



Table Talk



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Newsletter Date
May 15th 2009

Birthdays



- Noah Levy
- Alexander Salkin
- Gideon Winton
- Paisley Lewis
- Ilana Neumann
- Nicolas Koslover
- Mark Pearce
- Adam Tomlinson
- Sam Carson
- Daniel Halpern
- Michael Cass
- Talia Gellman
- Fabianne Viner

A Bite of Inspiration

Parashat Behar –Bechukotai

The Torah teaches us that the end of the Yovel, a 50-year cycle in the land of Israel, there is a radical socio-economic transition: "freedom shall be announced to the land and all its inhabitants." Every servant shall return home to his family. All land that was sold shall return to its original owner. "And the land shall not be sold for eternity, for I [Hashem] am the true owner of the land!" Hashem, the "Ultimate Landlord," further reminds us that all such transactions are cancelled with Yovel. All of these reversions occur at the close of Yom Kippur. Why?

One of the most intriguing aspects of Judaism is the concept of teshuvah (repentance). No matter how great a sin, every Jew has the ability to change his situation and undo the damage. Yom Kippur is the day that is most appropriate for teshuvah, for it represents the idea that in the world of spirituality there is no sense of permanence. The desperate soul who feels he has no chance to change begins the year with a clean slate. He is rejuvenated and revitalized. In this Parsha, the Torah tells us that this rejuvenation does not only happen spiritually. Even regarding physical or financial situations, there is no permanence. Yovel is the Yom Kippur of the material world.

This concept is illustrated by the following story: A wealthy traveller came to meet the Chofetz Chaim, whose piety and brilliance

were admired all over the world. Entering the sage's tiny home, the wayfarer was shocked at its simplicity. In the centre of the room stood an old table and a rickety bench. The kitchen was tiny and primitive, and the small cot on the side was hardly befitting this leader of European Jewry. "Rebbe," asked the man, "where are all your possessions? How can you live with barely a thing?" The Chofetz Chaim gently asked the man, "And how did you arrive here?" "By coach," the man answered. The Chofetz Chaim walked outside and peered into this very fine carriage. He then turned to the man and asked, "I see no dining room here, nor kitchen, and not even a bed?" "But Rebbe," the man protested, "I am but travelling. I don't need those amenities. I don't know where I'll be tomorrow, and they are only useful in a fixed place." The Chofetz Chaim smiled, "I, too, am travelling in this world. I know not where I will be tomorrow. I only need temporary amenities." Every Yovel on Yom Kippur we are reminded that this is a world of transition. Whether it be in our personal lives, our real estate or our spirituality, there is always movement and change. Let us remember: it is always for the best.

After Dinner Joke

The three bears sit down at the breakfast table. Baby bear says, "who's been eating my porridge?"
Daddy bear says, "who's been eating my porridge?"
And mommy bear screams, "do we have to go through this every single morning? I haven't made the porridge yet."



שבת
שלום

Side Dish

MATHS

The Maths department are in the process of visiting feeder schools with activities to give them a taste of High School Maths. These are always very successful and a good time is had by all.

Special congratulations must go to Rafi Dover, Yr 10 Yavneh Boys, for his success in the Maths Challenge. He did

so well that he is one of only 40 students from across the whole country to be invited to attend a summer school for gifted mathematicians. We hope he has an enjoyable time and wish him every success with that.

Puzzle: In my family, every girl has the same number of brothers as she has sisters, while every boy has twice as many sisters as brothers. How many boys and how many girls? Solu-

Celebrating Success

Portugal Youth International Sport Festival

Well Done to **Zoe Gibson**

1st in 100m 14.2 seconds

The relay team were in fourth and thanks to Zoe they finished 2nd.

2nd place in the long jum 3.98m



מאת