

Mr. Ghassan N. Cohen  
Hon. President  
079 8938 7881  
Ghassancohen@gmail.com

ק"ק אהל דוד

OHEL DAVID EASTERN SYNAGOGUE

Established 1959

4-14 Broad Walk Lane, London NW11 8HD

Rabbi Asher Sebbag – 07732 731786

Hazan: Jacob Oved - 07971 119865

Telephone: 020 8455 3491

Web site: www.oheldavid.org Email: info@oheldavid.org

Mr. David Gigi  
Treasurer  
Mr. Adil Darwish  
Hon. Gubbay



## **Shabbat - Toldot,**

**Sat. 9 - 10 Nov. 2018 - 2nd of Kislev, 5779 -**

**ב' בכסלו תשע"ט**

**שבת פ' תולדות**

**Issue Number 871**

Baal Koreh	Rabbi Asher Sebbag	(Page - 124).
Mufteer & Haftarah	Mr Adel Darwish (Pres. by Meir O. Carmelli)	(Page -1207).

Shir Hashirim, Mincha, Kabalat Shabbat & Arbit.	15:50
Shabbat Candles.	16:04
Shabbat Shahrit - Followed by Kiddush. (Shema 8:50).	08:30
Mincha Shabbat - Followed by Seuda Shlishit. * (Sunset - 16:18).	15:40
Daf Hayomi with Rabbi Asher Sebbag Shlit"a.	*
Arbit Motzei Shabbat.	17:12
Shahrit Weekday - (Sunday - 07:30). (Mon. & Thu. - 6.40)	06:45
Mincha & Arbit	15:50
Daf Hayomi with Rabbi Asher Sebbag Shlit"a.	16:40
Next Friday: Mincha, Shir Hashirim, Kabalat Shabbat & Arbit.	15:40
Next Friday: Candles. <b>Shabbat. Vayeitzei</b>	15:54

## **Toldot** 5779 (Genesis 25:19-28:9)

Nov 4, 2018 | by [Rabbi Kalman Packouz](#)

**GOOD MORNING!** What is the secret to happiness in marriage? My beloved friend, Dr. Ron Goldstein, has 3 tips for his fellow man that -- with sincerity -- will help for harmony in marriage. marriage.

**If one's** wife is upset with something he did, first, he should admit his mistake and if he isn't sure, he should err on the side of caution and say, "Yes, Dear." There can't be an argument if one agrees with his spouse.

**If that** doesn't work, he offers an apology, "I'm sorry, Dear." Usually, that helps because a person believes that he or she is right and wants that

recognition from others, especially his or her spouse.

**And if** his wife is still upset, he should just explain, "I'm only a man" ... hoping that it will bring out the natural compassion and forgiveness for those who see the error of their ways. We are all fallible. By admitting that one is not perfect and makes mistakes, it can meliorate the anger.

**Rabbi Abraham Twerski**, however, has 3 different phrases to guide a person's attitude towards his/her spouse for a happy marriage: 1) Thank you, 2) I am sorry, 3) I admire you.

**In truth**, marital happiness starts much earlier with whom you choose as

your spouse. Our forefather Avraham sent his servant, Eliezer, a long distance to Haran to choose a wife for his son, Yitzhak, Why? The people of Canaan were idol worshippers and the people of Haran were idol worshippers. What was Avraham seeking by choosing a daughter in law from the people of Haran? Avraham knew that those living in his old country were raised with respect for people, taught to do kindness and were ingrained with a sense of morality. Sure, the people may be idol worshippers, but education can correct mistaken ideologies. However, character traits are imprinted at a very early age and they are very hard to change.

**There is** a seemingly strange verse in the Torah regarding love and marriage. The Torah tells us, "He (Yitzhak) married Rivka, she became his wife, and he loved her (Gen. 24:67). Isn't the "natural" order of life that one loves another person ... and then marries her or him? The Torah is giving us a great insight: Real love is developed *after* making a total commitment to one's spouse. Love is the pleasure one has in focusing on the good in someone else. With total commitment, one will be sure to see those virtues.

**We all** want love and we seek someone who will make us happy. What often passes for love is infatuation and blind passion ... or at best, self-centered love. What we have are two self-centered people looking to make themselves happy. Without that total commitment, if one's spouse does

things that upset you or one thinks there is someone else who can please him or her more -- there can be a breakdown of the relationship.

**Love has** to transcend the self-centeredness to the realization that true and greater happiness comes from doing for one's spouse, rather than using one's spouse as a means for one's own gratification. For that to happen, the commitment must be total.

**My teacher,** Rabbi Noah Weinberg, of blessed memory, used to liken the commitment to one's spouse to the commitment one has to his own hand. One does not cavalierly chop off his hand because it displeased him. However, there is a time when he will have it amputated -- when it has gangrene and threatens his life.

