



CONGREGATION TORAS CHAIM

An intimate space...Grow at your pace.

Aug 15-16, 2014 ■ 20 Av, 5774 ■ Shabbos Parshas Eikev
Candlelighting: 7:54P ■ Shabbos Ends 9:01P

Kiddush and Shalosh Seudos this Shabbos are sponsored by the members of the Guarantee Kiddush & Shalosh Seudos Club: Shimshon Cook, Wes & Tricia Sutkin, Yaakov & Susan Rich, Ben & Lauren Nise, Bob & Charlotte Day, David Fisher, Joe & Eliana Higginbotham, Ari & Naomi Goldberg, Eli Goldberg, & Rebecca Bodoff. Shalosh Seudos this Shabbos is sponsored by the shul. Please contact Rabbi Yaakov Rich at 972-835-6016 if you are interested in sponsoring kiddush or shalosh seudos in the future.

■ SHABBOS SCHEDULE

Friday Night, Aug 15th

- » Mincha/Kabbalos Shabbos/Maariv-7:00P
- » Candlelighting-7:54P

Shabbos Day, Aug 16th

- » Shacharis-8:30A
- » Mommy & Me at Sutkin Home (BYOS)-9:45 AM
- » Chumash Shiur (for men & women)-6:40P
- » Mincha-7:40P
- » Shabbos Ends-9:01P

■ WEEKDAY SCHEDULE

- » Shacharis Sunday-8:00A
- » **Mincha-6:00P / Maariv-9:00P (Sunday-Thursday)**
- » Mesilas Yesharim (Path of the Just)-every night at 9:15P

■ REFUAH SHELAIMA

MEN

- » Yitzchok ben Klara (Mechutan to Sandy Kadish)
- » Chaim Yaakov ben Soroh (Bob Day)
- » Yoseif Yitzchok ben Yehudis Chaya (Brother in Law of Yoseif Meir Rich)
- » Mattisyahu Chaim ben Ettl (HaRav Mattisyahu Solomon)

WOMEN

- » Yenta Leah bas Shayna (Mother of Lori Jarmel)
- » Chava Fruma bas Bryna (Mother in Law of Sandy Kadish)
- » Ella bas Naomi (Cousin of Naomi Goldberg)

■ WHAT'S NU AT CTC

- » **Welcome** to Rabbi Shmuli & Nechama Wolf to our community for learning and chizuk. Shmuli is available to learn with the men, and Nechama is available to learn with the women. In addition, Nechama will be teaching all the practical and halachic aspects of challah baking, this Thursday night for the ladies. Please take advantage of this incredible opportunity. In addition, we are looking for people to host the Wolfs for dinner during the week and on Shabbos. Please speak with the Rabbi if you can have them.
- » **Mazel Tov** to Shimshon Cook & Danielle Susskind on their engagement. May they merit to build a Bayis Ne'eman B'Yisroel.
- » **Rosh Hashana/Succos Meat Sale:** Don't Forget to Purchase for Succos As Well! The meat being sold in this sale is KOSHER PRIME BEEF. This is the only place where you can get Rosenblatt Premium Beef. This is the Cadillac of premium beef, not available anywhere else in Dallas, TX. This is the same great quality served in the finest restaurants around the world. It is more marbled, more tender and much more tasty. We are so happy to be able to offer you this exceptional product for Rosh Hashana. Bon Appetit! Congregation Toras Chaim is offering, as a service to the Dallas Jewish community quality glatt kosher beef for Rosh Hashana. These larger cuts are being bought at reduced prices with the savings being passed on to our Jewish friends and families.
 - Meat comes vacuum sealed for freshness and cleanliness
 - Only safe United States beef is used: no imports
- » **Order Deadline and Pickup**
 - Orders must be received no later than 12 PM, Monday, August 25, 2014.
 - Pickup is at home of Rabbi Yaakov & Susan Rich, 7119 Bremer-ton Ct., Dallas, TX 75252, Sunday, September 7, 2014 at 11 AM.
 - For information please contact Shoshana Chana Jacobs 972-951-9044 or shoshana.jacobs@gmail.com
- » **Mommy & Me:** Please join us on Shabbos morning at the Sutkin Home, 7335 Briarnoll Dr., Dallas, TX 75252, at 9:45 AM, to relax,

chat, and watch the kids play in a warm and welcoming environment! For mothers and children of all ages, including toddlers and infants. BYOS! (Bring Your Own Snacks).

