



January 1, 2010

ט"ו טבת תש"ע

## פרשת ויחי

Candle Lighting 5:23 PM

Rabbi Binyomin Luban  
Rabbi Yisroel Y. Niman  
Rabbi Mordechai Palgon

ראשי הישיבה

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### Help Get YTC Moving!

We are in great need of a 12-passenger van. If you or someone you know would be interested in donating or dedicating one, please contact our office at 305-944-5344.

## Dvar Torah - Overcoming the Urge for Revenge by Rabbi Chaim Glazer

“לא תקם ולא תטר” - One may not take revenge.” (Vayikra 19:18) This sounds like an ideal platitude, but when we are wronged by our fellow man, it is difficult to quash those feelings of ill will directed towards those who have done us harm. How are we to overcome this all-too-human sentiment?

We need look no further than this week’s *parsha*. Yosef held no grudge against his brothers, who came within a hairsbreadth of killing him. He certainly took no revenge. Yosef personified the dictum of *לא תקם ולא תטר*. How was he able to forgive those who had so egregiously wronged him?

We are told that upon returning from their father’s burial, the brothers sensed a need to mollify Yosef, fearing that, with their father gone, he may now retaliate for their sins against him. Yosef responds with the words “אתם חשבתם עלי רעה.” According to the ספרנו, this is to be understood as, “You

thought me to be evil.” Yosef was saying that their devastating actions against him were the result of a mistaken impression. The brothers truly believed that Yosef was trying to kill them, and as such, had a right to retaliate with deadly force. Yosef was telling his brothers, “I do not hold you responsible for selling me into slavery. You carefully analyzed the situation, and arrived at a conclusion that left you no other choice. Had your impression been correct, your course of action would have been justified. I cannot retaliate against a mistaken impression!”

Yosef was able to overcome his natural feelings of revenge by viewing the scenario from the perspective of his aggressors. When we are wronged, we would do well to think carefully as to what prompted these offensive actions, and to look at the situation through the eyes of our antagonist. Perhaps we would arrive at the same conclusion that Yosef did, and thereby remove our temptation for revenge.

## Dvar Halacha – Aleinu by Meir Palgon, Grade 11

We have a *mesora* from the *Rishonim* that the *tefila* of *לשבח* dates back to time of *יהושע*. In it, we proclaim *HaKadosh Baruch Hu* as the one true G-D, and Master of All. Due to the fact that we wouldn’t want one to appear to be denying the Kingship of Heaven, the *halacha* is that if one finds himself in a *Bais Keneses* where the congregation is reciting *עלינו*, he must recite it along with them.

The question is raised: What if one is about to begin or in the middle of *תחנון* when the congregation begins *עלינו*? Normally, one is forbidden from interrupting from the time he begins *ברכת קריאת שמע* until he has concluded *תחנון*. In this case, HaGaon HaRav Chaim Kanievsky שליט"א has *paskened* one should complete *תחנון* without interruption rather than say *צבור עלינו* with the *עלינו*.

YESHIVA TORAS CHAIM  
TORAS EMES ACADEMY OF MIAMI

25th

24 TEVES, 5770  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2010  
JUNGLE ISLAND, MIAMI, FLORIDA

Annual Dinner

RABBINIC LEADERSHIP AWARD  
RABBI AND MRS. NEAL TURK

KESSER SHEM TOV AWARD  
MR. AND MRS. DAVID GOLDIS

GUESTS OF HONOR  
DR. AND MRS. NORMAN BLOOM



## YTC Spotlight

### Remembering the *Churban* of European Jewry



This past Sunday, YTC held its 3rd Annual Alumni Gathering. This year's event was truly spectacular! Well over 100 alumni flooded the home of Mr. & Mrs. Ari Goodman (YTC '97) in Cedarhurst, NY. The event featured *Divrei Torah*, great food, professional entertainment, and best of all, a chance to reconnect with Rabbeim and old friends.

