

Don't Be So Sure

"And Avraham answered and said, 'Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak to the Lord, who am but dust and ashes.'" (Bereishis 18:27)

RASHI: I Am BUT DUST AND ASHES
— I would long ago have been reduced to dust by the kings and to ashes by Nimrod had it not been that Your mercies stood by me (Genesis Rabbah 49:11).



Rashi shares Avraham's perspective with us, which many gedolim have also done. Avraham assesses himself and says that he doesn't deserve Hashem's acceptance of his prayer as he already should have been reduced to dust and ashes. What was the purpose of Avraham saying this?

Yaakov Avinu was promised that he would be successful, yet he was afraid that perhaps he sinned and lost the guarantee of Hashem's blessing. Similarly, Avraham was afraid in last week's parsha that he used up all of his merits. People assume that good things will continue as they are, however that is called "taking things for granted". Appreciating what one has and "not taking things for granted" is something that must be learned and relearned constantly.

There are many people who assume that as Hashem has saved us time and time again, the fact that "we will be saved" is a given - the only question is exactly **how** He will save us again this time. When we say "Vehi She'amda" on the night of the Seder, we are **praising** Hashem for that which he has done in the past. It is also a statement about our understanding that the **Jewish nation** in totality will not be destroyed. At the same time, we understand that there is no guarantee about any particular situation or individual segment of *Klal Yisrael*. We see in the Torah that Hashem was willing to destroy nearly all of *Klal Yisrael* and restart from just Moshe alone. Even though this new people would not be created through the gentiles, nevertheless we see that there are no guarantees.



(Continued on page 3)

Lifecycles

The kehilla offers condolences to **Shimon Solway** on the loss of his mother, **Jeanette Solway**. The Shiva has ended.



המקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים

Mazel Tov to the **Rav and Rebbetzin** on the birth of a granddaughter to their children **Chanina and Ahuva Goldschmidt**.



Mazel Tov to **Binyomin and Mrs. Karen Rubenstein**, and **Lance and Mrs. Carin Abramson** on the wedding of their children **Natan and Elisheva Abramson** this past week.



See page 4 for an invitation to the Shabbos Sheva Brochos.

Mazel Tov to **Shlomo and Chanah Dickman** on the birth of a granddaughter to their children **Tzvi and Sara Rosenfeld!**



Mazel Tov to **Shimon and Batsheva Fraiss** on the engagement of their daughter **Deborah** to **Yitzchak Gee** of Beit Shemesh!



Mazel Tov to **Aryeh and Rivkah Beer** on the birth of a great-grandson to their grandchildren **Avital and Amiel Cohen**.



Shabbos Schedule Parshas Vayeira לוח שבת פרשת וירא

ערב שבת	Erev Shabbos	
מנחה א'	12:30	Mincha 1
הדלקת נרות	16:12/16:32	Candle Lighting
מנחה ב'	16:34	Mincha 2
שקיעה	16:52	Sunset
יום השבת	Shabbos Day	
ברכות	08:00	Brachos
שוכן עד	08:30	Shochein Ad
סוף זמן ק"ש למג"א	07:55	Latest Shema – M. A.
סוף זמן ק"ש לגר"א	08:41	Latest Shema – G'ra
מנחה א'	13:00	Mincha 1
פלא יועץ	15:50	Pele Yoetz
מנחה ב'	16:05	Mincha 2
שקיעה	16:51	Sunset
מעריב א'	17:28	Ma'ariv 1
מעריב ב'	17:51	Ma'ariv 2

The Rav's Halacha Shiur is learning the laws of Chol Hamoed
Need help on these questions? Come to the shiur on Tuesdays!

Question from RBSsemicha.com

Q&A: A Holiday Move

Q A new apartment on the first floor became available for rent a week before Yom Tov. Jonathan immediately rented the new apartment so that he wouldn't have to climb the stairs each Shabbos. May Jonathan wait until chol hamoed to move out of his current apartment and into this new apartment in each of these two scenarios?



1. The apartment is in a different building, one block away.
2. The apartment is in the same building.

A 1. No. Moving to a different building will require significant work to pack his belongings and then hire movers to bring his belongings through the public domain. Therefore, it is prohibited. 2. Yes. Since the move is within the same building, it will not require as much work, and it will not be publicly visible. Therefore, it is permitted.

OC 535 M.B. 1

Q&A: A Holiday Trip to Jersey

Q Michelle suggested to her husband that they visit their friends, the Rosensteins, on chol hamoed. "We haven't seen them in over half a year," she said. "But they live in Jersey, and we would have to drive there, and doing any work, including driving, is forbidden unless it is for a Yom Tov need!" exclaimed Andy. May Andy and Michelle drive to visit their friends on chol hamoed?



A Yes. Visiting a friend, family, or even taking an enjoyable trip is considered a "Yom Tov need". So while it is true that driving a car is called a "melacha" it is permitted if there is a "Yom Tov need".

