

J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Rosh Hashana

September 15, 2023 / 29 Elul 5783

Volume 28, Issue 47

Candlelighting: 7:19 pm

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

Friday, September 15

6:15am Selichos / Shacharis
7:19pm Candlelighting
7:20pm Mincha
8:18pm Maariv

Shabbos, September 16 Rosh Hashana Day 1

7:45am Shacharis
7:05pm Mincha
8:16pm Maariv
>8:35pm Candlelighting (60)

Sunday, September 17 Rosh Hashana Day 2

7:45am Shacharis
>10:45am Shofar Service
7:05pm Mincha
8:23pm Maariv

Monday, September 18 Tzom Gedalia

5:57am Fast Begins
6:15am Selichos / Shacharis
6:55pm Mincha
8:00pm Maariv
8:21pm Fast Ends (50)

Tuesday, September 19 – Thursday, September 21

6:30am Selichos / Shacharis

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

Rosh Hashana

Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year, marks the anniversary of the creation of the world. Although the Torah refers to Rosh Hashana as the first day of the seventh month, the Talmud has a tradition that the world was created in the month of Tishrei.

(Actually, Adam and Eve were created the first day of Tishrei; the world was created the last five days of Elul. Rosh Hashana is called the birthday of the world because the human being was the crown jewel, the ultimate purpose, of creation.) The Torah's reference to the seventh month refers to the Jewish calendar, beginning with the birth of the Jewish nation after the Exodus from Egypt.

Rosh Hashana is celebrated very differently than the secular New Year. Rather than a day of frivolity, Rosh Hashana is a day of introspection. On Rosh Hashana all mankind is judged on their actions of the previous year. In the same manner that a business owner will take inventory each year, to make sure the business is running profitably and smoothly, G-d, too, takes inventory each year, examining the deeds of each person to see if he or she is accomplishing what they should in the overall

scheme of creation. If the person is found to have been productive by fulfilling his mission, he is judged favorably. If, however, the person's actions have been remiss, he will be judged harshly.

Yet, despite the serious nature of the judgment, the spirit on Rosh Hashana is one of optimism. People greet each other with warm wishes that they be inscribed for a sweet New Year. Sweet foods and drinks are served, and no mention throughout the services is made of sin. The reason for this is because G-d grants the human being the opportunity to do teshuva, repentance. Even if a person may have been remiss so far, if he or she commits to improving his or her behavior, G-d is forgiving, and is willing to give another

chance. Rosh Hashana is the day that we put our focus on how we plan to improve to fulfill our mission.

This is also the theme of the prayers on Rosh Hashana. We re-accept G-d's Kingship over the world, committing ourselves to fulfill His wishes. This is also the message of the sounding of the shofar, the ram's horn. It is a wake-up call for us to improve our behavior, thus incurring G-d's favor.

Additional Shofar Blowing

Sunday at 2:00pm
at the Nisenbaum home

High Holiday Schedule

The full schedule from now
through Yom Kippur is available
at the JLC

Condolences

to Jason and Shimona Stein
upon the loss of their son

Insights: Rosh Hashana

On Rosh Hashana all mankind passes before Him (in judgement)... (Talmud Rosh Hashana) The Sar Sholom of Belz once noticed two Jews talking to each other on Rosh Hashana. He asked his son to find out what the two were saying. The son returned to his father and reported that he had heard one of the men telling the other, "Oy! Today is Rosh Hashana! What will we bring with us when we face the Al-mighty in judgment?" "Ah!" exclaimed the Belzer Rebbe, "That little statement will override the Satan's accusations against the Jewish people. The Satan is not impressed by all the defenses of the Jewish nation. When he is shown the tzedakah the Jewish people give he argues that others also give charity. Other nations also practice kindness and conduct their dealings with honesty. But when he sees a Jew's broken heart when he feels that he has not sufficiently served his Creator—that is something unique to the Jewish people. It is that broken heart that will bring the Jewish people a good judgment in Heaven."

Did You Know?

On Succos, a man is obligated to eat all his meals in the succah. Women are exempt from eating in the succah, although they are rewarded for it if they do so. One may eat cake or cookies less than the size of an egg outside the succah. More than that, however, must be eaten in the succah. A snack of fruit, fish, or any drink need not be eaten or drunk in the succah, although it is commendable not to eat anything outside the succah. If one is eating a meal, even the fruit, meat, and other foods must also be eaten in the succah. Although it is required for a man to also sleep in the succah, many authorities are lenient in that regard for a variety of reasons. Nonetheless, it is commendable for one to sleep in the succah, weather permitting.

Thought for the Week: How many appreciate the gardener when they gaze upon the garden?
(A Candle By Day)