## ahavas torah center

# WEEKLY UPDATES

### **Dvar Torah**

#### **Moments of Inspiration**

#### By Rabbi Yaakov Menken

"It happened that when Pharoah sent the nation out of Egypt, G-d did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although it was close..."

One of the commentaries, Da'as Zekeinim MiBaalei HaTosfos, explains this passage in a very unusual way. It notes that "although it was close" can be read "\_because\_ it was close," referring to the Nation of Israel rather than the land of the Philistines. Because Israel enjoys a special closeness to G-d, Israel could not be led out by way of the Philistinian Authority.

During 1991, at this time of year, Scud missiles were descending on Israel. I was there. So I can speak about the open miracles that I believe we witnessed, G-d's hand at work. During the first two days, I recall that over 20 missiles descended upon Israel. No one died from them (although it was reported that unfortunately, a few elderly people and one child suffocated in their gas masks). The next time the missiles flew, American patriot missiles were launched to greet them.

A teacher of mine told us — warned us, actually — that it was foolish to rely upon an American missile for protection. There is a book called the Chovos Halevavos — Duties of the Heart — that offers a similar warning (which he quoted): "If a person places his trust in something other than G-d, then G-d hands him over into the hands of that thing that he trusts."

The news reports later claimed that a patriot did hit one of the incoming scuds that night. Unfortunately, it hit the back section, knocking the warhead off course rather than destroying it. It hit a building near Tel Aviv, killing one person — the only warhead that caused a direct fatality in the entire series of attacks on Israel.

The first two times, there was nothing to trust except G-d. So Israel prayed instead of wishing on a missile... and we did better!

Even after one is convinced that G-d's hand is really at work in the world, it is still a challenge to \_trust\_ G-d, to recognize that matters are not in our hands. If we see or experience something of this nature, we must learn and grow from that experience rather than slipping back into our routine.

Concerning the Parting of the Sea, my wife reminded me of a statement of our Sages (Mechilta), that "what a maidservant saw by the sea, Yechezkel Ben Buzi [the prophet Ezekiel] did not see in all his days." Yechezkel saw an incredible prophetic vision, referred to as "the Works of the Holy Chariot." Great Rabbis studied this passage, and were never satisfied that they fully understood it... and yet the Medrash tells us that a maidservant saw even more than this!

So later Rabbis have asked: why, then, is the maidservant just a maidservant, while Yechezkel is considered one of our great prophets? Wasn't her prophecy even greater? The answer, they say, is simple — the maidservant saw what happened, and remained a maidservant. Yechezkel saw less, but he grew from the experience. He learned from what he saw; he allowed his vision to teach him new things about G-d's world and his own spirituality.

We all have our moments of inspiration. We can either let them pass, or grasp them, demand the utmost from them, demand the utmost from ourselves... and grow!

#### **SHABBOS SCHEDULE**

Candlelighting 4:42 PM
Mincha/Kabalas Shabbos/Maariv 4:45 PM
Shachris 7:00 AM & 8:45 AM
Sof Zman Krias Shema 9:18 AM
Mincha (Shabbos Afternoon) 4:30 PM
Maariv 5:47 PM
Shabbos Ends (60 minutes) 6:01 PM

#### HEIMISH MINYAN (1596 BOZEMAN DR)

Toameaha 4:35 PM
Mincha (Friday) 4:55 PM
Mincha/Shalishudish 4:40 PM
Maariv (Cutler,1553 Livingston) 6:00 PM

#### **WEEKDAY SCHEDULE**

Shachris - Sunday 7:15 & 8:30 AM
Shachris - Mon & Thu 6:20 & 8:30 AM
Shachris - Tue, Wed & Fri 6:30 & 8:30 AM
Mincha/Maariv - Weeknights 4:45 PM
Late Maariv - Weeknights 8:30 PM

important notice: Due to YDLV moving to its new home, Shacharis on Monday and Thursday will now start at 6:20 AM.

