



Table Talk



Volume 1 Issue 12

Newsletter Date
3rd March 2009

Birthdays



Ziva	Levenson
Stefan	Sherman
Jamie	Zvikler
Daniel	Radnor
Natasha	Radnor
Oscar	Hamburger
Benjamin	Feingold
Daniel	Jacobs
Benjamin	Almond
Rachel	Berkeley
Talia	Berkley

A Bite of Inspiration

Parashat Tzav

The Torah Is Concerned With the
Pride of the Poor

The Torah is very meticulous regarding the pride of the Ani -- the less fortunate "poor" person. The Torah is worried that the impoverished individual should not become despondent and emotionally broken. There is an interesting Talmudic passage which says that when the Jews would bring the bikkurim [first fruits] to Jerusalem to give to the priests, the rich would bring their bikkurim in gold and silver baskets. The poor people, however, could not afford gold baskets. They would bring the first fruits of their crop in baskets of reeds.

The Talmud says that the priests returned the gold and silver baskets to the wealthy people, but kept the reed baskets from the poor people. Allowing the rich to get richer and the poor poorer. The reason for this paradox is as follows. The rich person has orchards full of fruit and brings large quantities of fruit to give to the priests. The poor person has a small crop and probably has a very small quantity of fruit to offer. By

keeping the fruit in the basket, at least the fruit look a little more substantial. It is preferable to have the priest keep the basket and let the poor person suffer further financial loss, in order to keep his pride intact. This is an example of how far the Torah is willing to go to avoid shaming a person!

So with the different sacrifices offered in the Temple. A poor person was able to bring a sacrifice from flour rather than an animal in order to avoid additional shame and stress. Furthermore the location of preparing the sin offering was the same as the burnt offering which was brought primarily as a voluntary offering, and thus lacked any negative connotations. Therefore, when a spectator would see a sin offering being brought, it would be unclear whether this was a sin or burnt offering. In this way, the transgressor would be spared embarrassment.

A British Jew is waiting in line to be knighted by the Queen. He is to kneel in front of her and recite a sentence in Latin when she taps him on the shoulders with her sword. However, when his turn comes, he panics in the excitement of the moment and forgets the Latin. Then, thinking fast, he recites the only other sentence he knows in a foreign language, which he remembers from the Passover seder:

"Ma nishtana ha layla ha zeh mi kol ha laylot."

Puzzled, Her Majesty turns to her advisor and whispers, "Why is this knight different from all other knights?"



שבת
שלום

Side Dish

Food Technology

February and March are the busiest times of the year for us in Food Technology. For GCSE and A-level classes the majority of their marks come from practical sessions and coursework write-ups.

Year 11 have just completed their coursework which is worth around 60% of their total grade! The rest of the year for them will be them taking time to prepare for their exam which is based on 'Egg Based Buf-

fet Products'. In their lessons they will be answering past paper questions, working in groups to design and produce new products based on their design brief and learning about key Food Technology terms. Year 12 and 13 also have deadlines for their coursework. Year 12 have to have their portfolio finished and handed in for 3rd

April- before the holidays! Year 13 have



Celebrating Success

Well done to

1. Nicole Nosrati
2. Lucy Bell
3. Isabel Seager

For receiving the most positive IRIS points this year.

A special bonus feature to accompany you during Seder Night can be found on the special link on the

Table Talk web page.



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