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Shabbat Shirah P. Beshalach,

Sat. 10 - 11 Feb. 2017 - 15th of Sh'vat, 5777 -

טו שבט תשע"ז

שבת שירה פ' בשלח

Issue Number 780

Baal Koreh	Mr Michael Joshua	פ' בשלח - (שמורת) P. Beshalach - Ex: - 13:17 - 17:16 (P-366)
Mufteer & Haftarah	Mr Moshe Nahari	שופטים ה:א-לא Judges 5:1-31 (- 1153)

Shir Hashirim, Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat & Arbit. 16:30

Shabbat Candles. 16:51

Shabbat Shahrit - Followed by Kiddush. (Shema 9:12). 08:30

Mincha Shabbat Followed by Seuda Shlishit. * (Sunset - 17:08). 16:25

Daf Hayomi with Rabbi Asher Sebbag Shlit"a. *

Arbit Motzei Shabbat followed by Havdalah. 18:00

Shahrit Weekday - Sunday - Shahrit (07:30). (Mon & Thu 06:40) 06:45

Mincha & Arbit 16:45

Daf Hayomi with Rabbi Asher Sebbag Shlit"a. 17:15

Shir Hashirim, Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat & Arbit. 16:45

Shabbat Candles. **P. Yitro.** 17:04

Beshalach (Exodus 13:17-17:16)

Beshalach 5777

GOOD MORNING! Did you know that trees not only have anniversaries, they have their own New Year? Friday night, February 10th begins Tu B'Shevat (the 15th of the Hebrew month of Shevat) and the New Year for trees!

The 15th of Shevat is the New Year for trees. In the times of the Temple in Jerusalem, it was used for calculating the tithing year for the fruits of trees. The Talmud tells us that trees stop absorbing water from the ground and instead draw nourishment from their sap on this date. Calculating the age of the tree for *Orlah* (Lev. 19:23) -- where fruit is allowed to be eaten from trees that are at least four years old -- is from Rosh Hashana.

How do we celebrate Tu B'Shevat?

We eat fruit -- especially the fruits for which the Torah praises the Land of Israel: "A land of wheat and barley and vines (grapes) and fig trees and pomegranates; a land of olive trees and (date) honey ... and you shall eat and be satisfied, and bless the Lord your God for the good land which He has given you" (Deut. 8:8-10). The Jewish people rejoice in the fruits, in the Land and in the Almighty Who has given us life.

Many people celebrate Tu B'Shevat in Israel by planting trees (but not on Shabbos). This is an old Jewish consciousness. The Talmud (Ta'anis 23b) tells the story of the great sage Choni HaMa'agel who came across a 70 year old man planting a carob tree. He asked the man if he thought he would live to benefit from the tree. The man replied that just as others have planted for us, we plant for those who

will come after us. For a beautiful insight into life, read Rabbi Yehuda Prero, TinyUrl.com/ChoniCarob.

If you can't get to Israel, you can always purchase trees to be planted in Israel from the Jewish National Fund (Jnf.org or call 800-542-TREE). There are 5 million trees that need to be replaced after the Carmel Forest fire a few years ago. Just as others have planted for us, we plant for those who will come after us.

The Kabbalists in Safed created a Tu B'Shevat Seder (similar to the Passover Seder) to delve into the inner meaning of the day. There are explanations and meditations on the inner dimensions of fruits, along with blessings, songs and deep discussion. You can find it at <http://www.aish.com/tubshvat>.

In our home we put out a whole fruit display -- especially those mentioned above for which the land of Israel is praised. It is a time of appreciation for what the Almighty has given us and which we might take for granted. Let your attitude be gratitude!

Man is compared to a tree (Deut. 20:19). In *Pirke Avot* (*Ethics of the Fathers*, found in the back of most *Siddurim*, Jewish prayer books, available at your local Jewish bookstore, at JudaicaEnterprises.com or by calling toll-free to 877-758-3242), it is written: "A person whose wisdom exceeds his good deeds is likened to a tree whose branches are numerous, but whose roots are few. The wind comes and uproots it and turns it upside down. But a person whose good deeds exceed his wisdom is likened to a tree whose branches are few but whose roots are numerous. Even if all the winds of the world were to come and blow against it, they could not budge it from its place" (Avot 3:22).

Like a tree, our roots are the source of nourishment for our life. A Jew's nourishment is the Torah -- the knowledge and the means for us to make a spiritual connection to the Almighty. The Maharal teaches that just like the tree grows branches, flowers and fruits to fulfill its purpose, a man must work to produce moral, intellectual and spiritual accomplishments to fulfill his purpose. These are the fruits of our existence!

Just as a tree needs soil, water, air and sunlight, so does a person need to be spiritually rooted and connected with a source of nourishment. Water to a tree, Torah wisdom for us -- as Moses proclaims: "May my teaching drop like the rain" (Deut. 32:2). Air for the tree, spirituality for us -- as the Torah states that "God breathed life into the form of Man (Genesis 2:7)." Sunlight for a tree, the warmth of friendship and community for a person. Rabbi Shraga Simmons wrote a beautiful article, "Man is a Tree," expanding on this theme. You will also enjoy "Fruit and the Essence of Mankind" by Rabbi Nosson Slifkin -- available at <http://www.aish.com/tubshvat>.



