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Shabbat - Va'eira,

Sat. 4 - 5 Jan. 2019 - 28th of Tevet, 5779 - כ"ח בטבת תשע"ט

שבת פ' וארא

Issue Number 879

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Mevarchin Hahodesh

מברכין החודש

Rosh Hodesh Shevat Mon. 7th Jan.

ראש חודש שבט ביום שני 7 ינואר.

Mincha, Shir Hashirim, Kabalat Shabbat & Arbit. 15:30

Shabbat Candles. 15:49

Shabbat Shahrit - Followed by Kiddush. (Shema 9:29). 08:30

Mincha Shabbat - Followed by Seuda Shlishit. * (Sunset - 16:05). 15:30

Daf Hayomi with Rabbi Asher Sebbag Shlit"a. *

Arbit Motzei Shabbat. 17:04

Shahrit Weekday - (Sunday - 07:30). 06:30

Mincha & Arbit. 15:45

Daf Hayomi with Rabbi Asher Sebbag Shlit"a. 16:15

Next Friday: Mincha, Shir Hashirim, Kabalat Shabbat & Arbit. 15:40

Next Friday: Candles. **Shabbat. Bo** 15:58

Va'eira 5779 (Exodus 6:2-9:35)

Dec 30, 2018 | by Rabbi Kalman Packouz

GOOD MORNING! How do you know whether or not you should marry a person? Many people go by their "gut feelings." The problem is -- sometimes you don't know whether you have a burning heart ... or heart burn. If you can't answer "yes" to the following 3 questions, don't marry the person you're dating:

3 QUESTIONS BEFORE YOU PROPOSE

1. Do I respect this person enough that I want to be more like him/her?

Respect is crucial in any relationship, particularly marriage. The litmus

test for respect is determining if you want to emulate this person. What qualities do you respect in this person? Would you be happy if your child turns out like him/her?

2. If his/her personality and habits stay exactly as they are today, will I be happy 20, 30, 40 years down the road?

Never marry potential. If you can't be happy with the person the way he or she is now, don't get married. Don't expect to change another person. You'll be frustrated and they'll be resentful. Can you accept this person exactly as they are, for the rest of your life?

3. Do we share common life goals and priorities?

Sure, chemistry and common interests are important. However, make sure you share the deeper level of connection that comes through sharing life goals. To avoid growing apart after marriage, figure out what you're living for while you're single and then find someone who independently came to the same conclusion as you.

A soul mate is really a goal mate -- two people who ultimately share the same understanding of life's purpose and therefore share the same priorities, values and goals.

The majority of marriages today end in divorce. Those who answer "yes" to each of these 3 questions have a good chance in succeeding to build a happy marriage. Those who cannot answer "yes" to all 3 questions are likely entering a marriage that will leave them disappointed, unhappy and single again.

However, if you are already married -
- Here are:

4 RULES FOR A HAPPY MARRIAGE

Rule #1 -- Have no expectations. Expectations are the source of virtually all misery. Almost every young couple believes that there hasn't been a person like he or she is marrying since Adam met Eve. It's hard to live up to an image on a pedestal.

Rule #2 -- Always focus on your own responsibilities and what you can do for your spouse -- not on your spouse's responsibilities and what you think your spouse should be doing for you. If you see a tissue on the floor or dirty laundry, pick it up; if you don't, then you are leaving it for your spouse.

Rule #3 -- Appreciate whatever your spouse does and express your appreciation both to your spouse and to the Almighty. Be sincere and frequent in your praise.

Rule #4 -- Be totally committed to your spouse and to the marriage. Your number 1 responsibility is to make it work. Too many people have one foot out the door or fantasize about 'maybe I should have married someone else I dated.' My father told me that he and Mom were awarded a prize on a cruise for the longest marriage amongst the passengers (soon to be 73 years!). People asked him, "How did you stay married so many years to the same woman?" My father replied, "When we got married we tied the knot with a square knot, not a slip knot."



TORAH PORTION OF THE WEEK

Va'eira, Exodus 6:2 - 9:35

Here begins the story of the Ten Plagues which God put upon the Egyptians not only to effect the release of the Jewish people from bondage, but to show the world that He is the God of all creation and history. The first nine plagues are divisible into three groups:

1) the water turning to blood, frogs, lice
2) wild beasts, pestilence/epidemic, boils
3) hail, locust, and darkness.

Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch explains that these were punishments measure for measure for afflicting the Jewish people with slavery: 1) The first of each group reduced Egyptians in their own land to the insecurity of strangers. 2) The second of each group robbed them of pride, possessions and a sense of superiority. 3) The third in each group imposed physical suffering.

* * *

Dvar Torah

based on Love Your Neighbor by Rabbi Zelig Pliskin

The Torah states regarding the Plague of Blood:

"And the Lord said to Moshe, say to Aharon: Take your rod and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt, over their streams, their rivers and their pools, and over every gathering of their water, that they may become blood; throughout all the land of Egypt, both in vessels of wood and in vessels of stone" (Exodus 7:19).

Why is Aharon (Moses' brother) and not Moses commanded to initiate this plague?

Rashi, one of the greatest Biblical commentators, cites the *Midrash Shemot Rabbah* to answer this question. It explains that Aharon, rather than Moses, was chosen to initiate the plague of blood because the water had protected Moses when he was cast into

it as an infant in a basket. It would, therefore, not be proper for Moses to smite the water which helped save him.

How can this be? Water is an inanimate object which does not have free will. When something floats in water and does not sink, it would not occur to us to give thanks to the water for its buoyancy. Nevertheless, we learn from this verse that if a person derives pleasure from an object, he should show his gratitude by being careful not to cause harm or damage to the object, even though it would not suffer pain. As the Talmud (Bava Kama 92b) states: "If you drank water from a well, do not throw stones at it". Although this advice is basically meant as a metaphor for people who have given you something, the literal meaning should not be ignored.

Since this is true concerning inanimate objects, all the more so we must show gratitude towards people who have shown us kindness. Unfortunately, there is a saying "No good deed goes unpunished". People often times not only don't show gratitude, but they return indifference or bad for good. We must make it one of our personal goals in life to always think "who has helped me and who can I thank today?". Let your attitude be gratitude. Not only will you be happier, but so will those around you -- especially your friends and family.



Shabbat Shalom,
Kalman
Rabbi Kalman
Packouz

Memorial, on Shabbat 26 January 2019: - on January 27, 1969 / 8 Shevat 5729, nine jews, who were cruelly hanged in a public square in Baghdad falsely accused of spying for Israel. Ezra Naji Zilkha , Daoud Ghali Yedgar , Naim Khadhoury Hilali , Sabah Hayim Dayan , Daoud Barouch Dellal, Fouad Shemuel Gubbay, Yacoub Gourj Namerdi , Charles Raphael Horesh, Heskell Saleh Yehezkel. **Hot Kiddush** will be presented.

Tu Beshvat: Sunday 20 January. 2019 / 15 Shvat 5779 - 19:30 at the Synagogue, please approach Ghassan Cohen or David Gigi for donations, everyone is welcome.

Mazal Tov: to Charles Silas and family on the birth of his thirteenth Great-Grandchild a baby girl - SARA, for Rabbi Daniel and Dalia Westbrook in Jerusalem. Mazal tob to Grandparents Flora and David Wieder and Barbara and Paul Westbrook.

Dear all: According to our book keeper and accountant, we have been informed that there are many members and non members who owe a lot of money to the synagogue. If money is owed and not paid, you will no longer be a member, benefit from the burial scheme nor have an aliya. This is a Nedeir angle according to the Torah, and you are responsible to complete all payments by the end of December. We look forward to receiving your payments.

Memorial Prayers: there will be memorial prayers held on Sunday 13th January 2019 at Lauderdale Road Synagogue at 7:00pm in memory of the late Uri David z'l. Berachot to follow.

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

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

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

“ Quote of the Week ”

A good marriage is a contest of generosity!



פסל התפילה

לזכר הרוגי המלכות אשר הועלו לגרדום בעיראק,
באשמת סיוע למדינת ישראל בינואר 1969:

דוד ע'אלי ידגר	נעים ח'צ'ורי הלאלי
צבאח חיים דיין	צ'ארלס רפאל חורש
יעקב גורג'י נאמרדי	פואד גבאי
עזרא נאג'י ציון זלכה	דוד יחזקאל ברוך דלאל
	יחזקאל צאלח יחזקאל

לזכר הנוצחים בפרעות "הפרהוד" בעיראק ביוני 1941
להנצחת היהודים אשר הועלו לגרדום ונרצחו בעיראק
פיסל: יאשה שפירא - רמת-גן, חש'ע' 2010