

# J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parshas Korach  
July 1, 2022 / 2 Tammuz 5782  
Volume 27, Issue 39  
Candlelighting: 8:46 pm

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

## Friday, July 1

7:00am Shacharis  
7:15pm Mincha / Maariv (Early)  
8:46pm Candlelighting  
8:45pm Mincha / Maariv

## Shabbos, July 2

8:45am Shacharis  
7:35pm Pirke Avos  
8:35pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos /  
Maariv

## Sunday, July 3

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

## Monday, July 4

8:00am Shacharis – followed  
by breakfast and class  
"The Supreme Court  
Decision and the  
Torah"  
8:00pm **Climbing the Rainbow:  
How to Influence the  
World** (R. Nisenbaum)

## Tuesday, July 5

7:00am Shacharis  
8:00pm **Pirkei d'Rebbi Elazar**  
(R. Stoll)

## Wednesday, July 6

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

## Thursday, July 7

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

"The Torah Podcast" weekly  
at all podcast locations

**R. Stoll:**

Zoom: 876-619-3551

Audio: 669-900-9128

## Parsha: Korach

Korach, a cousin of Moshe, gathered a group of dissenters to challenge Moshe's authority, claiming that Moshe had usurped authority on his own and not under G-d's orders. Moshe, in an uncharacteristically sharp manner, prayed that G-d prove his innocence by having Korach die an unnatural death, by being swallowed into the earth.

Korach tried to influence the nation to follow him with different arguments. He claimed that he was acting on their behalf, and that Moshe was taking unfair advantage of the people. He claimed the entire nation was holy and did not need a leader. The Rabbis explain that Korach was actually a great and wise person, yet he fooled himself into thinking that his intentions were sincere and that his arguments were logical. In reality, Korach was motivated by feelings of jealousy and arrogance. The bias created by jealousy is so powerful that it can often mislead a normally rational person into believing and doing irrational things.

Moshe suggested that Korach and his followers offer incense offerings together with Ahron, and that while G-d would accept the true offering, the impostors would die. Even then, Korach did not fear taking such a chance. He had deluded himself into believing that G-d would accept his sacrifice over Ahron's.

The reason Moshe reacted so strongly was not because he felt the affront to his own honor. He was concerned that a challenge against his own leadership was a challenge against the authority of the Torah itself. If people thought that Moshe had misrepresented G-d on one point, they might think that he misrepresented Him on other points too. He therefore prayed that Korach's challenge be stopped before it caused irreparable damage.

Even after Korach had been swallowed, there still remained doubts among the people and they complained again. It seems that Moshe's concerns had actually materialized. Another plague killed over fourteen thousand people, until Ahron offered incense, which stopped the plague. This also served to legitimize

Ahron's appointment as High Priest.

After the incident involving Korach, the Torah promises different gifts to the Kohanim as an affirmation of their position and authority. They were given tithing from grain and fruits, from the meat of each animal, and the first seasonal fruits each year. They were also promised the firstborn of the animals, and five coins for the human firstborn male. They also received a part of each sacrifice.

The story of Korach illustrates an important lesson about following Torah authority and not letting one's personal inclinations mask the truth.

JLC \$36,000 Raffle

BUY TICKETS TODAY!

July 4<sup>th</sup> Breakfast & Learn

AFTER 8AM MINYAN  
"THE SUPREME COURT  
DECISION AND TORAH"

## Insights: Korach

**And he shall not be like Korach and his followers (Numbers 17:5)** Two schools became embroiled in a dispute regarding the education of a group of students from a neighboring town. Each school felt that the children should attend their school. They brought the dispute before Rav Ahron Leib Shteinman to decide. The elderly sage looked at the two sides sadly and said, "I was always puzzled by the story of the two women and King Solomon. Each woman claimed that the surviving baby was hers and the dead baby was the other woman's child. Solomon suggested they cut the baby in half. The real mother immediately retracted and agreed to let the other woman keep the child. The lying woman, however, agreed to the king's strange ruling, saying that at least this way nobody would claim victory. I could never understand this woman's way of thinking. Even if it was the other woman's child, should the baby die just because this woman couldn't raise him?"

Rav Ahron Leib peered at the two sides. "Why should you fight? The goal is that these children be educated properly. Does it make a difference who educates the children? Must the children suffer because you don't get your way...?"

## Did You Know?

The first aliyah to the Torah is given to the kohain, even if there is a greater scholar present. Although the scholar is generally given greater respect, in order to avoid any strife, the aliyah is given to the kohain. If there is no kohain present, the first aliyah is given to the greater scholar or to a Levite. If there is no Levite present, the kohain who was called for the first aliyah is given the Levite's aliyah, too. The kohain should not step out of the synagogue in order to avoid being called to the Torah. The kohain or Levite may not be given any of the other aliyos, besides the Maftir, or the optional additional aliyah after the initial seven aliyos.

**Thought for the Week: It is the most natural thing for us to punish our children "for their own good." How often do we do the same to ourselves for our own good?** (A Candle By Day)