

THE KTM DAF PARASHA

BRINGING A TASTE OF ISRAEL TO MONTREAL



TORAH תורה
מִצִּיּוֹן MITZION

KTM MONTREAL



IT WOULD BE ENOUGH

BY RAV ARI FAUST (ROSH KOLLEL)

A few weeks ago as we sat at our Seder - a celebration overcast by empty chairs - we sang "Dayenu", remarking our gratitude to Hashem over the myriad miracles of our past. Dayenu is an exercise in counting our blessings.

However, over the past several months, it seems as if the only thing we have been counting have been casualties and anti-semitic acts. As difficult a time as we are in, I'd like to pause - on this eve of Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha'aztmaut - and count the blessings of the times we live in. I do so with the hope of reminding ourselves of this truly miraculous epoch, and to renew our hope for the future.

If He had only brought us out of Mitzrayim
And not enacted justice upon the Egyptians -
Dayenu! It would be enough...

If He had only preserved us for two-millennia in exile
And not allow for our devotion to endure -
Dayenu!

If He had only allowed for our devotion to endure
And not kindle the hope of return to Zion in our hearts -
Dayenu!

If He had only kindled the hope of return to Zion in our hearts
And not inspire the renewal of the Hebrew language -
Dayenu!

If He had only inspired the renewal of the Hebrew language
And not enable us to clear the malaria-ridden swamps -
Dayenu!

If He had only enabled us to clear the malaria-ridden swamps
And not establish the first modern Hebrew city -
Dayenu!

If He had only established the first modern Hebrew city
And not allow us to build-up the communities of Jerusalem and Chevron -
Dayenu!

If He had only allowed us to build-up the communities of Jerusalem and Chevron
And not give us the Palmach and Haganah to defend our settlements -
Dayenu!

If He had only given us the Palmach and Haganah to defend our settlements
And not favour a majority supporting the UN partition plan -
Dayenu!

If He had only favoured a majority supporting the UN partition plan
And not give our leaders the chutzpah to declare independence -
Dayenu!

If He had only given our leaders the chutzpah to declare independence
And not give us strength to defeat the enemy armies -
Dayenu!

If He had only given us strength to defeat the enemy armies
And not establish a Jewish sovereign government -
Dayenu!

If He had only established a Jewish sovereign government
And not grant us the spirit to set-up an economy and unique culture -
Dayenu!

If He had only granted us the spirit to set-up an economy and unique culture
And not give us the audacity to bring the Jews of Muslim lands to Israel -
Dayenu!

If He had only given us the audacity to bring the Jews of Muslim lands to Israel
And not allow us to establish strategic diplomatic relationships -
Dayenu!

If He has only allowed us to establish strategic diplomatic relationships
And not give us the wherewithal to vanquish our enemies in six-days -
Dayenu!

If He had only given us the wherewithal to vanquish our enemies in six-days
And not return us to the Temple Mount -
Dayenu!

If He had only returned us to the Temple Mount
And not reunite us with the lost Jews of Ethiopia -
Dayenu!

If He had only reunited us with the lost Jews of Ethiopia
And not provide the wisdom to build the greatest intelligence apparatus in the world -
Dayenu!

PARASHA KEDOSHIM
3 IYAR, 5784
MAY 11, 2024

CANDLE LIGHTING: 7:55 P.M.

HAVDALAH: 9:07 P.M.

THIS WEEKS ARTICLES

IT WOULD BE ENOUGH
BY RAV ARI FAUST

A BEACON OF HOPE AND RESILIENCE - RABBI YISRAEL MEIR LAU
BY MICHAEL SLOMINSKY

RAIN ON MY PARADE
BY DAVID & DANIELLE WEINBERG

ISRAEL IN FOCUS: YERUHAM
BY YAIR GREENBLUM

KTM FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY
BY YAAKOV JACKSON
& YAIR GREENBLUM

HONOUR A FALLEN SOLDIER BY
PLANTING FRUIT TREES IN ISRAEL



[HTTPS://WWW.KTMMTL.ORG/
TREES-FOR-SOLDIERS](https://www.ktmmtl.org/trees-for-soldiers)

THE DAF PARSHA, AND ALL LEARNING AT KTM DURING THIS TIME, IS DEDICATED TO THE SPEEDY RESOLUTION OF THE SITUATION IN ISRAEL, THE RETURN OF THE CAPTIVES, THE HEALING OF THE INJURED, & THE PROTECTION OF OUR BRAVE SOLDIERS. MAY HASHEM LEAD THEM TO VICTORY, AND THEN HOME.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR A DAF TO COMMEMORATE A SPECIAL OCCASION OR A LOVED ONE'S MEMORY - PLEASE CONTACT THE DIRECTOR AT DIRECTOR@KTMMTL.ORG.

