

Parsha Press

PARSHAT VAYIKRA PARSHAT ZACHOR

Remembering Amalek Jennie Sturm

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Right after mentioning what Amalek did in Parshat B'shalach, it says, "Vayishma Yitro," Yitro heard. However, the whole world heard about the war against Amalek. What did Yitro hear that was so impressive, that the Torah had to be written "Vayishma Yitro?" Yitro heard about Yitziat Metzraim, and that the Jewish people battled against Amalek and won. He learned from this that when the Jews are in trouble, and they need help, they turn to G-d. He also learned from this that the Jews try to defend themselves, do their hishtadlut, and don't rely entirely on G-d. From here we can learn the important lesson of trusting that Hashem will help us in addition to trying on our own to correct a situation. SHABBAT SHALOM!

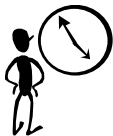


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Vayikra For Life Mrs. Gross

"Which chumash are you learning?" The Rebbe asked. "Chumash Vayikra", shouted twenty two young shining and eager faces. "Why are you learning Vayikra" continued the Rebbe. "Because Vayikra is about korbonos and korbonos are holy just like little children are holy". This is a piece of a sweet and precious memory I have of a chumash play I attended several years ago. There is an age old custom that when children begin to learn Torah they are taught the first few verses of Vayikra relating to the sacrificial offerings. The reason is that children are holy. "Let the holy children come learn the holy services in the temple". As adults we should strive to embody the concepts we teach our children. (continued on pg.2)



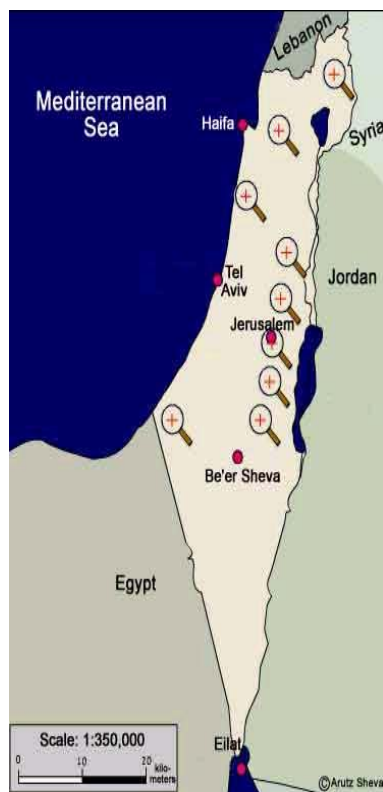
Shabbat Starts:
5:48

News From Israel

-The King of Jordan, King Abdullah II, has put forward a new peace strategy that would call for normalization between Arab nations and Israel, even before Israel returns land that was seized during the Six Day War.

-The OC Southern Command Major General Dan Harel has signed a decree that prohibits the relocation of Israelis into the Gaza Strip.

-jpost.com



Arutzsheva.com

(continued from pg. 1) So often we find ourselves trying to protect young children from harsh or improper experiences, while we forget our own adult neshamot require just as much nurturing and caring. Each year the reading of Parshat Vayikra, and each morning as we say “Eloki neshama she’natata bi tehora hee”, we have the opportunity to focus our thoughts on this idea.

Rabbi Yaakov Horowitz, of Monsey, relates another lesson we can tap into as we begin the book of Vayikra. One can think of the five books of the Torah as spanning a human lifetime. Each one of us begins in the Bereishit stage, establishing our roots, gleaned lessons from our past. Then we move into the turbulent years of adolescence, hopefully emerging with a sense of self discovery as a unique personality emerges. Similarly the children of Yaakov entered the crucible of exile in Egypt and emerged as Am Yisroel. Next each person goes on to hone individual talents and skills, acquiring and perfecting the tools one will need for a lifetime. This is comparable to the building of the beautiful vessels for the service in the mishkan. Finally, with the work of Bereishit and Shemot completed, one is ready to answer to the “Vayikra”. Hashem calls upon each one of us to complete our exclusive mission in life. May each one of us merit to answer the call, and live up to our full potential.

Good Shabbos.

Humble Perceptions Ayelet Nussbaum

The first word in this week's parsha is unusual. The letter "aleph" at the end of the word "VaYikra" is written smaller than the rest of the letters in the word. There is an obvious question—what can we learn from this smaller letter?

The reason for this unusual letter is rooted in the humility of Moshe. He wanted the word to read "VaYikar" and He (G-d) chanced upon Moshe, so that it would not seem that G-d actually called him, implying that Moshe was very special. However, G-d told Moshe that he should write the "aleph". However, instead of writing it in its usual size he specifically made it smaller to preserve the idea that indeed G-d only “chanced” upon Moshe.

