

Youth Happenings @ Congregation Etz Chaim



September 14, 2019, Parshat Ki Teitzei 14 Elul 5779

Parshat Ki Teitzei Times & Numbers:

Candle Lighting- 6:51pm

Mincha- 6:55

Shacharit- 9:00 am

NO TEEN MINYAN

Junior Cong.- 10:15 upstairs

Mincha- 6:50 pm

Shabbos Ends- 7:57 pm



NUMBER OF MITZVOT: 74!

27 MITZVOT ASEH (POSITIVE COMMANDMENT)

47 MITZVOT LO TAASEH (NEGATIVE COMMANDMENT - PROHIBITION)

NUMBER OF PESUKIM: 110

NUMBER OF WORDS: 1582

NUMBER OF LETTERS: 5856

MEET OUR NEW NCSY

DIRECTOR- MIRIAM

PITTINSKY- THIS

SHABBOS. LUNCH AT THE YOUTH HOUSE.

GRADES 8-12.

12:00PM



Congregation Etz Chaim: www.etzchaimnj.org

Rabbi Sam Klibanoff

Presidents: Dr. Michael Rieber & Jeff Suskind

Youth Director: Yoni Glatt

SUPER STRINGS

Hashem reminds *Bnai Yisrael* to attach *Tzitzit* to any garment that has four corners. *Tzitzit* are a set of four strings, folded in half to make 8 strings. The strings are knotted & rolled in special ways (depending on your *minhag*-tradition) & the 8 strings hang down like tassels.

Part of the *Mitzvah* is to dye one of the white strings in each corner blue with the blood of a sea creature called a *Chilazon*. In the old days these fish were a cinch to find. Over time the tradition was lost, and Jews didn't wear the blue string, known as *Techeylet*. However, over the last century there has been significant evidence shown that a sea snail known as *Murex Trunculus* is in fact the creature that provides the dye for *Techeylet*, & many Rabbis have renewed the tradition of wearing *Techeylet*.

Although the *Mitzvah* of *Tzitzit* only has to be fulfilled if a Jew happens to wear a four-cornered garment, traditionally, we wear a specially made 4-cornered garment to fulfill the *Mitzvah* of *Tzitzit* everyday. They remind us that we are *Hashem's* servants, observing His *Mitzvot*. They are meant to be a shield against darkness and sin.



"Quote of the Week"

"Happiness is not having what you want, but wanting what you have."

-Rabbi Hyman Schachtel (1907-1990)

DID YOU KNOW...

Did you know that parsha Ki Teitzei is the parsha that has the most mitzvot in the Torah? Most people think that Mishpatim has the most, but Mishpatim has 53 mitzvot, while Ki Teitzei has a whopping 74! In fact, the mitzvot in Ki Teitzei make up over 12% of all the mitzvot in the Torah (of which there are 613).

MIDDLE RIDDLE ??????

THE FIRST KID WHO TELLS YONI THE ANSWER GETS \$3 MM, THE SECOND GETS \$2, & THE THIRD GETS \$1- NO TELLING THE ANSWER!

Mama Mia! The ghetto! There've been a few
That separated and secluded many a Jew
But this European city was the very first
Now it's for tourists, the evil decrees reversed

Last Week:

It could be Yaakov, Moses, or Malachi
really, you can name any navi
they all have this same subject to each prophecy
A- The Future

**AN EXCITING AND EDUCATIONAL
NEW GAME IS COMING. IT'S
CALLED "AVIGDOR KAHALANI".
Start working on your aim and
discover this awesome new game
on Rosh Hashana at Etz Chaim.**



**BASKETBALL IS
BACK!!**

**FRIDAY 4:00 PM
AT THE GLATTS BOYS
IN GRADES 7 AND UP
ARE WELCOME.**

WEATHER PERMITTING.



**Junior
Congregation
10:15 am upstairs
grades 2-6**

**MIDOT MATTER MOST:
LAUGHING AT SOMEONE BEING
TEASED CAN ACTUALLY BE WORSE
THAN DOING THE ACTUAL TEASING.**

Altruism- Al-tru-ism

(אַלְטְרוּיִזְם) n.

1. Unselfish concern for the welfare of others; selflessness.
2. Zoology-behavior by an animal that is not beneficial to or may be harmful to itself but that benefits others of its species.

TORAH GREATS: RABBEINU GERSHOM APPROX. 960-1040 C.E.

Rav Gershom ben Yehudah, best known as Rabbeinu Gershom (RG), was born in (Lets Go) Metz, France in 960. RG was a student of Yehudah ben Meir ha-Kohen, who was one of the greatest authorities of his time. Having lost his first wife, RG married a widow named Bonna and became head of the Yeshiva in Mainz, Germany where he devoted himself to teaching the *Talmud*. During his lifetime Mainz became a center of Torah and Jewish scholarship for many Jewish communities in Europe that had formerly been connected with the Babylonian *yeshivas*. He was the spiritual guide of the fledgling Ashkenazic Jewish communities and was very influential in molding them at a time when their population was dwindling.

Students came from all over Europe to enroll in his *yeshiva*, and later dispersed among various communities in Germany and beyond which helped spread Jewish learning. He had many pupils from across Europe, including Rav Jacob ben Yakar, who became a teacher of Rashi. The fame of his learning eclipsed even that of the heads of the academies of Sura and Pumbedita.

Tragically, RG had a son who abandoned his religion at the time of the expulsion of the Jews from Mainz in 1012 (RG returned to Metz). His son converted to Christianity, and soon after passed away. RG grieved and observed the strictures of mourning for 14 days, double the required time for an actual death- 7 days for his physical death, and 7 for his spiritual demise. However, he did apparently rule leniently regarding those who had submitted to baptism to escape persecution, and who afterward returned to the Jewish fold. He strictly prohibited reproaching them with infidelity, and even gave those among them who had been slandered an opportunity to publicly pronounce the benediction in the synagogues.

About 1000 CE he called a famous council (aka synod) which decided the following rulings: (1) the prohibition of polygamy (having multiple wives); (2) the necessity of obtaining the consent of both parties to a divorce; (3) the modification of the rules concerning those who became converted under compulsion; (4) the prohibition against opening letters addressed to another. (FYI- This would apply today towards someone's emails and texts.)