

Parshas VAYISHLACH

5776

27-28 Nov 2015 / 16 Kislev 5776

EARLY SUMMER KABBOLAS SHABBOS: 5.30PM
CANDLE LIGHTING THIS WEEK: 6.15PM
EREV SHABBOS MINCHA THIS WEEK: 6.15PM
SHABBOS MINCHA: 6.05PM
SHABBOS ENDS: 7.18PM

SHABBOS CANDLE LIGHTING NEXT WEEK: 6.15PM

LATEST TIME FOR MORNING SHEMA THIS WEEK: 8.31AM
EARLIEST TIME FOR EVENING SHEMA THIS WEEK: 7.19PM

DONATE
via SnapScan



Ohr Somayach

OVERVIEW

Returning home, Yaakov sends angelic messengers to appease his brother Eisav. The messengers return, telling Yaakov that Eisav is approaching with an army of 400. Yaakov takes the strategic precautions of dividing the camps, praying for assistance, and sending tribute to mollify Eisav. That night, Yaakov is left alone and wrestles with the Angel of Eisav. Yaakov emerges victorious but is left with an injured sinew in his thigh (which is the reason that it is forbidden to eat the sciatic nerve of a kosher animal). The angel tells him that his name in the future will be Yisrael, signifying that he has prevailed against man (Lavan) and the supernatural (the angel). Yaakov and Eisav meet and are reconciled, but Yaakov, still fearful of his brother, rejects Eisav's offer that they should dwell together. Shechem, a Canaanite prince, abducts and violates Dina, Yaakov's daughter. In return for Dinah's hand in marriage, the prince and his father suggest that Yaakov and his family intermarry and enjoy the fruits of Canaanite prosperity. Yaakov's sons trick Shechem and his father by feigning agreement; however, they stipulate that all the males of the city must undergo brit mila. Shimon and Levi, two of Dinah's brothers, enter the town and execute all the males who were weakened by the circumcision. This action is justified by the city's tacit complicity in the abduction of their sister. G-d commands Yaakov to go to Beit-El and build an altar. His mother Rivka's nurse, Devorah, dies and is buried below Beit-El. G-d appears again to Yaakov, blesses him and changes his name to Yisrael. While traveling, Rachel goes into labor and gives birth to Binyamin, the twelfth of the tribes of Israel. She dies in childbirth and is buried on the Beit Lechem Road. Yaakov builds a monument to her. Yitzchak passes away at the age of 180 and is buried by his sons. The Parsha concludes by listing Eisav's descendants.



THE ATTRIBUTE OF BEING "ALONE"

This week's parsha contains the pasuk: "And Yaakov remained alone and a man wrestled with him until dawn" [Bereshit 32:25]. The Medrash sees a connection between Yaakov remaining alone and the "Aloneness" of the Almighty. Even more strikingly, the Medrash states that Yaakov attained a stature that made him similar to the Ribono Shel Olam [Master of the Universe, i.e. G-d].

"And you shall walk in His ways" [Devarim 28:9] is one of the most fundamental mitzvos of the Torah. Emulating G-d's ways by acting merciful (as He is Merciful), acting compassionate (as He is Compassionate) and so forth, is a primary religious obligation and is the ultimate source for many of our responsibilities towards our fellow man.

The Medrash states that in this incident Yaakov achieved a significant spiritual accomplishment by imitating one of the Almighty's attributes. Regarding the Almighty, the pasuk says: "And Hashem ALONE will be exalted on that day [Yeshaya 2: 17] and here in VaYishlach the pasuk says: "And Yaakov remained ALONE." At this moment Yaakov emulated the G-d-like attribute of being alone.

The thrust of the pasuk "And Hashem ALONE will be exalted" is that Hashem does not need anything or anybody else to exist. He can be alone and independent. Yaakov too demonstrates this ability of going it alone, of being able to survive by himself, as it were. Rav Yeruchem states that this is a level that every person tries to achieve. A person should try to reach completeness (shleimus) by himself without the necessity of relying on others.

