

Parshah Chukas in a Nutshell

ב״ה

(Numbers 19:1-22:1)

Moses is taught the laws of the red heifer, whose ashes purify a person who has been contaminated by contact with a dead body.

After forty years of journeying through the desert, the people of Israel arrive in the wilderness of Zin. Miriam dies, and the people thirst for water. G-d tells Moses to speak to a rock and command it to give water. Moses gets angry at the rebellious Israelites and strikes the stone. Water issues forth, but Moses is told by G-d that neither he nor Aaron will enter the Promised Land.

Aaron dies at Hor Hahar and is succeeded in the high priesthood by his son Elazar. Venomous snakes attack the Israelite camp after yet another eruption of discontent in which the people "speak against G-d and Moses"; G-d tells Moses to place a brass serpent upon a high pole, and all who will gaze heavenward will be healed. The people sing a song in honor of the miraculous well that provided them water in the desert.

Moses leads the people in battles against the Emorite kings Sichon and Og (who seek to prevent Israel's passage through their territory) and conquers their lands, which lie east of the Jordan.

#### Thank You to:

Avi Lebovic for reading the Torah and to our Kiddush and Security Volunteers

Eruv: www.fairlawneruv.com Eruv Hotline phone number: 201-254-9190.

This week's Kiddush is sponsored by the Shul.

### Join Us Monday night as we partake in a Farbrengen

in honor of

#### Yud Beis Tammuz.

Celebrating the liberation of the Previous Lubavitcher Rebbe,

Rabbi Yosef Yitzchok Schneerson OBM.

Uplifting Words, Chassidic Niggunim, and Refreshments. 9:30-10:30 pm at the Shul.

Join us each weekday morning Mon-Fri as we delve into the mysteries of Chassidic concepts. 5:55 am followed immediately by Shacharis.

**Halachic Zmanim** Shabbos, July 13 Daylight Savings Time

Earliest Tallis	4:26	ΑM
Latest Morning Shema	9:16	ΑM
Earliest Mincha (Gedola)	1:40	PM
Plag Hamincha	6:59	PM
Earliest Evening Shema	9:01	PM

### **Anshei Lubavitch Congregation**

Rabbi Levi and Leah Neubort

Adult education:

Rabbi Avrohom and Rivky Bergstein

Youth Outreach:

Rabbi Eli and Ruty Steinhauser

### Shabbos Schedule – Parshas Chukas Erev Shabbos - July 12 - Tammuz 9

Candle Lighting	8:11 pm
Mincha	7:30 pm

### Shabbos Day - July 13 - Tammuz 10

Shacharis 9:30 am*
Torah Reading 10:35 am
Rabbi Neubort's Drasha 11:10 am
Kiddush 12:10 pm
Gemara (2-31 Summit) 7:15 pm
Shiur & Shalosh Seudos 7:00 pm
Mincha8:20 pm
Rabbi's Drasha 8:40 pm
Shabbos Ends9:18 pm

<sup>\*</sup>Latest morning Shema is 9:16 AM. Be sure to recite the Shema at or before that time (even if at home).

### Weekday Schedule (not on a holiday): Minvan

Shacharis 6:15 am
Mincha1:45 pm
Maariv9:15 pm
Classes
Chassidus, Mon-Fri 5:55 am
Halachah, Mon-Fri1:40 pm
and at 9:25 pm
Torah Studies Mon. 7-8:00 pm
Tuesday Talmud9:30-10:00 pm
Wednesday Mishna 8:30-9:15 pm

# Chassidic Masters "Life Without Bumps"

Based on the teachings of the Lubavitcher Rebbe Courtesy of MeaningfulLife.com

There can be no order, no program, no achievement, without priorities. Life, as we envision and try to live it, consists of important and less important things, primary and secondary goals, severe and less severe setbacks. Reason, our compass in our journey through life, is the capacity to make these distinctions, to determine what must give way before what, and what should be reciprocated with what.

