

## Baruch Hashem

"They told him saying, Yosef is still alive, and he is ruling over the land of Egypt. His [Yaakov's] heart stood still, for he could not believe them." (Bereishis 45:26)

In the above verse, the brothers relate to Yaakov that Yosef is alive, but Yaakov does not believe them. They relate it a second time, and then it sinks in. Rav Pinchas Hirschprung Z"l (1912-1998 Montreal) asks an obvious question: Why did Yaakov need to be told the same thing twice? Was anything added the second time which caused Yaakov to believe them?

In our lives, we say certain things without much thought – almost as a cliché. You ask someone, "How are you doing?" and he responds almost without thinking, "Baruch Hashem, fine!" It is rare that someone responds, "Baruch Hashem, lousy!"

Recently I heard a joke about a gentile who said, "I don't want to have the miracles of a Jew, but I would love to have the problems of a Jew!" He explained: A Jew may have a car accident, get banged up, and still say, "Baruch Hashem, miracles!" On the other hand, a Jew may find an item and his problem is that he now can't figure out to whom to return it. The gentile says, "I don't want the Jew's miracles, but would instead want his problems!"

Indeed, we Jews are peculiar. Whatever happens to us, we almost automatically put Hashem into the picture, acknowledging both His presence and His being the ultimate cause of all. In fact, the *Medrash* in last week's parsha tells us that Binyomin, who had no part in the sale of Yosef, was put in jail for no reason. Yet by Binyomin accepting this as the will of Hashem, he merited that the Beis Hamikdash would be partially on his tribe's land.

Yaakov knew Yosef well and found it odd that in the message that Yosef sent to him, Yosef didn't mention Hashem's involvement in the story. This trait of mentioning Hashem in everything that we do was a hallmark of Yaakov's way of speaking. We find that when Yaakov arrived quickly to receive the blessings from Yitzchak, he told his father that Hashem worked it out for me. The commentators say that Yitzchak was surprised because the name of Hashem was always on the tongue of Yaakov, but not Esav. Therefore, Yaakov was also surprised that his son Yosef, who was his prize student,

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## NEW DAILY SHIUR ON CHOVOS HALEVAVOS חובות הלבבות

09:30-09:35

SUN-THU

IN THE BEIS MEDRASH  
WITH RABBI MOSHE DOVID COHEN



Learning and Oneg Shabbos  
Join us this *Leil Shabbos*

20:30

Learning in the Beis Medrash  
OR

Parsha shiur from Rav Avishai Hill  
the Alshich on "Diplomacy with Pharaoh"

21:30

Oneg Shabbos in the Hall

### Shabbos Schedule Parshas Vayigash לוח שבת פרשת ויגש

Erev Shabbos		ערב שבת
Mincha 1	12:30	מנחה א'
Candle Lighting	16:04/16:24	הדלקת נרות
Mincha 2	16:16	מנחה ב'
Sunset	16:44	שקיעה
Shabbos Day		יום השבת
Brachos	08:00	ברכות
Shochein Ad	08:30	שוכן עד
Latest Shema – M. A.	08:20	סוף זמן ק"ש למג"א
Latest Shema – G'ra	09:08	סוף זמן ק"ש לגר"א
Mincha 1	13:00	מנחה א'
Pele Yoetz	15:45	פלא יועץ
Mincha 2	16:00	מנחה ב'
Sunset	16:44	שקיעה
Ma'ariv 1	17:21	מעריב א'
Ma'ariv 2	17:44	מעריב ב'

This newsletter is sponsored in honor of  
**Gil Garalnick's Birthday!**

## 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 go 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](mailto:Netziv@ahavasshalom.org).



29 Kislev sponsored by the Escovitz Family to express Gratitude To Hashem for all the *Chesed* He has bestowed upon us and Daven for the quick and complete destruction of our enemies with no further Jewish casualties.