Rav Yeruchem is not advising us to become hermits. Rather, Rav Yeruchem is giving an insight into the meaning of the teaching of a famous Mishneh. "Ben Zoma states: Who is the wise man? One who learns from everyone. Who is the strong man? One who conquers his evil inclination. Who is the wealthy man? One who is satisfied with his lot. Who is honored? One who honors creatures." [Avos 4: 1].

What do all these four things have in common? The common denominator is that a person can achieve these goals without the help of others. This Mishneh is emphasizing that in order to achieve perfection, a person must be able to function in a vacuum – as a "levado" [one who is alone]. Wisdom, wealth, strength, and honor do not need outsiders to be measured or to be achieved. One achieves them through the attribute of being "alone."

Rabbi Frand-www.torah.org

RABBI AUERBACH

LADIES SHIUR ON CHANUKAH

at the home of Susan Blieden, 3B Mansion Rd

Tuesday night 7.15pm - 8.00pm

SEUDAH SHLISHIS GUEST SPEAKER

R' GEDALIA AUERBACH

Mincha 6.05pm

OHR CHODOSH KIDDUSH



This week's Ohr Chodosh Kiddush is kindly co-sponsored by:

- **The Tabacks** for **Yisrael Meir's first birthday** and as a **seudas hoda'a** for **Tamar's recovery** from a difficult birth
- **Alan Lewis** in honour of the Yortzeit of his father **Yakov Ben Avraham Shimon HaLevi**

WEDDING / AUFRUF



Mazel tov to **Chen Smadja & Daniel Saus** on the occasion of their upcoming wedding this week. Mazel tov to proud parents **Haim & Cheryl Smadja** and **Mark & Natasha Saus** from Sydney

BARMITZVAH



Mazel tov to **Uriel Kramer** on the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah. Mazel tov to proud parents **R'Yisroel & Naomi Kramer**

WEDDING



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

THANK YOU! CHILDREN'S SERVICE 2015

A very warm "Thank you" to **Shevi Goldstuck** and **Michal Gershuni** for their amazing work & energy in running the Friday night children service. We wish them hatzlocha for sem!

A huge "Thank you" to **Yocheved Cohen**, **Dani Slasky** and **Rachael Sackstein** for their amazing work in running the children service year round!

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

Ye'chiel Brand
Shira Noik

Happy Birthday!

MAIN SHUL KIDDUSH



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

- **R'Yisroel & Naomi Kramer** in honour of the barmitzvah of their son **Uriel**
- **Smadja & Saus families** in honour of the upcoming wedding of **Chen & Daniel**

BABY BOY



Mazel tov to **Yosi & Sarah Feinberg** on the birth of a baby boy. Mazel tov to proud grandparents **Ivor & Miri Feinberg** and **Michael & Ros Wainer**. Mazel tov to proud greatgrandparents **Rachael Latker** and **Harry Wainer**. The **Shalom Zocher** will IY"H take place at 7 Sunny Rd from 9.00pm.

Mazel tov to **Rabbi Aharon & Gila Zulberg** on the birth of a baby boy. Mazel tov to proud grandparents **Allan & Linda Zulberg** and **Dov & Cheryl Unterslak**. The **Shalom Zocher** will IY"H take place this at 17 Sunny Rd from 9.00pm.

SHABBOS AFTERNOON SHIUR

RABBI AUERBACH
LIGHTING CHANUKA CANDLES
WITH THE ELECTRIC LIGHTS ON
& OTHER PRACTICAL QUESTIONS

Shabbos afternoon at 5.30pm

 		JOHANNESBURG WELCOMES LEADING TORAH EDUCATOR RABBI NOACH ORLOWEK
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FOR PARENTS
**RAISING A POSITIVE
CHILD IN A NEGATIVE
WORLD**
Pine Street Shul,
Mon 30 November, R50 pp

FOR EDUCATORS
**THE PRIDE
OF BEING A
TEACHER**
Pine Street Shul,
Wed 2 December, R50 pp

YORTZEITS

- **Chaya Bolel** for her late father
- **Karen Shor** for her late father
- **Martin Smith** for his late father
- **Louise Carless** for her late father
- **David Osrin** for his late father