

## SHABBAT KI TETZE

## Exile and Redemption

By Rabbi Marc D. Angel

Life is filled with choices. We have all made fateful decisions which have determined our road of life. We chose a school to attend, a career, a spouse, a lifestyle, friends, a level of religious observance. Indeed, everything we are today is the result of the many choices we have made throughout the course of our lives.

We may look back at our various decisions and ask: were they right or wrong? Should I have done this or that? Am I living my true life, or have I actually taken the wrong path, a path not true to myself, to who I really am?

All of us live our lives, but we are also trailed by "shadow lives", lives that we might have led based on choices we might have made. Sometimes, a shadow life might be truer to our essence than the life we are actually living.

Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik, one of the great Jewish thinkers of the 20th century, put a new light on the concepts of *galut* (exile) and *geulah* (redemption).



Generally, these terms refer to the Jewish people as a whole. But Rabbi Soloveitchik applied these concepts also to the individual. Each person experiences *galut*, exile. We are spread out in many directions, influenced by many pressures, pulled, tugged and shoved. We are not always able to do what we want to do, or what we think is right to do.

"Exile means lacking a home, and one who sins is a person without a home." A person in spiritual exile senses a loss of direction, focus and purpose in life. He/she is plagued, at least sometimes, by a feeling of malaise, of having steered off the true course. Is this really who I am and who I wanted to be? Is this the life that I had wanted

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## Prayer Schedule

### SHABBAT

#### PARASHA KI TETZE

*Friday, August 20th*

Minhah & Arbit 7:00 pm

Candle Lighting 7:16 pm

*Saturday, August 21st*

Shaharit 8:30 am

**Shabbat Luncheon for Young Couples** 12:30 pm

Tehillim Reading 6:00 pm

Minhah & Arbit 6:45 pm

Motzei Shabbat 8:00 pm

### WEEKDAYS

*Sunday, August 22nd*

Selihot 6:45 am

Shaharit 7:30 am

**Hillula of the Ben Ish Hai**

*Light a Candle at Sunset and Study the Life of R. Yosef Haim*

*Monday to Friday*

Selihot 5:45 am

Shaharit 6:30 am

### EREV SHABBAT

#### PARASHA KI TAVO

*Friday, August 27th*

Minhah & Arbit 7:00 pm

Candle Lighting 7:07 pm

(Continued from page 1)

for myself? If I could start over again, would I make some different choices, choices truer to what is good and what is right?

Geulah, redemption, is a process of reuniting oneself with God, unifying oneself, finding the way home. Redemption comes about only after deep and careful reflection. We need the critical ability to separate what is from what might have been; who I am from who I should be, or might be, or could be. Geulah means finding our way back to the roots of our personhood, and at the same time to the roots of our Jewishness.

During the summer months, we experienced "the three weeks" between the fast days of 17 Tamuz and 9 Ab. This was a period of national mourning as we recalled the exiles of our people following the destruction of our First and Second Temples in ancient Jerusalem. We are now in the midst of the "seven weeks of consolation", when our weekly prophetic readings focus on redemption, on the better times that lay ahead for the Jewish people. While our attention is on the exile and redemption of our people, we need also to think about the exile and redemption of ourselves as individuals.

This is the season to submit ourselves to a review

of our spiritual gains and losses, our achievements and failures. It is a time to examine our lives and our shadow lives, to re-evaluate past decisions, to set ourselves on a course of life that moves us from exile to redemption. It is a time to return to our essential selves, to our Torah and traditions. It is a time to shake off the external pressures, and focus on what is right, true and important to us as Jews and as human beings.

It is a time to come home.

**Shabbat Shalom**

### Parasha Ki Tetze

Parasha pages 840-857  
Haftara pages 857-858

## Selilot Teshuvah and Rosh Hashanah High Holy Day Classes with Rabbi Batzri

Wednesdays, 7:30 pm  
August 25 & Sept. 1



The Hebrew month of Elul, filled with days of mercy or *rahamim* and *Selilot*, prayers asking for forgiveness has begun. These classes with Rabbi Batzri for the month of Elul focus upon preparation for the High Holy Days.

### The Secrets & Strength of Teshuvah

Wednesday, August 25th, 7:30 - 8:30 PM

Does repenting or performing *Teshuva* mean that we need to become more religious and more exacting? If not, what does it mean and what should we say & do?

### The Power of Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, September 1st, 7:30 - 8:30 PM

How can two short days in the year affect all the others? How does Rosh Hashana change our whole year?