10 Kislev sponsored by the Lippman Family

לע"נ הנדל חיה בת יוסף ע"ה

**Can you add on 1 hour of Torah learning for the protection of the soldiers?**

Aside from their personal danger, they are protecting us and our families.

**HELP THEM AND YOURSELF!**

**Add your name to a slot:**

**[Ahavasshalom.org/1hour](http://Ahavasshalom.org/1hour)**

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](http://RBSsemicha.com)

### Q&A: Squeezing a Chol Hamoed Profit

**Q** On the third day of *chol hamoed*, Levy's investment in CanOPet (Canadian Oil and Petroleum) suddenly shot up to triple its price compared to *erev* Sukkos. As he investigated, he saw that there was a demand on the stock due to a forced stock distribution to the bond holders. He predicted that it would take the CanOPet Board of Directors at least three days to solve the problem by issuing more stock, at which time the stock would probably return to its *erev* Sukkos price. Is Levy permitted to go online now on *chol hamoed* and sell his shares in this investment?



**A** Yes, even though one may normally not do work on *chol hamoed* to make profits, but only to prevent loss. In this case, Levy wants to capture profits that would disappear if he would wait. Therefore, in order to permit the sale on *chol hamoed*, he **must** use some of the profits to purchase something that he would not normally buy, and use that item for Yom Tov or *chol hamoed* enjoyment.

OC 539:5

## אבות ובנים



**AuB Motza'ei Shabbos 19:00!**

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

**ICE CREAM, TREATS, and PRIZES!**

**For all boys!**

*Please consider sponsoring the Ice Cream for only 75\$*



**Support Avos uBanim**  
by sponsoring one of the many "incentives" for the boys to come and learn:

**Pizza Party 295\$ • Prizes 200\$**

**Ice Cream 75\$ • Treats 50\$**

Contact Shlomo Hollander for more info [aub@ahavasshalom.org](mailto:aub@ahavasshalom.org)

AuB for ages 3-7 is still Shabbos afternoon  
30 minutes before the last mincha 15:25-15:55



# Shiurim with the Rav

The Rav will be giving 2 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](https://cutt.ly/AhavasShalomZoom)

Shiurim are archived at [ahavasshalom.org/youtube](https://ahavasshalom.org/youtube)

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would mention good fortune without giving recognition to Hashem. Therefore, Yaakov did not believe the message.

Yaakov then pressed the brothers to repeat the message verbatim, but this time they included Yosef's mention of Hashem (45:9). This is what convinced Yaakov that Yosef was truly alive.

I heard that a certain Rosh Yeshiva asked a *bochur*, "How are you feeling?" and the *bochur* responded, "Baruch Hashem!", to which the Rosh Yeshiva retorted, "I am happy to hear that you are religious, but *how are you feeling?*" For indeed a person should be able to say, "Baruch Hashem, I feel lousy!" The Rosh Yeshiva was saying, "When you just answered by saying only 'Baruch Hashem', it is as if you only attribute Hashem to things that are going well, but when things are less rosy, you leave Hashem out of the picture." This is a great mistake because we must recognize that Hashem is there in all situations, both good and bad!

My great uncle who lived in Jerusalem went through the 1929 massacre (which also took place in Jerusalem), after his health was failing when he was asked, "How are you feeling?" would sigh and say, "We thank Hashem for whatever He gives us." It is not within all of us to appreciate that all that Hashem does for us is ultimately for our good; but at least we should make a statement that we understand that it is all – even the bad – from Hashem.

I believe that there is no better example than the sale of Yosef to help us see that even what seemed to be the worst of things was done to bring about security for *Klal Yisrael* in Egypt. As bad as our situation is today we should take inspiration from this week's *parsha* that this could bring about the ultimate *hatzala* for all of *klal Yisrael*!

## 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 **15:40** on the topic **חוכמה**.



המשך מעמוד 4

לה' "זו טעות גדולה כי עלינו להכיר בכך שה' נמצא שם בכל המצבים, גם הטובים וגם הרעים!

