



The Greater Washington Community Kollel

SHABBOS DELIGHTS

TORAH MINUTE

IN MEMORY OF RABBI KALMAN WINTER ZT"l

Pure Oil, Pure Light

Presented by Rabbi Zacharia Schwartz, Kollel Adjunct

"And you shall instruct the children of Israel to take pure olive oil...to kindle a consistent light." (27:20)"

The first verse of *Parshas Tetzaveh* relates that the olive oil to be used to light the *Menorah* in the *Mishkan* (tabernacle) had to be completely pure and free of sediments from the time of its inception. This level of purity was above and beyond the requirement for oil that was used in conjunction with an offering on the *Mizbeyach* (altar). While oil for the *Mizbeyach* also needed to be pure and without sediment, it could have included sediments in the beginning, as long as they were removed subsequently.

Rabbi Moshe Feinstein offers a beautiful insight into the extra purity that was required of the oil for lighting the *Menorah*. He analogizes oil that began its life with sediments and later had them removed as symbolic of a person whose deeds are ultimately righteous but may appear suspect to the casual onlooker. Those who investigate the actions will discover that they were, indeed, proper, but those who do not bother to investigate might assume that the actions constituted misdeeds. On the other hand, oil which is pure from its inception represents someone whose acts are so clearly good that no one would ever suspect otherwise.

The light of the *Menorah* represents those who spread the light of the *Torah*. Just as the oil of the *Menorah* must be pure from the beginning, so too must the actions of those who teach *Torah* be clearly righteous and good, and in no way subject to interpretation.

Whether we give *Torah* classes, educate our children in *Torah*, or simply demonstrate for those around us what it means to be a *Torah* Jew, each and every one of us has the opportunity to spread the light of the *Torah*. As such, it is critical for us to remember that each of our actions is seen as a reflection on the *Torah* that we represent. May we always be mindful of this great responsibility and make the most of this wonderful opportunity.

Wishing you a Good Shabbos!

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TABLE TALK

Point to Ponder

The stones shall be according to the names of the sons of Yisrael... (28, 21)

Why were the names of the Shevatim engraved on the Choshen? When the Kohen Gadol would enter the Holy of Holies on Yom Kippur, Hashem would see the names of the Shevatim, remember their merits and rule favorably for Bnei Yisroel. (Shemos Raba 38, 8)

Why would Hashem see the names of the Shevatim on the Choshen when the Kohen Gadol entered the Holy of Holies on Yom Kippur if the Kohen Gadol did not wear the eight vestments on Yom Kippur when he came into the Holy of Holies (he only wore the four white garments, which did not include the Choshen)?

Parsha Riddle

How can an ordinary Jew become as holy as a member of Shevet Levi?

Please see next week's issue for the answer.

Last week's riddle:

How many crowns were there in the Mishkan? Where were they?
Answer: Three: on the Aron (Ark), the Shulchan (Table), and on the Mizbeyach Haketores (Incense Altar).

HATORAH V'HAMITZVAH

HALACHA INSIGHTS FROM THE PARSHA

In parashas Tetzaveh, the Torah commands: "It [the tzitz (Head-plate)] shall be on Aaron's forehead so that Aaron shall bring forgiveness for a sin regarding the sacred offerings that the Children of Israel consecrate for any gifts of their sacred offerings; and it shall be on his forehead always (tamid) to bring them favor before Hashem." (20:38) The Talmud wonders how the High Priest can be expected to 'always' wear the tzitz: "Does he not need to go to the bathroom, and does he not need to sleep?" R. Simeon therefore reads the verse as "always to bring them favor", meaning that the tzitz always brings favor, even while it is not being worn. R. Judah, on the other hand, retains the plain sense of the verse that "it shall be on his forehead always", and explains it to mean that the High Priest must not become distracted from the tzitz's presence on his forehead. While we have neither High Priest nor tzitz today, a ramification of this law that is still in force is its application to tefillin: "One must touch his tefillin constantly, a fortiori from the tzitz: the tzitz contains but one instance of the Divine Name, and [yet] the Torah says "on his forehead always", that he shall not become distracted from it, how much more so [does this hold with respect to] tefillin, which contain many instances of the Divine Name!" (Yoma 7b-8a)

The term 'always' appears a number of times in the course of the Biblical description of the Tabernacle service, and another Talmudic debate over its meaning occurs in the context of the show-bread (lechem ha'panim): "On the Table shall you place show-bread before Me, always." (25:30) One opinion in the mishnah understands this literally, and therefore rules that when the old loaves were replaced with new ones, the latter had to be loaded onto the Table as the former were removed, so that there would always be show-bread upon the Table. R. Yose, on the other hand, maintains this to be unnecessary: "Even if he removes the old ones in the morning, and arranges the new ones in the evening, there is no problem. What, then, is meant by "before Me, always"? That the Table should not be without bread overnight." (Menachos 99b)

PRESENTED BY
RABBI YITZHAK GROSSMAN, ROSH CHABURAH

KIDS KORNER

Who Am I?

#1 WHO AM I?

1. I stopped sin.
2. I answered questions.
3. I was enlightening.
4. I was stone faced.

#2 WHO AM I?

1. I was for the constant one.
2. I was crushed.
3. Only use my first.
4. Clearly clean.

Last Week's Answers

#1 The Aron (Ark) (I was three, I was one, I contained broken, I contained unbroken.)

#2 The Keruvim (Cherubs) (We were childlike, We were gold, We revealed friendship, We spread out)

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

Win a
NERF
Laser-Ops
Set!



THE NEXT
RAFFLE WILL BE
February 26.

Visit gwckollel.org to submit your answers.

Answer as many as you can.
Each correct answer will entitle you to another raffle ticket and increase your chances of winning!

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