

Spiritual Pursuits

"On the first day you shall take..." (Vayikra 23:40)

Chazal (Medrash Tanchuma Emor 23) tell us that the word "Rishon" is used because this is the first day that our sins get computed. People are busy between Yom Kippur and Sukkos doing mitzvos, and therefore no sins are being committed during that four-day period. This is indeed an uplifting thought, but people find it quite problematic - for is it really true that no one sins between Yom Kippur and Sukkos? One truly hopes so, but it does not seem to be realistic. So, what is the point that Chazal are trying to tell us?

The Gemara says (Shabbos 55:1) that whoever says "Reuven sinned" is mistaken. I once heard my father explain this as follows: There are people who are sinners, and there are others who are not looking to sin - rather, they are trying to do good! However, sometimes they may just fall into sin. When we speak of those people, we should not perceive them as sinners, rather as upstanding Jews who have made mistakes.

It is well known that when a person dies there is *din* and *cheshbon*. The Vilna Gaon explains that *din* refers to that which the deceased actually did wrong, and the *cheshbon* refers to that what he was supposed have been doing when he was sinning.

Based on this, we can answer our question. Chazal are **not** saying that no one sins from Yom Kippur to Sukkos. But after Yom Kippur we all take upon ourselves that we are going to be righteous Jews. Not only that, but our focus has moved into the sphere of spirituality, as we get involved in Sukkos preparations. Our agenda consists only of Torah and Mitzvos. That does not mean that we may not slip up and sin. However, if we did sin, this sin was without "*cheshbon*", as we were engulfed in spiritual pursuits. Unfortunately, when Sukkos begins after this four-day period, and we ease back into our routine, our priorities tend to slip and the

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Ahavas Shalom

Lag B'Omer

IN THE SHUL

21:15 IN THE SHUL GARDEN
(Motza'ei Shabbos - 25 May)

BONFIRE
REFRESHMENTS
MUSIC
SPLIT THE POT
WORDS OF CHIZUK FROM THE RAV

Shabbos Schedule Parshas Emor

לוח שבת פרשת אמור

Erev Shabbos		ערב שבת
Mincha 1	13:30	מנחה א'
"Early Mincha"	17:45	מנחה "מוקדמת"
Plag Hamincha	18:05	פלג המנחה
Candle Lighting	18:54/19:14	הדלקת נרות
Mincha 3	19:16	מנחה ג'
Sunset	19:34	שקיעה
Shabbos Day		יום השבת
Brachos	08:15	ברכות
Shochein Ad	08:45	שוכן עד
Latest Shema – M. A.	08:17	סוף זמן ק"ש למג"א
Latest Shema – G'ra	09:09	סוף זמן ק"ש לגר"א
Mincha 1	13:30	מנחה א'
Mincha 2	18:00	מנחה ב'
Pirkei Avos Shiur	18:24	פרקי אבות
Sunset	19:35	שקיעה
Ma'ariv 1	20:12	מעריב א'
Ma'ariv 2	20:35	מעריב ב'

PIRKEI AVOS

WITH RAV AVROHOM BARUCH

ZACHARIASH

This Shabbos after the second *Mincha*—about 18:24.

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"cheshbonos" (calculations) that we make in our lives, may be tinged with sin.

We are now in the time of year when we count every day, evaluate ourselves, and prepare to receive the Torah. Though we may be removed from Pesach, and Shavuos is not even in sight yet, we have a security fence to make sure that even if we sin, it is not premeditated, as our thoughts are involved in readying ourselves to accept the Torah. One way that we do this is by learning a chapter of Pirkei Avos every week between Pesach and Shavuos. Some people learn each day about one of the 48 ways to acquire Torah. Either way, we are all supposed to be using this time period for self-growth.

May this continued "*cheshbon hanefesh*" grant us the ability to receive the Torah on Shavuos with purity and dignity as we complete our "*cheshbon*" of counting the Omer.