■ WHAT HAD TO BE SAID: RABBI LABEL LAM

...lest you eat and be sated, and build good houses and dwell therein, and your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and gold increase, and all that you have increases, and your heart grows haughty, and you forget HASHEM, your G-d, Who has brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage, Who led you through that great and awesome desert, [in which were] snakes, vipers and scorpions, and drought, where there was no water; who brought water for you out of solid rock, Who fed you with manna in the desert, which your forefathers did not know, in order to afflict you and in order to test you, to benefit you in your end, and you will say to yourself, "My strength and the might of my hand that has accumulated this wealth for me." But you must remember the Lord your God, for it is He that gives you strength to make wealth, in order to establish His covenant which He swore to your forefathers, as it is this day. And it will be, if you forget HASHEM your G-d and follow other gods, and worship them, and prostrate yourself before them, I bear witness against you this day, that you will surely perish. (Devarim 8:11-19)

I detect a theme. It's hard to avoid. It's not a hint at all. It's brutal honesty. Moshe is admonishing them and us. It is a severe warning that applies then and now. It lends truth to the statement, "Nothing fails like success!" We are cautioned again and again to be on guard when things are going well. The test of wealth may be more challenging than the test of poverty, although most of us would petition, "Test me!" A poor person is constantly in need. He is forever prayerful and is grateful for the smallest benefits.

However, when things are going swimmingly, we may become intoxicated with the illusion that we did it, all by our lonesome selves, lending credence to another aphorism, "Born on third base and thinks he hit a triple!"

We are warned that if we forget HASHEM and we grow overconfident in our own abilities, there are reminders in the world that graduate from the subtle to the dramatic and even the destructive. We can only hope we are responsive to the wink and the nod and we do not require the rude awakening.

About 16 years ago we had a newly wedded couple at our Shabbos table. It was a special event, although both of them had joined us many times. We had hosted each of them over the years as singles. It had been an arduous journey to the Chuppa for both of them. He had dated for a long time and she had a few near misses (Mrs.). Now they had arrived at our table as husband and wife. We were overjoyed. I don't recall what got the conversation off the rails but once it went there it was hard to stop. It was beyond awkward. He started recalling episodes from his dating history, referring to places people and events that "pre-dated" his wife.

She was more than uncomfortable with the content of the conversation. Now that he had arrived in the promised land of marriage he was leisurely reflecting with nostalgia at the "good old days". I was trying to get his attention, even kick him but he was too far away and deeply engrossed. I tried singing but he swerved back again. Things were moving from bad to worse.

Swiftly and mercifully, HASHEM sent an angel. My four year daughter Sara had been studying intently the bride's face with curiosity. She had been at our table a year earlier with a fellow she was seeing "seriously". His name was David. Suddenly, my little daughter, referencing a one year old memory, asked pointedly,

“Where’s David!” She got a shock but he halted his monologue in a hurry and asked, “Who’s David!?” He got a potent dose of his own medicine and it worked immediately. No one else could have said then, what had to be said.

■ TACHANUN IN YERUSHALAYIM: RABBI YEHUDA SPITZ

Visitors to Yeshivas Ohr Somayach’s famous beginner 4:00 P.M. daily Mincha (You are also welcome to join) are wont to comment on the fact that everyone says Tachanun with nefillas apayim, the placing down of the head on an arm, even though the beis medrash where this tefilla is held, the Lauffer Beis Medrash, does not have a Sefer Torah or even an Aron Kodesh.

The reason they find this behavior odd is because the Rema, quoting the Rokeach, rules that if there is no Sefer Torah in a shul, Tachanun should still be said, but without nefillas apayim. This is traced back to a Biblical source, that “falling down” in prayer is reserved for when an Aron is present. Although some disagree, this remains common practice. If so, the visitors ask, why would Ohr Somayach not follow such a widespread custom?

The answer is: Yerushalayim. Yes, Yerushalayim Ir Hakodesh. Ohr Somayach is privileged and blessed to be located in the Holy City of Jerusalem. As such, it maintains special dispensation for certain tefillos, one of them is Tachanun. In the words of Rav Moshe Feinstein, “Yerushalayim contains intrinsic holiness and is designated for prayer, and therefore even without a Sefer Torah one should do nefillas apayim, as it is comparable to a place that has a Sefer Torah!”

This minhag dates back to the 1700s to the famed Pri HaAdamah, who writes that since there are opinions that in lieu of Sefer Torah one may still say Tachanun in a room that contains many sefarim, then certainly in the Holy City of Yerushalayim which is superior to a house filled with holy books, one would still say Tachanun with nefillas apayim, even without a Sefer Torah.

This special deference for Yerushalayim is noted by many authorities including those who specialize in the customs of Eretz Yisrael, including Rav Y.M. Tukachinsky, creator of the world-renowned Luach Eretz Yisrael.