In another place, the Torah praises Moshe saying: "and the man Moshe is exceedingly humble, more than any (other) man. Didn't Moshe also write this? Did Moshe not also know that he was the only one with whom G-d had such a relationship? (Continued on pg.3)

(continued from pg. 2) How could Moshe be humble knowing all too well that he was so special?

The answer is as follows. One can be very great comparatively speaking, and still fall short of one's potential. One who is humble does not view himself in comparison to others, rather in terms of how he is living up to his own potential. Therefore, Moshe did not feel that he was more worthy than others.

Humility is considered the most elevated of good character traits. Through humility one can control anger, tolerate pain, and find the good in others.

A story is told of a man who came to his teacher with a question. "Our sages tell us that he who runs away from honor, honor runs after him." "I am constantly running away from honor, and it never runs after me." The teacher responded, "I suspect that when you are running away you are looking back to see if honor is truly running after you." "There is no bigger pursuer of honor than that." SHAB-BAT SHALOM!

-Based on a dvar Torah by Rabbi Dovid Green (torah.org)

Story of a Gadol

Rabbi Nissim Atya zt"l was a great Torah scholar who lived in Syria. Every Yom Tov he would wear a special silk coat on top of which he wore a beautiful overcoat made from the finest materials and decorated with elaborate artistic designs. One Yom Tov Rabbi Nissim noticed a man walking around the shul in torn clothing. He truly felt this poor man's pain and wished to approach him immediately to alleviate his suffering. In order to avoid embarrassing the man in public, Rabbi Nissim kept an eye on the poor man and waited for an opportunity to approach him in private. When the man left shul to go to the restroom, the Rabbi quietly followed him there. When Rabbi Nissim was alone with the man, he immediately removed his overcoat and gave his silk undercoat to the man so that he would have something presentable to wear for Yom Tov. The man thanked Rabbi Nissim profusely and accepted his coat. When Rabbi Nissim returned home, his wife noticed that he was missing his silk undercoat and asked him what had happened to it. Due to his modesty, Rabbi Nissim was at first reluctant to relate to his wife the kind act of chessed which he performed. After being asked by his wife numerous times, Rabbi Nissim told his wife what he did. When the tzadeket found out about this man's situation she exclaimed, "Do you think that your silk coat will be enough clothing for this man to live comfortably!" The Reb-betzen promptly packed a package of clothing to be delivered to this man anonymously.

-Adapted from Od Yoseph Chai Magazine

"Quote of the Week"

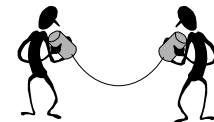
"I think that somehow, we learn who we really are and then live with that decision. "

Eleanor Roosevelt

SHMIRAT HALASHON

Rejecting rechilus brings blessing and joy in this world and in the world to come.

**Chofetz Chaim:
A Daily Companion**



FAST FACTS on BIRKAT HaILANOT Chaya Green

- ✓ The reason for this bracha is for man to give praise to Hashem for creating these trees, from which man can benefit
- ✓ The Mechaber writes that someone who goes out in the month of Nissan, and sees the trees sprouting fruit, should say, "Blessed is Hashem, the king of the universe, who did not leave anything out of His world, and created good creations and good trees so man can enjoy them."
- ✓ We say this bracha only once a year
- ✓ This bracha only applies to trees that bear fruit
- ✓ It is forbidden to make this bracha on Shabbos or Yom Tov, because one might come to pick the fruit from the tree
- ✓ This mitzvah also applies to women

Mazel Tov



To Adina Gamss on the marriage of her sister
Yael to Tzachi Rosman

To Talia Fenster on the engagement of her sister
Suzanne to Adam Feit

To Evie Smulevitz on the upcoming marriage of
her brother

March 20
Kelly Levy
Becky Steinmetz

March 22
Lisa Golombeck
Rachel Rosen
Alex Sher

March 23

Leah Black
Emily Levine
Rivka Meth

March 24
Tamar Berger

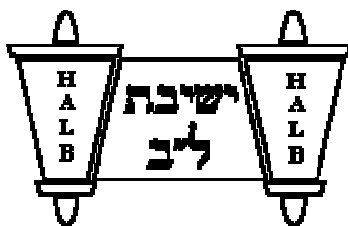
March 25
Aviva Glass
Ally Wiener

Parsha Quiz



THERE WILL BE A PU-
RIM/PARSHA QUIZ ON
WEDNESDAY!

Stella K. Abraham High School for Girls



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