



PARSHA INSIGHTS

And you shall place the Luchos that I shall give you in the Aron. (25:16)

There are ten levels of holiness... Eretz Yisroel is holier than any other land; Yerushalayim is holier than any other city in Eretz Yisroel; Har HaBais is holier than any other place in Yerushalayim. The holiest place is the Kodesh Hakodoshim. (Kailim 1:6)

Why is the Kodesh Hakodoshim the holiest place on earth? The Torah was housed in the Kodesh Hakodoshim.

Now that the Bais Hamikdosh and the Kodesh Hakodoshim have been destroyed, where does this holiness rest? Is there a way for man to benefit from this sanctity today?

Rebbi Shimon ben Elozor ruled: One who is present when the soul of a Jew departs from his body, must tear his clothing, as is done when a Sefer Torah is destroyed. (Moed Katan 25a)

In fact, the crown of Torah is more precious than the Kohen Godol who enters the innermost sanctuary in the Bais Hamikdosh (Huriyos 13a).

Based on Chazal in Huriyos, a person who studies Torah assumes a part of the holy status of the Kodesh Hakodoshim. If one wants to tap into that lofty level of spirituality, one should enter a Bais Medrash and study Torah.

Bnai Yisroel should encamp... surrounding the Ohel Moed. (Bamidbar 2, 2)

Each family had their own tent and every Shevet had their own area but they all were encamped around one centrality, the Ohel Moed, which housed the Aron and the Torah. (Ohr HaChaim)

Without Torah study, our nation is not considered a nation. (Rav Saadia Gaon 3:7)

The Ohr HaChaim and Rav Saadia Gaon are teaching that Torah study unifies the Jewish people into one nation and it is the focal point around which they gather.

Although the unity reached during the encampment of Bnai Yisroel and the holiness in the Kodesh Hakodoshim have disappeared, nonetheless they can be attained through the study of Torah in a Bais Medrash. This is also the reason that a Bais Medrash is called a Mikdosh M'at, a miniature Bais Hamikdosh.



You shall make bars of acacia wood... (26:26)

All mitzvos performed with items that grow from the ground must be performed when the items are pointed in the same direction in which they grow. A lulav must be held in the upright position... and if they are used in another manner, one has not fulfilled the mitzva of lulav. (Suka 45b)

The bars in the Mishkan were not built in an upright position - they were horizontal. Shouldn't this have been a problem? In addition, schach that is placed on top of a suka is positioned in a horizontal position. Since schach must be from an item that grows from the ground, why is it not placed in the direction of its growth - vertical?

The Binyan Shlomo (48) answers that although acacia wood grows upright, as long as the wood is not placed upside down, it is considered to be in its 'growing position'. The Darchei Moshe (Machatzis HaShekel 651:21) further explains that branches of a tree also grow horizontally, not downwards. Therefore, holding a lulav horizontally, or laying schach on the roof of a suka are considered within the parameters of 'the way they grow'.

TABLE TALK

PARSHA DILEMMA

Speak to Bnai Yisroel and let them take for Me a portion... take My portion. (25: 2)

You may think women must participate as well. Therefore, the Torah says, "Bnai Yisroel", which excludes the bonos (daughters). (Rambam Shekolim 1:6)

Since women did not participate in donating shekolim, they are not participants in public korbonos. Therefore they are not obligated to daven Musaf. (Shu"t Rav Akiva Eiger 9)

Kohanim, Leviyim and men under the age of twenty also did not donate shekolim (Shekolim 1:4 and Gr"a Shekolim 1:3). If so, why aren't they also exempt from davening Musaf?

WHO AM I?

1. I had blossoms even in the winter
2. I was a fiery creation
3. I can be found on the "Arch of Titus"
4. I caused the Kohen Gadol to walk the longer route

Last week's clues: We witnessed the jumping, We were covered in blood, A mitzva is named for us, We are not a bore yet we have a bore. **Answer:** Mezuzah / doorpost

Congratulations to: Avi Goldstein, Tal and Ronen Lowenthal

לעילוי נשמת אשה החשובה ובעלת חסד

מרת מרים ריזל בת משה דוב ע"ה

MRS. MIRIAM NEUMAN

ת.נ.צ.ב.ה.