Another tefillah that is said fully in Yerushalayim in any location, for the same above-mentioned reasons, is Magen Avos on Friday night, which technically needs to be recited in the presence of a Sefer Torah, or be said in a set minyan.

There is, however, a dispute among contemporary authorities as to what is considered the Holy City of Yerushalayim for our intents and purpose, where one would still recite Tachanun with nefillas apayim. It is well known that Rav Shlomo Zalman Auerbach was of the opinion that this special regard is meant only for the original Holy City, which is now known as The Old City (bein hachomos), similar to the halachos of eating maaser sheini and kadshim kalim in the times of the Beis Hamikdash. The rest of Yerushalayim, he maintains, does not share this unique intrinsic holiness. In fact, unless he was in the Old City or in a room filled with sefarim in the rest of Yerushalayim, Rav Shlomo Zalman would not do nefillas apayim in Tachanun.

However, the majority of contemporary poskim do not make such a distinction and consider all of Yerushalayim, old and new, to contain inherent kedusha, and therefore maintain that when in any part of Yerushalayim one should always say Tachanun with

nefillas apayim (as well as Magen Avos on a Friday night).

Although the importance of the tefillah of Tachanun is underappreciated by many, it should not be; it is actually based on Moshe Rabbeinu’s successful entreating of Hashem on Har Sinai to spare Klal Yisrael from punishment after their grievous sins: “Va’esnapel lifnai Hashem- And I threw myself down in prayer before G-d”, and is a known catalyst for Hashem to speedily answer our prayers. So the next time you are in Ohr Somayach, or essentially anywhere in Yerushalayim, it is worthwhile to take advantage of the extra dimension and intensity of nefillas apayim that is exclusive to our Holy City.

■ PARSHA Q&A: EIKEV

1. What must the Jewish People do to ensure that Hashem will fulfill His promise to do good for us? 7:12 - Guard even the “light” commandments.
2. What were the: (a) wonders (b) strong hand (c) outstretched arm that the Jewish People saw in Egypt? 7:19 - The: (a) Plagues; (b) Pestilence; (c) Slaying of the firstborn.
3. How did the Jewish People do their laundry in the midbar? 8:4 - The ananei kavod (clouds of glory) cleaned and bleached their clothes.
4. How did the Jewish People obtain clothing for their growing children in the midbar? 8:4 - As their children grew, their clothing grew with them.
5. On what day did Moshe come down from Mt. Sinai having received complete forgiveness for the Jewish People? 9:18 - The tenth of Tishrei, Yom Kippur.
6. Who made the ark in which Moshe placed the second set of tablets? What special function did it later serve? 10:1 - Moshe. This ark would accompany the Jewish People into battle.
7. Which sin of the Jewish People was prompted by the death of Aharon? 10:6-7 - When Aharon died the ananei kavod departed, causing many Jews to fear war with the King of Arad and to retreat toward Egypt.
8. Why were the levi'im chosen by Hashem? 10:8 - Because they did not participate in the sin of the golden calf.
9. Why do the levi'im have no portion in the land? 10:9 - Since they served in the Temple, thus they were not free to work the land.
10. All aspects of man’s life are in Hashem’s “hands” except one. What is this? 10:12 - Fear of Heaven, which is dependent upon the person.
11. What is meant by circumcising one’s heart? 10:16 - To remove those things that block the words of Torah from entering.
12. What are the sources of water for the fields of Egypt and Eretz Yisrael? 11:10 - Egypt is irrigated by manually carrying water up from the Nile. Eretz Yisrael is supplied by rainwater requiring no work on the part of its inhabitants.
13. What path does the Torah prescribe for gaining new knowledge? 11:13 - By repeatedly reviewing what one knows, one more easily acquires new knowledge.
14. When the Jewish People sin, why are they considered worse than the generation of the flood? 11:17 - Because the generation of the flood had no one from whom to learn.
15. How does one “cleave to Hashem”? 11:22 - Attaching oneself to Torah scholars.

Good Shabbos

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■ WEEKLY CLASSES (see website for more detail)

» Morning Gemara Megillah for men (M-Fr, 6-6:35A)

» Daf HaYomi for men (Sunday-Thursday 8-9P)

» Chumash for men & women (Shabbos one hr before mincha)

» Hilchos Taaruvos for men (Sunday 6:30-8:00A)

» Marriage Made in Heaven for men (Monday 7:15-8:00P)

» Marriage Made in Heaven for women (Tuesday 7:15-8:00P)

All classes at 7103 Mumford Ct., except where indicated