

Parshas Vayigash

FRIDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER 26

- » Mincha/Kabalas Shabbos/Maariv 5:10 PM
- » Candles 5:09 PM
- » Sunset 5:27 PM

SHABBOS DAY, DECEMBER 27

- » **Shacharis followed by Kiddush 8:00 AM**
- » 15-min Pirkei Avos Shiur for Women and Kedushas Levi Chabura for Men following Kiddush
- » **Chassidus in the Parsha** with Rabbi Yaakov Rich in shul 4:00-4:45 PM
- » Women & Children S"Y at Rich Home 5:00 - 6:15 PM
- » Mincha 5:00 PM
- » Sunset 5:28 PM
- » Maariv 6:10 PM
- » Shabbos Ends (50 min) 6:18 PM
- » Rabbeinu Tam (72 min) 6:41 PM

A WISE MAN WOULD SAY: "CONSISTENCY IS THE TRUE FOUNDATION OF TRUST. EITHER KEEP YOUR PROMISES OR DO NOT MAKE THEM."

REFUAH SHELAIMA

Men

- » Daniel Ze'ev ben Miriam (Brother of Josh Rothstein)

Women

- » Layah Leilech bas Shulamis (Friend of Shira Martin)
- » Devorah bas Heni (Friend of Aviva Bass)
- » Shoshana Gittel bas Chaya Leah (Sister of Naomi Goldberg)

KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP

- » the members of the GKC.

CTC SCHEDULE OF SHIURIM/TEFILLAH (Week of Dec 28, 2025)

- » Gemara Zevachim, Mon - Fri, 6:00-6:30 AM
- » **Shacharis, 6:30 AM**
- » Amud HaYomi Sanhedrin: Sunday - Friday, 12 -1 PM, On Zoom with Rabbi Yaakov Rich. Email Rabbi Rich for the link.
- » Shemone Perakim 7:30 PM
- » Maariv 8:00 PM
- » Mishnayos Shabbos (Sun-Thur) 8:15 PM

TIDBITS

Parashas Vayigash • December 27th • 7 Teves 5786

This Tuesday, December 30th, is the fast of Asarah B'Teves. Asarah B'Teves

was the tragic day on which Nebuchadnezzar laid siege to Yerushalayim.

During Chazaras HaShatz of Shacharis, only the Shaliach Tzibbur adds Aneinu. Chazaras HaShatz is followed by Selichos, Avinu Malkeinu, Tachanun, and Krias Hatorah. Mincha includes Krias Hatorah followed by the Haftarah of a fast day (Yeshayah 55:6-56:8). Those fasting add Aneinu in Shemoneh Esrei. Nusach Ashkenaz says Sim Shalom in place of Shalom Rav. The Shaliach Tzibbur adds Aneinu and Bircas Kohanim in Chazaras HaShatz. Avinu Malkeinu is recited.

The Abudraham explains that this fast would be observed even on a Friday because the Pasuk's wording regarding Asarah B'Teves, "B'etzem Hayom Hazeh" (Yechezkel 24:2): On this very day, indicates it must be observed on this day specifically and is not postponed. He adds that this fast would technically be observed even on Shabbos itself - although this will never occur based on our current calendars.

What is the significance of Asarah B'Teves? The B'nei Yissaschar explains that Aschalta D'Paranusa Adifa, the onset of tragedy, is most significant, and that Asarah B'Teves was the beginning of the siege which led to the destruction of the first Beis Hamikdash and so many other subsequent tragedies. The Chasam Sofer (Toras Moshe, vol. 2, Vayikra, Drush 7 Adar) explains that on this date the Beis Din Shel Maalah decreed the destruction. Furthermore, the Chasam Sofer states that any generation that does not merit the rebuilding of the Beis Hamikdash is considered as if it was destroyed in its days. If so, each year on this date the Beis Din Shel Maalah reconvenes regarding the status of the generation and their worthiness for the Beis Hamikdash's rebuilding.

After Chanukah, used wicks, cups and oil should be disposed of in a respectful manner (i.e. by placing them in a plastic bag before disposing of them). Some have the minhag to burn the wicks on the last day of Chanukah; others burn them at Bi'ur Chametz before Pesach.

The final opportunity for Kiddush Levana (in case of necessity) is Friday night, January 2nd.

The fast day of Asarah B'Teves is this Tuesday, December 30th.

VAYIGASH: Yehudah protests Yosef's persecution of the shevatim • Yosef reveals his identity • Yosef instructs the family to settle in Goshen • Yosef sends wagons with provisions for the brothers' journey to Canaan • Yosef gives the brothers gifts • Yaakov is informed that Yosef is alive • The members of Yaakov's family descending to Egypt are listed; they number 70 altogether • Yehudah travels ahead to open a Yeshiva • Yosef and Yaakov's reunion • Yosef instructs his brothers how to speak with Pharaoh • Yaakov meets with and blesses Pharaoh • At the beginning of the years of hunger, the Egyptians can no longer afford food • Pharaoh supports the priests • The Egyptians seek to sell themselves and their property to Yosef and Pharaoh.

Parshas Vayigash

Haftarah: The Parashah relates the episode of the brothers' reunion in Mitzrayim after years of separation. Yechezkel (37:15-28) relates the prophecy that the Shevatim will one day join with true unity under the Melech HaMashiach.

Parashas Vayigash: 106 Pesukim • No Mitzvos Listed

"And he saw the wagons which Yosef sent" (Bereishis 45:27)

Chazal explain that Yaakov was rejuvenated when he saw the wagons his son Yosef sent, as they symbolized the last Torah topic they had studied together: Eglah Arufah. What was this message which Yosef was sending to his father?

Rav Uren Reich shlit"a answers: Chazal say that when Yosef set out to find his brothers, his father began escorting him out. Yosef protested, "I do not require this escort, as I am not a guest, but rather a member of the household." Yaakov responded that a lone traveler may face dangerous circumstances along the way. Escorting a departing traveler even just a short distance provides a symbolic accompaniment and a sense that he is not alone, giving him confidence to persevere on his journey. Thus, it was important that he escort Yosef as well.

This discussion of Yaakov and Yosef regarding escorting guests was thus related to the laws of Eglah Arufah, which pertains to properly escorting a departing traveler. By sending the wagons, Yosef hinted to his father that he was, in fact, alive and well, both physically and spiritually. For despite their geographical distance, he constantly felt his father's presence, as indeed this feeling of never being alone enabled him to withstand the spiritual challenges he faced over the many lonely years in a land devoid of spirituality.