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Shabbat P. Achari-Kedoshim,

Sat. 5 - 6 May 2017 - 10th of Iyyar, 5777 -

שבת פ' אחרי-קדושים - פרקי אבות - פרק ג'

י אייר תשע"ז

Issue Number 792

Baal Koreh	Rabbi Asher Sebbag (Page-636). Mr Ariel Reyhanian
Mufteer & Haftarah	Rabbi Asher Sebbag (Page -1174).

Birkat Halevana. ברכת הלבנה.

Shir Hashirim, Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat & Arbit. 19:00

Shabbat Candles. 20:15

Shabbat Shahrit - Followed by Kiddush. (Shema 8:34). 08:30

Daf Hayomi with Rabbi Asher Sebbag Shlit"a. 18:45

Mincha Shabbat Followed by Seuda Shlishit. (Sunset - 20:32). 19:45

Arbit Motzei Shabbat followed by Havdalah. 21:33

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

Daf Hayomi with Rabbi Asher Sebbag Shlit"a. 17:45

Mincha & Arbit 18:45

Shir Hashirim, Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat & Arbit. 19:00

Shabbat Candles. **P. Emor.** 20:26

Acharei Mot (Leviticus 16-18)

Acharei Mot-Kedoshim 5777

GOOD MORNING! What is courage? The year is 1929. It's Friday, August 23rd. The Grand Mufti is preaching to a packed crowd of worshippers on the Temple Mount in the Old City of Jerusalem. He is fomenting them into a boiling cauldron of hate, viciousness and cruelty. Finally, he charges them with their holy mission: "*Itbah al-Yahud!*" -- Slaughter the Jew! -- and sends them forth to have the streets run in blood!

Groups splinter off to attack Jews in the Old City, Jaffa Road, Talpiot and Mekor Chaim. The main body of eight thousand Arabs leave the Temple Mount wielding swords and clubs marching towards the new communities of Me'ah She'arim and Bais Yisroel. Heading through the Damascus Gate, their blood curdling cries are like a

screaming locomotive in a piercing unison of "*Itbah al-Yahud! Itbah al-Yahud!*" They are led by a sword-wielding sheik on horseback who urges his shrieking followers to carry out judgment on the Jews sparing neither man, woman or child!

Who stands between this blood thirsty mob and the peaceful Orthodox residents? A small garrison of Hagana operating out of a flour mill near the south end of Me'ah She'arim. There is no way they imagine that they can fend off the huge Arab onslaught!

Two men, Rabbi Aharon Fischer and Binyamin Zev Yarden, volunteer to stop the frenzied mob. The two walk out of the flour mill and determinedly walk towards the attackers. Reb Aharon stops and faces the approaching sheik. His *payos* (earlocks) blow in the wind from beneath his hat as he pulls out a revolver and ... shoots the sheik through the heart. Without their leader, the

Arabs are confused and panic! Then Binyamin Zev throws a hand grenade in their midst as the fleeing mass stampede back towards the Damascus Gate, trampling their comrades in their rush.

What was going through the minds of these two young men? Did they really believe that they had a chance of stopping 8,000 marauding, frenzied, blood-thirsty Arabs? Did they think that they were going to a certain death? What was motivating them? I don't know. I can only imagine that they decided there was no choice, no other alternative and that they had to do whatever they could no matter what the cost. Though we cannot rely upon miracles when making decisions, it is true that one person plus the Almighty is a majority!

We all need courage in life -- sometimes just the courage to face the coming day. However, to change ourselves or to risk a new direction, we definitely need courage. My favorite quote on courage comes from Mark Twain: "Courage is not the lack of fear. It is acting in spite of it."

I asked my friend, Reb Zelig Pliskin who wrote the book [Courage](#), for a list of ideas to help people strengthen their courage. Here are:

20 IDEAS FOR CHOOSING COURAGE

1. It's great to have courage, and courage makes you great. Courage is a decision to transcend your fears. When you speak and act in a situation that is challenging for you, that is courage. Decide to transcend fears that needlessly limit you.
2. Courage is in your mind. Courage comes from the thoughts you think in your mind. You choose your thoughts. Choose courage now.
3. Courage doesn't mean that you don't have fears. It means that you are willing to speak and act even with fearful feelings.

At times you might melt those fears. Even if not, say what needs to be said and do what needs to be done.