DAF PARSHA CONTINUED...

If He had only provided the wisdom to build the greatest intelligence apparatus in the world

And not give the platform to show our resilience upon the Golan Heights - Dayenu!

If He had only given the platform to show our resilience upon the Golan Heights

And not present the opportunity to make peace with Jordan and Egypt - Dayenu!

If He had only presented the opportunity to make peace with Jordan and Egypt

And not allow us to withstand the intifadas - Dayenu!

If He had only allowed us to withstand the intifadas

And not motivate us to develop the start-up nation - Dayenu!

If He had only motivated us to develop the

start-up nation

And not make us kind as to assist other countries - Dayenu!

If He had only made us kind as to assist other countries

And not make us a significant player on the world stage - Dayenu!

If He had only made us a significant player on the world stage

And not present a renaissance in Jewish learning - Dayenu!

If He had only presented a renaissance in Jewish learning

And not allow us to sign the Abraham Accords - Dayenu!

If He had only allowed us to sign the Abraham Accords

And not live the two-thousand year dream - Dayenu!

If He had only allowed us to live the two-thousand year dream

And not motivate us by hope to progress even through the most difficult times - Dayenu!

Make no mistake: This is not to be confused with naivety - I write these words on Yom HaShoah, when the IDF's operation in Rafah is pending, the fate of many of the hostages is unknown and anti-Semitism at its highest since the 1930's. But all that mustn't eclipse the profound truth that it is a blessing to be living at this very moment in Jewish history.

זה היום עשה ה' נגילה ונשמחה בו



A BEACON OF HOPE AND RESILIENCE - RABBI YISRAEL MEIR LAU

BY MICHAEL SLOMINSKY

Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau, an esteemed Jewish leader, embodies resilience and faith in his life's journey. Born in 1937 in Piotrków Trybunalski, Poland, his life's journey intertwines with some of the most tumultuous events of the 20th century, from the horrors of the Holocaust to the triumphant establishment of the State of Israel.

Rabbi Lau's childhood was marred by the dark shadow of Nazi tyranny. At the tender age of 8, he was separated from his family and sent to the Buchenwald concentration camp. Miraculously, he survived the horrors of the Holocaust, emerging as one of its youngest survivors. His experiences during this period, witnessing unimaginable atrocities yet clinging to hope and faith, would profoundly shape his worldview and his future endeavors.

After liberation, Rabbi Lau was reunited with his brother, Naftali, and together they embarked on a journey of rebuilding and renewal. Their resilience in the face of adversity was emblematic of the indomitable spirit of the Jewish people. This spirit would later become a guiding force in Rabbi Lau's

life as he dedicated himself to preserving Jewish heritage and fostering unity among Jews worldwide.



Rabbi Lau's connection to the establishment of the State of Israel is deeply personal. In 1945, he arrived in Mandatory Palestine as a refugee, joining the burgeoning Jewish community in their quest for self-determination. Witnessing the realization of the Zionist dream, after years of persecution and suffering, filled him with a profound

sense of gratitude and purpose. He recognized the importance of ensuring the continuity and strength of the Jewish state, both spiritually and politically.

Throughout his illustrious career, Rabbi Lau has served as a beacon of hope and inspiration. From his tenure as Chief Rabbi of Israel to his advocacy for Holocaust education and interfaith dialogue, he has tirelessly worked to promote tolerance, understanding, and compassion. His unwavering commitment to his faith and his people serves as a testament to the power of resilience and the triumph of the human spirit over adversity.

In a world often fraught with division and strife, Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau's life story serves as a reminder of the enduring power of hope, faith, and perseverance. His journey from the depths of despair to the pinnacle of leadership is a testament to the resilience of the human soul and the capacity for healing and renewal. As we reflect on his legacy, may we draw inspiration from his example and strive to build a world guided by empathy, justice, and unity.

