

## For Heaven's Sake

And Moshe took the bones of Yosef with him: for he had made them take an oath on the children of Yisra'el, saying, God will surely redeem you; and you shall carry up my bones away from here with you. (Shemos 13:19)

**The Sages taught in the Tosefta (4:6-7): Come and see how beloved mitzvot are to Moses our teacher. As, at the time of the Exodus, all the Jewish people were involved in taking the plunder from Egypt, and he was involved in the performance of mitzvot, as it is stated: "The wise in heart will take mitzvot" (Proverbs 10:8). Sota 13a**



There is a famous question about the *Bnei Yisrael* at the *Yam Suf*. After crossing, while the *Bnei Yisrael* were busy collecting the spoils of the Egyptians – riches many times greater than what they had taken when they left Egypt – Moshe Rabbeinu was occupied with exhuming and taking care of the coffin of Yosef. *Chazal* tell us "*Chacham lev yikach mitzvos*" – a person with a wise heart involves himself with mitzvos. That is why Moshe was involved with Yosef's coffin, and not the spoils. He was fulfilling the oath which Yosef had made the *Bnei Yisrael* swear - to bring his remains up to *Eretz Yisrael*.

The question is asked: Once Moshe Rabbeinu had commanded the *Bnei Yisrael* to collect the booty, that became a *mitzvah* as well. So why is Moshe singled out as "*Chacham lev...*"? Weren't the *Bnei Yisrael* also performing a *mitzvah*, so they would also be "*Chachmei lev...*"!

Many answers have been offered. One explanation is that it is preferable to engage in a *mitzvah* that brings the least personal pleasure, which makes it a purer and more elevated *mitzvah* to be involved in. However, on that answer I saw the following question: Isn't it actually easier to do a *mitzvah* for the sake of heaven when there is no physical pleasure involved? By that logic, Moshe's involvement in Yosef's remains, devoid of personal gain, should be considered a smaller *mitzvah* than the *Bnei Yisrael's* collection of the booty (assuming they did it for heaven's sake).

I came across a fascinating answer. Generally, when the Torah gives us a commandment, the obligation is very clear and direct. But regarding the booty, the Torah says "*dabeir na*" – "*please speak to*" the Egyptians. The word

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## 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](mailto:lev@ahavasshalom.org) by 11:00 Thurs.



Reminder: Sending an instant message, an email, or speaking to anyone else will probably result in your announcement not making it to the newsletter!

## Mi Shebeirach for Cholim

**Reminder:** If you would like the Gabbai to read the name of a *choleh* on Shabbos during the *Mi SheBeirach*, you must submit it via Email to Mrs. Zakoo by Thursday! Send your list of Hebrew Names using Hebrew Letters to Mrs. Zakoo at [office@ahavasshalom.org](mailto:office@ahavasshalom.org).



## Donate a Sefer!

We are always interested in expanding our library, so if you would like to donate *sefarim* or *siddurim* in memory or in honor of a loved one, please contact Yehuda Nyssen (050-412-0515) to make arrangements.



## Shabbos Schedule Parshas Beshalach לוח שבת בשלח

Erev Shabbos		ערב שבת
Mincha 1	12:30	מנחה א'
Candle Lighting	16:35/16:55	הדלקת נרות
Mincha 2	16:57	מנחה ב'
Sunset	17:15	שקיעה
Shabbos Day		יום השבת
Brachos	08:00	ברכות
Shochin Ad	08:30	שוכן עד
Latest Shema – M. A.	08:27	סוף זמן ק"ש למג"א
Latest Shema – G'ra	09:13	סוף זמן ק"ש לגר"א
Mincha 1	13:00	מנחה א'
<b>Pele Yoetz Shiur</b>	<b>16:15</b>	<b>פלא יועץ</b>
Mincha 2	16:30	מנחה ב'
Sunset	17:16	שקיעה
Ma'ariv 1	17:53	מעריב א'
Ma'ariv 2	18:16	מעריב ב'

(Continued from page 1)

"na" (please) makes it sound like a request – not a commandment. This means that it was optional; the *Bnei Yisrael* could choose to do it or not. However, Moshe's taking Yosef's remains was an explicit oath, therefore a divine obligation. We therefore return to the original simple understanding: Moshe was involved in a true *mitzvah* while everyone else was involved in something optional.