דוד רבא שלי שגר בירושלים עבר את הטבח ב-1929 (שהתרחש גם בירושלים). לאחר שמצבו הבריאותי התדרדר, כששאלו אותו "איך אתה מרגיש?" היה נאנח ואומר, "אנו מודים לה' על כל מה שהוא נותן לנו." לא לכולנו היכולות להעריך שכל מה שה' עושה עבורנו הוא בסופו של דבר לטובתנו; אבל לפחות אנחנו צריכים להצהיר שאנחנו מבינים שהכל - אפילו הרע - מה'.

אני מאמין שאין דוגמה טובה יותר ממכירת יוסף, כדי לעזור לנו לראות שגם מה שכנראה היה הגרוע ביותר נעשה כדי להציל את יעקב ומשפחתו במצרים. אנחנו צריכים לקחת תקווה מפרשת השבוע שעד כמה שמצבנו גרוע היום, זה יכול להביא את הגאולה השלימה לכל כלל ישראל!

## Proper Payments



Do you have an outstanding obligation to the kehilla and want to pay it? There are several ways to pay, but **please do not put cash into the tzedakah box!**

If you want to pay in cash, please give it to a vaad member such as Binyomin Rubenstein or Aryeh Beer; or Lev Seltzer. However, these are the preferred methods of payment:

- Nedarim Plus terminal next to the front door
- Online at [www.ahavasshalom.org/nedarim](https://www.ahavasshalom.org/nedarim)
- [PayPal.me/ahavasshalom](https://PayPal.me/ahavasshalom)
- American Friends at [ahavasshalom.com/donate](https://ahavasshalom.com/donate)

# Kinyan Hamasechta

**Join the Chabura and make a "Kinyan" on Mesechta SOTA!**

This is a great time to join the Ahavas Shalom "*Kinyan HaMesechta Chabura*" as we begin learning

**Mesechta Sota!**

Meeting 08:15-09:05 Sun-Thurs mornings in the hall.

If you are interested in joining, please contact R' Elyahu Jacobs to receive your **free** Gemora.

## 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](mailto: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 just erased on Rosh Chodesh Teves, and so if necessary please resubmit any names.



# Thoughts on Sefer Zera Shimshon

NEW SHIUR

Given by  
Rabbi Alan Freedman

Tuesday mornings in the Hall  
09:05 to 09:45\*

\*Shiur starts immediately following the 08:15  
Shacharis and lasts about 40 minutes

Text sheets will  
be provided

For the Zechus and Shemira of Klal Yisroel

## GROWTH THROUGH THE PARSHA

WITH  
RAV ZACHARIASH

SUNDAY  
DEC 24

20:15-21:00  
SHUL HALL  
FOR WOMEN

All SHIURIM ARE RECORDED AND AVAILABLE ON AHAVASSHALOM.ORG

## Tenth of Teves Fast

Davening times are changing as follows:

- Fast begins: Friday at 05:19.
- Shacharis 06:15 (sunrise 06:37), 07:15 (Hall) & 08:15.
- Mincha at 12:30 and **16:16** ← NOTE EARLIER TIME. The 18 minutes before sunset *mincha* is pushed to 16:16 so there is sufficient time for *leining*.



משולחנו של הרב אברהם ברוך זכריש

## ברוך השם!

וַיִּגְדּוּ לוֹ לְאָמֹר עוֹד יוֹסֵף הִי וְכִי־הוּא מִשָּׁל בְּכָל־אֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם וַיִּפְגּוּ לְבָו כִּי לֹא־הָאֱמִין לָהֶם: (בראשית מה:כו)

בפסוק המצוטט האחים אומרים ליעקב שיוסף חי, אך יעקב לא האמין להם. הם אומרים לו עוד פעם, ואז הוא מקבל מהם. הרב פנחס הירשפרונג ז"ל שואל: "למה היה צריך להגיד ליעקב את אותו הדבר פעמיים? ומה נוסף בפעם השנייה שגרם ליעקב להאמין להם?" לעתים קרובות אנו אומרים דברים בלי הרבה מחשבה. לדוגמה, כששואלים, "מה שלומך?" התשובה בלי לחשוב עלולה להיות, "ב"ה, בסדר!" נדיר לקבל תשובה "ב"ה, נורא!"

