

# J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parshas Achrei Mos - Kedoshim

April 28, 2023 / 7 Iyar 5783

Volume 28, Issue 27

Candlelighting: 8:03 pm

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

## Friday, April 28

6:35pm Mincha / Maariv [ early ]  
8:03pm Candlelighting  
8:05pm Mincha / Maariv

## Shabbos, April 29

8:45am Shacharis  
*Kiddush is available for sponsorship*  
6:55pm Pirke Avos  
7:55pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos / Maariv

## Sunday, April 30

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

## Monday, May 1

8:00pm "What a Jew Believes"

## Tuesday, May 2

8:00pm Pirkei d'Rebbi Elazar  
(R. Stoll)

## Wednesday, May 3

8:00pm Nach Still Speaks –  
Tehillim (R. Stoll)

## Thursday, May 4

10:15pm Parsha Class  
(R. Nisenbaum)

## Torah Podcast

Listen to Rabbi Nisenbaum's "Torah Podcast" at Spotify, Apple Podcasts, iHeartRadio, and more, or download at [www.maverickpodcasting.com](http://www.maverickpodcasting.com)

New episodes twice a week!

## 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

## Parshas: Achrei Mos - Kedoshim

In the times of the Temple, the Yom Kippur service was quite detailed. The high point of the day was when the *Kohain Gadol*, or High Priest, entered the Holy of

Holies, a place in the Temple where no other person was allowed to enter the rest of the year. There he would offer special offerings. Although usually the *Kohain Gadol* would wear eight vestments, before entering the Holy of Holies he would wear only four simple garments made of white linen. It is customary today to wear a white *kittel*, or robe, on Yom Kippur, to recall the *Kohain Gadol's* service.

Part of the service also involved taking two goats, of which one was sacrificed in the Temple, and the other sent to its death in the wilderness as a "scapegoat" to bear the sins of the nation. The *Kohain Gadol* would also confess on behalf of the nation. Of course, repentance was also necessary for complete atonement.

Following the laws of Yom Kippur, the Torah forbids the consumption of blood. Although blood plays an important part in the sacrificial order on the Altar, it may not be eaten. The Torah explains that the essence of an animal rests in its blood. By eating blood, a person ingests pure "animalism", something that must be avoided by a person yearning to develop his unique human character. The Torah also requires the blood of a kosher bird or non-domesticated animal to be

covered with dirt immediately after slaughtering the animal. This, too, is meant to emphasize the covering of the essence of an animal before it can be eaten.

The portion concludes with the laws of prohibited relationships. This section is read on Yom Kippur to emphasize the importance of maintaining holiness, even in the most private areas of our daily lives.

In the second portion, *Kedoshim*, the Torah continues with the theme of holiness. Yet, interestingly, many of the laws regarding social relationships are discussed. Speaking slander about another person, taking revenge, and even bearing a grudge, are all prohibited. Many of the business-related laws are

also discussed in this portion. The juxtaposition of these laws to the commandment of being holy suggests an important insight into holiness. One might think that the concept of holiness is only related to the relationship between man and G-d and the ritual mitzvos. The Torah teaches that this is not so. One's social activities also affect his level of spirituality. One who is remiss in his interpersonal dealings cannot achieve holiness either. Acting fairly and honestly in business and in all one's dealings is part of being a holy person because it reminds us that one is always before G-d, and we must behave accordingly.

### Issue Sponsored

by Dr. Yitzchak Kletter on the occasion of the *yahrzeit* of his uncle, *Eliezer ben Aryeh Leib*, 10 Iyar

### What a Jew Believes

New class with R. Nisenbaum Mondays at 8pm beginning May 1<sup>st</sup>

### Condolences

To Brian & Lana Kravitz upon the loss of her mother

## Insights: Achrei Mos - Kedoshim

**... do not deny falsely... You shall not swear falsely by My Name, thereby desecrating the Name of your G-d. (Lev 19:11-12)**

A wealthy student of the Alter of Slabodka once lent a man of questionable character a large sum of money. When the time came for repayment, the man brazenly denied the loan. The lender summoned the man to Beis Din, but the man swore falsely that he had not borrowed any money. The lender was very upset, and he shouted at the man, "Is it not enough that you stole my money, but you have the chutzpah to swear falsely using G-d's Name?"

A few weeks later the wealthy man announced in shul that he was wrong in shouting at the man in public, and he asked for forgiveness. The townspeople knew that the scoundrel had indeed stolen and lied, and they asked the wealthy man why he felt it necessary to apologize. The man said, "When I first castigated him, I thought it was the desecration of G-d's Name that bothered me so much. However, I recently heard another person swear falsely as well. In that instance I did not protest the sin as vehemently. I realized that my outburst was more related to my loss of money than for the sin against G-d. If so, I had no right to publicly berate the man."

## Did You Know?

It is forbidden to crossbreed two different species of animals together. One may not even work with two species together, for example to plow together or to pull a coach together. Even prodding them on by shouting at them, if they are harnessed together, is prohibited. Riding in a coach led by two species is also not permitted. One may not tie two species together, even to prevent them from escaping. The same laws apply to different species of birds, too. Grafting different species of fruit trees is also not allowed, though the fruit produced from the graft is permitted.

**Thought for the Week: We must learn to be taken by surprise and not shaken by it.** (A Candle By Day)