This is relevant to our own lives. Often, we do *mitzvos* from which we get some worldly benefit, and when we do these *mitzvos*, we convince ourselves that we are doing Hashem's Will. In truth, to a greater or lesser degree, we may be caught up in our own pursuit of pleasure.



I would like to point out one particular *mitzvah* that many of us could strengthen. *Chazal* tell us that on Shabbos we are supposed to eat enjoyable meals. *Chazal* also tell us that Shabbos is meant to be dedicated to learning Torah. Perhaps we could all benefit

from a dose of *Chacham lev yikach mitzvos* – investing a bit more time in our Torah learning, and less in eating. If one is worried that cutting back on the food may diminish their *mitzvah* of *oneg Shabbos*, don't be concerned. The *Yetzer Hara* will make sure that is taken care of.

DO YOU DAVEN DURING THE WEEK AT AHAVAS SHALOM?

THEN BECOME AN  
**ASSOCIATE MEMBER**  
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ENHANCE  
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BEIS MEDRASH.

Login to [members.ahavasshalom.org](http://members.ahavasshalom.org)  
and set up your monthly payment

המשך מעמוד 4

לחזק: מצוות "עונג שבת" – אכילת סעודות טעימות ומענגות בשבת. חז"ל גם אומרים ששבת מיועדת ללימוד תורה. אולי כולנו יכולים להפיק תועלת ממנת "חכם לב יקח מצוות" – להשקיע קצת יותר זמן בלימוד תורה וקצת פחות באכילה.

אם חוששים שצמצום האוכל יפגע בקיום מצוות עונג שבת כראוי – אל דאגה. היצר הרע ידאג לכך שהעונג לא יחסר.

## Pele Yoetz Shiur

Rav Zachariash's shiur for men on *Pele Yoetz* continues this week 15 MINUTES before the last *mincha*. This week, the shiur will begin at 16:15 on the topic **כבוד חכמים**.



## אבות ובנים



AuB Motza'ei Shabbos at 19:00  
Boys aged 7+ learn for 1 hour

**RAFFLE for PRIZES**  
for all participants at 20:05!



## ICE CREAM

sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. Stephen  
Seltzer of Roslyn, NY



We need sponsors for the Raffle, Treats & Ice Cream. Login to the membership Portal  
[Members.ahavasshalom.org](http://Members.ahavasshalom.org)  
and sponsor Avos uBanim now!

## Kids Shabbos Programs



## Boi B'Shalom

(for boys & girls)  
30 minutes before  
Mincha (16:27)

## STORY TIME with Rabbi Seltzer

Friday Night in the Hall while the Rav gives his Drasha. For **boys** (not girls) up to Bar Mitzvah.





## Vaad Elections

Want to  
improve  
YOUR  
Kehilla?

Consider running for a position on  
the Ahavas Shalom Vaad.  
Elections for all positions on  
the Vaad will be held soon.



To submit yourself as a candidate, send an email to [lev@ahavasshalom.org](mailto:lev@ahavasshalom.org). Include in the email a few words explaining who you are and how you believe you can help our Kehilla.

Deadline for candidates:

**Motza'ei Shabbos Jan 31 at 22:00.**

Only **full members** as of the above deadline can submit themselves as a candidate and/or vote in the election, so ensure that your membership is in order before this time. Check via the portal:

**[MEMBERS.AHAVASSHALOM.ORG](http://MEMBERS.AHAVASSHALOM.ORG)**

Current Candidates list (A→Z): Aryeh Beer, Yisroel Harris, Hananiah Lasker, Yosef Richards, Binyomin Rubenstein; Lev Seltzer, Eli Waldman, Shimon Young

## 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 be in 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](mailto:Netziv@ahavasshalom.org).



