



CONGREGATION TORAS CHAIM

An intimate space...Grow at your pace.

June 11, 2016 ■ 5 Sivan, 5776 ■ Shabbos Bamidbar, 49th of Omer
Candlelighting: 8:18P ■ Shabbos Ends 9:26P

Kiddush this Shabbos is sponsored by Josh & Lisa Rothstein in honor of Mike & Bluma Ekshtut. There is no Shalosh Seudos in shul this Shabbos.

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, June 10th

- » Mincha/Kabbalos Shabbos/Maariv-7:00P
- » Candlelighting-8:18P (Preferably light by 7:25P)

Shabbos Day, June 11th

- » Shacharis followed by Kiddush-8:30A
- » Junior Congregation for boys in shul-9:30A
- » Mommy & Me Young Children's Minyan-10:00A
- » Pirkei Avos for M&W-Cancelled until Monday
- » Chumash Shiur for M&W-Cancelled until Monday
- » Mincha followed by class-8:05P

■ SHAVUOS SCHEDULE

Saturday Night, June 11, 2016

- » Maariv-9:25 PM
- » Candlelighting-9:26 PM
- » All-Night Learning 12:00 AM - 5:25 AM

Sunday, June 12, 2016

- » Morning Brachos/Shacharis 5:25 AM
- » Earliest Tallis (MiSheyakir) 5:25 AM
- » Sunrise 6:18 AM
- » Mincha followed by class 8:20 PM
- » Maariv 9:25 PM
- » Candlelighting (from pre-existing flame): Not before 9:26 PM

Monday, June 13, 2016

- » Shacharis 8:30 AM
- » Yizkor (Not before 10:15 AM)
- » NOTE: Pirkei Avos for Men & Women 6:50 PM
- » NOTE: Chumash for Men & Women 7:35 PM
- » Mincha 8:20 PM followed by Neilas HaChag (special celebration to close-out the festival, including washing for Hamotzi, singing and divrei Torah)
- » Maariv 9:25 PM followed by Havdalla
- » Shavuos Ends 9:27 PM

■ WEEKDAY SCHEDULE

- » Weekday Shacharis-6:40A
- » NQ Daf HaYomi (Kesuvos)-7:30P
- » Mincha/Maariv-8:25P

■ REFUAH SHELAIMA

MEN

- » R' Moshe ben Chana Sara Leah (Rebbi of Ari Goldberg)
- » Yechiel Mordechai ben Devorah (Brother of Ken Jarmel)
- » Itai ben Shoshana (Son of Ehoud & Shoshana Wilson)
- » Mattisyahu Chaim ben Ettl (HaRav Mattisyahu Solomon)

WOMEN

- » Leah Esther bas Yenta Leah (Lori Jarmel)
- » Yenta Leah bas Shayna (Mother of Lori Jarmel)

■ WHAT'S NU AT CTC

- » **Mazel Tov** to Mosh Bush & Ariella Meira Mizell on their recent engagement. May they merit to build a Bayis Ne'eman B'Yisroel.
- » **All-Night Shavuos Learning: 1) The \$1,000 Evening Supporter, for the merit of all the Torah studied throughout the night, is sponsored by Ben & Lauren Nise. 2) The Food and Beverage Station is sponsored by Josh & Lisa Rothstein.** \$250 individual class sponsorships are available below. Please contact Rabbi Rich at rabi@toraschaimdallas.org if able to participate. Yasher Koach

to our supporters.