לאחרונה שמעתי בדיחה על גוי שאמר: "אני לא רוצה ניסים של יהודים, אבל אשמח לקבל את הבעיות שלהם!" הוא הסביר: יהודי שעבר תאונת דרכים, נפגע, ועדיין אומר "ברוך ה', זה היה נס!" מצד שני, יהודי שמצא אבידה, דואג כשהוא לא יכול לברר למי להחזיר אותה. לכן הגוי לא רצה את הניסים של היהודים, אבל רצה את הקשיים שלהם!

אכן, אנחנו היהודים שונים. לא משנה מה יקרה לנו, אנו מכניסים את ה' כמעט אוטומטית לתמונה, ומכירים הן בנוכחותו והן בהיותו הגורם לכל. למעשה, המדרש בפרשת השבוע שעבר מספר שבנימין, למרות שלא היה לו חלק במכירת יוסף, בכל מקרה הוכנס לכלא. אולם מפני שבנימין קיבל זאת כרצון ה', הוא זכה לכך שבית המקדש יהיה בחלק שבטו.

יעקב הכיר היטב את יוסף והיה מוזר לו שבהודעה ששלח לו יוסף, הוא לא הזכיר את ה'. תכונה זו של הכרת ידו של ה' בכל מה שקורה הייתה מאפיין של דרך הדיבור של יעקב. אנו מוצאים שכאשר יעקב בא לקבל את הברכות מיצחק, ונשאל, "מה-זה מְהֵרָה לְמַצָּא בְנִי", הוא ענה, "כי הִקְרָה ה' אֶלְקֶיךָ לְפָנַי" (בראשית כז:כ). המפרשים אומרים שיצחק חשש כי שם ה' היה תמיד על פיו של יעקב, אבל לא של עשו. לכן, גם יעקב הופתע מכך שבנו יוסף, שהיה תלמידו המובהק, יספר את הטוב שקיבל מבלי להזכיר את שם ה'. לכן יעקב לא האמין לשבטים.

אז ביקש יעקב מהאחים לחזור על הודעת יוסף מילה במילה, והפעם אמרו, "כֹּה אָמַר בְּנִי יוֹסֵף שְׁמֵנִי אֶלְקִים לְאֲדוֹן לְכָל־מִצְרַיִם" (שם מה:ט). וזה מה ששכנע את יעקב שבאמת עוד יוסף חי.

שמעתי שראש ישיבה מסוים שאל בחור, "איך אתה מרגיש?" והבחור ענה "ברוך השם!", ועל כך השיב ראש הישיבה, "אני שמח לשמוע שאתה מאמין בה", אבל איך אתה מרגיש?" כי אכן צריכים להיות מסוגלים לומר "ברוך ה', אני לא מרגיש טוב!" הראש הישיבה אמר, "כשאתה רק אומר ברוך ה', זה כאילו אתה מייחס לה' רק דברים שהולכים כסדר, אבל הדברים הקשים אתה לא מייחס

המשך בעמוד 3

Weekday times until Parshas Vayechi	ו' (Fri)	ה' (Thu)	ד' (Wed)	ג' (Tue)	ב' (Mon)	א' (Sun)	יום שחרית	זמנים לימי חול עד פרשת ויחי
	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	מנחה	
	12:30, 16:30	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	מעריב	
	*Hall	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 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  
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Ramat Beit Shemesh, Israel

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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!