Shevat 11 sponsored by The Gross Family

לע"נ הרב שמחה דב בן חיים שלמה ז"ל

Shevat 27 sponsored by The Hecht Family

לע"נ פערסל בת משה הכהן ע"ה

*Sponsorships are always printed in the newsletter issue after the sponsorship date unless specifically requested.*

The **alley** next to the hall and the **hill** next to Lachish 31 are **DANGEROUS** places to play. Children are not permitted to enter these areas. The Vaad and the Kehilla are not responsible for any injuries or damages that occur to people who enter these areas. Parents who bring their children to our Beis Medrash do so with this understanding.



## GMACH SMACHOT

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

Learn Hilchos Netilas Yadayim on Tuesdays!  
Questions come courtesy of [RBSsemicha.com](http://RBSsemicha.com)

## Can Crushed Cups Hold Water?

**Q** Reuven brought everything he needed for the picnic, including enough disposable plastic cups for drinking and washing. Unbeknownst to him, Hudy sat on the cups in the car, and cracked the lips of all 25 cups! "But Dad, the cups can still hold water?" May the cups be used for washing?

**A** No. Even though the cups can still be used for drinking, the crack in the lip changes the classification of the cups from a "kli" into a "broken cup." A broken cup may not be used for washing hands for bread. However, he can take scissors and cut away the whole top level below the crack, leaving a complete kli. O.C. 159; M.B. 11

## One Cup - or Two?

**Q** Reuven took his boys Shimmy and Hudy on a field trip and brought along sandwiches that his wife Sara had made. Reuven had no intention of bringing along a 10-gallon water container for washing (as Shimmy suggested) and wanted to minimize the amount of "washing" water on the trip. In fact, Reuven suggested that Shimmy hold his right hand above his left hand, and Reuven would pour precisely ONE plastic cup filled with water (about 150ml) on **both** hands. Shimmy didn't buy into this, though, because he said that the dirty water from his right hand would drip down onto his left hand, making the left hand even dirtier! Instead, he wanted to pour one cup on each hand. According to the M.B., may we rely on Reuven's method of washing both hands at the same time?

**A** Yes. One may place the right hand on top of the left hand and pour just one cup of water on both. Even though the water that reaches the left hand has been "dirtied" by the right hand, it is considered acceptable, and the *brocho* of *al netilas yadayim* may be said O.C. 159; M.B. 30

## Netilas Yadayim by Proxy

**Q** Bernie Shapiro was sent home from the hospital to recover, and his insurance company provided him with a non-Jewish man from the Philippines, Danilo Flores, to take care of him. On the first day, Bernie requested lunch with a piece of bread. Will Bernie fulfill his obligation to wash before bread if he asks Danilo to wash his hands for him, as that would be easier for Bernie? Please match the *posek* (M.B. or A.H.) with the *psak*: 1) Danilo can wash Bernie's hands, even if Bernie can do it himself; 2) Bernie must make the effort to wash his own hands, and can only ask Danilo to do it if he can't do it himself.

**A** M.B.=2: Bernie should try to wash his own hands and should not let a non-Jewish man wash his hands for him. However, if he is unable, then he can let Danilo wash his hands. A.H.=1: It is acceptable for Bernie to ask Danilo to wash his hands for him, even if he can do it himself. O.C. 159; M.B. 69; A.H. 26

## Learning & Oneg Shabbos

Elevate your Leil Shabbos!

Sponsor all the programs for a Shabbos for 250 ILS  
by logging in to [Members.ahavasshalom.org](http://Members.ahavasshalom.org)  
For details contact Yisroel Harris [Yisroel@ahavasshalom.org](mailto:Yisroel@ahavasshalom.org)



SPECIAL  
NOSH TABLE  
FOR BOCHRIM!