**We need** to understand that marriage is not a means for solving one's problems. A depressed, aimless, lonely single person will likely end up in marriage as a depressed, aimless, lonely married person.

**One has** to figure out what he values in life, what he wants in life -- and then look for someone who has the right character traits of kindness and truth and who has the same values.

**According** to the Torah, the purpose of a marriage is to create an entity that will grow one's relationship and closeness with the Almighty -- and to raise children through whom they can transmit the legacy of a Torah way of life.

**Whatever** one's goals, he must choose a spouse with good character

who has the same values and goals. Then with total commitment there is hope for great happiness!



## TORAH PORTION OF THE WEEK

### Toldot, Genesis 25:19 - 28:9

**Rivka** (Rebecca) gives birth to Esav (Esau) and Ya'akov (Jacob). Esav sells the birthright to Ya'akov for a bowl of lentil soup. Yitzhak (Isaac) sojourns in Gerar with Avimelech, king of the Philistines. Esav marries two Hittite women bringing great pain to his parents (because they weren't of the fold).

**Ya'akov** impersonates Esav on the counsel of his mother in order to receive the blessing for the oldest son by his blind father, Yitzhak. Esav, angry because of his brother's deception which caused him to lose the firstborn blessings, plans to kill Ya'akov, so Ya'akov flees to his uncle Lavan (Laban) in Padan Aram -- on the advice of his parents. They also advise him to marry Lavan's daughter.

**Esav** understands that his wives are displeasing to his parents, so he marries a third wife, Machlath, the daughter of Ishmael (Ishmael).

\* \* \*

### Dvar Torah

*based on Growth Through Torah by  
Rabbi Zelig Pliskin*

**The Torah** states:

"And Yitzhak was forty years old when he took Rivkah, the daughter of Besuail the Aromite, from Padan Arom, the

sister of Lavan the Aromite, for himself for a wife" (Genesis 25:20).

**The Torah** has already stated (in last week's Torah portion) that Rivkah was the daughter of Besuail, the sister of Lavan, and was from Padan Arom. What do we learn from this seemingly superfluous information?

**Rashi** asks this question and answers that the Torah is emphasizing the praises of Rivkah. She was the daughter of an evil person, the sister of an evil person and lived in a community of evil people. Nevertheless, she did not learn from their behavior!

**Many people** try to excuse their faults by blaming others as the cause of their behavior. "It's not my fault I have this bad trait, I learned it from my father and mother." "I'm not to blame for this bad habit since all my brothers and sisters do it also." "Everyone in my neighbourhood does this or does not do that, so how could I be any different?" They use this as a rationalization for failing to make an effort to improve.

**We see** from Rivkah that regardless of the faulty behavior of those in your surrounding, you have the ability to be more elevated. Of course, it takes courage and a lot of effort to be different. The righteous person might be considered a nonconformist and even rebellious by those in his environment whose standard of values are below his level. However, a basic Torah principle is that we are responsible for our own actions. Pointing to others in your environment



who are worse than you is not a valid justification for not behaving properly.

**If you** ever find yourself saying, "It's not my fault I did this. It's because of the way I was raised or because I learned it from so and so," change your focus to, "I'll make a special effort to improve in this area to overcome the tendency to follow in the footsteps of others."

**Blaming** others for your faults and saying that you cannot do anything to

change them will be a guarantee that they will remain with you. Make a list of the negative traits you picked up from your early environment. Develop a plan of action to improve in those areas!



Shabbat Shalom,  
*Kalman*  
Rabbi Kalman  
Packouz

**Hot Kiddush:** presented by Mrs Hannah Cohen and her son Dr Stephen Cohen ז"ל, in memory of her late husband Ezekiel Judah Cohen ז"ל.

**Seuda Shelishit:** presented by Solly Yona, his Sister and his Brother, in memory of their late father **Frayem** Ben Shaul Yona ז"ל.

**Kolel every Sunday:** We are still having a Kolel every Sunday at the Synagogue hall from 09.30am - 12.00pm. Everyone is welcome.

**Security Alert:** Please be very vigilant when you leave the Synagogue. Do not stand in groups and chat, go home without gathering on the main road. Be safe and alert.

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

03 Kislev Mr Solly Yona	19 Kislev Mr Adel Darwish
04 Kislev Dr. Steven Cohen	20 Kislev Mr Moses Jacob
04 Kislev Mrs Hannah Cohen	20 Kislev Mr Isaac Cohen
06 Kislev Mr Tony Silver	25 Kislev Mr Moses Jacob
12 Kislev Mr Benny Benaiah	27 Kislev Miss Nancy Dwek
14 Kislev Dr Maurice Gubbay	28 Kislev Mr Azouri Attar
14 Kislev Mr Nadhim Mouallim	28 Kislev Mr Mayer Attar
17 Kislev Mrs Helen Georgy	

“ Quote of the Week ”

**Keep your words soft and sweet --  
you never know when you'll have to eat them**