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## Shabbat Shekalim P. Mishpatim,

שבת שקלים פ' משפטים

Sat. 24 - 25 Feb. 2017 - 29th of Sh'vat, 5777 -

כ"ט שבט תשע"ז

Issue Number 782

Baal Koreh	Mr Michael Joshua	פ' משפטים - (שמות) P. Mishpatim - Ex: - 21:1 - 24:18 (P-416)
Mufteer & Haftarah	Mr Yaakov Georgy	שמות ל:יא-טו - (ע-484) מלכים ב יא:יז - יב:יז Ex.30:11-16 (P-484) II Kings 11:17 - 12:17 (- 1212)
Mevarchin Hahodesh		מברכין החודש
Rosh Hodesh Adar on Sun, & Mon.		ראש חודש אדר ביום ראשון ושני.
Shir Hashirim, Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat & Arbit.		17:00
Shabbat Candles.		17:16
Shabbat Shahrit - Followed by Kiddush. (Shema 8:57).		08:30
Mincha Shabbat Followed by Seuda Shlishit. * (Sunset - 17:35).		16:50
Daf Hayomi with Rabbi Asher Sebbag Shlit"a.		*
Arbit Motzei Shabbat followed by Havdalah.		18:24
Shahrit Weekday - Sunday - Shahrit (07:30). (Mon & Thu 06:40)		06:45
Mincha & Arbit		17:15
Daf Hayomi with Rabbi Asher Sebbag Shlit"a.		17:45
Shir Hashirim, Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat & Arbit.		17:15
Shabbat Candles. <b>P. Terumah.</b>		17:29

### Mishpatim (Exodus 21-24)

#### Mishpatim 5777

**GOOD MORNING!** Ever wonder why you do not maintain a sense of happiness after finally obtaining a material goal? The late Mel Fisher, a Florida treasure hunter, spent 14 years searching for the Atocha's sunken treasure and then found it! After the immediate joy, he felt depressed and ... immediately started another search. Why do we continue to strive to obtain more and more things in our life, but often don't find them satisfying? Below is an excerpt from [Dearer Than Life -- Making Your Life More Meaningful](#) shared

with permission of its author, Rabbi Abraham J. Twerski, M.D. I think it gives great insight:

**"Much of** Western culture appears to consider happiness as the ultimate goal in life, and defines ideal happiness as freedom from all distress and enjoyment of all pleasures. This is certainly not the Torah concept, which considers human life to be mission-oriented, with every person having a reason for his existence and a specific assignment to complete on earth. If being content were all there is to seek in life, then endowing man with the capacity of intelligence was

counterproductive. Cows in the pasture are undoubtedly far more content than sophisticated humans. Seeking meaning in merely being content hardly befits an intelligent person.

**"In order** for a person to have self-esteem and a feeling of value, life must have meaning. In fact, meaning and value are inseparable.

**" 'Esteem'** comes from the Latin word that means to evaluate or to appraise. Let us look at what is the basis of self-esteem and how we ascribe value to anything.

**"If we** look around at all the objects in our homes, we will find that with the exception of items that have sentimental value only, we value things for one of two reasons: aesthetic or functional. Thus, you may have a handsome grandfather clock whose mechanism has broken and cannot be repaired. You nonetheless keep the clock because it is an attractive piece of furniture and it beautifies your home. However, if your can opener broke, you would undoubtedly get rid of it, because it has no aesthetic value, and since it can no longer serve its purpose it has no value at all.

**"Let us** now apply these criteria to ourselves. There may be a few people who are so attractive that they can consider themselves ornamental, but most of us cannot really think of ourselves as having great aesthetic

value. This leaves us only with function as a basis for value, and raises the question: Just what is our function? What purpose do we serve?

**"While** the hedonist may at least, temporarily, gratify his physical desires, can he really find purpose in being content? What can the hedonist do when the existential question of finding meaning and purpose in life intrudes itself into his consciousness? Too often his only recourse is to try and distract himself from such thinking, and not infrequently he may render himself oblivious to the tormenting feeling of worthlessness by numbing his mind with substance abuse." (end of excerpt)

**So, if** there is no ultimate meaning in comfort, how does one fill his life with real meaning? If one asks himself what is worth dying for he will have a better understanding of what is worth living for. Ultimately, it will be a spiritual goal -- to transform oneself from an earthy creature to a spiritual entity, to emulate the Almighty, to perfect the world, to do kindness. Rabbi Twerski's book explores the pieces of the puzzle and clarifies the path for making one's life more meaningful and more satisfying. It is available at your local Jewish bookstore or at [ArtScroll.com](http://ArtScroll.com).



