

PARASHAT VAYISHLACH • פ' וישלח

6th of Kislev 5771 • November 20, 2010 • Shabbat Begins: 4:10pm • Shabbat Ends: 5:14pm

PARNESS HAYOM KISLEV

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

2 Kislev

Mayer, Stark & Bloch Families in memory of husband and father, Abraham Mayer (Avraham Dovid ben Chaim Meir z'l)

13 Kislev

David Novoseller in memory of his grandfather, Morris Dowben (Mendel ben Yisrael z'l)

15 Kislev

Mark Wainberg in memory of his father, Abe Wainberg (Avraham ben Yitzchak Zeev, z'l)

17 Kislev

Dr. David Zukor in memory of his father, Leslie Zukor (Yitzchak Chaim ben Yosef z'l)

22 Kislev

Dr. Alex Spira in memory of his father, Abraham Spira (Avraham Eliezer ben Yeshiah Zvi z'l)

27 Kislev

Joel King in memory of his father-in-law Ben Hymer z'l

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



Preparing Ourselves for "Battle, Prayer and Bribes"

As he makes his way back to his homeland, Yaakov Avinu prepares for his long-feared encounter with his hostile and wicked brother, Esav. He considers all the possible scenarios that could unfold, and, as Rashi (Bereishit 32:9) comments, he undertakes three measures of preparation: לדורון, לתפילה ולמלחמה – a bribe, prayer and war.

When we carefully read the text, we reveal that Yaakov followed the reverse sequence: war, prayer and a bribe. He first prepares his prayer for war, and then proceeds to offer an impassioned prayer to God (verse 12). Finally, he sends his brother a bribe (14, 21). This indicates that Yaakov first considered the most likely possibility, that Esav will launch a violent attack. He then proceeded to the possibility that his prayers will succeed in preventing such an attack, and then, at the end, he pursued the possibility that his adversarial brother will abandon his longtime hatred and make peace. After all, הלכה עשו שונא את יעקב – it is well-established that Esav hates Yaakov, and thus the possibility of reconciliation was deemed the least likely scenario.

מעשה אבות סימן לבנים – the experiences of our forefathers serve as a model for their descendants. As *Am Yisrael* returns to its homeland, we, too, must take all possibilities into consideration – in accordance with the sequence that appears in the story of Yaakov. First and foremost, we must prepare for war; we must strengthen the Israeli Defense Forces, give it the means and resources it needs and bolster the spirit and unity of the nation so that if our enemies attack, we will be ready to

respond in kind and, with God's help, defeat them soundly. Additionally, we must pray to Hashem, and believe and trust that He will fulfill His promise of our nation's ultimate return to our ancient homeland, and grant us peace and prosperity.

And at the same time, we must make a concerted effort to eliminate anti-Semitism and the hostility against the Jewish people by the nations who continue the unfortunate legacy of Esav. We must learn, teach, recognize and explain to ourselves and to the world the Jewish people's contribution to mankind, the essence, purpose and destiny of our special nation, that Hashem has chosen us from among all the nations to illuminate and elevate the world, to increase love and faith, as God promised to Avraham Avinu, "I shall make you into a great nation...and you shall be a blessing...and all families on earth shall be blessed through you." And as God proclaimed through the prophet, "This nation that I have created for Me – they shall tell My praise."

Shabbat Shalom, Rav Nadav Levin, KTM

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 is Sponsored by:

Lauren, Alvin, Leora, Yonah and Lielle Suissa, in honour of the Bar-Mitzvah of their son and brother, Binyamin.

Everyone on their way to...
FAMILY MELAVEH MALKA
 ktm
 Parent-Child Learning Program
 Warm up to a full hour of learning, music, treats, prizes and fun.
 This year's theme: Shabbat
 4 Sessions on Motzei Shabbat for Grades 1-6
November 20 - 6 pm
 @ Kollel Torah MiTzion
 5700 Kellert Ave. Cote St. Luc.
 Following Sessions:
 November 27, December 11 - 6pm
 @ Kollel Torah MiTzion



The Living Beit Midrash

A Vibrant Community Learns Together

MONDAYS—THURSDAYS, 8-10PM (MAARIV 9PM)
For more information on other learning opportunities,
please contact us.