WHO AM I?

1. I was only for the first
2. I was a three-in-one deal
3. I caused a flight
4. Beware! I can cause death

Last week's clues: I must be covered, Fill me up, I am not a bore yet I am a bore, I am not for humans or vessels.

Answer: Bor / pit

Congratulations to: Tal and Ronen Lowenthal

A GLIMPSE OF GREATNESS

Take for Me... (25: 2)

Rav Shmuel HaNagid was the leader of the Jewish people in Spain and a close confidant of the King. The non-Jewish advisors in the palace were jealous of the special relationship he had with the King. In order to try to bring an end to that friendship, they fabricated a lie and accused Rav Shmuel of stealing from the King's treasury.

The King was shocked. In order to verify the story, he asked Rav Shmuel to bring a list of all the money and possessions that he owned. Rav Shmuel asked for a few days and then brought his list to the King. The King was astounded because Rav Shmuel's reputation was that he was wealthy, while the total amount of assets on the list did not match that description. "He must be lying," the King thought to himself. "He is probably guilty of taking my money and is trying to downplay his wealth in order to cover up for the theft."

The King questioned Rav Shmuel about the surprising numbers. "Let me explain," Rav Shmuel said. "I have a lot more wealth at home but it can be confiscated from me in a moments notice. If someone would kill me or commandeer my possessions, I would be left with nothing. The only possessions I truly own are those that I donated to the poor or to Torah institutions. These cannot be taken from me and even after my death they will accompany me to Heaven. If you want an accounting of all the possessions in my home, give me a few more days and I will log them as well."

The posuk alludes to this lesson of what is considered a possession according to the Torah. When the Torah discusses donating money to the Bais Hamikdosh, it does not refer to it as giving, rather as taking. The lesson is that only one who donates money is guaranteed that he owns it eternally and takes it with him.

TORAH RIDDLE

What is the name of the rock that the Aron sat on? Why was it given this name?

Last week's riddle:

What is the connection between Moshe's going to Hashem to receive the Torah and Moshe's appearance to Pharaoh in Mitzrayim?

Answer: All the Elders deserted Moshe en route to Pharaoh. Only Moshe went up to Hashem.

Congratulations to: Sorah Stoll

Please send your "Who Am I" and "Torah Riddle" answers to onegshabbos@BeachwoodKollel.com by next Wednesday. The answers will IY"H appear in next week's issue

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SHABBOS EVENING SHIURIM

Beachwood.....Dr. and Mrs. Yitzchok Kletter
8:00 – Parsha 23261 Wendover

University Heights.....Rabbi and Mrs. Dovid Ribakow
8:30 – Parsha 2462 Laurelhurst

University Heights.....Rabbi and Mrs. Sender Stoll
9:00 – Daf Yomi 2542 Claver

Motzoei Shabbos Pirchei Learning

(bring your fathers)

Zichron Chaim 2203 South Green Road
Grades 3 – 8 7:30 – 8:30

Pirchei

Grades 3 – 4: **No Pirchei This Week**

Pirchei 3:30

Grades 5 – 6: Rabbi Mordechai Giffin 14370 Washington

Pirchei

Grades 7 – 8: **No Pirchei This Week**

Bnos 2:30 - 3:30 (Please be considerate and pick up on time)

Grades K - 1 **NO BNOS**

Grades 2 - 3 Chaya Denciger 2436 Claver

Grades 4 - 5 **NO BNOS**

Bnos 4:30 - 5:30 (Please be considerate and pick up on time)

Grades 6 - 7 Adina Sikowitz 2438 Milton

Kollel Davening Schedule

Shacharis 7:30

Mincha 2:45

Maariv 7:45 / 9:50

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