



December 9, 2011

י"ג כסלו תשע"ב

פרשת וישלח

Candle Lighting 5:1 PM

Rabbi Binyomin Luban
Rabbi Yisroel Y. Niman
Rabbi Mordechai Palgon

ראשי הישיבה

Issue 5



Dvar Torah - The Language of Torah - Not Just Hebrew by Rabbi Dreyfuss

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The Alter of Slabodka taught that the Torah is not too simple even for the greatest of people but is not too great even for the simplest

of people. This is an amazing attribute of the Torah! On one hand, even the

most accomplished scholar will continue to learn more from his study, as he continues to attain a deeper understanding of the Torah. Yet, the beginner, on the other hand – whether it be a young child who just mastered the *Aleph Bais* or an adult whose first exposure to Torah study occurred later in life – will find that the Torah talks to him on his level, teaching him lessons that can be applied to his daily life.

This great characteristic of the Torah also contains an inherent challenge. The Alter explains that the Torah speaks a ‘different language’ than us. For example, if we attempt to interpret the stories of Sefer Bereishes by ourselves, we may completely alter the message and lesson that Hashem is conveying to us. It is only with the guide of *Chazal’s* teachings that we can fully grasp the meaning of the written Torah. The Alter cites an example from this week’s Parsha to illustrate this point.

The *Possuk* describes a sin committed by Reuvain in these very harsh terms: “*Vayishkav es Bilah*” – “And he lay with Bilah”. The Gemora in Shabbos (55b) proves from the concluding words of this *Possuk* and from *Pessukim* in Parshas Ki Savo that the sin of Reuvain wasn’t as the basic reading of the words implies, but rather that Reuvain moved the bed of Yaakov from the tent of Bilah to the tent of his mother, Leah. Although Reuvain did so with the noble intention of protecting his mother’s honor, it was nonetheless considered an *Aveira* and he was admonished by Yaakov in Parshas Vayechi for acting impulsively out of anger. The Torah holds Reuvain responsible for even this small mistake in judgement, considering it, on some level, akin to committing the most severe *Aveira*. Although Reuvain never committed the actual *Aveira* of taking his father’s wife, the language of the Torah describes his action as such. The way in which we were intended to understand this difficult *Possuk* is not as we might have translated it at first glance.

For this reason, the Sefer Chovos Halvavos encourages us that as we grow older and become capable of understanding the Torah on a more profound level, we should revisit what we have learned previously. Instead of relying on our simplistic understanding of the story, we can look to the words of *Chazal* to guide us in properly understanding the messages and learning the lessons of the Torah.

Dvar Halacha - The Halachos of Losh, or Kneading, on Shabbos by Shmuel Goodman, 11th Grade

The Melacha of Losh, or binding a solid and a liquid into one new entity, has two stages. Performing either action is generally forbidden on Shabbos. The first is the adding together of two ingredients. Examples include pouring water into flour or oil into chopped liver. The second is the actual mixing together of the two ingredients, so that they become one entity. Examples include stirring together tuna fish and mayonnaise, or mixing baby cereal and water.

There are four categories of mixtures, each having a different level of stringency. The most stringent mixture is a “thick” mixture. This is a mixture of such a thick consistency that it cannot be poured from one vessel to another. An example of this type of mixture is tuna fish. Unless one follows certain procedures when making this mixture on Shabbos, it is Asur MiDi’oraysa to do so. The second most strin-

gent mixture is a “loose” mixture. This mixture is thin enough to pour from one vessel to another, but is thicker than a liquid. One example is baby cereal. Unless one follows certain procedures when making this mixture on Shabbos, it is Asur MiDi’rabanen to do so. The third mixture is one which retains the consistency of a liquid, even though a solid has been mixed into it. For example, water retains the qualities of a liquid when lemonade powder is added. The fourth mixture is one in which the solid ingredient is made up of large enough pieces that it maintains its own identity within the liquid. An example is Israeli Salad. One is permitted to make both the third and the fourth mixtures on Shabbos. The appropriate methods of making thick and loose mixtures on Shabbos will be discussed in next week’s article.

The Weekly Quiz

Q: Anyone born at this specific time is immune to the forces of טומאה. What time period is this and why?

