

KOL MEVASSER

Women who Build and Women who Destroy

By Rabbi Hagay Batzri

In Parashat Korakh the midrash describes the story of two leaders, two husbands whose wives had tremendous influence on them. That influence brings one man to destruction, but saves the other leader.

As King Solomon said, "Every wise woman builds her house; but the foolish plucks it down with her hands." (Proverbs, 14,1)

From King Solomon's statement, it seems as though smart women make all the decisions and men just implement and act. Is that true? Each reader will have his or her opinion, but one thing is certain. As men's partners in this world, women absolutely have the ability and the power to destroy. And, men can't control this power that women have.

As a Rabbi who deals with many situations and is involved with other people's lives, I can tell you what I see in everyday life. These examples are generalized to protect those involved, yet they show how women can use their power in a destructive fashion. More than once I have seen a woman give

up on her children just to destroy her ex-husband's life. Or I have seen many cases where a woman, just because of foolish jealousy, suffers her whole life and devotes all her energy to "teach him a lesson."

Today I heard the case of a couple who had raised seven kids together. Now their kids are all married. This man and woman were married to each other for thirty-two years. They have a mutual savings account holding more than 4 million dollars. But no one withdraws money from the account. A withdrawal requires the signature of both the man and the woman. These days, the husband has remarried but is barely making a living for his new family.

For five years, he has begged his ex-wife to take 90% of the money in the account and just give him ten percent, also known as the Maaser Ani (10% given from our income for the poor). He worked long and hard for the money. During her marriage, his wife was not even concerned with it and didn't even know about it. But, she refuses to release the funds. I asked her how she could refuse, since he was going to give her most of the money. She answered me, "I need the money, but I can't stand to see him alive. This 10% will help him survive, but I won't let him have it."

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KJ Schedule

Shabbat Korah

Friday, June 22, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	6:30 am
Shir HaShirim	6:45 pm
Minhah/Arbith	7:00 pm
Friday Night Dinner Young Couples ..	7:30 pm
Shabbat Candle Lighting	7:49 pm

Saturday, June 23, 2012

Shabbat Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	8:30 am
Women's Tehillim	6:00 pm
Rabbi's Class.....	6:45 pm
Minha, Seudah Shlisheet, Arvith.....	7:15 pm
Motzei Shabbat / Havdallah.....	8:53 pm

Sunday, June 24, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	7:30 am
David S. Kelly Youth Choir of KJ	11:00 am
KJ Summer Kick-Off Picnic	12 to 4 pm

Monday to Friday, June 25 to 29, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer	6:30 am
<i>Women's Tehillim Group on Monday@10:30 am</i>	

Erev Shabbat Chukat

Friday, June 29, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer.....	6:30 am
Minhah/Arbith	6:30 pm
Shabbat Candle Lighting	7:50 pm

SHABBAT TORAH PORTION

Parashat **Korakh** 639 to 648

Haftara 649 to 651

(Continued from page 1)

This type of woman resembles the wife of Korakh, who conspired against Moshe and Aharon. Korakh challenged Moshe, suggesting that he and Aharon did not have the right to lead the Jewish people or to appoint other leaders. Korakh was also a Levi and he felt slighted. He wanted more power for himself.

As the midrash describes it, Korakh was a great scholar, a leader and a rich man. Korakh's wife had more than any other woman. But she wanted more. She told her husband, "Look what Moshe did. He took for himself the kingdom. He gave to his brother Aharon the priesthood. He made him the high priest, his children the assistant priest and more. The rest of the Jewish people are obligated to donate 10% of their income to them. Moshe made his brother and his family rich." And she kept talking to him like that, over and over. Her influence, her magic weapon, was emotional manipulation. As soon as Korakh let his emotions take over and listened to her, he lost everything. A leader needs to be aware of his emotions, to have self-discipline, and to lead his heart in the right path.

The wife of On Ben Pelet, another one of the Jewish leaders, did the opposite. She encouraged her husband to stay out of the conflict. She told him, "Why are you involved in this argument? Either way it turns out, you will earn nothing. You will either be the student of Moshe or the student of Korakh. In

either case, you still be just a student." When her husband confessed that he had already sworn to stand with Korakh, she found another solution.

What did she do? She found out when Korakh would meet next with the other leaders. Just before the meeting started, she went and sat near the main door of her home. She took down her hair, and she started brushing it out in public. This was a very immodest thing to do.

When Korakh's group and his followers came to call her husband, they saw her brushing her hair and sitting in the door of her house. It cast such a poor light on her character that they turned away and did not summon her husband. In this way, she saved her husband from becoming involved in a situation that was very difficult for him.

Ladies, when you are faced with a difficult situation in life, one in which you have influence over your husband's life, make the right decision. Have compassion on your husband and on others in your life. Choose to be more like the wife of On Ben Pelet, and less like the wife of Korakh.

Gentlemen, if you fall into a marriage with a woman like Korakh's wife, who only wants to use you to attain her own ends, you might ask me, "What can I do now?" All I can say is, pray. Give me your name and your mother's name, and I'll pray for you too.

Shabbat Shalom

In Memoriam

We remember the following *yahrzeit* anniversary of passings, for June 23 to 30, 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 the preceding *Shabbat*.