Click HERE for the monthly calendar

#### **KIDDUSH & SHALOSH SEUDIS SPONSORSHIPS**

Rabbi Levine will be giving a shiur at the Hashkama kiddush located in the new ATC extension in the back. **Kiddush** is sponsored by the **Lader family** L'iluy Nishmas Liz's mother, whose Yahrtzeit is Sunday night (Yenta Sarah Bas Yerachmiel). Also by the **Amzaleg family** in memory of our dear friend Gil. Sponsorship is available for the 8:45 minyan.

**Shalosh Seudis** is sponsored by **Avi & Joelle Cohen** in memory of Massoud Ben Yalsh HaCohen.

You, too, can sponsor Kiddush or Shalosh Seudos: <a href="https://ahavastorahcenter.org/kiddush-sponsorship/">https://ahavastorahcenter.org/kiddush-sponsorship/</a>

#### SNL

There is no SNL this week. (see flyer for details)

#### **TEEN MINYAN**

The Teen Minyan will be meeting this week at Rabbi Maryles house.

#### **BNOS**

There is no Bnos program this week.

#### **CHOLIM LIST IS UPDATED**

Please click <u>here</u> to add a name.

#### **ERUV STATUS**

The eruv is up!

Thank you to the tireless eruv checkers. Eruv repairs come at a significant expense. Partner with us for the zechus of maintaining our eruv by donating <a href="https://example.com/here.">here.</a>

#### **NICHUM AVELIM**

Genevieve Yiscah Elgrichi will be sitting Shiva for her Father, Gilbert Avraham at the Cutler Home, 1553 Livingston Drive.

Motzei Shabbos - 7-11pm Sunda and Monday - 9:30am until 9pm Tuesday - 9:30-10:00am

#### **Davening Schedule:**

Motzei Shabbos - Ma'ariv - 6 pm Sunday - Shachris - 8:30 am Monday - Mincha/Maariv -4:45

#### KINYAN HAMASECHTA

Please consider joining Kinyan Hamasechta, an amazing program that will make you fall in love with learning. It will redefine you from a lawyer/accountant/businessman who learns when he can, into a Ben Torah who happens to work during the day. It will redefine you, your family and your whole outlook on life. Nightly at 7:30 at ATC.

# PARSHA QUESTION CORNER

#### Questions:

1) 1. Why does it say twice in both 14:22 and 14:29 that Bnei Yisroel was "בתוך הים" ("In the middle of the sea")? (See Ibn Ezra 14:29)

2) Why does it say in 16:18 that each person received a portion of Mon "לפי אכלו" ("According to what he eats"), yet in 16:21 it says "כפי אכלו" ("According to what he eats")? What is the difference? (See Malbim 16:21)

2) '9 represents the future tense. '90 represents the past tense. Before people sinned and took too much, they were entitled to a full Omer measure daily. Once they sinned, they did not receive the full Omer of the past. They received an amount reduced by the extra Mon they took the day before.

rappening simultaneously in the same plae.

Answers: 1) This was to show that while Paaroh and his troops were being drowned in the sea, Bnei Yisroel was still in the water, being saved by Hashem. This made the miracle even more spectacular as both phenomena were

#### **MAZEL TOV**

Mazel Tov to YDLV on moving into its new building! May our children continue to grow in Torah and Kedushah!

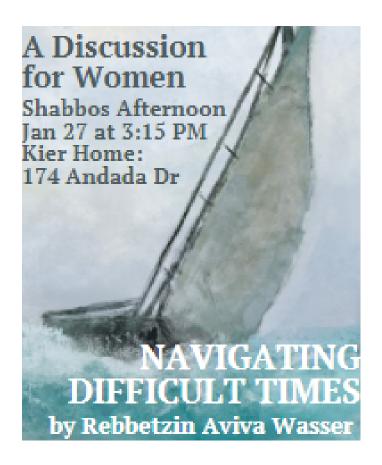
Mazel Tov to Bentzi Elkouby on being nominated and appointed to the new ATC Board of Directors.

We would love to share in your simcha by announcing it here.



AHAVAS TORAH CENTER PARSHAS BESHALACH











12 HOURS TO LEARN AND A 24 HOUR DRIVE TO KEEP IT GOING