. Lavan berates Yaakov for his deception, not allowing him to kiss his children. Were it not that G-d instructed him otherwise, he would be justified in harming Yaakov. He searches for his idols but does not find them. Yaakov is fed up. He berates Lavan for his lack of appreciation of all of Yaakov's hard work, changing his wages 10 times. But G-d saw my oppressive work and rewarded me.

One last look from Yaakov's shoes. He still is unsure whether he is part of the covenant or not. But another prediction rings in his ears. Years earlier Avraham was told his children would be in a foreign land and afflicted, the Hebrew word "eenu". For 400 years. And would return with great wealth. Yaakov uses that very word to describe his hard work for Lavan "G-d saw my hard labour – an'ee". Perhaps, Yaakov wonders, I am that Jewish people. Foreign land. Afflicted. I am here 20 years, a long time – seems like 400. Leaving with great wealth.

Yaakov sees signs in his life that point to his being the next link in the Jewish people. On the other hand, he sees signs that perhaps he is the one that is out and Esav in. But the scale is clearly weighing in his favor.



#### 7TH ALIYA (31:43-32:3)

Lavan and Yaakov part amidst a parting ceremony. A marker and stones are placed as testimony that Lavan will not approach Yaakov, nor Yaakov approach Lavan. Lavan returns home. Angels

May the Torah learning in this issue  
be in loving memory of and

לעילוי נשמת my mother

**Esther Goldstein ע"ה**

לע"נ אסתר בת אהרן צבי ע"ה

on her 17th yearzeit כסלו

*Harriet Goldstein-Mark and family*

encounter Yaakov as he returns to the Land.

The break with Lavan is complete. Pacts come in different shapes and sizes. If you get in trouble, I will come to help. Or, we will open our borders to commerce. Or. A wall. A cold peace. You, on your side. I on mine. Kind of like the mitzvah to never return to Egypt. Years of deception, of toil, of suspicion. That chapter is closed.

The angels greet Yaakov. Angels when he left and angels when he returns. Another sign of Divine favor, that he will continue the legacy of the Jewish people.

## HOSHEA 11:7-12:14

This week's *haftorah* makes direct mention of Yaakov's flight from home to the "field of Aram," which is a critical episode recounted in this week's Torah reading.

The *haftorah* states Hoshea's rebuke of the Jewish people for their sin of forsaking Hashem. However, Hoshea assures the people that Hashem will not abandon them: "How can I give you, Ephraim, and deliver you [to the hands of the nations]? . . . I will not act with My fierce anger; I will not return to destroy Ephraim."

The *haftorah* proceeds to discuss the transgressions of the Northern Kingdom of Israel, and the future demise of the Kingdom of Judea. The *navi* makes a comparison between this generation and the behavior of their forefather Yaakov who was faithful and dedicated to God and prevailed against his enemies

The *haftorah* optimistically highlights the eventual ingathering of the exiles which will occur at the Final Redemption: "They shall hasten like a bird from Egypt and like a dove from the land of Assyria; and I will place them in their houses, says the Lord." ■

Bs" d



WATERPROOF  
your home

SEALING SERVICES  
AND ROOFING

- Leak detection + moisture
- Sealing solutions
- Water damage
- Roof coating
- Waterproofing, pools, porches, stone walls, tiled roofs
- High standard interior - exterior painting 
- Licensed & insured

Mold  
mildew  
expert

shmuelnathan4@gmail.com

www.freshcoatpainters.co.il

052-840-5660

The Weekly Podcast

WHAT DOES JUDAISM  
SAY ABOUT....?



WHAT DOES  
JUDAISM SAY  
ABOUT...?

by

Rabbi Dr. Nachum Amsel

will discuss each week an issue about the war that people are asking about. Each topic has a 5-minute abridged version & full 30-minute podcast.

This Week's Podcast:

Capital Punishment – Should Terrorists be Tried & Killed?

You can find the podcast on Apple, Spotify or Yutorah.org

For questions, write  
whatdoesjudaismsayabout@gmail.com

**Please contribute to Yesh Ezra's campaign!**

**TO ESTABLISH, RESTORE, AND FIGHT FOR  
THE FUTURE OF OUR BELOVED COUNTRY!**



- Urgent equipment for soldiers
- Provisions for displaced families
- Support for the bereaved
- Medical supplies for the wounded
- Home and hotel visits
- And continuing our ongoing charitable work for Those Who Stand Alone

*In cooperation with  
"Brothers United", the IDF,  
and government agencies*

**Bank transfer**

Bank Mercantile (17)  
Branch 642, A/C 79747843  
(Send Asmachta for tax receipt\*)

**Checks**

"Yesh Ezra" - POB 31476,  
Romema, Jerusalem

**Credit Card**

Sara - 077-820-0196  
Sun/Mon/Wed (10:15 am - 2.45 pm)

***www.Yeshezra.org***

**\*For more information: Menachem Persoff - 050-570-1067 | menpmp@gmail.com**



**Come in.  
Let's talk.**

**The Jerusalem  
Therapy Center  
Now Open**

Quality and affordable care given  
by compassionate and  
knowledgeable therapists.

Mental health therapy especially  
designed for English-speaking  
adults, including gap-year students,  
new olim and lone soldiers.

**JTC JERUSALEM  
THERAPY CENTER**

Powered by  
Amudim Israel &  
Wurzweiler School  
of Social Work

3 STRAUSS STREET, JERUSALEM | PHONE 02-380-3060 | OFFICE@JTC.ORG.IL



## STATS

7th of 54 sedras; 7th of 12 in Bereshit  
Written on 235.3 lines, ranks 12th Vayeitzei is one single very long (closed) Parsha. It's being a S'TUMA fits with the fact that it is a continuation of the Toldot story. It is the Torah's longest closed parsha, and second only to the open parsha that is all of Mikeitz (254.6 lines).  
148 pesukim - rank: 6th (3rd in Bereshit).  
2021 words - rank: 4th (3rd in Bereshit).  
7512 letters - rank: 5th (3rd in Bereshit).

## MITZVOT

None of the 613 mitzvot are in Vayeitzei. This is one of 17 mitzva-less sedras, 9 of which are in Sefer B'reishit, 3 in Shemot, none in Vayikra, 2 in Bamidbar, and 3 in Devarim.

רפואה שלמה  
אורה בת ראינה



**ANGLO- SAXON-JERUSALEM**  
ISRAEL'S LEADING REAL ESTATE NETWORK

### FOR SALE IN JERUSALEM:

#### YEMIN MOSHE

Unique picturesque home with views to the Old City, 174sq.m, 5.5 rooms, arched ceilings & windows, separate entrance unit, close to parking, walking distance to the Old City, Mamila, major hotels. Exclusive! **Nava 053-6642512**

#### KIRYAT SHMUEL, HARAV BERLIN

Large, well-maintained, 3 rooms, second floor, view, excellent location: near shops & cafes, parks, museums, synagogues, schools.  
Exclusive! **Anita: 053-6318355**

#### IN THE HEART OF OLD KATAMON (HACHISH St. near the "Shtiblach")

Large 5.5-room apt., 130sq.m, in a small building, whole floor, 2nd floor, terraces, elevator, separate unit on ground floor, (studio/clinic), parking, Exclusive! **Nava 053-6642512**

3 Moshe Hess St., Jerusalem  
**0778038511**



1898



2023

TM

**THE FURNITURE DOCTOR**  
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND REPAIRS SINCE 1898

## 125th YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Israel's LEADING and MOST TRUSTED Furniture Repair Company

**May Hashem protect our men & women serving to defend our Country  
& the people of Israel & safely bring home all of the hostages**

- PROFESSIONAL REGLUING for all your loose & shaky furniture
- EXPERT SOFA FRAME & RECLINER REPAIR
- SEAT CORE REPLACEMENT- Brand new seat made to replace broken wooden seat
- CANE SEAT/BACK REPLACEMENT
- LEG TIPS - For quieter chairs and helps to prevent water damage to the legs

\*\*\*\*\* RESTORE YOUR FURNITURE TO HEALTH \*\*\*\*\*

Website: [www.thefurnituredoctor.co.il](http://www.thefurnituredoctor.co.il) Email: [office@thefurnituredoctor.co.il](mailto:office@thefurnituredoctor.co.il)

Phone: 02-999-2418

WhatsApp: 058 787 3755

## SHIUR SPONSORS

### Chizuk Sessions on Thursday November 23

were sponsored by Valerie Baum in loving memory of her sister Chaya Chana bat Yonah HaKohen z"l on her 5th Yahrzeit, 4 Kislev

### Rabbi Shai Finkelstein's Shiur

is sponsored for the 2023 - 2024 academic year by the Sondhelm and Wertenteil families in memory of Mel David z"l מנחם מנדל בן אברהם מאיר וטויבא רבקה ז"ל

### Rabbi Adler's Shiur

is sponsored for the 2023-2024 academic year by the Frist family in memory of their beloved daughter and sister Elisheva Frist a"ח אלישבע סימא בת זלמן ע"ה

### Rabbi Goldscheider's Shiur

has been sponsored for the 2023 Academic Year לעילוי נשמת מרים בת אברהם ע"ה ושם טוב בן שלמה ז"ל

### Rebbetzin Shira Smiles Shiur

is sponsored for the 2023 academic year by Dr. & Mrs. Menachem Marcus in memory of their parents, Rose & Dr. Emanuel Marcus z"l - רייזל בת יוסף מאיר ומרדכי בן משה מרקוס ז"ל Rosi and Ernest Strauss z"l - לימוד בת אברהם ודניאל בן דוד שטראוס ז"ל

### Rabbi Breitowitz's Tuesday Shiur - Minchat Chinuch

is sponsored for the academic year 2023 by Rabbi Refoel & Sharon Auman in memory of their parents Edith & Reiner Auman z"l יונה בן צדוק ז"ל ואסתר ע"ה בת רפאל ה"ד and their son Rabbi Shmuel Eliyahu Auman z"l הרב שמואל אליהו ז"ל בן הרב רפאל ב"ר

### Rabbi Goldin's Shiur

is sponsored for the 2023 academic year by Dr. & Mrs. Menachem Marcus in memory of beloved aunts Irma Haas a"ח and Hilde Myer a"ח

### Rabbi Manning's Shiur

has been sponsored for the 2023 academic year לעילוי נשמת ברנה בת ברנדית ע"ה וזליג בן קלמן ז"ל

### Rabbi Taub's Weekly Thursday Parshat HaShavua Shiur

is sponsored by The Jewish Legacy Foundation

## ARE YOU ADDICTED TO SUGAR?

If yes, another diet is NOT the solution, THIS PROGRAM IS!

## SUGAR-FREE RECOVERY



- ✓ Get free from food obsession
- ✓ Improve metabolic health
- ✓ Lose weight without hunger

### Zippi Livneh

Nurse, Certified Food Addiction Counselor



055-6644854



info@zlivneh.com



## Tinnitus Ringing of the Ears טינטון



## Robert Levine, MD Otoneurologist

Founder of Harvard Medical School  
Tinnitus Clinic  
Director for 25 years

Founder of Israel Center for  
Advancement of Tinnitus Therapeutics  
Director for 11 years

ProfLevineAppointment@protonmail.com



058-400-1948

## US BROKERAGE SERVICES IN ISRAEL

## Get the Best of Both Worlds

Keep your money in the US and receive  
local expert investment advice

CALL **02-624-0995 054-599-9530**

aaron@lighthousecapital.co.il • www.aaronkatsman.com

Securities offered through Portfolio Resources Group, Inc., member of FINRA, SIPC, MSRB, SIFMA





מדר עורכי דין  
Madar Law Office

ENGLISH SPEAKING LAW FIRM

**Orit Madar, Adv.**  
Family Law and Mediation  
Divorce, Child support, Custody  
Inheritance & Wills

**Yariv Madar, Adv.**  
Bodily Injuries, Medical Malpractice  
Civil Litigation

10 Hillel St., Jerusalem | 36 Dam hamkabim st., Modiin  
02-6255592, 050-3202909  
Madar@netvision.net.il

**Eiferman Properties Ltd.**  
[www.eifermanrealty.com](http://www.eifermanrealty.com)

### JERUSALEM SALES

#### SHAAREI CHESED / RECHAVIA

\*Duplex! 5 bdrms, 25 sqm kitchen, succah,  
shabbat elevator, 2 parking, storage.

