



November 26, 2010

י"ט כסלו תשע"א

פרשת וישב

Candle Lighting 5:11 PM

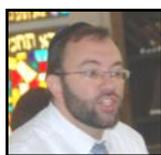
Rabbi Binyomin Luban
Rabbi Yisroel Y. Niman
Rabbi Mordechai Palgon
ראשי הישיבה

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Dvar Torah - What Are You Worth ?

by Yehuda Palgon, Grade 12, based on thoughts expressed by Rabbi Avi Goldman



Chanukah is upon us, and the lessons gleaned from it are as relevant today as they were thousands of years ago. One of the famed historical episodes associated with Chanukah is that of "Chana and her Seven Sons".

The Yerushalmi tells us that after Chana's six oldest sons were slaughtered by the tyrannical Antiochus for refusing to bow to idols, the king's ploys to the youngest son were desperate. His last attempt was: "I will toss my ring to the ground near an idol, and you pick it up so that all will know that you have listened to me." The young boy, with his six fallen brothers on the ground beside him, defiantly replied, "Woe is to you, Caesar; you are worried about what mere mortals think of you? I am concerned with what the All-Powerful G-d will think of me."

This is puzzling. Why was Antiochus worried about what others may think of him? After all, he was a ruler

with absolute power! He could order anyone execution at a moment's notice! We see, though, that his self-esteem came from the opinions of those who were around him. He felt that his worth was dependant upon what other people thought of him.

Chana's youngest son understood that his own self-worth came not from the perception of other people, but rather his connection and relationship with Hashem. He looked upon Antiochus with pity! "Woe is to you, Caesar! Woe is to anyone who perceives that his intrinsic value is dependant upon what others think of him. I am who I am because of Hashem's love for me, and I won't trade that for anything!"

Let us focus on our relationship with Hashem, and attempt to feel deeply the unbounded love He has for us. If we are so precious to Hashem, then surely we should be precious to ourselves.

Dvar Halacha – ריזה רעה

by David Alishayev and Shalev Peleg, Grade 9

When a Jew wakes up in the morning, he possesses *ruach ra* on his hands. Due to this, he is forbidden to touch any bodily opening because the *ruach ra'ah* will enter the body and cause harm. The *ruach ra'ah* can only be removed by washing one's hands three times, alternatively.

For the same reason, *lechatchila* a person shouldn't touch food before washing his hands. If one acciden-

tally touched food he should wash the food three times before consuming it, if it will not ruin the item. Obviously, liquids cannot be washed.

Ideally, a person should make sure that all Jews who handle his food, including children, wash their hands before they touch the food, so it will not be contaminated by *ruach ra'ah*. Gentiles do not possess *ruach ra'ah*, and therefore cannot contaminate it.

Chanukah Chagiga!

Please Join Us!

The Yeshiva's Annual
Chanukah Chagiga
will be held Wednesday,
December 1st, the first
night of Chanukah
at 7:30 P.M.

Food!
Music! Dancing!
Guest Speaker!

The Weekly Quiz

Who was “The Last Chashmonai?”

Answers may be submitted in writing to the Spotlight office or emailed to Quiz@ytcteam.net. The first correct answer submitted will be announced in the next Spotlight. You need not be a student to participate. Hatzlochah!

Answer to last week's question:

Q. Exactly how long is it between the Molad of one month and the next?

A. Each molad moment occurs exactly 29 days, 12 hours, 44 minutes and 3.33 seconds after the previous molad moment.

Yasher Koach to Akiva Sugerman, grade 10, and the Flamholtz Family for their correct answers!

YTC Spotlight

YTC Seniors Present Torah Chaburos

By Jacob Gassner, Grade 12

Last Tuesday, the *talmidim* in Rabbi Winter's 12th grade *shiur* each individually presented a Torah Chaburah. The Chaburos were said over to YTC Rosh HaYeshiva and Menahel, Rabbi Mordechai Palgon, Assistant Menahel Rabbi Yehuda Bergida, and Rabbi Shaya Dovid Kaganoff.

Each *talmid* prepared a piece of Gemorah and elucidated it through the eyes of the *Rishonim* and *Achronim*. Rabbi Mordechai Palgon commented, “It was inspiring to see our 12th grade *talmidim* ‘speaking in learning’ with such depth and enthusiasm.”

Even some of the *talmidim* themselves noticed a change in the quality of the learning. “I definitely wouldn't have been able to do something like this (previously),” said Rafi Goldglanz, Class of '11. “I

already feel a huge improvement in my learning skills this year and we've only been in school a few months”.

Typically, YTC students undergo a huge transition from 11th to 12th grade.

The challenge of the intensity of the *shiurim* coupled with extended night *sedorim* every week night can be daunting, but these *talmidim* are clearly up to the challenge.

“The seniors can't claim all the credit for the success of the Chaburos. I think the success of the presentations truly compliment the



superior skills of our Rebbe, Rabbi Winter,” said Yehuda Gruberger, '11. “Without him, we wouldn't have had the ability to fully understand or explain the Gemorah on such a sophisticated level.”

YESHIVA TORAS CHAIM

Bais Medrash Zichron Ezra • Dr. Abe Chames High School

CORIDALLY INVITES YOU TO OUR ANNUAL CHANUKAH CHAGIGA *



כ"ה כסלו, תשע"א

(1st Night)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER 1, 2010

at the Yeshiva

1025 NE Miami Gardens Drive

7:30-9:30 PM in the

David & Sally Samuels Dining Hall



Special Guest Speaker:

The Lvhil-Mezbuz Rebbe - Grand Rabbi Y. A. Korff

Live Music • Leibidig Dancing • Mouth-Watering Sufganiyot & Latkes

Wishing everyone a freilichen Chanukah!

* GIRLS AGE 11 & UNDER ONLY