

J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parshas Achrei Mos
April 29, 2022 / 28 Nissan 5782
Volume 27, Issue 30
Candlelighting: 8:04 pm

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

Friday, April 29

7:00am Shacharis
8:04pm Candlelighting
8:05pm Mincha / Maariv

Shabbos, April 30

8:45am Shacharis
Kiddush is sponsored by
the Richelson family
7:00pm Pirke Avos
7:55pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos /
Maariv

Sunday, May 1

8:00am Shacharis
9:15am **Parsha Class**
(R. Nisenbaum)
10:00am "The 613 Mitzvos"
(R. Stoll)

Monday, May 2

7:00am Shacharis
8:00pm **Q & A** (R. Nisenbaum)

Tuesday, May 3

7:00am Shacharis
8:00pm **Avos D'Rav Nosson**
(R. Stoll)

Wednesday, May 4

7:00am Shacharis
8:00pm **Nach Still Speaks**
(R. Stoll)

Thursday, May 5

7:00am Shacharis
8:00pm **The 12 Jewish Months**
(R. Stoll)
10:15pm **Parsha Class**
(R. Nisenbaum)

Class Connection

R. Nisenbaum:
425-436-6200 #352171

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

Parsha: Achrei Mos

The Torah introduces the special Yom Kippur service in the Tabernacle and the role of the *Kohain Gadol*, the High Priest, in bringing atonement for the nation. Part of the service involved the *Kohain Gadol's* entering the Holy of Holies, a place where no other person was allowed to enter the rest of the year. There he would offer a special incense offering.

Although usually the *Kohain Gadol* would wear eight beautiful vestments, before entering the Holy of Holies he would wear only four simple garments made of white linen. The reason for this is because Ahron, the first *Kohain Gadol*, had had a part in the nation's sinning with the Golden Calf. It would thus be improper for him to try to atone for the nation while wearing golden garments that could serve as a "reminder" of this sin. The Rabbis explain that a "prosecutor cannot become a defender." It is for this reason that it is customary today to wear a white *kittel*, or robe, on Yom Kippur. (The *kittel* is also worn at the Pesach Seder for a slightly different reason. Though we celebrate freedom on Pesach, We must be careful not to become so complacent with freedom that it leads to arrogance. The *kittel*, one of the shrouds in which a person is buried, serves as a sobering reminder of the responsibilities associated with freedom.)

Part of the service also involved taking two goats, of which one was sacrificed 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 for the sins of the nation. Of course repentance was also necessary for complete atonement.

The *Kohain Gadol* would change his clothing from the regular vestments to the special linen garments a total of five times throughout the day's service. Each time he changed he had to immerse himself in water.

Although we no longer have the Temple today, the fasting on Yom Kippur together with Teshuva, or repentance, still allows us to become purified through the holiness of the day.

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 lies in its blood. By eating blood a person ingests the essence of the animal, something to 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.

New Series – Mondays at 8

Developing a Jewish Personality
Starting Monday, May 9

Mazel Tov!

Murray and Rus Chaya
Richelson upon the engagement
of their daughter

Insights: Achrei Mos

You shall keep my statutes and mitzvos....and live by them (Lev 18:5) Rav Gad'l Eisner was a mashgiach in the Gerrer Yeshiva. He once suggested a match for one of his students with a wonderful young woman who was an orphan. The young couple met a few times and decided to get married. At the engagement party the young man was surprised to see a rather uncouth man who introduced himself as the bride's father. The young man was rather embarrassed by the elderly man's boorish behavior and he cornered Rav Gad'l and asked him, "I thought you told me my fiancé is an orphan! I just met her father and he is certainly alive!" Rav Gad'l looked at the young man and said with a sad smile, "Tell me, do you really think that is considered living?"

Did You Know?

During the period between Pesach and Shavuot, 24,000 students of Rabbi Akiva died. To mark this tragedy it is customary not to take haircuts, celebrate weddings, or listen to music during these days. Some follow this custom for the period beginning the second day of Pesach until Lag B'Omer, the thirty-third day. Others begin the period from Rosh Chodesh Iyar until the day before Shavuot. Everyone permits weddings and music on Lag B'Omer itself. It is permitted to buy and wear new clothing during the entire period.

Thought for the Week: What we call "in the heat of the moment" is more often a moment of heat. (A Candle By Day)