

J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parshas Tzav / HaGadol
March 27, 2026 / 9 Nissan 5786
Volume 31, Issue 24
Candlelighting: 7:28 pm

Waxman Torah Center · 2195 S. Green Road · University Heights, OH 44121 · (216) 691-3837 · www.clevelandjlc.com

Friday, March 27

7:28pm Candlelighting
7:30pm Mincha

Shabbos, March 28

8:45am Shacharis
Kiddush is available for sponsorship
6:45pm Shabbos HaGadol speech for women
@ R. Nisenbaum's home
7:35pm Shabbos HaGadol speech (men & women) at shul
8:35pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos
8:38pm Maariv

Sunday, March 29

9:15am *Parsha Class*
(R. Nisenbaum)
10:00am "The 613 Mitzvos"
(R. Stoll)

Monday, March 30

8:00pm Insights Into the Haggadah (R. Nisenbaum)

Tuesday, March 31 – Thursday, April 9

SEE PESACH SCHEDULE

Torah Podcast

Listen to Rabbi Nisenbaum's "Torah Podcast" at Spotify, Apple Podcasts, iHeartRadio, and more, or download at www.maverickpodcasting.com

Weekday Minyanim

7:00am Shacharis (M-F)
8:00am Shacharis (Sun)
10:00pm Maariv (Sun-Th)

Class Connection

R. Nisenbaum:
425-436-6200 #352171
"The Torah Podcast" weekly at all podcast locations

R. Stoll:
Zoom: 876-619-3551
Audio: 669-900-9128

Parsha: Tzav

One of the kohain's jobs in the Mishkan was to separate a heap of ashes each morning from the remains of the previous day's offerings. This was deposited on the floor near the altar. When the ashes would pile up, the kohain would don special clothes and remove the ashes outside of the camp.

The removal of ashes did not have to be done every day.

Although this cleanup had to be done anyway, the Torah gives it the status of the actual service itself. The

service was not considered to be complete until everything was cleaned up, and only the kohain was allowed to do this cleanup. The intention of this was to teach that one should never feel that a mitzvah is beneath his dignity, even if it does no seem very dignified.

The kohanim were also obligated to make sure the altar had enough wood to remain burning at all times. The fire represented the Torah and its indestructibility throughout time. Indeed, the altar's fire burned throughout the existence of the Mishkan.

The Torah also explains who was allowed to eat the different sacrifices. Parts of each sacrifice, most significantly the blood and certain fats, were burnt on the altar. It is interesting to note that these parts could not be eaten anyway, so no part of the

animal was being "wasted" by offering the sacrifice. Certain sacrifices, however, such as the *olah*, or burnt offering, were completely consumed on the altar (except for the skin, which was given to the kohain as payment).

Parts of other sacrifices, such as the sin offering, the guilt offering, and the meal offerings, could only be eaten by the kohanim and only in the Temple area. Aside from being payment to the kohain for his service in the Temple, this

eating would also serve as atonement for the person bringing the sacrifice.

Other sacrifices, such as the peace offering, and the thanksgiving offering, which included forty loaves of bread, were also eaten by the family and friends of the person bringing the sacrifice, although the kohain got his share from them, too. These could be eaten anywhere in Jerusalem, by people who were ritually pure.

The latter part of the portion discusses the ceremony of inaugurating the family of kohanim for their service. The ceremony, which involved special sacrifices, immersions in the mikveh, and the anointing of Ahron and his sons, would take place over the seven days prior to the dedication of the Tabernacle. The final inauguration of the Tabernacle took place on the first day of Nissan.

Chametz can be sold through R. Nisenbaum by calling 216-659-1118

Insights: Pesach

...in order that you relate in the ears of your children how I made a mockery of Egypt... (Exodus 10:2) In the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, the Bluzhever Rebbe was able to procure a few matzos for the Seder. A large crowd gathered for some semblance of a Seder. The Rebbe wasn't sure how to distribute the few broken pieces of matzah. He suggested that the adults should get the pieces since they were obligated to eat by Torah law, whereas the children were not. A widow by the name of Bronia, however, told the Rebbe, "The children are our future! If they survive, they will always remember their part in the mitzvah. They should get matzah too." The Rebbe was moved by the widow's argument and distributed bits of matzah to the children. After the war, the Rebbe, whose family was killed by the Nazis, married Bronia and raised her children as his own.

Did You Know?

A Erev Pesach is considered a holiday since the Pesach offering was brought then in the afternoon. As such, one should not engage in the type of work that is prohibited on Chol Hamo'ed after mid-day. This includes activities like sewing, laundry, and haircuts. If a person could not take a haircut before noon, he should preferably go to a non-Jewish barber. One should also try to cut his nails and shave before noon too. If one could not, it is permitted to shave and cut the nails after noon in honor of Yom Tov.

Thought for the Week: Along with being fathers to our children, we must be fathers to the child within us (A Candle By Day)