Mondays, 8:30-9pm
Sefer HaKuzari with Rav Ido Tauber

Tuesdays, 8-9pm
Shiur Parashat Hashavua with Rav Nadav Levin

Tuesdays, 9:15-10pm
Masechet Brachot with Rav Nadav Levin (HEBREW)



Sunday, November 21,
2010 @ 7:30pm
SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER:
Rabbi Dr. Shlomo Riskin

"Where there is a rabbinic will you
can always find a halachic way.
Is this true?"

KTM Bachurim's Corner

Along the Road to Our Destination by Oriel David

We sometimes stand gaping in disbelief as we look at the historical processes unfolding all around us. We simply cannot understand why we must endure these difficult processes, why the Almighty cannot bring our redemption without all the troubles and suffering that our nation unfortunately experiences. In our effort to properly understand this phenomenon, it is sometimes helpful to open our eyes and hearts to the stories told of our patriarchs in this week's parasha, for, as our Sages teach, מנשה אבות סימן לבנים – the stories of our patriarchs serve as a model for us, their descendants, to follow.

Throughout Rachel's life – the tragic end of which is told in our parasha – we can see how she was prepared to forego on her stature, and how she always set her eyes upon and worked toward a higher purpose. Whether it was revealing to her sister the "signals" that she had arranged with Yaakov, or naming her first child after the son that was not yet even conceived – "Yosef" (יוסף) – or at the climactic moment when, as she lay on her deathbed, she argued with Yaakov over the name of his twelfth son. Yaakov thought that he had already reached the "end of days," the time of complete world redemption, and therefore named his son "Ben-yamin" ("the son of the days" – Bereishit 35:18). Rachel, however, who would soon be buried along the road, understood that *Am Yisrael* was still on its way to redemption, but has yet a long way ahead of it before its final destination. She therefore calls her son "Ben Oni," a name that relates to the term *onein* – a person whose family member has died but yet to be buried. The *onein* finds himself in an in-between stage, the period after the family member's death but before the observance of mourning.

Rachel understood that there is a process, a long, winding road that *Am Yisrael* must travel in order to reach its destination. It is impossible to skip these processes, just as one cannot tell a pregnant woman to skip even a single month of gestation. Despite the pain and the discomfort entailed, the woman will be very happy to have her child born in the ninth month, after a long, difficult process. The same is true of *Am Yisrael*. There is a painful process that the Jewish nation endures in order to reach complete redemption. Unfortunately, this process has been replete with bloodshed and unspeakable pain, but we all understand that a great redemption will result from this "pregnancy." We all understand that we are on the road toward our destination.

"So says Hashem: A sound is heard on high, bitter wailing and weeping – Rachel weeps for her children. She refuses to be consoled for her children, for they are gone. So says Hashem: Retrain your voice from weeping, and your eyes from tears, for there is a reward for your efforts – the children shall return to their boundaries."

WOMEN'S BEIT MIDRASH

with Rabbi Sydney Shoham
Tuesday, November 16, 23 & 30
Topic: "Chanukah: Then and Now"

9:30 am @ Kollel Torah Mitzion
5700 Kellert Ave. Cote St. Luc

Tehilim Group
completion of the entire
Book of Tehilim, and prayer
for those who are ill.
Tus. 10:30 am

WE HOPE TO SEE
YOU SOON AT THE
KOLLELI



Jeudi, le 25 Novembre @ 20h
Conférencier spécial: Le Rav Shlomo Aviner
Le Rav Aviner est le rosh yeshiva de la yeshiva *Ateret Cohanim* renommée récemment Ateret Yeroushalayim située dans le quartier musulman de Jérusalem. Il est considéré comme l'un des dirigeants spirituels du mouvement sioniste religieux.



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Rosh Kollel: Rav Nadav Levin • President: Avi Miller
Executive Director: Eddie Shostak

Kollel Torah Mitzion has a 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.