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ז' ניסן תשע"ב

פרשת צו

שבת הגדול

Candle Lighting 7:18 PM

Rabbi Binyomin Luban
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ראשי הישיבה

Issue 16

Dvar Torah - The Benefit of Voluntary מצוות by Rabbi Zelig Privalsky

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The סטייפלער גאון asks an intriguing question, for which his answer clarifies an important concept in עבודת ה'.

We find that there are many מצוות in the תורה that are "voluntary". Among these are

קרבתנות that are brought as donations (נדבות), the נדר of גזירות, and all the מצוות which on a תורה level have no שיעור or minimum requirement.

If ה' wanted us to do these מצוות because they are important, like other מצוות, then why not obligate us to do them? If they are not so important as to be considered obligatory, then why give them at all?

The idea of donating a מצווה is really a way of developing a love for ה'. The ראשונים ask a fundamental question: How is it that ה' can obligate us to have a certain feeling in our heart? If ה' tells us to do an action (מצוות עשה), we must do it. Likewise, if ה' tells us not to do an action (מצוות לא תעשה), we must be careful not to do it. But how can we put feelings into our hearts? Yet, we find that many מצוות

are תלויות בלב ה', אהבת ה' or loving ה'.

The ספר החינוך and others explain that there is an idea called חיצוניות מעוררת הפנימיות; the outside action influences the inside of a person. In this case, one who feels that he's doing something for someone else will automatically feel closer to that person.

When someone feels that he's doing something for ה' without being obligated, he feels as if he's giving ה' a gift, which will lead him to feel a love toward ה' יתברך.

This is why ה' gave us these מצוות on a voluntary basis; in order to give us a way in which to acquire אהבת ה'.

The more a person "gives to ה'", the higher-level of אהבת ה' he will reach.

Whether he gives by learning more or davening better, doing חסד or giving צדקה, when a person feels "I wasn't obligated to go so far, but I did it anyways for ה'", he achieves a level of אהבת ה' that he didn't have before.

May we all be זוכה to serve ה' properly and to push ourselves to go the extra mile, which will bring us to a higher level of אהבת ה'. And when ה' sees how much we will do for Him, He will want to do for us, and will bring the שלמה במהרה בימינו אמן.

Dvar Halacha - Eating Roasted Meat on Pesach by Eli Hersher, 10th Grade

The Shulchan Aruch states that one is not allowed to eat any kind of roasted meat on the night of the Seder. This includes not only meat roasted directly over a fire, but even meat cooked in a pot without any additional liquids (e.g. pot roast). This halacha was enacted due to the fear that an onlooker might see the meat and permit the Korban Pesach, which is currently forbidden due to the destruction of the second Bais Hamikdash.

The Mishnah Berurah writes that even meat which was cooked in water before being roasted on an open flame is forbidden on the Seder night for the same reason, even though it does not fully resemble the roast of the Pesach offering. However, one who is ill and feels weak at the Seder is permitted to consume this last kind of roasted meat on both Seder nights, even if he only has a slight illness such as a headache.

The Weekly Quiz

Q: What does this phrase mean? כשחל

שמיני בשביעי, קורין
שמיני שמונה פעמים.

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 issue's question:

Q. When is a *mem sofis* ("ם") found in the middle of a word?

A. It is found in Yeshaya perek 9 pasuk

לְמַרְבֵּה [לְמַרְבֵּה] הַמְשֻׁרָה וְלִשְׁלֹום : 6
אֵי-רִקְזָן עַל-כִּפְסָא דְדוֹר וְעַל-מַמְלַכְתּוֹ לְהַכִּין
אֶתֶּה וְלִסְעֻדָה בְּמִשְׁפָּט וּבִצְדָקָה מֵעַתָּה
וְעַד-עוֹלָם קִנְיַת יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת
הַעֲשֵׂה-יְהוָה:

Yasher Koach to Moshe Pesach Grossman of the 9th grade, who was the first to submit the correct answer!

them the desperate fanfare that the paparazzi give to superstars. However, after seeing Rav Chaim Pinchas Scheinberg zt"l, the chasing and the fanfare make perfect sense now.

