



tidbits

my father, R' Meir Zlotowitz zt'l, made sure his family was up to date on from the mundane, to the ordinary, to the 'thanks for reminding me!'

December 14th, 2018 | Parshas Vayigash



Asara B'Teves



This Tuesday, December 18th, is the fast of *Asara B'Teves*. *Asara B'Teves* was the tragic day on which Nebuchadnezzar laid siege to Yerushalayim.

During Shacharis, the Sheliach Tzibur says *Aneinu*. After Chazaras Hashatz, the following are said: Selichos, Avinu Malkeinu, Tachanun, Krias HaTorah ("*Vayechal Moshe*"). During Mincha, the following are said: Krias HaTorah ("*Vayechal Moshe*"), Haftarah ("*Dirshu Hashem*,") *Aneinu* during Shemoneh Esrei, Birchas Kohanim. For nusach Ashkenaz, *Sim Shalom* replaces *Shalom Rav*. Avinu Malkeinu is recited after Shemoneh Esrei.



Reminders

The final opportunity for Kiddush Levanah is Thursday, December 20th, or in case of necessity, Friday night, December 21st.

Daf Yomi: Erev Shabbos is Chullin 17.

Make sure to call your parents, in-laws, grandparents, and Rabbi to wish them a good Shabbos. If you didn't speak to your kids today, make sure to do the same!

Next on the Calendar



Shabbos Mevorchim for Rosh Chodesh Shevat is January 5th, Parshas Vaeira.

Tu B'shvat is on January 21st.



Parshah in a Paragraph

VAYIGASH: Yehuda protests to protect Binyamin • Yosef reveals himself • Yosef asks the family to settle in Goshen • Yosef sends wagons with provisions for the brothers journey to Canaan • Yosef gives the brothers gifts • Yaakov is informed that Yosef is alive • The members of Yaakov's family are mentioned on their trip to Egypt • Yosef and Yaakov's reunion • Yosef instructs his brother's on how to speak with Pharaoh • Yaakov blesses Pharaoh • The Egyptians can no longer afford food • Pharaoh supports the priests • The Egyptians sell themselves and their property to Yosef and Pharaoh •

For the Shabbos Table



"'Ani Yosef, ha'od avi chai?' *Velo yachlu echav la'anos oso, ki nivhalu mipanav.*"

"'I am Yosef, Is my father still alive?' But his brothers could not answer him because they were startled by his presence"(Bereishis 45:3)

The Midrash expounds on this Pasuk saying "Woe is to us from the day of judgment, woe is to us the from the day of admonishment... when Hash-

em will judge each and every one of us according to who we are" What does the Midrash mean that we will be judged "according to who we are"?

R' Moshe Chaim Luzzato in *Mesilas Yescharim* begins his monumental work by explaining that the primary function of man is to recognize his unique purpose in the world. As Chazal explain in *Sanhedrin 38a*, a man was not minted like coins, uniformly stamped with the same imprint. Rather, Hashem created each and every person unique. Differences in our strengths, interests, and values enable us to carry out the mission that is exclusive to us. Thus, when the time of judgment arrives, we will not be evaluated in a standardized fashion, nor will we be compared to our peers. Hashem will show us our unique talents and strengths, and show us how we may or may not have lived up to our fullest potential. Therefore, as the Midrash emphasizes, we are truly judged based on the full extent of "who we are".



Current Projects

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