### Parasha Summary: Ki Tetze

In this week's Torah portion, Moses continues his last speech to the Jewish people and delivers specific rules about proper family relationships. He continues with laws involving many aspects of daily living, justice, family responsibility, work, and sexuality. In fact, *Ki Tetze* contains 74 commandments, more mitzvot than any other Torah portion. Some of the specific commandments discussed include: the law of the rebellious son, the obligation to bury the dead without undue delay, the requirement to return a found object, the prohibition against causing pain to any living creature, the prohibition against prostitution, the laws of marriage and divorce, the procedure of the Levirate marriage, and the obligation to eradicate the memory of Amalek.

### SHABBAT MITZVOT

We now offer for donation the following Mitzvot on Shabbat: **1. Petichat Hechal** The opening of the ark where the Torahs are kept; **2. Carrying of the Sefer Torah and Sefer Haftara;** **3. Hakamat Sefer** The lifting and showing of the Torah; **4. Mashlim\*** The seventh aliya to the Torah who recites Kaddish; **5. Maftir\*** The last aliya to the Torah which includes the reading of the Haftara (read by the clergy unless member reading has been preapproved).

Since we count on your donations to the synagogue to keep our membership fees as low as they are, we suggest a minimum donation for all those who are called to the Torah of \$126 or multiples of \$18 or \$26. We appreciate your support. \*Paid members may call the office to book the Mashlim or Maftir in advance, in memory of a departed relative. You will receive confirmation before Shabbat if you will receive the aliya or if there is a conflict. Members may also reserve other aliyot in advance by calling the office. Non-members interested in reserving aliyot should contact the office for availability at 310.474.0559, 11 am-4 pm, Monday to Thursday.

## In Memoriam

It is customary to light a memorial candle in the evening and to donate tzedakah. Family members are encouraged to attend prayer services in honor of loved ones.

### Sunday / 12 Elul

Menasseh ben Nissim Saltoon\*

### Monday / 13 Elul

Yitzhak Faraj\*  
Simha bat Khatoon

### Tuesday / 14 Elul

Haim ben Haim Elazar\*  
Haim Baruch ben Moshe Ezra\*  
Miriam bat Yocheved Moses\*

### Wednesday / 15 Elul

Isaar Soorani\*  
Simha bat Rifka

### Thursday / 16 Elul

Farha bat Yochevet

### Friday / 17 Elul

Gala bat Sheikoory Nathan

### Shabbat / 18 Elul

Rahel bat Rahma Khatoon\*

*Names with asterisks are missing family members' information. To update, please call the office at 310.474.0559.*

## Refuah Shlemah

*Please include these individuals in your prayers:*  
Yonatan ben Alizah ▪ Mazal Tov bat Sulha Mitana ▪ Matilda Louisa ▪ Yaheskel ben Regina ▪ Ayala bat Naomi ▪ Khayah Noa bat Sara ▪ Haim ben Mordechai ▪ Pnina bat Esther ▪ Yosi ben Esther ▪ Victor ben Latif ▪ Ramah Regina bat Farha ▪ Aziza bat Sara ▪ Merna bat Marsel ▪ Judith bat Malka ▪ Ofek ben Yochai ▪ Efrayim Zev ben Fayga ▪ Sulha Matana bat Mozelle ▪ Gershon ben David

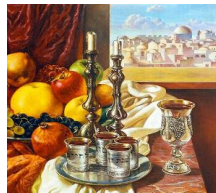
## Community News

### SHABBAT KIDDUSH

is sponsored  
in honor of

the Bat Mitzvah of  
Shirin Enayati

by  
Shiva & Hertsel Enayati



### Shabbat Lunch for Young Families

Saturday, August 21st  
12:30 pm following services

We invite young couples and their children to a luncheon following services today at 12:30pm.

Enjoy good food, warmth, and the Shabbat spirit. This luncheon is sponsored by Jonathan & Segal Kelly in memory of David Kelly z'l.

### Learn the Haftarah

Wouldn't you like to chant the final portion from the Torah on Shabbat—the portion known as the Haftarah? Reserve a Haftarah by calling Sarah at 310.474.0559. The Haftarah portion can be dedicated in honor of a family event such as a memorial, a bar/bat mitzvah, or a baby-naming. Then, schedule time with Saeed Jalali & learn your haftarah with authentic Baghdadi ta'amim, Iraqi melodies for singing the Torah & Tanakh.

### MAZAL TOV

Shirin Enayati  
on your Bat Mitzvah

Congratulations  
to your parents  
Shiva & Hertsel Enayati  
and to your entire family

### Norma & Sam Dabby Talmud Torah

*KJ after school classes for kids  
ages 5 to 13 are registering now!*

First Day of School is  
**Thursday, September 2nd**  
Come learn about the holidays!

