

Joseph S. Jemal Synagogue

Al & Sonny Gindi Building

83 Hathaway Avenue, Deal, NJ 07723



Edmond J. Safra Synagogue

Mourad & Sarine Kattan Building

75 Hathaway Avenue, Deal, NJ 07723



3 Tammuz 5772

Perashat Korah

June 23 2012

Dear Friends,

Welcome to another summer season at the Jersey Shore! We invite you to enjoy our two beautiful Synagogues, and join us for inspirational prayers and classes! This season, in addition to our regular schedule we will be offering various learning groups: Shabbat morning after first minyan, before Minha on Shabbat as well Sunday mornings, please take advantage of these wonderful opportunities.

We look forward to a wonderful summer together!

Avoid Arguments

The Gemara in Masechet Sanhedrin explains the pasuk in Mishlei: "The wisdom of women builds their homes" refers to On Ben Pelet's wife. Upon seeing that her husband joined Korach's camp, Mrs. On told her husband, "It isn't worthwhile for you to join the feud – you gain nothing from the fight. No matter who wins, you will remain in the same position You will not become the leader as a result of getting involved." He listened to her advice, which ended up saving his life.

The question is therefore asked, "Why does the passuk choose to praise her for this? What insight did she provide that we should label her "a wise woman"? It is a fundamental concept - we are taught as youngsters never to fight. Certainly we shouldn't get involved in a fight where there is no gain awaiting us! So what is this 'wisdom' that the Pasuk is attributing to her?

Rav Chaim Shmuelevitz brings out a phenomenal point which beautifully answers our question. Human nature is that at a time of argument and fighting, even the simplest things can become blurred in our minds. When one has no benefit, it is obvious that one should not get involved in a

disagreement! However, during a quarrel, the fire of the argument burns so great that the simplest truths become blurred. Even those who are not directly involved, often become entangled in the argument. Therefore, when someone has the clarity of thought to realize the uselessness of getting involved in a dispute, he is considered a wise man.

Unfortunately we are all of involved or pulled into an argument from time to time. We usually tend to think that it is obvious that we are right and the other party is wrong. Our Rabbis are teaching us that this is not the point, even if you are right, you are wrong. In most disagreements and arguments we must discern what is the end gain in this? What did I accomplish overall? Usually, we gain nothing. It is not as simple as we think and in times of *machloket* (fighting), only a truly wise man is able to see the truth. May we be zoche to have peace in our community and in Klal Yisrael, which will bring Mashiach quickly in our days. Amen.

Shabbat Shalom
Rabbi Isaac Farhi

Gems from the Perasha

“Vayikah Korah” - “And Korah took”

The Targum Onkelos interprets Korah’s taking as “and Korah separated (himself).” The Sefat Emet applies this concept in the following manner. Hazal teach us that one must always strive to attain the standards established by his ancestors. We must always ask ourselves “when will my actions reach those of my ancestors? One who is consistent in this self expectation demonstrates motivation essential for continued spiritual development.

When one lives a traditional Jewish life he in turn becomes linked to the Avot, Patriarchs and there remarkable way of life.

Korah’s tragedy emerged when he separated himself from the chain of tradition. His attempt to develop a lifestyle independent of Torah mandate represents his first break in the chain of tradition. By severing the chain of tradition, he severed his relationship with Am Yisrael and consequently, sealed his own tragic destiny.

“And Behold the staff of Aharon of the house of Levi blossomed ... and it bore ripe almonds”

Why Almonds?

In his complaint against Moshe, Korah argued, “For the entire assembly is holy. Why do you exalt yourself over the congregation of Hashem?” Essentially he advocated a government of anarchy where there would be total equality.

Almonds blossom more quickly than any other fruit (see Rashi) the message was that in every facet of the universe, there is hierarchy. Just as some fruit ripen faster than others, likewise it is necessary to elevate some human beings over others in order that law and order prevail.

Alternatively, among the tribes it was Levi who was singled out to be closer to Hashem, because like almonds which grow speedily, they responded to Moshe’s call “Mi LaHashem elai” – “whoever is for Hashem join me” executing those who brought chaos to the Jewish nation through the Golden Calf.

“Hashem said to Moshe, ‘bring back the staff of Aharon before the holy ark for safekeeping.’”

Aharon’s holy staff that bloomed was placed in front of the holy ark together with a flask of *manna* (Shemot 16:33) When the ark was hidden so was the jar of manna and Aharon’s staff.

What is the connection between the Ark, the staff & the manna?

The Ark represents the Torah. In the Ark were the Tablets and the Sefer Torah written by Moshe. Aharon’s staff symbolizes the human craving for peace. Aharon was the ultimate peace lover, and through his staff Korah’s rebellion was put to rest. Manna which is the source for sufficient nourishment for all, represents economic security. Thus the storing of manna and the staff near the ark conveys the message that the staff of Aharon and the manna go together with the Ark of Hashem. There can be no economic security or enduring peace without the moral and ethical standards of the Torah.

When the Ark is “lost” – when its sacred influence is eliminated from the arena of life –the staff of Aharon and the jar of manna and all they represent, disappear. All deliberations and plans of economic security and enduring peace come to naught because they are neither enshrined in the Ark, representing Torah nor guided by the teachings of the Tablets contained therein.