GMACH SMACHOT

IF YOU SUFFER A LOSS CONTACT THE GMACH TO BORROW ITEMS NECESSARY FOR A *SHIVA* HOME,
ahavasshalom.org/smachot
 Or call 054-566-5083 OR 050-203-0584

Redeem Your Pesach Pledges!

TOP 3 METHODS PAYMENT METHODS:

- Nedarim Plus terminal next to the front door
- Online at ahavasshalom.org/NEDARIM
- PayPal.me/ahavasshalom

Payment can also be accepted via

- Credit card terminal via Mr. Beer
- American Friends of Ahavas Shalom at ahavasshalom.com/donate (donations in USD)
- PayPal Giving Fund ahavasshalom.com/ppg

Please help our bookkeeper by always writing a note—or sending a separate email—which explains the purpose of your payment/donation. If appropriate, please also include the parsha or date. Thank you!!



אבות ובנים

17:00-18:00

SHABBOS AFTERNOON!

17:30-18:00 Junior Avos
 uBanim

Chocolates and Treats for
 all participants!

YOU can be the
 SPONSOR of AuB.

Let's give the boys
 something special
 on Shabbos

Treats: 50₪

Chocolates: 150₪



Ready to Count the Omer? Come to the Rav's Halacha shiur on Tuesday nights so that you'll be able to answer questions like these! Question from the Q&A book from RBSsemicha.com

Q&A: Fast with a View

Q Esther
 Goldberg
 married

Dovid Lipshitz on
 Lag B'Omer at
 Terrace on the Park.



Should they fast on
 the day of their wedding according to a) the
 M.B. and b) the A.H.?

A M.B.: It is a debate as to whether to fast
 or not, so they should speak with their
 local Orthodox rabbi.

A.H.: They must fast. While Lag B'Omer is
 considered a "holiday", it is NOT a "holiday" that
 is mentioned in the gemora. OC 573 M.B.7 A.H. 2

GROWTH THROUGH THE PARSHA

WITH RAV ZACHARIASH

SUNDAY

MAY 19

20:15-21:00

SHUL HALL • FOR WOMEN

ALL SHIURIM ARE RECORDED AND AVAILABLE ON AHAVASSHALOM.ORG



Netziv Hayom

Sponsor *Netziv Hayom* in memory of your loved ones, a *refuah*, or in honor of a special occasion. All the learning and davening in our shul during that day will be the merit of your choosing. Just 120\$ per sponsorship, which is announced via a notice on the "Netziv Hayom" board in the shul, as well as an announcement in this newsletter. To sponsor a day please contact Mrs. Zakoo Netziv@ahavasshalom.org.



7 Iyar sponsored by the Beer Family

לע"נ חנה בילה בת מנחם מנדל הלוי ע"ה

7 Iyar sponsored by the Zakoo Family

לע"נ הלן חיה בת שמעון וגיטל ע"ה

Don't Be Left Out!



When you have a simcha (or R"L a sad event), it is *so easy* to have it included in the next newsletter! Just send an email to lev@ahavasshalom.org! **Deadline is 11:00 Thursday.** Reminder: Sending an instant message, an email, or speaking to anyone else will probably result in your announcement not making it to the newsletter!

Shiurim with the Rav

The Rav will be giving 2 shiur this coming week:

SUNDAY 21:15: *Mishnayos*.

TUESDAY 20:15: *Hilchos Sefiras Ha'Omer*.

Both shiurim are given in shul and via ZOOM at this link: cutt.ly/AhavasShalomZoom

Past shiurim are archived at ahavasshalom.org/yt-videos



Subscribe to our email list and get notifications directly to your inbox! Ahavasshalom.org/list

There are also instant ways we communicate with members. Speak privately with Lev Seltzer for more information.

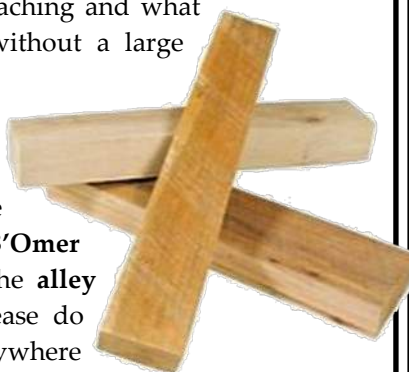


Lag B'Omer Wood

Lag B'Omer is fast approaching and what would Lag B'Omer be without a large bonfire?