Priorities and gradations also exist among the divinely mandated laws of the Torah. The Torah commands "You shall not kill," but it also differentiates premeditated murder (punishable by death), murder resulting from negligent behavior (punishable by exile), no-fault murder (which carries no penalty), and killing in self-defense (permissible and a duty). It commands to aid a fellow in need, but it also delineates eight levels of charity; advises to whom one should give, and in what order; and sets the mandatory, ideal and maximum percentages of one's income to be contributed. It commands the Jew to rest on Shabbat, but it also differentiates between various categories of work and the severity of their violation of the day of rest. It distinguishes between civil and moral laws,

between active and non-active transgressions, between laws that apply to a specific time and place and laws that have no such prerequisites, and so on.

There is, however, a certain category of mitzvot that defies such rational structuring. Generally speaking, the 613 mitzvot of the Torah fall into three categories: a) ("judgments" mishpatim "laws"), which the Talmud defines as laws that the human mind would have conceived on its own, even if the Torah had not commanded them (e.g., prohibitions against murder and robbery); b) eidot ("testimonials"), laws whose function and utility are understandable, although might not have formulated them ourselves (e.g., Shabbat, festivals, tefillin, etc.); c) suprarational mitzvot, called chukim ("decrees").

Prime examples of a chok are the laws of tum'ah v'taharah, ritual purity and impurity. It is not only that these laws cannot explained by human reason, but that they defy the organization and priority structure which characterize the logical mishpat and the rational eid. If a person touches an impure object, he is rendered ritually impure; it makes no difference whether this contact was deliberate, unintentional, or even against his will. Nor is the type of contact consequential the same degree of impurity is effected whether he grazed it with his fingernail or he picked it up and ate it.

In other words, the chok introduces an element of absoluteness into our lives, an area in which there are no major and minor things, no primary and secondary levels of involvement. A domain in which life is not divisible into ends and means. but constitutes an integral, singular fulfillment of its Creator's will.

In truth, every mitzvah is a chok, an unequivocal expression of divine will. It is only that many mitzvot come enclothed in garments of varying rationality, for G-d desired that they be integrated into our rationally structured lives. But then there are those mitzvot that reach unencumbered finite by garments, free of all that quantifies, qualifies and classifies their divine essence.

We need structure and priorities—it's the only way we know to lead constructive lives. But we also need those moments and experiences that bring us in touch with the underlying integrity of life. Moments that impart to us the recognition that, in the final analysis, our every deed and endeavor is of equal, ultimate significance. ❖

#### Shhhhh

Talking during the prayer service and during the Torah reading is inappropriate and disturbing to fellow congregants. If you must talk, PLEASE go outside.

## HELP MAKE THE PATERSON MINYAN!

Shabbat, July 6<sup>th</sup> Parshat Chukas, and July 20 Parshat Balak

At: Federation Apartments, 510 E. 27<sup>th</sup> Street/12<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Also plan for August: **August 10 Parshat Devarim** 

Your participation helps benefit Jewish senior citizens from all backgrounds.

Visit: www.patersonshul.org or contact:

JerrySchranz@gmail.com

Jerry Schranz – Gabbai, Paterson Shul

#### Haftorah in a Nutshell – Chukas

Judges 11:1-33

This week's haftorah describes how the people of Israel were attacked by the nation of Ammon. The Israelites engaged Jephtah to lead them in battle against this military threat. Jephtah first sent a missive to Ammon, declaring his peaceful intentions. In his message, he also discussed the Israelites' conquest of the lands of Sichon and Og, victories which are related in this week's Torah reading.

Jephtah the Gileadite was the son of a harlot. He was sent away from his home by his half-siblings, and settled in the land of Tob where he became a great warrior. When the nation of Ammon attacked the people of Israel, Jephtah was called upon to lead the Israelites in battle. Jephtah agreed, on one condition: "If you bring me back to fight with the children of Ammon, and G-d delivers them before me, I will become your head." The Israelites accepted his terms.

Jepthah tried to bring a peaceful resolution to the conflict by sending messengers to reason with the king of Ammon; but the latter remained inflexible. Jephtah then successfully led his countrymen in battle, and they trounced and eliminated the Ammonite threat.

