

J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Parshas Vayikra
March 24, 2023 / 2 Nissan 5783
Volume 28, Issue 23
Candlelighting: 7:25 pm

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

Friday, March 24

7:25pm Candlelighting
7:30pm Mincha / Maariv

Shabbos, March 25

8:45am Shacharis
Kiddush is available for sponsorship
7:20pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos / Maariv

Sunday, March 26

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

Monday, March 27

8:00pm Monday class will resume
April 17th

Tuesday, March 28

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

Wednesday, March 29

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

Thursday, March 30

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

Parsha: Vayikra

Sacrifice played an important role in the times of the Temple. Offering an animal to G-d—whether it is completely burnt, or only partially burnt and partially eaten — had a powerful impact on an individual, and it assisted in his developing a personal relationship with G-d. Some of the commentaries explain that when a person

sacrifices an animal as atonement for a sin, he imagines that the animal is being put to death in his stead. This leads to remorse, which brings atonement. Not all sacrifices offered involved animals. Bird offerings were also brought, as well as meal offerings too.

Some of the animal sacrifices were brought to atone for different sins; i.e. the *asham*, or guilt offering, for certain sins such as stealing and then swearing falsely; the *olah*, which was totally burnt on the altar, atoned for the transgression of positive commandments; and the *chattas*, the sin offering, for accidentally transgressing sins which carried the penalty of *kares*, or spiritual death. The peace offering, the *shelamim*, an optional offering, brought out of a sense of good will towards G-d. The *tamid*, a communal sacrifice, was brought

twice each day, once in the morning and once in the evening. Other sacrifices such as the holiday sacrifices were brought on specific occasions.

Although the sacrifices were necessary for the atonement of sin, they were by no means central to atonement. We therefore find that even after the Temple was destroyed and sacrifices were no longer brought, atonement could still be achieved through *Teshuva*, or repentance, and prayer, since these also humble a person before G-d. The Talmud also says that one's dining room table also constitutes an altar. Hosting poor guests at one's meals, as well as behaving in a proper manner, can serve as atonement for one's sins.

However, after all the interpretations of sacrifice, Maimonides concludes that the real meaning behind sacrifice remains a *chok*, a statute beyond human comprehension. Whether the modern mind can appreciate it or not, the sacrificial order is the will of the Creator. For this reason, we pray daily for the Messianic Age when the sacrificial order will again be restored as a part of the Temple service.

Sell! Sell!

Chametz may be sold through
R. Nisenbaum. Call 216-659-1118

Insights: Vayikra

it should be a sweet-smelling offering before G-d (Lev 1:9)

The Midrash comments that the same term is used by the bird offering as is used by the bull, because regardless of whether one gives a lot or a little, the intention is most important. A Kollel student's wife was ill and the husband had to spend several hours each day assisting his wife. He complained to Rav Chatzkel Levenstein why Hashem was testing him so much since he could have used that time for Torah study. Rav Chatzkel answered, "Who told you that Hashem wants your Torah study now? It would seem that your service of G-d now is to help your wife. Your assistance to your wife now is more precious than your Torah study!"

Did You Know?

Any vessel that has been used with chametz must be koshered before using it on Pesach. Materials made of metal or stone may be koshered. China, porcelain, and other earthenware may not be koshered. Although the custom is to kosher glassware the rest of the year, most authorities are more stringent for Pesach. The custom is also not to kosher plastic materials, including Teflon. Formica surfaces such as counter tops should be washed and covered before using them for Pesach. Enamel sinks must also be covered, but the custom is to also kasher them by pouring boiling water over the sink, in case part of the covering comes off.

Thought for the Week: All good things come in time—but necessarily on time.
(A Candle By Day)