All-night Shavuos classes will include (Times are approximate):

- 1. You're All Washed Up - Bathing on Shabbos & Yom Tov** 12:00-1:00 AM (Rabbi Yaakov Rich) ****Available**** \$250 Class Sponsorship
- 2. The Evolution of Judaism and Torah Observance - Historical Perspective of a Halachic Matter** 1:15-2:15 AM (Rabbi Michael Bodenheimer) ****Available**** \$250 Class Sponsorship
- 3. Katz at the Dentist - This is No Laughing [Gas] Matter** 2:30-3:30 AM (Rabbi Yaakov Rich) **\$250 Class Sponsorship: Sponsored by Chana Esther Day in Memory of Chaim Yaakov ben Avrohom (Bob Day)**
- 4. Stop Repeating Yourself - How Devarim is So Much More Than Just a Deuteronomy of the Torah** 3:45-4:45 AM (Rabbi Michael Bodenheimer) ****Available**** \$250 Class Sponsorship

■ NEW MEANING: RABBI LABEL LAM

A great deal of preparation goes into planning for and getting ready for the Yom Tov of Shevuos. We have all been diligently counting up to the 50th Day with great anticipation. Now the cooking and food preparation intensifies and then comes the great day! I have always wondered what makes some days more valuable than others. Why are so many regular days sacrificed for one big day? I had the same question when planning a Bar Mitzvah celebration and more recently a wedding. Why are we giving away so many days for the benefit of a single day? What makes that day so much more important?

I asked this question aloud at one of my son's Bar Mitzvos, which was near Rosh HaShana time. Again, why are so many days dedicated to the production of one special day? The answer, I do believe, is that the single day is not only one day. In the case of Rosh HaShana, it's the whole year? The whole year is scripted right there in the head of the year. By a Bar Mitzvah boy-man, the entirety of his future as a Ben Torah is hinging on how he launches his career on the day of his Bar Mitzvah. So too on Shevuos! It is an extra special time! A serious new beginning! Our individual and collective lives hang in the balance on such a day. It's not just one day! It's the entire future!

That's how I have been thinking about it for a good while until I recently revisited this fundamental Rashi on a well-known verse from near the beginning: And G-d saw all that He had made, and behold it was very good, and it was evening and it was morning, the sixth day. (Breishis 1:31)

Rashi comments: the sixth day: Scripture added a "hey" on the sixth day, at the completion of the Creation, to tell us that He stipulated with them, ["you were created] on the condition that Israel accept the Five Books of the Torah." [The numerical value of the "hey" is five.] Another explanation for "the sixth day": They [the works of creation] were all suspended until the "sixth day," referring to the sixth day of Sivan, which was prepared for the giving of the Torah. (The "hey" is the definite article, alluding to the well-known sixth day of Sivan, when the Torah was given.)

Rashi unloads literally "earth shattering news" based on a seeming extra letter "hey" - which is a prefix equal to the definitive article "the". There was something extra special about that 6th day which is a signal and a major reminder of another 6th day that

will happen in the future. Without that date with destiny on Mt. Sinai 2448 years after creation, the world and its fullness would be deemed unjustifiable and unworthy of existence right from the very beginning.

Without that grandiose national acceptance of the Torah in the future then the entirety of creation would have been aborted. Let us park for now all the major philosophical questions that explode from this notion. How can a free willed act be determined to happen in advance? This new understanding adds a whole new giant dimension to the value of receiving of the Torah on Shevuos. It not only impacts the quality of life going forward but it breathes life into the entirety of the past.

What good is that? Why does history matter? What is the value of justifying and rectifying the past? I think we can easily understand this in a very practical way. If someone invests hours to give a presentation and then they are not called upon to deliver that generates feelings of disappointment.

We can all relate to that. If we spend 50 days preparing for an event that never happens then that disappoints all the energies and the many days of dedication. HASHEM would not dare to disappoint a creature, let alone frustrate an entire creation.

One grandmother commented with an uncommon frankness about her feelings of extra love and adoration for her Shomer Shabbos grandchildren over and above her other non-Jewish biological grandchildren, "When I see these children I see the whole past and the whole future! When I see those, I don't see the past and I don't see the future!"

The Holy Day of Shevuos serves to unify the entirety of creation. It weds the whole past with the whole future. It awakens those vast continents of time and space seemingly void of real purpose with new meaning.

