

J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parshas Pinchas

July 7, 2023 / 18 Tammuz 5783

Volume 28, Issue 37

Candlelighting: 8:45 pm

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

Friday, July 7

7:15pm Mincha / Maariv [early]

8:45pm Candlelighting

8:45pm Mincha / Maariv

Shabbos, July 8

8:45am Shacharis

Kiddush is available for sponsorship

7:35pm Pirke Avos

8:35pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos / Maariv

Sunday, July 9

9:15am *Parsha Class*
(R. Nisenbaum)

10:00am "The 613 Mitzvos"
(R. Stoll)

Monday, July 10

~~8:00pm Kohles~~

Will resume on July 17

Tuesday, July 11

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

Wednesday, July 12

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

Thursday, July 13

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: Pinchas

Following the advice of Bala'am, the Midianites sent their daughters to entice the Jewish men to sin. One Midianite princess named Kozbi, even seduced a prince from the tribe of Shimon, Zimri ben Salu. He defied Moshe's warnings and flagrantly sinned with her. This created a terrible desecration of G-d's name, and G-d's anger was kindled against the nation.

When Pinchas, a grandson of Aharon the High Priest, saw what had happened, he acted zealously. He recalled a law he had learned from Moshe, that in specific instances, the law might be taken into one's hands even without a trial in court. Pinchas killed both Kozbi and Zimri. This action appeased G-d's anger. G-d rewarded Pinchas with His eternal covenant of peace.

This reward may seem out of character with Pinchas' deed, but upon a closer look, this is not so. The Torah takes pains to point out the source of Pinchas' actions, that they were not merely the violent outburst of some wild fanatic. Pinchas was a descendent, in both body and spirit, of his grandfather Ahron, the great lover and pursuer of peace. He even conferred with Moshe before acting, proving that it was not a rash decision. His motivation was one based on love and concern for the Jewish people, to pacify G-d's anger.

Not everyone could have been excused for such behavior. Only someone on the caliber of Pinchas, with his sincere motivation and impeccable character, was allowed to show such zealotry for the sake of G-d's name. G-d's reward to Pinchas of the blessing of eternal peace is proof of His satisfaction with Pinchas.

There may sometimes be a necessity for a violent reaction to different situations. However, this must not be the rule. The commentaries suggest that it was for this reason that, following this incident Joshua was chosen to succeed Moshe after his death, and not Pinchas.

Moshe took another census of the people before his death. He explained how the land would be divided among the people, a portion for each son. Although the daughters' needs were taken care of before the son's

inheritance, only the sons received a portion in the Promised Land. The daughters of Zelafchad complained to Moshe that their father had not left over any sons, and they, too, wanted a portion of the land. The Talmud explains that the daughters of Zelafchad were motivated out of a love for the Promised Land, and not because they felt it was an injustice. This was also an example of zealotry for sincere purposes. G-d instructed Moshe that when a father would leave no sons, the daughters would receive his inheritance.

Mazel Tov to

R. Ephraim & Chanie Nisenbaum
upon the birth of a granddaughter

Michael & Tammy Post
Upon the engagement of their son

Win \$36,000!

Buy your tickets for the annual
JLC Raffle today!

Women's 9 Days Seminar

begins Wed July 19th at 10am

Insights: Pinchas

...Pinchas...turned back My anger from upon the children of Israel, when he zealously took up my case among the... (Num 25:11)

Before the Chazon Ish took up any zealous cause, he would examine the matter very carefully from all angles to make sure that the situation called for such a strong response. One time a group of activists asked him to protest something they perceived as a serious travesty. The Chazon Ish disagreed with them, but they continued to pressure him. The sage asked the men, "If you feel so strongly about it, why don't you register a protest yourselves?" "That would not help, as nobody will listen to us," the group admitted. "Well, if nobody else will listen to you," the Chazon Ish replied with a smile, "Why do you think I should listen to you?"

Did You Know?

During the three-week period between the Seventeenth of Tammuz and Tisha B'Av it is prohibited to take haircuts, shave (unless necessary for one's employment), conduct weddings, listen to music, or buy any new item that requires the blessing of Shehechyanu, such as an expensive suit, coat, or dress. During the last Nine Days one should not buy any type of object that brings joy, such as a car or large appliance. A woman may tweeze her eyebrows or shave body hair if necessary. A father may take a haircut and shave in honor of his son's Bris, and so can the mohel (the circumciser) and sandek (the one who holds the baby during the Bris).

Thought for the Week: The fanciest wardrobes belong to dummies (A Candle By Day)