This is where we need your help!

Please collect wood for the **Ahavas Shalom Lag B'Omer Bonfire** and leave it in the alley behind the shul hall. Please do not leave the wood anywhere else on the shul grounds!



Yom Iyun 5784

Thank you to HaRav Zachariash, Rabbi Yakov Haber, and Rabbi Akiva Teichtal for providing us with their highly interesting shiurim for this year's very successful **Yom Iyun**.



Thank you to Yehuda A. and Judy Gross for sponsoring the delicious "Continental Breakfast" in honor of the engagement of their Granddaughter Rena Gross

Thank you to Pinchas Fader for sponsoring all three shiurim in memory of his brother **Baruch ben Eliezer z"l**

Shiurim were recorded and are available at the shul's website: www.ahavasshalom.org.



Final Chapter in Amud Yomi

The Amud Yomi shiur has just started the last chapter of *Meseches Kiddushin!*



Then in just one more month the shiur will begin learning *Meseches Makkos!*

Sun-Thurs. mornings 09:25-10:25 in the *Ezras Nashim*. Too busy? Watch it on TorahAnytime.com or ZOOM!

Maggid Shiur, **Rabbi Akiva Teichtal**
teichtal@ahavasshalom.org

Mi Shebeirach for Cholim

If you have *cholim* that you would like the Gabbai to mention during Shabbos day davening, please submit these names via email to Mrs. Zakoo at office@ahavasshalom.org by Thursday at 12:00 (Please write the Hebrew names using Hebrew letters). This will help to save some time and enable the flow of the Shabbos service to remain consistent. The list will be erased on Rosh Chodesh Shevat, and so if necessary please resubmit any names.



DO YOU DAVEN DURING THE WEEK AT AHAVAS SHALOM OR AT OUR EARLY SHABBOS MINYAN?

THEN BECOME AN **ASSOCIATE MEMBER**
ONLY 100₪ PER MONTH via NEDARIM PLUS

ENHANCE YOUR COMMITMENT BY SUPPORTING OUR SHUL AND BEIS MEDRASH.

COMMUNITY CARE

Do you know someone in our Kehilla who is unwell?

Please let us know so that we can arrange home/hospital visits and meals.



Contact: **Alan Rubenstein** 054-398-8570

You can also inform the Ahavas Shalom Vaad:

vaad@ahavasshalom.org

משולחנו של הרב אברהם ברוך זכריש

מרדף רוחני

"וילקחם לכם ביום הראשון..." (ויקרא כג:מ)

חז"ל (מדרש תנחומא אמור:כג) אומרים "וכי ראשון הוא, והלא יום חמישה עשר הוא, ואת אמרת ביום הראשון? אלא ראשון הוא לחשבון עונות". אנשים עסוקים בין יום כיפור לסוכות בעשיית מצוות, ולכן לא עוברים עברות במהלך אותה תקופה של ארבעה ימים. זו אמנם מחשבה מרוממת, אבל היא נראית די בעייתית - האם זה בעצם נכון שאף אחד לא חוטא בין יום כיפור לסוכות? אפשר באמת לקוות שכן, אבל זה לא נראה מציאותי. אז מה כוונת חז"ל כאן?

הגמרא אומרת (שבת ל"ה, א) "א"ר שמואל בר נחמני א"ר יונתן כל האומר ראובן חטא אינו אלא טועה". פעם שמעתי את אבי מסביר, "יש אנשים שהם חוטאים, ויש אחרים שאינם רוצים לחטוא - ואפילו הם מנסים לעשות טוב! עם זאת, לפעמים הם עלולים פשוט ליפול לחטא". כשאנו מדברים על אותם אנשים, אל לנו לראות אותם כחוטאים, אלא כיהודים ישרים שטעו.

