<u>Zmanim</u>

קבלת שבת London 3:53 Manchester 3:52 מוצאי שבת London 5:08 (5:24 ר"ת) Manchester 5:07 (5:22

פרשת בא וי שבט תשפ"ב





החודש הזה לכם ראש חדשים

(שמות יב:ב)

It's now that time of year when the world around us looks bleak. The leaves have all fallen off the trees, the sky is often grey and the days are so short. Chanukah can feel like a distant memory and the next real Yom Tov seems to be miles away. Yet, for a Yied, thankfully there is no such thing as "bleak".

The very first מצוה we were given as a nation appears in this week's parsha: החודש הזה לכם, the מצוה of מדוש החודש of מצוות. Of all the מצוות, why was this one the very first?

explains that this מצוה is all about התחדשות, renewal. As the moon wanes towards the end of the month and everything appears to be in decline, suddenly there is a new moon which brings with it the joy of revitalisation and freshness.

הקב"ה created our World with times and seasons which wax and wane, ebb and flow, up and down. As we daven every night in maariv: משנה עתים ומחליף את הזמנים. But הקב"ה Himself of course is constant. If we want to avoid being "let down" by the apparent decline in nature around us, then we too need to rise above nature. And the only way to do this is through "

Therefore, the very first מצוה which serves as an example to all מצוות, is all about the New Moon, regular התחדשות. This is something for us - בחודש הזה לכם - as a gift to keep us constantly refreshed and inspired through our עבודת ה'.



קרבנות

There is an old joke that when someone is late for shul in the morning, the first thing that he sacrifices is his קרבנות!

In truth, קרבנות מדיבות are a vital part of our davening, which itself is in place of the קרבנות that we are sadly not currently able to offer. In fact, חז"ל tell us that if someone has done an עבירה that would have meant them normally bringing a קרבן in the time of the פרשה, then these days they should learn the פרשה and details of that קרבן. The minutes that we spend each morning saying קרבנות are therefore of critical importance.

At the same time, the words and concepts are rather challenging and advanced and require a serious לימוד that is beyond this short column. However, in the coming weeks בע"ה we will offer some short insights to make these minutes even more meaningful, every single day.

Q: MY LIFE IS PRETTY

COMFORTABLE AT THE

MOMENT SO WHY SHOULD

I BE DAVENING AND

HOPING FOR TIME TO

COME?

A: THE ONLY THING WHICH THE

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WHICH DOESN'T JUST INVOLVE

BELIEF IS ANTICIPATING AND

HOPING FOR MUITO TO COME.

THE REASON IS BECAUSE 'A

CREATED THE WORLD FOR A

תכלית AND THE TRUE תכלית CREATION, WHICH IS FOR THE WHOLE WORLD TO RECOGNISE THE GREATNESS AND UNITY OF הקב"ה, WILL ONLY HAPPEN ONCE חשים HAS ARRIVED. WE THEREFORE DAVEN AND HOPE FOR או משיח ORDER TO INCREASE שוו משיח BECAUSE THAT IS OUR WHOLE THE ON THIS WORLD.



חזו בני







This Wednesday marks the Yohrzeit of **Rav Shalom Mizrachi Dida Sharabi זצ"ל**, known as the רש"ש. Rav Shalom was born in Sharab, Yemen, in the year 1720.

After being miraculously saved from danger as a young man when a rich Muslim woman tried getting him to do עבירות, he made a נדר to go and live in ירושלים. He made the arduous journey through India, Baghdad and Damascus to get there.

Although he had established himself in the aforementioned places as a מקובל and מקובל and מקובל מקוב חכם מלמיד חכם and מקובל מקוב חכם מקובל האבי מקובל וארץ ישראל וארץ ישראל וארץ ישראל האביה מקובלים for the in exchange for a roof over his head and some food.

He would sit in the corner and listen in to all the שיעורים. When the ראש ישיבה had questions which he couldn't answer, Rav Sholom would anonymously write down the answer and slip it in to Rav Gedalya's One evening Rav Gedalya's daughter Chana secretly stayed in Shul at night and saw Rav Sholom slipping the notes into her father's ספר. She informed her father and from then on Rav Sholom's greatness spread far and wide.

He married Chana, and after his father in law's passing, became ראש ישיבה at the age of 27. Among his great תלמידים were the חיד"ט אלגזי and the זצ"ל said that Rav Sholom was a גלגול of the אריז"ל and to this day Rav Sholom's סידור הכוונות is used by almost all the Sefardi מקובלים. He also wrote many other קבלה and of the ספרי קבלה.

He was נפטר in the year 1777 and was buried on הר הזיתים.

זכותו יגן עלינו

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Rivka went with her sister to visit their grandmother who was recovering in a rehabilitation centre. As they entered, they saw a big sign proclaiming that due to Covid-19, only 1 visitor was being allowed in at a time.

So, Rivka's sister went into the ward but promptly came out and told Rivka that their grandmother had tested positive for Covid and was in isolation and no visitors were being allowed into her room.

Rivka told her sister, "a runs the world. If He decides that I can visit my grandmother, I will be able to visit my grandmother'. Rivka walked into the ward and asked for directions to her grandmother's room. The nurse told her, 'She caught Covid and is in isolation but her room is just down the corridor if you would like to visit!' Rivka walked in to see her grandmother beaming from ear to ear. She asked Rivka, 'How did you manage to get in, they aren't allowing any visitors in here?!' Rivka answered, "a directed me and let me in..."