

J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parshas Korach
June 30, 2023 / 11 Tammuz 5783
Volume 28, Issue 36
Candlelighting: 8:46 pm

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

Friday, June 30

7:10pm Mincha / Maariv [early]
8:46pm Candlelighting
8:50pm Mincha / Maariv

Shabbos, July 1

8:45am Shacharis
Kiddush is available for sponsorship
7:40pm Pirke Avos
8:40pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos / Maariv

Sunday, July 2

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

Monday, July 3

8:00pm "The Wisdom of Koheles"

Tuesday, July 4

8:00am Shacharis &
"AI in Halacha"
8:00pm Pirkei d'Rebbi Elazar
(R. Stoll)

Wednesday, July 5

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

Thursday, July 6

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: Chukas-Balak

The *Parah Adumah*, or Red Heifer, was used in the purification process of the person who had come in contact with a human corpse. When a person would become spiritually defiled in this way, he was not allowed to partake of any sacrifice or even enter the Temple area, until he was purified.

The Red Heifer had very specific requirements. It had to be totally red haired. Even two black hairs would disqualify it from being used. It could not have any blemishes on it, nor could it ever have carried anything on its back.

The cow was slaughtered and its flesh burnt. The ashes were then mixed with cedar wood, a grass, crimson thread, and spring water. This mixture was sprinkled on the impure person on the third and seventh day of the purification. He would then immerse in the mikveh and be purified.

There was something quite unique about the Red Heifer. Although it was used to purify those who were impure, the *kohanim*, or priests, who were involved in its preparation, themselves became defiled. The Torah refers to *Parah Adumah* as the classic example of a *chok*, a law that seems to make no sense. It seems illogical for something to purify one person yet contaminate another. Yet, the Jew must be willing to accept all G-d's

commandments, whether he understands their rationale or not.

In the fortieth year of the Jews' trek through the desert, Miriam and Ahron died. The Jews had drunk from a miraculous well in the desert throughout the forty years. This well had come in the merit of Miriam, and when she died the well dried up. Only after the people complained and Moshe hit the rock did the water return. Likewise, the Cloud of Glory that protected the Jews throughout the forty years came in the merit of Ahron. After he passed away, this too disappeared, and the nation was attacked by other nations.

People often do not appreciate the value of the righteous. They may be accused of being preoccupied with their own deeds, and not contributing much to society.

This is a big mistake, and it is sometimes only realized after the righteous have passed on and their loss is truly felt in many ways.

In a similar vein, we may not always appreciate the danger of the wicked. Balaam, a wicked prophet, tried to do what he could to curse the Jewish people and thus destroy them. It was only the intervention of G-d that protected the Jews from his curse. We must be aware of the hidden dangers that surround us and strengthen our faith in G-d's protection.

Mazel Tov to
Rabbi and Mrs. Moshe Stoll upon
the birth of a grandson

Win \$36,000!
Buy your tickets for the annual
JLC Raffle today!

July 4th Program
8am Shacharis
followed by breakfast and a class
"AI in Halacha"
Breakfast sponsored by
The Corbett Family

Insights: Chukas-Balak

...Take Ahron and Elazar his son... (Num 20:25)

Rashi says that Moshe comforted Ahron by informing him that although he would pass away, his son would succeed him as the High Priest. An elderly man came crying to Rav Meir Premishlaner. The man had worked hard, running a store for many years. Now, as he approached retirement, his store had burnt down. He felt his life was no longer worth living. Rav Meir consoled the man. "It seems that you valued your business more than your own life, hoping that the business would outlive you. G-d felt otherwise. He values you more and would rather you outlive the business than the opposite." The man was comforted with this new perspective.

Did You Know?

The ritual impurity of a corpse permeates the entire building where it is lying. The kohain may not allow himself to become ritually impure, thus he may not enter a funeral home or a museum where mummies or other human remains are present. It is also questionable whether a kohain may visit someone in a hospital, since the morgue is often under the same roof. (The authorities do permit a kohain to be admitted to a hospital, even for a non-life threatening condition). Whether a kohain may travel in an airplane carrying a corpse depends on the type of box carrying the corpse. Intentionally flying over a cemetery also poses a problem, as the impurity rises to the sky.

Thought for the Week: Along with learning to appreciate value, we must learn to value appreciation. (A Candle By Day)