



THE EITZ CHAYIM NEWSLETTER

PARSHAT BO

8-15 SHEVAT 5570

WEEK OF JANUARY 16-23 2010

DVAR TORAH BY: Akiva Hochbaum

GRADE: 8

In this weeks Parsha, Parshat Bo it says "And he said to them, 'Go and serve Hashem your G-d; which ones are going?' Moshe said, 'With our youngsters and with our elders shall we go.'"

The question is that Moshe's request to Pharaoh was very clear: "Let my people go!" Why now, after having endured seven plagues, did Pharaoh ask, "Which ones are going?"

The answer is that the words, which ones are going "has the value of 216, the same as "*Kalev, bin nun.*" Pharaoh was telling Moshe, "I know your ultimate plan is to bring the Jews to *Eretz Yisrael*, but you should know that you are wasting your time, because they will all die in the wilderness and only Kalev and Bin Nun (Yehoshua) will live to reach *Eretz Yisrael.*" Moshe replied, "With our youngsters and with our elders shall we go." "Do not worry, all those who are now under 20 or over 60 will also survive the wilderness and come to *Eretz Yisrael.*"

Alternatively, Pharaoh, slowly but surely, began to realize that fighting Moshe was a lost cause. Instead of being stubborn and refusing to let the Jewish people go, he decided to use reverse psychology. Pharaoh said to Moshe, "I am your friend who would not want to see you as an outcast or a failure. Many years have passed since you left Egypt. I know the people better than you do. I do not doubt your wanting to take them to serve Hashem, but I urge you stop your campaign because, "Which ones are going?!" "None of these people are interested in leaving Egypt to go seek a new way of life."

Moshe smiled and replied, "You are greatly mistaken. Just open the doors and give them freedom, and I assure you that young and old, men and women will eagerly run to serve Hashem."

Good Shabbas!

-Akiva Hochbaum

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 2010

Candle Lighting- 4:42 PM

Mincha/Maariv- 4:50 PM

SHABBAT JANUARY 23, 2010

Youth Minyan- 8:00 AM

Shacharis (MAIN SHUL) - 9:00

Latest Shemah- 9:39 AM

Youth Groups- 10:00 AM

Daf Yomi- 3:35 PM

Mincha- 4:35 PM

Sedat Shelishis/Shiur-5:00 PM

Maariv- 5:42 PM

Shabbas Ends-5:51 PM

Youth Dept. Notices:

NEXT GYM NIGHT will be January 30th. Stay tuned for more times and sessions
TICKET REDEMPTION is coming soon! Watch your calendar for a date!

CONTINUED ON THE OTHER SIDE....

THE RIDDLE OF THE WEEK

Brought to you by your amazing group leaders

RIDDLE #1

Benjamin and David are two average 13 year old boys. Both boys Bar Mitvot Passed 4 months ago. Benjamin was born 10 days before David, yet David's Bar Mivtah was 2 weeks before Benjamin's... Now how in 'da world is 'dat possible?!?

YOU GOT AN ANSWER?!? EMAIL ME AND GET TICKETS!

Sends96@aim.com

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

We've been discussing question from the Targum Unkelos, this week's question comes from Targum Yonasan Ben Uziel: The Targum Yonasan on Shemos (12:22) writes that the blood of the Pesach sacrifice was to be collected specifically in an earthenware utensil, which is not the normal vessel to collect the blood of a sacrifice. Why collect the blood of the Pesach in an earthenware vessel?

DISCUSS THIS AT YOU'RE SHABBAS TABLE AND TELL THE ANSWER TO RABBI SCHWALB AND YOU CAN REICEVE UP TO 15 TICKETS!!!!

DVAR TORAH BY: YOSSI KOPPEL

GRADE: 9

Hashem hardened *Paraoth's* heart, and made him stubborn. The classic commentators ask how *Hashem* could punish *Paraoth* for refusing to free the Jewish people. *Hashem* didn't let *Paraoth* free them! The *Bais HaLevi* and others maintain that by hardening *Paraoth's* heart, *Hashem* didn't take away his free choice - he actually restored it! This can be understood with a *mashul* by *Chavos Yair*. A Jew and a non-Jew had a business disagreement, and were scheduled to appear before a non-Jewish judge who was known to be anti-semitic. The Jew tried to bribe the judge. The judge said to him "I don't understand. Doesn't your *Torah* forbid you from giving a bribe? How could you do such a thing?" In response, the Jew told him "If you were a Jew and my opponent was a Jew, then you could make a fair decision. In such a case, it would've been wrong of me to bribe you. But since my opponent is not Jewish, and you are a known anti-Semite, this bribe will balance that out, and you can judge objectively". Since *Hashem* was plaguing *Paraoth*, he would surely free the Jewish people. So in order to let *Paraoth* make a fair decision, *Hashem* hardened his heart to restore his free choice.

GOOD SHABBAS, *Yossi Koppel*

TO WRITE A DVAR TORAH IN THIS NEWSLETTER PLEASE CONTACT SENDER GROSS AT 516-650-3732 OR SENDS96@AIM.COM

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