Unfortunately, few people truly appreciate how incredible our Gedolim are; I think this is strongly rooted in not really understanding what makes a Gadol. Gedolim have imbibed Torah, not only implementing it into their lives like the average person, but they have absorbed it into their being. As a result, they have become extraordinary. After one look at Rav Scheinberg zt"l, or any Gadol, all of this is imminently apparent. I feel so incredibly fortunate that my class and I had the opportunity to see Rav Scheinberg zt"l.

After Rav Scheinberg zt"l passed away, Rabbi Luban gave a schmooze to the High School to impress upon the students the tremendous loss we and all of Bnei Yisroel had suffered. Rabbi Luban quoted a Gemorah in Mesechet Eruvin where Rebbi, the Amorah, asks, "Why am I greater than all of my friends?" To which he answers, "Because I was zoche to see Rebbi Meir, who was a Tanna, from behind; if I had seen him from his front I would

YTC Team vs. Alumni All-Stars

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This past Tuesday night, the Yeshiva Toras Chaim Varsity Basketball Team played a game against the alumni of Toras Chaim. The entire High School and many alumni came out to watch and partake in the successful event. Mori Goldberg (Class of 2009), alumnus and coach of the alumni team, called the game "a great opportunity for everyone to see friends in a relaxed setting". The High School team all donned their brand-new jerseys for the occasion. Shlomo Kalchman [Shooting Guard] said that it really meant a lot to play in his first game, especially in the new jerseys. The High School team played very well together, and Rabbi / Coach Winter encouraged the team in the after-game huddle, saying that he was very impressed



and that the guys did very well. However, the highlight of the game, according to Rabbi Ruck, was when alumnus Chaim Homnick (Class of 2009) had 3 steals in

a row. Rabbi Ruck also noted about the High School team, "The guys were a little nervous and didn't hit all their shots... it happens". Even though the alumni team was victorious against the High

School in a neck and neck game, Moshe Bloorian [Center] commented that just playing the game gave an amazing sense of school pride. The team has scheduled additional games in the future. Avner Glatt [Power Forward] remarked that he's glad that the team has the opportunity to play some games. The event was a great success; everyone got to see old friends they haven't seen in a while and cheer on their favorite teams. We all can't wait to see the outcome of next year's match.

Congratulations

To all the half-time shooters nominees. They were chosen because they had outstanding Shuir performance!

Shragi Bistriz, Shlomo Trop, Jacob Moses, and Akiva Brand

Rav Scheinberg ZT"l by Jaime Benson, 12th Grade

I have never been much of a Gadol chaser. Until recently, I would have even said that a certain degree of the chashivus for our Gedolim is lost when we give

have been so much greater!" This statement absolutely boggles the mind! Gedolim are our link to the previous generation. Hearing and learning Torah

"What is the cheapest thing and still the most valuable?" To which he would answer, "Time, because every second is so incredibly valuable." To me, this almost seemed comical to a man of Rav Scheinberg's age. A second was beyond batel, yet to every group that would come, Rav Scheinberg would tell with absolute sincerity how every single solitary second is a priceless gift. I realized though, that this was part of his gadlus. This was a piece of the link that he was passing on to the next generation.

All of Klal Yisroel should be zoche to a nichum avelim over this incredible loss of the countless 'seconds' of Torah study that was lost with the passing of Rav Scheinberg zt"l.



Seniors visit Rav Scheinberg zt"l during their trip to Israel.

from them is learning Torah one level closer to Har Sinai, a zechus that some of us can barely comprehend.

Rav Scheinberg zt"l classic speech to groups was based around the quote "Mi ha'ish HeChofetz Chaim....." Rav Scheinberg zt"l would say,