\*New 228 sqm duplex penthouse, 30 sqm succah,  
shabbat elevator, parking, view

#### TALBIEH

250 sqm+200 sqm garden, priv. land

#### NACHLAOT

2 rms, priv entr, storage room, NIS 2,190,000

#### OLD KATAMON

\*Renovated 3 bdrm, ensuite MB, succah, low floor

\*160 sqm 4 bdrms, garden, storage, parking

#### HAR NOF -New listing!

Centrally Located- 10 room duplex with 400 sqm  
garden (room for a pool), excellent condition

#### MEKOR CHAIM - NEW PROJECT

140 sqm, spacious 4 bdrms, succah, 3 exposures,  
2 parking, storage. Close to Baka & G. Colony

#### RENTAL - RAMOT B

Renovated 7 bedroom cottage, large garden,  
semi furnished, bright, airy, quiet, view!

#### RENTAL - OLD KATAMON

4 bdrms, duplex penthouse, succah, priv. elevator

FOR MANY MORE PROPERTIES:  
02-651-4030

## MORTGAGE ISRAEL

Israel's Leading Mortgage Company Since 2003

### HELPING YOU PURCHASE YOUR HOME IN ISRAEL



Mortgages

Refinancing

Home Equity



#### CONTACT OUR BROKERS!



**ADAM SIEGEL**  
052-371-1871  
ASIEGEL@  
MORTGAGEISRAEL.COM



**DAVI KATZ**  
054-333-0039  
DKATZ@  
MORTGAGEISRAEL.COM



**ARYEH STRICKOFF**  
058-532-5012  
ASTRICKOFF@  
MORTGAGEISRAEL.COM



**YITZCHAK WAGNER**  
053-722-8001  
YWAGNER@  
MORTGAGEISRAEL.COM



NO-OBLIGATION, FREE CONSULTATIONS!

[www.mortgageisrael.com](http://www.mortgageisrael.com) [info@mortgageisrael.com](mailto:info@mortgageisrael.com)





## COVENANT & CONVERSATION

THOUGHTS ON THE WEEKLY PARSHA

RABBI LORD JONATHAN SACKS ZT"L

FORMER CHIEF RABBI OF THE UNITED HEBREW  
CONGREGATIONS OF THE COMMONWEALTH

May the learning of these Divrei Torah be לעילוי נשמת  
**HaRav Ya'akov Zvi ben David Ariele zt"l**

לעילוי נשמות

פנחס בן יעקב אשר וגולדה בת ישראל דוד איז ע"ה ועזריאל בן אריה לייב ומעניה בת יצחק שרטער ע"ה

# The Character of Jacob

What kind of man was Jacob? This is the question that cries out to us in episode after episode of his life.

The first time we hear a description of him he is called *ish tam*: a simple, quiet, plain, straightforward man. But that is exactly what he seems not to be. We see him taking Esau's birthright in exchange for a bowl of soup. We see him taking Esau's blessing, in borrowed clothes, taking advantage of their father's blindness.

These are troubling episodes. We can read them midrashically. The Midrash makes Jacob all-good and Esau all-bad. It rereads the biblical text to make it consistent with the highest standards of the moral life. There is much to be said for this approach.

Alternatively, we could say that in these cases the end justifies the means. In the case of the birthright, Jacob might have been testing Esau to see if he really cared about it. Since he gave it away so readily, Jacob might be right in concluding that it should go to one who valued it. In the case of the blessing, Jacob was obeying his mother, who had received a Divine oracle

saying that "the older shall serve the younger."

Yet the text remains disturbing. Isaac says to Esau, "Your brother came deceitfully and took your blessing." Esau says, "Isn't he rightly named Jacob [supplanter]? He has supplanted me these two times: He took my birthright, and now he's taken my blessing!" Such accusations are not levelled against any other biblical hero.

Nor does the story end there. In this week's parsha a similar deceit is practiced on him. After his wedding night, he discovers that he has married Leah, not, as he thought, his beloved Rachel. He complains to Laban:

"What is this you have done to me? Was it not for Rachel that I served you? Why then have you deceived me?" *Gen. 29:25*

Laban replies: "It is not done in our place to give the younger before the firstborn." *Gen. 29:26*

It's hard not to see this as precise measure-for-measure retribution. The younger Jacob pretended to be the older Esau. Now the elder Leah has been disguised as the younger Rachel. A fundamental principle of biblical morality is at work here: As you do, so shall be done to you.

Yet the web of deception continues. After Rachel has given birth to Joseph, Jacob wants to return home. He has been with Laban long enough.



Laban urges him to stay and tells him to name his price. Jacob then embarks on an extraordinary course of action. He tells Laban he wants no wages at all. Let Laban remove every spotted or streaked lamb from the flock, and every streaked or spotted goat. Jacob will then keep, as his hire, any new born spotted or streaked animals.

It is an offer that speaks simultaneously to Laban's greed and his ignorance. He seems to be getting Jacob's labour for almost nothing. He is demanding no wages. And the chance of unspotted animals giving birth to spotted offspring seems remote.

Jacob knows better. In charge of the flocks, he goes through an elaborate procedure involving peeled branches of poplar, almond, and plane trees, which he places with their drinking water. The result is that they do in fact produce streaked and spotted offspring.

How this happened has intrigued not only the commentators (who mostly assume that it was a miracle, God's way of assuring Jacob's welfare) but also scientists. Some argue that Jacob must have had an understanding of genetics. Two unspotted sheep can produce spotted offspring. Jacob had doubtless noticed this in his many years of tending Laban's flocks.

Others have suggested that prenatal nutrition can have an epigenetic effect – that is, it can cause a certain gene to be expressed which might not have been otherwise. Had the peeled branches of poplar, almond, and plane trees been added to the water the sheep drank, they might have affected the Agouti gene that determines the colour of fur in sheep and mice.<sup>1</sup>

1. Joshua Backon, "Jacob and the Spotted Sheep: The Role of Prenatal Nutrition on Epigenetics of Fur Colour," Jewish Bible Quarterly, Vol. 36, No. 4, 2008.



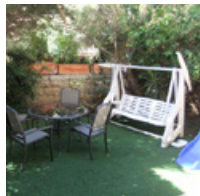
**Jerusalem Real Estate is My Business**

Eta: 054-723-3863

**Amazing stand alone homes in  
OLD KATAMON, TALBIYA, BAKA, GERMAN COLONY**

**OLD KATAMON** 300 sqm of living space and garden. 11 rooms. Large dining room and large entertainment area. 5 bathrooms and 2 balconies

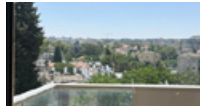
**Available now at good price. Call Eta.**



In **BAKA**, 236 sqm on two floors, plus 80 sqm of outdoor space, high ceilings, authentic Jerusalem building with modern addition. 4 bedrooms plus office/ or sitting room. Master suite on entrance level. Parking and storage.



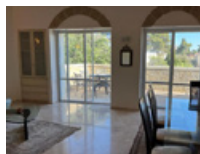
**OLD KATAMON**, Moshava Bldg. 74 sqm, two beds, 2 baths & 2 terraces. 3rd floor great views. Available immediately. 2 elevators, underground parking. 24/7 doorman. **3,650,000 NIS**



**MEKOR HAIM** 100 sqm with 3 bedrooms and 2 full bathrooms, registered parking and sukka terrace. Shabbat elevator. **Price 3,650,000 NIS**



In **GERMAN COLONY**, 140 sqm on one floor, 2nd floor walk up, completely renovated. 4 bedrooms and 2 full baths. Large sukka terrace. **7,100,000 NIS**



**Eta Morris Realty, Ltd.**

**etamorrisrealestate@gmail.com**

**Eta: 054-723-3863 etamorrisrealty.co.il**



**077-2050015**  
**052-2678749**  
golanechasim@gmail.com



**Meir  
Golan**

**ARNONA:** 4-room apartment, 90m, master suite, balcony, storage, Shabbat elevator, private parking 3,200,000 NIS

**BAKA:** New 4 room apartment in a new building, 88m, master suite, storage, Shabbat elevator, private parking, nice Sukkah balcony in process of being added, 3,900,000 NIS

**ARNONA:** 5-room apartment, 108m, balcony, nice view, Shabbat elevator, fully accessible, private parking, storage 4,300,000 NIS

**RASKO:** New 4-room apartment, 95m, balcony with a lovely panoramic view, elevator, 3,100,000 NIS

**TALBIYA:** 4-room apartment, 95m, sukkah balcony, 2nd floor, 5,000,000 NIS

**OLD KATAMON:** 5-room apartment, 127m, master suite, balcony, private parking, storage, full of light, 5,250,000 NIS

Jacob finds himself forced to run away from Laban as he was earlier forced to run away from Esau, in both cases in fear of his life.

So the question returns. What kind of man was Jacob? He seems anything but an *ish tam*, a straightforward man. And surely this is not the way for a religious role model to behave – in such a way that first his father, then his brother, then his father-in-law, accuse him of deceit. What kind of story is the Torah telling us in the way it narrates the life of Jacob?

One way of approaching an answer is to look at a specific character – often a hare, or in African-American tradition, “Brer Rabbit” – in the folktales of oppressed people. Henry Louis Gates, the American literary critic, has argued that such figures represent “the creative way the slave community responded to the oppressor’s failure to address them as human beings created in the image of God.” They have “a fragile body but a deceptively strong mind.” Using their intelligence to outwit their stronger opponents, they are able to deconstruct and subvert, in small ways, the hierarchy of dominance favouring the rich and the strong. They represent the momentary freedom of the unfree, a protest against the random injustices of the world.<sup>2</sup>

That, it seems to me, is what Jacob represents in this, the early phase of his life. He enters the world as the younger of two twins. His brother is strong, ruddy, hairy, a skilful hunter, a man of the open country, whereas Jacob is quiet, a scholar. Then he must confront the fact that his father loves his brother more than him. Then he finds himself at the mercy of Laban, a possessive, exploitative,

However it happened, the result was dramatic. Jacob became rich:

In this way the man grew exceedingly prosperous and came to own large flocks, and maidservants and menservants, and camels and donkeys. *Gen. 30:43*

Inevitably, Laban and his sons felt cheated. Jacob sensed their displeasure, and – having taken counsel with his wives and being advised to leave by God Himself – departs while Laban is away sheep-shearing. Laban eventually discovers that Jacob has left, and pursues him for seven days, catching up with him in the mountains of Gilead.

The text is fraught with accusation and counteraccusation. Laban and Jacob both feel cheated. They both believe that the flocks and herds are rightfully theirs. They both regard themselves as the victim of the other’s deceitfulness. The end result is that

2. Henry Louis Gates, *Black Literature and Literary Theory*, New York, Methuen, 1984, pp. 81-104.

and deceptive figure who takes advantage of his vulnerability. Jacob is the man who – as almost all of us do at some time or other – finds that life is unfair.

What Jacob shows, by his sheer quick-wittedness, is that the strength of the strong can also be their weakness. So it is when Esau comes in exhausted from the hunt, famished, that he is willing to impulsively trade his birthright for some soup. So it is when the blind Isaac is prepared to bless the son who will bring him venison to eat. So it is when Laban hears the prospect of getting Jacob's labour for free. Every strength has its Achilles' heel, its weakness, and this can be used by the weak to gain victory over the strong.

Jacob represents the refusal of the weak to accept the hierarchy created by the strong. His acts are a form of defiance, an insistence on the dignity of the weak (vis-a-vis Esau), the less loved (by Isaac), and the refugee (in Laban's house). In this sense he is one element of what, historically, it has been like to be a Jew.


But the Jacob we see in these chapters is not the figure whom, ultimately, we are called on to emulate. We can see why. Jacob wins his battles with Esau and Laban but at the cost of eventually having to flee in fear of his life. Quick-wittedness is merely a temporary solution.

It is only later, after his wrestling match with the angel, that he receives a new name – that is, a new identity – as Israel, “because you have struggled with God and with men and have overcome.” As Israel he is unafraid to contend with people face-to-face. He no longer needs to outwit them by clever but ultimately futile stratagems. His children will eventually become the people whose dignity lies in the unbreakable covenant they make with God.

Yet we can see something of Jacob's

**EYEWORLD STANDS WITH  
OUR BRAVE SOLDIERS!**

**עם ישראל חי!**





**ARNONA/TALPIOT -**  
 Beit Hanatziv, Derech Hevron 101A  
**RAMAT ESHKOL Shopping Center (Above Waffle Bar)**  
**(02) 674-3888**

early life in one of the most remarkable features of Jewish history. For almost two thousand years Jews were looked down on as pariahs, yet they refused to internalise that image, just as Jacob refused to accept the hierarchies of power or affection that condemned him to be a mere second-best. Jews throughout history, like Jacob, have relied not on physical strength or material wealth but on qualities of the mind.

In the end, though, Jacob must become Israel. For it is not the quick-witted victor but the hero of moral courage who stands tall in the eyes of humanity and God. ■

These weekly teachings from **Rabbi Sacks** zt”l are part of his ‘Covenant & Conversation’ series on the weekly Torah teaching. With thanks to the Schimmel Family for their generous sponsorship, dedicated in loving memory of Harry (Chaim) Schimmel. Visit [www.RabbiSacks.org](http://www.RabbiSacks.org) for more.