4. Ask your loving Father, and powerful King, Creator and Sustainer of the universe to give you inner strength and courage. Receive it when He gives it to you.
5. Every word and act of courage is stored in your brain. Your brain is always with you so you can always access courage.
6. If you have said or done something that took courage, you have been courageous already. Identify yourself as a person who has courage.
7. This moment is the only moment that exists. To speak and act courageously, you only need to speak and act courageously this very moment.
8. Be aware of any inner self-talk that prevents your courage. Mentally upgrade the recording you play in your mind. Listen to courageous self-talk. Reread this list frequently. It becomes your self-talk.
9. When you need a boost of courage, say to yourself with enthusiasm and intensity "I have tremendous and intense courage right now." Repeat this with more and more intensity until you actually experience it.
10. Fear and lack of courage is created with your imagination. Therefore, your imagination can create great courage. Imagine having all the courage you would wish for
11. Learn from every person who speaks and acts with courage. On the screen of your mind see yourself talking and acting with that same courage. Repeat until internalized.
12. Remember your most courageous moments. Take that courageous energy

- and double it. Now double it again. Double it again. Keep on doubling this until you feel yourself radiating courage.
13. If it is difficult to say something to someone, ask yourself, "Do I have a right to say this?" If yes, just say it!
 14. Have the courage to bounce back from mistakes and adversity.
 15. Have courage to do what's right even if others make fun of you. The more difficult it is, the greater you are.
 16. Have courage to tell people respectfully to refrain from speaking negatively against others. Feel joy for acting.
 17. Visualize a great crowd cheering for your courage. Hear the cheers. See them waving for their hero: You!
 18. Drink an imaginary drink that gives you magnificent courage.
 19. Don't take needless foolish risks. Differentiate between intelligent and wise risks and those that are rash.
 20. Each and every day do something courageous.

And what was going through the minds of the frenzied Arab mob when opposed by these young men? Again, I don't know. Perhaps ... "It's an ambush! There are two of them!"



TORAH PORTION OF THE WEEK

Acharei Mot-Kedoshim, Leviticus 16:1-20:27

Acharei Mot includes the Yom Kippur service where the *Cohen Gadol* cast lots to designate two goats -- one to be sacrificed, the other to be driven to a place called *Azazel* after the *Cohen Gadol* - the High Priest - confesses the sins of the people upon its head. Today it is a very

popular epithet in Israel to instruct another person in the heat of an argument to "go to *Azazel*." (I don't believe the intent, however, is to look for the goat...)

The goat sent to *Azazel* symbolically carried away the sins of the Jewish people. This, I surmise, is the source of the concept of using a scapegoat. One thing you can truly give credit to the Jewish people -- when we use a scapegoat, at least we use a real goat!

The Torah then proceeds to set forth the sexual laws -- who you are not allowed to marry or have relations with. If one appreciates that the goal of life is to be holy, to perfect oneself and to be as much as possible like God, then he/she can appreciate that it is impossible to orgy at night and be spiritual by day.

The Torah portion of **Kedoshim** invokes the Jewish people to be holy! And then it proceeds with the spiritual directions on how to achieve holiness, closeness to the Almighty. Within it lie the secrets and the prescription for Jewish continuity. If any group of people is to survive as an entity, it must have common values and goals -- a direction and a meaning. By analyzing this portion we can learn much about our personal and national destiny.

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Dvar Torah

based on Growth Through Torah by Rabbi Zelig Pliskin

The High Priest, the *Cohen Gadol*, performs a special service in the Tent of Meeting on Yom Kippur. Only he performs this service and he does it alone. The Torah states:

"And there shall be no man in the Tent of Meeting when he goes in to make atonement in the sacred place" (Leviticus 16:17).

Why does the Torah emphasize, "and there shall be no man" when he does the service?

The commentary Degel Machaneh Ephraim, points out that the *Cohen Gadol* might feel conceited being the only one chosen from the entire nation to perform the sacred service on the most holy day of the year. He might focus on the honor he was receiving from others and how other people would be thinking of him with respect and even awe. Therefore, the Torah tells him, "There shall be no man," that is, the *Cohen Gadol* should mentally view the world as if there were no other people in existence. He should do this when he enters the tent of meeting to make atonement in the sacred place. By having this mental

attitude, he frees himself from any thoughts of seeking honor and approval.

This is a useful technique for people who are worried about what others think about them. If no one else exists, then you do not need to worry what they think of you. In truth, others do not think about you as much as you think they do. And if they do think about what you do, it makes little practical difference -- especially, if you use this technique to free yourself from the harm and pain caused by the illusion that they are thinking about you and that it matters.



Shabbat Shalom,
Kalman
Rabbi Kalman
Packouz

Mazal Tov to: Mr & Mrs Robin Reyhanian on the birthday of their son Ariel who will be reading this week's Parsha. The kiddush is presented for the occasion. All are welcome.

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.

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

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|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 01 Iyar Miss Florence David | 12 Iyar Mr Meir Fattal |
| 01 Iyar Mrs Bekhor | 15 Iyar Mrs Esther Silas |
| 04 Iyar Mrs Annie Benjamin | 18 Iyar Mr Saul Ceasar Hannuna |
| 06 Iyar Mr Abraham S. Cohen | 19 Iyar Mr Abraham S. Cohen |
| 08 Iyar Mr Joseph Laniado | 26 Iyar Mrs Tiba David |
| 12 Iyar Mr Harry Fattal | 29 Iyar Mr Charles Benaiah |
| 12 Iyar Mr Jack Fattal | |

“ Quote of the Week ”

**Courage is resistance to fear,
mastery of fear, not absence of fear**