## TORAH PORTION OF THE WEEK

### **Mishpatim, Exodus 21:1 - 24:18**

**One** of the most *mitzvah*-filled Torah portions, containing 23 positive commandments and 30 negative commandments. Included are laws regarding: the Hebrew manservant and maidservant, manslaughter, murder, injuring a parent, kidnapping, cursing a parent, personal injury, penalty for killing a slave, personal damages, injury to slaves, categories of damages and compensatory restitution, culpability for personal property damage, seduction, occult practices, idolatry, oppression of widows, children and orphans.

**The portion** continues with the laws of: lending money, not cursing judges or leaders, tithes, first-born sons, justice, returning strayed animals, assisting the unloading of an animal fallen under its load, Sabbatical year, Shabbat, the Three Festivals (Pesach, Shavuot & Succot).

**Mishpatim** concludes with the promise from the Almighty to lead us into the land of Israel, safeguard our journey, ensure the demise of our enemies and guarantee our safety in the land -- if we uphold the Torah and do the *mitzvot*. Moses makes preparations for himself and

for the people and then ascends Mt. Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments.

\* \* \*

### **Dvar Torah**

*based on Growth Through Torah by Rabbi Zelig Pliskin*

**The Torah** tells us of one's responsibility if he injures another person, "... and he shall be healed" (Exodus 21:19) -- meaning that the injurer must pay the doctor bills for the damaged person. The Talmud (Brochos 60a) teaches us that from this verse is derived the principle that a doctor is permitted to heal. Why does the Torah need to tell us that a doctor is permitted to heal?

**The Chozeh of Lublin** commented on this that a doctor only has permission to heal. He does not have a right to despair about a person's being healed. Even though a doctor might see from his experience that people in similar situations usually do not recover, the Almighty has the final say about any person's recovery. Never give up hope! There are plenty of people who have lived for many years after doctors have said that they would not get well.



Shabbat Shalom,  
*Kalman*  
Rabbi Kalman  
Packouz

**Megilah Reading:** Motzei Shabbath 11/03/2017 19:20 and Sunday first Reading after Shaharit Approx. 08:30. The reading is by Mr Michael Joshua. The second reading 10:00 by Rabbi Asher Sebbag.

**Seuda Shelishit:** Presented by Adel Darwish ה"י, in memory of our late Hazan, ne'im zemiroth Yesrael Moshe Amram ben Meir Hayeem Hefetz ז"ל.

**Hachnasat Sepher Torah:** Sunday 26/02/2017 between 15:00 – 18:00 at 44 Bridge Lane NW11 0EG all welcome.

**Mazal Tov to:** Norman Ezekiel, Michael Joshua and Dr Kelly Saltoun on their birthday Ad 120.

**Condolence to:** Helen Meyer on the passing of her sister Florence Noonah ע"ה.

**Purim Children Party:** Come and get ready for Purim. Only £4 Each - 3 For £10. Sunday 5th March 15:00-18:00.

### **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)

**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.

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

01 Adar Mr Yaakov Georgy	23 Adar Mr Benny Benaiah
02 Adar Mr Asher Moses	24 Adar Mr Albert Ibrahim
08 Adar Mr Fouad Yadgar	24 Adar Mr Aziz Ibrahim
13 Adar Mr Elie Menahem	26 Adar Mr David Gigi
16 Adar Miss Florence Ruth David	27 Adar Mr Ghassan Cohen
18 Adar Mr Solomon Judah	29 Adar Mr Sabah Rashty
19 Adar Mrs Rosalind Broomer	29 Adar Mr Peres Rashty
22 Adar Mr David Gigi	29 Adar Mr Morris Rashty
22 Adar Mr Charles F. Silas	

**“ Quote of the Week ”**

**It's not what you are that holds you back,  
it's what you think you are not.**