Yeshiva University

[yu.edu/togetherwithisrael](http://yu.edu/togetherwithisrael)





עם ישראל חי



## PROBING

## THE PROPHETS

BY RABBI NACHMAN (NEIL) WINKLER

Faculty, OU Israel Center

Rabbi Winkler's popular Jewish History lectures can be viewed by visiting the OU Israel Video archive: <https://www.ouisrael.org/video-library>

The final chapters of the Book of Hoshea from which our *haftarah* is taken, reflect the basic theme of the entire book, that of *teshuva*, which explains why the last verses are included in the haftarot of both Shabbat Shuva and Yom Kippur. Although Hoshea, a contemporary of the navi Yish'ayahu, addresses his words to the soon-to-be-exiled Northern Kingdom, the region in which he himself lived, he has choice words of admonition for the Southern Kingdom of Yehuda as well.

Hoshe'a opens his words by bringing us back to the era of the forefathers and to the events recorded in our sedra. He reminds the nation that Ya'akov worked and protected -"shamar"-Lavan's sheep in order to take in his beloved intended, Rachel, to his home. Using that same root word, the prophet reminds Israel that Hashem, through His prophet, also "worked" by protecting - "nishmar - His beloved nation and releasing them from the Egyptian bondage, in order to bring them to His "home". And yet, Israel, bemoans Hoshe'a, Israel, as opposed to the faithful Rachel, forgot Hashem's protection and kindnesses, and turned to other "gods".

HaRav Yehuda Shavit, however, takes a unique view of these words of Hoshe'a, focusing specifically upon that same "root" word "sh,m,r". Rav Shavit reminds us of the opening story in Parashat VaYeshev that relates the growing friction within

Ya'akov's family, friction that was amplified by Yosef's dreams of grandeur. Although Ya'akov publicly dismissed the dreams – even berating Yosef for sharing them, the text closes the story with the words "v'aviv *shamar* et hadavar", "and his father remembered the matter." Commenting on that word "shamar" (root: "sh,m,r"), Rashi contends that the word does not simply mean that Jacob *remembered* the dreams of his son but that he looked forward to them being realized. In other words, "shamar" should be understood as the father's longing and yearning for the fruition of Yosef's dreams

Based upon this approach, Rav Shavit suggests that the navi Hoshe'a was telling the people that, just as Ya'akov longed for his soon-to-wife, and yearned to join with her so G-d longs for His beloved nation and yearns for them to return to Him! The nation's perfidy in their abandonment of Hashem would condemn them to suffer G-d's punishments, as Hosh'a tells them. But perhaps equally tragic was their ignorance of how much Hashem desired them to return to Him and how He longed for their closeness. The harsh words of

Mazal Tov to **Dr. Daniel & Sara Berelowitz**  
on the birth of their grandson **Amiaz**



son of **Tani & Moriyah Sberman**



Mazal Tov to the

**Green, Sberman and Berelowitz families**

the navi that Hashem, the protector of His “sheep” will be forced to become its destroyer (“...I shall devour them like a lion...”) stands in contrast to the words of Yaakov to Lavan that, in all the years, he never brought back a torn lamb to his father-in-law. Yet underlying these punishments was the painful reluctance of G-d to chastise the nation He loves, and does so only so that they would eventually understand, repent and return.

Only when we understand this message of how Hashem is “shomer” - protecting AND yearning for – his nation, can we appreciate the closing p’sukim calling for Israel to repair the rift. Hoshe’a’s cry “**Shuva** Yisrael,” urging Israel to return, fittingly echoes the word of G-d to Israel/Jacob found in the parasha: “**shuv** el eretz avotecha,” “return to your ancestral land.” In truth, our return to G-d will be fully realized with our return to “Eretz Avotecha”, our ancestral land.

And all we need to do is look at the massive return to Israel and the miracle of its survival and growth in order to see how much our “Shomer” has longed for us. ■

#### רפואה שלמה

Yosef Ezriel ben Chaya Michal  
Chana bat Bruriah  
Benzion Simcha Mendel Ben Chana Rachel  
Feyge Sara bas Chaya Peshe  
Nechama Charna bat Feigel  
Leah Naomi bat Tova  
אברהם יהושע בן פרל באהדנא  
לב אייזיק בן אולגה  
יהונתן בן מחלה

# Ben Zimra

בס"ד

REAL ESTATE

The best deals in Jerusalem

## FOR SALE

### RASKO, GOOD DEAL!

Large 4 rooms + separate unit, elevator, balcony, good shape, 3 directions, parking, quiet, 3,350,000 NIS

### NAYOT IN A GREEN AREA

Large 4 rooms, 93m, in a building with elevator, 12m sukkah balcony, renovated, master bedroom, parking, storageroom, quiet, Exclusive, 3,650,000 NIS

### CLOSE TO OLD KATAMON, IN GANE ZION

Nice 5 rooms, 120m, modern building, Shabbat elevator, accessibility without stairs, sukkah balcony, master bedroom, storageroom, 2 parking spots, Exclusive, 4,950,000 NIS

### CLOSE TO BAKA ON A CHARMING STREET

Unique Cottage, 6.5 rooms, 186m, beautifully renovated, private entrance, small garden, 3 directions, quiet, parking, Exclusive, 6,400,000 NIS

28, Kovshei Katamon Street, Jerusalem  
Tel: 02.5633008 - [www.ben-zimra.com](http://www.ben-zimra.com)



## SPONSOR A SHIUR



Sponsor a Shiur to support the ongoing Torah learning at the OU Israel Center visit:

[www.ouisrael.org/donate/ou-israel-center/](http://www.ouisrael.org/donate/ou-israel-center/)  
or email [cspivack@ouisrael.org](mailto:cspivack@ouisrael.org)

single shiur 180nis  
morning 360nis  
or full day 500nis



[WWW.OUISRAEL.ORG](http://WWW.OUISRAEL.ORG)





## Smart Sky specializes in designing motorized shading systems



Stunning luxurious appearance



Opens for Succos



Quality service and warranty



Weatherproof

**Smart Sky** specializes in advanced custom shading systems suitable for all seasons.

Our systems offer a variety of enclosing solutions for expanding your living areas, balconies, pools, shuls and businesses without the need for a building permit.

**Smart Sky's** professional Jewish installation team use only optimum quality and high grade imported materials.

**This time do it the SMART way!**

For more info call: **058-630-8200** - Shaya

[smartsky.co.il](http://smartsky.co.il) | [Zeev@smartsky.co.il](mailto:Zeev@smartsky.co.il)



# UNITED WE STAND



## Dear Friends,

In Rabbi Berman's recent Torah Tidbits message, the various challenges that have held us back from offering regular on-site programs at the OU Israel Center in the current circumstances were mentioned. B'Ezrat Hashem we intend to do our best to begin to gradually bring back as many of our beloved shiurim and programs as possible as we work to overcome those challenges in the weeks ahead.

There are now multiple ways to be kept up to date about virtual programs as well as in-person programs (which will be offered on-site at the OU Israel Center and in additional locations). In addition to advertisements for programs here in the pages of Torah Tidbits, we will also send periodic email newsletter updates. We also recently launched the OU Israel Community on WhatsApp, which allows those who join our WhatsApp community to access general program updates, as well as to join specific groups for many of our regular classes and programs.

To join the OU Israel WhatsApp community, enter this link into the browser on your phone:  
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/DFr3rqmreSCE1wlBoWVzrl>

To view the updated schedule of all OU Israel Virtual and In-Person Programs, please visit  
<https://www.ouisrael.org/program/chizuk/>

We will continue offering two daily chizuk Zoom sessions. To access these sessions:



### OU MORNING CHIZUK

<https://bit.ly/OU-Morning-Chizuk>



### OU AFTERNOON CHIZUK

<https://bit.ly/OU-Afternoon-Chizuk>

*May HaKadosh Baruch Hu watch over and protect our chayalim,  
all those in harm's way, and all of Am Yisrael.*

### STUART HERSHKOWITZ

President, OU Israel

### RABBI AVI BERMAN

Executive Director, OU Israel

### RABBI SAM SHOR

Program Director, OU Israel  
Center



@THEOUISTRAEL

# TUESDAY MORNING TORAH IN BAKAA



with OU Israel

Live in Person @ Kehilat Nitzanim , 3 Asher Street

**BEGINS TUESDAY NOV. 14**

**9:15 AM Torah Tapestries** Rebbetzin Shira Smiles ( L'Ayla/ Women Only)

**10:15AM** Minchat Chinuch-Meaning in Mitzvot **Rabbi Yitzchak Breitowitz**

**11:15AM** Rethinking the Messages of Sefer Breisheet-Chumash B'lyun  
**Rabbi Shmuel Goldin**

Regular OU Israel class fees  
(including discount cards)  
30 NIS/ 25 NIS



[WWW.OUISRAEL.ORG](http://WWW.OUISRAEL.ORG)

NCSY ISRAEL PRESENTS THE

**צב ישראלי**

**Regional shabbaton**

**december 1-2 | Hfar Etzion**

*open to 9-12 grade boys and girls*



*with special guest*  
**rau noam koenigsberg**

**register at [israel.ncsy.org](http://israel.ncsy.org)**

**Registration closes Nov. 25 at 22:50**



OU Israel's The Bais, In Memory of Mrs. Charlotte Brachfeld a'h  
presents And the Modiin English Kollel Present:

## CHANUKA LIMUD FOR MEN

TUES DEC. 5 11:45AM-12:30PM



**MEHADRIN MIN HAMEHADRIN** From Chanuka to Kashrut,  
**Rabbi Ezra Friedman**, Director of OU Israel's Gustave and Carol  
Jacobs Center for Kashrut Education



TUES DEC. 12

**10:30 AM** The Light that Unites **Rabbi Aaron Goldscheider**,  
Editor, OU Israel's Torah Tidbits

**11:15 AM** Mesibat Chanuka

**11:45 AM - 12:30 PM** Sod HaSevivon-the Dreidel's Symbolic Meaning  
**Rabbi Sam Shor**, Program Director, OU Israel Center



OU ISRAEL CENTER

22 KEREN HAYESOD ST., JERUSALEM

02-560-9110



*Save the Date*

## OU ISRAEL PRE- CHANUKA YOM IYUN

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 6 9:30AM- 1:00PM



Speakers and Titles TBA

On-Site at the OU Israel Center

Join us as we return to on-site activities, and  
prepare for the Light of Chanuka...

40 NIS admission, light refreshments will be served

[www.ouisrael.org/events/pre-chanuka-yom-iyun/](http://www.ouisrael.org/events/pre-chanuka-yom-iyun/)



OU ISRAEL CENTER

22 Keren HaYesod St., Yerushalayim

02-5609110





*Thanks to You!*

OU Israel is at the frontline providing

**SPIRITUAL, EMOTIONAL,  
EDUCATIONAL & MATERIAL**

support to tens of thousands of Israelis



Scan to Donate





## AT-RISK ISRAELI TEENS

- Chaverim Makshevim crisis hotline
- Programs & support for 6,500+ teens
- Volunteering at hospitals & packaging
- Therapeutic workshops
- Staff trauma training

## HELPING REFUGEES

- Representatives in the hotels in Yerushalayim
- Hiring new staff for the influx of evacuee teens
- Carnivals & storytime
- Chizuk concerts
- Kollel
- Vouchers

## ENGLISH- SPEAKING OLIM

- Twice daily Chizuk calls
- Spiritual & emotional support for Anglo mothers of Chayalim
- Volunteer opportunities
- Spiritual & emotional support for single Olim
- Missions

or Donate at this link:

[OU.ORG/ISRAELCRISIS](https://OU.ORG/ISRAELCRISIS)





**RABBI SHALOM**

**ROSNER**

Rav Kehilla, Nofei HaShemesh  
Maggid Shiur, Daf Yomi, OU.org  
Senior Ra"m, Kerem B'Yavneh

# What Was Taught in Yeshivat Shem V'Ever?

רש"י: וישָׁכַב בַּמָּקוֹם הַהוּא: לְשׁוֹן מַעוֹט; בְּאוֹתוֹ מָקוֹם שָׁכַב אֲבֵל י"ד שָׁנִים שֶׁשָּׁמַשׁ בֵּית עֵבֶר לֹא שָׁכַב בַּלַּיְלָה, שֶׁהָיָה עוֹסֵק בַּתּוֹרָה:

**And he lay down in that place:** [The word הַהוּא] is a restrictive expression, meaning that [only] in that place did he lie down, but during the fourteen years that he served in the house of Eber, he did not lie down at night, because he was engaged in Torah study.

