



REPORTER

Shabbat Parshat Tzav

Candle Lighting: 7:08 Shabbat Ends: 8:27

MHA Illustrated Torah Scroll Benefactors

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April 7, 2017

The Impact of the Seder

י"א ניסן תשע"ז



In the section from Parashat Bo that we will read on the first day of Pesach, the Torah recounts Moshe's command to the elders of Israel regarding the night of the exodus. Moshe commands the details of the Pesach sacrifice and concludes by commanding the elders to guard this matter as a law for all generations.

Moshe continues and says: "And it will be that when you come to the land that Hashem has given to you like He spoke. And you will guard this service.

And it will be that when your children say to you, 'What is this service of yours?'

And you will say, 'It is a Pesach offering to Hashem that He passed over the houses of the Jewish People in Egypt when He smote Egypt and our houses he saved and the nation bowed and worshipped. And the children of Israel went and did like Hashem commanded Moshe and Aharon – thus did they do.'"

In summary, after commanding the people to offer the Passover offering, Moshe tells the people that when they enter the land of Israel, their children will ask what this service is of theirs.

How are we to read this foretelling of future events regarding their children — negatively or positively?

On the one hand, it can be read as a dire prediction of the future generation. The children won't even know what the service is about.

On the other hand, it can be read optimistically — the children will have distanced themselves from idolatry to the extent that they won't understand why their parents sacrificed a lamb in Egypt. They won't understand the intricacies of idolatry and how sacrificing a lamb represents a rejection of the idolatry of Egypt.

If the pesukim can be read either way, what is the Torah teaching us? What is the message of the pesukim?

I believe that the Torah is highlighting that either eventuality is possible in the next generation. The nation is entering a new land and will be encountering a totally new situation. The effect of this change on the next generation is unpredictable.

Will the next generation forget the Torah and not know the reasons for the *mitzvah* of the Passover sacrifice or will the next generation be so committed to Torah and Hashem that they will not be able to relate to the rejection of idolatry that the Passover sacrifice represents?

The Torah aims to teach us that **although** there is no predicting how the next generation will respond to the new situation — the parent's reaction to the child's question should be to use the question as an opportunity to teach the child Torah. No matter the value system of the child, the prescription is always Jewish education.

Our society has experienced a revolution of sorts — a technological revolution. Many of our children have their own cell phones, Facebook accounts and email. Our children are influenced by the popular culture and by their friends more than ever. Whether we like it or not and whether we admit it or not, many of our children are regularly exposed to everything that our society has to offer — good and bad. How will these influences affect our children?

In our generation, many of our Jewish children are even more committed to our values than we are. Yet, many of our Jewish children are very distant from our values.

We cannot predict the outcomes. Maybe our children will become more disassociated with our values. Maybe our children will cleave even more strongly to our values.

Wherever our children are at: philosophically, religiously, culturally — the *sefer* teaches a timeless Jewish idea — true freedom comes through education. Indeed, the entire *sefer* is steeped in education and teaching:

- Prompt our children to ask a question
- Discuss the four sons
- Show and tell
- Demonstrate freedom

Jewish education helps us to think clearly. Jewish education helps us to relate properly to Hashem. Jewish education connects us to our history and our people.

The *sefer* provides each of our families the opportunity — within the protection and security of our homes — to engage our children at their level and teach them in order that they should be free people.

In the *sefer*, we proclaim, "in every generation, a person is obligated to show himself as if he was exiled from Egypt." The *sefer* itself is the demonstration — the freedom that is achieved through discussing and learning about the story of the Exodus and about G-d's Providence replicates the freedom that the Jewish people achieved when they left Egypt.

I pray that each of us experiences freedom through Jewish education this Pesach at our respective sederim.

Shabbat Shalom and Chag Kasher ve'Sameach,

Rabbi Benji Owen

Spotlight On Music at the MHA

Ricky Kampf- MHA Music Teacher

Teaching music at the MHA this year has been a real pleasure; every day seems to bring a new adventure. In addition to regular music classes where we sing Jewish songs related to the time of year and upcoming holidays, I have been working with each class on their special community presentations. Since I reported last, first grade had their Siddur play, second grade had their Chumash presentation and Pesach play, and third grade had a Purim play. These events are the culmination of months of hard work and preparation by both students and teachers. These presentations are also especially rewarding because I get a chance to watch the students finally show off all of the work they do inside the music room each week.

