



December 10, 2010

ג' טבת תשע"א

פרשת ויגש

Candle Lighting 5:12 PM

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

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Mr. & Mrs. Marcos  
Lapciuc

**Dvar Torah - Above Nature** by Rabbi Naftali Kalter



The miracles of Chanukah, both the oil and the war, remind us of K'lal Yisroel's special relationship with Hashem. We enjoy *hashgacha pratis*, personal supervision from Hashem himself over everything that occurs to us in our daily lives. But just how far does *hashgacha pratis* go? Aren't there parts of our lives controlled by *teva*, nature, as well? How are we to understand this dichotomy?

This week's *parsha* discusses the descent of Yaakov's family to Egypt. The Torah enumerates the names of the members of the family who were transplanted from Canaan to Goshen. When counting the descendants of Leah, the Torah recounts 32 names of individuals, and then says, "These are the sons of Leah that she bore to Yaakov in Padan Aram, and Dina her daughter. All the souls of her sons and daughters numbered 33." The Ramban points out the numerical discrepancy, and says the 33rd descendant was Levi's daughter Yocheved, who was not yet alive when the family left Canaan, and was born as they entered Egypt.

The Ramban then brings down a question. If Yocheved was born when the Jews entered Egypt, and at the

Exodus, 210 years later, her son Moshe was 80, Yocheved must have given birth to Moshe at the age of 130! Why does the Torah spend much space dealing with the miracle of Yitzchok's conception, which occurred when Sara was 89 years old, and gives no mention at all about Yocheved giving birth when she was 130 years old? A greater miracle by far!

The Ramban answers with a very important *hashkafa*: "The Torah only mentions miracles that were foretold by a prophet or angel, and then came to pass. Miracles that occurred to help the righteous or to cut down the wicked are not mentioned in the Torah. This is because the entire existence and daily experiences of the Nation of Torah are through hidden miracles! There is no such thing as nature and *minhag* for the Jewish people!"

We see from this Ramban the extent of the *hashgacha pratis* we enjoy. Giving birth at 130? No big deal for a tiny nation that went through a Six-Day War and overcame the overwhelming numbers of enemy forces. Of course, we have an obligation to do our *hishtadlus* and not rely on miracles, but at the same time, we must realize that our entire existence is only through hidden Divine intervention, and we live as a 'Nation above nature'!

**Dvar Halacha – Fasting on Friday**

Although normally one who will be pained though fasting should not fast on a Friday as to not enter the holy day in a state of affliction, the Rambam rules that if any of the Four Fasts (Tzom Gedalia, Asara b'Teves, Taanis Esther and Shiva Asara b'Tamuz) fall on a Friday, one should fast. With our current calendar, this can only happen with Asara b'Teves. (The *Abudraham* rules that we would fast on Asara b'Teves even if it fell on Shabbos, but the *Bais Yosef* disagrees.)

When Asara b'Teves falls on Friday, there is a *machlokes* regarding *laining* during Mincha. Our *minhag* is that we do *lain*, but we omit *Avinu Malkeinu* and *Tachanun*. One must wait until *tzais hakochavim* before breaking one's fast, and must hear Kiddush before eating or drinking anything.

Please Join Us

ונקדשתי

Video-recorded first-person accounts of Kiddush Hashem by the heroic Kedoshim from WWII.

Friday,

December 17, 2010

י' טבת, תשע"א

10:45 AM

at the Yeshiva  
1025 NE Miami Gardens Dr.

## YTC Spotlight

### The Weekly Quiz

What is the only day of the week on which all 6 fast days can fall?

Answers may be submitted in writing to the Spotlight office or emailed to [Quiz@ytcteam.net](mailto: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. What is the greatest number of Pesukim ever read from the Torah on Shabbos?

A. When Rosh Chodesh Av in a non-leap year falls out on Shabbos Matos-Massei, we read 251 pesukim.

Yasher Koach Yosef Nissel of Kew Gardens Hills, NY who submitted the highest answer!

### Guests of Honor: Mr. & Mrs. Marcos Lapciuc

With deep appreciation, it is our *kavod* to present this year's distinguished **GUESTS OF HONOR - MR. AND MRS. MARCOS AND TIFFANY LAPCIUC**. Marcos is no stranger to the organizations within our South Florida community. He has served on the Board of Congregation Ohr Chaim, currently serves on the Boards of Kosher Miami and Agudath Israel of South Florida, is past President of the Collegiate Learning Exchange (CLE) and currently serves as Treasurer of the Public Health Trust/Jackson Memorial Hospital. Additionally, he has served as a much-valued member of the Yeshiva's Board for well over a decade. Tiffany has served as President

of Ohr Chaim's Sisterhood and has chaired all of the CLE dinners. She also has worked continuously and enthusiastically on countless projects to help ensure the Yeshiva's success.



However, nothing is more important to both Marcos and Tiffany than raising their 6 children *ka'h* and guiding them along the path of Torah and *mitzvos*. All have been students in one or more of the Yeshiva's divisions. When it comes to the significance of a solid Torah education, they are of one mind: *"It is of the utmost importance, as it is at the forefront - the very core - of the future success of the Jewish*

*people."* We are proud to honor the Lapciucs for this exceptional devotion and commitment to our Yeshiva.

**NEXT WEEK:** *Spotlight on our Kesser Shem Tov Awardees, Mr. & Mrs. Randy Groffman*

Yeshiva Toras Chaim Toras Emes

BAIS MEDRASH ZICHRON EZRA  
DR. ABE CHAMES HIGH SCHOOL  
ROHR MIDDLE SCHOOL  
KLURMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

# 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner

4 SHEVAT, 5771 SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2011

Jungle Island Treetop Ballroom  
1111 Parrot Jungle Trail • Miami, Florida

Cocktails 6:00 pm • Dinner 7:00 pm

Visit us online at [ytcteam.org/dinner](http://ytcteam.org/dinner)