### **Community Events**

July 14 – Annual Summer BBQ, a pre-Three Weeks event with the entire community. DARCHEI NOAM, Sunday, 4:00 – 7:00 PM, place TBD. \$10/adult, \$6/child, \$36/family max (Early bird prices by June 30: \$8/adult, \$4/child, \$25/family max). Support the event by becoming a Hamburger Level Sponsor (\$100) or Hot Dog Level Sponsor (\$50)! RSVP or sponsor at <a href="https://dno.am/bbq">https://dno.am/bbq</a>.

**Aug 15** – Yankees vs. Indians. \$35 for one ticket, or two for \$65. Pre-game BBQ and transportation will be available options. A Shomrei Torah event, with locations and times to be announced. Contact Mendy Aron at tuesdaystorah@yahoo.com for details or to secure tickets.

### Sponsor a **Kiddush** or the **Weekly Bulletin**

It's a wonderful way to honor a loved one, remember a yahrzeit, or celebrate a special occasion.

For more information, please contact the Rabbi.

Good Shabbos to all!



אנשי ליובאוויטש · בית מדרש



CHASSIDUS

5:55-6:10 AM
Monday-Friday
THE MITZVAH OF
HAVING FAITH IN G-D

A discourse by Rabbi Menachem Mendel of Lubavitch, the Tzemach Tzedek



SHULCHAN ARUCH **1:40-1:45 PM**Monday-Thursday

Currently learning
HILCHOS TEFILLAH

Laws of Prayer

9:25-9:30 PM

**HAKNESSES** 

Sunday-Thursday Currently learning HILCHOS BEIS

Laws of Reading the Torah



MISHNA

8:30-9:10 PM

Wednesday
Currently learning
MISHNAYOS,
tractate YOMA
Chapter 7



TALMUD

9:30-10:00 PM
Tuesday
Currently learning
TALMUD, tractate

SUKKAH p. 20a

WANT TO LISTEN TO A CLASS ON-THE-GO? Text your WhatsApp number to 201-362-2712 to join the Torah Classes @ Anshei Group



MONDAY EVENING TORAH STUDIES 7:00-8:00 PM • Maariv at 9:15

### Monday, July 15, 2019 WHEN YOU DREAM A DREAM

The Power of Imagination and Thought In an effort to understand Judaism's fascination with dreams, we explore the human capacity for prophecy and examine scenarios in which a single thought can make a world of difference.

### Special Farbrengen

marking the day of

Liberation – Geulah of Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak Schneersohn

from Soviet incarceration in 1927

Monday evening, Yud-Beis Tammuz – July 15, 9:30-10:30

### Shiur and Seuda Shlishis

at 7:00 pm

Sponsored by

### Ira and Susan Frankel

in commemoration of the Yahrtzeit

of Golda bas R' Avraham Yitzchak Alter a"h

We will discuss

Heating and Reheating Food on Shabbos





### Student Feedback

I feel once again privileged to have joined you for my third JLI course, "With All My Heart," in which you provided great insights into the world of Jewish prayer through your inspiring lectures.

Some of the highlights of this course that were important takeaways for me included the following ideas:

- The Jewish concept of prayer as tefilah, meaning to attach, places our relationship to G-d as a primary goal. This very idea of relationship, so sorely lacking in today's virtual and electronic/technological society, seems to me to be a key element in providing us with meaningfulness in our lives.
- Our discussion of surrendering our self, limiting our egos, seems to be another example of prayer as a vehicle for finding meaning in life—that it is not just "I" but for something beyond "me" that is important.
- Some of the actual mechanics of prayer that we discussed seems to be a metaphor for life and how we develop: "prayer is a process of ascent," was discussed and, indeed, we learn through scaffolding knowledge, we need to take many steps to acquire greater understanding.
- One other powerful metaphor I found intriguing related to the "Pitum haKitoreth," or Incense Mixture, prayer based on the eleven spices burned in the Holy Temple. It relates the power of the group, the team, a collectivist approach to prayer. No matter what is in the mixture, the larger group has much power and, fro certain, Jews have survived over time because of our collective beliefs.

As always, your lectures continue to build on my knowledge and love of Judaism. Another bonus were your occasional forays off the JLI script, including interesting personal anecdotes, only add to the genuineness of your presentations. Thank you, again, for another wonderful course.

- Dr. Joel Seltzer