

J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parshas Va'eschanan
August 12, 2022 / 15 Av 5782
Volume 27, Issue 45
Candlelighting: 8:12 pm

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

Friday, August 12

7:00am Shacharis
6:50pm Mincha / Maariv (Early)
8:12pm Candlelighting

Shabbos, August 13

8:45am Shacharis
Kiddush sponsored by
Sharon Rosner
*Tzeischem L'Shalom and
Hatzlacha in Cincinnati!!*
7:05pm Pirke Avos
8:05pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos /
Maariv

Sunday, August 14

8:00am Shacharis
10:00pm Maariv

Monday, August 15

7:00am Shacharis
10:00pm Maariv

Tuesday, August 16

7:00am Shacharis
10:00pm Maariv

Wednesday, August 17

7:00am Shacharis
10:00pm Maariv

Thursday, August 18

7:00am Shacharis
10:00pm Maariv
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: Va'eschanan

After his opening remarks, Moshe continued his monologue to the Jewish people. He related how he had hoped after conquering the lands of Sichon and Og that G-d would relent from His decree and allow him to enter the Promised Land. The Midrash mentions that Moshe prayed 515 prayers to be allowed to enter the land, but G-d would not relent. G-d allowed Moshe to climb a mountain to view the land from a distance.

This may have been Moshe's way of warning the people of the importance of keeping the mitzvot properly. Moshe, great as he was, could not realize his lifelong dream of entering the land because of a small deviation from fulfilling G-d's exact words. Moshe also instructed the people not to add to or detract from the mitzvahs of G-d. The mitzvahs can only exert their Divine influence upon a person when they are observed as the will of G-d. When a person detracts from or adds to a mitzvah, i.e. introduces five or three sections in the tefillin instead of four, they become the product of his own intellect rather than that of the A-lmighty's, and they no longer have the same meaning or carry the same value.

Moshe also reminded them that only by keeping the mitzvahs properly would the Jewish people earn the respect of their non-Jewish neighbors. Even others recognize the Torah and mitzvahs as the source of the Jews' wisdom.

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MURIEL WEBER ON THE
OCCASION OF THE
YAHREITZ OF HER
MOTHER MIRIAM BAS
AVRAHAM 18 AV

RICHARD AND GILDA
KATZ ON THE OCCASION
OF THE YAHREITZ OF
HER MOTHER PERL BAS
BETZALEL 12 AV

The people were told that when they enter the Promised Land they would find great abundance. However, they must not succumb to the great dangers presented by prosperity. It is important to remember that all prosperity is a gift from G-d, and that it should not lead them astray.

Moshe also prophesied that the nation would not always follow the Torah properly and would turn to idolatry. They would then be led into exile among the other nations. In exile the people would see for themselves that no other nation has ever laid claim to the assertions of the Jewish people. No other nation has ever been freed from a country like Egypt amidst all the wonders and miracles like the Jewish people.

The purpose of all these wonders, and of the scattering in exile, is to impress upon the Jewish nation the omniscience of G-d and their responsibility to follow His commandments properly. This message is emphasized by the requirement to repeat the Shema, the Jew's pledge of allegiance to G-d, twice each day. Only when this message is absorbed will the nation enjoy longevity and prosperity in their land.

Insights: Va'eschanan

You should be very careful to protect your lives... (Deut. 4:15) In the Chafetz Chaim's yeshiva in Radin he would encourage his students not to stay up studying too late because he felt it would affect their health. When the elderly sage saw that the students were not heeding his words, he would personally enter the Beis Midrash at midnight and climb on the benches in order to turn out the lamps. He would say, "My dear students! There is a time for everything. There is a time for studying, but now it is time to get some sleep." Along the same lines, Rav Zundel Kroizer was careful to daven at sunrise every morning. One time, while in his eighties, Rav Zundel fell on the way to davening. He slowly picked himself up and limped to shul. His grandson who was present was sure Rav Zundel would quickly catch up so he could begin the Amidah at sunrise with the congregation. Surprisingly, he told his grandson that he would wait until the next minyan. He explained, "A Jew must be subservient to Hashem. Whatever Hashem wants from him at the present time he must do, even if it flies in the face of another mitzvah. I am not bound to sunrise. If I am properly prepared to daven at sunrise, then that is what I will do. If today I am not yet prepared to daven, then Hashem must not want me to daven at sunrise today, so I will daven later."

Did You Know?

The Torah obligates us to take good care of our health. Many Halachic authorities thus prohibit cigarette smoking and unhealthy eating habits, such as high cholesterol foods. However, other authorities draw a distinction between an activity which is generally accepted in society and the danger is not very common and activities which are directly related to danger. The Talmud also includes other types of activities in the prohibition, though there may be no medical knowledge as to their danger. This includes keeping food under one's bed or keeping a completely peeled egg or onion overnight. (If a piece of the peel or shell remains, or if they were mixed with other foods, such as oil, they pose no danger.)

Thought for the Week: Good workmen like to regard themselves as artists, and artists as good workmen. (A Candle By Day)