

J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parshas Sh'lach
June 16, 2023 / 27 Sivan 5783
Volume 28, Issue 34
Candlelighting: 8:46 pm

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

Friday, June 16

7:10pm Mincha / Maariv [early]
8:46pm Candlelighting
8:45pm Mincha / Maariv

Shabbos, June 17

8:45am Shacharis
*Kiddush is sponsored by
Laibel Preyger*

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

Sunday, June 18

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

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

Monday, June 19

8:00pm "What a Jew Believes" –
Moshiach

Tuesday, June 20

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

Wednesday, June 21

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

Thursday, June 22

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: Sh'lach

As the nation prepared to leave the desert and enter into the land, they began to lose heart. They demanded that Moshe send spies to scout the land before they would conquer it. This portrayed a serious flaw in their faith in G-d, Who had promised that He would assist them in conquering the land. After witnessing all the miracles G-d had performed for the nation when they left Egypt there should have been no room for any lingering doubts. Although G-d reluctantly agreed to their request to send spies, it was without His blessings, and would therefore come at a heavy price.

Moshe tried to minimize the potential damage by appointing men of stature to serve as scouts. Unfortunately, it did not help. The person who puts his trust in natural means will become much more disillusioned than the one who puts his trust in G-d. The spies saw a land, that although beautiful, seemed insurmountable. They found huge people and fortified cities. Ten of the twelve spies began to feel insecure and insignificant in front of the inhabitants of the land. They saw no natural way that they could conquer it and they came back with a very demoralizing report.

The people listened to their report, despite the protests of Joshua and Caleb, and were so frightened that they cried to Moshe that they did not want to enter the Promised Land. They rebuffed the wonderful gift that G-d had planned as their ultimate destination. Although Moshe prayed on

behalf of the nation, the punishment for this sin would be even more severe than the punishment for the sin of the Golden Calf. The nation would have to wander through the desert for forty years, and all men who were twenty years and older would die before the nation could enter the land.

Although the generation was told they could not enter the Promised Land, G-d wanted to reassure them that their children would indeed enter the land. For this reason, immediately after the sin of the spies the people were instructed in the mitzvos of tithing the dough and the wine libations that were offered with the sacrifices. Although these mitzvos would not apply until they entered the land, they served as a guarantee that the next generation would indeed enter it.

A man was found desecrating the Shabbos. He was warned yet he continued his actions. He was brought to Moshe and upon the instruction of G-d he was stoned to death.

As a result of this sin, G-d gave the nation the mitzvah of tzitzis. Fringes are placed on the four corners of a garment to serve as a visual reminder of G-d and our obligation to fulfill His mitzvos. Blue woolen fringes of *techeiles*, a dye extracted from a marine animal, is also tied, to serve as a reminder of the heavens and G-d's commandments. The tzitzis are meant to keep a person focused and to prevent him from straying after the desires of his eyes and heart.

Sponsorship Opportunities
*Kiddush, Shalosh Seudos, this
newsletter, and more are available
for sponsorship. Contact the JLC
for more information.*

Insights: Sh'lach

Do not stray after your hearts and after your eyes" ... (Num 15:39)

Rav Shlomo Wolbe says that guarding one's eyes has more to do with one's mind than it does with one's eyes. If a person's mind is occupied with constructive thoughts he will not be distracted by other sights, The Rabbis say that only an empty mind harbors inappropriate thought. He lamented to his students that he always imagines the sides of Rechov Yaffa (a busy secular area in Jerusalem) filled with piles of unwritten Torah insights, insights lost to people distracted by the sights of the street. Rav Wolbe recommended that his students prepare a few topics to think about when travelling in order that they keep their minds busy with thoughts of Torah.

Did You Know?

The custom among Ashkenazic Jewry is to begin wearing the Tallis after marriage. The custom among Sephardic and German Jews is to begin donning the Tallis after Bar Mitzvah, and sometimes even earlier. Everyone agrees, however, that upon receiving an aliyah to the Torah, leading the congregation in prayers, or offering the Bircas Kohanim (Priestly blessing), one should don a Tallis, even if he is not married. Even those who do wear a Tallis before marriage, do not cover their heads with the Tallis until after marriage. (It is customary to cover one's head with the Tallis during different parts of the prayers to minimize any distractions.

Thought for the Week: A crisis is G-d's way of magnifying for us what we cannot see with the naked eye. (A Candle By Day)