Based on the language used in the Torah, Rashi derives that Yaakov rested at this location, but for fourteen years he did not rest, rather during that period he engaged in the study of Torah in the Yeshiva of *Shem V'Ever*.

## THIRTY-SIX YEARS AWAY FROM HOME

We are told that Yaakov resided at the house of Lavan for **twenty-two years**, and during those years was unable to fulfill the mitzvah of *kibbud Av V'em*, therefore he was "punished" *midah k'neged midah* and Yosef was in mitzrayim unable to communicate with Yaakov for **twenty-two years**. If we add the fourteen years during which Yaakov studied at the Yeshiva of Shem V'Ever, then he was unable to fulfill the mitzvah of *Kibbud Av V'em* for 36 years. Why are the fourteen years in Yeshiva not counted towards the time he did not fulfill *kibbud Av V'em*?

Rav Yaakov Kaminetzky in Emet L'Yaakov

raises this question. Rav Yaakov even offers an example to strengthen the question. Imagine that a father asks his son to pick up some groceries. On his way to the store, the child stops off at the beit midrash to learn for a week. Is that proper behavior? His father requested groceries and the child delayed the chore for a week? Yaakov was tasked with finding a wife in Haran, why would he be justified in pushing that off for fourteen years?

## SHEM V'EVER -

### SURVIVAL IN HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT

Perhaps we need to understand the nature of what was taught in the Yeshiva of *Shem V'Ever*. In the house of Avraham and Yitzhak, there was a closed and protected environment. When Sara suspects that Yishmael may have an adverse influence on her son, she demands that Yishmael be removed. Shem, on the other hand, was the son of Noach. He witnessed the wickedness of his surroundings. Ever lived during the Dor Haflaga, when Migdal Bavel was built. Similarly, he grew up in a generation that did not value human life and that did not believe in God. Yet, both *Shem V'Ever* were able to remain steadfast Ovdei Hashem and moral and ethical beings.

What *Shem V'Ever* were able to teach Yaakov, was how to survive in the house

of Lavan. It was a necessary pit stop before he was to arrive at Lavan's house. It is in accordance with his parent's instructions as it enabled Yaakov to retain his tradition during those twenty-two years. It is like a father asking his son to purchase a Lulav and Etrog on his behalf and on the way to the store, the child stops in the Bet Midrash to learn how to select a kosher Lulav and Etrog. It is part of the mission.

### YAAKOV TEACHES YOSEF WHAT HE LEARNED FROM SHEM V'EVER

A reference to the Bet Midrash of *Shem V'Ever* appears elsewhere in Sefer Bereshit as well. In Parshat Veyeshev, when we are told that Yaakov favored Yosef, Rashi interprets it to mean that Yaakov taught Yosef what he learned from *Shem V'Ever*. Why does Rashi specifically cite what Yaakov learned from *Shem V'Ever* and not from Avraham and Yitzhak? Apparently, Yaakov subconsciously felt that Yosef would be in exile and needed to understand how to survive in a hostile environment. That was

Torat *Shem V'Ever*.

Today, with so many outside influences, like *Shem V'Ever*, we need to strengthen our commitment to Torah and mitzvot. Chanuka is around the corner. The Greeks sought to discredit the Torah and force us to assimilate. May we be able to continue to educate our children and ourselves in the path of *Shem V'Ever*. Like Yaakov and Yosef, we need to ensure that the Torah, as our instruction manual, is our moral and ethical compass, irrespective of our surroundings. ■

*Gemach for Chatan and Kalla:*

**Meals for wedding and Sheva Brachot at cost**

Eida Hachareidis Hechsher

**Tel: 052-633-1744**

**gadgadood@gmail.com**



**GET FIT WHILE YOU SIT:**

**Exercise for ladies**

**Sundays 12:45-1:30pm**

**at the OU Israel Center**

**Sura Faecher 0504153239**

**Call to check**



Please make a donation for our soldiers and families of victims of terror.

We urgently need donations for ceramic vests and helmets at this time. Each set cost 5,000 shekel.

Donations for Tefillin, Tzitzit, coats, socks, thermal underwear, thermal undershirts, underwear, undershirts, camelbak backpacks, towels, phone chargers, soap, shampoo etc.

Donations for weekly food baskets for over 400 families of victims of terror.

**To make a donation please visit: [www.omb.org.il](http://www.omb.org.il)**





# Tremendous Tears

*“Ve’einei Leah racot.” (Bereisheet 29:17)*

Rashi tells us that Leah’s eyes were weak or sensitive from excessive crying. Leah Imeinu was led to believe that she was destined to marry Esav, when she inquired as to his character, she was told he was wicked and robs people. She was so distraught at the prospect of marrying an evil man that she continuously cried and prayed for Hashem’s mercy to avert such a fate. The power of tears is a tremendous resource that we harness until today, and Leah Imeinu has become our role model for its strength.

Chazal teach us that as a result of Leah Imeinu’s tears she merited three things - she married Yaakov Avinu first, she bore the majority of the 12 tribes, and she was buried with Yaakov Avinu in *Me’arat Hamachpelah*. Rav Scheinerman in *Ohel Moshe* notes that every tear that Leah Imeinu shed was rooted in her desire to build spiritual edifices. This is what brought her so much blessing. While Rachel Imeinu is told “Withhold your voice from weeping,” Leah Imeinu is never told this. Indeed, when she names her fourth son from a place of thankfulness and is no longer expressing her pain and yearning, the Torah tells us that she “ceased to bear

children.” (*Bereisheet 29:35*) Leah’s *koach* lies in the of prayer and yearning through tears. She is the model of changing one’s destiny by accessing this power.

Why is prayer with tears so incredibly powerful? Rav Chanan in *Torat Chesed* offers a profound insight. When the Beit Hamikdash was destroyed, the direct portal of tefillah was locked. At the same time, *“sha’ar ha’dmaot,”* the gates of tears were never sealed. Why is this so? *Tofa’ot Re’em* explains that during Creation, when Hashem separated the higher and lower waters, the part that was sent below to the earth complained of being so distant from Hashem. Hashem consoled these waters with the assurance that there would be libations of water on the altar and that salt (which comes from the lower waters) would be put on each sacrifice, allowing for the continued connection between the lower waters and Hashem. The lower waters asked, “What will happen when the Beit Hamikdash is destroyed?” Hashem answered ... tears. Tears mixed with salt would replace the sacrifices and go directly to Hashem.

We must never allow our tears to stop flowing when *Am Yisrael* is in a dire situation. The *Zohar Hakadosh* explains that Leah Imeinu went to the crossroads each day to hear reports from the travelers about Esav’s behavior. Rav Domb explains that she did this so she could feel her pain anew. She never wanted to give into her



lot, her pain spurred her to intensify her tearful pleas to Hashem.


Rav Pincus teaches that tears will ultimately bring our final salvation. Although we must always express our immense gratitude for Hashem's continuous kindness and grace, we must persistently cry with the pain of our people, our land and our struggle. In the merit of these tears, *Klal Yisrael*, like Leah Imeinu, will be worthy of blessing and redemption. ■



**Call to check**  
**PRI HADASH**  
**WOMEN'S WRITING WORKSHOP**  
**AT THE OU ISRAEL CENTER**

**Monday mornings 10.30-12.30**

For more details, call Ruth 02-628-7359  
or Judy 054-569-0410



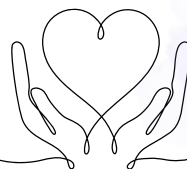
**DOROT - The OU Women's**  
**Intergenerational Choir**  
**Director Hadassah Jacob**  
**052-384-7230**

**Monday Evenings 7:00-9:00pm**

**Call to check**



**Even during these times,  
Everyone deserves  
a safe relationship**



**You are  
not alone.**



**Shalom Task Force  
Hotline**

**888-883-2323**

**Call. Text. WhatsApp.**

**[www.shalomtaskforce.org](http://www.shalomtaskforce.org)**



**Bat Melech  
Israel Helpline**

**1-800-292-333**

**Or**

**972-2-633-8927**

**[www.batmelech.org](http://www.batmelech.org)**



## RABBI JUDAH MISCHEL

Executive Director, Camp HASC  
Author of *Baderech: Along the Path of  
Teshuva* (Mosaica 2021)

# Vayeitze: Climb!

Through Fire and Water is the epic story of the life and times of Reb Nosson of Breslov, zy'a. Reb Nosson had a command of *kol haTorah kulah*, mastery of the entire revealed Torah and its secrets, and with utmost *bitul*, sacrifice and dedication, he devoted himself to recording and transmitting Rebbe Nachman's teachings and spiritual path. "Without my Nosson," proclaimed the Rebbe, "nothing of me would remain."

As an exceptional young *masmid* and scholar, Reb Nosson yearned to find his place, and in 1801, spent time in the presence of the great Reb Levi Yitzchok of Berditchev. Sitting with those who gathered for *melaveh malkah*, Reb Nosson was assigned the chore to fetch bagels from the local baker. Later that night, while deep in contemplation, Reb Noson began to feel dejected. There was nothing wrong with *shlepping* bagels — in fact it was an honor to serve the tzadik in any way he could. There just had to be something...more. As wonderful as the Berditchev community was, he was frustrated with all of his private ups and downs, and felt a gnawing absence of inspiration and guidance. He now realized he was desperately yearning to find his real purpose and *makom*, and to acquire abiding *menuchas ha-nefesh*. Secluding himself in a

side room of the *shtiebel*, Reb Nosson poured out his heart for hours, reading Tehillim and tearfully beseeching Hashem for guidance. Eventually, he collapsed on a bench and cried himself to sleep.

In his dream, Reb Nosson saw a ladder stretching from earth up to the Heavens. He began to climb the ladder, but fell down. He tried again and climbed a little higher, but again fell. Each time he climbed, he climbed higher, but fell lower. With great effort, this repeated itself over and over until he was about to reach the top. This time when he slipped, he fell into despair of ever reaching his goal. Just at that moment, someone appeared at the top of the ladder and called out, *Droppe zich, un halt zich!* — "Climb! But hold yourself!" Reb Nosson was startled awake. The face and these words remained etched in his mind.

It was about a year later, after the Yamim Nora'im in 1802, that Rebbe Nachman arrived in the town of Breslov, only a few miles from Nemirov, where Reb Noson lived. Word spread quickly of the dynamic and mysterious Rebbe and tzadik. Reb Nosson, the consummate seeker, felt he might finally be able to find a mentor who would help him escape his inner turmoil.

Traveling to Breslov, Reb Nosson came before Rebbe Nachman and introduced himself. Rabbeinu smiled and said, "We've known each other for a long time, but we haven't seen each other for a while... Now I am no longer alone!"

Reb Nosson gasped: he was beholding the very face that had appeared at the top of the ladder in his dream a year before. It was

Rebbe Nachman who had encouraged him, “Climb, but hold yourself!” The guidance he needed had already been within himself. He only needed to learn to ‘hold’ onto it.

From then on, like the sun and the moon, Rebbe and Talmid were inseparable. Reb Nosson had found his life’s calling — and the inner *emunah* and *meshivas ha-nefesh* that would allow him to keep climbing and holding himself steady through tremendous challenges.

וַיִּפְגַּע בַּמָּקוֹם וַיֵּלֶן שָׁם כִּי־בָא הַשֶּׁמֶשׁ

“And Yaakov encountered the Place — and he slept there, for the sun had set...”

וַיַּחְלֹם וְהִנֵּה סֹלֶם מָצָב אֲרָצָה וְרֹאשׁוֹ מִגִּיעַ

הַשָּׁמַיְמָה וְהִנֵּה מַלְאָכַי אֲלֹקִים עֲלֵים וְיֹרְדִים בּוֹ

“And he had a dream: a *sulam*, a ladder, was set on the ground and its top reached to the heavens, and messengers of God were going up and down on it.” (28:12)

As a refugee, running from a brother who sought to kill him, Yaakov Avinu’s future is uncertain. With nowhere to go and no roof over his head, he yearns for safety and settled consciousness, searching for his place in the world. Yaakov spontaneously encounters the *makom*, a place of absolute holiness, and וַיִּפְגַּע, so-to-speak ‘bumps into’ Hashem, Who is also called *HaMakom*.

Reb Levi Yitzchak of Berditchev explains that Yaakov is suddenly making sense of all his challenges, hardships, ups and downs. He now understands that his bridge, his ladder connecting the upper and lower worlds is already within him: And *olim v’yordim bo*, ‘the angels were ascending and descending **within him**.’ The ladder that each of us needs to climb is within us, beckoning us to rise to our highest destiny, and to thereby bring upper lights down into the lower world.