**20:30** Beis Medrash Learning or  
Parsha shiur from R' Avishai Hill

**21:30** Oneg Shabbos

**עונג שבת לילדים מכיתה ד' ומעלה**

עם הרב נפתלי קפלן

**20:30 לימודים בבית מדרש**

**21:00 עונג לבחורים באולם**

## Shiurim with the Rav

The Rav will be giving 2 shiurim this coming week:

SUNDAY 21:15: Mishnayos - Parah

TUESDAY 20:15: Hilchos Netilas Yadayim



All shiurim are given in shul and via ZOOM at this link:

[ahavasshalom.org/zoom](http://ahavasshalom.org/zoom)

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

משולחנו של הרב אברהם ברוך זכריש

## לשם שמיים

ויקח משה את עצמות יוסף עמו כי השבע השביע את בני ישראל לאמר פקד פקד אלקים אתכם והעליתם את עצמתי מזה אתכם: (שמות יג:ט)

תנו רבנן: בא וראה כמה חביבות מצות על משה רבינו, שכלל ישראל כולן בתעסקו בבינה, והוא נתעסק במצות, שנאמר: "חכם לב יקח מצות וגו'". (סוטה יג.)

יש שאלה מפורסמת על בני ישראל בים סוף. לאחר שעברו את הים, בעוד בני ישראל עסוקים באיסוף שלל המצרים – עושר רב בהרבה ממה שלקחו כשיצאו ממצרים – משה רבנו היה עסוק במשהו אחר לגמרי: בחפירת ארונו של יוסף ובטיפול בו.

חז"ל אומרים: "חכם לב יקח מצות". זו הסיבה שמהם התעסק בארונו של יוסף ולא בשלל. הוא קיים את השבועה שיוסף השביע את בני ישראל – להעלות את עצמותיו לארץ ישראל.

השאלה נשאלת: הרי משה רבנו עצמו ציווה את בני ישראל לאסוף את השלל על פי ה', שכך הפך אותו למצווה! אם כן, מדוע דווקא משה נקרא "חכם לב"? האם לא גם בני ישראל עשו מצווה, ואם כן גם הם חכמי לב?

הוצעו תשובות רבות. אחת מהן היא שרצוי יותר לעסוק במצווה שמביאה את מיעוט ההנאה האישית, כי דווקא כך המצווה היא טהורה ומעלה יותר.

אבל על תשובה זו עצמה נשאלה שאלה נוספת: האם לא קל יותר לקיים מצווה לשם שמיים כאשר אין בה הנאה גשמית כלל? לפי לוגיקה זו, עיסוקו של משה בעצמות יוסף – ללא כל רווח אישי – אמור להיחשב למצווה קטנה יותר מעיסוקם של בני ישראל בשלל העצום (ובהנחה שעשו זאת לשם שמיים).

ראיתי תשובה מרתקת. בדרך כלל, כאשר התורה נותנת מצווה, היא מבהירה בבירור שזו חובה. אולם לגבי השלל כתוב "דבר נא" – בבקשה דבר אל המצרים. המילה "נא" הופכת את זה לבקשה ולא לציווי מחייב. כלומר, איסוף השלל היה רשות – בני ישראל יכלו לבחור לעשות זאת או לא.

לעומת זאת, העלאת עצמות יוסף הייתה שבועה מפורשת וחובה מדאורייתא. לכן חוזרים להבנה הפשוטה המקורית: משה עסק במצווה אמיתית, בעוד כולם עסקו בדבר רשות – גם אם היה ראוי ומותר.

יש לכך משמעות רבה לחיים שלנו. לעיתים קרובות אנו מקיימים מצוות שמביאות לנו תועלת חומרית כלשהי – כבוד, הנאה או רווח – ומשכנעים את עצמנו שאנו עושים רצון ה'. למעשה, במדה זו או אחרת, אנו עלולים להיות לכודים במרדף אחרי הנאות שלנו.

אני רוצה להדגיש מצווה אחת שרבים מאיתנו צריכים

המשך בעמוד 2

זמנים	יום	(Sun)א'	(Mon)ב'	(Tue)ג'	(Wed)ד'	(Thu)ה'	(Fri)ו'	Weekday times until Parshas Yisro
למי חול	שחרית	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	06:20, 07:15, 08:15	
עד פרשת יתרו	מנחה	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	12:30, 17:03	
	מעריב	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	*Hall	

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](mailto: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](mailto:office@ahavasshalom.org)  
Shul Address: 33 Nachal Lachish  
Ramat Beit Shemesh, Israel

Main Ahavas Shalom lists:  
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Email Rav: [ahavasshalom.org/email-rav](mailto:ahavasshalom.org/email-rav)

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