



January 29, 2010

י"ד שבט תש"ע

פרשת בשלה

Candle Lighting 5:44 PM

Rabbi Binyomin Luban
Rabbi Yisroel Y. Niman
Rabbi Mordechai Palgon

ראשי הישיבה



Inside this Issue:

Dvar Torah	1
Dvar Halacha	1
Sephardic Chief Rabbi Visits YTC	2
5 Ways Students Benefit from the Student Activity Fund	2
14th Annual Learnathon Approaches!	2

Dvar Torah - Don't Feel Overwhelmed! by Rabbi Dovid Klaver



Sometimes, when things start to go wrong, we tend to feel overwhelmed. Challenges seem to come upon us in groups, and threaten to crush us. However, there is an insight from this week's *Parsha* that can give us a practical suggestion of manage mounting challenges.

The Torah tells us *Bnei Yisroel* left Egypt with a יד רמה, a "high hand." The *Rashbam* explains this to mean that upon the Exodus, *Bnei Yisroel* had no worries at all, until they realized that Paroh was chasing them. However once they saw Paroh in pursuit, the Torah says *Bnei Yisroel* complained, "Are there no graves in Egypt that you took us out here to the wilderness to die?" The *Rashbam* explains their complaint to mean that even if Paroh wasn't chasing them, there is no food or water in the wilderness and they are sure to die of thirst and starvation.

This is baffling. One would not expect Paroh's chase to affect their fear of thirst and starvation. The wilderness didn't change. If they had no fear of starvation

before Paroh's threat, there is no logical reason for *Bnei Yisroel* to be fearful now that Paroh was chasing them.

We see, rather, that when times were good, *Bnei Yisroel* had the internal fortitude and faith to overcome the challenge of traveling in the wilderness without adequate food and water. However, when they faced an unrelated challenge - Paroh's chariots, their ability to cope was shaken. A challenge they had previously overcome confronted them again and now threatened to overwhelm them.

We need to recognize that we too, when presented with a new challenge, have an innate propensity to feel apprehensive and beleaguered with multiple trials that didn't concern us before the current crisis. When we start to feel weighed down by multiple challenges, let us ask ourselves: if each challenge had presented itself separately, could we have coped? Let us analyze our challenges individually, and with Hashem's help, we can find within ourselves the internal fortitude to persevere and prevail.

Rabbi Klaver is a 7th grade Rebbe at our Rohr Middle School.

Dvar Halacha – Tu BeShevat

This *Shabbos* is *Tu BeShevat*, the *Rosh HaShana* for trees. Some have a *minhag* to eat fruits on this day. When one has a group of fruits and vegetables in front of himself that he plans to eat, which should he eat first? If the collection is made up of either all fruits or all vegetables, he should first choose any of the seven species for which *Eretz Yisroel* has been praised. Next, he would choose any of the fruits that are whole, then fruit that you would usually prefer, and lastly, the fruit he most wants to eat now.

If it is a collection of fruits and vegetables, you should first choose the one you would usually prefer, regardless of whether the *brachah* happens to be *ha-aitz* or *ha-adamah*. Secondly, one would choose the fruit or vegetable he most wants to eat now. The next most preferable item is any one of the seven species for which *Eretz Yisroel* has been praised. Lastly, he would choose any whole item, or if none of the above apply, any of the fruits that requires *ha-aitz*.

5 Ways Talmidim Benefit from the Student Activity Fund

All money raised from our Annual Learnathon goes to the Student Activity Fund. Just what does this fund do?

1. Annual Overnight Trips – The time talmidim spend with their Rebbe away from the classroom in a relaxed and positive environment is truly most meaningful and memorable.

2. Student Athletic League and Motzei Shabbos Sports Program – a fantastic, kosher outlet for students to exercise, practice good sportsmanship and have fun on a weekly basis

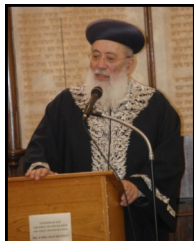
3. Shabbos Youth Minyan – The students lead the davening, deliver divrei Torah, participate in the laining and prepare a hot kiddush.

4. Menu Enhancements for Rosh Chodesh and perfect school-wide attendance days make special days special!

5. “Black-Ops” – There are times when a talmid is in need of some special assistance, and the Student Activity Fund can help make sure that he is poised for success inside and outside the classroom.

YTC Spotlight

Sephardi Chief Rabbi Visits YTC



This past week, YTC had the tremendous zchus to receive the Sephardi Chief Rabbi of the State of Israel, Rabbi Shlomo Amar, Shlit" data-bbox="264 302 479 406"/>

“Vacation from our regular schedule



is an important change of pace,” he said, “but we must always remember, there is no vacation from learning Torah or davening with a minyan. Vacation is a time one can be presented with challenges that he doesn't face during the zman. The Torah tells us when Yosef was tempted to sin, he was able to save himself from the hideous act by conjuring up in his mind the face of his father.”

Rav Amar asked how Yosef could picture his father's face at the time he was being confronted with such an awesome challenge.

“It must be,” he claimed, “that Yosef was accustomed to recalling his father's face regularly. It was only through this regular practice of picturing his father when he wasn't being confronted with a challenge, that he was able to do the same when he was being pressured to sin.” Rav



Amar went on to exhort the young men to choose a figure in their own life whose image they could practice picturing in order to help them when they are challenged.

Rabbi Yosef Galamidi, Rav of the Safra Synagogue, accompanied the Rav and translated his remarks into English. Rav Amar ended his oration with a bracha for hatzlacha in learning and in combating with the yeitzer hara.

The 14th Annual YTC Learnathon Approaches!

On א' אדר, תש"ע Monday, February 15, 2010 (Presidents Day) the Yeshiva will host the 14th Annual YTC Learnathon. The Learnathon is a five-hour intensive extra learning program and fundraiser. The bochrim are encouraged to obtain sponsorships for their learning. All monies raised go to the Yeshiva's Student Activity Fund. The Student Activity Fund benefits the talmidim directly in a number of ways (see sidebar).

The Learnathon itself is comprised of dozens of special shiurim on a wide range of topics, delivered by various distinguished rabbonim and mechanchim from all over South Florida. All fathers and friends of the Yeshiva are invited to participate in these unique shiurim.

The program begins at 2:30 P.M. and concludes at 7:30 P.M. with Ma'ariv. To sponsor the learning, please see any High School talmid or call the High School office at (305) 944-5344.

