

Parashat Ki Tisa • פ' כי תשא

PARNESS HAYOM ADAR

These Days of Learning have been dedicated to the memory of the following by members of their family.

2 Adar—Avrum Drazin in memory of mother-in-law, Gertrude Fried (Gittel bat reb Elimelech z'l)

4 Adar—Samuel Gewurz in memory of father, Judah Leib Gewurz (Yehuda Leib ben Chaim Yaacov z'l)

12 Adar—Barbara Freedman in memory of husband, Dr. Benjamin Freedman (Binyamin ben Menachem Mendel z'l)

19 Adar—Rabbi Sidney Shoham in memory of mother, Rebbetzin Ethel Shoham (Itel bat Harav Yossef Yaakov z'l)

21 Adar—Samuel Gewurz in memory of mother, Rachel Gewurz (Rochel bat Yosef z'l)

22 Adar—Jewel Shoham in memory of mother, Molly Naimer (Malka Brina bat Ben Zion HaLevi, z'l)

23 Adar—Moti Yunger in memory of mother, Sara Yunger (Sara bat Eliahu z'l)

25 Adar—Mark Wainberg in memory of mother, Fay Wainberg (Fayga bat Moshe z'l)

For more information on the KTM Parness Hayom Project, please call our office at 514 486 5718.



"Life is a Mountain Range"

This week we celebrated the holiday of Purim amid great joy and festivity. All *Am Yisrael* was busy with the *mitzvot* of the day – the *Megilla* reading, *mishlo'ach manot*, *matanot la'evyonim* and, mainly, festive eating and

drinking.

The kollel, too, was privileged to celebrate an especially joyous Purim with members of the community at the traditional Purim meal held in Beth Israel. The joy of Purim was combined with the joy of Team Canada's gold medal in hockey at the Winter Olympics in Vancouver. (Next time we should perhaps check ahead of time if there is an important game scheduled at the same time as the *se'udat Purim*...) But everyone very quickly forgot about sports and we were all privileged to experience the true joy of *kedusha* that continued with a spiritually uplifting *tisch*. I personally do not drink any alcohol except on Purim, and therefore the wine I drank on Purim affected me very quickly and swept me away to a unique Purim experience.

Just forty days after the exalted spiritual level reached at the time of *Ma'amad Har Sinai* and the acceptance of the Torah, and just three months after *Am Yisrael's* miraculous departure from Egypt, the nation underwent a drastic decline and committed the sin of the golden calf. Different commentators try to come to the people's defense and to explain that their sin was in truth not all that severe. It would seem, however, that the Torah wants us to understand that this was indeed a grave offense. The Torah presents an awful description of *Am Yisrael* dancing around a golden image, made from their own jewelry, and exclaiming, "This is your god, O Israel, who took you from the land of Egypt!"

How is this possible? How could this happen so soon after the great spiritual experience of *Matan Torah*? How could they fall so drastically?

We must explain that *Benei Yisrael*, who left Egypt and experienced *Matan Torah*, did not know how to bring this experience down into their lives such that it could impact upon them and allow them to remain on their high spiritual level over the long-term. The effects of the Godly ceremony at Mount Sinai waned, thus giving rise to the atmosphere that preceded the sin of the golden calf.

Our lives are like a mountain range. There are spiritual peaks, times when we find ourselves on the highest levels, but in between these peaks are declines, times when we return to our previous condition, until we reach another incline. **Our test is to know how to take full advantage of the "peaks" so that we can take from them enough charge to last us until the ascent to the next peak.** We must know how to translate the high level into changes in our day-to-day lives. Those who do not preserve something tangible from the high point and are left with only the immense spiritual experience will ultimately lose this experience and fall back down to where they had been originally – if not lower.

Purim is a perfect example of this. We longingly recall the experience of the *se'uda* and the immense power that it injected within us. (I have not yet mentioned the dancing of the kollel members, which of course can be seen on Facebook.) But our regular routine will run its normal course, and, as time passes, this feeling will fade and we will again anxiously wait for the next high point, whenever it will come. Our job is to take with us one thing from this Purim, one small change that will remind us each day of the levels we achieved. Only in this way will we be able to extend the joy of Purim into our lives and reach even higher levels when we come to the next peak.

But one thing is certain – I will feel the effects of the wine I drank on Purim at least until the first cup of wine at the Pesach seder...

Lechaim and Shabbat Shalom, Rav Ido Tauber.