3 Tammuz / Shabbat, June 23

Joseph Moses *Yosef ben Aharon*

Habibollah Rokhsar *Habib ben Mordecai*

4 Tammuz / Sunday, June 24

Aaron Saul Levy *Aharon Shaul Levi*

6 Tammuz / Tuesday, June 26

Eliyahu Irani *Eliyahu ben Moshe*

8 Tammuz / Thursday, June 28

Isaac Shamsi *Itzhak ben Shemuel*

10 Tammuz / Shabbat, June 30

Khanbaba Pouladian *Itzhak ben Avraham*

Hatoona bat Haviva

Isaac Shamash *Itzhak Rahamim ben Avraham*

Refuah Shlemah

Gerry Shapiro • Yocheved bat Rachel •
Rachamim ben Sarah • Hinah Titza bat Itah •
Yitzhak ben Abdullah • Mazal bat Malka •
Dan Herdoon

Young Couples Friday Night Dinner

is sponsored in part by
Ida April Shemtov

in memory of her father
Moshe ben Michael, z"l

KJ Congratulates More 2012 Graduates!

This week we continue to celebrate the accomplishments and learning of these young individuals in our community. We wish them Hashem's guidance as they prepare themselves to lead us into the future. Mazal Tov to them, their parents and families!

Elementary & Middle School



Sarah Sabin graduated from Sinai Akiba Academy and will attend the Humanities Magnet at Hamilton High School in the fall.

University



Daniella Kamara graduated from UCLA with a Bachelor's degree.

High School



Shana Mangoli is graduating from YULA.



Sarah Mangoli graduated from FIDM, the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising, in Graphic Design.



David Shalom is graduating from YULA.



Dr. Shadi Yaghoubian, MD graduated from Ross Medical School

Kahal Joseph Congregation
Legacy of Kindness
Gala Tribute Dinner



Honoring
Rylla & Benjamin H. Elias

SUNDAY, THE NINTH OF SEPTEMBER, TWO THOUSAND AND TWELVE
 SIX O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING
 ERROL LEVI BALLROOM AT KAHAL JOSEPH
 RSVP BY AUGUST 22ND ♥ 310.474.0559

Kahal Joseph Congregation
Picnic in the Park
 Sunday, June 24, 2012
 12 to 4 pm



Kosher Grill on Wheels * Soccer, Sports, Games & Activities for Kids
 Westwood Park at Sepulveda, South of Wilshire

Norma & Sam Dabby Hebrew School
 Sunday Mornings / Thursday Afternoon or Homeschool Program
 First Day of School, Thursday Sept. 6th ► For information call 310,474.0559

A Song for Shabbat: Ki Eshmera Shabbat or *If I Keep Shabbat*

Listen to Rabbi Batzri sing Ki Eshmera at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ni25gCpWdMs>

*Ki eshemera Shabbat, El yishmereni
Ot hi l'olmei ad, beno u'veni*

Asur metzo hefetz, asot derakhim
Gam mi'ledaber bo, divre tzerakhim
Divre sekhora, o'divre melakhim
Ehege b'torat El, u'tkhakemeni

Ki eshemera . . .

Bo emtza tamid, no'akh l'nafshi
Hinne l'dor rishon, natan kedoshi
Mofet b'tet lekhem, mishne ba'shishi
Kakha b'khol shishi, yakhpil mezoni

Ki eshemera . . .

Rasham b'dat ha'El, Khok el seganav
Bo la'arokh lekhem, panim lefanav
Al ken l'hitanot bo, al pi nevonav
Asur levad miyom, kippur avoni

Ki eshemera . . .

Ha'yom mekhubad hu, yom taanugim
Lekhem v'yayin tov, basar v'dagim.
Ha'smekhim bo, simkha masigim
Ki yom semakhot hu, u'samekheni

Ki eshemera . . .

Mekhel melakha bo, sofo l'hakhrit.
Al ken akhabes bo, libi k'borit
Atpalela la'El, arvit v'shakhrit
Mussaf v'gam minha, hu ya-aneni

If I keep the Shabbat, then G-d will watch over me
It is a sign forever and ever, between Him and me

Weekday matters are forbidden, or taking care of ordinary things
It is also forbidden to talk about them, talking of weekday concerns—
Matters of business, or matters of political leadership
I will enjoy learning Hashem's Torah, and it will make me wise.

In it, I will always find rest for my soul
Look, the Holy One gave a sign to the first generation
When he provided two portions of bread [manna] on Friday
That way, on every Sixth Day, may my food be doubled.

He inscribed it in G-d's statutes, a law for His assistants
On it to set up the everpresent [show]bread before Him
Because of this it is forbidden to fast on it [Shabbat], according to
His learned ones
Except on Yom Kippur [the Day of Atonement]

It [Shabbat] is an honored day, a day of pleasures,
Of good wine and bread, of meat and fish
Those who are happy on it will attain happiness
For it is a day of joys, and may You fill me with joy.

One who works on it, will in the end be cut off
[from the Jewish people]

Because of this, I will thoroughly purify my heart
I will pray to G-d during the evening prayer and the morning
prayer

During the additional prayer and the afternoon prayer, and He
will respond to me.

כי אשמרה שבת אל ישמרני.
אות היא לעולמי עד בינו וביני

אסור מצא חפץ עשות דרכים
גם מלדבר בו דברי צרכים
דברי סחורה או דברי מלכים
אהגה בתורת אל ותחכמני
כי אשמרה . . .

בו אמצאה תמיד נוח לנפשי
הנה לדור ראשון נתן קדושי
מופת בתת לחם משנה בששי
ככה בכל ששי יכפל מזוני
כי אשמרה . . .

רשם בדת האל חק אל סגני
בו לערוך לחם תמיד לפני
על כן להתענות בו על פי נבני
אסור לבד מיים כפור עוני
כי אשמרה . . .

הוא יום מכבד הוא יום תענוגים
לחם ויין טוב בשר ודגים
השמחים בו הם שמחה משיגים
כי יום שמחות הוא ותשמחני
כי אשמרה . . .

מחל מלאכה בו סופו להכרית
על כן אכבס בו לבי בבורית
אתפללה אל אל ערבית ושחרית
מוסף וגם מנחה הוא יענני
כי אשמרה . . .