



Dvar Torah - A Lesson in Bitachon by *Rabbi Eliezer Rubin*

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The Midrash tells us a fascinating story about an extremely poor Kohain who was an expert at examining tzara'as. Because of his poverty, he decided to leave Eretz Yisroel

to find a job in a different country. Before leaving, he taught his wife the principles of examining tzara'as, so that she'd be able to examine people in his absence. One can tell whether someone is diseased or healthy by examining the grooves under his hair. Each hair is nurtured within its own groove. If the groove under the hair has dried up, it is a symptom of disease, for the health of each hair is dependent upon the moisture of its individual groove. His wife wondered at these words: if Hashem created a source of nourishment for each individual hair, He certainly can provide for us and for our family! Don't leave Eretz Yisroel! Stay here, and Hashem will certainly provide for us. The Kohain listened to her and stayed in Eretz Yisroel, and Hashem helped him find a livelihood there.

The question on this Midrash is obvious: Why shouldn't the Kohain have left to go somewhere else? Wasn't he allowed, even encouraged, to make an effort to provide parnassah for his family? Wouldn't relocating to a land with more opportunities be a part of this effort? In fact, the Gemara tells us that one is allowed to leave Eretz Yisroel in order to make a living!

The Tiferes Tzion answers that if someone is on a high level and recognizes that Hashem can provide for him no matter where he is or what he does, then Hashem will provide for him without any effort. The Kohain's wife was giving him a mussar lesson, trying to make him realize this, so that he would not leave the country.

Although we may not be on this high level of trust in Hashem, whatever extent to which we can believe that Hashem is solely in charge and we're just going through the motions is the extent that we will merit success. In addition, bitachon gives us peace of mind and contentment, realizing that Hashem is in control, which can help us be successful and happy both in this world and in the world to come.

Dvar Halacha - Wringing Out Cloth On Shabbos by *Moshe Talmi, 10th Grade*

One of the melachos that is asur on Shabbos is melaben, which is cleaning or whitening. A toldah (sub-category) of melaben is sechita, which is squeezing liquid out of a cloth in order to clean it. Therefore, if a person's clothing became stained on Shabbos, it would be asur to wring out the clothing in an attempt to remove the stain.

The Rama (301:46) says that in a case where there are clothes soaked in water, it is asur to carry those clothes anywhere because one might come to clean them by squeezing. The Mishna Brurah comments that this halacha only applies if the clothes are

significantly wet, because otherwise there's no worry that one might squeeze them. Similarly, this halacha only applies to objects soaked in a clear liquid such as water where squeezing will clearly accomplish the task of cleaning the clothing, but if the cloth is soaked in a colorful liquid (such as juice or dye) we are not concerned that sechita will be done. Additionally, in a case where one doesn't need the wet object - for example, a wet paper towel used to clean a spill, the halacha is that it is mutar to move it around because we are not concerned that someone would squeeze it out for future use.

The Weekly Quiz

Q: How many generations are there between Shaul and Mordechai?

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. What does this phrase mean? כשחל שמיני בשביעי, קורין בשמיני שמונה פעמים

A. When the eighth day of שבת (שמיני) falls out on שבת (שביעי), we lain Parshas שמיני eight times ... as it happened this year.



Deep sea fishing on the 11th Grade Class Trip

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New Bais Medrash Wing (BMW) by Shalom Rottman, 9th Grade

The Bais Medrash wing has finally re-opened, after going through a complete renovation. The wing consists of many classrooms and was built



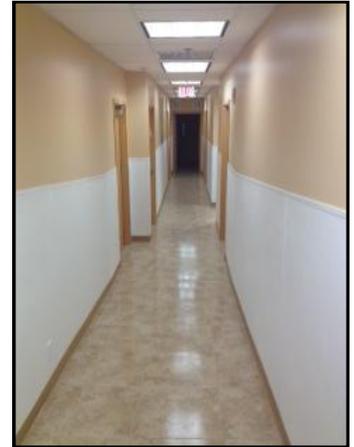
mainly for the Bais Medrash Shuirim. During the construction, their Shiurim were held in the Media Center and Board Room. Additionally, some High School classes had to be temporarily relocated to makeshift classrooms in

the auditorium, due to a lack of regular classrooms.

The new Bais Medrash Wing, or 'BMW', was finished and ready for use when everyone returned from Pesach break. The Bais Medrash bochrim had the privilege of being the first ones to use the new wing. The next day, eager High School students and teachers moved into their new classrooms as well.

Now that the wing is open, teachers and students are settling into their new classrooms and are happy to be in a permanent environment. "I hope having state-of-the-art equipment in these classrooms will help inspire students to learn better," Rabbi Levine, Secular Studies Principal, said. When Mr.

Richardson, a teacher now using the new wing, was asked to comment, he said "It was a long time waiting but it is finally finished. Hopefully we can keep it



clean for the rest of the year and make it seem still new next year." As this year comes to a close, we hope that this year's students, as well as those in years to come, enjoy this addition to the Yeshiva.

4th Semi-Annual Blood Drive

On Sunday, April 22, Yeshiva Toras Chaim hosted its 4th semi-annual blood drive. This drive, similar to the pre-

vious drives, proved to be a tremendous success, as a whopping 30 pints were collected,

outdoing the average drive by more than three times. The turnout consisted of talmidim (who of course didn't miss class), Rebbeim and members of the community.

Bill Foty, director of the Community Blood Centers, commented that this was "a record-breaking drive." In addition to the chesed accomplished by giving

blood, the drives at the Yeshiva are always a Kid-dush Hashem. A big thank you to all those who participated.