TRIBUTE CARDS

With your donation of \$18.00 or more KTM will send a card to mark the occasion of a birth, anniversary, engagement, marriage, speedy recovery, holiday greetings, birthday, or in memory of.

This week's Daf Parasha is sponsored by:

Ian, Tziporah, Aron and Yanek Widman in honour of the Yahrzeit of our beloved father and zeide, Aron Honigsblum - Aharon ben Mordechai Yosef Ha-Levi, z"l

20th of Adar 5770
 March 6, 2010
 Shabbat Begins: 5:29pm Shabbat
 Ends: 6:32pm
 Haftara: Parah Ezekiel 36:16-38

WINTER SESSION @ KTM


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|----------------------|---|--|
| 8:15-9pm | MONDAYS MARCH 1 • 8 • 15 • 22 | |
| | The Ramban on the Torah with Rav Ido Tauber This class will explore the unique commentary of the Ramban, including topics on faith and philosophy according to the weekly parasha. | |
| | TUESDAYS MARCH 2 • 9 • 16 • 23 | |
| | Parashat Hashavua with Rav Yishai Lisner An in depth look at the weekly parasha using the commentaries of our sages and other Torah commentaries with a special focus on relating these teaching to our daily lives. | |
| | WEDNESDAYS MARCH 3 • 10 • 17 • 24 | |
| 9:15 - 10PM | "Orach Chaim" with Rav Ido Tauber Exploration of Jewish law that pertain to daily life using the Shulchan Aruch and Midrash Brurah. | |
| | THURSDAYS MARCH 4 • 11 • 18 • 25 | |
| | Parashat Hashavua with Rav Ido Tauber For or CEGEP and University Students. | |
| | Daily Maariv: Monday-Thursday @ 9pm | |
| | Individual Study Groups with Kollel Staff Study groups: Bekiut Gemera, Classic Jewish Philosophy and Halacha. Please call our office to join an existing group. Monday-Thursdays. | |
| WOMEN'S BEIT MIDRASH | Insights into Pesach with Rav Yishai Lisner TUES., 9:30am MARCH 2 • 9 • 16 • 23 | |
| | ***NEW*** Women's Gemara Shiur with Rav Yishai Lisner Explore the exciting world of gemara and learn key tools for navigating through classic sugiyot. Preparation and shiur in masechet Shabbat. WED., 8-9pm @ The Lisner Home (7121 Kildare Ave.) | |
| | Tehilim Group Completion of the entire Book of Tehilim and prayer for those who are ill. TUES. 10:30am & WED. 4:00pm | |

Pesach in Yerushalayim!!!
A Pesach Interactive Learning Experience

Go back in time and into the future and experience the sights and sounds of Pesach in the Beit Hamikdash.

SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2010
11am-12pm

For parents & children
Admission: \$5 per family
(Includes 1 Korban Pesach per Child)
Hot Dogs and drinks for sale after the program. (\$1 each)




SPECIAL SHIUR IN PREPARATION FOR PESACH
Topics in Hilchot Pesach
Rav Yishai Lisner
Tuesday, March 16, 2010 @ 8:15-9pm

Join Adath Israel, with NCSY, KTM, B'nei Akiva, The TBJ Youth Minyan, the BIBA Youth Minyan, and Beth Zion Youth for a Carlebach Kabbalat Shabbat
Shabbat Parshat Vayak'hel-Pekudei/HaChodesh, March 12, 2010.
In the Adath Israel Chapel - Mincha @ 5:40 pm.
All high-school students (and others) are invited to attend.
That same night, students in grades 7-8 and grades 9-11 will be having an Oneg Shabbat at Adath Israel, hosted by Rabbi Whitman, starting at 9 p.m. We look forward in seeing you all there!

SIYUM MISHANYOT FOR GILAD
Participate in a Community-wide
One-day Siyum Shas Mishanyot
For the Freedom of Gilad Shalit
Tuesday, March 23, 2010

Special Siyum Ceremony
Broadcast Live from the Kotel
in Yerushalayim.

To participate please email
mishnayotforgilad@ktmmtl.org



Kollel Torah Mitzion has a core faculty of graduates from Hesder Yeshivot in Israel who come here to serve as teachers and role models in our community. The core of the Kollel is the Beit Midrash which features a full schedule of classes as well as a drop-in center with a warm atmosphere where all, regardless of background, feel comfortable.

כִּי מֵצִיּוֹן תֵּצֵא תוֹרָה

Bringing a taste of Israel to Montreal...

Rosh Kollel: Rav Yishai Lisner
President: Rafi Faust
Executive Director: Eddie Shostak