We are now preparing for the community Yom Haatzmaut celebration at Anshei, where interested students will be able to sing as part of our school choir. These large public gatherings provide our young students with an unbelievable opportunity to shine, often resulting in a fond memory they won't soon forget. Just this morning, our third-grade son Jack - totally unprovoked - started singing songs from last year's Pesach play with a smile. How awesome it is that our small student body affords each of our kids to have meaningful experiences participating in these presentations! These foundational opportunities are vital to a student's development because they provide them with key building blocks of confidence that will likely translate to a higher propensity for community leadership and public speaking as they move into junior high, high school, and college.

It gives me such great pleasure to not only see and hear kids singing songs which I have taught them over the years, but to enjoy themselves doing it.

Spotlight On Why did Moshe need to be the "Prince of Egypt"?

Rabbi Akiva Males-Upper School Instructor of Judaics

One of the most amazing aspects of *Yetzias Mitzrayim* (the Exodus) is that Moshe spent his early years raised in Pharaoh's own palace. The very same person, who would end up bringing Egypt to its knees, was nurtured in the palace of its King. This is an incredible example of *Hashgacha Pratis* / divine providence.

Several of our classical commentators have pondered the following question: In G-d's great scheme of things, why was it necessary for Moshe to have spent his developmental years as a member of Pharaoh's household – away from his own family and people?

In his commentary to Shemos 2:3, Rabbi Avraham Ibn Ezra (Spain, 1089 – 1164) proposes two theories:

A) By being raised in a royal setting, Moshe ended up better equipped to serve his people as a leader than if he'd been raised in the degrading atmosphere of slavery.

B) In order to fulfill its destiny, the Jewish people needed a leader whom they could fully respect and look up to with a sense of awe. Had Moshe spent his childhood years in their midst, they would not have been able to view him in that manner. Only if he was raised apart from his community, would his fellow Jews be able to relate to him as the epic leader they so needed.

In other words, G-d understands the way mankind is hard-wired -- after all, He is our creator. He wanted to remove any obstacles which may have made it difficult for the Jewish people to fully respect and follow Moshe. Thus, in order for them to properly revere their future leader, Moshe had to be separated from his family and people in his youth. He had to grow up away from his community -- so that the people he would one day lead would never see him act as a normal child does. Only then, could our ancestors have the full level of respect for the leader whom G-d knew would be best for them.

As such, separating baby Moshe from his family -- and ensuring he would spend his youth apart from his community -- was a crucial detail in G-d's engineering the future redemption of His people. May G-d continue setting the stage for our ultimate redemption -- just as He did for our ancestors in Egypt.

8th Grade Sweatshirts Available for Immediate Purchase!

Several different new colors of shirts in select sizes can be purchased for immediate pick up. Please call or email Tracey Mendelson at 901-270-3934 or email her at

traceymendelson@gmail.com.

Thank you for supporting this important 8th Grade Fundraiser.

Mazel Tov to Akiva Finkelstein! His essay won First Place in Memphis Jewish Federation's annual Holocaust Essay Competition. This year there were only four winners out of a total 87 entries this year!

Aikva will be recognized at this year's community-wide Yom HaShoah Commemoration, which will take place on Monday, April 24, at 6:30 PM at the Memphis Jewish Community Center.

Dates to Remember

Friday, April 7th– 11:30 Dismissal
Grades PreK3-8th, Pesach Break Starts.

Thursday, April 20th– Resume classes-All Divisions.

Tuesday-Wednesday, April 25-26th– Spring Photos

Friday, April 28th– Poetry Showcase

MHA 8th Grade Advancement
has been moved to Monday,
June 5th.

2017 POETRY SHOWCASE/CONTEST - THEME: **FREEDOM**

New for 2017!

Our event will begin with a poetry showcase featuring poems written by **all** our students. Parents and families will be invited to walk-through the gallery leaving comment cards for our poets.

SAVE THE DATE!

Poetry Showcase/Contest:
DATE: Friday, April 28th
TIME: 2:00-3:00 PM
LOCATION: Gymnasium



2017 POETRY SHOWCASE/CONTEST - THEME: **FREEDOM**

Save the Date-Sunday April 23rd

For all Kindergarten parents-

Please join us from 8:00-9:30pm for a Kindergarten/1st transition meeting.

Save the Date for Spring Photos!

