



# Table Talk



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30th January 2009

## Birthdays



Max	Fenstein
Daniel	Moss
Madeleine	Singer
David	Cohen
Robert	Marks
Joshua	Abramson
Ari	Rubin
Gai	Sadeh
Deborah	First
Mia	Hamburger
Eleanor	Levine
Joshua	Fox
Talia	Hyman
Simon	Blank
Arielle	Kopman
Sarah	Levy
Samuel	Lewis
Robyn	Prager

## A Bite of Inspiration

### Parashat Bo

When G-d informs Moses of the tenth and final plague, he tells him that it will happen at 'about' midnight. Rashi, the great medieval commentator, asks why G-d was not more exact. Doesn't G-d have a watch? He answers that time-keeping was an inexact science in those days. Were G-d to have said 'exactly' midnight, people might have confused their timings and thought that it was G-d, and not them, who had made a mistake. To avoid potential confusion, G-d says 'about'.

At first glance, this answer makes no sense. These miracles are about to climax with the slaying of every firstborn Egyptian in a single moment. And G-d is worried that because someone might not have an atomic clock, they will think that G-d's not as powerful as he says he is?!

The answer, quite simply, is yes. We, human beings, are always looking for ways to doubt G-d. We are constantly on the lookout for excuses. When a person does not wish for something to be true, for subjective reasons, all the evidence in the world will not convince him.

For the person who does not wish to discover that which stares him in the face, then if the tenth plague begins a minute late, that will be excuse enough. It need not be rational. It need not convince. It need only be something to grasp onto. And a minute is plenty to grasp onto, when the conclusion has already been decided.

### After Dinner Joke

While proudly showing off his new apartment to friends, a student led the way into the lounge.

"What is the big brass gong and hammer for?" one of his friends asked.

"That is the talking clock", the man replied.

"How's it work?" the friend asked.

"Watch", the man said then proceeded to hit the gong with the hammer.

Suddenly someone screamed from the other side of the wall "KNOCK IT OFF,! It's two AM in the morning!



שבת  
שלום

## Side Dish

### History

Annual Berlin Tour and Year 9 Options Night

Our year 13 students are busy packing their bags, re-checking their passports and reading through their notes for a 5 day tour to Berlin on Sunday. This is the finishing touch to their A2 studies with Mr. Watson on Hitler and the Nazi State. We wish them and Mrs. Hughes a safe journey and fantastic time

whilst in Germany. Look out for the pictures on the dept webpage on their return: <http://kdhs.org.uk/depts/history/>

Thursday night is Year 9 parents evening and options. There are many reasons to take on History at GCSE level. If you fancy a career in journalism, law, teaching, management and business, then this is the subject to start your career platform.

Shabbat Shalom from all in the History Dept.



בס"ד