OC 536 M.B. 1

המשך מעמוד 4

אדם עני ונואש, והוא לא רוצה להפסיד את זה.

נחיצות גורמת למודעות. כאשר אברהם אבינו חשב שאין לו זכות לבקש מה' דבר, תחינתו הייתה אמיתית יותר, ולכן אולי הניבה תוצאות גדולות יותר. רעיון זה נראה בשולחן ערוך שם מומלץ לנו לחפש בעל תפילה שאינו במצב כלכלי טוב כדי שתחנונונו לה' יהיו רציניים ותביאו למענה חיובית לתפילותינו.

לפי הטבע, אומות העולם היו צריכים כבר להשמיד את כלל ישראל ולהפוך אותנו לעפר ואפר פעמים רבות. אם נלמד ממודעותו של אברהם אבינו ונתפלל למתנת חנם על ידי הבנתנו שלא מגיע לנו שום דבר, נוכל לזכות שהקדוש ברוך הוא יקבל את תפילותינו ויציל אותנו שוב.

אבות ובנים



AuB Motza'ei Shabbos at 19:00!

Boys aged 7+ learn for 1 hour
followed by a TEHILLIM GATHERING at 20:00

ICE CREAM, TREATS, and PRIZES

for all participants at 20:10!

Sponsored by Yisroel Harris and Family



Support Avos uBanim

by sponsoring one of the many "incentives"
for the boys to come and learn:

Pizza Party 275₪ • Prizes 200₪

Ice Cream 180₪ • Treats 100₪

Contact Shlomo Hollander for more info
AUB@ahavasshalom.org

AuB for **ages 3-7** is still **Shabbos afternoon**
30 minutes before the last mincha
15:35-16:05

(Continued from page 1)

I would like to point out the absurdity of this mindset. People expect their workers, their spouse, or their friends to do things on time, and often they take it for granted, to the point that they don't even say "thank you"! Yet, when their associate doesn't do something as it was supposed to be done, they are annoyed. I have often told people, "It is your own fault. If you would have thanked the person all along, they probably would have even been willing to overextend themselves to please you. But when you don't recognize their past efforts, they become lethargic, apathetic, and start to look for excuses to avoid doing extra work." One of the benefits of not taking things for granted is that one will grow in his *mida* of *hakaras hatov*.

There is another gain to be had as well. A man once came to me with a question regarding his business. After hearing him out, I said to him that it sounded to me that he could solve his cashflow problem and expand his business with a bank loan. He said back to me, that in his present situation (always short money at the end of the month) he is forced to *daven* like a poor and desperate person, and he doesn't want to lose that.

Urgency produces awareness. When Avraham Avinu accepted that he had no right to ask for anything from Hashem, his plea was more genuine, and therefore possibly produced greater results. This idea is echoed in Shulchan Aruch as we are told to look for a *chazan* who is not in a good financial position so that his pleas to Hashem should be earnest and bring about a positive response to our prayers.

According to statistics, the enemy nations surrounding *Klal Yisrael* should have already turned us into dust and ashes many times over. If we learn from Avraham's awareness and pray for a *matnas chinam* (a handout) through understanding that we don't necessarily deserve anything, we can merit to have our prayers accepted by *Hakadosh Baruch Hu*, and He will save us once again.



פרשת

חיי שרה!



סעודה
שלישית

לבחורים עם הרב

לבחורים בגילאים 12-15 בלבד



לעילוי נשמת יצחק מאיר בן לב הלוי

First Aid ☆

Need a plaster, sterile pads, or other first aid equipment, and can't wait for Hatzlala to arrive? Thanks to a recent donation by **Mordechai Americus and Family**, we now have a First Aid Kit which is stored in the cabinet under the bima. Please feel free to use this in case of emergency.



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 was erased for Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan, and so if necessary please resubmit any names.



Pele Yoetz Shiur

Continuing this and every Shabbos afternoon, Rav Zachariash will give his shiur for men on **Pele Yoetz**. This week, the shiur will begin at **15:50** on the topic **חינוך**.



Due to the *Seuda Shlishis Sheva Brochos*, the shiur will meet in the Beis Medrash near the Rav's seat.

Netziv Hayom

Sponsor *Netziv Hayom* in memory of your loved ones or in honor of a special occasion, and all the learning and davening that take place in our shul during that day will to your merit. 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.



14 Marcheshvan sponsored by the Zakoo Family

לע"נ חביבה בת מוזלי ע"ה

Shiurim with the Rav

The Rav will be giving TWO *shiurim* this coming week:

SUNDAY 21:15: *Mishnayos*.