Just a reminder that Student Spring Photos will take place this year on Tuesday-Wednesday, April 25th-26th. We will be using the same photographer as last year.

More information to come.



Please register for Camp before Pesach!!

Registration forms are available at the front desk.

Camp Shemesh is for children entering Prek and up and Sports Camp is for boys entering 3-6th Grade.

Please email Michelle Katz with any questions.

Mkatz@mhafyos.org

Bryan Itkowitz (CYHSB class of 2014), son of Memphis' own Eileen and Norman Itkowitz, is currently serving as a member of the IDF's 101st Paratrooper Battalion (pictured far right in photo below). Bryan's platoon is in need of two additional items which will assist them in their mission to defend our brothers and sisters in Israel.

This platoon of soldiers need 50 Tactical Flashlights, and 50 pairs of Tactical Gloves. The flashlights run about \$130.00 each, and the gloves about \$9.00 a pair. Due to their tight budget, the IDF cannot afford to issue these necessary items to all of their soldiers.

The Itzkowitizes are trying to raise as much funds as possible to supply this platoon -- which will finish their training in June -- with these two important items. They will use 100% of all monies raised to purchase and deliver these items according to IDF regulations.

The Itzkowitizes will be traveling to Israel on April 23rd, and will assist in presenting these items to Bryan and his fellow soldiers. Any assistance you can provide will be greatly appreciated -- and you will be assisting the IDF in their important mission of protecting Israel and our people.

Checks can be sent to the attention of Rabbi Males via Young Israel's Rabbi's Discretionary Fund (RDF) -- and donations can also be made to YI's RDF via the Shul's secure website at: <http://www.yiom.org/contribute>

Norman & Eileen hope you can assist them in this important and meaningful mission. They -- and the brave soldiers they are hoping to assist -- thank you in advance for your support!



55th Annual Yom HaShoah Commemoration



PRESENTING

Better Together

Names, Not Numbers®

an oral history film project, featuring professional-quality, student-produced interviews with local Holocaust survivors **Dr. Clark Blattels, Mr. Jack Cohen, Mr. Warren Kramer, Mrs. Jeannine Paul** and Polish Righteous Gentile and rescuer **Czeslaw Polziec**.

April 24, 2017 28 Nisan 5777
6:30 P.M. at the MJCC • Doors Open at 6 P.M.

6560 POPLAR AVE, MEMPHIS, TN 38138

Names, Not Numbers, launched in 2003, is a copyrighted oral history film project and curriculum created by Tova Fish-Rosenberg. This intergenerational project pairs groups of middle school, high school, and university students with Holocaust survivors. The students work with professional journalists and film-makers to create high-quality documentary films that tell the survivors' stories.

This film was produced by students of Margolin Hebrew Academy/Feinstein Yeshiva of the South. Better Together's **Names, Not Numbers** program is generously supported by a prominent national foundation.

WWW.JCPMEMPHIS.ORG



With gratitude to Hashem
Becky & Peni Nissani
announce the
PIDYON HABEN
of their son,
כלב עובדיה
KALEB OBADYAH

will take place
בשעה טובה ומוצלחת
Erev Pesach,
Monday morning,
April 10th

at
Anshei Sphard
Beth El Emeth

120 East Yates Rd North



In conjunction with
Rabbi Finkelstein's
Siyum for the
Fast of First Born

Fast Begins 5:22 am
Shacharit at 6:30 am

Followed by the
Pidyon Haben &
Breakfast at 7:30 am

The siyum will follow breakfast

Sponsored by
Becky and Peni Nissani
and by

Audrey and Jack Joffe
in loving memory of
Blanche and Harry Joffe and
Emanuel & Regina Glass

PLEASE RSVP TO THE SHUL OFFICE
STEVE@ASBEE.ORG
by Monday April 3rd



Young Israel of Memphis Invites You to Enjoy A
Special Shabbos HaGadol Presentation Entitled:

"Pesach, Gebrochts, and Sensitivity: Two Rabbinic Role Models"

Delivered by **Rabbi Akiva Males** at 5:55 pm (followed by Mincha at 6:55 pm) on
Shabbos, April 8, 2017