Rav Adin Steinsaltz zt”l elaborated on the

## DANIEL BOUZAGLO

### JERUSALEM REAL ESTATE

Gershon Agron 24, Mamilla - Jerusalem

*Exclusive offers to our clients*  
Call now: 077-9973185

**BAKA-NEW PROJECT 2-4br**  
contact us for pre-sale offers

**David Crown complex**  
136sqm, 15sqm terrace, concierge ...

**Rechavia - Ben Maimon blvd.**  
140 sqm ,5br , 4 balconies, shabbat elevator

**Old Katamon-Amazing villa**  
Over 1000 sqm plot ,650 sqm house..

**German Colony-New Project**  
87sqm 2br, 2bath, succa, parking - 3.8M nis

**Musrara near the old city 160 sqm**  
high ceilings, 35 sqm patio-6.1M nis

**Talbieh, for people that can afford**  
over 400 sqm , view, one level +++

**Old Katamon-New and ready**  
3br,2bath, succah,view,storage-3.95M

*For a large selection of properties, go to:*  
**www.daniels-assets.com**  
usa# 5164675892 , uk# 2037697899  
Whatsapp : 052-2636656

עם ישראל חי!



**db**  
Daniel Bouzaglo

metaphor of a ladder. Whether ascending or descending, one must pass one foot and then the other through the empty space between rungs. Lifting a foot and stepping off *terra firma* is destabilizing and unsettling. Stepping between inner spiritual planes or levels requires passing through inner uncertainty, again and again. It requires learning to hold fast to the *emunah* deep within us.

In our personal and national journeys toward self actualization and finding our *makom*, our place and purpose in the world, there will be ups and downs, confusions, challenges, falls, triumphs and revelations. Through all of this, may we stay the course and continue to climb toward our individual and collective destinies. May we lovingly hold ourselves wherever we are standing right now, and embrace the radical courage and leap of faith it takes to step into empty space. ■



# SIMCHAT SHMUEL

BY RABBI SAM SHOR

Program Director, OU Israel Center

Our *Sedra* this week, *Parshat Vayzeitzei* recalls the familiar account of Yaakov Avinu departing from *Be'er Sheva* as he flees the potential danger and retribution at the hands of his brother *Eisav*, following Yaakov's having received the bracha from Yitzchak.

As Yaakov lies down to rest under the stars the pasuk tells us:

*Vayachalom v'hinei sulam mutzav artza, v'rosho magia haShamaima - And he dreamt, and suddenly before him was a ladder that leaned toward earth, and its top rose to Heaven.*

What exactly is the message this dream is meant to convey to *Yaakov Avinu*? What is the eternal message and relevance of *Yaakov's* dream for each of us? What does the imagery of the ladder which is grounded on Earth and ascends to the Heavens, meant to convey and teach us?

**Rabbi Samson Rafael Hirsch zt"l** points out that the ladder, which represents the link between heaven and earth, was placed from above by Hashem. However, the verse reads that the ladder's top reached the heavens. The ladder's purpose, explained *Rav Hirsch*, was not descent from the heavens, rather to inspire spiritual ascent, to direct our thoughts and actions toward the heavens.

The *Netivot Shalom, the Slonimer Rebbe zy'a*, offers a different interpretation on the imagery represented by the ladder. A ladder offers the capacity both

to climb, as well as to descend. It is important for us to realize that in life even our descents occur within the framework of that proverbial ladder. Even as we may have come down a rung on that ladder, we continue to have the ability to climb back up, and ascend even higher than before!

Similarly, **Rav Yaakov Moshe Charlop zt"l**, one of the closest and most devoted students of *Rav Kook zt"l*, explains the imagery of the ladder. The ladder is meant to teach us that sometimes our descents are necessary temporary steps, that actually serve as the impetus to propel us to climb even higher up that proverbial ladder, to reach even higher heights in our *Avodat Hashem*. Taking the time periodically to take a step back to gather our thoughts, to prepare ourselves to move forward, can indeed be the key to even greater accomplishments.

*Yehi Ratzon*, may each of us be blessed both to dream, to seek to ascend higher in our *Avodat Hashem*, as well as to have the strength and perseverance to bounce back from our temporary descents and setbacks, have the capacity to recalibrate our thoughts, and to move forward and achieve even greater clarity and growth each and every day. ■

**Dr. Eliezer Rosenblum**

NYS Licensed and Board Certified

**Chiropractor**

Offices in Jerusalem, Ramat Beit Shemesh

**052-662-4658**





**Do you know a young Oleh/Olah making a strong contribution to their community during the Swords of Iron War?**

**THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO GET THEM RECOGNIZED!**

The Nefesh B'Nefesh Maor Youth Prize was established to recognize the impact of young Anglo Olim on their community.

This year we are witnessing the tremendous and significant initiatives generated by the youth around the country and we want to acknowledge their contribution to Israel's war effort.

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

- ✓ Must be between the ages of 12-18
- ✓ Made Aliyah from an English-speaking country and currently residing in Israel

**Nominations must be submitted no later than November 30, 2023**

For more details and to nominate: **[WWW.NBN.ORG.IL/MAOR](http://WWW.NBN.ORG.IL/MAOR)**





## GEULAS YISRAEL

BY RABBI MOSHE TARAGIN

Ram, Yeshivat Har Etzion

# Jewish Exile and the Lavan Strategy

We announce it every year, right in the middle of the Pesach Haggadah. Having declared that our enemies rise against us בכל דור ודור, in every generation, we spotlight Lavan as the most malicious villain, who almost extinguished Jewish history. We compare him unfavorably to Pharo who “only” murdered male children. Lavan, however, attempted to annihilate us all.

What made Lavan so criminal? We know that he is a two-faced weasel and a duplicitous employer. We know that he is a swindler who deceives Ya’akov at every opportunity. His name Lavan or “white” is misleading, as he is anything but pure and wholesome.

Yet, even when he hunts Ya’akov, his conduct isn’t bellicose, especially when compared to the murderous behavior of Esav who arrives, armed to the teeth, with four hundred mercenaries. To be sure, Lavan was warned by Hashem against any hostility to Ya’akov, but it never seems that Lavan had military ambitions toward Ya’akov.

Why is Lavan so criminalized and how exactly did he attempt to destroy us?

### A MULTI-HEADED HYDRA

Lavan developed a new multilayered strategy to defeat us, and his tactics were recycled by our enemies throughout history. For

twenty years he subjected Ya’akov to psychological pressure, scheming him and denying his rights, while also hurling false accusations at his son-in-law. His melodramatic complaining that Ya’akov took his daughters “hostages of the sword” is laughable.

Ya’akov spends twenty years alone, facing a cavalcade of lies, intimidation, and aggression. Even Lavan’s sons and workers get into the act, bullying Ya’akov with libels and fictitious claims. For twenty years Ya’akov felt alone and inferior to the locals, who happen to be his family.

There is a second prong to Lavan’s strategy. Alongside psychological warfare, he *tempts* Ya’akov, by constantly offering him a “way out” and a “way up”. At every major juncture Lavan sweetens the deal, offering Ya’akov full membership in his circle and, presumably, an end to the discrimination. He offers Ya’akov a second wife, extra cattle, and extra pay, all with the hope that Ya’akov will *cross over* to his side.

For Ya’akov, who is still a fugitive of his murderous brother, these offers are very tempting. He can easily leave behind all his struggles for a quiet life of luxury “among” the cattlemen in Aram Nahara’im. If he just joins Lavan and gives up his past, he can settle into a brighter future.

Lavan’s ploy is deviously simple. Intimidate Ya’akov to the point that his best option is to join Lavan and end his suffering. Apparently, the plan almost succeeded. Vayeitzei begins with Ya’akov dreaming of angels and ends with him encountering angels. His mind and

his subconscious are fixated upon Heaven and matters of spirit. Yet, in the middle of Vayeitzei, when he is deeply embedded in Lavan's house, he dreams of sheep. He has become immersed in the surrounding culture of material, and, in his dreams, sheep replace angels.

Suddenly, in the middle of his dream, a solitary angel reminds him of his prior life and the commitments to return to Israel and to return to history. Lavan's sneaky combination of aggression and enticement almost trapped Ya'akov. Had he not escaped, he would have disappeared into the local culture as a common herdsman.

This has been the "Lavan template" throughout history, a combination of intimidation and invitation. Psychological aggression coupled with offers to join. This is, and has been, the Lavan method to extinguish Jewish history.

### DEMEANING JEWS

Several years ago, I visited the legendary Altneuschul shul in Prague, expecting a palatial structure. To my shock, I discovered a hovel- dank, dark, and low ceilinged. Replying to my inquiry, the tour guide explained that, historically, Jewish houses of worship could not stand taller than local churches and cathedrals. This height restriction was just one method of humiliating us and showcasing the presumed "declined state" of Judaism.

Throughout the generations, the psychological tactics changed but the barrage was endless. We were cast as infidels because we rejected new prophets who innovated "new religions". We are accused of the sub-human crimes of drinking blood, even though we conducted lifestyles of human dignity. We were falsely caricatured as money greedy usurers, even though we pursued lives of spirit not of material. In modern times we

were portrayed as a sub-race which had to be purged in order to purify society. The narratives changed, but we were constantly denigrated and stigmatized.

However, we were always offered a ticket out of this suffering. In Shir Hashirim, Shlomo Hamelech paraphrases this persistent Gentile invitation to join their society:

שובי שובי השולמית שובי שובי ונחזה בך

Turning to us with our name Shulamit, Gentiles try to lure us into merging with broader society, while promising us positions of influence and affluence as reward. The only ticket of entry was religious conversion. Sadly, many Jews who tired of the toll of constant oppression took this route, either voluntarily or through coercion.

During the modern period, this invitation became even more tempting. As organized religion receded, Jews were invited to join society without expectation of religious conversion: "you can keep your personal religion as long as it doesn't interfere with the universal commonality between all human beings. "The modern ticket of entry into broader society was merely cultural assimilation: "stop eating differently, stop dressing differently and stop marrying differently. If you want to be part of humanity, act and behave like the rest of humanity. Give up your cultural insularity and join us. Not only will you join us, but you will lead us into a better and more advanced future." שובי שובי

Tragically, millions of Jews gladly accepted this modern Lavan invitation and were almost lost to Jewish history.

**Dr Muriel Metzger MD, MSc**  
Endocrinologist-Diabetologist

Emek Refaim 64, Jerusalem, 077-5560562  
Nahal Tzeelim 6, Ramat Beit Shemesh, 02-9701100

Osteoporosis, Diabetes, Thyroid & Hormonal dysfunctions



## UNCOVERING THE MONSTER

However, in the end, just as Ya'akov finally revealed Lavan's true colors, we also discovered the repulsiveness of the cultures we were tempted to join. In the 19th and 20 century Jews were infatuated by the possibilities of a modern Europe. It appeared as if this continent had pulled itself out of the Dark ages and now offered a cosmopolitan future of science, art, music, philosophy, and nationalism. Jews were drawn by these promises and joined the ranks of a refined, cultured and sophisticated European society. Until we discovered the rancid antisemitism which lay at the core of this rotten society. We revealed Europe to be a decayed culture which had little interest in embracing us.

It happened again. After the Holocaust many Jews were attracted to a new post-war era. Modern culture spoke of democracy,

equal rights, globalism, multiculturalism, and the end of bigotry and discrimination. As this utopian promise of morality and universal humanism riveted the Jewish imagination, millions accepted this invitation while abandoning Jewish religion, identity, or both.

Once again, we have uncovered the rot in modern society. How can this enlightened and tolerant society support genocide, rape, murder, torture and incinerating other human beings? How can supposed centers of education become hotbeds of venomous hate?

Evidently, Lavan and his culture aren't everything they seem to be. Evidently, we should resist the seductive offers to join him. Evidently, there is more for us to discover back home in history.

Lavan's plan is deviously simple. It almost worked then, and it almost worked now. Ultimately though, Lavan reveals his true face, and it is ugly. ■

# Volunteer Day Trips

*An exceptional chance to help the land and the people of Israel now.*

Departs every Wednesday.



Register Today at  
[jnf.org/volunteerday](http://jnf.org/volunteerday)



JEWISH  
NATIONAL  
FUND  
USA

*Your Voice in Israel*





# Wartime Unity

## IN BEIT TOVEI HA'IR, JERUSALEM

BEIT TOVEI HA'IR IS MORE THAN A SENIOR RESIDENCE IN JERUSALEM – IT'S A WARM AND COHESIVE COMMUNITY OF LIKE-MINDED RELIGIOUS RETIREES, WHO STAND (OR SIT!) TOGETHER IN TIMES OF TROUBLE. OVER 70% OF THE RESIDENTS ARE ENGLISH-SPEAKERS, AND MOST OF THEM HAVE GRANDCHILDREN EITHER SERVING OR VOLUNTEERING IN SOME MEANINGFUL WAY.