TUESDAY: 20:15 *Hilchos Chol Hamoed*

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

Shiurim are archived at ahavasshalom.org/youtube



משולחנו של הרב אברהם ברוך זכריש

אל תהיה כל כך בטוח

ניענו אברהם ויאמר הנהגא הואלתלי לדבר אל-אדני ואנכי עפר ואפר: (בראשית יח:ז)

רשי: ואנכי עפר ואפר. וכבר הייתי ראוי להיות עפר על ידי המלכים, ואפר על ידי נמרוד, לולי רחמיך אשר עמדו לי:

רשי"י מסביר את נקודת המבט של אברהם, שיש לגדולים רבים. אברהם מעריך את עצמו ואומר שלא מגיע לו שה' יקבל את תפילתו, שכן הוא כבר היה צריך להפוך לעפר ואפר. מה הייתה מטרתו של אברהם לומר זאת?

יעקב אבינו קבל הבטחה "והנה אנכי עמך ושמרתיך בכל אשר תלך והשבתיך אל האדמה הזאת..." (בראשית כח:טו), ובכל זאת הוא חשש שאולי "קטנתי מכל החסדים..." (שם לב:יא), שמפני החטא אינו זוכה עוד לברכת ה'. בדומה לכך, אברהם חשש שכבר תמו כל זכויותיו. אנשים מניחים שדברים טובים יימשכו כפי שהם, עם זאת, זה נקרא "לקחת דברים כמובנים מאליהם". להעריך את מה שיש לנו, ו"לא לקחת דברים כמובנים מאליהם" זה משהו שצריך ללמוד ולהפנים תמיד.

יש הרבה אנשים שמניחים שכפי שה' הציל אותו פעם אחר פעם, העובדה ש"ניצל" היא נתונה - הספק היחיד הוא בדיוק איך ה' יציל אותנו הפעם. הם עשויים לצטט את מה שאנו אומרים בליל הסדר, "שבכל דור ודור עומדים עלינו לכלותינו, והקב"ה מצילינו מידם". זו פרשנות לא נכונה של השורה הזו. כשאנחנו שרים את זה בסדר ליל פסח, אנחנו משבחים את ה' על מה שהוא עשה בעבר, ומתפללים שהוא ימשיך להושיע אותנו בעתיד. (אנו רואים בתורה שה' היה מוכן להשמיד את כלל ישראל ולהתחיל מחדש עם משה לבדו. למרות שהעם החדש הזה יהיה מכלל ישראל, בכל זאת אנו רואים שאין התחייבות).

אני רוצה להצביע על הטיפשות שבגישה הזו. אנשים מצפים מהעובדים שלהם, מבני הזוג שלהם או מחבריהם לעשות דברים בזמן, ופעמים רבות הם לוקחים את זה כל כך כמובן מאליהם, עד כדי כך שהם אפילו לא אומרים "תודה!" עם זאת, כאשר דברים לא נעשו כפי שהם היו אמורים להיעשות, הם מתרגזים. לא פעם אמרתי לאנשים, "זו אשמתך. אם היית מודים לאילו לאורך כל הדרך, כנראה שהם אפילו היה מוכנים להתאמץ כדי לרצות אותך. אבל כשאתה לא מזהה את המאמצים שלהם, הם הופכים לרדומים, אדישים ומחפשים תירוצים כדי להימנע מעבודה נוספת". אחד היתרונות של אי קבלת דברים כמובנים מאליהם הוא שאדם יגדל בהכרת הטוב שלו.

יש גם רווח נוסף. מישהו בא אלי פעם עם שאלה לגבי העסק שלו. לאחר ששמעתי אותו, אמרתי לו שלדעתי הוא יכול לפתור את הבעיה הכספית שלו ולהרחיב את עסקו באמצעות הלוואה בנקאית. הוא ענה לי, שבמצבו הנוכחי (תמיד חסר כסף בסוף החודש) הוא נאלץ להתפלל כמו

המשך בעמוד 2

Seuda Shlishis Sheva Brachos

The entire Kehilla is invited to join the
Rubenstein/Abramson simcha
at a communal seuda shlishis
in the Ahavas Shalom hall
(Ladies in the Ezras Nashim).
Shabbos Afternoon Parshas Vayeira
Starting approximately 16:25
(After Mincha).

GROWTH THROUGH THE PARSHA

WITH
RAV ZACHARIASH
THIS

SUNDAY

NOV 5

20:15-21:00

SHUL HALL

FOR WOMEN

All SHIURIM ARE RECORDED AND AVAILABLE ON AHAVASSHALOM.ORG

Fall Back

Israel returned to Standard Time last Motza'ei Shabbos. The change in time results in the following *changes* to the davening schedule:

- Mincha Gedolah Erev Shabbos: 12:30
- Shabbos Shacharis 08:00 (Yishtabach at 08:30)
- Shabbos Mincha Gedolah: 13:00
- Last Shabbos Mincha is approximately 45 minutes before sunset.



Weekday times until Parshas Chayei Sarah	ו' (Fri)	ה' (Thu)	ד' (Wed)	ג' (Tue)	ב' (Mon)	א' (Sun)	יום שחרית	זמנים לימי חול עד פרשת חיי שרה
	06:20, 07:15, 08:15	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	06:20, 07:15, 08:10	שחרית	
	12:30, 16:29	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	מנחה	
	*Hall	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	מעריב	

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
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!