Young Israel of Memphis

531 S. Yates Road

Memphis, TN 38120



THURSDAY, APRIL 13TH

1:00PM – 5:00PM

GOLF & GAMES, 5484 SUMMER

PUTT PUTT, GO KARTS, BUMPER BOATS,
KIDDIE RIDES, GAME ROOM, PESACH
SNACKS AND MORE SURPRISES

\$10 PER PERSON

SPONSORED BY ELAINE & FRED MINER

400 S. YATES ROAD . MEMPHIS, TN 38120. BARONHIRSCH.ORG . (901) 683-7485



PESACH SHABBAT DINNER

Prepared By Dovid Cenker of 901 Seasoned Caterings

*featuring Gefilte Fish, Matza Ball Soup, Chicken Marsala, Rosemary Red Potatoes,
Roasted Vegetables, Salad & Strawberry Roulade*

FRIDAY, APRIL 14

SERVICES - 6:45 PM

DINNER - 7:15 PM

\$25/ADULT ; \$10/CHILD (3-12)

\$180 FAMILY SPONSORSHIP

LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE

RESERVATIONS DUE APRIL 6

For reservations contact
gwen@baronhirsch.org or call 683-7485



YOUNG ISRAEL OF MEMPHIS & THE MEMPHIS KOLLEL'S

Sunday Morning

LOX 'N LEARN

SCHEDULE OF SHIURIM

(All shiurim to conclude by 9:30 AM)

February 26 2017 - Presented by Rabbi Shmuel Fromowitz

"Mitzvos and Multitasking"

Sponsored by Cindy and Bart Ehrenkranz in honor of Rosh Chodesh Adar

March 5, 2017 - Presented by Rabbi Akiva Males

"Hilchos Brachos, Purim, and Rav Yaakov Emden's Tur Shulchan Aruch"

Sponsored by Cindy and Bart Ehrenkranz, Essie and Michael Stein, and Diane and Michael Kaplan in honor of the Chevre Kadisha of Memphis

March 19, 2017 - Presented by Rabbi Yosef Braha

"Friends Buy You Lunch; Best Friends Eat Your Lunch"

Sponsored by Aviva and Yoni Freiden Viluy nishmas Moshe Shmuel Ben Baruch

March 26, 2017 - Presented by Rabbi Shuki Nissan

"Unleavening the Leaven"

Sponsored in honor of Akiva's hanochas tefilin by



April 2, 2017 - Presented by Rabbi Shmuel Fromowitz

"Preparing for Pesach: The Mitzvah of Magid"

Sponsored by Tania and Jeff, Address Viluy nishmas Yaakov ben Tzvi

Family Learning and Parsha in the Park will be at 4:45 this shabbos at Young Israel! Raffle and prizes to follow. Bring your leftover chametz for a shabbos party in the park!! Looking forward to seeing you there!



BARON HIRSCH CONGREGATION

Pre-Passover Cafe

Sunday, April 9th, 5:00PM – 7:00PM

Pizza * Falafel * Spaghetti & Pasta Sauce * Tuna Salad Sandwich * French Fries * Salad bar

Reservations not required, just stop by!



400 S. YATES ROAD • MEMPHIS, TN 38120 • BARONHIRSCH.ORG • (901) 683-7485

Re-enroll your children now!

Re-enrollment for 2017/2018

Early registration for the 2017/2018 school year is coming to a close.

The registration fee is \$775 per family.

You can begin re-enrollment on ParentsWeb by going to <https://logins2.renweb.com/logins/ParentsWeb-Login.aspx>. While on ParentsWeb, you can fill out and print the full year lunch schedule, the student health form, and the student permission form. You can also print the 2017/2018 tuition and fee schedule.

District Code: MAR-TN

Families requesting financial aid must fill out the online FACTS forms along with all requested documentation. A link to the FACTS website is on the homepage of the MHA/FYOS website or you can find it directly at <https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/4DVTM.com>.

There will be no additional forms to fill out.

If you have any questions about the re-enrollment process or enrolling a new student, please contact Erica Stoltz or Lauren Wood at 901-682-2400 or email Erica.Stoltz@mhafyos.org or Lauren.Wood@mhafyos.org



REPORTER

390 S. White Station Rd.
Memphis, TN 38117

Picture of the Week



Sixth Grade is practicing their interview skills in preparation for Biz Town.

To advertise in the MHA/FYOS Reporter contact Ms. Erica Stoltz at estoltz@mhafyos.org or 901-682-2400

Check us out on the web-
www.mhafyos.org and Facebook!