



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!'

October 26th, 2018 | Parshas Vayeira



Reminders



Those who live in Chutz La'Aretz will begin reciting *V'sein Tal Umatar* during Maariv on December 4th. One who is traveling to Eretz Yisrael should seek halachic guidance.

Daf Yomi: Erev Shabbos is Menachos 77.

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 Kislev, is next week Shabbos, Parshas Chayei Sarah.

We will be moving the clock an hour back next Motzaei Shabbos, November 3rd.

Chanukah begins on Sunday evening, December 2nd.

Parshah in a Paragraph



VAYEIRA: Despite the unbearable heat, Avraham waits for visitors | Hashem appears to Avraham but he rushes to greet three nomads | One of them predicts that Sarah will bear a child | Sarah laughs | The angels turn towards Sedom | Hashem tells Avraham that He intends to destroy Sedom | Avraham pleads with Hashem to rescue Sedom | The angels arrive at Sedom and Lot

hosts them | The people of Sedom attempt to execute the guests | Meanwhile the angels gather Lot's family, and command the family not to look back at the destruction | Lot, his wife and two unmarried daughters escape the city | Lot's wife turns around and is turned into a pillar of salt | Lot and his daughters settle in a cave | Lot's daughters get their father drunk and commit an immoral act | They both become pregnant, bear children and name them Ammon and Moav | Avimelech, takes Sarah | Hashem appears to Avimelech in a dream | Avimelech returns Sarah along with gifts | Yitzchok is born and circumcised on the eighth day | Sarah worries about Yishmaels influence | Hashem commands Avraham to heed Sarah's concerns and banish Hagar and Yishmael | Yishmael is saved from death, and the angel promises that Yishmael will be a great nation | The *akeidah* | Avraham is promised great blessings for withstanding the test | Rivkah is born



For the Shabbos Table

"Veharbah arbeh es zaracha kehochvei hashamayim vechachol asher al sefas hayam"

"And I will increase your offspring like the stars of the heavens and the sand of the seashore" (Bereishis 22:17)

We find later on in sefer Bereishis (28:14) that Klal Yisrael will be multiplied like *"afar haaretz"* "the dust of the earth". Why does the pasuk compare Klal Yisrael to these three things, sand of the seashore, dust of the earth, and the stars in the sky?

Rav Moshe Feinstein zt"l explains the

correlation. What protects the land from being flooded by ocean waters is the sand barrier at the shoreline. So too, Klal Yisrael has an inborn nature and the ability to be able to persevere and withstand waves of trial and tribulation.

The dust of the earth, explains Rav Moshe zt"l, has no innate purpose other than being the bedrock of the growth of agriculture. Even man himself was created from dust of the earth. A person must realize that he wasn't created to serve himself, rather to do for others and fulfill the will of his creator.

The star symbolizes the ability for each and every Jew to rise and shine independently and individually. We are all invested with strengths and capabilities to accomplish in our own lives and shine like a luminary in the eyes of Hashem.

In a similar vein, Rav Shlomo Freifeld zt"l gives an explanation as to why we are compared to the stars. It says in Tehillim, "There are countless stars and they each have a name." (147: 4). This is comparable to Klal Yisrael, as we are all part of a great nation, yet at the same time, each one of us has a "name." Each one of us has his own significance and importance which can't be accomplished by someone else.

Current Projects



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