

KOL MEVASSER

Good Deeds Never Die

By Rabbi Hagay Batzri

In our parasha this week we learn the good news that Joseph has been found. Not only is he alive, but he is the viceroy of Egypt.

Such news could have been a shock for Jacob to hear. We are told that Serach, the daughter of Asher, found the best way to let her grandfather know about Joseph and to share the good news with him gently. She played the violin and sang quietly, "Joseph is still alive . . . is the king of Egypt and has two sons." Her words slowly reached Jacob's ears and filled him with joy.

The Zohar tells us that Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai asked Eliyahu Hanavi, Elijah the Prophet, "What happens to the souls of the righteous in Heaven?"

Eliyahu told him that he had received special permission to discover the wonderful secrets of the higher worlds. Then Rabbi Shimon asked, "Even the highest places?"

Eliyahu told him that everyone could enter the realm of appropriate actions simply by doing good in this world. But there were several types of sacred realms. He continued to tell him about Serach's special pavilion, and about the souls of the good women with her.

What did Serach do to deserve this? Every day she prayed to Hashem and thanked Him for giving her the privilege of gently telling her grandfather that Joseph was still alive—"od Yoseph chai."

Rabbi Shimon bring this to our attention in the Zohar, because it offers a deep and pro-

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KJ Schedule

Erev Shabbat

Friday, December 30, 2011

Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	6:30 am
Shabbat Candle Lighting	4:34 pm
Minhah/Arbith	4:30 pm

Shabbat Vayigash

Saturday, December 31, 2011

Shabbat Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	8:30 am
Tehillim Women's Reading	12:15 pm
Shabbat Minhah, Seudah, Arbit.....	4:00 pm
Motzei Shabbat / Havdallah.....	5:39 pm

Weekdays

Sunday, January 1, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	7:30 am
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Wednesday, January 4, 2012

Women's Tehillim Reading	10:00 am
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Monday to Friday, January 2 to 6, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer	6:30 am
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Erev Shabbat

Friday, January 6, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	6:30 am
Shabbat Candle Lighting	4:40 pm
Minhah/Arbith	4:30 pm

Parasha & Haftara Readings

Parashat Vayigash, in Hertz, 169 -177
Haftara 178-179

Kahal Joseph Children's Choir

Starting January 8, 2012

Sunday mornings, 11 am to 12 noon

Calling all KJ kids ages 6 to 12! Learn Jewish songs and prayers in our Sephardic, Iraqi tradition and develop your singing abilities under the guidance of our talented Rabbi Batzri. For more information, contact Louise Elias at louisendme@yahoo.com. (Minimum enrollment of 8 kids required.)

Directed by Rabbi Hagay Batzri

Reserve your child's spot! Contact Louise Elias at louisendme@yahoo.com



Learn the Haftarah

Wouldn't you like to chant the final portion from the Torah on Shabbat? Reserve a reading at 310.474.0559 in honor of a loved one or family event. Then, schedule time with Hazzan Saeed Jalali & learn authentic Baghdadi ta'amim, melodies for chanting from the Torah & Tanakh.

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found message for our lives. Serach, who lauds and praises G-d every day for the privilege she had to please her grandfather, is evidence for us:

everything we do good in this world is not lost; it does not evaporate with time.

What did we each do well? Whatever good we have done remains good forever. And that will make us happy forever!

Rabbi Moshe Cordovero writes in his book *Tomer Devorah* a very profound rule, "The light of very good deed lasts like the light from the infinite light" that is G-d. And that is why good actions, positive deeds, have no expiration date in the world—because they are a part of Hashem. And He continues on and illuminates all of time.

Any moral action will continue as part of the stream of what is best in the world and will play the wondrous melody of heaven.

Hopefully, we'll remember this every day, and we'll discipline ourselves to perform good and noble actions, actions that this will give us the right to our existence, to every day of life.

Shabbat Shalom



Thank You
Mrs. Sholeh Shaaya
for hosting a lovely dinner for
KJ Women's Tehillim Group
Rosh Hodesh Tevet

Congratulations
Oliver Rahnama on his 6th Birthday, from
grandparents, Soraya & Fred Khorshidi

Refuah Shlemah
Gerry Meyers
Eliezer Hai Saltoon ben Roz Saltoon



**KAHAL JOSEPH
TREE OF LIFE**

Check out the Tree of Life in the lobby. The tree is sprouting many new leaves. Help fill out our tree with life. Celebrate your loved ones by ordering a leaf—a donation of \$126 a leaf. Order 4 & get the 5th free. For information contact Yvette.ydabby@sbcglobal.net

NOTICE TO PARENTS

1. Children under 5 years old must be supervised by parents in KIDS ZONE upstairs.
2. No child is allowed in the synagogue lobby or hallways without constant supervision by a parent or guardian.
3. We are not responsible for children walking out the front door.

In Memoriam

We remember the following yahrzeits, the annual anniversary of passings, for the week of December 31st, 2011 to January 6, 2012. It is customary to light a memorial candle and donate tzedakah. Family members are encouraged to attend prayer services in honor of loved ones on the Shabbat preceding the yahrzeit. To update information call 310.474.0559.

5 Tevet / Shabbat, December 31

Mida Judah *Masooda bat Dina*
Esther Sales *Esther HaMalka bat Rivka*
Elisha Samuel *Elisha ben Sassoon Shmuel Hacham*

6 Tevet / Sunday, January 1

Rahel Emquies *Rahel bat Clare Levy*
Salem Kooby

7 Tevet / Monday, January 2

Eliezer David Levy *Eliezer ben David HaLevy*

8 Tevet / Tuesday, January 3

Eliezer David Levy *Eliezer ben David HaLevy*

9 Tevet / Wednesday, January 4

Abid Nissim ben Abid
Rabbi Elias Levi *Eliyahu Hayim ben Shlomo*
Abraham Khazzoom

10 Tevet / Thursday, January 5

Shalom Kamara *Shalom ben Menashe*
Hayim Baruch Mingail *Haim Baruch ben Shalom*



**KJ WOMEN'S PSALMS
TEHILLIM READING**

Shabbat after morning services / Kiddush, 12:15 pm
& *Wednesdays at 10:00 am in the KJ Library*

Sponsor a Shabbat Kiddush

Honor a member of your family or celebrate a joyous occasion by sponsoring a Shabbat celebration at Kahal Joseph. Call Sarah in the KJ office, at 310.474.0559 Monday through Friday, 11 am to 4 pm to find out more.