

J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parshas Ki Savo
August 27, 2021 / 19 Elul 5781
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Candlelighting: 7:49 pm

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

Friday, August 27

7:00am Shacharis
7:49pm Candlelighting
7:50pm Mincha / Maariv

Shabbos, August 28

8:45am Shacharis
6:45pm Pirke Avos
7:40pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos /
Maariv

Sunday, August 29

6:30am Selichos & Shacharis
9:15am **Parsha Class**
(R. Nisenbaum)
10:00am "The 613 Mitzvos"
(R. Stoll)

Monday, August 30

7:00am Shacharis
8:00pm "Essence of
Repentance" – R.
Nisenbaum

Tuesday, August 31

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

Wednesday, September 1

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

Thursday, September 2

7:00am Shacharis
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: Ki Savo

The people were instructed in the mitzvah of *bikkurim*, to bring the new fruits of the season to the *kohen* in the *Beis HaMikdash*, the Temple. When the first fruits of Israel's seven species (wheat, barley, grapes, figs, dates, olives and pomegranates) began to blossom, the farmer would mark them by tying a ribbon around them. Later, when the fruits ripened, they were decorated in beautiful baskets and brought to Jerusalem amidst great fanfare and joy. The Talmud describes how the people traveled together in large groups accompanied by musicians, and how all the inhabitants of Jerusalem greeted them.

The owner gave the fruits to the *kohen* who placed them next to the altar. The person then recited a paragraph expressing appreciation to G-d for His involvement with the Jewish people from the very beginning of their nationhood. From early on, He had saved Jacob from the evil plans of Laban, had delivered the nation from the oppression of Egypt, and had brought them finally to the Land of Israel. As a token of appreciation for all of G-d's kindness, the person brings the first fruits of his labor, that which is closest to his heart, as a gift to G-d.

Insights: Ki Savo

"You shall rejoice with all the good Hashem has given you" (Deut. 26:12) Rav Yisrael Salanter had an exceptionally bright student who dazzled his friends with his brilliant Torah insights. Unfortunately, after he left the yeshiva he strayed from the Torah path. Rav Yisrael's students could not fathom how this could have happened to such a promising scholar. Rav Yisrael, however, was not very surprised. He said that he noticed that in all the student's years of study he never exuded any joy in his studies. Even when he shared his novel insights, he never seemed to show any excitement. Without joy the Torah never became a part of him, and it was not surprising that he left it behind.

Did You Know?

On the first afternoon of Rosh Hashana, after Mincha, it is customary to go to a body of water, preferably with fish, and recite the *Tashlich* prayer. *Tashlich* is a prayer evoking G-d's mercy for forgiveness and for a successful new year. Because of its serious nature, *Tashlich* should not be a time for socializing, especially with the mingling of men and women. If the first day of Rosh Hashana falls on Shabbos, *Tashlich* is postponed to the second day. *Tashlich* may be said until Hoshana Rabba, the seventh day of Succos. Contrary to popular opinion, one may not throw food to the fish in the water on Rosh Hashana, or on any Shabbos or Yom Tov.

Thought for the Week: Most people are taken for a ride only when they pay for it in advance.
(A Candle By Day)

The first fruits arouse a sense of appreciation within a person. This, in turn, allows a person to reflect upon all the good that he has received, and offer thanksgiving for that too. When a person suffers a setback, it is very difficult to even imagine the positive things in his life, because he is so consumed with his present difficulties. When one is enjoying the good things in life, though, he can begin to appreciate earlier things that, at the time, seemed to have been totally negative experiences.

Later in the portion, the opposite attitude is portrayed quite clearly. Moshe warned the people of the dire consequences they would face if they failed to follow the Torah properly. The Torah graphically describes the terrible punishments that would fall upon them. At the culmination of the curses mentioned, the Torah predicts that, "In the morning you will say 'If only it were last evening,' and in the evening you will say, 'If only it were morning again.'" If a person is not able to appreciate all of G-d's kindness, he will find himself in such difficult straits that he will only be able to look longingly at the earlier times that had gone unappreciated.

Mazel Tov

Stuart Mintz upon his
engagement

Mr. and Mrs. Shraggi
Sims upon the birth of a
son

High Holiday Seats

Please call R. Stoll to
arrange for High
Holiday seating. Space
is limited..