

# J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parsha Tetzaveh

February 23, 2024 / 14 Adar I 5784

Volume 29, Issue 20

Candlelighting: 5:52 pm

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

## Friday, February 23

5:52pm Candlelighting  
5:55pm Mincha / Maariv  
8:45pm Parsha Shiur  
@ R. Nisenbaum

## Shabbos, February 24

8:45am Shacharis  
*Deluxe Siyyum Kiddush is sponsored by Mordechai Loveman*  
5:15pm Laws of Shabbos  
5:45pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos  
7:00pm Maariv

## Sunday, February 25

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

## Monday, February 26

8:00pm Developing a Jewish Personality - Patience

## Tuesday, February 27

8:00pm Tanna d'vei Eliyahu  
(R. Stoll)

## Wednesday, February 28

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

## Thursday, February 29

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](http://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

## Parsha: Tetzaveh

The *kohanim*, or priests, were instructed to wear special garments during their service in the Tabernacle. If these garments were not worn, the *kohain* was disqualified from doing the service, and was liable for Divine punishment.

The Torah explains that the purpose of these garments was to add a dimension of glory and beauty to the Divine service. People are naturally impressed by beauty and a regal appearance.

The *Kohain Gadol*, or High Priest, had eight vestments made especially for him. These included a pair of linen pants, a linen checkered tunic, a linen turban, and an embroidered sash. Over the tunic, he wore a blue, woolen, sleeveless robe called the *me'il*. From the bottom of the *me'il* there dangled little blue woolen pomegranates and golden bells that tinkled as he entered the Tabernacle.

Over the *me'il* he wore the *ephod*, an apron-type of garment with shoulder straps. It was woven from five different types of threads. A golden breastplate called the *choshen mishpat*, was connected to the *ephod*. Twelve different jewels corresponding to the twelve tribes, were embedded in the *choshen*. Each of the stones had a different tribe's name engraved on it. The eighth vestment was a golden headplate

called a *tzitz*. It was worn across the High Priest's forehead.

The regular *kohain* only wore the first four vestments when he did the service in the *Mishkan*; the shirt, pants, sash and a hat.

Because the *kohanim* could not even wear shoes, there was a special chamber called the Bais Hamokad, where a fire burned on the stone floor. The *kohain* would warm his feet there before doing the service on the cold floor of the Tabernacle.

One of the reasons for the great amount of attention and detail paid to the clothing was to show the importance of both the position and the

service. The unique uniform that had to be worn would impress upon the *kohain* the uniqueness of his mission as representative of the nation.

The Talmud explains that the garments also served as atonement for specific sins that the nation had transgressed collectively as a group. Although each individual had to do his own repentance, the garments would atone for the nation as a whole. For example, the *me'il* atoned for the *Lashon Hora*, evil slander. The *choshen* atoned for improper judgment, the pants for immorality, the turban for pride, the sash for jealousy, the *ephod* for idolatry, and the *tzitz* for chutzpah.

**Issue Sponsored**  
in memory of Charlotte Diamond  
on the occasion of her *yahrzeit*

### Developing a Torah Personality

New series by R. Nisenbaum  
begins Monday, Feb 26<sup>th</sup> at 8pm

## Insights: Tetzaveh

**... you shall make holy garments for Aharon your brother for honor and for glory (Ex 28:2)** During the influx of Jews from the Former Soviet Union, many questions arose regarding the Jewish status of the immigrants. The Bais Din would often question the people regarding customs they had seen growing up fifty years earlier, before the Soviet Revolution. One elderly woman had no recollection of anything Jewish in her parents' home, besides remembering how her mother would mend her father's socks at specific times during the year. The Beis Din figured out that the father was a *kohein*, and on Yom Tov he would say the priestly blessing in the shul, unbeknownst to the children. Because he had to remove his shoes, he had his wife make sure his socks were presentable. The Beis Din decided that this was sufficient to prove her Jewish identity

## Did You Know?

On the anniversary of one's parent's death, the *yahrzeit*, it is proper to lead the services. This even takes precedence over the mourner for one's parents who leads the prayers for eleven months. At the very least, *kaddish* should be recited. It is also customary for the person to be called to the Torah on the Shabbos preceding the *yahrzeit*, preferably for Maftir. If the parent passed away during Adar in a leap year when there are two Adar's, the *yahrzeit* is observed in Adar during a regular year, and in the respective Adar in a leap year. If the parent passed away in a regular Adar, in a leap year the *yahrzeit* should be observed in Adar I, although some observe it in both Adar's.

**Thought for the Week: G-d causes things to coincide and we call it coincidence.** (A Candle By Day)