

Youth Happenings @ Congregation Etz Chaim

Feb. 17, 2017 Parsha Yitro 21 Shevat 5777



Yitro Times & Numbers

Candle Lighting- 5:17
Mincha- 5:20
Shacharit- 9:00 am
Teen Minyan- 9:45
Junior Cong.- 10:15
Tot Shabbat- 10:15
Mincha- 5:10 pm
Shabbat Ends- 6:17



NUMBER OF MITZVOT: 17

(14 of 17 are within the *Aseret HaDibrot*)

3 MITZVOT ASEH (POSITIVE COMMANDMENT)

14 MITZVOT LO TAASEH

NUMBER OF WORDS: 1104

NUMBER OF LETTERS: 4022

NUMBER OF PESUKIM (SENTENCES): 75

Many *Chumashim* print the number of *pesukim* at the end of the Sidra. In *Yitro's* case, the number is *AYIN-BET* or 72 *pesukim*. The discrepancy is due to different ways of counting the *Aseret HaDibrot*. The *Aseret HaDibrot* consists of 13 *pesukim*. However, when they are read as Statements, rather than *pesukim*, there are only 10. Similarly, the *Aseret HaDibrot* is comprised of 10 *parshiot*. That's probably where the other 3 *pesukim* went.

YON'S SUPERHEROES & JUDAISM CLASS IS OFF FOR PRESIDENT'S WEEK, BUT WILL RESUME IN 2 WEEKS.

SAVE THE DATE!
THIS YEAR'S PURIM CARNIVAL
WILL BE IMMEDIATELY AFTER
DAVENING ON PURIM DAY
MARCH 12

Congregation Etz Chaim: www.etzchaimnj.org
Rabbi Sam Klibanoff
Rabbi Natan Kapustin, Assistant Rabbi
Presidents: Neil Kaplan & Allan Schall
Youth Director: Yoni Glatt

HERE COME THE IN-LAWS

As our *Parsha* opens, word of the miraculous exodus and *Bnai Yisrael's* victory over Amalek has reached Midyan and fallen on the ears of Yitro, Moshe's father-in-law. For the past year, while Moshe was in Egypt, freeing the Jewish slaves, his wife, Tziporah and their two sons, Gershom and Eliezer, have lived safely in Yitro's house. Now that the *Bnai Yisrael* are closing in on Sinai, near the Midyanite territory, Yitro takes Moshe's family for a reunion with the "shepherd gone national leader."

When they reach the Cloud of glory they discover it is as hard as a rock. Yitro isn't able to penetrate the mist because he is not yet a part of *Bnai Yisrael* (he has not yet converted). So he sends a letter with an arrow into the Cloud of glory telling Moshe that his family has arrived. *Hashem* allows this arrow to go through. Moshe, Aharon & all the 70 *Zekainim*, followed by all of *Bnai Yisrael* leave the Cloud to greet Yitro.

Moshe tells Yitro all the details of the miracles that *Hashem* has brought about for *Bnai Yisrael*: the *makot* (plagues), the splitting of the *Yam Suf*, the "well of Miriam," the *Mann*, the *slav* and the victory over Amalek. Yitro is so ecstatic that he insists upon having a *brit milah* (circumcision) right then and there, becoming a *ger* (convert) and accepting *Hashem's mitzvot* upon himself. He offers *Kurbanot* (sacrifices) to *Hashem*, and sits down with Aharon and the *Zekainim* to have a meal, with humble Moshe serving the guests.

"Quote of the Week"

"If you want to make peace, you don't talk to your friends. You talk to your enemies."

-Moshe Dayan



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!

Who am I?

**When I was born I was not a ben Noah. Only when
Noah died was I ben Noah.**

Last Week:

Az Yashir- what a great song

It's not too short or too long

Find 2 other places where a Jew did sing

Not counting Psalms or songs of a king

A- The Song of Deborah, and Moshe's song in Parsha
Ha'azinu.



DID YOU KNOW???

Did you know that
according to the Talmud
(in Shabbat) the two
tablets of the Ten
Commandments were
truly supernatural items?
The Talmud says that the
letters were cut
completely through the
stone, and that some
letters (ך and ם)
miraculously stood
in place!

MIDOT MATTER MOST: IT MIGHT NOT ALWAYS BE EASY, BUT TRY EXTRA HARD TO FOLLOW THE 5TH COMMANDMENT.

Altruism- Al·tru·ism

(אַלְטְרוּיזְם) 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: RABBI YONATAN BEN UZIEL

Rabbi Yonatan ben Uziel (RYBU) lived during the century preceding the destruction of the Second Temple. His teacher was the great Rav, Hillel.

It was said that when he studied Torah, any bird that flew over his head would be burnt (Sukkah 28a). This can be understood to mean that any scholar who attempted to refute his halachic teachings would not succeed.

RYBU translated the Torah and Prophets (Neveim) into Aramaic. The translation evoked a storm of criticism that it "rocked Eretz Yisrael over the area of 400 parsa by 400 parsa, and a Heavenly voice came forth and demanded to know 'Who is it that revealed My secrets to man.' Yonatan ben Uziel stood up and said, "It was I that revealed your secrets. It is revealed and known before You that I did not do it for my own father's house, but for Your honor, in order that disputes shall not multiply in Israel." To this day "Targum Yonatan" is an integral commentary, especially in Neveim.

RYBU wanted to also translate The Writings (Ketuvim) into Aramaic, but a heavenly voice told him "Enough" (Megilah 3a). He was prevented by Heaven so that he would not reveal the secrets of the final redemption. He is also said to have written a book of kabbalah known as *Megadnim*

Rabbi Yonatan Ben Uziel's Tomb in the Gallil is located near the community settlement of Mitzpe Amuka. Though there is no concrete evidence, it is believed that RYBU died without having been married and/or without children. It is therefore believed that his place of burial is considered to have a special power of assistance for anyone praying to find a shiduch (marriage match) or have children. His grave in Amuka is particularly visited on the 26th of Sivan which is believed to be the date of the great Rabbi's death.