Rabbi Yisroel Y. Niman, Rosh HaYeshiva, was joined by Rabbi Akiva Grunblatt, Rosh HaYeshiva of Yeshivas Chofetz Chaim and Rabbi Bentzion Chait, Director of the National Torah Initiative of Yeshivas Chofetz Chaim, both former YTC Roshei HaYeshiva, in sharing words of *chizuk* with the group, as well as some recollections from the 'old days.' Also in attendance was Rabbi Mordechai Palgon, Rosh HaYeshiva and our Alumni Director, Avrohom Eliezer Friedman. The event was coordinated by Moshe Bernstein (YTC '97).

At the conclusion of the event, a raffle was drawn, and Mr. & Mrs. Brian Kramer (BMZE '05) won two round-trip tickets to South Florida. The true winners, however, were all those who left with a renewed *kesher* with their Rabbeim, *chaveirim* and Yeshiva.



Students listened with rapt attention as survivor Shlomo Schlesinger told his story of faith and courage amidst the worst tragedy in modern times - the Holocaust. On Asara b'Teves, Yeshiva Toras Chaim participated in an annual nationwide program in association with Torah Umesorah entitled *Zechor Yemos Olam*. The mission of *Zechor Yemos Olam* is to educate American Jewish youth about the catastrophic loss of European Jewry. Hundreds of Yeshivos and Day Schools around the country have banded together to dedicate this day to remembering the *Churban Europa*.

The program began with Rabbi Yaakov Dreyfuss leading the *Bnei HaYeshiva* and the dozens of community members assembled in *Tehillim* in the *zchus* of the *Kedoshim*, as well as for those needing *yeshuos* in our times. It was then that Mr. Schlesinger began his tale of struggle and survival. The crowd heard how, as a young man, his city was overrun by the Nazis, *y"ts*. He lost his family upon entrance to Auschwitz.

Mr. Schlesinger battled hunger, cold, forced labor, disease and sub-human conditions only to grow



close to *Hashem* and see his hand in the many miraculous salvations he experienced. The *talmidim* were amazed to hear how Mr. Schlesinger baked *matzos* on *Erev Pesach* in the camp and proceeded to avoid *chometz* for the entire *Yom Tov*. He spoke of his feelings that *sefer* night, alone, with no *Hagada* or *sefer* plate, only his precious *matzo* and the *maror* of his very existence. He also spoke about how he came to acquire a pair of *Tefillin* in the camp, and how he shared them with all who wished to *daven*. He was *mechazek* those around him, including the *Klausenberger Rebbe*, and helped them in any way possible.

Mr. Schlesinger attributed his survival only to the *Yad Hashem*. He expressed his feelings that *Hakodosh Baruch Hu* saved him in the *zchus* of the Torah and *Mitzvos*

his children, grandchildren and g r e a t - grandchildren are spreading throughout the globe. We have had the *zchus* to have some of Mr. Schlesinger's grandchildren learn *inf* our *Yeshiva* as well.

Mr. Schlesinger was followed by Mr. Berliner, who repeated the words of the *Satmar Rebbe*, encouraging the crowd to seek *brachos* from survivors who have clung to their faith, due to their high level of *kedusha* and closeness to *Hashem*. He then called Mr. Schlesinger back to the podium, asked him to show the *bochurim* the numbers on his arm and give the young men a *bracha*. Mr. Schlesinger proceeded to give a heartfelt *bracha* for success in learning, good health, and *hatzlocha* in "*alla inyunim*" to all those in attendance.

The special video presentation prepared by Torah Umesorah, *Rescue and Neglect*, highlighted the herculean efforts by many Jews in the United States to assist refugees in their plight to escape the *churban*. These individuals - *Rabbonim* and laymen alike - took it on as their sacred task to aid these Jews, and advocate on their behalf in a political climate that was most unfavorable. Due to their efforts, thousands of Jews were saved.

The program touched the hearts and minds of all, leaving everyone with a greater appreciation for true *mesiras nefesh* and *bitachon* in *Hashem*.