BEIT TOVEI IS THE MOST SECURE AND WELL-PROTECTED RESIDENCE IN CENTRAL JERUSALEM, WITH ROUND-THE-CLOCK SECURITY AND PROTECTED ROOMS IN CASE OF MISSILE WARNINGS. OUR CALM AND SUPPORTIVE STAFF ARE DEDICATED TO ENSURING THE WELL-BEING OF EVERY RESIDENT. THERE IS A WARM AND HOMEY ENVIRONMENT, PARTICULARLY ON SHABBAT, WHEN THE RESIDENTS GATHER FOR SERVICES AND MEALS WITHIN THE RESIDENCE. THE DINING ROOM ON SHABBAT WAS SET UP WITH ROUND TABLES TO ENABLE PEOPLE TO CHAT COMFORTABLY AND SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER, WITH NO RESIDENT LEFT SITTING ALONE.



**בית טובי העיר**  
Tovei Ha'ir Residence

DURING THE PAST FEW SHABBATOT, WITH ISRAEL UNDER ATTACK, WE HAVE UNITED TOGETHER FOR COMMUNAL CANDLE-LIGHTING, TEFILLOT AND MEALS, TO RAISE OUR SPIRITS. WE DAVEN TOGETHER FOR PEACE, FOR THE SUCCESS AND SAFETY OF OUR SOLDIERS, FOR THE RECOVERY OF ALL THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN INJURED, AND FOR THE SAFE AND SPEEDY RETURN OF THE HOSTAGES. AFTER THE COMMUNAL KIDDUSH ON

SHABBAT, WE INVITED A GROUP OF ENGLISH-SPEAKING RESIDENTS TO GET TOGETHER FOR A CHAT. THEY ENJOYED SHARING PROUD STORIES OF THEIR GRANDCHILDREN'S EXPLOITS, AND OF THEIR OWN WAR-RELATED EXPERIENCES. RABBI YIRMIYAHU ULLMAN, WHO IS HIMSELF FROM MIAMI, FL, GIVES UPLIFTING SHIURIM IN ENGLISH EVERY SHABBAT.

BEIT TOVEI HAS A PUBLIC COFFEE SHOP WITH COZY CORNERS WHERE FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS CAN GATHER TO CHAT, CATCHING UP WITH NEWS OF LOVED ONES WHO ARE SERVING ON THE FRONT LINE OR "KEEPING THE HOME FIRES BURNING", TO BORROW A BRITISH WARTIME EXPRESSION.



### **KEEPING BUSY WITH MITZVOT**

LAST WEEK, ON EREV ROSH CHODESH, WE GATHERED TO SAY SPECIAL TEFILOT FOR YOM KIPPUR KATAN, TOGETHER WITH ALL OF KLAL YISRAEL. THERE ARE REGULAR TEFILOT AND TEHILLIM GROUPS TAKING PLACE, WHERE RESIDENTS CAN TAP INTO THE AMAZING SPIRITUAL ENERGY AND POSITIVITY THAT PERVADES THE RESIDENCE. WE DO WHATEVER WE CAN TO HELP ASSUAGE THE VERY NATURAL CONCERNS THAT PEOPLE HAVE ABOUT THE SECURITY SITUATION IN OUR PRECIOUS COUNTRY.



AT THE SAME TIME, WE TRY TO KEEP BUSY WITH WHATEVER HELPFUL ACTIVITIES WE CAN MANAGE. THE WOMEN HAVE BEEN BAKING CHALLOT FOR THE SOLDIERS SERVING ON THE FRONT LINES, AND PACKING GIFT BAGS FOR THEIR WIVES AND FAMILIES WAITING ANXIOUSLY AT HOME. RESIDENTS ARE SITTING TOGETHER TO WRITE PERSONAL HAND-WRITTEN NOTES TO TELL "OUR BOYS AND GIRLS" THAT THEIR ADOPTED BUBBAS AND ZEIDYS, SABAS AND SAFTAS, ARE ALL DAVENING FOR THEIR SAFETY. WE HAVE

INVITED MANY INSPIRING GUEST SPEAKERS TO SHARE WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT AND PROVIDE HELPFUL INSIGHTS DURING THESE DIFFICULT TIMES, INCLUDING RABBI SHALOM HAMMER WHO SPEAKS ABOUT HIS DAUGHTER GILA AND THE MANY CHALLENGES FACING

TODAY'S YOUNG PEOPLE. RABBANIT RACHELLE FRAENKEL ADDRESSED THE WOMEN ON THE YARTZHEIT OF ROCHEL IMENU. SHE IS A WORLD-RENOWNED TORAH TEACHER AND ALSO THE MOTHER OF NAFTALI FRAENKEL, ONE OF THE THREE BOYS WHO WAS KIDNAPPED AND MURDERED IN 2014. HER INSPIRING WORDS REMINDED ALL OF US OF THE IMPORTANCE OF ACHDUT (JEWISH UNITY) IN TIMES OF NATIONAL CRISIS.

## **THE POWER OF UNITY**

LIVING IN ISRAEL WHEN THE COUNTRY IS AT WAR IS USUALLY MORE INSPIRING THAN CONCERNING. FEELING THE STRENGTH OF A SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY IS REASSURING TO EVERY INDIVIDUAL AND COUPLE. THE GREATEST STRENGTH OF THE BEIT TOVEI HA'IR COMMUNITY IS JUST BEING TOGETHER. EVERY RESIDENT HAS THE CHOICE AT ALL TIMES TO SIT AND LISTEN TO THE NEWS IN THEIR ROOM, TO SAY TEHILLIM PRIVATELY, OR TO GATHER TOGETHER WITH OTHER RESIDENTS TO PRAY AND TO CHAT, AND TO SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER DURING THESE DIFFICULT TIMES. BASED ON THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WE SEE IN THE VARIOUS LOUNGE AREAS AROUND THE RESIDENCE, THERE IS LOTS OF CHIZUK BEING SHARED HERE EVERY DAY AND LATE INTO THE EVENINGS!



EMANUEL GLOBERMAN, CEO OF BEIT TOVEI, SAYS:

HAVING LIVED TOGETHER DURING THE COVID PANDEMIC, OUR RESIDENTS AND OUR STAFF HAVE DEVELOPED THE RESILIENCE TO SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER THROUGH GOOD TIMES AND BAD. WHO COULD HAVE ANTICIPATED THAT JUST 18 MONTHS AFTER THE COVID RESTRICTIONS WERE LIFTED, WE WOULD BE CALLED UPON TO SUPPORT OUR SOLDIERS IN A WAR TO ENSURE THE SURVIVAL OF THE JEWISH NATION? WITH HINDSIGHT, THE PANDEMIC HELPED TO PREPARE US IN MANY WAYS AND STRENGTHENED OUR COMMUNITY SPIRIT. ”

For more information please call

 **Binyamin Margo 054-4465276 | \*6422 | [www.tovei.co](http://www.tovei.co)**

**Tovei Ha'ir - Jerusalem's Premier Retirement Community**  
36 Malchei Yisrael St., Jerusalem



## HAFTORAH INSIGHTS

BY REBBETZIN DR. ADINA  
SHMIDMAN



# Flowering Faith

## HAFTORAH: HOSHEA 11:7-12:14


This week's Haftorah is familiar to us as part of the readings of the Haftorot of Shabbat Shuva and Tisha B'Av afternoon. The following posuk is found in this Haftorah, אֶהְיָה כְּטֵל לְיִשְׂרָאֵל יִפְרַח כְּשֹׁשְׂנָה, *I will be to Israel like dew; he shall blossom like the lily, he shall strike root like a Lebanon tree.*

The metaphors in this pasuk are replete with messages and meaning. The שושנה according to the Malbim, is a flower whose seeds fly in the wind, spreading far and wide. Just as these seeds take root in their new environment and flourish, the exiled Jewish people are able to create new communities and rebuild.

Once these communities launch, how are they sustained? The Gemara, Taanit 4b, describes this process with a poignant dialogue: אָמַר לָהּ הַקָּדוֹשׁ בְּרוּךְ הוּא בְּתִי אֶת שְׁאוֹלֶת: דָּבַר שְׂפָעִמִּים מִתְבַּקֵּשׁ וּפְעָמִים אֵינוֹ מִתְבַּקֵּשׁ אָבִל אֲנִי אֶהְיָה לָּךְ דָּבַר הַמִּתְבַּקֵּשׁ לְעוֹלָם שְׁנֵאמַר "אֶהְיָה" כְּטֵל לְיִשְׂרָאֵל. *The Holy One Blessed be He, said to the Jewish people: My daughter, you request the manifestation of My Presence by comparing Me to a matter, rain, that is sometimes desired, but is sometimes undesired, e.g., during the summer. However, I will be to you like a matter that is always desired, dew, as it is stated: "I will be as the dew to Israel" (Hosea 14:6), since dew appears in all*


*seasons and is invariably a blessing.*

Even though most days, we don't actually see the morning dew, we know how necessary it is to sustain our world. Just as Hashem is not visible, we have faith that His presence is ever-present. While we may feel lost through the travels and travails of exile, Hoshea closes his prophetic book with the reassurance that כִּי יֵשְׁרִים דְּרָכָיו ה', *for the ways of Hashem are straight.* ■




**INTEGRITY**  
REAL ESTATE


FINE JERUSALEM HOMES



**NEW! RENOVATED APT ON SHAI AGNON ST**  
BEAUTIFULLY RENOVATED 4 ROOMS, 92 M, 4TH FL WITH ELEVATOR, PERMIT FOR BALCONY IN PROCESS, QUIET, GREEN, PRIVATE MAHSAN AND PARKING  
**ASKING PRICE 4,450,000**



**PRICE DROP!! BEAUTIFUL SPACIOUS BAKA FAMILY HOME**  
186 SQM SPLIT-LEVEL HOME WITH TWO 40M TERRACES  
7 ROOMS, 3 FULL BATHROOMS, 2ND FL (31 STEPS), GREEN AND BRIGHT, PRIVATE PARKING, STORAGE, EXCELLENT CONDITION, CHURCHLAND UNTIL 2077  
**NOW ASKING NIS 4,900,000**



Ilana Nelson 054.5341403

[www.integrityrealestate.co.il](http://www.integrityrealestate.co.il)





UNITED  
HATZALAH



# UNITED WE STAND

- 4,100** Treated in the south, north and central Israel after rocket attacks.
- 58** Tons of medical supplies, food and personal care items distributed to volunteers, soldiers, and evacuated families.
- 3,500** United Hatzalah volunteers operated in the south and north battle since the war began.
- 1,850** Volunteers, Soldiers, and civilians treated by our Psychotrauma Unit.

## THANK YOU FOR HELPING US SAVE LIVES

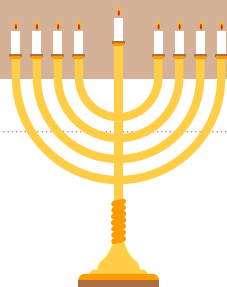
[Israelrescue.org/israel-at-war](https://israelrescue.org/israel-at-war)





**RABBI AARON GOLDSCHIEDER**

EDITOR, TORAH TIDBITS



# Chanukah: The Holiday of Peace

**In the coming weeks I am honored to share inspirational teachings related to the miraculous eight days of Chanukah. At this time when we are facing great challenges and uncertainty we pray that we will quickly usher in a time of light and joy for all of Klal Yisrael.**

The menorahs that we light in our homes today are reminiscent of the very first Menorah, which was lit each day by Aharon the Kohen Gadol during the Israelites' travels in the wilderness.

Amazingly, but not surprisingly, it was Aharon's direct descendants, the Chashmonaim, who led the way in the battle against the Greeks. They were the ones who once again lit the Menorah when reentering the Beit HaMikdash on Chanukah.

The Sfat Emet, Rebbe Yehudah Aryeh Leib Alter of Ger, suggests that the personality of Aharon has a special place in our hearts during the days of Chanukah. This is true not only because Aharon was the great Menorah lighter, but also because Aharon, the brother of Moses, was the greatest peacemaker in the world (Pirkei Avot 1:12).

He sought out people who were quarreling and made peace between them. When

Aharon met one of the quarrelers, he would say, "I just met your acquaintance and he is very sorry for what he did; you should know, he wants to make up with you."

Aharon would sit with husbands and wives who had marital problems, and also with those who had separated due to marital strife. He would not rest until he did everything he could to make peace between them and to help bring them back together.

Not infrequently it happened that after the couple would reunite, another child would be born to them. They would often give honor to their peacemaker by naming their child after him. In fact, our Sages teach that more than three thousand children were named after Aharon during his lifetime (Avot d'Rabbi Natan)!

The Sfat Emet explained that Aharon believed deeply that within the heart of every person there is a place that sincerely yearns for reconciliation and peace. There is nothing that can defile this pure place. Love is locked in the heart securely and eternally.

