



February 19, 2010

ה' אדר תש"ע

פרשת תרומה

Candle Lighting 5:59 PM

Rabbi Binyomin Luban
Rabbi Yisroel Y. Niman
Rabbi Mordechai Palgon
ראשי הישיבה

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Dvar Torah - More Precious than Diamonds! by Rabbi Dovid Sharfman



We have all heard many times, “You gave it your best try, and that’s what counts.” Sometimes, that is hard to believe. We live in a world that rewards results more than effort. A player on a winning team is given a championship ring, even if he didn’t spend a minute on the field, while the losing quarterback, even if he scored many touchdowns, walks away with nothing. Should our accomplishments be the yardstick of our success in life? The Torah tells us otherwise.

In *Parshas Trumah* the Torah enumerates all the materials that were collected for the *Mishkan*. The order they listed is: gold, silver, brass, blue-dyed wool, purple-dyed wool, red dye, linen, goat hair, ram’s skin dyed red, *Tachash* skin, acacia wood, oil for lighting, spices for the oil for anointing, *ketores*-spices, and finally, the precious stones for *Ephod* and *Choshen*. The *Ohr HaChaim HaKadosh* asks why the precious stones for *Ephod* and *Choshen* were mentioned last. Pound for pound, precious stones are the most valuable item on the list and should have been written first. The remainder of the list seems to be in an evaluative order, with gold and silver on the top and oil and spices on the bottom. Why were exceptionally valuable precious stones mentioned last?

To answer this, the *Or HaChaim* quotes a *Medrash* that recounts that every morning, the Clouds of Glory that surrounded the encampment of the Jews delivered precious stone to *Bnei Yisroel* along with the *מן*. Due to the fact that these stones came to the Jews with no effort on their behalf, parting with them was not considered as great an act as parting with the other items necessary for the *Mishkan*.

We see from here what the Torah’s accounting system truly is. By virtue of the fact that one had to expend resources and effort to acquire the oil for donation to the *Mishkan*, that oil became more valuable in the Torah’s eyes than diamonds and rubies that had been acquired without effort. Effort is not merely one factor taken into account when evaluating one’s deeds; it is the central, defining currency by which all things are judged.

Let us take this lesson to heart, and not become discouraged when despite our best efforts, a *mitzvah* or *chesed* in which we are involved does not yield the drastic results we were hoping for. We must realize that in *Shamayim*, our actions are judged based on the struggles we went through to accomplish them. Not only is our toil considered in evaluating our deeds, but rather, to the extent that we exert and give of ourselves, are our actions defined.

Purim Chagiga!
Please Join Us!
YTC Annual
Purim Chagiga!
Motzei Shabbos, February 27,
10:00 P.M. -
Midnight
Music! Dancing!

Dvar Halacha – תענית אסתר

The 13th day of *Adar* was the day the Jews gathered to fight off those who were to kill them as part of Haman’s wicked plot. Since the days of Moshe’s battle with *Amalek*, the custom was for *Bnei Yisroel* to fast when going into war, so they could properly ask Hashem for mercy and deliver their enemies into their hands. *Chazal* instituted a fast on the anniversary of that significant

victory so we always remember that Hashem hearkens to a man’s call when he cries out in his hour of need with *teshuva*.

When Purim is on a Sunday, the fast is moved up to the preceding Thursday. The fast is held on Thursday, as opposed to Friday, because fast days are accompanied by additional *Selichos* and *Tefilos*, and *Chazal*

didn’t want to impinge on *Kavod Shabbos* by having people *daven* at a time when they are usually preparing for *Shabbos*.

If one was traveling and was unaware that *Ta’anis Esther* was being observed on a Thursday, and only realized his mistake after he returns to his home in the evening, he should fast on the next day, Friday.

Yeshiva Learnathon a Tremendous Success!

Thank you all for making the 14th Annual Learnathon such a tremendous success! Kudos to the many sponsors of the event. We would particularly like to thank our many guest Rabbonim and Mechanchim who prepared intriguing and enlightening shiurim, and traveled from all around South Florida to our Yeshiva to deliver them.



YTC Spotlight

Yeshiva Celebrates New Wing!

This past week, YTC held a “ribbon cutting ceremony” to celebrate the move into our newly-renovated facility. During breakfast, the High School and Bais Medrash bochorim assembled in the dining room, where they heard *divrei bracha v'chizuk* from Rosh HaYeshiva Rabbi Binyomin Luban. Dr. Allan Jacob, long-time Rebbe, board member and friend of the Yeshiva, addressed the crowd as well. Dr. Jacob urged the students to take advantage of the new surroundings, and to

maximize their potential during their years in the Yeshiva and beyond.

The short program concluded with Rosh HaYeshiva Rabbi Yisroel Y. Niman cutting the ceremonial ribbon as the students hastened to their new classroom, excited to be the



first ones to learn Torah in the facility.



Yeshiva Hosts Open House

The Yeshiva held an Open House for parents of prospective 9th graders this past Wednesday night. Rosh HaYeshiva Rabbi Binyomin Luban addressed the gathering on the topic of *Limud HaTorah*. Rabbi Luban showed from the words of *Chazal* that in order for *Limud HaTorah* to have a lasting impact, the learning needs to involve the student in a meaningful way, and not consist of a “one size fits all” frontal lesson. In addition, parents had the opportunity to hear from Rosh HaYeshiva Rabbi Mordechai Palgon, Secular Studies Principal Rabbi David A. Levine, and Assistant Principal Rabbi Yehuda Bergida, YTC 11th grader and dormitory student Avi Rhodes also shared his experi-

ences and impressions of the Yeshiva with the crowd. A multimedia presentation was shown as well. Parents were able to experience the excitement of the Yeshiva first hand. They were led on a guided tour of the Media Center by our Media Specialist and full-time Librarian, Mr. John O’Toole. Mr. Aaron Gillego spoke to the parents about our Language Arts curriculum. High School *Mashgiach* and 9th grade *Rebbe* Rabbi Hillel Dudovitz, introduced our *Limudei Kodesh* program and the differentiated instruction that allows us to challenge each student in the way that maximizes his



potential. Ninth grade *Rebbe* Rabbi Chaim Glazer gave the parents a short *shiur* on *tevilas kaylim* that included use of our new technologically-enhanced classrooms. Missed the Open House and want more information about our Yeshiva? Please call the High School office at 305-944-5344. Inquiries may also be directed to ytc@ytccteam.net.