



March 15, 2013

ד ניסן תשע"ג

פרשת ויקרא

Candle Lighting 7:11 PM

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ראשי הישיבה

Dvar Torah – Modern Day Korbanos by Rabbi Moishe Reznitsky

Issue 13

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As we approach *Parshas Vayikra*, which discusses the details of *korbanos* (sacrifices), one might ask what in

fact the purpose of a *korban* is. Clearly, Hashem doesn't need our animal offerings, so there must be an underlying reason for this commandment. The *Minchas Chinuch* in *Mitzvah 95* offers some insight into this topic. He highlights the fact that the word "*korban*" originates from the root word of "*karov*" (close). In this term lies the secret of *korbanos*: they are intended to bring us closer to our Creator.

The different types of *korbanos* fulfill this objective in different ways. One type is the *korban chatas*, which is an obligatory offering for one who sins. This *korban* requires the individual to use money that he worked hard to earn to buy an animal. He is then obligated to perform a thorough inspection for blemishes and then bring it up to the *Beis Hamikdash*, where it is sacrificed as an atonement for his sins. Since sinning distances us from *Hashem*, He designed this process to be time-consuming and strenuous in order to serve as a

deterrent to future sinning. In this manner, the *korban* renews and strengthens our relationship with our Creator.

In their own way, voluntary *korbanos* also increase our closeness with *Hashem*. The Steipler explains that since we are not obligated to bring these sacrifices, but rather choose to do so of our own accord, we are brought to a much higher level of awareness and love of *Hashem*. This is because when one volunteers to bring a *korban*, one is externally portraying *Ahavas Hashem* (love of G-d). Through this external act, his inner feelings of *Ahavas Hashem* (love of G-d) will be aroused, leading to closeness with G-d.

Today we unfortunately don't have the ability to bring *korbanos*. However, we are taught that *tefila* (prayer) is our present-day form of sacrifice. Our *tefillos* discuss all of *Hashem's* loving kindness, awesome power, and unlimited desire to answer our requests. By focusing on the beautiful words of our prayers, we will be brought to a deeper level of love and closeness with *Hashem*. We are now in the month of Nissan, which is a special time to get rid of the "*chametz*" on our souls and come closer to *Hashem*. Let us all utilize this special opportunity and together bring *Moshiach* speedily in our days.

Dvar Halacha – Drinking the Arba Kosos by Eliyahu Talmi, 11th Grade

When drinking the Arba Kosos on Pesach, there is a certain amount one must drink in order to fulfill one's obligation. All opinions agree that the size of the cup must be a *revi'is*. The Poskim discuss how much of the cup must be drunk in order to be *yotzei*. Lechatchila it's best to drink the whole cup. Bedieved, the Ramban holds that one is *yotzei* by drinking most of the cup. The

Ran is further lenient and paskens that one is *yotzei* by drinking the majority of a *revi'is*, even if that is less than most of the cup. The Mishna Berura paskens like the Ran, though says that it is best to be *machmir* like the Ramban. Rav Moshe Feinstein zt"l tells us that the shiur for a *revi'is* is DeRabanan (which is the shiur we drink for the Arba Kosos) is 3.3 ounces of wine or grape juice.

The Weekly Riddle

Q: In Tanach, the Jews have had many enemies. Which one of them was a Jew?

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 two things in the Torah are results of the Eitzbah Elokim?

A: The Luchos and Makas Kinim

Special Thank You to the Spotlight team who stepped up and took charge while the Seniors were in Israel.



Mazel Tov to Rabbi Kalter's 11th Grade Bekiyus Shiur making a siyum on the third Perek of Kidushin

Israel Learn & Tour 2013 by Zev Sugerman, 12th Grade

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Two weeks ago the seniors of Yeshiva Toras Chaim Dr. Abe Chames High School had the zechus of going to Eretz Yisroel.

We all were obviously excited, as we've heard much praise of the trip from previous classes, but we didn't really grasp the true greatness until we experienced the trip for ourselves. We quickly were introduced to the "geshmack" of Eretz Yisroel. We were exposed to the amazing culture and lifestyle. We saw our history firsthand and experienced a land bursting at the seams with miracles. This was much more than any ordinary class trip. We also became fully aware of all the tireless hours and sacrifices that our amazing, devoted Rabbeim put into allowing us to have the most inspirational and enjoyable trip imaginable. Thank you so much Rabbi Winter and Rabbi Schloss. Thanks also to our chaperones, Ezri Hoenig and Tzvi Nay. Thanks to all sponsors as well as to Rabbi Palgon who supported this trip and made it possible.

Coming back home wasn't so easy, especially as we realized that our true home is Eretz Yisroel. In order to concretize our memories and inspiration we each shared a memory or highlight from the trip with the rest of the school. While it is hard to completely articulate the full experience of this incredible

trip, this is just what some of us had to say:

It was very inspiring to daven at Mearas Hamachpela. We said "Elokai Avraham" in Shmone Esrai while we were in front of Avraham Avinu, which was a surreal experience. –Jason Rosenblum

Going to the shuk really shows the essence of the laid back, trusting lifestyle of Eretz Yisroel. All the vendors have their products out in the open, unlike America where everything is locked up. –Avidor Gerstenfeld

It was amazing to have a kumzits with Chaim Dovid on his rooftop overlooking the Har Habayis. –Zev Sugerman

It was heartwarming to see how friendly all the alumni were at the reunion and how much they cared about each one of us. –Akiva Nemetsky

It's cool to see how all Jews look out for each other. One of us left a bag in a store and when he came back the store owner was so happy to do the mitzvah of returning a lost object. –Mordechai Flamholtz

It was amazing to go to the tishes in Mea Shearim and see how happy all the people were with the most basic lifestyle. It made us realize that you don't need material wealth or

technology to be happy. –Yonatan Peres

Getting to see and daven at the Kosel was an amazing proof that strengthens our belief in Judaism and erases any doubts we might have. –Moshe Bloorian

The unique and gradual steps chiseled into Ein Gedi made me daher that these steps are just like life—you need to climb them one at a time; otherwise you won't make it up. –Shua Lehrfield

It's amazing to see how independent the children are in Eretz Yisroel. Only there, will you see a four year-old walking with her two year-old sister down the street. You can see that everyone trusts their fellow Jew. –Mikey Solomon

Davening at Belz on Friday night was an inspirational experience. There were over 3,000 Chasidim and it was amazing to see all the pride and joy they put into serving Hashem. –Chaim Sandler

The fact that everybody was so touched by the kedusha of Eretz Yisrael shows us how every Jew has a yearning to get close to Hashem which can easily come to fruition. –Rabbi Schloss



Moshe Bloorian sharing his experience with YTC students