The small jar of oil that was sealed by the Kohen Gadol gave abundant light to the Menorah. This can be likened to the pure place in the heart of a Jew. This yearning for peace cannot be spoiled or defiled.

During the ancient days of Chanukah

there was ultimately a renewed sense of brotherhood and bonding among the Jewish people. The Greek onslaught and determination to actively assimilate the Jews had created terrible divisiveness among our people. Jewish Hellenists and traditionalists took opposing sides. Thankfully, the miraculous military victory and the miracle of the lights brought a renewed brotherhood and love throughout the nation of Israel.

The Rambam strikingly concludes his laws of Chanukah with a teaching about the beauty of peace and brotherhood: Peace is great; the entire Torah was given to bring about peace within the world, as it states, "Its ways are pleasant ways and all its paths are peace" (Proverbs 3:19).

In Jerusalem there is a long-standing custom of gathering for special meals on the nights of Chanukah. At these gatherings feuding families often join together. Friends who quarreled during the year are reconciled at these meals.

Chanukah is an auspicious time to come closer to one another and for reconciliation. It is the great holiday of peace. ■

**Rabbi Goldscheider** is the author of the newly published book 'Torah United' (OU Press), featuring divrei Torah on the weekly parasha from Rav Kook, Rabbi Solovetichik, and the Chassidic Masters.



**Having a Brit?**  
**KISEI SHEL ELIAHU**  
Available to borrow  
from the OU Israel Center  
donated by Marion & Michael Silman  
**Ita Rochel 02-560-9125**

## KNOW WHAT TO ANSWER

**FREE COUNTER-MISSIONARY**

Videos • Parsha Insights • Booklets • Counseling

**jewsforjudaism.org**

Rabbi Bentzion Kravitz • info@JewsforJudaism.org

T"02

# MAXI BOX Storage

Your place for extra space

**053-7272-815**



## Be'er Tziporah a'h - Bottled Water Gemach



Walking down King George St. in Jerusalem and want a cold bottle of water?

Come help yourself to a bottle at  
52 King George.

In loving memory of Yoni's wife **Tziporah a'h**, a true Eishes Chayil, always full of chessed, kindness and laughter, and brought life and strength to so many people, that she touched! She was like Aron, who loved peace and pursued peace.



Yoni thanks Hashem for having the opportunity of having Tziporah in his life, to learn of her caring, patience and happiness, to overcome her challenges. May Tziporah's Neshama be a light onto the world, in a time of darkness, and may her Neshama shine to Gan Eden. Yoni misses Tziporah with tears in his eyes, as Hashem gave him a gift, a crown jewel, now he returns her to Hashem.

With thanks and Toda. Love, Yoni

To help refill the supply -  
send tax deductible donations for  
Be'er Tziporah a'h Bottled Water Gemach  
to Chabad of Rechavia -  
Rabbi Yisroel Goldberg email

**Rabbi@JerusalemChabad.org**  
**02 800-1717**

[www.JerusalemChabad.org/DonateShekels](http://www.JerusalemChabad.org/DonateShekels)

**הודו לה' כי טוב**



## Whose Pronunciation Should the *Oleh* Use?

לעילוי נשמת  
יואל אפרים בן אברהם עוזיאל זלצמן ז"ל

**Question:** In my *shul*, the “functionaries” do the *havara* (custom of pronunciation) as they like. This week, the *ba’al korei* (=bk) did Sephardi/Israeli, while I did the *berachot* of my *aliya* in Ashkenazis. When reading the *kri’ah* along with him, should I have been using my *havara* or his?

**Answer:** First, we must investigate the roles of the *oleh* and the *bk*. In the *gemara*’s time, the *oleh* read the Torah aloud for the *tzibbur*. In Tannaic times, only the first *aliya* had an opening *beracha* and the last one had an ending *beracha* (Megilla 21b), and all the middle *olim* did was read the Torah. The Rambam (Tefilla 12:5) describes *kri’at haTorah* as the *olim* doing the *laining*. Other *Rishonim*, though, report a *minhag* that a *bk lains*, whereas the *oleh* makes the *berachot* and reads along quietly (Shulchan Aruch, Orach Chayim 141:2).

The consensus is that the *bk*’s reading is the halachically significant *kri’at haTorah*, which needs to be done carefully, as the point is for the *tzibbur* to hear (see Sha’ar Ephrayim 3:1; Mishna Berura 142:3). (The Maharil (Shut 23) considers the possibility that the *oleh*’s reading can also count for the *tzibbur*.)

The Rosh (Megilla 3:1), though, requires

the *oleh* to read along with the *bk*, for if he does not, his *berachot* are *l’vatala*, because his *beracha* cannot connect to the *bk*’s *laining* but must relate to his own reading. The Shulchan Aruch (OC 139:2-3) rules that one who is unable to read from the Torah even with the *bk*’s help (whether due to blindness or ignorance), may not receive an *aliya*, but the Rama (ad loc.) allows it. The Taz (OC 141:3) argues on the need to read along, as he understands the Yerushalmi (Megilla 4:1) to say that when the one making the *beracha* listens to the reading, the *beracha* is connected to the reading. The She’eilat Ya’avetz I:75 rejects the Taz, saying that listening can connect one to a text but cannot make it count as if the listener read that text from a *sefer Torah*, as is required for *kri’at haTorah*. We generally *pasken*, albeit likely because of the great need, to allow even a blind person to get *aliyot* even though he cannot read along (Mishna Berura 139:12-13). In many, many *shuls* it is also clear that not everyone reads along, and it is rare for *gabbaim* to try to enforce it. (The She’eilat Yaavetz considers it conceivable, but probably wrong, that one who follows in the *sefer Torah* the words he listens to is considered as if he read them with his lips.) Thus, reading



The Orthodox Union - via its website - fields questions of all types in areas of kashrut, Jewish law and values. Some of them are answered by Eretz Hemdah, the Institute for Advanced Jewish Studies, Jerusalem, headed by Rav Yosef Carmel and Rav Moshe Ehrenreich, founded by HaRav Shaul Yisraeli zt"l, to prepare rabbanim and dayanim to serve the National Religious community in Israel and abroad. Ask the Rabbi is a joint venture of the OU, Yerushalayim Network, Eretz Hemdah... and OU Israel's Torah Tidbits.



along is not a critical need.

However, it is certainly proper to follow the Rosh's ruling that the *oleh* read along, which the Rosh says he should do "quietly and **precisely**." This desire for preciseness should be tempered by the fact that we make no real effort to ensure such quality. We allow non- proficient readers to get *ali-yot*, and *Acharonim* point out that we do not trust the *oleh* to read well enough for the *tzibbur* to fulfill the *mitzva* by his reading (see Mishna Berura ad loc. 10). Also, given that an *oleh* reads quietly, we have no way to correct him if he reads inaccurately.

One can fulfill recitation-based *mitzvot* in a different *havara* from his own, which is what one should do when leading a congregation with that *havara* (see Igrot Moshe, OC III:5; Bemareh Habazak III:1). Therefore, it is not a problem for him to follow the *bk*. However, there is generally a preference to do things one's own way for a "private *mitzva*" when it is not offensive to the public (see *ibid.*). Since it is most likely the *oleh's* reading is a personal matter (the *berachot* are more complex – see Bemareh Habazak *ibid.*), one's own *havara* is conceptually preferable. However, it is easier for those who do not know *dikduk* well to "parrot" the *bk* than to try to make the proper adjustments for his own *havara*. While his failure in that regard is unlikely to ruin the meaning, which would make it correctable if he were the *bk* (see Rama, OC 142:1), it is better to avoid mistakes than to use one's *havara* (see *ibid.*). Therefore, except

for *olim* who are proficient enough to make the adjustments consistently, it is better to follow the *bk*. ■

## Having a dispute?



For a Din Torah in English or Hebrew contact 'Eretz Hemdah - Gazit' Rabbinical Court:  
077-215-8-215 • fax: (02) 537-9626  
[beitdin@eretzhemdah.org](mailto:beitdin@eretzhemdah.org)

## Jonathan Rosenblum, DPM

**050-595-5161**

Pediatric and Geriatric Foot Care, Bunions, Hammertoes, and Diabetic Wound Care

SINCE 1974

**Zimuki**  
JERUSALEM REAL ESTATE

\$ 8,900

RENTAL!!!

Rechavia, Rashba St. Luxury fully furnished garden apt. A 185 sqm. 4 beds + 2.5 baths + 110 sqm garden. A private entrance & parking, large storage.

3,600,000 ₪

NEW LISTING!!!

German Colony Private and secluded cottage on the second floor with 70 sqm of living space. 2.5 beds apt. Sukka balcony. Good condition.

3,800,000 ₪

PRICE REDACTION!

Rechavia, KKL St. exclusive complex. 89 sqm. 2 beds apt. Including indoor pool, and 24 hr security. Parking and storage.

4,650,000 ₪

MOTIVATED SELLER!

Old Katamon, Ganei Katamon complex. 104 sqm. 3 beds + 2 baths. Master suite, elevator, private storage + parking. 3 exposures, spacious, quiet.

2,490,000 ₪

GREAT INVESTMENT!

Ramat Beit Hakerem, Mara St. 55 sqm. 2 beds apt. Balcony, parking, storage, elevator + accessibility.

Ruth Abrahami - 054-8070677 02-5638221

[WWW.ZIMUKI.COM](http://WWW.ZIMUKI.COM)



**TORAH VEHA'ARETZ**

**INSTITUTE**

BY RABBI MOSHE BLOOM

[en.toraland.org.il](http://en.toraland.org.il)



# Buying Fresh Produce without Kashrut Certification from Farmers in the Gaza Envelope

**Question:** There are lots of fresh-produce sales from farmers in the Gaza Envelope. I generally buy my produce only from places with a kashrut certification. May I buy this produce, and if so, what issues do I need to look out for?

**Answer:** At this time, farmers from the Gaza Envelope communities are on the front lines, coping with a very difficult and complex situation. To help our farmers and Israeli agriculture in general, various projects and initiatives have been launched. Among them, there are produce sales at farmers' markets.

In light of the current situation, it is possible that the produce comes directly from the fields without any halachic supervision regarding *terumot*, *ma'aserot*, and *orlah*.

For this reason, below are Torah VeHa'aretz Institute's guidelines for those purchasing this produce:

*Lechatchilah*, it is best to request a kashrut certificate from the farmer, which includes supervision for *orlah* and the separation of *terumot* and *ma'aserot*.

If there is no kashrut certificate, in light of today's complex situation, it is possible to purchase produce. Note that since *orlah* is a major problem for blueberries, kashrut certification is always necessary from Israeli-grown blueberries.

When there is no kashrut certificate, or one is not sure if one exists, **separate *terumot* and *ma'aserot* without a blessing**. This year, the second year of the *shemita* cycle, is a *ma'aser sheni* year, as was last year. That means that the holiness of *ma'aser sheni* should be transferred to a coin (without a blessing) from all fruits and vegetables.

For more on the laws and procedure for separating *terumot* and *ma'aserot*, see our website: [en.toraland.org.il](http://en.toraland.org.il). ■

**Arthur Samuels, DPM**



**PODIATRIST**

Over 30 years experience

Licensed in Israel  
& America

**053-427-6363**

[ArthurMSamuels@gmail.com](mailto:ArthurMSamuels@gmail.com)

**CINEMA CITY MALL, JERUSALEM**

**Mazal Tov to**

**Rabbi & Mrs. Shai Finkelstein and family**

**on the marriage of their daughter**

**Edya to Ari Ershler**

Wills • Probate • Pre & Post-Nuptial Agreements  
Guardianship • Durable Power of Attorney  
(Financial/Health/Personal Decisions)

**HALACHIC ESTATE PLANNING**  
**TIRTZA JOTKOWITZ, ESQ.**

tirtzaj@gmail.com • 052-509-3356 • 02-625-6475  
(845) 425-8871 • (845) 694-7645

**TRANSFER YOUR OLD FILM/VIDEO'S**  
**(All formats) In Quality to Digital**

Preserve Family History from Fading



**Michael 052.286.8626**

Photography with feeling



**Facebook.com/L'Dorot Photography**

Choose from  
a variety of  
curtains &  
blinds in the  
comfort of  
your home



Get **10% OFF** with this ad

Made & installed to order

- Curtains & draperies
- Designer curtains
- Venetian & Woven wood blinds
- Blackout, Vertical, Roller, Roman & Pleated shades

Call Joe Stepsky for a free consultation

Amazing Drapes are the sole  
importer of Ashley wilde to Israel

**052 5988 889**

[www.ashleywilde.co.il](http://www.ashleywilde.co.il)



Religious women health care  
professional looking for volunteer  
position to cook healthy and keep  
company a woman in Jerusalem.

In exchange for room and board.

