



MESSAGE FROM THE RAV

Dear Chevra

Welcome to our minyan! We trust that everyone had an amazing פורים and has gotten over their hangovers. חטא עגל הזהב deals with one of the most difficult occurrences in Jewish History – עשרת הדיברות, experiencing the revelation of הקב"ה and thus re-attaining the purpose of creation, בני ישראל could commit the cardinal sin of עבודה זרה? Assuming that בני ישראל truly wanted to be עובדי ה' and not commit עבודה זרה – what were בני ישראל thinking?

A possible answer is that, truthfully, בני ישראל did have a strong and pure desire to worship ה'. Though, in their exuberance, they showed a lack of patience. Their intentions were pure but they were actualized incorrectly.

A rabbi was once arguing with a non-Jew about the method of serving G-d. The non-Jew claimed that everyone has the right to worship G-d in their own way. The rabbi clarified: "You worship G-d in your way; I'll worship G-d in His way!" ה' wants us to worship Him in His way; as He, as our Creator, knows the system and our nature better than we do. After all, ה' created them! It's similar to a computer manual – the builder of the computer is the most suitable author of the manual. That's the Torah!

In essence, when a person chooses to worship G-d in their own personal method, they are not serving ה'; they are serving themselves by fulfilling their own selfish desires. Anytime a person ignored ה's explicit command with the thought that "I know better", they fell. חז"ל teach us that אדם הראשון waited a few more hours until the onset of שבת, he would have been able to eat from the טוב ורע as the קדושה of שבת would have infused קדושת הזמן into his actions and would have elevated the negative/physical aspect of the טוב ורע. Alternatively, he would have had the ability to separate between the good and the bad, as apposed to eating a fruit which was a mixture of good and bad together. Both אדם הראשון and בני ישראל made mistakes in the category of מדות – exact measures.

To correct this mistake, we have the commandment – והלכת בדרכיו – to walk in ה's ways and emulate Him. The same way as ה showed patience and didn't destroy אדם הראשון or בני ישראל after their sins, and gave them the chance to do תשובה; so to we have to restrain ourselves to live within the exact guidelines of ה'.

Indeed, that is exactly the way that משה רבינו attained atonement for בני ישראל for the sin of עגל הזהב. By using the principle of מדה כנגד מדה! Through his own pure מדות of humility, and making use of ה's 13 midot; משה "reminded" ה' of His מדות הרחמים and taught בני ישראל too that they need to emulate ה's מדות in order to attain כפרה.

שבת שלום
רב שמואל וטליה

COMMUNITY MEETING

MOTZEI SHABBAT 14TH APRIL, 8:30PM

IT HAD BEEN ALMOST SIX MONTHS AND ACCORDING TO OUR DECISION FROM THE FIRST MEETING HERE COMES THE TIME FOR ELECTIONS FOR A CHAIRPERSON. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO STAND FOR THE ROLE OF THE CHAIRPERSON (UNTIL THE NEXT AGM), PLEASE INFORM THE ACTING CHAIRPERSON: TAMMY WILSON 054-429-2365 CHAIR@LATEMINYAN.COM (OR TO THE RABBI). YOU WILL NEED TO BE NOMINATED BY A MEMBER OF THE MINYAN, AND SHOULD YOURSELF ALSO BE A MEMBER. NOMINATIONS MUST BE IN BY MOTZEI SHABBAT 7TH APRIL.

VOTING ON THE COMMUNITY MEETING WILL BE FOR PAYING MEMBERS ONLY. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO INFLUENCE, PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU ARE REGISTERED BY MOTZEI SHABBAT 7TH APRIL

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENTS AT:

DANIEL GREENSPAN 02-563-9499 050-598-5588 FINANCE@LATEMINYAN.COM

VOLUNTEERS FOR SUB-COMMITTEES ARE MORE THAN WELCOME TO APPROACH THE ACTING CHAIRPERSON AS WELL.



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"DIFFICULTIES ARE MEANT TO ROUSE, NOT DISCOURAGE." -
WILLIAM ELLERY CHANNING

TEAM LATE MINYAN

would like to thank *Michael Simons* and the gabbaim for Megila Reading and Tfilot over Purim.

הלכות פסח

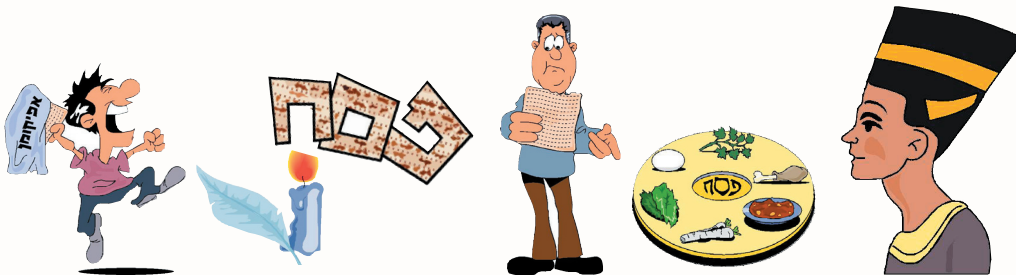
How extensive does the search for chametz have to be? How is it possible to thoroughly search a whole house in a short period of time?

Halachically speaking, an extensive and thorough search is required in any place where chametz may have been brought during the past year. Since it is almost impossible to properly check an entire house in a short period of time, some people actually spend many hours checking and searching their houses on the night of bedikat chametz, often devoting a good part of the night to the bedikah. But most people cannot - or do not - spend so much time searching their homes for chametz. How, then, do they fulfill this obligation?

Several poskim find justification (limud zechus) for the laxer version of bedikas chametz, as the house has undergone many weeks of meticulous pre-Pesach cleaning and scrubbing and there is no vestige of chametz around. Once the rooms of the house have been cleaned, they may be halachically considered as "a place into which no chametz has been brought." While checking and searching is still required in order to ascertain that no spot in the house was overlooked, the search need not be as thorough and exacting as if no cleaning had been done.

A better suggestion - for those who do not do a meticulous search on the night before Pesach - is to do partial searches earlier. As soon as a certain area in the house is cleaned, the area should be carefully checked for chametz - either at night using a flashlight or in the daytime by natural light.

If the house is checked in stages, then an exhaustive search need not be repeated on the night before Pesach in the areas that were already checked, provided that it is certain that no new chametz was carried into those areas.



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

*WE WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME ALL THE NEW FACES TO OUR MINYAN. IF YOU ARE NEW IN THE AREA, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO INTRODUCE YOURSELF TO EITHER RAV SHMUEL OR TALY AFTER SHUL. IF YOU NEED A PLACE FOR LUNCH, WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO ORGANISE ONE FOR YOU.

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

*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: CHAIR@LATEMINYAN.COM

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

SHABBAT SHALOM

FROM THE LATE MINYAN

WE INVITE YOU TO ADD YOURSELF TO THE SHUL MAILING LIST. VISIT WWW.LATEMINYAN.COM.