TORAH PORTION OF THE WEEK

Torah Portion of the Week

Beshalach, Exodus 13:17 - 17:16

The Jewish people leave Egypt. Pharaoh regrets letting them go, pursues them leading his chosen chariot corps and a huge army. The Jews rebel and cry out to Moses, "Weren't there enough graves in Egypt? Why did you bring us out here to die in the desert?" The *Yam Soof*, the Sea of Reeds (usually mistranslated as the Red Sea) splits, the Jews cross over, the Egyptians pursue and the sea returns and drowns the Egyptians. Moses with the men and

Miriam with the women -- each separately -- sing praises of thanks to the Almighty.

They arrive at Marah and rebel over the bitter water. Moses throws a certain tree in the water to make it drinkable. The Almighty then tells the Israelites, "If you obey God your Lord and do what is upright in His eyes, carefully heeding all His commandments and keeping all His decrees, then I will not strike you with any of the sicknesses that I brought on Egypt. I am God who heals you." (This is why the Hagaddah strives to prove there were more than 10 plagues in Egypt -- the greater the number of afflictions, the greater number from which we are protected.)

Later the Israelites rebel over lack of food; God provides quail and manna (a double portion was given on the sixth day to last through Shabbat; we have two challahs for each meal on Shabbat to commemorate the double portion of manna). Moses then instructs them concerning the laws of Shabbat. At Rephidim, they rebel again over water. God tells Moses to strike a stone (later in the Torah God tells Moses to speak to the stone, not here!) which then gave forth water. Finally, the portion concludes with the war against Amalek and the command to "obliterate the memory of Amalek from under the heavens."

* * *

Dvar Torah

based on Growth Through Torah by Rabbi Zelig Pliskin

The Torah states:

"And it was when Pharaoh sent the people, the Almighty did not lead them

by the land of the Philistines, for the Almighty said perhaps the people will regret (leaving Egypt) and will return to Egypt."

How is it possible that after all the Jewish people suffered in Egypt and all of the miracles that the Almighty performed for them that they could even consider going back?

Rabbi Yehuda Leib Chasman comments on this that a person is a mixture of a body and a soul. Even when a person is on a very high spiritual level, he can fall. One needs constant vigilance. At one moment a person can be very elevated. However, if he panics he can behave in a very immature way. Although the Israelites had a great awareness, it could be lost in a very short time.

This same concept of the changeability of a person gives one great hope, concludes Rav Yehuda Leib. If you can fall quickly, you can pick yourself up very quickly, too. Never despair when you feel that you are on a low level. If you are sincerely resolved to climb spiritually, you have the ability to instantaneously put yourself back on the path of life.

Don't waste time with self-pity if you feel that you are not on the level you want to be. Realize that you can obtain great heights at any moment if you have the determination to do so!



Shabbat Shalom,
Kalman
Rabbi Kalman
Packouz

Tu B'shvat: we'll celebrate Tu B'shevat together with Seudah Shelishit.

Seuda Shelishit: presented by Jacob Oved in memory of his late father Aboudi ben Yetzhak & Freha ז"ל.

A message to those saying Kaddish: please gather behind the TEBBA and recite the Kaddish together. As it will be a good help to the new Kaddish readers.

Dear all: If anyone wants an alliyah please approach our gubbay Adel, David or Ghassan before Shahrit not later then 9:15.

ברוכים הבאים

Welcome to all who are visiting our Kehilla this Shabbat if you would like to enjoy a Shabbat meal at home of one of our members, please approach the honorary officers and they will be pleased to arrange this for you.

DID YOU KNOW?

It is forbidden for men or women to perform any work on Saturday night before:
Either The Evening Service Or Havdalah Or Reciting the following:

בְּרוּךְ הַמַּבְדִּיל בֵּין קֹדֶשׁ לְחֹל

(Blessed he who separates between holy and secular) (See Shulchan Aruch O.H. 299:10)

THE KEHILLA WISHES חיים ארוכים "LONG LIFE"
TO THE FOLLOWING WHO HAVE YAHRZEIT

02 Shevat	Mrs Esther Ezekiel	07 Shevat	Mr Osmond Isaac Ezekiel
03 Shevat	Mr Cesar Sassoon	10 Shevat	Mr Ezra H. Eddie Cohen
06 Shevat	Chacham Joe David	16 Shevat	Mrs Iran Michael Yadeger
06 Shevat	Mr Jack David	20 Shevat	Mr Joseph Lawee
06 Shevat	Mr Haim L. Eida	20 Shevat	Mr Maurice Lawee
06 Shevat	Mr Benny Benaiah	26 Shevat	Mr Raphael Mansour
07 Shevat	Mr Joseph Lawee	26 Shevat	Mr Samy Dallal
07 Shevat	Mr Maurice Lawee	27 Shevat	Mr Moshe Nahari
07 Shevat	Mr Nadhim N. Mouallim	29 Shevat	Mr Ivan Ezekiel
07 Shevat	Mr Reuben Isaac Ezekiel		



Quote of the Week



**Learn character from trees,
values from roots and
change from leaves**