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Shabbat - Metzora - Shabbat Hagadol,

שבת מצורע - שבת הגדול

Sat. 12 - 13 Apr. 2019 - 8th of Nisan, 5779 -

ה' בניסן תשע"ט

Issue Number 893

Baal Koreh	Rabbi Asher Sebbag	(Page - 354).
Mufteer & Haftarah	Rabbi Asher Sebbag	(Page - 1220).
Birkat Halevana.		ברכת הלבנה.

Shir Hashirim, Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat & Arbit.	18:30
Shabbat Candles.	19:36
Shabbat Shahrit - Followed by Kiddush. (Shema 8:59).	08:30
Daf Hayomi with Rabbi Asher Sebbag Shlit"a.	18:20
Mincha Shabbat - Followed by Seuda Shlishit. (Sunset - 19:53).	19:20
Arbit Motzei Shabbat.	20:47
Shahrit Weekday - (Sunday - 07:30).	06:30
Daf Hayomi with Rabbi Asher Sebbag Shlit"a.	18:15
Mincha & Arbit.	19:00
Next Friday: Shir Hashirim, Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat & Arbit.	19:30
Next Friday: Candles. Shabbat. 1st Day Pesach	19:48

Metzora 5779 (Leviticus 14-15)

Apr 7, 2019 | by [Rabbi Kalman Packouz](#)

GOOD MORNING! About one week left to buy your wine and *matzos* (if you haven't yet) -- and to prepare what you wish to share at the Seder! Robert Heinlein once said, "A generation which ignores history has no past and no future." Learn, share and help create a future! The Seders are Friday night, April 19th and Saturday night, April 20th.

Q & A: What is Pesach (Passover) and How is it Celebrated?

There are *five mitzvot* (commandments) for the Passover Seder, two from the

Torah and three from our Sages. The two *mitzvot* from the Torah are to eat *matza* ("In the evening you shall eat unleavened bread" -- Exodus 12:18) and to tell the story of our exodus from Egypt ("And you shall relate to your child [the story of the Exodus] on this day" -- Exodus 13:9). The rabbis added the *mitzvot* of drinking the four cups of wine, eating *marror* (bitter herbs) and reciting *Hallel* (Psalms of praise for the Almighty). During the times of the Temple in Jerusalem, there were 16 additional *mitzvot* associated with the Pesach offering.

All of these commandments are to help us re-experience the Exodus and

to feel and strengthen our sense of freedom. The *mitzvot* are to experience either the affliction or the redemption.

The *matza* is called "*lechem ani*" -- the bread of the poor man ... and "*lechem oni*" -- the bread of affliction. It has the dual symbolism of representing our affliction (we ate it while slaves) and our redemption (we hastily made *matza* to eat when we left Egypt).

The four cups of wine represent the four different terms for our redemption in the Torah (Exodus 6:6-7). Wine is the drink of free men! Bitter herbs is affliction (just look at the faces of those eating horseradish!) And *Hallel* is our thanks to the Almighty for our redemption and freedom.

Passover is the "Holiday of Freedom" -- spiritual freedom. The Almighty brought us out of Egypt to serve Him and to be free. Isn't this a contradiction? What is the essence of freedom?

Is freedom the ability to do what one desires unhampered and without consequence? That is license, not freedom. James Bond had a "license to kill," not the freedom to kill. Freedom means having the ability to use your free will to grow and to develop.

Our leaving Egypt led us to Mt. Sinai and the acceptance upon ourselves the yoke of Torah. This is the centerpiece of our freedom. It sets the boundaries of right and wrong, it

sets forth the means to perfect ourselves and the world we live in, it defines ultimate meaning and satisfaction in life. Only with boundaries does one have the ability to grow and develop. Otherwise, with unlimited license, life is out of control.

People think they are free when they throw off the yoke of the Torah. However, unless one has the revealed wisdom of the Torah, he is at risk at becoming a "slave" to the fads and fashion of his society. Slavery is non-thinking action, rote behaviour, following the impulse desires of the body. Our job on Pesach is to come out of slavery into true freedom and to develop a closer relationship with the Almighty!

During all eight days of Pesach we are forbidden to own or eat *chametz* (leavened bread -- i.e., virtually any flour product not especially produced for Pesach) or have it in our possession (Exodus 13:7). Why the emphasis on being *chametz*-free? *Chametz* represents arrogance ("puffing up"). The only thing that stands between you and God ... is you. To come close to the Almighty, which is the ultimate pleasure in life and the opportunity of every *mitzvah* and holiday, one must remove his own personal barriers. The external act brings the internal appreciation -- we remove *chametz* from our homes and likewise work on the character trait of humility.

