

J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parsha Devarim
August 9, 2024 / 5 Av 5784
Volume 29, Issue 43
Candlelighting: 8:15 pm

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

Friday, August 9

6:50pm Early Mincha / Maariv
8:15pm Candlelighting
8:15pm Mincha / Maariv

Shabbos, August 10

8:45am Shacharis
*Kiddush is sponsored by
the Post Family in honor
of Eli's Bar Mitzvah*

7:05pm Pirke Avos
8:05pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos
9:22pm Maariv

Sunday, August 11

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

Monday, August 12

7:00pm Mincha
8:29pm Fast Begins
8:50pm Maariv

Tuesday, August 13 Tisha B'Av

8:00am Shacharis
9:00am Kinnos (until 1pm)
1:31pm Chatzos
7:55pm Mincha
8:55pm Maariv
9:18pm Fast Ends (50 min)

Wednesday, August 14

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

Thursday, August 15

10:15pm Parsha Class
(R. Nisenbaum)

Torah Podcast

Listen to Rabbi Nisenbaum's
"Torah Podcast" at Spotify.

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: Devarim

The Book of Devarim is known as *Mishneh Torah*, the Repetition of the Torah. It contains Moshe's ethical will to the Jewish nation as well as a discussion of the mitzvahs not mentioned in the first four books of the Torah. Ramban sees the Book of Devarim as the book intended for the nation entering the Promised Land. Moshe thus reiterated the severity of serving idolatry, for example, many times, because he foresaw that this would be a challenge for the people in the land.

Moshe learned from Jacob to postpone his major admonition of the people until shortly before his death. He felt that his words would then be taken more seriously. Moshe began his words by gathering the entire nation together. He wanted to ensure that no person be able to claim that he would have challenged Moshe's words of rebuke had he been there. Moshe thus spoke to everyone, allowing them to respond to his chastisements-- yet not one person did so.

He was also careful to be considerate even while rebuking the nation. When he reminded them of the history of the past forty years, he only made veiled references to their sins. One must be careful not to embarrass any individual when rebuking him.

Moshe reviewed the nation's past sins in order that the people understand what it was that caused them. This is the only way they would be equipped to rectify their misdeeds. As an example, Moshe mentioned that part of the sin of the spies was the way the people had approached him. They clamored around him, rudely demanding that he send spies. This lack of orderliness in itself was improper, even if the request had been appropriate. This, then, was the root cause of the sin, and had to be

recognized before they could repent for the actual sin of sending the spies and the resulting complaints how they didn't want to enter the land.

In a similar vein, the Shabbos before Tisha B'Av is called Shabbos Chazon because the Haftara from Isaiah begins with the words "Chazon Yeshaya," the vision of Isaiah. It discusses Isaiah's prophecy about the upcoming destruction of the Temple. Isaiah already envisioned a destroyed Jerusalem over a hundred years before the destruction. Although the destruction may have occurred at a later date, the eyes of the prophet already discerned the roots and seeds of the destruction much earlier.

Mazel Tov

Michael and Tammy Post upon
the Bar Mitzvah of their son

Insights: Tisha B'Av

Alas! The City sits alone, the great city is like a widow... (Eichah 1:1) Rav Yosef Shalom Elyashiv was in total control of his emotions. His son Rav Moshe said that he never saw his father cry, even when close family members passed away. Only once did he ever see his father become emotional--in 1967 when he visited the Kosel after nineteen years of being under Jordanian rule. Rav Elyashiv would express amazement at citizens of Jerusalem who did not visit the Kosel more than once in thirty days. "I don't understand it," he said, "If they had an elderly widowed mother, wouldn't they visit her more frequently than that?"

Did You Know?

The last meal before Tisha B'Av, the *Seudah Hamafsekas*, is eaten shortly before sunset, after the Mincha prayers. It should consist of bread, boiled eggs, and water. Some dip the egg into ash. The meal should be eaten in a somber mood, while sitting on low stools or on the floor, as a symbol of our mourning. Although, generally, when there are three adult males eating a meal together, the zimun prayer is recited before Birchas Hamazon, it is not recited at the *Seudah Hamafsekas*. After the meal one may still sit on a regular chair until sunset. Leather shoes may also be worn until sunset.

Thought for the Week: Psychoanalysis has led people to confuse "causes of" with "reasons for."
(A Candle By Day)