

Parshas VAYEITZEI

5776

20-21 Nov 2015 / 9 Kislev 5776

EARLY SUMMER KABBOLAS SHABBOS: 5.30PM
CANDLE LIGHTING THIS WEEK: 6.15PM
EREV SHABBOS MINCHA THIS WEEK: 6.15PM
SHABBOS MINCHA: 6.00PM
SHABBOS ENDS: 7.12PM
SHABBOS CANDLE LIGHTING NEXT WEEK: 6.15PM

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Ohr Somayach

LATEST TIME FOR MORNING SHEMA THIS WEEK: 8.31AM
EARLIEST TIME FOR EVENING SHEMA THIS WEEK: 7.14PM

THE BLESSING EMERGES FROM LOWLINESS

In Yaakov's famous dream of a ladder at the beginning of Parshas Vayeitzei, Hashem appears to him and tells him – among other things – "Your offspring shall be as the dust of the earth and you shall spread out powerfully westward, eastward, northward, and southward..." [Bereshis 28:14]. The Sforno wonders about the nature of this blessing. It seems to be expressed in imagery that is perhaps not especially complimentary. After all, the dust of the earth is something that people trample on! The imagery used elsewhere of "descendants as numerous as stars in the heaven" is much more noble and uplifting than "descendants that shall be as the dust of the earth."

The Sforno writes that this language in fact foreshadows Jewish history. Our history has been that just when Klal Yisrael finds themselves to be at their lowest point (represented by the dust of the earth), that is precisely when they will merit receiving the blessing "you will spread out powerfully westward, eastward, northward, and southward." The two sections of the pasuk [verse] that at first seem to be incongruously combined are, in fact, dependent upon each other. It is exactly the state of lowliness that precedes the state of dynamic growth and expansion. This is comparable to the common saying "night is always at its darkest immediately before dawn."

The Kli Yakar quotes a similar idea from a Medrash Shochar Tov: "Salvation only comes to Israel at a time when they have reached the ultimate in lowness (tachlis haShiflus), as it is written 'For prostrated to the dust is our soul, stuck to the earth is our belly' [Tehillim 44:26] and immediately thereafter we find 'Arise! Assist us And redeem us for the sake of Your kindness!' [Tehillim 44:27]."

The reason for this phenomenon, the Kli Yakar writes, is that as long as the Jews are mired in the depths of lowliness, they place all their trust in G-d. When things are going better, they make plans for human schemes and intervention to rescue themselves and do not place their hope in Hashem. However, when they see that there is no hope and no value in relying on human intervention, then they turn to Hashem as their only hope. When they sincerely call out to Him, recognizing that He is their only hope, then, in fact, salvation will dramatically follow.

This is the meaning of our pasuk in Parshas Vayeitzei as well. When it will be that your children are like the dust of the earth – meaning they have reached the lowest of points with no hope for self-preservation – and out of hopelessness, they turn to Hashem for salvation, that is precisely when salvation will come and it will be dramatic and expansive. "You will spread out powerfully westward, eastward, northward, and southward."

Rabbi Frand-www.torah.org

LADIES SHIURIM WITH RABBI AUERBACH

CHANUKAH

at the home of Susan Blieden
3B Mansion Rd, Glenhazel

Tuesday nights 7.15pm - 8.00pm

CHANUKAH & WOMEN

at the Levitt's, 10a Terminal Cres, Glenhazel

Wednesday at 9.00am

You
NOW HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE IN THE MERIT AND LITERALLY SUPPORT
LEARNING AND DAVENING!

THE SMALL BEIS MEDRASH WHERE THE AVREICHIM OF THE KOLLEL LEARN DAILY AND THAT IS USED FOR MANY MINYANIM DURING THE WEEK & SHABBOS IS IN NEED OF NEW TABLES AND CHAIRS

YOU HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE IT A REALITY

SPONSOR A CHAIR AT R400 EACH (ONLY 100 AVAILABLE)
SPONSOR A TABLE AT R1200 EACH (ONLY 34 AVAILABLE)

FOR MORE DETAILS & TO SPONSOR CONTACT
R' ARON BERK 072 218 5278 OR RABBI ABRAMSON 083 382 2777

MAIN SHUL KIDDUSH



This week's Main Shul Kiddush is kindly co-sponsored by:

- **Rabbi Kevin & Sarah Braun** in honour of the birth of their daughter **Yael**
- **Ian & Melany Port** in honour of the Yortzeits of Melany's mother, **Chana bas Yacov**, and father, **Yacov ben Shmuel**

ENGAGEMENT



Mazel tov to **Rabbi Akiva Gilbert & Elisheva Levinsohn** on the announcement of their engagement.

MINCHA MINYANIM

FROM **SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER** (1ST NIGHT CHANUKA) UNTIL **JANUARY 2016**

There will only be 2 Mincha Minyanim

1.05pm & 6.30pm (followed by Maariv)

CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS

David Hockman
Miriam Menucha Pogrud

Natan Pogrud
Happy Birthday!

GRANDPARENTS



Mazel tov to **Sam & Sue Michel and Farrel & Wendy Meltzer** on the birth of a granddaughter born to **Ze'ev & Tali Meltzer**

WEDDING



Mazel tov to **Shimon Hirschowitz & Chani Friedman** on the occasion of their upcoming wedding this week. Mazel tov to proud parents **Paul & Zandra Friedman** and **Darryl & Janine Hirschowitz**.

SHABBOS AFTERNOON SHIUR

RABBI AUERBACH THE LAWS OF **BRINGING SHABBOS IN EARLY**

Shabbos afternoon at 5.25pm

YORTZEITS

- **Brenda Braun** for her late father
- **Melany Port** for her late mother
- **Hugh Raichlin** for his late father
- **Janine Ralph** for her late mother

OHR SOMAYACH

Kiddies!

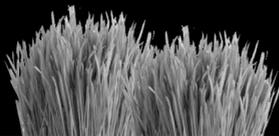


FIRST NIGHT CHANUKAH SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER

GRASS HEAD MAKING **5:30PM**

MINCHA **6:30PM**

CANDLE LIGHTING **6:45PM**



MAKE YOUR VERY OWN
GRASSHEADS

INCLUDES
A FREE



ONLY **R50** PER CHILD

CHIP 'N DIP WILL BE AVAILABLE
FOR THE **ADULTS AT R20 A PACK!**