To understand more about Passover and to have fascinating ideas to share at the Seder, go to: Aish.com/Pesach . Check out: "All in the Seder"; "It Ain't Over 'til it's Passover"; "The ABC's of Passover"; "Google Exodus"; "Passover Rhapsody" and ... "The Passover Primer"(a collection of essential articles).

THE TWO ANNUAL PESACH JOKES

1) A Jewish man was waiting in line to be knighted by the Queen of England. He was supposed to kneel and recite a sentence in Latin. Comes his turn, he kneels, the Queen taps him on the shoulders with the sword ... and in the panic of excitement he forgets the Latin line. Thinking quickly, he recites the only other line he knows in a foreign language which he remembers from the Passover Seder: "*Mah nishtana ha-lailah ha-zeh mi-kol ha-leilot.*" The puzzled Queen turns to her adviser and asks, "Why is this knight different from all other knights?"

2) The supply of *ch'rain* (horseradish used by many for bitter herbs at the Pesach Seder) being off-loaded at the Madrid airport was stopped by a freight handlers strike. It seems that the *ch'rain* in Spain stayed mainly on the plane...



TORAH PORTION OF THE WEEK

Metzora, Leviticus 14:1 - 15:33

The Torah continues with the laws of physical and spiritual purity. The focus of this portion is upon *tzora'as*, a supernatural physical affliction sent to warn someone to refrain from speaking badly about others. The disease progressively afflicted home, clothes and then one's skin -- unless the individual corrected his ways and followed the purification process stated in the Torah.

This week's portion continues with the purification process for the *metzora*, the person afflicted with *tzora'as* and then the home afflicted with *tzora'as*. The portion ends with the purification process for discharges from the flesh.

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Dvar Torah

based on Growth Through Torah by Rabbi Zelig Pliskin

The Torah states:

"This shall be the law of the one stricken with *tzora'as* on the day of his purification, and he shall be brought to the *Cohen*" (Leviticus 14:2).

Why does the Torah tell us that he will be brought to the *Cohen*? Won't he come of his own accord? Rabbi Ibn Ezra, a 12th century commentator, explains that after the *tzora'as* clears up he will not want to bring the offerings that he is responsible to bring.

When a person has *tzora'as*, he will definitely claim that of course he will bring the necessary offerings when the *tzora'as* clears up. Once he is cured, he can easily forget his obligations.

Now that nothing is pressing him, he will focus on other things and not on meeting his obligations. (It's kind of like not paying pledges after the person gets well...)

Some people find it difficult to meet their responsibilities. When they need favors from someone or want to impress someone, they might make many promises. When the time comes to keep their obligations, they do all they can to avoid meeting them. A

person with integrity will derive pleasure from meeting his responsibilities and will not need others to coerce him to keep them. The more pleasure you feel when meeting your obligations, the more motivated you will be to meet them.



Shabbat Shalom,
Kalman
Rabbi Kalman
Packouz

Mazal Tov to: Charles Silas and family on the birth of his fourteenth great - grandchild, a baby girl, Miriam, for Avi and Sara Wieder in Jerusalem. Mazal Tov also to grandparents Flora and David Wieder and Steve and Rifka Conrad.

Seuda Shelishit: presented by Dr Kelly Saltoun.

Dear all: we are having (Seder night) The first night of Pesach 18th April 2019 in the Synagogue for more information please call Charles Silas. Mobile 07773 694110 - Home 020 8455 4830.

Ladies Gallery: We are starting the plan for Ladies Gallery and we need your support, you can call Ghassan, David or Moshe for any update.

Shiur for ladies. We are pleased to announce that a shiur for ladies by rebbetzin chava Sebbag on Tuesday mornings based on mesilat yesharim. For more information please call 07751 434 797.

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 Nissan Mr Norman Ezekiel	12 Nissan Mrs Berta Lawy
03 Nissan Mr Solly Yona	13 Nissan Mrs Suzette Lagnado
04 Nissan Mr Benjamin Sadka	14 Nissan Mr Joseph Laniado
05 Nissan Mrs Shila Twena	15 Nissan Mr Richard Reuban Hannuna
07 Nissan Mr Abraham Cohen	19 Nissan Ms Angelique Burman
07 Nissan Mr Dhia Cohen	20 Nissan Mr Simon Jacob
07 Nissan Mr Farid Cohen	22 Nissan Mr Meir David Lanyado
07 Nissan Mr Nabeel Cohen	25 Nissan Mr Robbie Rahimian
09 Nissan Mr Reuben Ezekiel	25 Nissan Mrs Homa Sarah Rahimian
09 Nissan Mrs Marcelle Benjamin	28 Nissan Mr Moses Jacob
10 Nissan Mrs Judith Silas	29 Nissan Mr Benny Benaiah
10 Nissan Mrs Esther Silas	

Quote of the Week

If you don't sacrifice for what you want, what you want becomes the sacrifice