Call 310.474.0559 or e-mail  
[molly@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:molly@kahaljoseph.org)

## Shabbat Shalom U'Mevurach



### Kahal Joseph High Holy Day Food Drive

As a Bat Mitzvah project, one of our younger congregants, Miranda Einy, has organized a canned food drive at Kahal Joseph Congregation for SOVA, a Jewish organization that distributes groceries to over 10,000 people throughout the Los Angeles area each month. Join us and drop off donations in the collection barrel located in Kahal Joseph's front lobby. The food drive is already underway and will run through Sukkot. All canned donations, of any quantity and variety, are helpful. Many thanks, in advance, for your support.

# A Song for Shabbat: Rakhem Alai

Listen to Rabbi Batzri perform *Rahem Alai* at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UPOnxMMSjkb>

Translated and transliterated by Dafna Ezran

An Aamaic word meaning "festivity," a *hillula* generally commemorates the death of a sage or *hakham*, whose soul is regarded as having been reunited with Hashem. The *Hillulah* of the *Ben Ish Hai*, also known as Rabbi Yosef Chaim (1 September 1832 – 30 August 1909) occurs this coming Sunday evening, August 22, 2010.

The Ben Ish Hai was a leading Iraqi *Hakham* (Sephardic Rabbi), an authority on Jewish law (Halakha) and a master Kabbalist. He is best known as author of the work on Halakha entitled *Ben Ish Chai* which translates as "The Son of a Man Who Lives," a title by which he is also known.

To celebrate his hillula on Sunday evening, we should light a candle and take time to discuss the life and teachings of Rabenu Yosef Haim. The song below asks Hashem to have compassion for us. We ask to be granted mercy not on our own merits, but because of the Ben Ish Hai's merit—because he performed uncounted good works during his life.

## Rakhem Alai

*Rakhem alai ya Av HaRakhaman. Tzuri, Go-ali  
rakhem alai. Tigaleni, toshi-eni, bi'zkhut Rabenu  
Yosef Hayim, rakhem alai ya. (3 times)  
Av HaRakhaman*

Ne-eman rakhem al banekha. Ki hem bnei  
britekha. Ve-khusa na al amkha. Bi'zkhut torat  
ha'Ben Ish Hai.

*Rakhem alai . . .*

Khasdekha Eli harenu. Ve'gam heye be'ezrenu. Ki  
ata hu moshi-enu. Bi'zkhut torat ha'Ben Ish Hai.

*Rakhem alai . . .*

U'mi biltakh ya El Go-alenu. U'mi tzur zulati Elo-  
henu. Ata tashuv tekhayenu. Bi'zkhut torat ha'Ben  
Ish Hai.

*Rakhem alai . . .*

Marom zchor adatekha metzapim lishuatekha ase  
lema-an shmekha. Bi'zkhut torat ha'Ben Ish Hai.

*Rakhem alai . . .*

לחן : סאלם עליה

מילים : ר' משה חבוביה הדין

לכבוד השבועה"ג חידו יוסף הדין זצוק"ל

רחם עליה אב הרחמן צורי גואלי רחם עלי.  
תגאלני, תושיעני, בנכות רבנו יוסף חיים,  
רחם עליה (3) אב הרחמן.

נאמן רחם על בניך. כי הם בני ברכתך. והוסדתא על עמך.

בנכות תורת ה' אש חיי רחם עלי

חסדך אלי הראנו ונחם היה בעורנו. כי אתה הוא מושיענו.

בנכות תורת ה' אש חיי רחם עלי

וכי בלתיך יהי אל גואלנו ומוצור ויגדלי אלהנו. אתה השב

תחינו. בנכות תורת ה' אש חיי רחם עלי

מרום וזכר עתה מצפים לשיעך עשה למען שקד בנכות

תורת ה' אש חיי רחם עלי

*Have compassion for me now, Merciful Father. My Rock, the One who frees me, have mercy on me. Liberate me, save me, on the merit of our Rabbi Yosef Haim. Have compassion for me now, Merciful Father.*

Faithful One have mercy on Your children. Because they are the children of Your covenant. Shelter Your nation. On the merit of the teachings of the Ben Ish Hai. *Have compassion for me . . .*

Show us Your love and kindness, my G-d. Also be there and support us. Because You are the One who will save us. On the merit of the teachings of the Ben Ish Hai. *Have compassion for me . . .*

And who is there aside from You, G-d, the One who frees us? And who will be the source of my refuge, G-d? You will return and give life to us. On the merit of the teachings of the Ben Ish Hai. *Have compassion for me...*

Heavenly One, remember Your people expecting Your redemption. Act for the sake of Your Name on the merit of the teachings of the Ben Ish Hai. *Have compassion for me . . .*