PARNES HAYOM :: IYAR

6 IYAR | Mrs. Jewel Shoham and Family, in honour of the Yahrzeit of her father, Harry Naimer z"l (Zvi ben Moshe Yosef).

8 IYAR | Adrienne and Shlomo Drazin, in honour of the Yahrzeit of his grandfather, Mayer Sand z"l

10 IYAR | Willy Lieberman, in honour of the Yahrzeit of his father, Leo "Leibish" Lieberman z"l

17 IYAR | Kamal Gabbay, in honour of the Yahrzeit of his father, Menashi Gabbay z"l



RAIN ON MY PARADE

BY DAVID & DANIELLE WEINBERG

“You shall not take revenge and you shall not bear a grudge...”(19:18)

house you bump into your neighbor. “Good morning, Fred!” you beam at him. “What’s good about it?” comes the sour reply. He gets into his car and drives off. You try out your smile again, but find that there’s a little dent in it that wasn’t there before.

You arrive at the office and manage to crowd into the elevator. It’s a long haul to the eighteenth floor. Around the eleventh floor the elevator grinds to a halt. No amount of button-pushing will encourage it to move one inch more. The doors open. Everyone grimaces at the thought of another eight big marble floors to climb, weighed down by the

latest power briefcase and a sub-portable laptop that starts to eat into your shoulder after five minutes. You announce to the assembled throng, “Well, at least we won’t need to go to the gym today!” If looks could kill, you have just been punctured by more arrows than General Custer at Little Big Horn.

The Torah prohibits a person from taking revenge or bearing a grudge. If you ask your neighbor to lend you his lawnmower and he refuses, then the next week when he comes and asks if he can borrow your power drill you’re not allowed to refuse him because he refused you. Not only this, but you’re not even allowed to say to him, “Of course, you can borrow my power drill. I’m not like you. I lend my things.” The Torah categorically calls this bearing a grudge.

All well and good that I’m not allowed to take revenge by refusing to lend my power

drill, but shouldn’t the Torah also prohibit my ‘friend’ from refusing to lend me his lawnmower? After all, he started things, didn’t he?

Someone who refuses to lend his possessions unreasonably has already proved himself to be cruel hearted. The Torah isn’t addressing him; he’s already beyond admonition. What does concern the Torah, however, is that his mean-ness should not become infectious, that his bad character should not sour your generosity.

When your neighbor returns your friendly greeting with a look that could freeze a fire, don’t let him control your life. You go on and smile and smile. Don’t let other people’s behavior dictate who you are.



ISRAEL IN FOCUS: YERUHAM

BY YAIR GREENBLUM

Yeruham, nestled in the heart of Israel’s Negev desert, is a beautiful town. Despite its modest size and

unassuming appearance, this desert town radiates a unique charm and resilience that captivates visitors and residents alike.

Originally founded in the 1950s as a development town to accommodate immigrants, Yeruham has evolved into a thriving community with a rich tapestry of cultures and traditions. Its diverse population, comprising both native Israelis and immigrants from around the world, lends the town a vibrant and cosmopolitan atmosphere.

Yeruham’s stunning natural surroundings, characterized by the stark beauty of the desert landscape, offer a peaceful retreat from the hustle and bustle of urban life. Visitors can explore the breathtaking vistas of the nearby Ramon Crater, hike through scenic trails, or simply bask in the tranquility of the desert wilderness.

Despite its remote location, Yeruham is not

isolated from the rest of Israel. The town is well-connected to major cities like Be’er Sheva and Tel Aviv by road and rail, making it easily accessible for travelers seeking an off-the-beaten-path adventure.

In recent years, Yeruham has undergone a renaissance, fueled by a spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship. The town’s industrial park is home to a burgeoning tech scene, with startups and high-tech companies paving the way for economic growth and development.

However, what truly sets Yeruham apart is its sense of community and camaraderie. Residents take pride in their town, coming together to celebrate cultural festivals, support local businesses, and preserve their heritage.

In Yeruham, amidst the desert sands, lies a vibrant oasis of warmth, creativity, and resilience—a city that embodies the spirit of Israel’s pioneering ethos and the promise of a brighter future.



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KTM FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

DON'T LET LASHON HARA LOOSE

BY YAAKOV JACKSON

Once Rabbi Yehuda, Rabbi Yosei, Rabbi Shimon and Ben Betera were together.

Rabbi Yehuda said: "How pleasant are the actions of the Romans, as they established marketplaces and bridges."

Rabbi Yosei was silent.

