

J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parshas Vayigash
December 10, 2021 / 6 Teves 5782
Volume 27, Issue 11
Candlelighting: 4:38 pm

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

Friday, December 10

7:00am Shacharis
4:38pm Candlelighting
4:40pm Mincha / Maariv
8:00pm Parsha Class
2362 Milton

Shabbos, December 11

8:45am Shacharis
Kiddush sponsored by
Shmully Halpern on the
occasion of his father's
yahrzeit 13 Teves
4:00pm Laws of Shabbos
4:30pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos /
Maariv

Sunday, December 12

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

Monday, December 13

7:00am Shacharis
8:00pm **Questions & Answers**
(R. Nisenbaum)

Tuesday, December 14 Asara B'Teves

7:00am Shacharis
4:10pm Mincha / Maariv
8:00pm **Avos D'Rav Nosson**
(R. Stoll)

Wednesday, December 15

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

Thursday, December 16

8:00am Shacharis
8:00pm **The 12 Jewish Months**
(R. Stoll)
in person, Zoom & audio
10:15pm **Parsha Class**
(R. Nisenbaum)

Parsha: Vayigash

Joseph, as the viceroy of Egypt, had set his brothers up in a situation where their youngest brother Benjamin would have to remain in Egypt, as a slave to Pharaoh. Yehuda stood before Joseph and begged him to have mercy on their elderly father who could not bear the loss of another son. He spoke to him respectfully yet firmly, offering to serve the viceroy in Benjamin's place.

When Joseph saw his brothers' concern for Benjamin and Jacob he realized they had repented since the days when they had tormented him without regard for their father's feelings. He no longer had any reason to hide his identity from his brothers. He ordered all the Egyptians out of the room, to spare his brothers the shame, and then revealed his identity to them.

The brothers were so dumbfounded they could not say a word. All the pieces of the mystery of their Egyptian experience now came together. They were ashamed of their earlier treatment of Joseph. Joseph, however, consoled them, telling them that although their intentions had not been proper, G-d had used the incident as a means of putting Joseph into the position of being a benefactor to his family. Joseph sent his

brothers back to Canaan with wagons to bring their father and families down to Egypt, where they would be protected from the famine. Thus would begin the exile foretold earlier to Abraham.

When Jacob heard that not only was Joseph still alive, but that he had also been able to maintain his level of righteousness in the palace of Pharaoh, his spirits were revived. He immediately made plans to travel to Egypt to see Joseph before he would die.

Jacob and his family came to Egypt, where Pharaoh cordially greeted them. They settled in Goshen, a suburb of Egypt, where they would be able to live apart from the surrounding Egyptian culture.

The Torah relates that as the famine became worse and the Egyptian resources were depleted, Joseph took all the

Egyptians' land for Pharaoh, in exchange for food. He resettled the whole nation in different areas. This was done in order to make his brothers feel more comfortable. They would not feel like strangers if everyone else had also been relocated. He also extended an exemption to the priests. This would serve as a precedent for the exemption of the Levites once the Jewish slavery in exile began.

SAVE THE DATE!

JLC's 33rd anniversary community
Shabbos with scholar-in-residence
Rabbi Daniel Glatstein
will be December 17-18.
Honorees will be Dr. & Mrs.
Michael Harris. Details to follow.

Insights: Vayigash

...don't be sad...G-d sent me [here] to be able to sustain you (Bamidbar 45:4-5) Yosef understood that everything that happens to a person, no matter how painful it might seem, is ultimately for his own benefit. A wealthy non-Jew once entered a fancy restaurant where he met several gentiles sitting next to a Jew. The man wanted to show his animosity towards Jews, so he ordered drinks for all the non-Jews, ignoring the Jew. The people all thanked the generous man. To his surprise the Jew also expressed his thanks. Seeing the Jew's reaction, the benefactor ordered expensive foods from the menu for all the gentiles. Again, everyone thanked him including the Jew. Unable to control himself he turned to the Jew and asked him, "Why are you thanking me, I didn't buy you anything?" "Because it's my restaurant!" said the Jew with a smile. Regardless of our tormenters' evil intentions, we ultimately gain from the torment

Did You Know?

The tenth of Teves is a fast day, commemorating a few events: 1. the siege on Jerusalem during the first Temple, 2. the passing of Ezra and Nechemia, the leaders who built the second Temple, and 3. the Egyptian King Ptolemy forced the rabbis to translate the Torah into Greek (Septuagint), during the second Temple period. This was tragic since the other nations would now misinterpret the Torah, as they did not have the Oral tradition. Eating and drinking are prohibited from morning to night. One may eat before dawn (72 minutes before sunrise), however a stipulation for such should be made the previous night before retiring. Drinking before dawn is permitted without any stipulation.

Thought for the Week: Many talents go unrealized for lack of realization that they are talents. (A Candle By Day)

New Book

R. Nisenbaum's new book of essays and anecdotes will soon be published. If anyone is interested in sponsorship, please contact him.

Class Connection

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R. Stoll:
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