



On The Lighter Side...

Just before Rosh Hashanah, a team of terrorists invades the shul and takes the rabbi, the cantor, and the shul president hostage. Hours later, the governor is still standing tough; he won't give them a million dollars, or a getaway car, or a jet.

The terrorists gather the three hostages in a corner and inform them that things look bad and they're going to have to shoot them. Nevertheless, to show that they're not really a bad bunch, they'll grant each hostage one wish.

"Please," says the rabbi, "for the last two months I've been working on my Rosh Hashanah sermon. What a waste to die now without having delivered it before an audience. I'll go happily if you let me recite my sermon. It's an hour-ninety minutes long tops."

They promise to grant him the wish.

"Please," says the cantor, "after fifty years I've finally gotten the 'Kol Nidrei' prayer just right. What a waste to die and not sing it to an audience. It's only about 45 minutes long – then I'll go happily."

The terrorists promise to grant the cantor his wish too, and they then turn to the shul president.

"What is your wish?" they ask.

"Please," says the president with tears in his eyes, "shoot me first!"

CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES AVENTURA

Friday, September 8

Light Candles at 7:14 p.m.

Saturday, September 9

Shabbat ends at 8:05 p.m.

READINGS

On Shabbat we read

Parshat Ki Tavo

Avot Chapter 3 & 4

LUBAVITCH AVENTURA SOUTH

PARSHAT KI TAVO

THE TORAH PORTION IN A NUTSHELL

Moses continues his pep talk to the Israelites, cautioning them not to fear the Canaanite armies for G-d will wage battle for them. He also notifies them that their entry into the Land is not due to their own virtues – Moses reminds them of many of their transgressions to emphasize this point – but rather, it is in the merit of the Forefathers. The commandments of prayer and Grace after Meals are mentioned. The second part of the Shema is also found in this portion.

Infusing Liveliness into a Demanding Marriage

By Rabbi N. Silberberg

This Shabbat, the 18th of Elul, (September 9th), is a double birthday. On this date, the soul of Rabbi Israel "Baal Shem Tov," founder of the Chassidic movement, entered the world in 1698, and on the very same date in 1745, Rabbi Schneur Zalman of Liadi, creator of the Chabad branch of Chassidut, was born. The number eighteen has the same numerical value as the word "chai," – life. Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak, the previous Lubavitcher Rebbe, once said, that "Chai Elul," (the 18th of Elul), breathes life into the service of the month of Elul.

The holy books point out that the word (אֵלּוּל Elul) is an acronym for the words (taken from Song of Songs): "אֲנִי לְדוּדִי וְדוּדִי לִי," "I am to (G-d), my Beloved, and my Beloved is to me." We share a multi-faceted relationship with G-d – He is our king and we are His subjects; He is our father and we are his children; He is our shepherd and we are His flock – but with the approach of the new year, we focus on our husband-wife relationship, a relationship which is characterized by passionate love.

I recently stumbled across an 'Encyclopedia of the World's Major Religions.' I started reading the entry on Judaism, and was amazed at the writer's insight when he speaks of the stark difference between Judaism and *all* other religions. Other religions are based on a particular theology and philosophy, and their rules and codes of conduct are a direct consequence of their belief system. Judaism, however, is based on a Torah which is principally a book of rules. Jewish philosophy developed afterwards, and is based on the interpretations of the laws. Incredibly, most of the thirteen *principles* of our faith are not articulated in the Torah; instead the Torah is almost entirely preoccupied with technical 'do's and 'don't's! Who is G-d? Why did He create us? What is the master plan? – All these questions are glaringly ignored in the Torah.

This accurate description of Judaism does not support our husband-wife relationship hypothesis. A marriage is not based on rules, rather on mutual affection. A marriage starts with two people who get to know, and deeply appreciate, each other, and in this manner develop a love which leads them to commit to each other "til death do they part." A stable marriage does *not* find its roots in two people who meet, and one turns to the other and says, "Let's get married. Who I am is irrelevant, but here's my list of demands..." a monarch and his subjects share a rule-based relationship, not a married couple.