■ PARSHA Q&A: BAMIDBAR

1. Why were the Jewish People counted so frequently? 1:1 - They are very dear to G-d.
2. What documents did the people bring when they were counted? 1:18 - They brought birth records proving their tribal lineage.
3. What determined the color of the tribal flags? 2:2 - Each tribes flag was the color of that tribes stone in the breastplate of the kohen gadol.
4. What is the difference between an "ot" and a "degel"? 2:2 - An "ot" is a flag, i.e., a colored cloth that hangs from a flagpole. A degel is a flagpole.
5. How do we see that the Jews in the time of Moshe observed "techum Shabbat" - the prohibition against traveling more than 2,000 amot on Shabbat? 2:2 - G-d commanded them to camp no more than 2,000 amot from the Ohel Moed. Had they camped farther, it would have been forbidden for them to go to the Ohel Moed on Shabbat.
6. What was the signal for the camp to travel? 2:9 - The cloud over the Ohel Moed departed and the kohanim sounded the trumpets.

7. What was the sum total of the counting of the 12 tribes? 2:32 - 603,550.
8. Why are Aharon's sons called "sons of Aharon and Moshe"? 3:1 - Since Moshe taught them Torah, its as if he gave birth to them.
9. Who was Nadav's oldest son? 3:4 - Nadav had no children.
10. Which two people from the Book of Esther does Rashi mention in this week's Parsha? 3:7 - Bigtan and Teresh.
11. Why did the levi'im receive ma'aser rishon? 3:8 - Since the leviim served in the Mishkan in place of everyone else, they received tithes as "payment."
12. Which groups of people were counted from the age of one month? 3:15, 40 - The leviim, and the firstborn of Bnei Yisrael.
13. Name the first descendant of Levi in history to be counted as an infant. 3:15 - Levis daughter Yocheved was born while the Jewish People were entering Egypt. She is counted as one of the 70 people who entered Egypt.
14. Who assisted Moshe in counting the levi'im? 3:16 G-d.
15. Why did so many people from the tribe of Reuven support Korach in his campaign against Moshe? 3:29 - The tribe of Reuven was encamped near Korach, and were therefore influenced for the worse. This teaches that one should avoid living near the wicked.
16. Why did so many people from the tribes of Yehuda, Yissachar and Zevulun become great Torah scholars? 3:38 - The tribes of Yehuda, Yissachar and Zevulun were encamped near Moshe, and were therefore influenced for the good. This teaches that one should seek to live near the righteous
17. In verse 3:39 the Torah states that the total number of levi'im was 22,000. The actual number was 22,300. Why does the Torah seem to ignore 300 levi'im? 3:39 - Each levi served to redeem a first-born of the Jewish People. Since 300 leviim were themselves firstborn, they themselves needed to be redeemed, and could therefore not redeem others.
18. The firstborn males of the Jewish People were redeemed for five shekalim. Why five shekalim? 3:46 - To atone for the sale of Yosef, Rachels firstborn, who was sold by his brothers for five shekalim (20 pieces of silver.)
19. During what age-span is a man considered at his full strength? 4:2 - Between the ages of 30 and 50.
20. As the camp was readying itself for travel, who was in charge of covering the vessels of the Mishkan in preparation for transport? 4:5 - The kohanim.

Good Shabbos

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■ CLASSES

» Before Shacharis Gemara Yevamos for men (M-Fr, 6-6:40A)

» NQ Daf HaYomi Kesuvos for men (Sunday-Thursday following Maariv)

» Pirkei Avos for men & women (Shabbos 90 mins before mincha)

» Chumash for men & women (Shabbos 45 mins before mincha)

» Hilchos Taaruvos for men (Sunday 7:00-8:00A)

» Supercharge Your Sundays for men (Sunday after Shacharis for 45 mins., with R' Noach Klug)

» Marriage Chaburah for women (Tuesday 7:15-8:00P)

» In-Depth Hilchos Shabbos for women (Time is Changing)