Weekday Prayer schedule

Shahrit

Sunday

- 1st Minyan – E.J. Safra bldg.....7:00 a.m.
- 2nd Minyan - J.S. Jemal bldg8:00 a.m.
- 3rd Minyan - J.S. Jemal bldg9:00 a.m.
- 4th Minyan - E.J. Safra bldg.....9:30 a.m.

Monday & Thursday

- 1st Minyan - E.J. Safra bldg.....6:10 a.m.
- 2nd Minyan J.S. Jemal bldg.....6:45 a.m.
- 3rd Minyan J.S. Jemal bldg.....8:00 a.m.

Tues., Wed., Friday

- 1st Minyan - E.J. Safra bldg6:20 a.m.
- 2nd Minyan - J.S. Jemal bldg6:55 a.m.
- 3rd Minyan - J.S. Jemal bldg8:00 a.m.

Daily Shahrit is followed by breakfast

Minha & Arbit

Sunday – Thursday

- 1st Minyan6:45 p.m.
- 2nd Minyan.....7:15 p.m.

Just Push

A man was sleeping in his cabin when suddenly his room filled with light and G-d appeared. Hashem told him that he had work for him to do and showed him a large rock in front of his cabin.

G-d explained that the man was to push against the rock with all his might. So this the man did, day after day. For many years from sun up to sun down, his shoulders set squarely against the cold massive surface of the unmoving rock pushing with all his might.

Each night the man returned to his cabin sore and worn out, feeling that his whole day had been spent in vain.

Since the man was showing discouragement the adversary (Satan) decided to enter the picture by placing thoughts into the weary mind:

“You have been pushing against the rock for a long time and it hasn’t moved.”

Thus he gave the man the impression that the task was impossible and he was a failure. These thoughts discouraged and disheartened the man.

Satan said “why kill yourself over this, just put in your time giving the minimum effort and that will be good enough.” That is what the weary man planned to do, but decided to make it a matter of prayer and take his troubled thoughts to the L-rd.

“Hashem,” he said “I’ve labored long and hard in your service, putting all my strength into that which you have asked. Yet after all this time I have not even budged the rock by half a millimeter. What is wrong? Why am I failing?”

Hashem responded compassionately “My son when I asked you to serve Me and you accepted, I told you that your task was to push against the rock with all of your strength which you have done. Never once did I mention that I expected you to move it. Your task was to push, and now you come to Me with your strength spent thinking you have failed.

Is that really so? Look at yourself your arms are strong and muscled, your back is sinewy and brown, your hands are strong from constant pressure. Your legs have become massive and hard. Through opposition you have

grown much, and now your abilities surpass that which you had before.

True you haven’t moved the rock. But your calling was to be obedient to push and exercise your faith and trust in my wisdom. That you have done. Now I my son will move the rock.”

At times when we here a word from G-d we tend to use our own intellect to decipher what he wants, when actually Hashem wants just simple obedience and faith in him. By all means exercise the faith that moves mountains, but know that it is still Hashem that moves mountains.

When everything seems to go wrong ... just P.U.S.H.

When the job jets you down ... just P.U.S.H.

When people don’t react the way you think that they should...just P.U.S.H.

When your money is gone and the bills are due ... just P.U.S.H.

When people don’t understand you... just P.U.S.H.

Pray Until Something Happens.

*This Newsletter
Is dedicated in
Loving memory of
Mr. Sonny Gindi
Shemuel ben Rachel a'h
By his wife and children*

Edmond J. Safra Synagogue ✨ Joseph S. Jemal Synagogue

✨ Shabbat Korah Prayer & Class Schedule ✨

Friday, June 22nd

Minha & Arbit

J. S. Jemal building.....6:30 pm

E.J.Safra building6:45 pm

J.S. Jemal building7:30 pm

E.J.Safra building8:00 pm

Candle Lighting8:11 pm

Shabbat June 23rd

Shahrit

Early Minyan E.J.Safra Syn L.L....6:30 am

First Minyan J.S. Jemal Syn6:45 am

Main Minyan E.J. Safra Syn8:00 am

Youth Minyan E.J. Safra Syn L.L... 9:00 am

Teens Minyan J.S. Jemal Syn9:10 am

Minha Gedola..... 1:30 pm

Classes.....5:40 & 6:40 pm

Minha followed by Seuda Shelisheet.....7:40 pm

Shabbat Ends.....9:10 pm

***Please join us weekly for a special
Torah Learning Experience!***

***Shabbat Morning
after both early Minyanim:***

After Kiddush

R' David Ashear -May we use ma'aser for tuition?

R' Nathan Escava - Perasha in depth **R' Leon**

Hazan -Studying the Aseret Hadibrot

Shabbat Afternoon

5:40 pm

R' Leon Hazan - Gemarot and Halachot of Kashrut

R' David Ashear - Deeper look at the End of Days

R' Nathan Escava - Studying Tefilah

6:40 pm

Rabbi I. Farhi - Perasha of the week (main sanctuary)

R' David Ashear - Perasha of the week

R' Nathan Escava - Navi - Shemuel

R' Leon Hazan Gemarot & Halachot of Kashrut

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