Rabbi Shimon ben Yoḥai responded and said: "Everything that they established, they established only for their own purposes." Ben Betera went and related their statements to his household, and those statements continued to spread until they were heard by the Romans. They ruled and said: "Yehuda, who elevated the Roman regime, shall be elevated and appointed as head of the Sages. Yosei, who remained silent, shall be exiled from his home. And Shimon, who denounced the government, shall be killed."

Rabbi Shimon bar Yoḥai and his son, Rabbi Elazar, went and hid in a cave. A miracle

occurred and a carob tree was created for them as well as a spring of water and they remained there for twelve years.

After 12 years, Elijah the Prophet came and told bar Yoḥai that the emperor died and his decree had been abrogated.

They emerged from the cave and saw people who were plowing and sowing. Rabbi Shimon bar Yoḥai said: "These people abandon eternal life of Torah study and engage in temporal life for their own sustenance?!" And every place that Rabbi Shimon and his son Rabbi Elazar directed their eyes was immediately burned. And a divine voice called to saying: "Did you emerge from the cave in order to destroy My world? Return to your cave!"

They again went and sat there for twelve months until a divine voice emerged and said to them: "Emerge from your cave." They emerged. Everywhere that Rabbi Elazar

would strike, Rabbi Shimon would heal.

As the sun was setting on Shabbat eve, they saw an elderly man who was holding two bundles of myrtle branches and running at twilight. They asked him: "Why do you have these?" He replied: "They are in honor of Shabbat - one for 'remember the Shabbat day' and the other for 'observe the Shabbat day'."

Upon hearing this, Rabbi Shimon remarked to his son: "See how beloved the mitzvot are to Israel!" Their minds were put at ease and they were no longer as upset that people were not engaged in Torah study.

We can learn from this story (which appears in its entirety in Shabbat 34a), how important it is not to tell gossip to others, because one cannot know where things will end up and who will be harmed because of me.

QUIZ

BY YAIR GREENBLUM

WHICH IS THE CORRECT ANSWER???

1. WHEN DID THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL ENTER THE LAND FOR THE FIRST TIME?

- A. IN THE DAYS OF YEHOASHUA
- B. IN THE DAYS OF MOSHE
- C. IN THE DAYS OF SHLOMO
- D. IN THE DAYS OF DAVID

2. WHEN DID GOD PROMISE ABRAHAM THE LAND OF ISRAEL?

- A. WHEN HE WAS TOLD OF BRIT MILA
- B. AT THE BIRTH OF YITZCHAK
- C. THE בְּרִית בֵּין הַבְּתָרִים (COVENANT OF THE PARTS)
- D. WHEN THE STATE OF ISRAEL WAS ESTABLISHED

3. WHAT ARE THE BORDERS OF THE LAND OF ISRAEL?

- A. FROM THE EGYPTIAN RIVER TO THE EUPHRATES RIVER
- B. FROM METULA TO EILAT
- C. FROM HAIFA TO BEER SHEVA
- D. FROM NABLUS TO HEBRON

4. WHAT WAR BROKE OUT AFTER THE DECLARATION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL?

- A. THE SIX DAYS
- B. YOM KIPPUR
- D. SHLOM GALILEE
- D. INDEPENDENCE

5. WHAT IS ADDED IN THE YOM HA'ATZMAUT PRAYER?

- A. HALEL
- B. NE'ILA
- C. MUSAF
- D. YAALEH V'YAVO

6. WITH HOW MANY FRUITS WAS THE LAND OF ISRAEL PRAISED?

- A. SEVEN
- B. SIX
- C. EIGHT
- D. FIVE

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S DAF:
1. WE SEND HIM TO THE DESERT TO BE THROWN OFF A CLIFF.
2. ONE WAS FOR GOD AND THE OTHER FOR AZAZEL (TO SERVE AS THE SCAPGOAT).
3. IN THE HOLY OF HOLIES (KODESH KODASHIM).
4. KETONET: A LONG LINEN TUNIC THAT REACHED UNTIL THE HEELS.
AVNET: A LONG SASH MADE OF LINEN AND RED, PURPLE AND BLUE WOOL.
WORN OVER THE HEART. MIGBAT: A LINEN TURBAN WOUND AROUND THE HEAD. MICHNESAVIM: KNEE-LENGTH, LINEN TROUSERS.
5. HE DIPPED IN THE MIKVAH.



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