

J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parshas Beha'aloscha
June 9, 2023 / 20 Sivan 5783
Volume 28, Issue 33
Candlelighting: 8:41 pm

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

Friday, June 9

7:10pm Mincha / Maariv [early]
8:41pm Candlelighting
8:45pm Mincha / Maariv

Shabbos, June 10

8:45am Shacharis
Kiddush is available for sponsorship
7:35pm Pirke Avos
8:35pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos / Maariv

Sunday, June 11

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

Monday, June 12

8:00pm "What a Jew Believes" –
Reward & Punishment

Tuesday, June 13

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

Wednesday, June 14

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

Thursday, June 15

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

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: Beha'aloscha

Ahron felt remiss that he did not take part in the dedication ceremony of the Tabernacle. G-d reassured him that he would be given the mitzvah of kindling the menorah in the Tabernacle instead. This was considered to be a greater merit, since it was not merely a one-time mitzvah, but rather a mitzvah that was fulfilled each day.

Ramban adds, that Ahron's merit was passed on to his descendants too. Many years later, when the Greeks desecrated the Second Temple, it was the descendants of Ahron, the Maccabees, who fought the war victoriously. There, too, they were rewarded with the merit of re-kindling the menorah. Commemorative of Ahron's desire, we continue to kindle the menorah each year during Chanukah.

Another incident is recorded about people who felt remiss about missing a mitzvah.

There were some individuals who were unable to bring the Passover offering the year after the Exodus because they had come in contact with a human corpse. Some opinions say they were the ones who had carried Joseph's bones, and others say they were the ones who had buried Ahron's sons. They came to Moshe and Ahron and complained that they too wanted to have a part in the Passover offering. Although they knew that being impure, they could not have brought the Passover sacrifice, they wanted another chance. Moshe brought their complaint before G-d, and G-d responded with the mitzvah of *Pesach Sheni*.

If a person could not bring the offering on the fourteenth day of Nissan, the eve of Passover, he would have a second opportunity to bring it on the fourteenth day of Iyar, the following month. This day is not considered a holiday, and the prohibition against having leavening in the house does not apply. However, the sacrifice itself was eaten together with matzo and bitter herbs, like the regular Passover offering. The other laws concerning the sacrifice, i.e. the obligation to finish it before the next morning, and the prohibition against breaking any of the animal's bones, were also applicable.

These occurrences teach us that if a person truly wants to fulfill mitzvahs, he will be granted ample opportunities.

Another incident involves Miriam, Moshe's sister. Although celibacy is not condoned by Jewish law, Moshe was instructed to separate from

Mazel Tov

*Drs. Michael & Brenda Altose upon the marriage of their daughter
Dr. Moshe & Sydney Harris upon the marriage of their son
Rabbi & Mrs. Yonasan Doria upon the birth of a son*

his wife in order to be available to communicate with G-d at every moment. Miriam misunderstood Moshe's behavior and mentioned it somewhat disparagingly to Ahron. She assumed that since she and Ahron were also prophets, yet they did not have to separate from their spouses, Moshe did not have to either. G-d reprimanded her and explained that Moshe was different than all other prophets. Miriam was punished with leprosy and had to be isolated outside of the camp for a week. Righteous as she was, and though her intentions were not to hurt Moshe, she was punished severely because of the severity of *lashon hora*, evil speech.

Insights: Beha'aloscha

The men said, "...Why should we be any less by not bringing G-d' offering...?" ... (Num 9:7)

The men who had been contaminated and could not bring the Pesach offering. They were bothered that they could not fulfill the mitzvah. Rav Chaim Kanievsky once spoke to a mohel in B'nei Brak and told him that he had calculated all the berachos that can be recited in our time. He had recited every one of them besides one, the blessing on circumcising a convert. He asked if he could assist in such a circumcision. A few years later the opportunity arose with a man who had never been circumcised was ready to convert to Judaism. The mohel invited Rav Chaim to assist him with the circumcision and Rav Chaim recited the beracha with tremendous joy that he had been able to fulfill his dream of reciting every beracha possible.

Did You Know?

When the Ark is opened it is customary to stand up. When the Torah is removed from the Ark it is obligated to stand until the Torah is put down. In some congregations it is customary to follow the Torah to the Bima (the lectern where it is read), and back again to the Ark. It is also proper to kiss the Torah when it passes, as a sign of our love. Some authorities feel it is preferable to touch the Torah and kiss one's fingers, for sanitary reasons. Others feel it more respectful to kiss the Torah directly, unless, of course, one is ill. The congregation recites the Berich Sh'may prayer when the Torah is removed from the Ark. Once the Torah is opened to begin the reading, it may no longer be recited.

Thought for the Week: Some fancy themselves to be solidifying their character when they are actually freezing it.. (A Candle By Day)