



MESSAGE FROM THE RAV

Dear Chevra

Welcome to our minyan! This is a very special שבת which celebrates the 10th Anniversary of the Late Minyan. May we continue to go from strength to strength! We are very excited about our community Meals of 8 this שבת and hope that the event will be enjoyed by all.

It is not by chance that חנוכה always coincides with the פרשיות of יוסף. We can learn so much from both events. Despite the constant threats of our enemies, for generations the Jew has strived to focus on the magic and not on the tragic! After what had been an extremely difficult war with many casualties, fighting to defend what we as Jews have believed in for generations – the בית המקדש imbued with holiness and a direct connection to ה', the מכבים were overjoyed that they had managed to clean up the בית המקדש and restore the מלכות for what would be the next few hundred years. Furthermore, they were elated to see ה''s approval as evidenced by the מנורה miraculously burning for eight days instead of one. This feeling was in spite of the fact that they knew the second בית המקדש was not as elevated as the first one, and that the "kingship" that was to follow would not be ideal.

יוסף too had this השקפת חיים of positivity. יוסף had been rejected by his brothers, sold as a slave, thrown into prison without a trial and yet had maintained his אמונה that ה' "לא אלקים פתרונים" – "interpretations are in the hands of ה'". That wasn't merely a method of dream interpretation; that was his guiding light through life. Focusing on the positive is not

merely a good psychological way to approach life. It is rooted at the foundations of מאן דעביד אמונה – "כל מאן דעביד לטב עביד" – otherwise known as "גם זו לטובה". A Jew has to know that everything that ה' does is for the good, no matter how difficult a situation seems.

Once יוסף reveals his identity to his brothers, he seeks to console them for their grief and shame for selling him into slavery. He gives over to them his worldview, in the words: וְעַתָּה אֵל תִּעַזְבוּ וְאַל יִחַר בְּעֵינֵיכֶם בִּי – מִכֶּרְתֶּם אֹתִי הִנֵּה בִי לְמַחְיָה שְׁלַחְנִי אֲלֵיכֶם לְפָנֵיכֶם – "And now, don't be sad nor angry, for it was to provide life for you that G-d sent me before you". He is in essence telling his brothers that they were agents in ה''s greater plan and that they shouldn't feel embarrassed.

Thus, יוסף's positivity had three aspects: 1 – its practical day to day application in dealing with difficult circumstances; 2 – its expression of אמונה פשוטה that ה' orchestrates all events; and 3 – its relationship building powers which he uses to reconnect with his brothers and assuage their guilt.

We read the parsha of יוסף on this, the second שבת of חנוכה. After lighting the eighth candle of חנוכה last night, and singing the Maccabean songs for the last time this year, we must now carry the miracle of חנוכה and the attitude of יוסף into the future. May we continually be inspired by the events of our past and may the lights of our חנוכיות and our positivity bring about the lighting of the מנורה in the בית המקדש very soon!

שבת שלום
Rav Shmuel and Taly

STORY FROM

RABBI YOSEPH TELUSHKIN

Rav Yisrael Salanter (1810-1883) was once spending the night at a shoemaker's home. Late at night, Rav Salanter saw the man still working by the light of a flickering, almost extinguished candle.

Rav Salanter went over to the man: 'Look how late it is; your candle is about to go out. Why are you still working?'

The shoemaker, undeterred by the rabbi's words, replied, 'As long as the candle is burning, it is still possible to mend.'

For weeks afterward, Rav Salanter was heard repeating the shoemaker's words: 'As long as the candle is burning, it is still possible to mend.'

As long as there is life — as long as the candle is burning — we can mend. We can reconcile with those from whom we've become estranged, help make peace within our families, give charity, aid a friend in financial straits to establish him or herself in business, and work on learning to express our anger fairly.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR LAYENING-PLEASE CONTACT YEHUDA ON 052-665-7077 YSHALPER@GMAIL.COM
WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO INVITE ANYONE – MEN OR WOMEN – TO GIVE THE DVAR HALACHA IN SHUL. PLEASE SPEAK TO RAV SHMUEL OR TALY TO ORGANISE WHEN YOU ARE GOING TO BE SPEAKING.



Dear LLM Members and friends,

Well 10yrs has certainly gone quickly!
The LLM started as an idea amongst friends one friday night at dinner- all complaining about getting up too early for shul and not eating lunch till 12pm.

Looking back, I guess we never expected the weekly turnout of 80+ just from that idea. The minyan started with mainly english people... after a while including Australian, American, South American, South African, even Israeli's. The minyan over the years has lost some of its founding members due to marriage and moving to the suburbs- and since the new management takeover in November, it has gained a large new following!

The new setup includes Rav Shmuel and Tali, as well as the many people now involved in all of the various committees. This new format contributes to a definite feeling of new positive energy, not to mention the new faces that show up each week. We look forward to the next 10 years of growth, a feeling of community- a place where new olim/ locals can meet with a feel of "home from home".

Happy birthday LLM- here's to 10 more!

If anyone would like to get involved please be in touch with me: tammy@lateminyan.com

Tammy Wilson - Chairperson



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

*IF ANYONE NEEDS A PLACE FOR LUNCH, OR IF ANYONE HAS A SPARE PLACE AT THEIR TABLE, PLEASE SPEAK TO RAV SHMUEL AND TALY BLOOM AFTER SHUL, AND WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO ACCOMODATE EVERYONE.

*FOR COMMENTS ON THE PARSHA PAGE OR QUESTIONS FOR RAV BLOOM PLEASE E-MAIL: RABBI@LATEMINYAN.COM

*IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT A DVAR TORAH TO THE PARSHA PAGE - IN HEBREW OR ENGLISH - PLEASE SEND IT TO RAV BLOOM BY MONDAY.

*IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR THIS WEEKLY PARSHA PAGE IN MEMORY OF A CLOSE ONE OR IN HONOUR OF AN UP-COMING SIMCHA, PLEASE CONTACT TAMMY WILSON AT: 02-5671289

*IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR A KIDDUSH IN HONOUR OF AN UP-COMING SIMCHA, PLEASE CONTACT GALI DORN AT: GALI@TALI.ORG.IL

SHABBAT SHALOM FROM THE LATE LATE MINYAN

WE INVITE YOU TO ADD YOURSELF TO THE SHUL MAILING LIST YOUR DETAILS WILL APPEAR ON THE WEBSITE. VISIT WWW.LATEMINYAN.COM.