Answers or ideas for future questions may be submitted in writing to the Spotlight office or emailed to Quiz@ytcteam.org.

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 commonly used word that many non-Jews know only appears once in the Torah?

A. כשר

Y.T.C. Sports - by Meir Friedman, Grade 11

Recently, much of the student talk in the school hallways has reflected the Yeshiva's many efforts to put a focus on the team sports that the *talmidim* play. As of now, the Yeshiva holds a Flag Football League, a new basketball team, and *mishmar* night basketball games.

The flag football league on *motzei shabbos* is, once again, a huge success, as it has been for years. Most of the *talmidim* are signed up for the league at the JCC, and eagerly await their weekly games. The seven on seven games, which are played on state-of-the-art turf, are full of energy as footballs are thrown, caught, and kicked, an awesome way to start off a new week.

During *mishmar*

dinner, the *bochurim* make their way to the new and improved basketball courts for the *shuir* vs. *shuir* games. Before the games start, Rabbi Winter can be seen hard at work putting up the brand new lights that the Yeshiva has recently purchased. Rabbi Palgon usually assumes the role of commentator, making the calls and providing his own "professional" and sometimes humorous commentary, while Max Baumgarten provides music and sound effects for the crowd to enjoy. The basketball games are anxiously anticipated throughout the week and are widely enjoyed by both the players and the audience.

Finally, to think he could not possibly take on another task, Rabbi Winter

organized a new Y.T.C. basketball team. The team consists of twelve players who practice on Fridays after lunch. Most students are confident that the team efforts will be largely successful as a result of the amazing coaching and basketball skills of both Rabbi Winter and Rabbi Ruck.



YTC Dinner Honorees Part 2

Mr. & Mrs. Irving & Roslyn Seidel

Irving and Roslyn Seidel A"H... two names that are synonymous with the growth and development of the North Miami Beach *kehilla* and indeed, all of South Florida. Arriving in Florida practically as newlyweds in 1954, they embarked on the journey of their lives and what would turn out to be their life's mission - ensuring that every Jewish child had a place in which to receive a quality Jewish education. Although there was an established day school in Miami Beach, the Seidels wanted the children of North Miami Beach to have a school within their own community. Dedicating themselves to bringing that education closer to home and seeking *da'as Torah* at every juncture, the Yeshiva Day School - the forerunner of Toras Emes - was started in 1970, occupying a single room in Young Israel of Greater Miami.

We owe a tremendous *hakoras hatov* to the Seidels, whose foresight and determination helped lay the groundwork for the beautiful Yeshiva and *kehilla* which we are privileged to enjoy today. Following in their parents' illustrious footsteps, daughters Deborah S. Chames and Shira S. Westreich and their families continue to bring abundant *kavod* to their beloved parents with their exemplary acts of *tzedakah* and *chesed*. We extend our heartfelt Mazel Tov to the entire *mishpacha*.

Harbotzas HaTorah Award

Rabbi & Mrs. Dovid & Shifra

Sharfman

Mishgiach Ruchani, Bais Medrash

Zichron Ezra



Honoring Mr. & Mrs. Irving & Roslyn

Seidel ה"י

Beloved parents of

Mrs. Deborah S. Chames & Mrs.

Shira S. Westreich



Young Leadership Award

Mr. & Mrs. Chaim & Bryna Roth

Accepted in Loving Memory of Their

Beloved Father,

R' Reuven Yisroel ben Chaim

Hirsch Roth ה"י



3rd Yahrzeit of the Yeshiva's Beloved Friend & Benefactor, Dr. Abe Chames A"H December 5, 2011



Dr. Allan Jacob, President of Toras Emes, speaks to the Yeshiva about Dr. Chame's Yahrzeit

13 Teves, 5772 / Sunday evening, January 8, 2012

YESHIVA TORAS CHAIM / TORAS EMES

27th Annual Dinner

Yeshiva Toras Chaim Dr. Abe Chames High School
1025 N.E. Miami Gardens Dr., NMB, FL 33179

Phone: 305-944-5344

Fax: 305-947-5021

Email: ytcteam.org

spotlight@ytcteam.org