



The Greater Washington Community Kollel

SHABBOS DELIGHTS

TORAH MINUTE

IN MEMORY OF RABBI KALMAN WINTER ZT"L

It is an honor to present this week's Torah Minute from our archives. The following was penned by our founder, Rabbi Kalman Winter ZT"L, in 2011.

As we conclude the Ten Days of Repentance and draw our attention to that holiest of days, Yom Kippur, our thoughts are directed to the sublime story of Jonah and the whale. With the sea raging and Jonah's fate cast, to be placed in the sea to abate the storm, he declared: "Lift me and place me in the waters". The commentary Ohr Yahal questions why was it necessary for Jonah to have said "Lift me." It was understood and it would have been sufficient for the text to read simply "Place me in the waters." The commentary reveals to us that the verse instructs us regarding the core value of every moment of life. How precious and dear is every breath that we are given from Above in this earthly world! By uttering the words "Lift me," Jonah secured another moment and breath of life to serve his Creator.

The Psalmist King David writes in chapter 90 the very same thought. "Teach me to appreciate and count my days." This Yom Kippur, when we beseech the Almighty for life and health, we must be ever cognizant that every day, every minute, every breath is truly a gift from G-d. May we be granted the humility of spirit and wisdom of heart to use this gift wisely and effectively.

Gut Yontif and may we all be inscribed in the Book of Life.

Rabbi Kalman Winter

TABLE TALK

POINT TO PONDER

He shall atone for himself, for his household, and for Klal Yisrael (Acharei Mos 16:7).

The Kohen Gadol is the representative of Klal Yisrael on Yom Kippur. Why does he first atone for himself and then his household, and only at the end for Klal Yisrael? Shouldn't they be first and foremost on his mind? Why does the Torah obligate him to place his personal atonement as the first thing on his mind?

PARSHA RIDDLE

What similarity is there between Yom Kippur and Asara B'Teves?

Please see next week's issue for the answer.

Last issue's riddle:

Give hear, O Heavens and I will speak (Ha'azinu 32:1).

Where is there a hint to the Taryag mitzvos in this posuk?

Answer: The words "*hashomaim v'adabeira / O Heavens and I will speak*" equal 613.

TIMELESS WISDOM

Age-old ruins will be rebuilt through you; you will erect generations-old foundations... (Yeshaya 58:12)

After the Old City was captured by the Jordanian army, Rav Ezra Attia went to visit Rav Bentzion Chazan, who had been in the Jewish quarter until the end. "What happened to the library with the many seforim and original manuscripts?" Rav Ezra asked. Rav Bentzion replied, "It was entirely burned." Rav Ezra began reciting the kinah written to commemorate the burning of the Holy books in France.

"And what is with the shuls?" Rav Ezra asked. Rav Bentzion responded, "They were destroyed." Rav Ezra began to cry over the destruction of the city. After a few minutes, he got up and told Rav Bentzion, "Now our obligation is to rebuild." And, after seven years of hard work, the cornerstone for a new Yeshiva was ready to be laid.

At the ceremony Rav Ezra spoke and quoted the posuk, "*Age-old ruins will be rebuilt through you; you will erect generations-old foundations...*" He added, "We read these pesukim on Yom Kippur to teach us that, just as one can rebuild in the physical world what has been destroyed, as we witness today, so too in the spiritual world, one has the ability to rectify what he ruined. When a person returns to Hashem wholeheartedly, he is given a new slate and everything begins again, with the opportunity for growth and rebuilding."

KIDS KORNER

WHO AM I?

#1 WHO AM I ?

1. I make you bend.
2. I make you bang.
3. I am for the mouth.
4. I am for the heart.

#2 WHO AM I ?

1. Most days I am three times.
2. Some days I am four times.
3. This Shabbos I am five times.
4. My name is one off.

LAST ISSUE'S ANSWERS

#1 The Letter 'Hay' (I am the shortest word in the Torah; I was special for Avraham and Sarah; I refer to Hashem; I have a ledge for those who do teshuva.)

#2 Shofar (I do not drive you; I move you; I remind you of Akedas Yitzchak; I am for sitting and standing.)

Please see next week's issue for the answers to this week's questions.

All children 13 and under who answer a "Who Am I?" correctly will be entered into a raffle to

win a super prize

Please visit www.gwckollel.org to submit your answers.

The next raffle will be held on December 2!

Answer as many as you can because each correct answer will entitle you to another raffle ticket and increase your chance of winning!

Mazel Tov to Dovid Mond, who won the September 30 raffle for a Lego Eiffel Tower Set!

KOLLEL BULLETIN BOARD

Join us at our Gala Dinner, Sunday, November 16th, as we continue the legacy of Rabbi Kalman Winter zt"l and celebrate our 7th year of Jewish Outreach and Education.

Honoring
Rabbi Stephen & Mrs. Ruth Baars
and
Dr. Marc & Mrs. Debbie Katz

Sunday November 16, 2014,
5 PM Reception, 6 PM Dinner
Beth Sholom Congregation, Potomac, MD

Make reservations now or place messages and ads at www.gwckollel.org. Ads will be published in a special printing of a unique Jewish history book to be distributed at the dinner.