



December 7, 2012

כ"ג כסלו תשע"ג

פרשת וישב

Candle Lighting 5:11 PM

Rabbi Binyomin Luban

Rabbi Yisroel Y. Niman

Rabbi Mordechai Palgon

ראשי הישיבה

Dvar Torah (אייזהו גיבור? הcovosh את יצרו. (פרק אבות) by Rabbi Bergida

Issue 5

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(יומא לח:) גם' teaches that the test that יוסף הצדיק endured with אשת פוטיפר was more challenging than the temptation experienced by any רשות, proving that even those who

experience temptations are not excused from learning Torah.

The גם' continues by describing the attempts of אשת פוטיפר. She first attempted to seduce him with words, and would dress up and frequently change her clothing in order to further tempt יוסף. Nevertheless, יוסף continuously refuted her advances. She then threatened to confine him to prison, bend his proud stature, and even blind him. יוסף responded that "Hashem releases the imprisoned, straightens the bent and gives sight to the blind." He tells her that he is governed only by the will of Hashem, and will not be led astray from what he knows to be right. She then bribed him

with one thousand silver bars. יוסף הצדיק still held his ground, refusing to succumb to his temptation.

The בון יהודה and מהרש"א tell us that Hashem rewarded יוסף by removing him from prison, opening his eyes to the interpretation of פרעעה's dreams. And further building his stature by allowing him to feed the entire world.

In a letter to a fellow who needed support in these areas of temptation (קרירינה דאגרתא יב' ג'), the Steipler Gaon writes that one who is at the height of temptation but overpowers his desires because they are prohibited by the תורה draws a tremendous holiness, even though he may have failed several times. Such a person is placed on the same level as יוסוף הצדיק, who sanctified Hashem's name in private, meriting tremendous reward.

Realizing the astronomical appreciation Hashem has for those who overcome temptations may give us the boost we need to fight our battles.

Dvar Mussar- The Shmuz by Zev Sugerman, 12th Grade

This past Tuesday, Rabbi BenTzion Shafier, director of the world renowned Shmuz.com, came to Yeshiva Toras Chaim to inspire the *Bnei HaYeshiva*. He spoke of the incredible value of Torah learning and *mitzvos* and how those *zechusim* will never disappear. He used the story of Acher to illustrate this point. Acher was a *Tana* who tragically became an *apikores* and did almost unspeakable *aveiros*. He later misunderstood a *Bas Kol* and thought his *teshuva* would not be accepted, so he continued doing *aveiros* instead of *mitzvos*. After he passed away, he was stuck in 'limbo' because his *aveiros* prevented him from entering *Gan Eden*, but

his Torah learning prevented him from entering *Gehinom*. He was eventually allowed into *Gehinom* after his student, Rabbi Meir, *davened* that he should be cleansed and then allowed to enter *Gan Eden*.

There is a strong message that can be learned from this story. It is clear that the merits received from learning Torah and doing *mitzvos* are eternal. Even someone like Acher, who was known as one of the biggest *reshaim*, ended up in *Gan Eden* regardless of all the *aveiros* he did. It is important to realize the worth of Torah and consequently internalize the resolve to strive for greatness.

The Weekly Quiz

Q: Upon what can we recite a bracha even though we cannot see it?

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: Who were the three people that looked like Avraham?

A: Yitzchok, Lot and Eliezer

Yasher Koach to Meir Wasserman for submitting two out of the three people.



Darren grew up in a typical South African Jewish home, adhering to Jewish traditions but never really knowing the reasons behind them.

All that changed with a simple Birthright trip to Israel, which turned into an 8-year Aliyah journey of discovery about himself and the reasons that Judaism was always a part of his life. This journey ran the gamut of extremes - from kibbutz life to army life, from the secular world to the frum world, from times of peace to times of war, and from living life to experiencing death.

Six years ago, he was the commander of a sniper unit in the Golani Brigade and was the sole survivor of his team in the 2nd Lebanon War. And six years prior to his tour of duty, Darren was a completely secular Jew who had never been to Israel, didn't believe in G-d and had a passion for going against the grain of Torah-true behaviors and values.

Twelve years is a lifetime when you are striving for growth, are willing to break yourself, admit your flaws, and work on developing the self-awareness of the choices you make every day. Today, Baruch Hashem, Darren is a full-time Yeshiva bochur learning in Shor Yeshuv Yeshiva in Far Rockaway, NY, and a proud chosson.

Girls Age 11 & Under Only

YEHIVA TORAS CHAIM
Bais Medrash Zichron Ezra
Dr. Abe Chames High School

Cordially Invites You to Our

ANNUAL CHANUKAH CHAGIGA

כ"ט סל"ו, תשעג (5th Night)
WEDNESDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER 12, 2012
6:50 (Ma'ariv) - 8:30 PM at the Yeshiva
1025 NE Miami Gardens Drive, N. Miami Beach
in the David & Sally Samuels Dining Hall

Special Guest Speaker:
DARREN DALL

Live Music!! ♦ Leibidig Dancing!!
Mouth-Watering Sufganiyot &
Fantastic Ice Cream Buffet

Wishing everyone
a freilichen Chanukah!

YTC Open House by Yehuda Horowitz, 10th Grade

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Potential students along with their parents gathered this past Sunday



General Rabbi David Levine addressed the students and parents and an outstanding video presentation created by Akiva Nemetsky of the 12th grade was shown. There were some great

presentations given by YTC students as well. The guests were given a full description of the Yeshiva. Not only was the program itself great, but all the teachers attended. This gave everyone an opportunity to meet and interact with all their future



teachers. A delicious buffet, consisting of Franks in Blankets, cookies, fruits and more, was served after the speeches. I was very impressed by how the Yeshiva presented itself. From the students, to the sushi, to Yehuda Mittel running around with his "spiffy" camera, I believe it was a very successful night. Looking forward to seeing you next year!!!



The Biggest Loser Competition by Mikey Boyer, 9th Grade

"Why did you start this program?" I asked Mr. Schwartz as I interviewed him right outside the Yeshiva's exercise facility.

"We started this program as a motivational tool for kids here in the Yeshiva who are either overweight or not as in shape as they'd like to be, to help them get into shape," responded Mr. Schwartz

"Ah!" I exclaimed, and proceeded with another question.

"What will the program include?"

"There will be weight loss percentage competitions between students and faculty members as well as dietary tips. Neither the Yeshiva nor its faculty members will endorse a specific diet. We wish to educate and enlighten any student

who wishes to be educated and enlightened," he said in a matter-of-fact way.

"I guess my last question... why *The Biggest Loser*? Doesn't that seem a bit harsh?"

He smiled slightly, as if implying the most commonly used word in cases such as these: "Duh!?", but nevertheless continued by responding politely, "It's referring to who's going to be the biggest loser percentage-wise. Plus there is some name association with *The Biggest Loser*, a national weight loss competition"

Well, that's that. If you have any further question on the matter, you can always ask Mr. Schwartz for more information. I'm sure he'd be glad to help.