ידוע שאחרי שאדם מת יש דין וחשבון. הגאון מווילנא מסביר ש"דין" מתייחס למה שעשה רע בפועל, ו"חשבון" מתייחס למה שהיה צריך לעשות בזמן שחטא.

עם זה נוכל לענות על השאלה שלנו. חז"ל לא אומרים שאף אחד לא חוטא בין יום כיפור לסוכות. אבל אחרי יום הכיפורים כולנו קיבלנו על עצמנו שנהיה צדיקים. לא רק זה, אלא שהמחשבות שלנו עברו לתחום הרוחניות, ככל שאנו מעורבים בהכנות לסוכות. סדר היום שלנו מורכב רק מתורה ומצוות. זה לא אומר שלא נטעה ולא נחטא. אולם, אם חטאנו, חטא זה היה ללא "חשבון", שכן היינו שקועים בעיסוקים רוחניים. למרבה הצער, כאשר חג הסוכות מתחיל לאחר תקופה זו בת ארבעה ימים, ואנו חוזרים לשגרה שלנו, סדרי העדיפויות שלנו נוטים לרדת לאחור, וה"חשבונות" שאנו עושים בחיינו עלולות להיות נגועים בחטא.

אנו נמצאים כעת בתקופת השנה שבה אנו סופרים כל יום, מעריכים את עצמנו, ומתכוונים לקבלת התורה. למרות שעברנו את חג הפסח, וחג השבועות עדיין לא קרוב, יש לנו גדר ביטחון כדי לוודא שגם אם נחטא, זה לא מתוכנן מראש, שכן מחשבותינו מעורבות בהכנות לקבל את התורה. אחת הדרכים לעשות זאת היא על ידי לימוד פרק ממסכת אבות מדי שבוע בין פסח לשבועות. גם יש אנשים שלומדים כל יום אחת מ-48 הדרכים לקניין תורה. כך או כך, כולנו אמורים להשתמש בפרק הזמן הזה לצמיחה עצמית.

יהי רצון שה"חשבון הנפש" המתמשך הזה יעניק לנו את היכולת לקבל את התורה בחג השבועות בטהרה ובכבוד עם השלמת "חשבון" ספירת העומר שלנו.

Weekday times until Parshas Behar	ו' (Fri)	ה' (Thu)	ד' (Wed)	ג' (Tue)	ב' (Mon)	א' (Sun)	יום שחרית מנחה מערב	זמנים לימי חול עד פרשת בהר
	06:20, 07:15, 08:15 13:30, 17:48, 19:20 *Hall	06:20, 07:15, 08:10 13:15, 15:15 20:15, 21:00	06:20, 07:15, 08:10 13:15, 15:15 20:15, 21:00	06:20, 07:15, 08:10 13:15, 15:15 20:15*, 21:00	06:20, 07:15, 08:10 13:15, 15:15 20:15, 21:00	06:20, 07:15, 08:10 13:15, 15:15 20:15, 21:00		

HaRav Avrohom Baruch Zachariash, Sh'lita, Rav
Su-Fr 08:30-09:15 and Su-Th 19:15-20
Cellphone: 052-763-5938
Binyomin Rubenstein, Chairman
binyomin@ahavasshalom.org 054-237-0028

Administrative Secretary: Miriam Zakoo
Su & Tu 11:00-13:00 and Th 10:00-12:00
J 058-3263914 office@ahavasshalom.org
Shul Address: 33 Nachal Lachish
Ramat Beit Shemesh, Israel

Main Ahavas Shalom lists:
Email List: ahavasshalom.org/list
WhatsApp: [ahavasshalom.org/WhatsApp](https://www.whatsapp.com/channel/00299a6330000000000000000000000000)
Email Rav: ahavasshalom.org/email-rav

Newsletter Design: Lev Seltzer lev@ahavasshalom.org
Newsletter Contact: Send your lifecycle events, news, comments, etc. to lev@ahavasshalom.org. Remember: If we don't know about your event, we can't publish it!