References available

**Esther Chana Shalom: 053-410-6985**



# SINGLES 30-49

DINNER AT TAMARA CAFE Badatz

WITH LIVE MUSICIAN MISHAEL DEE

**SPECIAL SPEAKER**  
**MRS. LIORA TEDGI**

**Sunday November 26, 2023**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Derech Agudat Sport HaPo'el 2, Jerusalem**  
**(Located in Jerusalem Technology Park)**

Cost per person 150 shekel

Payment must be made by Tuesday for 150 shekel

Payments by Thursday 200 shekel

Click below to make a donation

Under comments add your name/singles event

[www.terror-victims.org.il](http://www.terror-victims.org.il)

Meet other singles and shadachanim

**R.S.V.P. 058-772-6778**

# Nefesh ב'נפש Nefesh עם ישראל

## COMMUNITY GRANTS

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES,  
STRENGTHENING ISRAEL.

## EMERGENCY FUND

FOR OLIM FROM THE NORTH & SOUTH



## NATIONAL EMERGENCY RESOURCES

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS,  
WEBSITES AND RESOURCES  
DURING TIMES OF CRISIS

## PHYSICIAN VOLUNTEERS

STANDING READY  
FOR ISRAEL

IN FULL COORDINATION WITH  
ISRAEL'S MINISTRY OF HEALTH

**For more information about these initiatives:**



# Strengthening Olim in Times of Crisis

Nefesh B'Nefesh is staying focused on its responsibilities and unique capabilities committing our efforts to three main areas: **Relief for Olim** in distress, **support** for our **Lone Soldiers** and their **families**, and **recruitment** and **coordination** of **volunteer physicians** to bolster Israel's national health care system.



[WWW.NBN.ORG.IL/WAR-EFFORTS](http://WWW.NBN.ORG.IL/WAR-EFFORTS)



## HOLY SITES IN ISRAEL

RIVI FRANKEL



# The Ancient Shul in Gaza

Following last month's introduction to this series, the first shul to be featured in our exploration of ancient synagogues in Israel, is the 6th century shul in what Tanach refers to as "Gaza," which is usually identified as today's Rimel district of Gaza City. Gaza is also often recognized as the ancient port city known as Maiumas, from Egyptian, meaning maritime place.

After a lengthy history of being ruled by many different nations and leaders, the city of Gaza was conquered in 145 BCE by Yonatan Hashmonai, brother of Yehuda HaMacabi, and became a hub of Jewish life for the first time in centuries. Later, during the Roman-Byzantine period, which coincides with the Talmudic period, the city saw hundreds of years of stability both for the city itself and for its Jewish residents. The port became a bustling hub of Jewish business and society.

The ancient synagogue was built in 508 CE, albeit originally misidentified as a church when it was rediscovered by Egyptian archaeologists in 1965. A significant find in the excavation was a floor mosaic depicting a figure playing a harp. Initially thought to be a woman, the figure was eventually identified as King David, created in the style of the Greek musician, Orpheus.

The name David even appears above the



Replica of the Gaza Synagogue Mosaic  
Photo credit: Renee Halpert

figure in Hebrew letters. Also featured are various animals, including a snake and lion positioned at King David's feet, as well as a Greek inscription identifying the donors of the mosaic as Menachem and Yeshua, sons of Yishai and the year of completion. Sadly, shortly after the shul's discovery, the face in the mosaic was destroyed by vandals.

After the six day war, the mosaic was brought to the Israel Museum for restoration. There is also a replica displayed in the Inn of the Good Samaritan Museum alongside other mosaics from the Roman-Byzantine period.

The Greek style and influence on the mosaic's features, as well as the inclusion of a human image which is halachically problematic, indicates that the congregants likely had a foot both in the Jewish world and the Hellenistic world. The mosaic was expertly crafted and would have required

a sizable donation by the brothers who commissioned it. Was this donation an act of piety, a declaration that Judaism and the synagogue were significant to the community? Was it a power play to show off their wealth? Is the fact that the donors had identifiably Jewish names indicative one way or the other? While it is impossible for us to know, sources illustrate the presence of a committed, active Jewish life in the Gaza region during that time and later periods throughout history.

Though we await official confirmation, there have been reports recently of soldiers davening in this ancient synagogue for the first time in over 18 years. What an encouraging image- our chayalim, warriors of Israel, praying in a shul where our ancestors were inspired by one of the most iconic Jewish warriors, King David! King David not only fought

with his sword, but also with his tefillot and his music, a mesorah passed on through the generations, that still carries us today.

”אלא ברכב ואלה בסוסים ואנחנו בשם ה' אלקינו נזכיר. המה כרעו ונפלו ואנחנו קמנו ונתעודד. ה' הושיע המלך יעננו ביום קראנו.” - תהילים כח:”

**Rivi Frankel** is a sought after licensed tour guide in Israel for groups, families, and individuals of all ages. She is a Tanach lecturer, has run educational programming around the world, and currently lives in Jerusalem.

### NACHI REALTY 054-461-3943

#### New on the Market in Rechavia!

Ground floor completely accessible, spacious & airy, 4 rooms, 10m mirpeset, parking, tons of potential, 2 entrances so the 3rd bedroom can be used as a clinic /office or studio unit. 4.17m NIS

#### Great family apartment in the best part of Katamonim

Spacious 4.5 rooms, 100m with a 9m Sukka mirpeset, one floor up, good shape, 4 exposures, newly renovated bathrooms. 3.37m NIS

#### For Rent in Rechavia

2 rooms on Rashba street, good shape, 1 floor up, spacious, small building, mirpeset, 5400/month NIS



## TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER

Large selection of "My Israel" products at the Shalva SHOP



STAND STRONG



Shalva National Center, 1 Shalva Road, Jerusalem, 02-6519555 ext. 315



shop.shalva.org

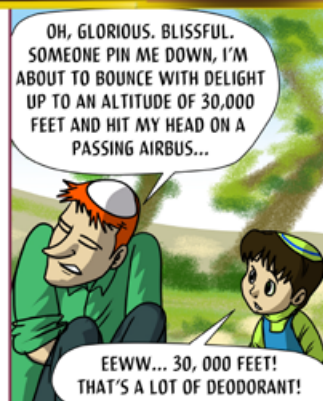


052-4011238

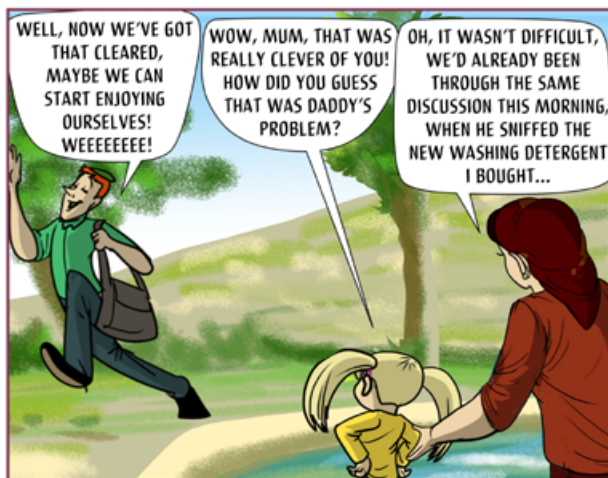


shop@shalva.org











**Lauren Shore**  
**Bet Shemesh**  
**Madricha**

### From Being Good to Being Great!

Yitzchak gave Yaakov a bracha that Esau believed should have gone to him. Out of fear that his brother would harm him for getting the bracha, Yaakov left his parent's home. He went to a well and saw a woman named Rachel who was standing there to water her father's flock. When Yaakov saw Rachel, he came forward and "rolled the stone off the mouth of the well and watered the sheep."

When someone normally does an act of kindness, it usually takes place when they make a request from another person. This could be in the form of someone's time, money, or opinion. But there's a much higher level that can be attained when someone does an act of kindness. There is something each of us can do to elevate a good deed into a great deed. This occurs when someone is able to anticipate the needs of others without being asked. They simply run to do the chesed. This is what Yaakov did for Rachel. He taught us how to become a great person who does great things because by acting first, it puts the same action on a radically higher level.

It's also important to know that many people naturally have a hard time asking for help. But they are in just as much need, if not more, as those who more easily ask. So the next time you choose to come forward and

especially without a request to give someone a kind word or a helping hand, it will be an act that is equal to what Yaakov did for Rachel at that well. May we be able to learn from Yaakov what it really means to be great.



**Akiva Fein**  
**Bet Shemesh**  
**9th Grade**

### Hashem's Palace

In this week's parsha, after spending twenty-two years in Lavan's house, Yaakov is ready to leave and go back to the land of his father's. Hashem says to Yaakov **שׁוּב אֶל-אֶרֶץ אֲבוֹתֶיךָ** return to the Land of your father's and to your birthplace and I will be with you. Rashi adds "and there I will be with you." Because as long as you are with Lavan, my Shechina cannot be with you. One would think that the reason the Shechina cannot be with Yaakov is because he is in Lavan's house, but that is actually not the case. When the Torah says return to the Land of your father's this implies that Yaakov being in chutz laaretz is what is keeping the Shechina away. Why would living in chutz laaretz take away the Shechina?

Ramban explains that Hashem created the world, and every nation has an angel watching over it. Eretz Yisrael is the only land that does not have an angel. Hashem himself is directly watching over Eretz Yisrael. This is why Eretz Yisrael is referred to as the "king's palace" because this is Hashem's home. Ramban explains that one who lives in chutz

laaretz is like one who has no G-d. Because the angels that are watching over these nations are acting as intermediaries between the people and G-d. in Eretz Yisrael, the "king's palace" there are no intermediaries.

To conclude, when Hashem told Yaakov to return to the Land of his fathers Hashem was telling Yaakov he wants him back home so their relationship can be pure without any

ministering angels in between. In the same way that G-d told Yaakov to go back to Eretz Yisrael, we hope all Jews around the world return home to Eretz Yisrael. שבת שלום ומבורך ■

## Real Life Rescues



### In the Shadow of War, Life Goes On

Aryeh Weiss, a young, single, and energetic volunteer EMT, is passionate about lifesaving and has proven himself as an exceptionally committed volunteer.

Aryeh lives in Bnei Brak, which has undergone a lot of rocket sirens in the past few weeks, and many people have been injured as a result of running for cover.

One Thursday evening in late October, Aryeh was sitting down with a friend for a cup of coffee when his United Hatzalah communication device buzzed, alerting him to an unconscious person two streets away. There was no time to lose. Aryeh slammed on his helmet, jumped on his e-bike, and sped to the address.

Frantic family members pulled Aryeh inside. They had apparently just been washing the floor and the tiles were wet with soapy water.

There was a man lying on the wet floor, unconscious. Aryeh checked for a pulse and found none. Launching into CPR, Aryeh started chest compressions and ventilations. Another EMT joined him and attached a defibrillator. Almost immediately, the device advised an electric shock, followed by another.

Grim and determined, Aryeh and his colleague kept up the fight for life. The defibrillator delivered more shocks. After several intense minutes and nine shocks, the EMTs succeeded in restoring a stable pulse and independent breathing. By that time, an ambulance had arrived and the patient was instantly whisked off for emergency catheterization.

"The man was 51 and had no prior medical history," related Aryeh. "After the procedure, he returned to full consciousness and is well on the way to a full recovery. This man is a husband and father of a family. There's no greater satisfaction than knowing that I helped to save his life. A couple of minutes later and it might have been too late."

In Israel's most desperate moments, United Hatzalah volunteers are there. In life and death, in war and peace.

## Pinchus Klahr, MD

### Rheumatology

US Board Certified / Misrad HaBriut recognized specialist  
in all Arthritis conditions Joint and Muscle Pain

Conscientious "American style" Care

Conveniently located at  
Refa Na Medical Center, Givat Shaul, Jerusalem

**052-713-2224**

Now also seeing patients at the  
LaBriut Health Center in RBS

**02-970-1100**



**SHATTER THE CHAINS OF ADDICTION AND TRAUMA**

**Start the journey of healing  
And experience the transformative  
power of breaking free!**

**GET HELP NOW!**

**Yaacov Rosedale, LPC, NCC, NCAC II**  
**Licensed Professional Counselor**  
**Certified Addictions & Trauma Professional**

+972-528084406

yaacovmr@gmail.com

www.JacobRosedale-Therapy.com





OUR LIGHT  
WILL NEVER  
BE DIMMED

Up to  
**40%** off  
Chanukkah  
Collection

**HAZORFIM**

— SINCE 1952 —

WWW.HAZORFIM.CO.IL // 072-3700368

Jerusalem | Kfar Daniel | Bnei Brak | Tel Aviv | Haifa | Raanana | Ben Gurion Airport

Offer valid until 12.10.23 or while the stocks last. Sale is valid on participating items only. No double discounts.