Studying chassidut allows one to become intimate with G-d. Gaining a (minimal) understanding of our Creator, His awesomeness, His incredible benevolence, and the personal relationship He shares with every Jew, allows the bride – the Jewish people – to connect to G-d and appreciate Him. Our sages say we were betrothed to G-d at Mount Sinai, and the wedding will take place with the coming of Moshiach. In anticipation of the wedding which is looming close, we must study chassidut, the ultimate marriage handbook!

Indeed, the 18th of Elul breathes new life into the most important marriage of all.

Everything You Wanted To Know About...

Mezuzah

(Doorways which are Obligated)

- We are required to affix a mezuzah to the right-hand doorpost of every doorway of a Jewish residence. This includes storage rooms, garages and basements rooms. Even a doorway which is rarely used or the entranceway of the courtyard of a Jewish home requires a mezuzah.
- Only a house which is inhabited by a Jew requires a mezuzah. A Jewish-owned home which is vacant, or is rented to a non-Jew, does not require a mezuzah. Conversely, a Jewish residence must have mezuzot even if the house is owned by a non-Jew.
- A room must be sizeable enough to be inhabitable in order to require a mezuzah. The halachic determination is that a room which is less than 76 x 76 inches is exempt from a mezuzah. (Also exempt is a room whose width is less than 76 inches, even if its length grants the room the sum space of 76 square inches.) A walk-in closet is often large enough to require a mezuzah, so get out your measuring tape and check!
- There is a dispute amongst the halachic authorities whether a doorway without a door requires a mezuzah. We, therefore, affix a mezuzah to such a doorway, but without reciting a blessing.
- One does not affix mezuzot to a residence which will be occupied for less than thirty days. So enjoy your vacation, and don't worry about putting up a mezuzah in your hotel room... Also because of this reason, a mezuzah is not affixed to the doorway of a sukkah – unless it is a permanent structure which stands year-long.
- Only respectable living areas are graced by mezuzot. This excludes bathrooms (“How would you like to spend some time in my newly remodeled bathroom – it has gold plated fixtures!”), bathhouses, and mikvahs.
- Outside of Israel, one does not affix mezuzot until one has resided in a residence for thirty days. In Israel, the mezuzah is affixed immediately. [Chabad custom is to affix the mezuzot immediately, even in the Diaspora, but without a blessing. On the thirtieth day, one mezuzah is removed in order to be checked, but then the homeowner “decides” to exchange it for a higher-quality mezuzah, at which point he affixes it with a blessing and while reciting the blessing has in mind all the other mezuzot in the home, too.]
- A Jewish owned store or office requires a mezuzah. An office which is owned by a non-Jew, but is used by a Jew for business purposes requires a mezuzah only if the office is used exclusively by Jews. A rabbi should be consulted whether a blessing is recited before affixing a mezuzah to a workplace doorway.

MINYAN SCHEDULE

FRIDAY NIGHT

Mincha: 7:00 p.m.

Ma'ariv: Kabbalat Shabbat 15 minutes after Mincha.

SHABBAT

Shacharit: 10:00 a.m.

Torah Reading: 10:45 a.m.

Kiddush: 12:00 p.m.

Mincha: 7:00 p.m. followed by Ma'ariv (on time).

SUNDAY

Shacharit 9:00 a.m. followed by Talmud class & Breakfast .

MONDAY-FRIDAY

Shacharit: 8:15 a.m.

Mincha: 7:00 p.m. followed by Ma'ariv.

ONGOING CLASSES

SUNDAY-FRIDAY

Tanya class for men and women after prayers.

MONDAY

5:00-5:45 p.m. Hebrew reading.

TUESDAY

9:30 a.m. Breakfast n Learn for young women at Fresko restaurant. (Please call Raizel (786) 515-5729).

1:30-3:30 p.m. Jewish Retiree Club
4:45-6:00 p.m. Machon.

WEDNESDAY

8:00-9:00 p.m. Class followed by dinner for men and women.

THURSDAY

Loaves Of Love. Volunteer and make Challah for those in need.

SHABBAT

9:00 a.m. Chassidus.

6:00 p.m. Torah Class for Women.

A Project of

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